

JUST THE TEN OF US

"Cupid's Errant"

written by

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CAST

GRAHAM LUBBOCK.....BILL KIRCHENBAUER
ELIZABETH LUBBOCK.....DEBORAH HARMON
MARIE LUBBOCK.....HEATHER LANGENKAMP
CINDY LUBBOCK.....JAMIE LUNER
WENDY LUBBOCK.....BROOKE THEISS
CONNIE LUBBOCK.....JO ANN WILLETTE
J.R. LUBBOCK.....MATT SHAKMAN
SHERRY LUBBOCK.....HEIDI ZEIGLER

GUEST CAST

FATHER HARGIS.....FRANK BONNER
GAVIN DOOSLER.....EVAN ARNOLD
BLITZ.....BRYAN GENESSE
SISTER ETHEL.....MAXINE ELLIOTT
MANDY.....KATIE BARBERI
FATHER BUD.....LOU RICHARDS

COLD OPEN

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

THE FOUR OLDEST LUBBOCK SISTERS, ALONG WITH REST OF THE CLASS, ARE SITTING AT THEIR DESKS LISTENING TO FATHER HARGIS GIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

FATHER HARGIS (O.S.)

...that is why, as tempting as it might be; please do not eat the fluffy, pink substance coming out of the ceiling for it is, in fact, not cotton candy.

THE CLASS COLLECTIVELY TURNS TO TOWARDS CINDY

CINDY
(defensive)

Why are you all looking at me? I'm on a diet.

FATHER HARGIS (O.S.)

Before I go, let me remind everyone that our big homecoming dance is this Saturday. This is a good time to remind everyone that there will be no smoking, drinking, or illicit substances. And after last year, I can't stress this enough: no explicitly revealing attire!

EVERYONE IN THE CLASS COLLECTIVELY TURNS TOWARDS WENDY

WENDY

Why are you all looking at me? The cops said my outfit didn't break any public decency laws.

FATHER HARGIS (O.S.)

Speaking of last year, I also remind
you that there will be no verbal abuse
and no fighting.

EVERYONE IN THE CLASS COLLECTIVELY TURNS TOWARDS CONNIE

CONNIE

Why are you all looking at me? You all
remember that guy getting on stage to
say I reminded him of the Bonneville
Salt Flats.

FATHER HARGIS (O.S.)

But other than that, have a good time
at the dance. All students are
welcome, even if you don't have a
date.

EVERYONE IN THE CLASS COLLECTIVELY TURNS TOWARDS MARIE

MARIE

Why are you all looking at me?

MARIE PAUSES AS THE ROOM GIVES HER A LOOK AS IF TO SAY "YOU
KNOW..."

MARIE (CONT'D)
(frustrated)

Oh...right.

ROLL OPEN

ACT I

INT. ST. AUGIE'S HALLWAY

THE FOUR GIRLS STAND IN THE HALLWAY DISCUSSING THEIR PLANS
FOR THE HOMECOMING DANCE

CONNIE

So, Wendy; because inquiring minds
want to know, what are your plans for
the Homecoming dance?

WENDY

Well, I've decided to cast a wide net
this year. I'm going to ask as many
guys out as I can.

CINDY

But Wendy, you can only take one boy
to the dance.

WENDY

I know, so here's my plan. When the
time comes, I'm going pick the guy I
like the best, and tell the rest of
them that I'm sick and can't make it.

CONNIE

Won't they all see you at the dance
and find out you lied to them?

WENDY

Come on, Connie. They'll never make
the connection. They're men!

CONNIE
(just a bit smug)

Well, I would never do such a thing.
I'm going to wait for a man to make
the first move and ask me out himself.
You know, like a lady.

WENDY

Well lady, if that's your plan, then
you're going to be an awfully long
time.

CONNIE

How about I talk to someone who would
never think of saying something smart
like that...Cindy! Who's your date?

CINDY

Oh. I'm going out with Jeremy Parisi
from the basketball team.

WENDY

Jeremy Parisi?!?! Oh god, that face,
that chest. And he's huge! He's got a
seven-foot wingspan! And two-feet on
the X-axis.

CINDY
(confused, then devastated)

Axis? Oh no! He's a Nazi!!!

