

INT. L'ASPERCHES UNIVERSITY DORMITORY HALLWAY - DAY

It's "move in" day at L'asperches University, located in central New Jersey in an upper-middle class to high-class community.

(L'asperches University, est. 1910, sits on what once was a large estate of a prestigious family, in the heart of the now suburban city of Friedrich.

All University buildings have a brick exterior and resemble one another--mostly Neo-Classical and Jeffersonian. They exude an air of aristocracy and are placed with plenty of breathing room, nothing too claustrophobic.

The university houses every tree species that grows in North America on its premises, save the palm which is only shipped in for special occasions, and is the habitat to abundant wildlife

It is a small college when it comes down to registered students, about three thousand, most of which know each other, if not by name, at least by sight. The mascot is a fierce porcupine and the school colors are maize and black.)

SIDNEY, a tall handsome eighteen-year-old freshman with short hair, is walking down the hallway carrying a TV. On top of the television rests a very small manila envelope with his room number printed on it. It used to contain the dorm key, which is now dangling from his hand.

Sidney reaches his destination, the source of a particularly annoying song which will be referred to in the future as *THAT SONG*, and starts to slide his key into the door when it is suddenly opened from the inside. On the inside of the room stands STEVE, also an eighteen-year-old freshman, medium height and average looking. Both are startled for a brief second.

Steve is sort of a country boy, or at least the persona that goes with one--a bit naive and a bit dumb. Coming from a rich family, he dresses preppy. Though he has siblings, he acts more like the selfish only child.

Sidney on the other hand is conservative, a bit more practical, and just a whole lot more normal. He is also highly intelligent. He seems like the sensitive type, like he wouldn't hurt a fly.

STEVE

Hi. I'm Steve, your roommate. You must be Sidney.

Steve, standing in the middle of the doorway, extends his arm in the friendly gesture of a handshake.

FADE IN TITLE

Roommates

FADE OUT TITLE

Sidney motions with his eyes the medium sized TV he is still carrying which Steve somehow must have missed.

SIDNEY

(smiles and jokes)

Uh, nice to meet you Steve. Think you can move aside a sec so I can put this down. It's a journey in itself from the car to the building and then up three flights of stairs.

They both LAUGH.

CUT TO:

INT. DORM - CONTINUOUS

STEVE

Right. How stupid of me.

Steve steps out of the doorway, allowing the door to smack into Sidney in the process, almost causing him to drop his TV.

SIDNEY

(soto)

Thanks.

Steve steps over to his side of the room, singing along with *THAT SONG*. He has already chosen and claimed for his own which bed, dresser, desk, chair, and closet he wants (all of which are in better condition than those left for Sidney). As a matter of fact, he is already completely unpacked.

Pictures of his girlfriend (whom isn't all that attractive) cover the wall on his side of the room and his desk. There is only a very small portion of the wall not covered with

pictures. He has a small garbage pail near his desk. Steve's bed, lining the window, is covered with a white, designer, down comforter and child print sheets.

Sidney enters the room and looks around. He places the TV on his bed, which was jetting intrusive into the center of the room, right next to the orange-brown stain on his mattress and then turns around to talk with his new roommate.

SIDNEY

Looks like you're already settled in.

STEVE

Yep. One of the benefits of sports. Got here a week earlier.

SIDNEY

I wouldn't know. Well, I have a lot more to haul up here. Talk to you later.

STEVE

Yeah, alright man. I was just going to hang out with some of the other jocks anyway.

Steve turns off *THAT SONG* on his computer, grabs his L'asperches baseball cap, and both exit.

DISSOLVES TO:

INT. DORM - DAY

Sidney makes several trips carrying up his computer, monitor, and printer, a VCR, bags & boxes with food, clothing, bedding, and other knickknacks, and finally a refrigerator. He places all the items neatly on or around his bed at first until he decides how to rearrange his half of the room.

