

AGING OUT

By

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Characters

Ron - Elderly man. Uses a walker. Seated.

Skip - man in his mid thirties. A sex-worker. Heavysset.

Time: Present.

Location: Ron's apartment.

Synopsis: Ron has failed to take his blue pill and wants to have a serious talk with Skip. Skip wants to avoid any serious conversation. Ron presses ahead, and they discuss their relationship and what the future holds.

RON SITS IN A CHAIR WEARING ONLY A BATH ROBE. SKIP STANDS FROM A KNEELING POSITION AS THE LIGHTS COME UP.

SKIP
You're not hard.

RON
Sorry.

SKIP
(Annoyed) It doesn't matter to me.

RON
I've been thinking.

SKIP
You took the pill?

RON
I want to talk.

SKIP
You didn't take the pill.

RON
How do you feel about us?

SKIP
About us?

RON
We've seen each other a long time.

SKIP
You don't get hard, I still get paid.

RON
When did you not get paid?

SKIP
As long as it's clear.

RON
It's been eight years.

SKIP
Don't do this.

RON
What am I doing? I want to talk.

SKIP
About us.

RON

We've known each other a long time.

SKIP

You said that; eight years and you didn't take your pill, no hassle about paying me and you want to talk.

RON

Don't be hostile, there's no need to be hostile.

SKIP

I've been through this before.

RON

Things change.

SKIP

They do. Things changes. We've got to roll with the times. We're not the same as we were before. Don't cliché me, ok. Christ, I know where you're going with this, but once we go there there's no going back.

RON

I want to talk to you.

SKIP

I'm listening.

RON

I like you, you know that, and I hope we can still be friends, but-

SKIP

(Incredulous) Are you dumping me?

RON

Yes.

SKIP

I didn't think you were dumping me, why are you dumping me?

RON

It's been eight years and things change, and-

SKIP

You're dumping me!

RON
What did you think this was about?

SKIP
I thought you were going to ask me
to move in with you.

RON
Why would I do that?

SKIP
Why wouldn't you do that?

RON
Do you want to move in with me?

SKIP
God no.

RON
So what are we talking about?

SKIP
Old guys don't dump young guys. You
ask us to move in with you to live
out some sick fantasy of having a
house boy, but then screwing them
too - and not paying for it.

RON
I don't want to be your daddy.

SKIP
Good, 'cause I don't want to be
your son.

RON
We agree.

Pause

RON (CONT'D)
I bought you a present.

Indicates a box. Skip goes and opens it.

SKIP
A scarf.

RON
I ruined one of yours.

SKIP

I think we both kinda wrecked that one.

RON

This is silk. I know you like nice things.

SKIP

You gonna stop having sex?

RON

Uhm. I don't know.

SKIP

You know there's nothing wrong with what you're doing.

RON

What am I doing?

SKIP

Just cause your old and single don's mean you gotta stop having sex.

RON

I know that.

SKIP

Time comes you don't get the action anymore, what are you gonna do, right?

RON

Right

SKIP

You should be proud of what you're doing, never giving up, not letting age take away whatever.

RON

Right.

SKIP

Just 'cause you're old doesn't mean you gotta give up sex right.

RON

Right.

SKIP

An old guys not gotta lot of options. No way anyone's gonna date you right? No disrespect you know, just the way it is.

RON

Yep.

SKIP

The pill works good. That's not a problem.

RON

Yep.

SKIP

Age is a bitch, I get it. I admire you, you know the way you deal with it, getting old, you're a practical guy, no excuses, no whining about getting older, I like that.

RON

I'm glad.

SKIP

Is it a money thing? I could put you on a payment plan.

RON

I'm fine.

SKIP

Good financial planning's so important for a happy retirement.

RON

Right.

SKIP

If it weren't for your bum legs you'd still be out there finding some guys whichever guys are into you.

RON

Thanks for the vote of confidence.

SKIP

Yep, you sure are good at making your life work.

RON
I admire you too.

SKIP
Sex is a funny thing...

RON
Don't forget your scarf.

SKIP
Yeah.

RON
Let's meet up sometime, go for coffee.

SKIP
You got someone else.

RON
Relax-

SKIP
You bitch, you got someone else.

RON
Calm down-

SKIP
You're not giving up on nothing.

RON
It's not a-

SKIP
We been together eight years,
eight years. How could you do
this to me?

RON
C'mon Skip...

SKIP
Who is he?

RON
It doesn't matter.

SKIP
It matters. I am good at my job and
you know it, so you tell me, what's
he bringing to the game that I am
not?

RON
Nothing.

SKIP

You're not getting into the puppy
thing are you, cause I'm not
wearing a tail?

RON

It's nothing like that.

SKIP

Oh my god he's a refugee. You're
always going on about refugees.

RON

He's not a refugee.

SKIP

Well you tell me what he's got that
I don't have, 'cause I sure want to
hear that, cause I'm good, I am, so
you tell me, huh, what he's got and
I don't.

RON

Age.

SKIP

You got someone older?

RON

Younger.

SKIP

Younger?

RON

Younger.

SKIP

How much younger?

RON

Young. (Pause) 22.

SKIP

Pedophile!

RON

How old are you?

SKIP

26.

RON

You were 29 when I met you.

SKIP
OK, then, 27.

RON
You said it: no one wants to date
older guys.

SKIP
I'm not old!

RON
Just cause I'm old doesn't mean I
can't be shallow.

SKIP
But we're friends.

RON
This isn't personal it's sex.

SKIP
I thought we had something.

RON
We had some good times. Watched all
of Queer as Folk together; played a
lot of cards.

SKIP
I'll never understand bridge.

RON
You're not that old yet.

SKIP
I've learned a lot from you.

RON
I got as much as I gave.

SKIP
Why someone young?

RON
Really? Shoulders. Thighs. Flat
Stomach. No grey hair on his chest.

SKIP
One! I had one grey hair! One!

RON
Only one I pointed out.

SKIP

Bitch.

RON

Even that. "Bitch". It's so 1990's.

SKIP

(Realizing) Not "dude".

RON

And "bro". (Happy) It's so
millennial.

SKIP

What's his name?

RON

You don't want to know.

SKIP

I can't not hear it.

RON

Bruce.

SKIP

An old guys name!

RON

Skip?

SKIP

You used to think it was cute.

RON

Is there anything I can do for you?

SKIP

You're my fourth regular I've lost
this year.

RON

No.

SKIP

I'm tired.

RON

Your job requires a lot of energy.

SKIP

I fake cumming most of the time.

RON
I know.

SKIP
(Deeply sad) You know?

RON
You've got a lot going for you.

SKIP
Grey chest hair?

RON
C'mon now. You give great service.

SKIP
My client base is drying up.

RON
You have a great personality.

SKIP
I never really sold my personality.

RON
But, see you did. I had about a dozen guys before settling on you. Because of your personality.

SKIP
Really?

RON
You think I can stay with a guy for eight years and not like him?

SKIP
I am friendly.

RON
And your smile.

SKIP
I do have a killer smile.

RON
You're considerate.

SKIP
I care about people.

RON
Service industry job, you'd be excellent.

SKIP
Scheduling. I'm skilled at
scheduling, and super good at
dealing with customer complaints.

RON
Some coffee chains offer medical
coverage now.

SKIP
I could be a barista!

RON
I'd go out of my way to buy coffee
from you!

SKIP
You've always loved my hot liquids.

They laugh together.

RON
Thank you Skip.

SKIP
It's Barry.

RON
Barry.

SKIP
Ron?

RON
Yes Barry?

SKIP
I love my scarf.

RON
You're welcome.