

PUBERTY BOYS

Written by

Christopher Kelly

ckelly2412@gmail.com

INT. CONVENTION CENTER, NEW YORK - DAY

Rows of booths line the convention floor, filled with B-list celebrities and aging musicians from once-popular bands and TV shows.

A BANNER: *2010s CONVENTION: THINGS WEREN'T BETTER, THEY WERE JUST DIFFERENT.*

BOOTH: PUBERTY BOYS. (The S striked out)

CONVENTION GUEST #1

Ugh. Boy Bands. The genital warts
of the 2000s.

SIMON CHESHIRE (30), most likely to have a heart-to-heart conversation with his reflection sits. No one at his booth.

SIMON

(yelling at convention
guest)

I also had a reality show, *Simon Says!* Variety called my lack of
self-awareness toxically engaging.

Simon clocks CONVENTION GUESTS whispering:

CONVENTION GUEST #1

Wasn't that show cancelled?

CONVENTION GUEST #2

Yeah, he admitted he didn't believe
in dinosaurs!

SIMON

My sex appeal didn't come from a
sky lizard!

A PARENT steers her CHILD away.

PARENT

Remember honey we avoid sad white
males in public.

CONVENTION GUEST #3

(reading Puberty Boy sign)
World's worst superhero.

CONVENTION GUEST #4

What's his superpower? Body odour?
Awkward boners?

CONVENTION GUEST #3

The shame of existence.

INTERVIEW - SIMON

SIMON

I'm Simon Cheshire. You probably know me from my teenage punk band, Puberty Boys.

He gestures to himself--clearly not a teenager anymore.

SIMON (CONT'D)

I'm writing a book about it. Two rules to being a Puberty Boy: Never grow up. Never apologize. We had a few hits in the 2000s. Like *Sexy Math*.

INT. CONAN O'BRIAN - FOUND FOOTAGE (15 YEARS AGO)

AN ALBUM COVER projects on a wall: FOUR TEENAGERS WITH COMICALLY SIZED BRACES pose in a prison lineup photo.

SIMON

(singing)

It's Sexy Math.

Simon twerks in front of CONAN O'BRIAN.

DAX, PAUL, ADAM move as one. A fog machine creates mystery.

REST OF BAND

(singing)

Isn't it sexy? Forget about numbers.

INTERVIEW - SIMON

SIMON

Our most famous song, *Puberty Face*, launched us into stardom.

INT. STADIUM - FOUND FOOTAGE (15 YEARS AGO)

A spaceship lowers onto a stage. Laser lights. PUNK ROCK ridiculousness. THE PUBERTY BOYS rock out.

Simon, microphone in hand. Adam's on drums. Dax plays bass. Paul's on guitar. It's punk rock/operatic.

SIMON
 (singing)
*Puberty Face/It's almost your time/
 Puberty Face let that acne
 shine/Growing up is never
 eaaassssyy/You're NOT my real dad!*

Simon turns the Mic to the crowd.

CROWD
 YOU'RE NOT MY REAL DAD!

INTERVIEW - SIMON

SIMON
 We toured the world, grew up, broke
 up. It's a tale as old as Kanye.

INT. SAD APARTMENT COMPLEX, HALLWAY - DAY

The hallway's like a horror movie. Overhead lights blink in and out. Exposed electrical wires.

Simon spots an EVICTION NOTICE--RENT 90 DAYS LATE.

INT. SIMON'S SAD APARTMENT - DAY

Simon drops eviction in the garbage. It joins a paper mountain of eviction notices.

Simon stares at his guitar, caked in dust. He looks out his tiny window. A billboard: *It Gets Better or It Doesn't!*

The Billboard changes: LADS ON TOUR. FIVE BRITISH GUYS (30s) Annoyingly happy. Like a Colgate commercial.

INT. SIMON'S SAD APARTMENT - DAY

ON SIMON' PHONE: GRAHAM NORTON SHOW: FIVE BRITISH GUYS (30s) dance on stage like the BACKSTREET BOYS. This is LADS ON TOUR. The lads jump up and down--fists in the air.

LADS ON TOUR
*Lads on Tour! Lads on Tour! Lads on
 Tour!*

ON PHONE: The show cuts to the Lads On Tour sitting on a giant red couch across from GRAHAM NORTON.

LADS ON TOUR (CONT'D)
We're so excited to announce our
comeback with our new hit song,
LADS ON TOUR!

GRAHAM NORTON
Your new song's also your band
name. How meta and fun!

LADS ON TOUR
Play it at your wedding! Or when
you get divorced.

INTERVIEW - SIMON

SIMON
Our British rivals, Lads On Tour.
Happy. Is the universe fucking with
me?

INT. AGENCY HALLWAY - DAY

A SIGN: CHILD STARS OF TOMORROW

A lineup of performative, happy-go-lucky, COCAINE DISNEY
KIDS. Simon walks past them.

COCAINE DISNEY KID #1
(Hallmark level sweet)
Mister, do you have DREAMS?

COCAINE DISNEY KID #2
(Dramatic Oscar
performance tears)
Mister, do you have dreams?

COCAINE DISNEY KID #3
(Horror movie demon)
Mister, do you have dreams?

Simon realizes they all hold audition sides.

SIMON
Out of my way cocaine Disney kids!

COCAINE DISNEY KID #3
I'm not on cocaine.

SIMON
Not yet.

INT. AGENT'S OFFICE - DAY

Simon sits across from MARISSA (70s). Agent.

MARISSA

Simon you're like ninja turtle
underwear on my illegitimate
grandchildren. Cute but disposable.
If the media has taught me
anything, life after twenty is
irrelevant. Why do you think there
are so many shows about high
school?

Marissa points to the posters on her wall: DEGRASSI: IN
SPACE, POWER RANGERS: CHILD SOLDIER LIGHTNING, HIGH SCHOOL
CONFIDENTIAL: NOW WITH SEX.

MARISSA (CONT'D)

Fame can only protect you from
reality for so long. You were
famous a decade ago. That's
milleniums in internet. There's
only one thing left to do.

SIMON

Die? Can former celebrities access
Euthanasia early?

MARISSA

Reunion.

SIMON

Ask other people for help?

MARISSA

Yes.

SIMON

That's worse than cancer.

MARISSA

People like a comeback story. One
Puberty Boy is sad. Four Puberty
Boys...it's sadder...something
might be there.

Simon takes this in. A cocaine Disney kid enters.

COCAINE DISNEY KID # 1

Hey Mister, do you have dreams?

END OF TEASER