Genetic Manipulation

by

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a comedy sketch
INT. COUCH - AFTERNOON

Jimmy and Robert are sitting on the couch together watching something on tv.

Robert reaches over for the remote to mute the tv.

ROBERT
Alright. That's enough of that.

JIMMY
The game? Why..? The Falcons were just taking the lead. You love the Falcons man, turn it back on.

ROBERT
I know but I need to talk to you about something.

JIMMY
What's up Rob?

ROBERT
Well you know how last Friday when we all went on that dinner..

JIMMY
Yeah that was fun as hell and we should definitely do it again sometime-

ROBERT
Yeah well I just wanted to say that when me and Margret were talking about the whole Animal Testing thing, I really did not mean what I said about the whole monkey modification stuff. I should've stopped myself. I was out of it you know.

JIMMY
Dude, I totally understand, it happens to the best of us, and... If I'm being completely honest with you.. I agree with everything you said.

ROBERT
... Are you serious right now?
JIMMY
Dude. How many fingers am I
holding up
(holds up 4)
...

ROBERT
Four-

JIMMY
(quickly puts up 5)
Wrong! It's five! THAT'S HOW
SERIOUS I AM!

ROBERT
but you just put it up right
after I said the number fou-

Jimmy quickly grabs Robert by the shoulders and looks
straight into his eyes like there is no tomorrow.

JIMMY
ROBERT, LISTEN TO ME.

Robert attempts to listen but Jimmy isn't saying anything.

ROBERT
I'm listening...

JIMMY
(whispers)
Listen closer.

Robert gets closer to Jimmy

JIMMY (CONT'D)
Closer.

Robert puts his ear approximately 2 inches away from Jimmy's
mouth.

JIMMY(CONT'D)
Ok now tell me what you hear.

ROBERT
Your breath.

JIMMY
Yes, how does that make you
feel?

ROBERT
Uncomfortable.
JIMMY
ROBERT. I NEED YOU TO
CONCENTRATE!

ROBERT
OK OK, I'm concentrating!

JIMMY
GOD DAMNIT ROB, GET IN THE
ZONE!

ROBERT
(closes eyes)
ok ok... I'm in...

JIMMY
Tell me what you hear.

ROBERT
Jimmy, all I hear is your
subtle aerodynamic breath
slowly making its way down my
neck.

JIMMY
ROB!

ROBERT
DAMNIT JIMMY, I'm in the ZONE!

Jimmy takes his hands off of Robert.

JIMMY
Ok.. Clearly you don't want to
know how I really feel about
the DNA modifications that can
be made to monkeys in order to
make them jump higher than 7
feet in the air!

ROBERT
Jimmy, I do care. Just stop
making this whole thing hard
to talk about.

JIMMY
OH, I'M MAKING THIS HARD!?

ROBERT
YES, YES YOU ARE.
JIMMY
Well I'm SORRTYYY Mr. "Oh I'm Robert, I know about sports and shit but when it comes to animal manipulation, I tend to want to sacrifice half of their species to benefit the other half in ways never thought possible because I'm an EGOISTIC CUNT."

ROBERT
That's it. Get out.

JIMMY
This is my house!

ROBERT
No, this is your dad's house, and for the record, he likes me more anyways so get out!

Robert points to Jimmy's dad's bedroom with his thumb.

DAD (V.O.)
You heard the man.

Jimmy looks in that direction ashamed.

JIMMY
(shouting across house)
What the hell dad, you're renting this place..

DAD (V.O.)
Even better reason to kick you out.

Jimmy stands up.

JIMMY
Screw you dad! This is why mom doesn't fucking like you! Yeah thats right, keep your eyes glued onto those big ass monitors of yours.

Jimmy pulls his phone out of his pocket.
JIMMY (CONT'D)
Oh I'm sorry did the Great Depression hit again because looks like Boing just plummeted 78 percent. Good luck selling sixteen thousand dollars worth of that shit.

ROBERT
Get the hell out of here Jim.

JIMMY
(walking towards door)
Ok fine, I'll show myself out, but I'm only doing it because I want to. NOT BECAUSE YOU OR MY OWN DAD TOLD ME TO, but because I want to. Got it?

ROBERT
Fuck off.

JIMMY
(opening door handle)
Cookies?

ROBERT
what?

JIMMY
Snickerdoodle cookies?

ROBERT
No, no, don't do that. Don't try and bribe be just because I'm angry at you.

JIMMY
Snickerdoodle cookies with the strawberry frosting?

Robert lifts his eyebrows, lifting the mood.

ROBERT
With the strawberry frosting?

JIMMY
Hell yeah with the strawberry frosting!
ROBERT
(speaking very rapidly)
The one and only strawberry
frosting come straight from
the arctic poles crafted
perfectly to satisfy human
needs!

JIMMY
Yup.

ROBERT
Don't gotta tell me twice.

Robert walks out the door with Jimmy.

CUT TO:

EXT. MIDDLE OF THE STREET - AFTERNOON

They are both walking down the road eating Snickerdoodle
cookies with strawberry frosting.

JIMMY
Pretty good right?

ROBERT
They're a little chewy.

JIMMY
Yeah, but that's the best part.

ROBERT
You could say that.

JIMMY
Hey, wanna agree to never
fight again?

ROBERT
Heeeell yeah!

JIMMY
But hey, what you said about
agreeing on the whole genetic
manipulation stuff-

ROBERT
Rob, stop. Just stop. I could
care less if a human can be
modified to jump 15 feet in
the air. What's important is
our God Damn Friendship.
JIMMY
You always know what to fucking say Jimmy. Always. I love you man.

ROBERT
I love you too Jimmy. I love you too.

They wrap their arms around each other and walk into the distance for a good 20 seconds.

END.