CONNIE
(flippant)

Oh look, she's been paying attention
in history class; I'd call this a
small victory. So, what are your
plans, Marie?

MARIE

Me? Oh, I have no plans. It's not like
any boy would want to ask me out.

CONNIE

You sure about that?

DOOSLER ENTERS THE HALLWAY

DOOSLER

Oh, hi guys. Hi, Marie.

MARIE
(annoyed)

Hi, Doosler.

WENDY

I think we should go and leave these
two lovebirds alone.

CONNIE
(sarcastic)

Yeah, enjoy yourselves.

CINDY, CONNIE, AND WENDY WALK AWAY

DOOSLER

So, Marie. The homecoming dance is
coming up.

MARIE

So, I've been told.

DOOSLER

And I was wondering if, maybe, you'd give me the privilege of accompanying you to the fall soiree.

MARIE

(barely trying to be polite)

Well, the thing about that is that I plan on going to night mass then.

DOOSLER

But the dance is on Saturday, there's no night mass then.

MARIE

(fast and nervous)

Well, it's a Seventh-Day Adventist mass. You know, just playing the field, you never know what God really wants from us. Okay, I need to go to class.

MARIE WALKS AWAY

DOOSLER

But school's over.

MARIE

That's great, bye.

DOOSLER LOOKS CONFUSED AND DEFEATED

FADE TO:

INT. LUBBOCKS' LIVING ROOM - DAY

GRAHAM IS SITTING ON THE COUCH TALKING ON THE PHONE.

GRAHAM
(into phone)

Yes, Father Hargis.

GRAHAM EXPLAINS HIS UNDERSTANDING OF THE SITUATION

GRAHAM (CONT'D)
(into phone)

Yeah, I know you haven't been able to find someone to work the door for the Homecoming dance.

GRAHAM THINKS OF AN EXCUSE TO GET OUT OF WORKING

GRAHAM (CONT'D)
(into phone)

But how would I deal with a bad guest, anyway? Bounce them off of my stomach like a sumo wrestler?

GRAHAM LISTENS TO FATHER HARGIS

GRAHAM (CONT'D)
(into phone)

What do you mean that was your plan all along?

ELIZABETH WALKS INTO THE LIVING ROOM DRYING A DISH

GRAHAM (CONT'D)
(into phone)

I'm sorry, Father; you'll have to find someone else to work the doors. I'm sure you'll find someone more qualified than me.

GRAHAM HANGS UP

ELIZABETH

Was that Father Hargis?

GRAHAM

Yeah, he can't seem to find anyone who will guard the front door for Homecoming. None of the other priests will do it, and they can't afford private security.

ELIZABETH

Did he try asking Janitor Bob?

GRAHAM

He wants people kicked out, Elizabeth, not knocked out.

ELIZABETH

Well, don't worry, Graham; they'll find somebody.

GRAHAM

Yeah.

CINDY, CONNIE, MARIE, AND WENDY WALK IN THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR

WENDY

Hi!

ELIZABETH

Hey, girls. How was school?

CINDY

Terrible!

ELIZABETH

Terrible? What happened?

CINDY
(on the edge of tears)

My date for the dance, Jeremy Parisi;
he's a fascist!

CONNIE

Well, Cindy's vocabulary is growing
leaps and bounds, so it seems like a
good day to me.

CINDY STARTS CRYING AND RUNS UPSTAIRS

WENDY

I better go up there and talk to her.

ELIZABETH

Go right ahead. You know I'm always
happy to see you support your sisters.

WENDY

I just don't want to see her lose a
date with Jeremy. My god, that butt...

WENDY GOES UPSTAIRS, CONNIE FOLLOWS, AND MARIE HEADS TO THE
COUCH

ELIZABETH

Marie? How was your day?

MARIE

Fine. It just looks like I won't have
a date for homecoming.

ELIZABETH

Oh, no one's asked you out yet?

MARIE SITS ON THE COUCH AND ELIZABETH JOINS HER

MARIE

Well, not exactly.

ELIZABETH

Care to explain?

MARIE

Well, Gavin Doosler asked me.

ELIZABETH

Yeah, and what did you say?

MARIE

I told him no.

