

A COCONUT FLOATS IN THE OCEAN. ON IT ARE TWO CRABS AND
MINIATURE WATER COOLER

CLAWDE

She says she wants a divorce.

PINCHTON

What! You seem like such a good couple!

CLAWDE

That's what I thought, but she says I'm never around.

PINCHTON

Dude that's nonsense. You're busy making waves in the world.

CLAWDE

I think it's that Crab Volleyball instructor of hers.
I bet he thinks Shelly's just another crab to admire his
claw.

PINCHTON

Ok. Here's what you're going to do.
When you get home you're going to walk in there, put your
claws out - it's a power pose - and tell him to leave.
Make it known that you're at the top of the hierarchy.

CLAWDE

I don't know...

PINCHTON

You're the alpha dude.
You've just got to make it clear to him.

CLAWDE

He could crush me.

PINCHTON

How many kids do you have right now?

CLAWDE

Feels like thousands.

PINCHTON

And do you think he could put food on the table?

CLAWDE

No...

PINCHTON

Exactly.
They need someone who's going to put in the work.
Someone who's *there* for them.
Uh.
Not like that.

CLAWDE

Oh god she's right.

PINCHTON

No! Come on.
Read this.

Clawde flicks through the book

CLAWDE

This is entirely unrealistic. I'm not a lobster.

PINCHTON

No, dude the point is you've got to behave like an alpha. Be an alpha.

CLAWDE

But I'm not an alpha.

PINCHTON

Just pretend.

CLAWDE

Yeah.
Ok Yeah.

PINCHTON

Lets get back into it.

They begin scuttling back and forth, clicking their claws in the air

CLAWDE

Do you feel like you're stuck in a whirlpool? Going around and around, doing the same things until you die?

PINCHTON

No. Do you?

CLAWDE

We should do something big.

PINCHTON

Why?

CLAWDE

You can show your dad you're not a failure.

PINCHTON

He doesn't think I'm a failure!

CLAWDE

Then why are you here?

PINCHTON

Because he needs someone he can trust.

CLAWDE

So show that you can be trusted to make good decisions, like getting there ahead of schedule.

PINCHTON

I suppose so...

CLAWDE

I heard about this dance we could do. A rain dance.
If we make a storm happen the waves will push us way faster.

PINCHTON

Fast and dead.

CLAWDE

We're alphas remember. We can handle it.

PINCHTON

Yeah...
Yeah we are.

*They commence scuttling and clicking once again, but
this time the pattern is different*

(To the sky)

We're fucking alphas.
Up yours dad.

This continues, scuttling, clicking, yelling

Initially it seems like nothing is working.

PINCHTON (CONT'D)

Where'd you find this dumb dance?

CLAWDE

The inter-net.

PINCHTON

That's so sketchy.

CLAWDE

Nah, loads of people are doing it. If it doesn't work explain
that.
We probably just have to try harder.

They try harder

It doesn't work

PINCHTON

It's not working.

CLAWDE

Ugh.
So much for an alpha.

PINCHTON

Dude, what do you want?

CLAWDE

I want to get off this fucking nut. I want to go home. I want to get away from you.

PINCHTON

Oh so it's my fault.

CLAWDE

Yes.

PINCHTON

And not your fault for leaving your shellmate. You had it all. You know what I'd do for half that?

CLAWDE

Yeah, I've seen it.

PINCHTON

Fuck you.

CLAWDE

Clawde wiggles their eye stalks
You're not that desperate are you?

PINCHTON

You were better when you were miserable. At least you left me alone.

CLAWDE

Yeah, because you *really* needed that time.

As the argue the sky begins to darken, the waves grow

PINCHTON

What's that supposed to mean?

CLAWDE

It means you have no life.

PINCHTON

At least I didn't give mine up.

CLAWDE

I-

A wave towers over them

PINCHTON

Dude.

CLAWDE

Dude yourself man.

PINCHTON

Man yourself dude.
There's a giant wave.

CLAWDE

Oh, sure, from the dance that didn't work! Immediately behind me. Probably has seals in it too.

PINCHTON

Yes!

CLAWDE

Right.
Anyways... As I was saying, Go fuck -

The wave crashes

CLAWDE

Don't let go!

PINCHTON

Just for the record -

Pinchton is hit by a wave
I blame you

CLAWDE

Oh you'd like that.

PINCHTON

We can do this later!

CLAWDE

You started it.

PINCHTON

No you -
You know what, never mind.

CLAWDE

Yeah exactly.

PINCHTON

Just help me.

CLAWDE

Give me your claw.

PINCHTON

That dance, did it say how to stop it?

CLAWDE

We could try doing it in reverse?

PINCHTON

That will just make the waves go the other way.

CLAWDE

It's worth a shot?

PINCHTON

No we should do it upside down.

CLAWDE

That's... actually a good idea.

The scuttling and clicking recommences, upside down

However, the lashing of the waves keeps interrupting them

CLAWDE

Stuff it, just hold on tight.

They huddle

PINCHTON

Would you still love me if I was a sea urchin.

CLAWDE

What.

PINCHTON

You know, those little irritating things.

CLAWDE

What happened to not the time?

