

THE ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

"Episode 4"

by

DMP

It's about 9pm on Sunday and Nikki and Sanford are sitting in the living room. Nikki is quizzing Sanford for one of his upcoming final exams.

JARED: Hey guys, whacha doing? Studying... Nice! Listen, can I interrupt?

NIKKI: Hmm, I wonder if it's possible to ever ask that question without interrupting someone?

SANFORD: That is a good question. What do you think Jared?

JARED: Uhh... riiight. I'm sorry, is this a bad time?

SANFORD: Ahh, we're kidding - I'm only studying for the one biggest exams of the year.

Jared walks over and sits on the arm of the couch Nikki and Sanford are sitting on.

JARED: Listen, here's the thing. I've been spending quite a bit of time with Allison lately. And I thought I had myself covered for this final project I'm doing... buuut, I've been running into a number of unforeseen technical problems.

NIKKI: What? On the produce product shoot?

SANFORD: No, he finished that. I ate the apples yesterday.

JARED: No, no... it's the abstract, post-figurative, landmark

study of North American quasi-nationalistic patriots.

Nikki glances and Sanford.

SANFORD: Uh-hmm. Right.

JARED: Well, anyway! That's the project. The problem is my camera is acting funny and it's been in the shop for a few days longer than I had originally thought. And... my final critique is on Thursday.

NIKKI: And you haven't even started?

JARED: Well... not exactly. I've gotten as far as 'abstract.' ... Oh and I have my North American quasi-nationalistic patriots.

SANFORD: Oh yeah? Who are they?

JARED: Oh I thought I told you... I left a message on the white board...?

Nikki and Sanford look at each other.

NIKKI: What? We're the North American quasi-nationalistic patriots?

Jared smiles embarrassingly.

JARED: ANYWAY! You guys rule for helping me out! It wont take more than 5-10 minutes.

JARED: ..But right now the problem is I don't even know when I'll be getting my camera back. And THEN I have to shoot, THEN I have develop the pictures, THEN I have to write the proposal, THEN I have to re-shoot... ehh, you know how it is...

SANFORD: Jared I don't know man... I have exams all this week. What could we possible do to help you anyway... I mean, besides being North American quasi-nationalistic patriots...

JARED: Well... that's just it! I don't want to burden YOU guys with this. And I know I can't get all that done in a week. So I'm thinking that maybe you could just write me a doctor's note so I can get an extension?

Nikki bursts out laughing.

NIKKI: Jared, you too much!

SANFORD: What are you talking about? I can't do that!

Jared stands up off the couch arm.

JARED: What are you talking about? You're basically a doctor?! You were just complaining the other day that you've done almost a much school as one.

SANFORD: Yeah... But that doesn't make me a doctor! I'd be forging a doctor's note for you! Jared, I have one week left of my degree; I'm not going devalue all that education I was talking about just because you've been spending more time with Allison than

your project.

NIKKI: Jared, you could both get into a ton of trouble. And that'd totally be unfair to the other students...

JARED: All the other students aren't all doing an abstract, post-figurative, landmark study of North American quasi-nationalistic patriots!

SANFORD: That doesn't even matter, you're not even sick! I'm not doing it!

JARED: Maaan, common guys. Nikki, you were the one that suggested need to spend more time with Allison.

NIKKI: So?

SANFORD: Haha, yeah. He's got you there.

Nikki gives Sanford a cold stare. Jared somewhat accepts his Sanford's decision, but tries one more tactic.

JARED: I'm serious guys, I'm nuts about Allison. She's made me a better student - if you can believe that!

Sanford is now a little annoyed.

SANFORD: That's sweet. But... I'm not doing it.

Then Allison walks in the room.

Jared blushes fearing Allison may have heard what he just said.

Having heard Sanford deny Jared, Allison wonders what they're talking about.

ALLISON: Doing what?

JARED: Oh nothing...

NIKKI: He was trying to convince Sanford to forge him a doctor's note on the grounds that he's 'almost a doctor.'

Jared continues to blush.

ALLISON: Wow, that's surprising. Even for you Jared...

JARED: Well... uhh, she's exaggerating! You didn't hear the whole story.

Sanford grows a big smile.

JARED: Nothing! Nothing... Uhh, I was kidding..

SANFORD: Ahh right! That's what I wanted to hear. Now, can I get back to studying?

Sanford turns to Nikki. Nikki smiles at Jared implying she's done harassing him - she was just kidding around.

NIKKI: Yeah, sorry man. I'm just messing with you... I'm sure you'll figure it out. Why don't you, uhh... ask Allison for a 'second opinion?'

JARED: Alright, fine.

Allison turns her attention to Jared.

ALLISON: What's up?

JARED: You wouldn't by chance have a camera would you?

ALLISON: Of course! You know, I was really into photography in high-school.

JARED: Awesome! Do you think you could help me take a few photographs? I'm running way behind schedule on this final project.

NIKKI: I'm... sorry...

Interrupting Sanford's studying again Allison, Jared, and Sanford turn their attention to Nikki.

NIKKI: I couldn't HELP but overhear... but are you asking Allison to help you with your 'individual' year-end project?

JARED: Yeah? So?

ALLISON: Right... So I can't take your photographs for you... I can lend you my camera though...

NIKKI: Yeah, Jared... I'm not sure you're getting this whole academic integrity thing.

Allison looks at Jared with forgiving, yet pitiful eyes. Jared blushes at his ignorance.

NIKKI: You can't work in a group if it's an individual project.

You can't forge a doctors note.

You can't share your work with anyone else.

And you can't buy or download any work you plan to hand in as your own.

JARED: I know, I know. I'm sorry guys. I'm just so stressed right now... Man, I'm screwed for this project.

ALLISON: Nah, you're not. I can still support you in other ways without jeopardizing your academic integrity. Besides... you know, I feel bad.

Realizing Allison might have heard more than she should have, Jared smiles embarrassingly.

JARED: Uhh... haha <cough>