ELIZABETH

You told him no?

MARIE

Well, I actually said I was a Seventh-Day Adventist.

ELIZABETH

(sternly)

I'm going to pretend I didn't hear that.

MARIE

It's Doosler, mom. He's the biggest dork this side of the Mississippi.

ELIZABETH

Oh, come on, Marie. He's not even the biggest dork this side of the Sierra Nevada. He's probably not even the biggest dork at St. Augie's.

MARIE

Well, J.R. does go there, too.

ELIZABETH

You know, if your only concern is just having someone to go with you, you can always tell Gavin you changed your mind.

MARIE

I guess it wouldn't hurt just to walk in with him, but I'd still have to touch him.

ELIZABETH

You could tell him you don't want to dance, that you just want someone to go through the door with.

MARIE

You think he'd go for that?

ELIZABETH

Come on, Marie. It's Doosler. He'll take whatever he can get.

FADE TO:

INT. ST. AUGIE'S HALLWAY

MARIE IS STANDING IN THE HALLWAY WHEN DOOSLER APPROACHES

MARIE

Oh, hi Gavin.

DOOSLER

Oh, hi Marie.

MARIE

I just wanted to tell you...

DOOSLER
(interrupting)

I know exactly what you're going to say, Marie.

MARIE

You do?!

DOOSLER

Yeah, I just wanted to tell you not to worry about yesterday.

MARIE

Oh, good to know. Because I've done some thinking, and I decided that I would like to take you to the dance after all. Now, I don't want to dance, I don't really feel comfortable doing that; but I'd like to come in with you if that's okay.

DOOSLER
(surprised)

Oh really?! That's great. I just wish you had told me yesterday.

MARIE

Well, I just needed time to come to my senses.

DOOSLER

No, Marie. I actually have a date for
homecoming.

MARIE
(shocked)

Really?!

DOOSLER

Yeah. Her name's Mandy. We met at the
Burger Barn when I was on break. I'm
really glad I found her; I didn't want
you to feel bad about turning me down.

MARIE

You don't say.

DOOSLER

Well, I'll see you at the dance.

MARIE
(in quiet shock)

Yeah.

A MOMENT PASSES WHEN WENDY WALKS UP TO MARIE

WENDY

Doosler, again?! He doesn't know how
to take no for an answer, does he?

MARIE
(crying)

No!!!

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT I

ACT II

INT. LUBBOCK GIRLS' ROOM - NIGHT

CINDY, CONNIE, AND WENDY ARE IN THEIR ROOM PUTTING ON MAKEUP TO GET READY FOR THE HOMECOMING DANCE. MARIE SITS ON HER BED LOOKING CONFUSED AND CRESTFALLEN.

MARIE

I can't believe it. Gavin has a date,
and I'm all alone. I had a man at my
feet, and I blew it!

CONNIE

A man at your feet?!

WENDY TURNS AWAY FROM HER MIRROR TOWARDS MARIE

WENDY

(slightly disgusted)

That's no man, that's Doosler!

CINDY

(whilst putting on makeup)

Yeah, when did you decide to start
liking him, anyway?

MARIE

I...I don't know what you're talking
about. Besides, why are you going
Cindy? I thought you broke off your
date with Jeremy.

CINDY

Oh, Wendy talked to me, and it turns
out he's not a Nazi; he just has a
weird mustache.

WENDY WALKS UP TO MARIE

WENDY

Come on, Marie. You don't actually like Doosler. You're just jealous he got a date, and you didn't. Hey, look at it this way: Doosler got one date. By the laws of probability and human attractiveness, because Doosler got one date for homecoming, that means you'll get 57 dates for senior prom.

MARIE

(sounding disgusted)

You mean I'm going to get some kind of male harem?!

WENDY

You make it sound like that's a bad thing.

MARIE

I didn't say that...

CONNIE

Speaking of male harems; how's your "wide net" plan going, Wendy?

WENDY

Oh, I narrowed it down to Johnny Countryman. I told everyone else that I had the stomach flu.

CONNIE

And what's your plan if any of them see you with Johnny Countryman?

WENDY

Come on, Connie! They're not going to show up to the dance with no date. I didn't ask out dweebs.

