

The Pizza Pit

“Where For Art Thou?”

Page 1

Splash page. Title is at the top of the page, credits right below.

We open in the front lobby of the Pizza Pit. Obscure groups of people decorate the background.

Ronny, wearing a white Pizza Pit button-down shirt and tan khakis, stands between the front counter and the front door. He has his hands raised, and speaks to a family (mother, two teenage boys and a preteen girl) as they exit, with plush toys and balloons in tow. There is a poster advertising a presentation of Romeo and Juliet on the wall behind the scene. Donald can be seen in the background, leaning on the counter, holding a cell phone to his ear and grimacing.

Caption: This is no ordinary Friday at the Pizza Pit. For in a mere few hours, our resident thespian Ronny will make his debut as Romeo Montague, in a local production of William Shakespeare’s Romeo and Juliet. Unfortunately, none of his co-workers will be there to watch him.

Caption: Or will they?

Ronny: Good night! Parting is such sweet sorrow, that I shall say good night, till it be morrow...

Mother: Thank you, sir.

Preteen girl: Good night? It’s only 2:50...

Ronny: And remember, Mondays, kids eat free after 4:00 PM!

Teenage Boy: Weirdo.

Ronny: (whispers) How sharper than a serpent’s tooth it is to have a thankless child.

Panel 1

Donald, wearing a red t-shirt with PIT in bold white letters across his chest, presses a key on his phone and gnashes his teeth in anger.

SFX: BIP!

Donald: GRRRRR!!!!

Panel 2

Donald now has his face in his hands, leaning on the counter. Ronny is filling out a paper on a clipboard.

Ronny: What trouolest thou?

Donald: What else? Kadeja is certifiably insane.

Panel 3

Close up of Ronny's face.

Ronny: Agreed...

Panel 4

Donald's hands are raised now, his phone still in his left hand. His face shows disgust.

Donald: She wants me to fake sick and leave work so I can take her to some political rally tonight. I don't wanna go to no rally!

Donald: I told her I'm not gonna do that, and now she's pissed off at me.

Panel 5

Ronny's eyes go wide. His right hand covers his mouth

Ronny: *GASP!* The gall!

Donald: I know, right?

Panel 6

Ronny twiddles an ink pen in his hands and smiles.

Ronny: As if you would fake sick at work for anything...

Ronny: ...Other than to see your favorite actor performing in Romeo and Juliet!

Panel 1

Donald's face shows wide-eyed excitement. Ronny's face has fallen into a frown.

Donald: George Clooney is playing in Romeo and Juliet?

Ronny (Thinking): Ouch. He's playing, right?

Donald: But seriously -- are you ready for tonight, Montague?

Panel 2

Donald grins. Ronny beams with excitement.

Ronny: Absolutely!

Ronny (Thinking): I'm no Clooney, but I'm pretty good...

Ronny: I was super nervous at first, but it's like it all kicked in at once! I know all of my lines...and everybody else's lines.

Panel 3

Ronny stares into space. Donald looks at his watch.

Ronny (Thinking): People aren't expecting Clooney-level performances, are they?

Ronny: It sucks that none of you guys are gonna be there to see it. I mean, how did everybody get put on the schedule for tonight but me?

Panel 4

Donald holds another clipboard and reads the paper on top

Ronny (Thinking): That's probably for the best. I'm probably not really that good.

Ronny (Thinking): Yes I am. I'm really good.

Panel 5

Close up of Donald's face, glancing over to Ronny.

Donald: Well, not everyone is working tonight.

Donald: It looks like your girl Becki is off.

Panel 6

Ronny's eyes turn to hearts. His mouth falls open, smiling.

Ronny (Thinking): I wish she'd come to the play...

Ronny: Becki's off?

Donald: Yup. Maybe she'll come out.

Panel 1

Donald looks at his watch again. Ronny has a sheepish smile and raised eyebrows.

Donald: What time does the show start?

Ronny: Curtain is at 7:00, but final dress rehearsal is at 5:00.

Donald: Did you tell Becki about the show?

