

DEATH: BOARD GAME NIGHT

Adam Dolin

INT. LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Several friends are gathered around a dining room table.

MATT

Thanks for coming to board game night, everyone!

SUSAN

Oh, I love board game night. I look forward to it every week!

JASON

Agreed, Susan. Nothing like a nice, low-key, relaxing evening of board games to remind you of the power of friendship.

ROB

Uh, hey Matt... who's that?

Rob points to a tall figure in the corner wearing a dark robe.

MATT

Oh, where are my manners? Everyone, this is Death. We met at the hospital the other day and he said he liked board games, so I invited him over.

DEATH

Thank you all for letting me crash your game night. I brought dip.

SUSAN

Oh! How thoughtful!

MATT

So, what game should we start with?

JASON

I just bought this expansion pack for Settlers of Catan. It's similar to the original game, except in this version, you play as a general in Alexander the Great's army.

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DEATH

Oof. Sorry to be a downer, but Alex was a bit... Problematic.

ROB

..."Alex"?

DEATH

Yeah. He and I go back aways.

ROB

...You knew Alexander the Great?

DEATH

Unfortunately. Little prick kept me busy, that's for sure. All those Macedonians, Babylonians Persians... A lot more babies than you would think. History books tend to leave that part out.

JASON

Ah, you know what, maybe we'll play this some other time.

SUSAN

Ooh, how about Werewolves?

MATT

Oh that's a fun one! That's where we're all villagers, and one of us is a werewolf, and we have to guess who it is, right?

SUSAN

That's right!

DEATH

Sorry, I know I'm just a guest here, and I hate to be THAT guy, but Werewolves makes light of a pretty sensitive subject.

MATT

What do you mean?

DEATH

Well, first off: Werewolves are real.

ROB

Oh come on...

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DEATH

No, seriously. Werewolves are real. Well, okay; they were real. But they were wiped out during the crusades, along with vampires and fairies. This game just hasn't aged well, ya know? Man... If only we'd had Twitter back in those days...

MATT

Well... that's depressing.

ROB

Maybe we can play something a little more upbeat?

MATT

Well, let's see what I have here... Oh, how about the game of Life?

DEATH

Ugh, Sorry... I don't want to yuck anyone's yum, but that game is hetero-normative reductive capitalist bullshit. I mean, they're basically saying in order to win at Life, you have to have more money than everyone else. It's an extremely skewed view of reality. The guy who created this game totally went to Hell.

SUSAN

Wow. I think I'm with Death on this one. Life isn't a good game.

DEATH

Totally. Money, college, careers, buying houses... all of it is basically pointless. Spoiler! None of that really matters because everyone dies alone.

A beat as they all suddenly contemplate their mortality.

DEATH

I mean, not anytime soon. For most of you, anyways.

ROB

What?

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DEATH

Nothing, nothing. Hey why don't we play something more physical? Ya know, something where we can all get up and move?

JASON

I brought Twister...

DEATH

Oh that's perfect!

They set up Twister.

JASON

Okay, here we go... Right hand on Green!

Everyone puts their right hands on Green. Death and Rob accidentally put their hands on the same circle, and Rob falls over, dead.

DEATH

Ah shit, not again.

BLACKOUT