Sorry, Wrong Paul

Jennifer Martin

INT. BEDROOM- EARLY MORNING

Alarm sounds.

PAUL wakes up. He sits up and turns off his alarm.

INT. KICTHEN- EARLY MORNING

Paul sits at a table. His mom places a plate of breakfast infront of him.

MOM Here you go sweetie

PAUL

Thanks mom

She kisses the top of his head. He meakly smiles at her and pokes at his food.

PAUL

I'm actually not that hungry today... I think I'm just going to head to work.

MOM oh alright

Paul grabs his keys and walks to the door.

PAUL

Bye mom

He walks outside and gets in his car.

EXT. STORE- MORNING

Paul pulls into the store parking lot. He gets out of his car and looks at the store and sighs. He unlocks to store doors and starts to open up the store.

INT. STORE

Paul sees ANDY pull into the parking lot. He smiles. Andy walks in and greets Pauls.

ANDY Paullll oh my god I love you dude! You want believe what happened this weekend, watch this! Andy pulls out his phone and shows Paul a video of his daughter taking her first steps.

PAUL Awwww look at little Lacy oh my god she's walking now! That's crazy congrats man!

ANDY

I know! JO started crying, this is the third one to start walking though I thought she'd be used to it by now. Hey but anyways anything crazy happen to you this weekend?

PAUL

Nope just same old same old. Oh actually I finally caught that squirrel that's been in my walls. So... no more scratching sounds at night... I can sleep better now I guess.

ANDY

Dude. Wow that's so fucking lameeeee. You gotta do something like I don't know, get a girlfriend or maybe move out of your moms house?!

PAUL

Ugh I know I'm so tired of doing the same thing every day! I want to go somewhere, do something, meet someone! But I don't have the money and my mom would be so lonely and I-

ANDY

Paul, respectfully, fuck all of that shit. You don't have anything or anyone holding you back! You're young, you don't have a family like I do. You have so much potential still.

A man walks into the store.

PAUL Yeah ok we'll talk more about that later.

Paul turns to the man.

PAUL

What's up man? How can I help you?

GUY Hey yeah I just need a new phone. This one's busted.

PAUL Yeah we can do that.

He looks at the phone. It just looks like a bad broken screen.

PAUL I honestly could just replace the screen and It'll be good as new.

GUY Nah that's not gonna work. I need a new phone and a new phone number.

PAUL Well we can get you a new phone, but a new number isn't really necessary. I can just transfer-

GUY No. I need a new phone and new number.

PAUL

Oh ok are your sure? It's going to cost a lot-

GUY

You know what nevermind this is more difficult than it needs to be. Just keep the phone it's broken. I'll go somewhere with more competent workers.

The guy leaves.

PAUL What a dick.

ANDY

Dude he's fucking stupid this would've been like \$30 to fix and like \$300 for a new phone. And why did he think he needed a new number to?

The phone lights up. Paul starts scrolling through hundreds

of texts. The last one caught his eye.

Paul please meet me at 410 e. columbia tonight.

PAUL These are all addressed to me. Andy I'm freaking out.

ANDY

Ok Paul breathe it's ok maybe there's a logical explination for all of this. Maybe that Guy's name was Paul too.

PAUL

I doubt it he didn't look like a Paul. I mean look at me I look like a Paul, but that guy did NOT. He looked like a... idk... Richard?

ANDY

Ok yeah you've got a point, but like don't freak out! Maybe this is a sign! You're opportunity to change you're life and do something and meet someone!

PAUL

I don't know... what if I go there to meet my murderer? Or it's like a drug dealer?

ANDY Or like the hottest girl you've ever seen? The love of your life? you have to go!

PAUL I don't know...

ANDY Pretty please? Go for me?

PAUL Hmmmm... Ok fuck it I'll go.

Paul sighs and looks at the texts. He puts the phone in his pocket.

EXT. STORE- NIGHT

Paul leaves the store and gets in his car. He puts the adress

into his gps and drives to the location.