Panel 2

Ronny stands with both arms up, pointing at the multiple posters on the wall advertising the show, smirking.

Ronny (Thinking): Hell no! I like her... Why would I invite her to watch me bomb onstage?

Ronny: Um...?

Panel 3

Donald is looking Ronny directly in the eye.

Donald: Bro, I will bet you \$50 that Becki hasn't paid any attention to those posters.

Panel 4

Ronny's face shows confusion.

Ronny: Why would you say that?

Panel 5

Donald closes his eyes as he speaks.

Donald: Come on. No disrespect, but Becki's not the sharpest spoon in the shed...

Panel 6:

Ronny's eyebrows arch in offense, His mouth hangs open in a slight snarl.

Ronny: How dare you speak ill of the beautiful Lady Becki! A pox upon you and your family!

Panel 1

Ronny stands, his arm drawn back as if to slap Donald. Donald remains calm and unfazed.

Ronny: I challenge you to a duel!

Panel 2

Ronny swings his hand in front of Donald's face. Donald's expression never changes.

SFX: SWISHHH

Panel 3

2 shot of Ronny and Donald.

Ronny smiles wide eyed. Donald's expression remains the same.

Ronny (Thinking): I'm such an idiot.

Panel 4

Donald counts the cash in the register. Ronny's expression remains the same.

Ronald: Okay, Leonardo Di Crappy-o... You know that girl is ditzzy.

Ronald: And it's 3. Don't you have a pair of tights waiting on you somewhere?

Panel 5

Ronny types on a computer keyboard behind the counter.

Ronny (Thinking): I'm definitely not DiCaprio level...

Ronny: Clocking out now, funnyman.

Panel 6

Ronny is walking out the front door, waving to Donald.

Donald: Hey -- break a leg. If I see Becki, I'll try to get her to go tonight.

Ronny (Thinking): Please don't...

Panel 1

Open in Donald's office. The room is tiny and neat. There are three chairs and a desk with a flat-screen monitor. A Romeo and Juliet poster hangs on the wall.

Donald sits at his desk, looking through a box of envelopes. His face shows a combination of boredom and slight disgust.

Caption: Later...

Donald: Living the dream, Living the dream...

Panel 2

Shot of his door. Becki and Rachel enter, smiling wide. Both wear tight jeans and t-shirts.

Becki: Heyyyy!

Rachel: What's up, Don Juan?

Panel 3

Close up of Becki's bewildered face.

Becki: Juan? All this time I thought your middle name was Andrew, Donald!

Panel 4

2 shot of Rachel and Donald, both wincing in disbelief.

Becki (off-panel bubble): What?

Panel 5

Donald's eyes are shut in disgust. He holds an envelope over his head.

Donald: Nothing. Here's your check.

Panel 6

Close up of Becki's smiling face and the envelope.

Becki: YESSSSS! We're going to the mall right now so I can get those boots...

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Panel 1

Donald is leaning back in his chair. Rachel is off to the side, looking at him longingly.

Donald: Hey, are you ladies gonna go check out Ronny's play tonight?

Panel 2

Becki stands in front of the desk, her arms up as if she's asking a question.

Becki: Play? What play?

Panel 3

Donald and Rachel give Becki the side-eye. Becki stares into space.

Rachel: Romeo and Juliet? Remember? He's Romeo?

Donald: That's why we have all of these posters up everywhere?

Becki: Oh... Those are for Ronny? Who knew?

Panel 4

Rachel looks to the ceiling, her clenched fists in the air. Donald speaks to Becki with a calm expression.

Donald: Seriously though, you guys should go tonight. If I didn't have to work, I'd be there.

Donald: Beck, you and Ronny are the only ones off today.

Panel 5

Close up of Donald's face in the foreground. Rachel's face is in the background.

Donald: I'd really appreciate it if you guys would go.

Rachel (whispering): I'd do anything for you...

Panel 6

Donald's door

A waitress is walking by the door, carrying a tray with steak and a glass of bourbon.
Becki sprints toward the door, eyes wide.

Becki: That's William's order! I didn't know he was here!

