The Last Man on Earth

by
Eitan Loewenstein
THE LAST MAN ON EARTH

A Fast Food Restaurant

The world has ended. Smoke, dim red lighting, projections of a burnt out city on the back wall, whatever you need to make sure we know this is decidedly post-apocalyptic.

The restaurant is a mess. Dirty, gross, obviously one of the last buildings still intact.

TREVOR stumbles in. He’s a weak looking man in his early 30’s, looks like he’s barely survived the apocalypse. He is starving.

Trevor starts digging through the trash. He finds a wrapper and starts licking it.

TREVOR
Oh god, I can still taste the fake cheese. (Licks again) That is the most delicious thing I have ever-

From behind an overturned table pops LANA. She’s also in her early 30’s and looks equally ragged. She still looks pretty cute.

She’s holding a sharp stick.

LANA
Whoever you are, get the hell out of my restaurant!

Trevor is startled. He falls backwards.

TREVOR
Please, please, don’t hurt me. I’m so sorry.

Lana takes an offensive position with her stick.

LANA
Don’t make me use this stick. It’s very sharp.
TREVOR
I don’t want trouble, I was just looking for food. I... (He looks directly at her for the first time, recognizes her) Lana?

LANA
How do you know my name? Who are you?

Trevor stops being scared. He stands up.

TREVOR
Lana. It’s me, Trevor. We went to high school together. Remember? Spartan pride?

He does the “Spartan Hand Sign.” Lana looks at him. She’s still ready to strike.

LANA
I don’t know anybody named Trevor.

TREVOR
Lana. Please put down the stick. I promise I’m not going to hurt you.

LANA
Ha. Like you could hurt me.

TREVOR
Good point. I’m not going to try to hurt you. I’m just looking for food.

She thinks some more. Lowers her weapon.

LANA
Trevor?

TREVOR
Yes. Trevor. You have to remember me. I asked you out at least a dozen times.

LANA
You brought me a rose every single day for the entire month of February.

TREVOR
Yes!
LANA
I remember now! That was so creepy!

She puts down her stick.

TREVOR
Well, you told me that then. Many times. But I didn’t give up.

LANA
Have you been following me?

TREVOR
No. No. Not this time. I promise. In fact, I haven’t seen another person in weeks.

Lana sits down on one of the chairs.

LANA
Me either.

TREVOR
Does that mean... are we the last two people alive?

LANA
Could be. Did you see California on the news?

TREVOR
Yeah, California went fast. Did not see that coming.

LANA
So did everything else.

TREVOR
I heard Japan got launched into space.

LANA
That sounds unlikely.

TREVOR
Right. It does.

He sits down too. Looks at her. Manages some courage.
TREVOR
Lana. I hate to bring this up.

LANA
What?

TREVOR
Well... I don’t know if you remember senior year.

LANA
Sort of. I was dating Carlton. We got high a lot.

TREVOR
Yes. Carlton. Mr. Lacrosse. What a useless sport.

LANA
It got him into college. It got me all excited.

TREVOR
But still, it’s a stupid game. That dumb stick. Catching balls, running around-

LANA
Senior year?

TREVOR
Yes. Well, I rented that limo. I drove to your front door.

LANA
Uch. My god, yes.

TREVOR
I saved up for a month for that. I pulled overnight shifts at the Pretzel Factory....
anyway. I drove up to your house and asked you to prom.

LANA
Which I was already going to with Carlton.

TREVOR
But I had to ask. You were my dream girl. You were all I thought about, for four years of
high school.
LANA
And I said “no.” Because you were so creepy.

TREVOR
That’s not what you said. You said, “only if you were the last man on Earth.”

LANA
I was trying to be polite I didn’t...

Trevor lets that sink in. Lana realizes what this means.
Something dawns on her.

LANA
You did all this for me? You blew up the world just so you could have a chance to date me?

TREVOR
What? No. That’s insane. I didn’t do any of this. I have no control over the tectonic plates. No. I just... Well, since we find ourself in this situation I have to ask.

Lana stands up.

LANA
You want to go out for coffee? You find us some coffee and I might actually consider it.

TREVOR
Really?

LANA
Yeah. I’m serious. What do you have to offer me? Food? Clean water?

TREVOR
No. I don’t have anything like that. (Trevor rises) But we can look together, as boyfriend and girlfriend.

Lana runs her hands through her hair.

LANA
As boyfriend and girlfriend?

