

The Geeks - Pilot

By

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EXT. STREET. DAY.

The scene opens on a small town road outside of Baltimore, Maryland. The town has one road passing through the middle of town with one visible traffic light and people walking on sidewalks on either side of the street. ARIAL, 22, walks down the sidewalk glancing at stores as she walks pass them. She is an average looking girl with wavy black hair. She wears a yellow cardigan over a slim fitting white t-shirt, skinny jeans and black converse shoes. She carries a tan satchel over her shoulder. She stops outside of a coffee shop with a sign on it that reads "Thanks a Latte" and enters.

INT. COFFEE SHOP. DAY.

The store is full of people scattered in the various chairs and tables around the shop. Arial approaches the counter as the SHOP CLERK turns around quickly and gives her a double take. Arial doesn't notice the SHOP CLERK's stares as she glances up towards the menu. The shop clerk is wearing an apron with a tank, has nice blue eyes and blonde hair gelled up into a feaux hawk. He looks like your typical everyday douchebag.

Arial approaches the counter.

ARIAL

Vanilla Caramel Mocha, please.

SHOP CLERK

Hey, there.

ARIAL

Hi, um yeah. Vanilla Caramel Mocha, please.

SHOP CLERK

Oh, yeah sure thing. So are you new in town cause I've never seen you before.

ARIAL

No. I actually come here every day. You're new here.

SHOP CLERK

Every day? Well then I guess we'll be seeing more of each other.

(CONTINUED)

ARIAL

Guess so.

Awkward pause.

ARIAL

Shouldn't you be making my coffee now?

The shop clerk quickly grabs the order pad.

SHOP CLERK

(laughing nervously)

Oh sure yeah. What's the name?

ARIAL

Arial.

SHOP CLERK

Oh like the mermaid! That's pretty rad!

ARIAL

No. Like the font, actually.

SHOP CLERK

(laughing nervously)

Oh.

Arial walks over to sit down at a small table by the store's large windows near the front of the store. She opens her book and begins to read.

SHOP CLERK

Arial!

Arial gathers her belongings and puts them in her satchel.

ARIAL

Thanks.

Arial grabs her coffee and pays the shop clerk.

SHOP CLERK

Don't forget your receipt.

The shop clerk hands Arial her receipt and smiles.

As Arial looks at the receipt she notices that the shop clerk wrote a telephone number on the receipt.

ARIAL

What is this?

SHOP CLERK

Me. Giving you my number.

ARIAL

That's really sweet of you. But no thank you.

SHOP CLERK

Why not?

ARIAL

Well although you have apparent courage that goes hand in hand with your cocky personality that is reflective of the later Amazing Spiderman. Your confidence seems to stem from pure narcissism similar to Tony Stark. While Tony possesses many attractive qualities, his personality is not one to attract an everyday Mary Jane Watson such as myself. However, if your confidence which may be mistaken for arrogance was rooted in a humbling shyness which later on in life grew into a new found confidence via some life altering event. Your cockiness might even come off as charming. However, you, sir, are no Peter Parker. Have a nice day.

Arial grabs her coffee and leaves.

The shop clerk watches her leave with a shocked and confused expression on his face.

EXT. STREET. DAY.

Arial continues to walk down the sidewalk, passing various stores with her coffee in hand.

She soon arrives outside of a comic book store and enters.

INT. COMIC BOOK STORE. DAY.

The comic book store's walls are covered with fan art of various comic book characters. The walls are lined with stacks of comic books on racks with plenty of smaller racks in the middle of the store. The only lights in the store are various spotlights pointed towards the comic books.

LOGAN, 23, spots Arial and rushes towards her. He is a little overweight and wears a long sleeved green polo with a white stripe on it and blue jeans. His hair is brown and curly and he wears glasses.

LOGAN

Where the hell have you been?!

ARIAL

Nice to see you too, Logan.

LOGAN

Oh I'm sorry.

Logan clears his throat.

LOGAN

(sarcastic girly voice)

Oh hey Arial! Thanks for showing up to work an hour late. Glad you could make it. OMG. You look so cute today.

ARIAL

I'm actually surprised to see you after what happened this weekend.

LOGAN

(normal voice)

That was an isolated incident and we're not talking about it.

ARIAL

Except for the fact that it's all over YouTube. Or are we just ignoring that?

LOGAN

We're not talking about it! Where have you been?!

ARIAL

Exploring the nine realms?