Becki: I'll be right back! - Wait!

Panel 1

Rachel looks at a collection of picture frames on a bookshelf in front of Donald's desk. She bends at the waist to get a closer view of the photos, giving Donald a direct view of her rear-end.

Donald sits at his desk. He holds a stack of envelopes in one hand, and a ledger in his other hand. His eyes are focused on her butt.

Panel 2

Donald, smiling, is standing. He is still clutching the paychecks in his hand. His empty hand is reached out to her.

Rachel faces Donald, her head is not in the panel. Her hands are clasped behind her back.

Donald: So, are you coming by tonight? You know we're having the cast over for drinks after Ron's play, right?

Rachel: Well, that all depends. Is your girlfriend gonna be there?

Panel 3

Two shot of Donald and Rachel. They're standing close, smiling at each other, their eyes half closed.

Donald: If I say no, will you be there?

Rachel: Yes.

Donald: No.

Rachel: Liar.

Panel 4:

Wide shot. Becki hurries back into the office. Her mouth is open, scowling.

Rachel and Donald are standing close, and are both surprised by her return. Their eyes are wide, mouths agape.

Rachel and Donald: GASP!

Becki: Let's go! I want to get out of here - NOW!

Donald: WHOA!

Rachel: HEY GIRL! How's William?

Becki: He didn't even see me! I served him his food, and he didn't say anything! He never looked up!

Panel 5

Becki sits in one of the chairs by Donald's desk. Her arms are crossed and she is still scowling.

Rachel stands behind her, with her hands on Becki's shoulders.

Rachel: I'm sorry, girl...

Donald (Off panel bubble): Yeah, I've seen him not even notice his phone ringing when he's at that table. He gets way focused.

Panel 6

Close up of Becki looking over her shoulder at Donald. Her face is in a scowl. Her mouth is open.

Becki (Jagged angry bubble): BUT I'M NOT A CELL PHONE! I'M BECKI!!!

Panel 1

Becki is turned while seated, hugging a confused Rachel and sobbing.

Rachel hugs Becki with one hand. Her other hand is raised and her shoulders are hunched. She is looking at Donald, confused.

Donald leans against the desk with his arms folded. His face also shows confusion.

Donald and Rachel (Thinking): WTF?

Panel 2

Rachel and Becki are standing. Rachel has one arm around Becki, comforting her, and her other arm is stretched toward the door. Her mouth is open, speaking.

Becki is leaning into Rachel, wiping her tears with a tissue in her right hand.

Donald stands by his desk, holding up his right index finger. His mouth is open, speaking.

Rachel: It's okay girl. Let's go get those boots.

Becki: *sniff* Okay.

Donald: Yeah... Get your boots. You can wear them tonight to the play!

Donald: You're both going to the play, right?

Rachel and Becki: Yes, Donald.

Panel 3

Rachel and Becki are walking out of the office. Becki is through the door. Rachel is halfway out. She is leaning back, looking at Donald, smiling.

Rachel: Go get the car, girl. I left my purse in the office.

Becki: Okay.

Panel 4

Donald stands, leaning on the door jamb. His eyebrows are raised, his mouth is open. Rachel breezes past him (speed lines, please). Her eyebrows are scrunched, her mouth is open. Her shoulders are shrugged.

Donald: Um, what was that?

Rachel: No idea. I know she likes William, but I've never seen her like that before.

Donald: Wait - that's real? She likes him likes him? Ew.

Panel 5

Rachel is now facing Donald. Her purse is in her right hand. Her left arm is up, her hand is out, palm up. Donald has his arms folded. His mouth is open.

Rachel: My thoughts exactly.

Donald: Man. And Ronny is in love with her.

Rachel: I know. Poor Ronny.

Panel 6

Rachel stands by the door, her arms down in front of her. Both hands clutch the purse. Her eyebrows are raised, her mouth in a small open frown. Donald is still leaning by the door. His arms are folded. His mouth is open, speaking.

Donald: All he ever says at home is "when I get discovered and become a real actor, I'm gonna marry Becki..."

