

HOW I IDENTIFY

## Cast of Characters

KEVIN: Influencer, younger brother to Kevin and son to Mrs Nicholls

JAMES: Older brother to Kevin and son to Mrs Nicholls

AMELIA: Girlfriend and assistant to Kevin

STACEY: Influencer and Kevin's competitor

MRS NICHOLLS: Mother of Kevin and James

COMMENTORS 1, 2, 3, 4: An ensemble of four designed to multirole as Kevin's viewers as well as Kevin's coworkers, a postman, an announcer and guests at the award ceremony. The option is also available to cast more people to fill these individual roles but originally designed for four.

ACT IScene 1

*KEVIN and JAMES enter with programs for Legally Blonde the Musical, having left the Theatre moments ago.*

KEVIN

I just think it's unfair how the girl playing Elle has the most difficult role in this show but Bruiser and Rufus walk on stage doing the bare minimum and get freaking standing ovations.

JAMES

Well, yeah. They're dogs, Kev. They were adorable as fuck. I don't know what you were expecting.

KEVIN

How easy it must be to be a dog. Think about it. They lounge about for most of the day. The most strenuous work they have is going for a walk or running to catch a ball. They receive the most unconditional love from everyone around them.

JAMES

Not from cats, they don't.

KEVIN

Who cares about cats; they're bastards.

JAMES

I must admit, ninety percent of my problems would disappear if I became a dog.

KEVIN

Right? No job. No budgeting. No societal expectations that you have your life figured out before you're thirty.

JAMES

I can think of one drawback though.

KEVIN

What?

JAMES

I imagine it would be quite lonely being a dog. You spend pretty much your whole life with one person. Someone who has work obligations so can't spend all of their time with you.

KEVIN

Wouldn't it be nice to have someone to own you, take care of you and shower you with love?

JAMES

And what if your owner doesn't do that? As a dog, you may have an owner that restricts you to one room of the house. They may keep you outside in the cold, or the heat, or the rain. They may even abuse you. If only dogs could choose their owners.

KEVIN

Well, we can't choose ours either.

*AMELIA enters.*

AMELIA

Hey, you too. How was Legally Blonde?

JAMES

It was great. One of the best 'Elle's that I've ever seen.

AMELIA

I knew you would love it, James. It's cheesy but a fun show. You alright, Kevin? You look spaced out.

KEVIN

Yeah. Sorry, I was just deep in thought for a second.

JAMES

Don't get all existential on me now, little brother.

KEVIN

Don't worry about it. Let's just say I think I have the most brilliant idea for my channel.

JAMES

Ah, right. Your cult- oh I mean following.

KEVIN

You don't have to be so jealous. You have your own measly cult of 94 Facebook friends.

JAMES

Come on, I'm just teasing. You know I love that you became a successful influencer.

KEVIN

I don't know about love. Seems to me like you don't appreciate the art of influencing. Someday, I can

imagine it being a skill that Universities make degrees for.

JAMES

Ha! Can you imagine? Back to your channel, how many subscribers have you got now?

KEVIN

Instagram followers? 34,000. TikTok followers has gone up to 36K-

AMELIA

-37 now.

KEVIN

You serious?

AMELIA

What can I say? You're doing everything right.

KEVIN

37 then and my YouTube subscribers have gone up to 42K. Unless that's grown too?

AMELIA

Sadly no. Engagement has been really good lately though.

KEVIN

Not to worry. There's sure to be a huge change once I release my next video tonight.

JAMES

Well, I look forward to watching it. I'll head home now but let's have another catch up soon. Maybe the three of us next time?

AMELIA

Sounds lush. How does next week sound?

JAMES

Perfect. See you both then. And Amelia? Please keep an eye on him for me.

AMELIA

Of course.

JAMES

See ya.

*James exits*

AMELIA

Keep an eye on you? That sounded scary. Everything okay?

KEVIN

More than okay. Let's head home quickly. I have a video I want to make, and I think this will be life-changing for us. Come on.

*Kevin exits.*

AMELIA

And there he goes. Hang on, Kev.

*Amelia exits.*

## Scene 2

*Spotlight on Kevin and Amelia holds a phone, recording Kevin.*

KEVIN

What's with all this trans stuff? 'It's all in God's plan' this and 'you can't argue with science' that. I say, what's the issue? People always have to argue with logic, and they love trying to disprove you. Hypothetically, let's say that it's completely against biology to be trans, which it isn't, but let's say it is, that doesn't mean it can't be. Biology isn't our only science. Sociology is the science of human acceptance. We have a job to push what is socially acceptable and I push that being trans in socially acceptable for one reason alone. It makes people happy. If identifying as a different gender makes someone happier and more secure with themselves, why is that such an issue? Do what makes you happy, am I right? And to that I say, 'why stop at gender?' I want to experience the same happiness someone feels the moment they become comfortable in their own skin, or in my case fur.