(CONTINUED)

LOGAN

Do you have any idea how important today is?

Arial pauses to think for a moment.

Her eyes widen.

ARIAL

(gasp)

Larfleeze Covenant!

Logan smiles wide.

LOGAN

Hell yeah!

Arial screams. Both dance around excitedly.

RILEY, 21, watches from behind the counter as she glances up from staring at her Nintendo DS. She is Asian with a tan complexion and brown hair with blonde highlights. She is wearing a dark blue tank and black jeans.

RILEY

Please never do that again.

ARIAL

Riley! You can't tell me you're not excited! Think of all the customers this issue is gonna bring in!

RILEY

What do I care? I'm in EV training mode for the Elite Four. I can't have any distractions like work.

LOGAN

Then what do I pay you for?

RILEY

You barely pay us at all.

LOGAN

Oh yeah, that's right. I forgot it's cause you're a total bitch. Can't believe I forgot.

Riley rolls her eyes and walks to the back of the store.

LYLE, 23, is seen fumbling with comic books he is attempting to arrange on a stack. He is tall and lanky. He has long brown hair and wears a black Led Zeppelin t-shirt and cargo pants.

(CONTINUED)

Lyle drops the comic books onto the floor.

LOGAN

Lyle. What the fuck, dude?

LYLE

Oh yeah sure. Get on my dick for dropping some comic books when she's the one who's an hour late.

LOGAN

Some comic books?! Dude these are Captain America Winter Soldier first issue drawn by Frank DiMarco before his accident that disfigured his wrist and made his drawings from then on total crap. They only made 237 of these.

LYLE

Then why do we have 200 of them?

LOGAN

Because I'm diligent.

A loud crash is heard coming from the front of the store.

CRAIG, 22, is seen hanging from the store's neon sign at the front of the store which is attached to the ceiling. Craig is a portly fellow with a baby face and a curly brown afro. He wears a red and white sweat band that holds his fro in place. He is wearing a red t-shirt and jean shorts with crocs and his socks are rolled all the way up.

LOGAN

Craig! What the fuck, man! Stop breaking shit!

CRAIG

Little help?

Arial and Logan help Craig down.

ARIAL

What the hell is that for?

CRAIG

It's a multi-colored neon sign Logan had me put up to celebrate the new shipment.

Arial glares at Logan.

ARIAL
(under her breath)
You let him use power tools?

LOGAN
Dude, the sign's supposed to be
orange not green.

CRAIG
Right.

Craig continues to smile as the three stare at one another.

LOGAN
It's a shipment of Larfleeze
Covenant comics! It's supposed to
be orange! It's like none of you
know anything about the Green
Lantern series.

CRAIG
I know the first one wore a cape.

LOGAN
We don't talk about him! Because
capes are stupid and inconvenient
unless you're Batman. And there are
already way too many DC characters
with capes. Plus that's silver age
DC. Get with the times, Craig.

Craig climbs back up the ladder to fix the sign.

Arial and Craig walk to the back of the store to take
inventory.

INT. COMIC BOOK STORE. DAY.

Logan stands with his face pressed up against the window at
the front of the store.

Arial notices him and walks over to him.

LOGAN
This is bullshit. It should be here
by now.

ARIAL
Maybe they're just running late.

(CONTINUED)

LOGAN

Yeah. And maybe Uncle Ben will come back to life.

ARIAL

There could be a alternate time line.

Craig enters from the back of the store carrying a large box.

CRAIG

Look what I got!

All of the employees crowd around Craig and the box.

LOGAN

Dude! The shipment came already?

CRAIG

Uh huh! And we've got a whole bunch.

Logan tears open the box. Then looks inside with a discouraged expression on his face.

LOGAN

Craig. What the hell, man?

Logan pulls out a stack of Playboy magazines. Each employee grabs a magazine.

Arial looks confused.

Riley looks disgusted, yet interested.

Lyle smiles.

LOGAN

This isn't the shipment.

CRAIG

Yeah it is! And I got plenty for everybody.

ARIAL

Craig, he means the shipment of Larfleeze Covenant.

CRAIG

The what?

LOGAN
Store meeting!

The group gathers in the middle of the store and sit on the ground around Logan.

Riley continues to play on her Nintendo DS.

Arial sits attentively while Lyle and Craig snicker at the magazines.

The green neon sign at the front of store illuminates Logan.