FADE TO:

EXT. ST. AUGIE'S ENTRANCE - NIGHT

THE CAMERA PANS OVER THE LINE OF TEENS GOING INTO THE SCHOOL FOR THE HOMECOMING DANCE BEFORE SETTLING ON FATHER HARGIS BRIEFING BLITZ ON HIS ASSIGNMENT FOR THE NIGHT

FATHER HARGIS

Okay...Blitz, now do you know what you have to do to be a bouncer?

BLITZ

Yeah, man. Just give me a trampoline and I'll go sky high! Even higher than I am already!

FATHER HARGIS

No, Blitz. All you have to do is make sure everyone coming in is supposed to be here. If you see someone try to come in who isn't a teenager, don't let 'em in.

BLITZ

Oh. Got it!

FATHER HARGIS TRIES TO WALK IN TO THE BUILDING, BUT BLITZ GENTLY STOPS HIM SHORT

BLITZ (CONT'D)

Whoa, dude! You got to be a teenager to get in here.

FATHER HARGIS

Hey, I have to go in, I run this
school.

BLITZ

Do you have any identification, man?

FATHER HARGIS
(losing patience)

I'm wearing a cassock! Is that enough
identification for you?!

BLITZ PAUSES OUT OF CONFUSION

BLITZ
(still oblivious)

Isn't that furniture?

FATHER HARGIS

You have the intelligence of
furniture!

FATHER HARGIS ANGRILY TROTS PAST BLITZ

BLITZ

All right, dude! Have a good time!

FADE TO:

INT. ST. AUGIE'S GYMNASIUM

THE CAMERA PANS TO SHOW THE GATHERED CROWD DANCING TO THE
MUSIC, EVENTUALLY SETTLING ON THE FOUR LUBBOCK GIRLS

CONNIE

So when are your dates, coming?

WENDY

Oh, Johnny likes to be fashionably
late.

CINDY

And Jeremy's just doing his hair. He likes to make sure all of his hair is brushed to the side.

MARIE
(pissed off)

Oh look! There's my date!

DOOSLER WALKS INTO THE GYMNASIUM WITH MANDY, A BEAUTIFUL BRUNETTE.

DOOSLER

Wow. I can't believe it. I'm at the homecoming dance, and I actually have a date.

DOOSLER LOOKS AT MANDY

DOOSLER (CONT'D)

...and what a date!

MANDY
(a little seductive)

Well, don't get too excited about the dance. I have a feeling we won't be here long.

DOOSLER

Oh boy!

THE LUBBOCK GIRLS STAND IN AWE

WENDY
(gobsmacked)

Wow! How did Doosler manage to bag a girl like that?!

CONNIE

Oh, I'd say one...two thousand
dollars.

CINDY

Aww. I love it when boys give me
gifts.

MARIE

(angry)

I bet she has no scruples whatsoever.
She probably hugs on the first date!
That hedonistic slut!

FATHER HARGIS JOINS FATHER BUD ON THE DISC JOCKEY'S STAGE

FATHER HARGIS

All right, thank you all for coming to
St. Augie's Homecoming Dance.
Typically, Sister Ethel would be
handling the music for functions like
this, but she is currently suspended
from such duties after playing some
tracks with some...very explicit
lyrics.

SISTER ETHEL (O.S.)

Down with the establishment! Power to
the people!

FATHER HARGIS

Yes, Ethel; you can get back to
serving punch, now.

FATHER BUD
(in a stereotypical radio
voice)

All right, all you hepcats; let's take
things down a notch and slow down the
boogie with something smooth as silk
itself, hey!

THE INSTRUMENTAL VERSION OF "SWEPT AWAY" STARTS. THE CAMERA
PANS OVER THE SLOW DANCING CROWD, EVENTUALLY LANDING ON
DOOSLER DANCING WITH MANDY.

DOOSLER

Are you having a good time, Mandy?

MANDY

I am, Gavin. And just think, the night
is still young.

DOOSLER

I still can't believe you said yes to
coming with me, tonight.

MANDY

I can't believe they let me in.

DOOSLER

Why?

MANDY

Well, I got banned from my school's
homecoming dance.

DOOSLER

Why would they do that?

