

THE MAN FROM SPERMICIDE-9.

*A basement. KERAT, a strange looking man, is observing the place. JIM, carrying a load of laundry, comes down stairs. When he gets to the bottom he turns, notices Kerat, and screams:*

JIM  
WHO THE FUCK ARE YOU?!

KERAT  
Thank Pilak...!

JIM  
WHY THE FUCK ARE YOU IN MY BASEMENT?

KERAT  
Good day, sir--

JIM  
GET OUT OF MY BASEMENT!

KERAT  
Please calm down--

JIM  
*(dropping the laundry basket)*  
GET OUT OF MY BASEMENT.

*They ad-lib a shouting match (basically the above lines) for a beat before Kerat slaps Jim on the face.*

KERAT  
Please calm down!

*Jim's face goes beet-red and he lunges at Kerat. Kerat deftly twirls him around into a headlock.*

KERAT  
Sir, please!

JIM  
Lemme go!

KERAT  
I will not until you are calm!

JIM  
You son of a bitch!

KERAT  
I require your assistance!

JIM  
Fuck you!

KERAT  
I am called Kerat, and --

JIM  
What the fuck kinda name is Carrot--?

KERAT  
*(drowning him out)*  
I am on a very important mission from my home world.

JIM  
What are you talking about?

KERAT  
I am from a planet on the other side of the galaxy. I have been sent here by an interdimensional portal which just happened to place me right there.

JIM  
Under my stairs?!

KERAT  
Is that what that architectural contraption is called? A "stairs"?

JIM  
*(beat; he tries to wriggle out)*  
You're fuckin' crazy!

KERAT  
I was sent here to find an antidote to a plague that is destroying our world!  
*(Jim struggles harder)*  
I don't wish to use force but I will to protect myself. I do not want to harm you. We have been searching for years to find this cure.

JIM  
This is ridiculous.

*Kerat, fed up, pushes Jim away from him like he was a rag doll. Jim tries to catch his breath. He holds himself in an awkward defensive stance.*

KERAT  
Do you have the antidote?

JIM

How the fuck would I know? I don't know how to deal with loonies--

KERAT

We have done scans on your world. The antidote appears to be abundant.

JIM

Go find it yourself then!

KERAT

We do not know what it is!

JIM

Well ask someone who gives a shit! Get out of my house! I never asked for any intruders! Get out!

*Beat. Kerat stares at Jim for a moment and then starts toward the underside of the staircase.*

JIM

Whoa, what are you doing?

KERAT

I'm leaving.

JIM

You're not leaving, you're crawling under the stairs!

KERAT

I am leaving. I apologize for disrupting your daily life. We were obviously ... lax in our scanning methods. Goodbye.

*Kerat crawls under the stairs.*

JIM

Wait, where are you going?! Get out of my stairs, you crazy freak! Get out--

*Jim is looking under the stairs. He sees no one.*

JIM

... of there.

*(beat)*

Hello? Carrot? Carrot?!

*SHARON, Jim's wife, is at the top of the stairs, watching him.*

SHARON

Jim--

JIM  
Oh! Christ, you scared me.

SHARON  
I heard you shouting down here. Are you wrestling with the dryer again?

JIM  
No, honey, I'm ...  
(beat)  
Oh, God.

SHARON  
What? What's the matter?

JIM  
Carrot! CARROT WHERE ARE YOU?!  
(he crawls under the stairs)  
Carrot come out! I'm sorry!

SHARON  
What's going on?!

JIM  
CARROT!

*Sharon pulls Jim out.*

SHARON  
Jim! Why do you keep shouting "carrot"?

JIM  
Honey, listen. Something amazing just happened.

SHARON  
Calm down.

JIM  
There was a man. From outer space. Here. Just a few seconds ago!

SHARON  
(beat)  
What.

JIM  
He was sent here by an interdimensional portal --

SHARON  
Jim.

JIM  
-- that dropped him underneath our staircase! OUR staircase, Sharon! Do you know how lucky we are?!

SHARON

Jim.

JIM

He needs a cure for his home world, Sharon. He said it is abundant on our planet! We have to help him find it--!

*Sharon slaps Jim.*

SHARON

Jim!

JIM

He slapped me too!

SHARON

What is your problem? There's no man under the stairs!

JIM

He was here! We fought! We fought and he went under the stairs and--

*Sharon slaps him again.*

JIM

Stop it!

SHARON

Listen, I know you've had a long day, but this is ridiculous. There is no man under the stairs!

JIM

Not anymore! He took the portal back to his home world!

*Beat.*

SHARON

I'm going to Diane's.

JIM

Wait, no, honey--

SHARON

I came down here because...

JIM

Don't leave, help me, please.

SHARON

Diane's husband left her.

*Beat.*

Kevin? JIM

Yeah. SHARON

Right now? JIM

Yes. SHARON

Why? JIM

He thought she was cheating on him. SHARON

With who? JIM

I don't know. SHARON

*(beat)*  
I'm going to go help her out. She needs someone to talk to.