EXT. UNDERPASS- NIGHT

Paul arrives at an underpass and parks a little far away to not draw attention to himself. He sees a girl standing under the bridge. She looks impatient. Paul decides to walk over to her.

PAUL Hey are you the one who's been sending me texts?

MAEBEE What are you talking about?

Paul shows her the texts on the phone.

MAEBEE

Oh my goodness yes! I did send you those! So sorry I have a terrible memory, I was starting to wonder what I was doing here!

PAUL

That's alright. I'm Paul, could I get your name?

MAEBEE

MAEBEE

PAUL Aww man come on, what's your name?

MAEBEE I'm serious it's Maebee!

PAUL

Ohhhh haha. Well Maebee it was really nice to meet you but I should really get home to my mom she's probably worried about me.

MAEBEE

Dude what are you like 30? You're an old man she shouldn't worry about you.

PAUL

No I'm 23 and my mom is a very worrisome woman, look i don't even know why I'm saying I really gotta go. Paul turns his back to Maebee and starts to walk to his car.

MAEBEE You don't even want to come to this party with me? I'll look lame if I show up alone, that's why I texted you!

Paul turns around to see Maebee with the biggest frown begging him to go to the party with her. He remembers what him and Andy were talking about at work earlier about branching out.

> PAUL Ugh fine, but I'm doing this because of a converstation I had earlier, not because of your puppy dog eyes.

MAEBEE Paul we're about to have the best night of our lives.

Maebee grabs Pauls hand and drags him to his car. They hop in and drive to the party.

EXT. HOUSE PARTY- NIGHT

Paul parks his car and he looks worried.

MAEBEE Don't worry you'll be fine

PAUL

I'm not worried

MAEBEE

Well I hope you're not constipated. You look worried or constipated.

PAUL

Okay, okay I'm not either. Let's go

They walk into the party. Paul feels like everyone is looking at him.

PARTY PEOPLE Hi Paul! What's up Paul!

Paul leans into talk to Maebee.

PAUL How do these people know my name?

MAEBEE Oh these are all my friend's I told them I was bringing my new friend Paul. They're just messing with you.

Maebee hands him a shot.

MAEBEE (CONT'D) Here have this. It'll help you relax.

PAUL Oh haha no thanks I'm DD remember?

MAEBEE Shut up dude just drink! We'll worry about that later.

They take the shot.

Mont. of Maebee and Paul drinking.

They start to dance. Maebee see's her ex boyfriend OTHER PAUL. She walks away from Paul to talk to him.

PAUL

You know what, I'm so glad you forced those shots down my throat! This is th emost fun I've had in...

Paul realizes he's talking to no one and that Maebee's gone. He starts to look around the party for her. He gets overwhelemed and decides to go wait outside. He slumps over in a chair in the back yard.

MAEBEE

Paul wake up!

Maebee is shaking Paul's shoulders. He wakes up.

PAUL Well, well, well. Where have you been missy?

MAEBEE I uh, said hey to a friend, then went to the bathroom. PAUL

I wanna meet your friend!

MAEBEE No you don't want to do that.

PAUL

Why not?!

MAEBEE You're drunk. Why don't we get you home.

PAUL Dude I'm not drunk. I just worked an 8 hour shift. I'm tired. But yeah I have work tomorrow so I guess I should go home.

MAEBEE Well I've definetly sobered up so I can drive us home. Let's go.

EXT. PAULS HOUSE- NIGHT

Maebee drives them to Paul's house. She parks out front and runs around the other side to help Paul get out. Paul stumbles out of the car and falls ontop of Maebee on his front yard. They stare at each other and start to make out. Paul grabs her hand and they run inside.

INT.- PAULS HOUSE- NIGHT

Paul and Maebee laugh as they walk into his house. Paul stops and Maebee asks what's wrong. She sees his mom sitting in a chair stairing at them with a pissed off look on her face.

> PAUL'S MOM It's 2am. What's wrong with you? Where have you been? Who's that?

