TRUTH OR BEAR

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INT. JAMES AND OLIVER’S APARTMENT - DINING AREA - DAY

JAMES, OLIVER and ERIC (all 22) sit at a table. James is shuffling cards. He deals them. James draws a card.

JAMES
Your turn, Eric.

ERIC
Okay. Oliver, truth or dare?

James -- furious -- stands up, knocking the table over and points in Eric’s face.

JAMES
(raging)
God dammit, Eric. I said we’re playing Bridge!

OLIVER
Truth.

James sits down in the background, now calm, putting the table upright.

ERIC
Alright. Do you guys, with your honest hearts, ever believe you’ll make it as musicians?

OLIVER
You don’t understand, Eric. We can’t think like that. Do you think Elvis ever thought he’d die on the toilet? You can’t be remembered for something that you think you’ll do. That’s just not how it works. You can’t be trying to do it and consciously attempting the impossible, you’ve just gotta let it happen.

ERIC
That’s an obvious no.

OLIVER
Well, did you think you’d be 22 and still working as pizza delivery guy?

ERIC
I save lives.

OLIVER
How?

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

ERIC
I feed the hungry!

JAMES
I've always wondered why pizza delivery guys get tips, yet doctors get squat. 6 years of med school for no tip.

OLIVER
How the hell are you supposed to tip on that though?

JAMES
You work out a system. 5% for checkups. 10% for prescriptions. Then you head up around 15 to 20 percent for major surgery.

ERIC
Can we just continue with this game?

JAMES
Truth or dare is a sucky game.

OLIVER
Truth or dare isn't a sucky game.

JAMES
Everyone knows it. Some are just in denial.

OLIVER
You got a better game to play while we wait for the museum to open?

JAMES
(still angered)
Bridge!

ERIC
As a matter of fact, I do.

OLIVER
Well?

ERIC
It's called Truth or Bear.

JAMES
Wha?
CONTINUED: (2)

ERIC
You choose either truth or bear. If you choose truth, you've got to answer truthfully straight away or you're forced to fight a bear for the rest of your life. The same applies for bear.

JAMES
Don't be crazy.

ERIC
(insanely)
Don't ever give orders to a crazy person.
(pause)
Now, who wants to play?

Eric laughs manically.

JAMES
I would rather make Jack O' Laterns than engage in Truth or Bear.

ERIC
Don't be preposterous. Everyone knows that Bears are allergic to pumpkins.

JAMES
Like that would stop me.

OLIVER
It's not even near Halloween!

JAMES
Does that stop you from putting mistletoe all around the house when you bring dates in here?

OLIVER
Fine.

James pulls out a pumpkin and has at it on the table.

OLIVER (CONT'D)
Go on then Eric, ask me something. I pick truth.

ERIC
I'll repeat my question from before -- which you so cunningly ducked. Do you guys, with your honest hearts, ever believe you'll make it as musicians?
OLIVER
It's hard to say.

ERIC
Just answer.

JAMES
Sorry, Eric -- The Rock N' Roll history museum opens in exactly 10 minutes. Let's get outta here!

They all stand up and James puts his pumpkin into his pants.

ERIC
What type of museum opens on Halloween, anyway?

JUMP CUT TO:

EXT. ROCK N' ROLL HISTORY MUSEUM - DAY

Eric, James and Oliver are walking down the path, towards the entrance of the museum.

ERIC
I don't even get why you'd want to visit this place.

OLIVER
And I don't even get why you came with us.

ERIC
We've got to finish our game of Truth or Bear someplace.

JAMES
We're not hear to play stupid games, we're here to check out the history of Rock 'N' Roll in museum format.

ERIC
I'll never understand you guys. Museums? What's wrong with a good book?

OLIVER
The words 'good' and 'book' can never go in the same sentence, unless describing the bible.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED: OLIVER (CONT'D)

Plus, the only time I've ever seen you read is when you're reading the thesaurus while trying to figure out different phrases to depict sexual intercourse.

ERIC

I now call it "sticking your plum."

They reach the building and walk in.

INT. ROCK N' ROLL HISTORY MUSEUM - CONTINUOUS - DAY

JAMES

Have you guys ever noticed that everyone in museums walk in slow motion?

Sure enough, everyone in the museum is walking in slow motion.

NOTE: Every movement that happens in the museum is in slow motion, this continues throughout.

INT. MUSEUM CAFE - DAY

Eric is seen sitting at the cafe, moving in slow motion.

ERIC

(old man/slow voice)
Could I please have a mineral water?

STAFF

What's wrong with you?

ERIC

(normal voice)

Just trying to extend the joke, my good man.

Oliver walks up.

OLIVER

Come on, Eric. Let's go check out the big bucket of Jimmy Page's sweat.

They get up and enter the museum -- still and always in slow motion.
INT. MUSEUM HALLS - CONTINUOUS - DAY

Eric, Oliver and James are walking through a hall.

ERICA
I wanna go see Axl Rose’s kilt collection.

JAMES
Here’s one for you; given the choice of eating, would you rather eat a bowl Jimi Hendrix’s lethal vomit, or Bon Scott’s?

OLIVER
Hendrix. Lethal racist vomit any day for me.

ERICA
This place is just old guitars.

JAMES
Pfft. I wanna see an intriguing exhibit.

An OLD MAN is seen in the shadows, with a walking stick. He approaches slowly and mysteriously.

OLD
So! You wanna see an exhibit, do ya boy?

The boys jump around in surprise.

JAMES
Certainly.

OLD
Shut your gob you slimy grommet!

The old man spits in James’ face. At least, he tries to.

OLD (CONT’D)
I’ve got an exhibit for you. It ain’t no regular museum type thing neither.