Trevor crosses to her. Takes her hands.
TREVOR
I’m not going to say this is a good thing. Watching all those people burn to death, that can’t be good. But you have to admit, this is a little fate-ish.

LANA
I’m happy to see you. If that means anything.

TREVOR
It’s the nicest thing you’ve ever said to me. I know, because I wrote everything you ever said to me down in my diary.

LANA
Please, call it a journal.

He steps into her.

TREVOR
Plus there’s the whole “repopulating the Earth” thing.

She drops her hands.

LANA
You’re still creepy.

TREVOR
Sorry. I got carried away. I was a teenager back when I was in love with you. Still got some residual hormones going through the old bones.

LANA
And think about it. Let’s say we do have kids… then what? They have kids with each other? So gross.

TREVOR
Right. I hadn’t really thought it through.

She looks at him.

LANA
I’ve really missed being with another person. Having someone to talk to, to watch my back… just to be around. Can I say “maybe?”
TREVOR
Really?

LANA
Only if you can stop being creepy.

He takes her hands again.

TREVOR
I can. I am so excited to finally be your-

Another person bursts into the restaurant. He is in his early 30’s as well, good looking, and looks much cleaner and more put together than Trevor and Lana. This is CARLTON.

He holds a beat up lacrosse stick.

LANA
Carlton?

CARLTON
Lana? My lord, it’s you.

TREVOR
Oh, come on.

LANA
How did you... What are you doing here?

CARLTON
I’m out scouting, what else? This is the only building with a roof for miles.

TREVOR
Good to see you Carlton. Now if you don’t mind...

LANA
How is this even possible?

CARLTON
I was able to stay one step ahead of the game with my superior fitness and this bad boy.
He shows them his lacrosse stick.

CARLTON
I used it to pick the last apples from the trees out by the old windmill. I’ve was able to catch the rocks, back when those crazy mobs were out throwing them at everybody. I used it to cradle a baby bird, which I nursed back to health. Generally, lacrosse has saved my life.

LANA
Oh my.

TREVOR
Uch.

CARLTON
I have a small house all to myself about a mile away. I dug a well, so I’ve got clean water. I’ve discovered some local roots and shrubs that are surprisingly delicious.

TREVOR
This is fascinating, but my girlfriend and I were just about to-

LANA
Have you seen anybody else?

Carlton sits down, sad.

CARLTON
Not for three weeks. My poor grandmother... I managed to keep her alive for so long but... we ran out of her medication. My poor sweet Nanu died in my arms.

He weeps. Lana goes to comfort him.

TREVOR
We’re so sorry to hear that and we wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors.

LANA
Trevor, you’re being insensitive.

TREVOR
Sorry, for looking out for us.
LANA
Us?

TREVOR
You just agreed to be my-

LANA
I did, but I’m having second thoughts.

CARLTON
No. I can’t get in between you two. I’m not that kind of guy.

LANA
We were dating for thirty seconds, tops. You’re fine.

Carlton looks up.

CARLTON
You sure?

LANA
Of course.

TREVOR
You guys broke up once before. Remember? Something obviously didn’t work out between-

Carlton rises. Takes Lana in his arms.

CARLTON
I am so sorry. We should have tried to make the long distance thing work.

LANA
No, I’m sorry. It was too much pressure. You had your whole life ahead of you, I should have given you some space.

CARLTON
I never found another girl as amazing as you.

LANA
None of my other boyfriends even came close to you.
TREVOR
I’m right here.

Carlton looks at Trevor.

CARLTON
You should come live with me. Both of you. Lana, you can stay with me. And you... guy... I have a basement you can stay in...

Carlton has no idea who he is.

TREVOR
Trevor. We used to carpool in elementary school.

CARLTON
Right. Trevor. Wait, Trevor? Trevor the guy who built a treehouse in the park across from your parent’s place?

LANA
Yeah, same Trevor.

TREVOR
That was public property. I had every right-

CARLTON
You’re uninvited. You can fend for yourself. You’re creepy.

Carlton and Lana lock arms. They walk away.

TREVOR
But I’m going to die out here.

CARLTON
You think about that, next time you are tempted to be creepy.

LANA
Great to catch up with you.

They exit, leaving Trevor alone.
Trevor can’t believe it. He bends back down, picks up his cheese wrapper. Licks it.

TREVOR
Jerks. I’ll show them who’s creepy. Oh yes, I will.

He laughs manically, licks his wrapper again.