

Lights up. The walls are now decorated in pirate, superhero, and science fiction posters. Traces of the jungle adornment are still found around the room. The bedspread is now superhero themed.

10-year-old ELIAS bursts in through his door.

ELIAS

Charlie! Charlie, buddy! Where are ya?

Elias goes to open his closet. Charlie steps out from behind some boxes.

CHARLIE

Hey hey! Wh—

ELIAS

Charlie! Sweet! Guess what guess what?

CHARLIE

(caught off guard)

Ohhuhhit's my birthday!—no. that's dumb, I'm not a libra. God can you imagine. Oh my God wait I totally forgot, yes! Yes I remember yes! Today's our expedition! Our deep sea voyage! Okay uhh okay um yes! I'll get our boat, matey! You get your binoculars, and our adventure begins!

ELIAS

I have a friend coming over!

Elias starts to race around his room, putting his favorite toys on display, shoving clothes in his closet, putting books back on bookshelves, etc.

CHARLIE

What?

ELIAS

His name's Adam, he's super cool!

CHARLIE

Adam?

ELIAS

Yeah! He's coming over to play!

CHARLIE

Oh. Yeah. Uh with us? or...

ELIAS

Uh-huh! It's gonna be great!

CHARLIE

I don't know if there's room in our boat for...

ELIAS

I'm thinking maybe no voyage today.

CHARLIE

Yeah no. That would be...bad. How'd—how'd you meet him?

ELIAS

We sit next to each other.

CHARLIE

Oh. Do you uh... stand next to each other // too?

ELIAS

He's totally the coolest guy ever!

CHARLIE

(Tries to laugh)

Woah there—

ELIAS

No really! He's super funny, he's like the fastest runner ever! Like he can always beat everyone in tag or kickball, tag at recess, kickball at PE, but we always team up so we always win together, but he's like nice when he wins, not like some of the other boys, you know, not everyone's nice, but Adam I don't know he's just like cool, and he's got the coolest lightsabers, I played with them at his house, they're awesome cause they light up and have the sounds — like the JER JER and the CLSH — which are so much better than mine, cause mine are just plastic cause mom says I can't get the cooler ones, and his are fun, so I played with those at his house cause he said those were his favorite toys, those and his action figures, and then I said I wanted to show him my favorite toy too, so he's coming over here to meet you!

CHARLIE

Oh! Okay. Yeah, yeah. Yay, favorite! Um...that'd be... good. Good um—

ELIAS

Yeah yeah, go hide, he's coming!

Elias pushes Charlie into the closet.

CHARLIE

I need to think of something to say when I enter. Do I have a cue? Do you have like a little intro planned? Five time award winner for Best Spots and Lifetime Achievement Award for Bestest Friend—

Elias shuts the closet doors. Mom reappears in the bedroom doorway. She has a new haircut.

MOM

Elias, Adam's here! Go get the door!

Elias runs up to Mom, she tussles his hair, but he escapes past her. They both exit the bedroom.

A ten-year-old boy, ADAM, enters the house. He's not wearing a backpack right now, but hypothetically if he was, he would definitely only have it on over just one shoulder.

ADAM

Hey!

ELIAS

Adam! Hey! Nice to see you!

MOM

(to Adam's offstage mom)

Thank you for dropping him off! Elias has been super excited all week, this is his first friend to come over and play!

ELIAS

Mom stop you don't have to...

MOM

He's always been a little shy, so this is really good for him!

ADAM

You've never had anyone over before to hang out?

ELIAS

Not like a bunch of people.

MOM

Well go on, have fun you guys!

ADAM

Come on! Where's your room?

Elias and Adam run into the bedroom. Adam jumps onto Elias's back, and they immediately start wrestling. Mom continues talking to Adam's offstage mom at the door.

MOM

He's always had his little plush giraffe, but yeah when he came home and said, "Mom! Mom! I have a friend, I have a friend!" I was like "Right on!" Y'know, in my head I was like "*it's about time*"—no haha but uh... I mean honestly thank you for letting Adam come over, I— I might be more excited about this play date than they are!

ADAM

DIE FOOLISH MORTAL!

MOM

All right, goodbye Mrs...

(Completely blanking)

Y-yeah... okay, bye!

Door closes.

MOM (CONT'D)

Shit!

Mom gasps. Looks around, makes sure no children heard that. And promptly exits.

ELIAS

Okay, okay! You win, you win!

ADAM

Cool room dude—woah! I love Spider Man, that poster's awesome! Is he your favorite?

ELIAS

Yeah! Your friendly neighborhood Spider-Man!

ADAM

You don't have any Batman posters!

ELIAS

I haven't seen the Batman movies.

ADAM

What?? Batman's the best! What do you mean you haven't seen them?

ELIAS

My mom doesn't lemme watch those—

ADAM

They're not scary.

ELIAS

I know. But... yeah it's stupid.

ADAM

You can like watch them at my house if you want!

ELIAS

Really? Yeah that'd be so cool!

ADAM

Yeah next week or something! I also just bought this really cool Batman game, so we can play that—or I also got Call of Duty.

ELIAS

oh awesome

ADAM

My parents just won't let us use the voice chat, but it's basically like the same thing.

ELIAS

oh yeah i-i know yeah

ADAM

But hey, for today, what—what are we gonna do?

ELIAS

Um. I was gonna show you—

ADAM

Oh yeah! You said you wanted to show me your favorite toy or something? What is it?

ELIAS
It's... it's nothing. It's...my giraffe.

ADAM
What?

ELIAS
He's... his name's Charlie. My giraffe.

ADAM
You still have stuffed animals?

ELIAS
I know. Like... it's stupid, right?

ADAM
I mean... no, not stupid.

ELIAS
No, it is, // it is.

ADAM
No, I don't know, just... I thought you were gonna show me like some LEGO Millennium Falcon or like... a video game or something, I don't know. Sorry. Not that... I mean I used to have a bunch of stuffed animals too when I was like a baby.

ELIAS
Oh. Well. Yeah no. It isn't...

ADAM
Isn't what?

ELIAS
Isn't my favorite anymore or anything...