And that's why-

*Colour of spotlight changes.*

-I now identify as a dog. I am transitioning to a different species. I'm trans sp-ee-cial, if you will. Although I guess that would spell trans-special. How fitting.

It is truly something special to identify with a different species. Think about it. There is nothing more sickening and crueler to this world than the human race. Never has anyone said that dogs are what's wrong with the world, and they wouldn't. You know what they say about dogs? That they are 'man's best friend', that 'all dogs go to heaven', and even Charles de Gaulle has said 'The better I get to know men, the more I find myself loving dogs.' Can you blame him?

Throughout the animal kingdom, there is evidence of homosexuality in every group and yet humans are the only ones that banish it. The cruelest thing a dog can do to you is chew your shoe or piss on your leg, but a human would do that just to spite you, since it's not in their nature to do so. Dogs aren't so malicious. Humans are.

Why would I want to be a human when I can be a dog?

*Spotlight disappears*

### Scene 3

*Amelia and Kevin are in their living room.*

AMELIA

Wow. You really did that. Just announced to the world that you were a dog.

KEVIN

And they are eating it up.

AMELIA

What do you mean? I thought you wanted to identify as a dog. What about that whole 'dogs are better than people' and 'you can identify as whatever you want to' schpeel? What, were you just full of it?

KEVIN

Babe, look at the world we live in? Everyone has that mentality of 'if I were in the 50s, I wouldn't have been racist' or 'I wouldn't have listened to Hitler'. People are so desperate to prove that point that they will support fucking anything. Even a grown man saying he wants to be a dog because it makes him 'happy'. Look at my comments on my latest TikTok.

*COMMENTORS 1, 2, 3, 4 enter with phones,  
speaking the comments they are typing aloud.*

COMMENTOR 1

I'm so proud of you, Kevin.

COMMENTOR 2

Exactly! Do what makes you happy.

COMMENTOR 4

Follow my account for the chance to win \$100,000.

COMMENTOR 3

Common Kevin W. Keep doing what you're doing, Kev.

KEVIN

People are loving this. I want to see how far we can go with it.

AMELIA

You're happy with going viral as the guy who identifies as a dog?

KEVIN

Let's look at it this way. No matter how much I say I want to identify as a dog, I'm still going to be a man. I can switch back anytime I want and as long as I say I was on a spiritual journey of self-identification, these weirdos are still going to support me.

AMELIA

I get it. You know what would be really interesting? Seeing how people respond in person rather than just online.

KEVIN

That's a great idea. We keep this between us. We give everyone the impression that I really want to be a dog and see who's going to be a sheep or a wolf. That includes your parents.

AMELIA

What about my parents?

KEVIN

You tell your mum everything and she tells your dad everything. This one time, I need you to keep this between us. The more people that know I'm fucking around, the more risk there is of my plan getting out. Besides, I'm curious as to what your parents



will think when they hear about this.

AMELIA

They would support you for sure.

KEVIN

God, they would, wouldn't they? Your parents are far too accepting. Remember when I introduced myself and they were so intrigued to hear that I was an influencer in my spare time?

AMELIA

In fairness, you are good at it. And you're proactive in growing your following.

KEVIN

'Proactive.' That's one way to describe this.

AMELIA

Besides, they're parents. They're supposed to be supportive.

KEVIN

I don't know what parents you lucked out with but my mum doesn't even approve of my office job, never mind my side hustle.

AMELIA

I wonder what she would think of all of this.

KEVIN

Ha. Can you imagine?

AMELIA

Yeah, would probably meet an early grave at the phrase 'side hustle'.

KEVIN

This is huge so be honest with me; are you willing to take this very far?

AMELIA

Do you want me to play fetch with you and tickle your tummy?

KEVIN

Exactly. I think if people see how accepting you are about it, they may change their tune, and agree with you. Herd mentality.

AMELIA

Alright but just how far do you intend to go?

KEVIN

Let's say one hundred thousand subscribers. That will be our target. Once we have that many followers, we will reveal to all of them how daft they really are.

AMELIA

One hundred thousand it is. I just hope we hit that quickly. There's only so long I can go with dealing with a 'bright idea' of yours.

KEVIN

And I thought you loved me.

AMELIA

I do.

KEVIN

Uh, Je m'appelle, big fat liar.

AMELIA

Oh, stop it. You know how much I love you.

KEVIN

I love you too.

COMMENTORS 1, 2, 3

We love you, Kevin.

COMMENTOR 4

Follow my page for foot pics.

AMELIA

Can't you block that guy?

KEVIN

Eh, it's more activity on my account.

END OF SAMPLE