OLIVER
So it is?

OLD
What?

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

OLIVER
You said it 'ain't no' -- Double negative. That means it is a regular museum type thing.

OLD
Usually I don't like to waste my precious moisture, but for you, an exception is imminent.

OLIVER
Wha--

The old man spits in Oliver's face.

OLIVER (CONT'D)
That's it. James, let's go. This old man deserves the painful demise that death has in store.

James and Oliver begin to walk off.

JAMES
You coming, Eric?

ERIC
I think I'll hang around with oldie over here. I'm sure he has tales to tell.

OLD
I can't even remember how to breathe anymore.

ERIC
See? He's full of stuff like these. See you guys later.

JAMES
Ciao.

James and Oliver leave.

ERIC
So oldie, tell me a tale?

OLD
Want to hear a story, sonny?

ERIC
That's what I just said.

OLD
You good for nothing youngsters are all the same. Delivering pizza treats and sausage roll sweeties.

(MORE)
OLD (CONT'D)
Back in my day, people had to use their own wings for flyin'.

ERIC
Wow... You seem like you've got a bit to get off your chest. If you want, I'm a good listener.

OLD
How 'bout you listen to me, y'hear? I'm going to show you one of Rock N' Roll greatest secrets. You like The Darkness?

ERIC
I'm afraid I'm actually afraid of the dark.

OLD
What 'm?

ERIC
Oh, you mean the band? Sure, I love their delicious glam-rock style.

OLD
You ever see the 'I Believe In A Thing Called Love' film clip? The one where Justin's.--

ERIC
--shooting aliens with his guitar in the end solo?

OLD
Yeah!

ERIC
Yeah!

They both hug.

OLD
Well it just so happens that I have that guitar.

Old pulls the guitar from his pants.

ERIC
Yes. That would do.

OLD
So what do you say. You do something for me, I do something for you?
ERIC  
I love The Darkness. It must be 
my destiny to own this quit-box.

OLD  
Precisely.

ERIC  
And what do I do for you?

OLD  
I once committed to playing a 
game. A game so grotesque I dare 
not speak it’s name.

ERIC  
Yeah I know -- Bridge, it’s 
terrible.

OLD  
No, you fool! A game called... 
Truth or bear.

ERIC  
Oh yeah, I invented that game.

OLD  
Hmmm? No! I invented that game!

ERIC  
Whatever. So what am I doing 
for you?

OLD  
The bear in question, ‘Kirsty’, 
has been chasing me for sixty 
three years. I need you to 
destroy it.

ERIC  
Okay. I accept. I will do this 
thing for you, on one condition.

OLD  
What is it, my son?

ERIC  
I get to keep the Justin Hawkins 
guitar.

OLD  
You fool, that was the 
agreement.

ERIC  
Alright! I gotta go, gimme that!

Eric grabs the guitar from the old man and walks off.
CONTINUED: (4)

CU: Old man’s face.

OLD

Good luck... Eric.

PULL BACK TO REVEAL: The Old Man is wearing a name-tag which says ‘Eric’ on it!

OLD (CONT’D)

Oh dear. Eric! You forgot your name-tag!

INT. ROCK N’ ROLL HISTORY MUSEUM - HALLS

James and Oliver are looking into a big glass cabinet. There is a large parchment, titled:

“THE MANY JIMMY’S OF ROCK N’ ROLL”

The list is as such:

Jimi Hendrix

Jimmy Page

Jimmy Barnes

Jerry Seinfeld

Jim Morrison

J... Um... Ja... Nope, I got nothing

JAMES

Someday my name will be on that list. Today!

James pulls out a magic marker and smashes through the glass.

The alarm blares.

OLIVER

James, what are you doing?!

JAMES

I must!

P.A (V.O.)

Red Alert! Red Alert!

OLIVER

James, stop it!

P.A (V.O.)

Red Alert! There’s a bear in the vicinity!

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

OLIVER
Wait, what?

JAMES
Oh no! It’s one of those security bears!

OLIVER
Are you sure it wasn’t just a security warning about a bear?

A BEAR roars through the halls, swiping and smashing various displays. The bear dons a British police hat.

The bear points at Oliver and ROARS.

OLIVER (CONT’D)
Run!

INT. ROCK N’ ROLL HISTORY MUSEUM – DIFFERENT HALLS – DAY

James and Oliver race (in slow motion) through the halls, followed by the bear.

They run towards Eric, who stands with his guitar aimed like a shotgun.

OLIVER
Eric!

ERIC
Duck.

They duck and Eric shoots.

The Bear is hit but unaffected.

JAMES
Why is it chasing us?!

ERIC
It’s after Oliver! Truth or bear remember.

Eric fires another shot.

OLIVER
Kill it!

ERIC
It’s unaffected.

The old man emerges from his hiding under a table.
CONTINUED:

OLD
Eric, your friend holds the power.

OLIVER
Me?!

OLD
No. I speak of... the one destined to be on 'the list'.

CU: "THE MANY JIMMY'S OF ROCK N' ROLL"

JAMES
But what do I have that could defeat the mighty bear?

OLD
I think you know.

James nods at the old man, knowingly.

The old man nods back.

JAMES
Sorry, I really have no idea what it is. Could I get a hint?

OLD
Your Jack O' Latern, you slimy ball of ants!

JAMES
Oh yeah.

James and the bear stand off. Eyes on eyes. Just like a spaghetti western.

James slowly lifts up his Jack O' Latern.

The bear's eyes widen. Defeated.

After a slow motion 180, the bear does the walk of shame.

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

-- SAME --

The bear quickly jogs back up to Eric, grabs the guitar from his hands, smashes it in half, then jogs back off.

FADE OUT.