PAUL I'm sorry mom I- I got caught up at work and then I got invited to this party... oh uh this is Maebee-

MAEBEE Hi, nice to meet you

PAUL'S MOM So no call? Young man this is unaccabtale!

PAUL Mom do you hear the way you're talking to me?! I'm 23! I'm not in high school! I'm a grown man and can do whatever I want! You don't have to wait up for me I can take care of myself and so can you!

Paul's mom's face turns from anger to sadness. She starts to tear up.

PAUL'S MOM Ok then. Good night. Nice meeting you.

She walks to her room.

MAEBEE Wow ok she's a real buzz kill

PAUL

Yeah I know. Sorry about that.

They walk to Paul's room.

INT. PAUL'S ROOM- NIGHT

Maebee walks around Pauls room and looks at all of his stuff.

PAUL My room is stuck in high school just like my mom haha.

MAEBEE It's cute and homey. I like it.

PAUL

Well I'm pretty tired so I'm gonna go to bed. You're free to stay here if you want. I can take the cou-

He turns around to see Maebee asleep on his bed. Paul puts a blanket over her and goes to sleep on the couch.

INT. PAUL'S HOUSE- MORNING

Paul wakes up and realizes he has an hour before work. He walks to his room to wake up Maebee to take her home. He gets to his door and hears her talking to someone on the phone. She sounds mad. MAEBEE (ON THE PHONE) Look I'm sorry about last night, but I meet someone new and you're just gonna have to deal with it.

No I don't care! No Paul you're not going to do anything to him! I'm with him now!

No you're the wrong Paul! He's the right Paul for me! No it's not weird y'all have the same name! Look I don't have time for this-

Paul is super confused so he knocks on the door.

MAEBEE (ON THE PHONE) Look I got to go. Bye.

MAEBEE

Come in

INT. PAUL'S ROOM- MORNING

Paul enters the room.

PAUL

Hey good morning. I uh have work in an hour so I was gonna come check on you but it looks like everythings good so do you want a ride home? Or I can call out of work we can go get some food or we could- I'm sorry what was that phone call about?

MAEBEE

So you were listenin to my phone call?

PAUL

Yes I'm sorry I heard my name and I got curious I didn't mean to pry I didn't hear much-

MAEBEE

Yes you did. I saw your shadow under the door. It's ok. I was just talking to my ex. His name is also Paul that's what you heard.

PAUL Oh well what did you mean by one of us

MAEBEE

I meant that I had a really good night with you and you're the Paul I wnat to be with! The texts you got yesterday were meant for my ex. He saw us at the party last night and got jealous that's the friend I ran off to talk to.

PAUL

Well so really I'm the wrong Paul since I wasn't even supposed to get those texts.

MAEBEE

Well no. Yes. No. I don't know, all I know is I'm glad you got those texts.

PAUL

Are you? You ran off to talk to him last night! You left me alone with people I didn't know! My mom's pissed at me!

MAEBEE

Woah why are you blowing up on me! Is that what this is about?! You're mad at me for keeping you out late and making mommy mad?

PAUL Look I think you should go-

MAEBEE

Paul don't be like that I'm sorry. Let's get breakfast or go-

PAUL

No just get your other Paul to pick you up. I need some space.

Maebee runs out of Pauls house and slams the front door. Paul sits on his bed and puts his head in his hands.

INT. STORE- AFTERNOON

Paul just finished telling Andy about everything from the night before. Andy looks astonished and in disbelife.

PAUL

So that's basically it. Should I try to get her back?

ANDY Wow. Uh- I'm not sure. Maybe?

PAUL

Yes Maebee, the only girl who's ever really shown interest in me.

ANDY

Dude yes I know that. I was saying maybe as in like maybe you should as in like maybe?

PAUL

That's so fucking confusing. You know what I'm not gonna call her just because oh how confusing her name can be.

ANDY Good idea. Good idea. Uh who are you calling?

PAUL

Maebee.