

The Bureau of Noses
By Joshua Kern

INT. MARKS AND DAN'S ROOM - NIGHT

The room is very small and messy. Clothes cover the floor along with a bunch of other messes. Two heavily stained and well-worn mattresses lie on the floor next to the wall. By the end of each bed, there's a rucksack and items that look to be more in order, ready to be packed. Suddenly Mark awakes to Dan's phone alarm, which is by Dan's bed, (On the phone screen it's 3:00 AM) he reaches over and quickly attempts to silence it, almost dropping it, but manages.

MARK

Dan (whispers). Dan! (louder).

Dan begins to stir, slowly awaking. Mark frustrated smacks him lightly on the face.

MARK

Dan wake up man!

DAN

Mark, shut up their going to hear us I am getting up.

MARK

I thought you set the alarm to be subtle, not blasting! it is a bit late to shut up!

Both start hastily chucking the stuff into their scrappy bags.

INT. CORRIDOR

Both Mark and Dan run down the corridor with their bags packed to the brim dropping clothes on the way. Suddenly their dad's door smacks aggressively open. He chases them down the stairs yelling, holding a half-empty bottle of vodka.

EXT. HOUSE FRONT

Mark and Dan jump on their bikes, the dad manages to grab Dan by his jacket. Both quickly cycle off, Dan losing his jacket.

DAD

That's it, piss off, don't come back. (Shouting at the top of voice)

Made in Highland

The dad swigs his drink and starts smoking, looking solemn.

EXT. ROAD

Cheering and high with excitement, both of them cycle by each other down the pitch-black empty road, only illuminated by their bike torches. Both try and race each other.
MUSIC CUE:

INT. MONTAGE - PARTYING - NIGHT

MUSIC CUE:

- Dance Floor - The dance floor is full of people, and a rock band is playing. Mark dances like a madman, Dan is more reserved and jigs on the side, and Mark tries to make him dance.
- Bar - Mark and Dan drinking copiously. Mark drinks because he's excited, and Dan drinks because of his nerves
- Toilet - Mark vomits in the toilet
- Bar - Rich-looking man gives his Leopard print fur coat to Dan who is visibly cold and gives him some tap water that comes out purple-ish.
- Dance Floor - Dan is dancing actively, whilst Mark looks sick, trying to join in.
- Club Door - Mark and Dan stumble out

MONTAGE END

EXT. SEVEN ARCHES - LATER

MUSIC CUE:

Seven Arches is an aqueduct in a wooded area it's quite high off the ground when on top and surrounded by nature.

Mark and Dan climb up the side of the aqueduct with their backpacks on, they stop on a ledge throwing their backpacks on top and continue to climb on top themselves.

Now on top, they rummage through their backpacks throwing out a few items to the side and eventually finding the tent parts.

TIMELAPSE of building tent on aqueduct

MUSIC END.

Mark and Dan lay in the tent, both extremely laid back and tired.

DAN

I have to say, bro, you ain't a half-bad planner.

Made in Highland

MARK

I know otherwise it'd be you making them and we'd all be screwed. (Laughs)

DAN

Shut up man (Jokingly). Nah but bro, this is sick.

INT. TENT - THE NEXT DAY

Both brothers are lying asleep. Slowly Mark begins to stir, stretches and sits up. Mark jogs dan to awareness.

EXT. SEVEN ARCHES

Mark is running through the forest to find wood.
Dan is moving some stones ready for the fire.
Mark and Dan sit down by the campfire toasting marshmallows.

MARK

How was your sleep?

DAN

Non-existent. How was yours?

MARK

Same

DAN

What's the plan?

MARK

Well, we've got food and shit for the next 3 days. I'll figure it out by then.

DAN

Have you even spoken to him yet

MARK

Our cousin? Nah you know the situation because of Mum.

DAN

Look it just doesn't make sense, we're not our dad

MARK

They don't see it that way, ever since Mum (stops himself). They no longer count us as family because of what happened and theirs not a thing in the world we can do about it.

Dan to change the topic, gently punches Mark in the shoulder initiating a play fight. The two chase each other around the fire playfighting. Mark puts Dan in a headlock and aggressively grabs his nose between two fingers.

MARK

Got your nose

Dan's nose scrunches like playdough, it sprouts two legs, one from each nostril and falls to the ground. On the ground, it begins to run, after gaining its footing.

MARK

What the hell

Dan and Mark start chasing it through the many trees until they lose track and are out of breath. After looking in a circle for it they suddenly spot a door, with "The Burea of Noses" written on it, free-standing in the middle of the forest. With the door ajar, the nose runs through. Dan instinctively yanks open the door and is faced with a massive corridor behind it impossible in real space and runs through. Mark slowly looks around the door unable to believe his eyes. He follows Dan

CLOCK

The clock shows it's 10:37 AM and ticks extremely slowly.

INT. THE BUREAU OF NOSES RECEPTION

Mark and Dan slowly advance down the hall towards the reception desk.

FEMALE RECEPTIONIST

Next, please.

MARK

Hi sorry, this might sound a bit stupid but (calmly), where the hell are we, my brother's fucking noses just fucking ran away, what the hell is going the fuck on here (With wild energy)!

FEMALE RECEPTIONIST

Oh, I do say no need for such hideous language. Misplaced noses are such a common issue nowadays. You are here in the TBN, The Bureau of Noses, Lost and Found department to be exact.

MARK

Get my brother back his fucking nose right now, or you going to have a broken one

DAN

Sorry please excuse him for a minute. (turning to mark and lowering tone) It ain't her fault I lost my schnozz, mate, calm down.