JIM  
Well ... I'd love to come with you I should really wait to see if Carrot comes back.

*Beat.*

What the fuck, Jim?! SHARON

I'm sorry! JIM

Why are you so weird! SHARON

JIM  
Can I explain? Please?! Can I please explain this to you?!

SHARON  
Does your explanation include a man under the stairs?

JIM  
*(beat)*  
Yes.

SHARON  
James Michael Pierce.

I'm sorry!

JIM

I'm going to Diane's.

SHARON

*She starts to climb the stairs.*

Can we talk!

JIM

*Sharon is off. Beat. Jim watches the staircase for any sign of Kerat. When nothing happens he starts for the stairs.*

Sharon, hold on, I'm coming!

JIM

KERAT  
*(from under the stairs)*  
James Michael Pierce ...

Carrot! Oh, thank God, you're back!  
*(shouting)*  
Sharon! Come down here, Carrot is here!

*Sound of door slamming.*

Hold on Carrot, I'm going to get Sharon--

JIM

*Kerat appears from under the stairs. He is sickly looking and feeble.*

KERAT  
*(weakly)*  
James ... do not leave me ...

*Jim turns back just as Kerat collapses to the ground.*

Carrot! What's wrong?

JIM

KERAT  
The ... plague. I have been ... infected.

Oh. Should I touch you?

JIM

KERAT  
You have the antidote, James ...

JIM

I do?

KERAT

Yes. We have scanned your house. It is ... it is in a ... box, of some sort. Behind ... behind ... those things.

JIM

The washer and dryer.

KERAT

Is that what they are called?

*Jim searches behind the washer/dryer for a beat. When he comes back he has a box in his hand.*

JIM

Is this what you're talking about?

KERAT

Yes! That is the antidote! Give it to me, quickly!

JIM

*(opening the box)*

Carrot. It's only a box of condoms.

KERAT

I smell it! I smell the antidote!

*Jim hands one of the condoms to Kerat. Kerat smells it, deeply.*

KERAT

It is contained behind a shiny packaging...

JIM

Here.

*Jim opens the condom wrapper and gives the condom to Kerat. Kerat smells it deeply, his face euphoric. Then, he pops the condom in his mouth.*

JIM

Holy shit.

KERAT

*(grabbing and opening the condoms himself)*

I need another!

JIM

You don't eat condoms, Carrot--



KERAT  
I AM ALREADY FEELING BETTER!

JIM  
It's working?!  
*(Kerat nods)*  
It's working! IT'S WORKING!

*Sharon descends the staircase.*

SHARON  
Jim, are you still down here? Look, I'm sorry, we should talk about -- whoa.

JIM  
Sharon! It's Carrot!

KERAT  
*(mouthful of condoms)*  
Greetings, Mrs. Pierce.

SHARON  
What in the hell is going on?!

JIM  
The antidote is condoms!

KERAT  
No.

JIM  
No?

SHARON  
Who is this man?!

KERAT  
*(reading the condom wrapper)*  
Spermicide-9!

SHARON  
What?

JIM  
It's Carrot! The man from under the stairs!

*Kerat stands, brushes himself off. He starts pulling the condoms out of his mouth.*

KERAT  
It is nice to meet you, Sharon.

JIM

Listen, Carrot, I'm sorry about earlier ...

KERAT

It is all right. I was wrong to break into your domicile. I hate to be so hasty, James and Sharon, but I must leave, so that my people may synthesize this Spermicide-9! quickly, so that we can save our race from destruction. You are a hero to us, James Michael Pierce. May your name ring high in the heavens!

*Kerat goes to the stairs. Jim follows.*

JIM

Thank you, Carrot! Have a nice trip! It was nice to meet you!

*Kerat disappears underneath the stairs. Jim turns to Sharon, triumphant.*

SHARON

What is he doing under the stairs?

JIM

Go look, Sharon!

SHARON

I will not look!

JIM

He's not going to bite! He's not there, he disappeared! Look!

*Sharon walks to where Kerat left. She peers under the stairs. Then she straightens up and looks at Jim.*

JIM

Amazing, isn't it?

*Beat.*

SHARON

Why do you have condoms?

JIM

I know, isn't it weird that he would need condoms?

SHARON

I'm on the pill.

*Beat.*

JIM  
 Yes. Yes you are.

SHARON  
 Why do you have them.

JIM  
 What.

SHARON  
 Condoms.

*Beat.*

JIM  
 ... Science project?

SHARON  
 Did you cheat on me with Diane?

JIM  
 What?! No!

*Sharon starts toward the stairs.*

JIM  
 Where are you going?

SHARON  
 I'm going to ask Diane the same question.

JIM  
*(going after her)*  
 Sharon, stop!

SHARON  
 Don't. Follow me.

*Sharon exits. Beat. Jim walks to the portal entrance.*

JIM  
 Carrot? Are you there?  
*(beat)*  
 Can I come with you?!

*He starts to crawl under the stairs.  
 Blackout.*

THE END.