

covidiotS

by Morley Shulman

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EXT. PARK - DAY

PETE, 20'S, IS ANXIOUSLY FIDGETING ON A PARK BENCH WHILE CONTINUING LOOKING AROUND. HE APPEARS TO HAVE A CROSS BETWEEN PARANOIA AND TOURETTE'S. FINALLY, HE RELAXES AS SHAWN, 20'S, APPEARS. HE IS EQUALLY NERVOUS. SHAWN LOOKS OVER HIS SHOULDER NUMEROUS TIMES. AS HE IS ABOUT TO SIT DOWN TO JOIN PETE, HE GETS UP THINKING THAT SOMEONE IS WATCHING HIM. HE DOES THIS SEVERAL TIMES BEFORE HE FINALLY RELAXES AND JOINS HIS FRIEND

PETE

It's about time dude.

SHAWN

I know, I know.

PETE

You can't be too careful these days.

SHAWN

Tell me about it.

PETE

Everyone's on high alert.

Pete and Shawn look at each other and laugh at the irony of the statement.

SHAWN

So?

PETE

So?

SHAWN

So... we gonna?

PETE

Yeah dude. I thought that's why we're here!

SHAWN

I wasn't sure if you wanted to make small talk first?

PETE

Small talk?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SHAWN

Yeah. You know. We never get together anymore so I wasn't sure...

PETE

You want TO make small talk?

SHAWN

Sure!

PETE

Okay. How are you doing Shawn?

SHAWN

Pretty goo-

PETE

(shouting)
Did you bring the you know what so we could get our buzz on?

SHAWN

That's your version of small talk?

PETE

Is this really necessary?

SHAWN

Come on man. Otherwise I'll feel like your trick.

PETE

FINE... Let's see... how are you parents?

SHAWN

You know. Scared. Bored. Paranoid.

PETE

That's very interesting.

SHAWN

Yeah.

PETE

Great. So Shawn?

SHAWN

Yes Pete?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

PETE

Pray by chance... did you bring us something to smoke? Are you happy now?

SHAWN

You call that small talk?

PETE

Dude. I haven't had anything to smoke since this whole thing started.

SHAWN

You think I have?

PETE

If I have to make any more small talk, I'm going to go to jail?

SHAWN

For what?

Long beat.

SHAWN

Ohhhhh.

PETE

Riiiiight??

Shawn realizes the seriousness of the situation and gives a nod of understanding. All of a sudden, a jogger passes by, sees them on the bench, jogs backwards to face them and continues jogging on the spot.

JOGGER

Hey!

PETE

'Sup?

JOGGER

What's wrong with you guys?

PETE

Look who's talking. You're the one who's getting nowhere.

JOGGER

Social distancing!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

SHAWN

Yeah? What about it?

JOGGER

You have to be at least six feet apart!

PETE

How tall are you?

JOGGER

How tall am I?

SHAWN

He asked you first!

JOGGER

I don't know. About 5'10" or so why?

PETE

(nods his head to
shoo the jogger
back)

Social distancing buddy!

JOGGER

I'm alone. You guys are together. We're supposed to be at least 6 feet apart because of the Corona virus.

SHAWN

I thought it was COVID-19?

PETE

(to the jogger)
Well? Which one is it? Corona virus or COVID-19?

JOGGER

They're one and the same.

PETE

Well the same for us.

JOGGER

Meaning?

SHAWN

Yeah dude? Meaning?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

PETE

Do you know the rules Nowhere Man?

JOGGER

Of course I do!

PETE

Then you also know that social distancing isn't required when you're part of the same family.

JOGGER

What?

SHAWN

You heard him. We're part of the same family.

JOGGER

You mean...

PETE

(holds Shawn's hand)
You don't have to be blood relatives to be family you know!

SHAWN

(takes Pete's other hand)
And you also know the laws have changed right?

JOGGER

(stunned)
Wow. Look guys. I'm really sorry. I didn't... I mean, I had no idea.

SHAWN

Why? Because we didn't have a sign on our heads that said we don't social distance because we're gay?

JOGGER

No I just never thought-

PETE

(pretending to cry)
That gay people should go back to the closet where they belong right? That's what you were thinking wasn't it!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

JOGGER

I'm really sorry. I wasn't thinking. I shouldn't have assumed.

SHAWN

You're right you shouldn't have assumed. Now begone from here before I get the Gay Lives Matter people all over you!

The jogger runs off as fast as he can. Pete and Shawn look to make sure he's out of sight. Once they can no longer see him, they take hand sanitizer out of their pockets and rub it all over their hands to get all the germs off.

PETE

There's a Gay Lives Matter?

SHAWN

How do I know? Do I look gay to you?

Pete looks at Shawn quizzically, thinking about his question.

SHAWN

Well?

PETE

I don't know. Do I look gay to you?

Shawn looks over Pete up and down, also pondering the question.

PETE

Well?

SHAWN

I don't know.

PETE

You don't know??

SHAWN

Probably not.

PETE

Probably???

(CONTINUED)