

Rudolf Sides

By

Jonathan Tomhave

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Rudolf is a plump, boyish and pasty-faced lad of twenty-five with a prominent and somewhat reddish nose. He hugs Aaron enthusiastically. In return Aaron pats Rudolf on his back as if he almost cares where this pothead has stashed his stash. But he is the Weed Detective and he has a job to do.

AARON KRUMM

And...?

RUDOLF

I stood in the middle of the family room here and like a bolt of fucking lightning, I suddenly realized I had lost my baggie. Then I realized I had lost my -

AARON KRUMM

It's a bolt of 'lightning' - not 'lighting'.

RUDOLF

Really? 'Lightning'? I've been saying it improperly all these years?

AARON KRUMM

And I thought you had a degree in English literature.

RUDOLF

I do - but I specialized in the Late Victorian Period. Lighting was a big deal back then.

AARON KRUMM

And this is not the 'family room'; that implies there are other rooms down here and there are no other rooms down here.

Aaron looked around the basement and cringed.

AARON KRUMM (CONT'D)

Fuck, not even a bathroom! What do you do?

RUDOLF

Believe me, it hasn't been easy. Especially with the couches so close to the wall.

Rudolf pauses to collect some shards of his thoughts. He holds up his hand for a moment of silence.

RUDOLF (CONT'D)

Are you through humiliating me with your word-games?

AARON KRUMM

Probably not, but continue with your sob story.

RUDOLF

OK. So I am in this room, whatever the fuck you want to call it, I am in this room and my baggie is gone and my purse is gone, too.

AARON KRUMM

Your purse?

RUDOLF

Yes, my pink one. I use it as a hiding place. Guys don't like to look into a woman's purse, you know. Forbidden territory. It's a perfect hiding place. Especially when it's pink.

AARON KRUMM

What do girls do when they're down here?

Rudolf looked at his feet shyly.

RUDOLF

Well, I haven't been fortunate in that regard. It's a muted pink, if that helps. Nothing too outrageous. This new fetish for Bubblegum Pink is low class, in my estimation.

Aaron raised Rudolf's head with his hand.

AARON KRUMM

I'm going to ask you some questions frontally, do you understand?

RUDOLF

(desperately confused)
You mean like frontal nudity?