LOGAN
Lanterns! We face an unprecedented danger today that this comic book store has never seen. Larfleeze approaches with his horde of greedy orange gremlins he calls lanterns. They are ruthless and maniacal but we must not show fear. We will supply these monsters with what they desire and live to fight another day. For we are the corp! And those who buy from us these comic books shall beware our fair prices! Without refunds!

LYLE
What the fuck are you talking about?

LOGAN
Silence Sinestro!

LYLE
Yoink'd.

Awkward silence as everyone glances at Lyle.

RILEY
That doesn't work there.

LYLE
Yes it does. He just yoink'd me.

ARIAL
Yoinking has nothing to do with what just happened.

CRAIG
Yeah. Did you ride the stupid train into work this morning?

(CONTINUED)

Craig raises a hand to Riley for a high five.

Riley looks at his hand but ignores him.

RILEY

(groans)

What's the point of this meeting again?

ARIAL

We need to get ready for the customers and what Logan is trying to say in his own overly enthusiastic way, is that we need to make...this place...look good?

LOGAN

Yeah, basically.

CRAIG

(raising his hand)

Can we give them an issue of Playboy with each purchase cause I got like twenty more boxes in the back that I'm done with.

RILEY

Gross.

LOGAN

Craig, go fix the sign.

CRAIG

Yes, sir. Kilowog, sir.

Craig runs off to the front of the store.

LYLE

What I don't get is why we need to wait till the shipment gets here. Why don't we order an earlier shipment and sell it to the kids for a higher price?

ARIAL

Because that's not fair to all of the other kids.

LYLE

It's just a pre-release!

LOGAN

(gasp)

Watch your tounge, Sinestro!

LYLE

We're not Green Lanterns!

ARIAL

But if we were I'd put my money on
you being the evil one. Oh wait.
That sounds more like Riley.

Riley turns from her hand held gaming device for a second
and notices Craig talking to a truck driver outside the
front of the store.

RILEY

Hey, why's Craig talking to that
guy in a truck?

Logan rushes to the front of the store and exits the store
to the sidewalk.

EXT. STREET. DAY.

Logan approaches Craig with the rest of employees following
behind.

CRAIG

Uh yeah. You take a left on
Sycamore then a right on Hickory...

LOGAN

Craig! What the hell are you doing?

CRAIG

Oh hey, guys! Just giving Pablo,
here. Directions to the comic book
store. So yeah like I was saying...

LOGAN

Craig, shut up!

Logan shoves Craig back to the other employees.

LOGAN

Uh hi. Yes, Mr. Pablo, sir. Buenos
Nachos. Uh I'm pretty sure that
delivery is meant for here.

PABLO says some Spanish words that the group doesn't
understand in an angry tone.

Pablo hands Logan the clipboard to sign off on the shipment and the group begins carrying the boxes into the store. Riley does not carry in a single box as she continues to stare at her hand held gaming device.

INT. COMIC BOOK STORE. DAY.

The employees set the boxes down in the middle of the store.

Riley goes back to her spot behind the counter with her feet up on the counter.

Craig climbs back up on his ladder to fix the neon sign.

Lyle heads to the back of the store.

Arial and Logan begin arranging the comic books onto a shelf in the middle of the store near the entrance.

The neon light illuminates Arial and Logan with an indigo hue.

ARIAL

So are you ready for Cosplay-Con this year?

LOGAN

I don't know if I'm gonna go this year.

ARIAL

You did not just that.

LOGAN

Well I don't know if I'll be able to afford it this year and besides it'll probably just end up being a bunch of frat dudes dressed up as that knock-off version of Bane from Dark Knight Rises movie.

ARIAL

Yeah that was pretty bad.

LOGAN

It's like when some girl was in here the other day saying how The Dark Knight was her favorite Marvel movie and it made me wanna shoot my fucking face off.

(CONTINUED)

ARIAL

But think of how much money we'll
get from this shipment.

LOGAN

I know. But what if people don't
show?

ARIAL

They will. Everything will be fine.

Logan's face is illuminated blue.

LOGAN

I hope you're right. Because if it
doesn't I don't think...

A loud crash is heard from the front of the store.

LOGAN

Craig! Stop fucking with the light!
Just make it orange!

Craig is on the floor with wires twisted around his arms.

Logan walks towards the back of the store and Arial follows.

INT. COMIC BOOK STORE. DAY.

A few customers have come and gone purchasing the New 52
Larfleeze Covenant comic book.

The store has a few customers in it inspecting the comic
books on the shelves.