Rachel: Seriously?

Donald: Yeah, but keep that between us.

Panel 1

Shot of outside of the Community Art Center. Cars line the street outside the venue. A line of people stands outside the box office. The marquee reads: "Tonight - Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet - 7:00 PM"

Caption: It's almost showtime!

Becki: Retail therapy does wonders for stress!

Panel 2

Inside the venue.

Becki and Rachel are seated in the second row in front of the closed curtain on the stage. Becki has one leg in the air, admiring her new boots. Her hands are on both sides of the boot. She smiles with her mouth open, talking.

Rachel sits next to her, reading the Playbill. Her mouth is open, talking.

Becki: These things are beautiful.

Rachel: They are, girl. And I'm glad you're feeling better. but why did you get that bent out of shape over William?

Becki: Because William is everything! He's handsome, he's rich, he's -

Panel 3

Two shot of Becki and Rachel.

Rachel has a scowl on her face. She has both hands in the air, one clutching the Playbill. Her mouth is open.

Becki is facing Rachel, her arms folded. She has an angry frown on her face.

Rachel: Old! Like old-old! He's got you by at least 25 years, Beck! I'm sorry, but I don't get it.

Becki: He's not that old...

Rachel: Yes, he is... He's that old.

Panel 4

Becki is still scowling. She is staring at her phone. Both hands are tapping on the screen (movement lines, please.), texting. Her mouth is open, talking.

Rachel's eyebrows are raised. Both of her hands are raised in frustration. Her mouth is open, talking.

SFX: Tic-Tic-Tic

Becki: Well, he's single and I think he's sexy.

Rachel: That is so gross. Are you texting him again?

Becki: He still hasn't answered me.

Rachel: He's not interested, Beck! That's why he never texts you back!

Panel 5

Becki's hands are in her lap. Her eyes are looking at the ceiling. Her mouth is open, speaking.

Rachel's eyebrows are raised in shock. Her mouth is open.

Becki: It sounds like sour grapes to me...

Rachel: Ex-scuse me?

Becki: You're just mad because William is into me and Donald isn't interested in you.

Panel 6

Rachel's mouth is hanging open. Her eyes are wide.

Becki's arms are folded. Her face is in an angry frown.

Rachel: You can't be serious! William didn't even know you were there today!

Panel 1

Becki's eyes are closed now. Her arms are still folded. Her mouth is open, speaking. Rachel has an angry face.

Becki: Why'd you have to bring that up?

Rachel: Because it's true! While you're chasing someone's granddad around, you have someone your own age right in front of you, who would do anything for you!

Panel 2

Becki's eyes are wide. She has a hand over her mouth. Rachel's face is getting angrier. People in other seats are now watching them argue.

Becki: Rachel! I had no idea! I didn't even think you were into girls...

Rachel: Not me, you idiot! Ronny! He's in love with you!

Panel 3

Becki's head is turned away from Rachel, her eyes closed. Her hand is swinging (movement lines, please), dismissing Rachel's statement. Rachel is still scowling.

Becki: Ronny Raygun? Please. Ronny's a kid. William is a man!

Rachel: Ronny is the same age as you, and he's more of a man than William is!

Panel 4

Becki's eyes are wide. Her mouth is open, shouting. Rachel is still scowling. Her mouth is open, shouting.

Becki: I can't believe you said that!

Rachel: Believe it! William doesn't know you exist!

Panel 5

Becki has a frown. Her eyebrows are raised. She stares at the floor.

Rachel is still scowling. She has her right index finger raised. Her mouth is open, talking.

Rachel: I usually let it go, but this is enough, Beck! William only sees you as the cute little hostess at Pizza Pit!

Rachel: Now, can you please stop being so thirsty and make this night about Ronnie?

Becki (small pitiful letters, please): Yes.

Panel 6

Shot of the back of Ronny's head backstage, peeking through the curtain watching Becki and Rachel talking.

Ronny: What do we have here?

Ronny (Thinking): Tonight she'll see the real Ronny Raygun!

Ronny (Thinking): Is that a good thing or a bad thing?