MANDY

I started a fight.

DOOSLER

You fought somebody?

MANDY

Oh, no. That would ruin my nails. But
a bunch a guys fought over me, and the
principal said I was a bad influence.

DOOSLER

That's so unfair.

MANDY

Tell me about it! But you know what?
That was last night. Tonight's for
having a good time. I know I will.

DOOSLER

Wow. How did I get this lucky?

THE CAMERA PANS AWAY FROM DOOSLER AND MANDY, ACROSS TO MARIE.
MARIE CONTINUES TO STAND ALONE OFF OF THE DANCE FLOOR AS THE
"SWEPT AWAY" BACKING TRACK CONTINUES.

MARIE

(depressed)

How can I be so unlucky? How can no
one want to be with me? God, if
there's something you're trying to
tell me, please be more clear; because
I don't know what I'm supposed to do.

CINDY WALKS UP TO MARIE

CINDY

Marie? Why aren't you dancing?

MARIE

Because I'm the most undesirable
person here.

CINDY

What are you talking about? Doosler's
here, isn't he...

CINDY REALIZES HER MISTAKE

CINDY (CONT'D)

...oh, sorry Marie. I forgot.

MARIE

(pissed off)

Don't you have a date to get back to?

CINDY

Oh, Jeremy's just in the hallway
practicing his goose-step. I never
heard of that dance, but I hope he
shows me how to do it. Okay, bye!

CINDY LEAVES, HAPPY AS CLAM, WHILE MARIE STEWS

THE MUSIC TURNS UPBEAT AGAIN. BLITZ IS TALKING TO SISTER
ETHEL AT THE PUNCH TABLE.

BLITZ

...so, when I fell off my bike, I
landed on the pavement, and broke my
hand in seven places. I couldn't use
it for two weeks...so a week later I
tried playing my guitar, and I ended
up breaking my hand again!

SISTER ETHEL

You don't play by some two-bit
doctor's rules! I like your style,
young man!

FATHER WALKS UP TO THE PUNCH TABLE

FATHER HARGIS
(not happy)

Blitz? Why aren't you guarding the
front door?

BLITZ

Oh, just taking a break. Union rules.

FATHER HARGIS

This isn't a union job, you idiot! I'm
paying you forty dollars for the night
and nothing more. Now get back to the
front door before an intruder walks
in...

FATHER HARGIS TRAILS OFF WHEN A GOLDEN RETRIEVER WALKS BY THE
PUNCH TABLE

FATHER HARGIS (CONT'D)

...hey! There's a dog in the gym!
Somebody get him out of here!

FATHER HARGIS TURNS STERN AND ANGRY

FATHER HARGIS (CONT'D)
(angry)

Blitz! Get back to the front door
before I feed you to the dogs!

BLITZ
(afraid)

Okay!

BLITZ SCURRIES OFF WHILE THE GOLDEN RETRIEVER PASSES FATHER HARGIS CARRYING SOMETHING IN HIS MOUTH

FATHER HARGIS
(panicked)

Oh my god! The dog has the communion wine! Get that mutt before he drinks all of Christ's blood!

DOOSLER WALKS ABOUT THE DANCE FLOOR LOOKING FOR MANDY

DOOSLER

Hey, Mandy? Where are you? Mandy?

DOOSLER SEES MANDY DANCING WITH ANOTHER BOY

DOOSLER (CONT'D)
(too shocked to be angry)

Mandy?!

MANDY
(non-plussed)

Oh, hi Gavin.

DOOSLER

What are you doing dancing with Danny Guntzelman?

MANDY

Oh, I thought I'd take another stud for a spin.

DOOSLER
(stuttering)

B...But I thought I was your stud?

MANDY
(laughing lightly)

You weren't my stud, Gavin! You were
my ticket in.

DOOSLER
(getting sad)

You mean, you don't actually like me?
You were just using me to get into the
dance?

MANDY

Yeah. You get it. Now excuse me while
Danny dips me.

DANNY DIPS MANDY AND DOOSLER RUNS OFF TO THE EXIT

WENDY IS LEAVING THE DANCE FLOOR, BECKONING TO JOHNNY
COUNTRYMAN AS SHE LEAVES

WENDY

Oh, don't worry, Johnny. I'll be right
back.