Riley is still at her post behind the counter with her feet
up playing her Nintendo DS.

Craig is up on the ladder still tinkering with the light.

Logan is pacing near the entrance.

Arial is behind the counter next to Riley working the
register for a customer.

ARIAL

(to the customer)
Thanks for stopping by.

The customer leaves.

Arial turns to Riley.

(CONTINUED)

ARIAL

Okay, Riley, we have a serious problem.

RILEY

You're telling me. I'm getting owned by this stupid gym leader who has like fifty full restores!

ARIAL

I'm talking about Logan. I've never seen him this upset. This is worse than when I convinced him to watch the second Fantastic Four movie and he didn't speak to anyone for a week because they made Galactus a cloud.

RILEY

So the shipment turned out to be not that big of a deal. So what? Everybody is into Batman nowadays anyways.

ARIAL

It's not just that. I think he is genuinely beginning to get worried about losing the store.

RILEY

Oh fuck you, Miltank! You fat cow!

Riley groans then lowers the game to look at Arial.

RILEY

He's just moping because people have other things to be excited for other than comic books. He'll get over it eventually then obsess over the next release like he always does.

ARIAL

I don't know. This time just seems different.

RILEY

Well whatever. I gotta go train some more.

Logan approaches as Riley walks towards the back of the store.

(CONTINUED)

The neon light from the front of the store illuminates the three with a yellow hue.

RILEY

Shut the hell up, Nure Joy! You already healed my damn Pokemon.

LOGAN

Does anybody actually work around here?

CRAIG

(far off voice from the front of the store)

I do! I'm the sign guy!

LOGAN

Shut the hell up, Craig!

ARIAL

Is everything okay?

LOGAN

Oh me? Yeah everything's fine just sold about the 5th comic book of the shipment of eighty comic books. Craig doesn't know how to hang a fucking sign. Some mom just bitched at me for a half hour asking when did we start selling Playboy magazines in our store. And some grandma just took a picture with me because she thought I was Jonah Hill.

ARIAL

I like Jonah Hill.

LOGAN

But do you want to be him?

ARIAL

No thank you.

LOGAN

Exactly. Have you seen Lyle?

ARIAL

No I haven't seen him since the shipment arrived.

(CONTINUED)

LOGAN

I think I saw him talking with the truck driver out back. If you see him tell him we need him up front.

ARIAL

No problem.

Arial walks to the back of the store and opens up the door to the back.

INT. BACK OF STORE. DAY.

The back of the store is a small room with a couch and a coffee machine. Multiple stacks of comic books line the wall in one of the back corners.

There is a door leading to the back alley way at the back wall of the store.

She sees Lyle at the stores back entrance paying Pablo.

Lyle turns around and Arial hides herself.

Lyle pulls money out of his pocket and begins counting it.

Arial emerges from her hiding place.

ARIAL

What was that about?

LYLE

(startled)

What? Oh nothing. I was just uh paying Pablo for the shipment.

ARIAL

I thought Logan already paid him?

LYLE

I guess he needed a little more. But don't worry I took care of it.

Arial gives Lyle a confused look.

ARIAL

Okay. Well Logan needs you in the front of the store.

LYLE

No problem. Tell him I'll be there in a minute.

(CONTINUED)

ARIAL

Okay. Hey where did that money come from anyways?

LYLE

Uh this is just my payment from last week that Logan forgot to give me.

ARIAL

We didn't get paid last week.

LYLE

I meant from the week before. Jeez, quit yoinking me, woman.

ARIAL

Go help Logan.

Arial leaves the back of the store with a concerned look on her face.

Arial approaches Riley who is now back at her post behind the counter.

Logan is at the front of the store arguing with Craig about the alignment of the sign.

ARIAL

Riley, I think Lyle is up to something.

RILEY

That's breaking news.

ARIAL

No, I mean I saw him in the back of the store with Pablo and he was being really creepy and he had money.

RILEY

Who's Pablo?

ARIAL

Not the point. Riley, I don't trust him.

RILEY

Neither do I. Lyle's a douchebag.

(CONTINUED)

ARIAL

So will you help me figure out what he's doing?

RILEY

Nah. I think I'm gonna keep training.

Arial looks over at Logan who is at the front of the store talking to a customer.

CUSTOMER

Excuse me, is this a number one?

LOGAN

Does it have a number one on it?

CUSTOMER

Well no but...

LOGAN

Then it's not a number one!