MARK

Fine (Huthing)

The receptionist passes a massive stack of forms to Dan.

FEMALE RECEPTIONIST

Fill these out then hand them back to me

TIMELAPSE SNAPSHOTS Dan fills out the forms whilst Mark fidgets.

CLOCK

The clock shows it's 11:23 AM and ticks extremely slowly.

INT. THE BUREAU OF NOSES RECEPTION

Mark slaps the documents on the reception desk proudly

DAN

Here you go, can I finally get my noses back?

FEMALE RECEPTIONIST

Well of course we need to process that, and then you can go to the Department of lost

MARK

And how long will that take?

FEMALE RECEPTIONIST

A few hours.

Mark and Dan sit down

CLOCK

The clock shows it's 5:05 AM and ticks extremely slowly.

INT. THE BUREAU OF NOSES RECEPTION - THE NEXT DAY

Mark and Dan lie asleep on a chair. The speaker repeats over and over "Mark and Dan please come to the reception".
Dan springs to awareness

DAN

Mark! Wake up, we're finally I'm finally getting back my nose!

MARK

Let me sleep man, you go get it, bro.

Dan runs to the reception desk
In the background a worker presses their pass to a scanner on a elevator and entering

FEMALE RECEPTIONIST

Congratulations your case has been accepted by the Department of Lost. You have an appointment with Ferdinand

DAN

Fine where do I go

FEMALE RECEPTIONIST

Through that elevator (points), follow the signs that say appointments

Dan and Mark walk towards the elevator and walk through it

EXT. THE DEPARTMENT OF LOST CONTAINMENT FACILITY - DAY

Mark and Dan exit the reception and find themselves in an artificial town. The whole town is surrounded by a massive fence and is in fact on top of an enormous building, resembling a windowless warehouse. They both look around confused as to where they are, oblivious to the nature of the town.

DAN

Seriously where on earth are we

Mark walks to the fence surrounding the town looks through it to the ground far below and realises the truth.

MARK

Dan, you are going to want to see this.

Dan joins Mark in looking and they're both in shock.

DAN

What is this place?

Made in Highland

MARK

I don't know, but no matter what
we stick together.

They both high-five and shake hands.

They continue following the signs and looking around at the
houses. They walk into another Lady also missing a nose.

MARK

Sorry to bother you, what is this
place

LADY

Oh you must be new around here

MARK

Yeah

LADY

This is where people without
noses wait, you know to avoid the
spread. We all call this level
The City but it's actually called
The Department of Lost
Containment Facility.

MARK

Oh alright, what's on the other
levels

LADY

Oh, all the inner workings I
guess, like the portal tech that
probably got you here, Farms and
files. I work in the portal
department you see.

MARK

Oh, I guess I better be off then.

DAN

Bye

LADY

Good luck (shakes head and looks
sad)

The Lady walks on.

INT. FERDINAND'S OFFICE

FERDINAND

My sympathies, but I am afraid
there is no other option

DAN

Seriously no leads! And I have to wait on a bloody six-month waitlist!

FERDINAND

Oh please don't be so ungrateful, you will be given accommodation and after that (Dan cuts him off)

DAN

Screw it, I'm so done, I don't even want it anymore. Come on mark

Mark nod's

FERDINAND

I am sorry but that's not an available option. You must stay here to stop it spreading.

DAN

Stop what spreading? And how come Mark still has his nose?

FERDINAND

Oh yes, that reminds me you need to be dealt with. (Turns to door come in)

A doctor with a syringe of purple fluid comes in and turns to Mark

FERDINAND

This will protect you from the spread.

MARK

So you both have had this?

FERDINAND

You will take it

MARK

Yeah cool, So a double dose couldn't hurt

Mark grabs the syringe and sticks it up the doctor's nose. The doctor's nose grows legs out of the nostril holes and jumps off his face.

DOCTOR

Shit!

MARK

Yeah right, thought so.

Mark runs out the door and Dan follows him.

Made in Highland

EXT. THE DEPARTMENT OF LOST CONTAINMENT FACILITY

Mark and Dan run down the street back towards the reception.

MARK

There's a lift in the reception,
I think we can get out.

Suddenly the whole area flashes red, an alarm sounds, and masked security guards start chasing them.

They manage to outrun them and enter the reception outpacing the guards by a considerable distance.

INT. THE BUREAU OF NOSES RECEPTION

The alarm continues and the lights flash red

Dan and Mark run to the elevator and see they need a pass

DAN

Shit now what

Dan turns to the receptionist

DAN

Give me your pass

Mark punches her in the face before she can answer and grabs the pass. They run to the elevator and call it with the card. In the nick of time, it arrives and they enter, the doors shutting just before the guards get there.

INT. ELEVATOR

Dan clicks the elevator to go to the ground floor. The elevator goes down and after a short while slows

DAN

I guess this is it.

The doors open and a worker enters, they are relieved.

WORKER

How's it going lads, crazy day
today.

MARK

Yeah, can't believe it. My mate
got his taken today, big
accident.

WORKER

The same shit happened to me
don't worry they'll get you a
prosthetic, got to keep up the
illusion.

The elevator stops and the worker exits
The elevator continues.

INT. THE BUREAU OF NOSES LOBBY

Mark and Dan exit the elevator into a small lobby area and look at the TV in shock as the noses chat on a news show showing a graph of captured human population increase.

Mark and Dan exit

EXT. THE BUREAU OF NOSES

The wind blows in Mark and Dan's faces as they see noses walking down the street.
The noses have tiny shops and cars.

EXT. BEACH

Dan's Nose sits on a deck chair holding a cocktail on a deck chair watching the waves.

THE END