

FADE IN:

INT. NEIL CLARKE'S LIVING ROOM — EARLY EVENING.

NEIL, forty-four, in an undershirt and trousers, is on the couch with his laptop in his lap, scrolling through the emails he didn't reply to earlier.

A young man, late-twenties, EVAN, is shirtless on the couch next to NEIL.

NEIL leads back against the couch and groans as he reads an email from his editor. He had enough work planned out for the next week and a half, and he wasn't expecting to do edits *and* additional writing with his draft.

NEIL

My editor wants me to write more and do line edits *and* have it all in by the 27th. Be my distraction.

EVAN

(GETS UP FROM THE COUCH) Absolutely. Sit on my back.

NEIL

Astride, or like you're a bench?

EVAN

Surprise me.

NEIL

Giddy up, captain.

EVAN

We'll see how long I can go. Is that distracting?

NEIL paws a little at Evan's back. Throughout the conversation, EVAN is doing pushups, with brief pauses here and there.

NEIL

I'll try to keep count. It's incredibly distracting watching you move.

EVAN

Do you think so?

NEIL

I really do. It's like marble sculpture come to life.

EVAN

Oh, my god.

NEIL

What?

EVAN

You're going to make me blush.

NEIL steadies himself on EVAN's back.

NEIL

Good. Your major gains should be admired.

The conversation continues.

EVAN

You're great for my resistance.

NEIL

Am I? Any time you want me to sit on you, I'll do it.

EVAN

Any time? That is a wide variety of times.

NEIL

Any time. Whenever you need me, I'm yours.

EVAN

What if you're in class? Or in *space*?

NEIL

(LAUGHS) Do you want me to continue to lecture while I sit on you? *I'm not leaving this planet any time soon.*

EVAN

I wonder if I could keep going for the whole lecture...

NEIL

It might be more of an endurance test than using me as resistance.

EVAN

I love to test my resistance.

NEIL

Do it, and I'll count the number of times I stumble over my words.

EVAN

I think it'll help your students learn.

NEIL

Because they'll be more focused on me because of you?

EVAN

It's possible! Hard to look away from a human resistance band.

NEIL

Or they'll spend that time wondering why their professor is sitting on a push-up hunk.

EVAN

He's a supportive partner, is why.

NEIL

Oh, captain.

EVAN

Oh, daddy.

NEIL

You are all kinds of wonderful.

EVAN

I'm still waiting for you to turn out to be some kind of pervert or something.

NEIL

Why?

EVAN

It's all too good.

FADE OUT.