Logan rushes towards Arial and Riley.

LOGAN

Alright. Craig broke the ladder so one of you needs to go get a new one.

RILEY

Why do we need to...

ARIAL

I'll go!

Logan hands Arial his keys.

EXT. ALLEYWAY. DAY.

It is late in the afternoon, Arial climbs into Logan's car that is parked in the alleyway between the comic book store and the building next door. The car is facing away from the street.

Arial backs out the car in a hurry and hits some kid on a skateboard.

The kid falls down onto the sidewalk as his two friends rush over to him.

(CONTINUED)

ARIAL

Oh my God!

Arial quickly unbuckles her seatbelt and jumps out of the car.

EXT. STREET. DAY.

Arial rushes over to the kid who is helped up by his two friends.

The kids are all wearing backwards baseball caps and saggy jeans. The one who was hit is wearing a wife beater while the other two wear sleeveless shirts.

ARIAL

Oh my God. I'm so sorry! Are you okay little boy?

KID #1

This fucking bitch messed up my trick, dog!

ARIAL

I'm so sorry! I just didn't see you! It was an accident!

KID #1

Bitch coming out here with her Nancy Drew wearing sweater trying to run my ass over with some piece of shit Honda.

ARIAL

It was an accident!

KID #2

Yeah sure it was penny loafing Dorothy Anne Frank. You trying to come down here and treat a brother to a teaching of candy cropping?

ARIAL

I don't know what you just said.

KID #3

That's because you ignorant. And I know you all up in that bees nest with your lollipop dress-up you got going on.

(CONTINUED)

ARIAL
You're not speaking English!

Arial notices an issue of the Larfleeze Covenant in one of kid's backpack.

She grabs it out of his backpack.

KID #2
Hey, bitch, give my shit!

ARIAL
Where did you get this?

KID #1
Some monkey-looking long haired t-bone sold it to us as a pre-release at the back of this store yesterday.

Arial has an angry expression on her face.

INT. COMIC BOOK STORE. DAY.

Arial storms into the comic book store pulling one of the kids by his backpack while the other two follow.

She walks up to Logan and Riley behind the counter.

ARIAL
This is why nobody has been showing up!

RILEY
What do these Rugrats have to do with anything?

KID #1
Bitch we ain't no Rugrats.

ARIAL
Shut up.

Lyle walks in from the back of the store then freezes.

ARIAL
Lyle was selling issues of Larfleeze Covenant yesterday to these kids then paid the truck driver to give the rest of the comic books to the store today!

(CONTINUED)

LYLE
That's not true!

Arial pulls the kid's ear.

KID #1
Ow! Yeah yeah he's the
monkey-looking guy who sold them to
us yesterday! Ow! Let me go, bitch!

Arial shoves the kid.

The kids run out of the store.

RILEY
Lyle, what the hell, man?

LYLE
Aww come on you guys actually
believe that little kid?

Craig approaches out of nowhere.

CRAIG
Did you bring back a ladder?

ARIAL
Improvise, Craig!

CRAIG
Okay.

ARIAL
Logan, don't you see? He's the
reason why nobody has been showing
up today.

LYLE
You know what! Screw you guys! I
don't need this I quit.

Lyle walks towards the front of the store and the group
turns to face him.

Meanwhile, Craig climbs on top of some shelves and turns the
sign to glow red.

LOGAN
No!

Lyle stops and turns around to face Logan.

LOGAN

I always knew the corp. couldn't trust you, Sinestro! You can't quit cause you're fired!

Arial and Riley applaud.

ARIAL

That's right, Lyle!

RILEY

See ya, bitch!

LYLE

You know what? Yoink you guys! I'm gonna open up my own comic book store and it's gonna be way better then this dump!

Lyle storms out of the store.

Craig falls off the shelf then joins the group.

Logan has a saddened look on his face.

ARIAL

Logan what's wrong? You totally just told off Lyle. You should be happy.

LOGAN

I can't be.

ARIAL

Why? What's wrong?

LOGAN

It's over.

RILEY

What's over?

LOGAN

That shipment! It was our last chance to save the store!

ARIAL

What do you mean?

LOGAN

I'm sorry, guys. I have to close down the shop.

(CONTINUED)

RILEY

Wait what?

LOGAN

I have to fire everyone. I'm sorry.

Logan walks to the back of the store with his head hanging low.

Arial and Riley stare in disbelief as he walks away.

ARIAL

But...no more corp?

FADE OUT