FADE OUT

FADE IN

INT. DORM - EVENING

Sidney has finished unpacking. His desk is against the wall with the closet to the right, which is by the door. On top of the desk is all of his computer paraphernalia and a

talking figure of Kenny from *South Park*. Sidney's garbage pail sits in front of his desk and beside his closet. A long mirror was on the wall behind his desk.

Along the wall, to the left of his desk, lies the head of his bed and above his bed are two rows of shelves. On the shelves are placed three busts with foam rubber masks--all grotesque monsters made by Sidney and his dad. One is the first they had ever made together, a ghoulish gremlin with deep cuts and festering rashes. The second is the first Sidney made on his own, which is rather poorly done. And the last, the one Sidney is most proud of, has a strong resemblance to the Cryptkeeper.

On the side of the bed is a car cup holder used to hold remote controls. Sidney's dresser is against the opposite wall, across from the foot of his bed. It holds his TV with VCR housed on top, perfectly positioned so both Sidney and Steve have equal visibility of the TV from their beds. The refrigerator is to the right of the dresser and Steve's microwave is placed on top.

Sidney is just finishing as Steve returns with his cap backwards.

STEVE

Hey! You want to grab some dinner?
I'll introduce you to some of the
other guys on the floor. I've been
hopping from room to room while you
were unpacking.

SIDNEY

Sure. How's the food here?

STEVE

Don't ask!

CUT TO:

INT. CAFETERIA - EVENING

Dinner time. Sidney and Steve are just settling down at a round table with 3 other guys--average looking, book smart PHIL who had one foot in the door to geekdom, TONY who's hair was usually slicked back as a quick fix, often needed a shave, and who's outfits of muted colors were just thrown together, though he was still presentable, and RICH the affluent, preppy African-American.

Everyone has a tray of food in front of them. It doesn't look too appetizing. The cafeteria is practically full.

STEVE

Everyone, this is my roommate Sidney.

PHIL

Hi. I'm Phil, your R.A. How do you like it here so far?

SIDNEY

I don't know. I've only been here a couple of hours and I spent them unpacking. And I'm not going to judge the rest of the campus based on the looks of this food.

They all LAUGH.

PHIL

Good idea. Besides the food, L'asperches U. is really great!

Phil LAUGHS.

PHIL (CONT'D)

Can you tell I'm an R.A.?

Phil LAUGHS again and everyone else joins in. Steve then points to Tony.

STEVE

That's Tony. He lives down the hall.

TONY

No, I'm not Italian. My Mom just thought she was being cute. See, my family's from New Jersey but my parents had to visit a doctor in New York in order to conceive. And hence the name Tony. To New York.

RICH

And I'm you're next door neighbor Rich, something I'm not.

They all LAUGH.

FADE OUT

FADE IN

INT. DORM - EVENING

The lights are off. Sidney is already in bed as Steve shuts off *THAT SONG* on his computer and hops into his own bed. (*THAT SONG* is to now play in practically every Dorm Room scene when Steve is present.)

STEVE

(bragging)

I must say I've had a pretty good life. I'm not one to brag about being rich, but my parents are quite well off. I get pretty much whatever I want.

SIDNEY

That's nice.

STEVE

Yeah. How about you?

SIDNEY

(in a matter of fact way)

My father died 10 years ago and my mother struggles to make ends meet.

STEVE

Oh. Do you have a girlfriend?

SIDNEY

No. Haven't met the right person yet.

STEVE

I've been going out with my girlfriend Jesse for 18 months now. I really miss her. She's going to college in California.

SIDNEY

That's tough.

STEVE

Yeah. I never thought I could love someone so much. I can't live without her. I wish she were here. Are you tired? Am I keeping you up?

Sidney LAUGHS.

SIDNEY

Well actually...Tomorrow is a big day and I would like to get some sleep.

STEVE

(ignoring Sidney's
reply)

I met Jesse at a church picnic. Oh, she looked so beautiful and I instantly fell in love...

Sidney puts his pillow over his head to drown out his roommate.

FADE OUT