

ROD, DANIEL, and LILY, form a loose semi circle. Throughout the sketch, all characters light themselves with a flashlight under their chin.

ROD
So, should we start?

DANIEL
According to the rules we're supposed to begin at midnight exactly.

LILY
I'm so excited. I can't believe we're doing this again, after all these years!

ROD
And three... Two.. One! Let's do it!

DANIEL
Submitted for the approval of the Late Night Society, I call this story / The Tale of the -

BECKA
Wait! Wait for me! I'm so sorry I'm late! Hi, guys!
(ad libbed greetings)

DANIEL
That's ok, now you're here, which means we have four stories to get through.

BECKA
Oh, sorry, I didn't have time to write a story...

DANIEL
I guess that's ok. We've still got three.

LILY / ROD
Uh...

DANIEL
Am I the only one who brought a story?

BECKA

I thought 'reunion' meant we'd like, drink wine and split a bunch of appetizers at a Kelsey's or something.

DANIEL

Guys, this is what we do. We get together and share stories. Fictional yet personal stories, often with an ironic twist at the end.

LILY

It's fine! You've got a story, right? We'll just read that, and it'll be great!

DANIEL

Ok. Did you bring the midnight powder?

LILY

The what?

DANIEL

The midnight powder, you know, the stuff we put on the fire to make it go fwoom.

LILY

Why would I have it?

DANIEL

You were the keeper of the flame!

LILY

That was twenty years ago!

DANIEL

Oh, I'm sorry, was there a rededication ceremony in the last 20 years that I'm not aware of?

ROD

Hey, relax. It's just Coffee Mate.

DANIEL

It's not just Coffee Mate! It's the tradition! It's the fire going fwoom! That summer we spent together, meeting at night and sharing stories - that's when I realized I wanted to be a writer.

That's when I discovered who I was
as a person. Am I the only one who
felt that way?

ALL
(Ad lib: Yep, Yes, Uh-
huh, etc.)

DANIEL
So why did you all keep coming?

BECKA
Honestly? I just wanted to hook up
with Rod.

ROD
(flattered, beaming)
What?

GIRLS
(Ad lib: Yep, I had such
a crush on you, you were
really cute back then,
etc.)

ROD
Well you know, I'm still single...

GIRLS
(pause, then, together:)
Nah...

BECKA
I figured a bunch of 14 year olds
going off into the woods
unsupervised at night were
eventually going to end up making
out.

DANIEL
What? No! We were just a group of
likeminded teenagers, wrestling
with our adolescent feelings by
sharing fictional yet personal
stories with ironic twist endings!

ROD
I can't believe you guys all had
crushes on me!

DANIEL
Right? I mean, I was the leader.
And I'm almost two years older than

him. Aren't women attracted to older men with power?

GIRLS

No...

DANIEL

So you only came so you could oggle my little brother?

GIRLS

(Ad lib: yeah, pretty much, etc.)

ROD

I wish I had known you guys liked me!

LILY

Really? You never seemed interested in any of us.

BECKA

By the end of the summer we all figured you were gay.

ROD

I was told it was against the rules to date within the society! I had such a crush on -

DANIEL

It was a rule! It is a rule!

BECKA

(to DANIEL)

That's not a rule you were very good at following.

DANIEL

No, don't --

LILY

Oh my god, you two hooked up?

ROD

Oh my god!

BECKA

Just once. After The Tale of the Undersea Curse. I don't know why, but back then, anything with mermaids in it really turned me on.

ROD

Oh my GOD!

BECKA

Lost my hand virginity that night.

ROD

OH my GOD! You fooled around with Lisa? You knew I had a huge crush on her!

DANIEL

Look, I felt really bad about it. Don't you remember the Tale of the Older Brother who Made Out with his Little Brother's Crush and Felt Really Really Bad About it?

ROD

More than made out!

BECKA

It really wasn't a big deal.

LILY

Oh my god, is that why you wrote The Tale of the Really Small Serpent?

DANIEL

Oh sure, you remember that little detail, but totally forgot about the bag of magic powder!

LILY

IT'S COFFEE MATE

ROD

I didn't lose my virginity until I was twenty one because of your stupid rules, and the whole time I could have had anyone here!

GIRLS

(quiet ad libs: yep, could have, back then, etc.)

DANIEL

Trust me, I did you a favour, you can do better.

GIRLS

(disgusted ad libs)

DANIEL

I just mean that back then some of you weren't exactly natural storytellers!

ROD

I don't give a shit about storytelling!

DANIEL

Then why were you even a part of this?

ROD

Because you're my brother. And I looked up to you. At least, I used to. Fuck you, man.
(he turns to leave)

DANIEL

You can't leave before the dousing ritual! It's against the rules!

ROD

Alright, fine. Let's play by the rules. I move to revoke Daniel's membership in the society.

DANIEL

You can't do that.

ROD

Yes I can.

DANIEL

But you need somebody / to second-

LILY

Seconded.

BECKA

Third.

ROD

It's unanimous, please surrender your ceremonial torch and leave the circle.

DANIEL

Fine. I'll leave. But I just want to say... You guys are jerks.
(runs out, dropping story)

LILY
Wow. That was intense.

BECKA
(picking up MARK's story)
Should we at least read what he
wrote?

LILY
(reading)
"The Tale of the Lifelong Friends
Society"
(long pause)

ROD
Ooh, ironic twist!

END