A LARGE GROUP OF BOYS SEE WENDY THROUGH THE ENTRANCE TO THE
GYMNASIUM. ONE BOY POINTS AT HER.

RANDOM BOY

Wendy!

WENDY STOPS IN HER TRACKS

WENDY

Oh no.

ANOTHER RANDOM BOY

Hey! You said the only date you had
tonight was with the can!

YET ANOTHER RANDOM BOY

Let's get her!

THE BOYS START CHASING WENDY, RUNNING PAST CINDY AND CONNIE

CONNIE

Wow. It's like somebody crossed Liz

Taylor with Wile E. Coyote.

CUT TO:

EXT. ST. AUGIE'S ENTRANCE

WENDY IS RUNNING AWAY FROM THE THRONG OF BOYS THAT SHE REJECTED. BLITZ STANDS BY IDLY.

WENDY
(yelling)

Blitz! Help me!

BLITZ
(oblivious)

Oh! All right! Stay in school! Buckle
up! And always eat your greens!

THE THRONG OF BOYS CONTINUE PAST BLITZ AS HE MISINTERPRETS WENDY'S PLEA

FADE TO:

EXT. A SECLUDED, MOONLIT SPOT - NIGHT

MARIE STANDS ON A FENCE. ONLY CRICKETS ARE HEARD. DOOSLER WALKS UP AND JOINS HER. THEY BOTH LOOK OUT INTO THE DISTANCE.

DOOSLER
(defeated, but he's used to
it)

Hi, Marie.

MARIE
(a tad dismissive)

Oh; hi, Gavin...did you have a good
time with Mandy?

DOOSLER

Not really. She seemed to have a good time with Danny Guntzelman, though; and Bobby Burris; and Ricky Ludwin.

MARIE
(laughs lightly)

Wow. She's a regular Wendy.

DOOSLER

Yeah.

THEY PAUSE BRIEFLY

DOOSLER (CONT'D)
(reflective)

Do you remember that time we went to the Virgin Islands, and you wanted to get back at your sisters for tricking you into going there, so we pretended to be a real couple?

MARIE
(laughing)

Oh, yeah. That was great. My sisters were so grossed out.

DOOSLER TURNS TO MARIE

DOOSLER
(serious)

That was the happiest I had ever been in my entire life.

MARIE, STILL LOOKING OUT INTO THE DISTANCE, PAUSES TO THINK ABOUT WHAT DOOSLER JUST SAID

MARIE
(nervous)

Oh. Really?

DOOSLER LOOKS BACK OUT INTO THE DISTANCE

DOOSLER

When we were on the beach, there were moments when it actually felt real. I've been chasing that feeling ever since; and I've never gotten close.

MARIE

Oh?

DOOSLER

I tried to get that same thrill, once, by looking at a Cosmopolitan magazine.

MARIE TURNS TO DOOSLER

MARIE
(horrified)

gasps Did you confess?

DOOSLER

Yeah. Father Hargis even told me to fast for 24 hours.

MARIE

For looking at obscene images?

DOOSLER

No, for wasting his time.

MARIE TURNS AWAY. THEY PAUSE AGAIN BRIEFLY, LETTING THE CRICKETS CHIRP.

DOOSLER (CONT'D)
(slow and nervous)

I know I've asked you this a million times, and the answer's always been 'no', but would you ever consider going out with me?

MARIE

I'd have to think about it.

DOOSLER TURNS TO MARIE

DOOSLER
(subdued surprise)

That wasn't a 'no'.

MARIE

Yeah. I guess it wasn't.

DOOSLER

Would next Saturday be okay?

MARIE

I'd have to think about it.

DOOSLER

Oh, right. Well, if you ever make up your mind..

MARIE TURNS TO DOOSLER, THEY'RE NOW FACE TO FACE

MARIE

I'll tell you as soon as I do.

MARIE GIVES A LITTLE SMILE, THEN DOOSLER SMILES, AND THEN THEY TURN THEIR HEADS BACK TOWARDS THE UNSEEN DISTANCE AS THE CRICKETS CONTINUE TO CHIRP

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT II