

SPEED DATING

Gregory McLellan

INT. BAR

There are a dozen tables set up each with one couple sitting across from one another. There is a banner that reads 'Speed Dating.'

JOHN blinks into existence holding a small device with a clock on it and puts that into his pocket. He sits down at a table across from MARY who didn't notice him appearing from thin air. They shake hands.

JOHN

So, when are you from?

MARY

I'm sorry, are you asking how old I am?

JOHN

Of course not. I just wanted to know what time period you're from.

MARY

I'm from now. Why on Earth would I be from another time?

JOHN

(Disbelieving)

Wait...this isn't a time traveler's convention?

MARY

What? No. This is speed dating.

JOHN

That's how time travel works. Speeding up dates. Slowing down dates. There's all sorts of spectacular nonsense you can do with the calender.

MARY

I'm here to meet people-

JOHN

So am I.

MARY

For a date. You come here to meet a lot of people so you can go on more dates with them in the future.

JOHN

Or the past?

MARY

That doesn't make sense. How would you date someone that you haven't met yet.

JOHN

Funny story, and spoiler alert, I'm kind of my own grandfather. It all started when-

A bell rings cutting him off.

MARY

Thank god. I'm getting out of here.

Mary gets up and leaves. HEATHER sits down across from John. They shake hands.

HEATHER

Hi, my name's Heather.

JOHN

John. Hey, I don't suppose you're a time traveler.

HEATHER

(Laughs)

That's funny.

JOHN

It is?

HEATHER

I love a funny man. So do my cats. So what are you into?

JOHN

Well, the Victorian Era was pretty boring, but ancient Greece was a blast.

HEATHER

Oh, a history buff! That's neat. Personally, I'm a sucker for rom coms. I hope to find my own Hugh

(MORE)

HEATHER (cont'd)
Grant some day, hahaha. Are there any movies that you like?

JOHN
Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure was surprisingly accurate. For a while I was pretty into All Hail Lord Zorx.

HEATHER
I haven't heard of that.

JOHN
Oh, you won't be able to take your eyes off it. Not that you'll have a choice. For a while, the Zorxians take over. But I fixed that.

HEATHER
Fixed it? Like, a handyman? That's what you do?

The bell rings. Heather leaves, looking confused. KATY sits down across from John.

KATY
Wow, you don't look like you're having a good time.

JOHN
I came here looking for something that I just don't think I'll find. I mean, I can't be the only person that gets speed dating wrong.

KATY
I know what you mean. It's just so hard finding the person you're looking for.

JOHN
Sometimes you just get into these situations that aren't clearly defined and people just aren't who you thought they'd be.

KATY
Oh, boy, have I made that mistake before. It always turns into a giant mess that needs to get cleaned up.

They both start smiling.

JOHN
My name's John, by the way. John
Reynolds.

KATY
John Reynolds? From Waverly,
Indiana?

JOHN
Yes! How did you know that?

KATY
This is for Lord Zorx!

Katy pulls out a laser from inside her coat and shoots John in the chest, killing him. Katy then pulls out a small device with a clock on it, presses two buttons, and disappears.

Blackout.