PINCHTON

Do you have better things to do?
Oh, I'm just like Amelia Earhart's copilot.

Clawde gives Pinchton a look

You see he was secretly a crab. And the crab mafia put a hit out on him.

CLAWDE

Have you lost it?

PINCHTON

So then a narwhal and an octopus with beefy tentacles and good aim got together and -

CLAWDE

Right ok.
Can you reach out and grab some of that kelp.

PINCHTON

I'll fall off.

CLAWDE

I've got you.

PINCHTON

Fine.

Pinchton reaches out, almost falls in, but grabs some

Here.

CLAWDE

Hold still.

Clawde begins tying Pinchton to the coconut

PINCHTON

So, would you still love me if I was a sea urchin.

CLAWDE

I don't love you.

PINCHTON

Well would you feel the same about me, however that is, if I was a sea urchin.

CLAWDE

Yes, you're just as valuable now as if you were a sea urchin.

PINCHTON

Aww.
Ok, hold on.

CLAWDE

What is the point of that question?

PINCHTON

Just trying to get to know you.

CLAWDE

Is now really the best time?

PINCHTON

Fine then.

(Mockingly)

Oh god we're all going to die, ahhhhh!
I'm pretty sure I saw a seagull!
Help! Over here!
Wait.
Un-help! Somewhere else!

Hows that?

CLAWDE

Oscar worthy.
Tie me now.

Pinchton begins tying Clawde to the coconut

PINCHTON

Why are we doing this?

CLAWDE

So we don't get tossed off.

PINCHTON

Yes but what if we get flipped over?

CLAWDE

Are you not a crab.

PINCHTON

Can you keep a secret?

Clawde shrugs

I'm not a true crab,
I'm *Pisidia serratifrons*.

CLAWDE

Carcinisation is real?!
How did your dad hide it this long?

PINCHTON

You didn't know.

CLAWDE

I mean yeah, but you know, I'm not exactly the smartest.

PINCHTON

Oh Dude come on. You made this bloody storm. That's so alpha.

Clawde groans

Is that a seagull?

CLAWDE

Crap.

PINCHTON

It's a good sign right? It means the storm's clearing.

CLAWDE

Out of the frying pan and into the lobster pot.

PINCHTON

As a non-lobster, that's an improvemnt.

I think it sees us.

CLAWDE

Stop wiggling then.

PINCHTON

I would if I wasn't about to be eaten.

You're wiggling too.

CLAWDE

I'm trying to get you to stop wiggling.

PINCHTON

Still wiggling.

It's getting closer.

CLAWDE

Work with me here.

Fine. PINCHTON

On one. CLAWDE

Pinchton goes

I said on one. CLAWDE (CONT'D)

Pinchton goes again

After the countdown. CLAWDE (CONT'D)

Oh. PINCHTON

Three... CLAWDE
Two...
One!

*Just as the seagull dives they move in sync to spin
the coconut. The seagull smacks into it and scrabbles
in vain*

UNDERWATER. IT SEEMS CALM. THE ROILING OF THE WAVES IS
DISTANT AND HYPNOTIC FROM THIS ANGLE. DOWN BELOW IS A KELP
FOREST, THERE ARE OTTERS AND A DOLPHIN. THEY HAVE NOT NOTICED
THE CRABS

What do we do now? PINCHTON

Hang out upside down? CLAWDE

I get motion sickness. PINCHTON

Maybe if we stay very quiet they wont notice us CLAWDE

It seems to work

It begins to not work.

The dolphin notices first

Look it'll be fine. PINCHTON
We can just ask for a ride from the dolphin.

It's not going to give us a ride. Why would it. CLAWDE

PINCHTON

Because we're alphas.

They puff themselves up

The dolphin comes closer

ZIPPY WATERWHIRLER

Well hello there.

PINCHTON

Don't eat us or we'll... hurt you.

ZIPPY WATERWHIRLER

Oh.

CLAWDE

What my friend is trying to say is, would you be able to nudge us away from the seagull above and the otters below

The otters have come to investigate

They grab at the crabs, who snip back in response

ZIPPY WATERWHIRLER

You going to snip me?

CLAWDE

No we would never.

ZIPPY WATERWHIRLER

Good.

Zippy begins pushing, to the irritation of the otters

ZIPPY WATERWHIRLER

Where ya headed?

CLAWDE

Oh we're just on a work trip.

ZIPPY WATERWHIRLER

Through a storm?

PINCHTON

We're alphas.

ZIPPY WATERWHIRLER

Oh I can tell. So big and strong. I bet you eat your vegetables.

Well you alphas have a good time on your little work trip.

PINCHTON

Thank you!

CLAWDE

That was so cringe.

PINCHTON
You're so cringe.

CLAWDE
Fuck you.

PINCHTON
Fuck you!

*They scuffle, still tied down. In doing so the
accidentally right themselves*

The storm has cleared

CLAWDE
We're alive!

PINCHTON
We're definitely alphas now.
You can so kick that coach outta there.

CLAWDE
Yeah, I suppose I can.

PINCHTON
Nah it's awesome. We survived giant storms and vicious
otters. Check out this scar.
Babes love scars.
Shelly loves scars right?

CLAWDE
Not you too.

PINCHTON
Just 'cause you're not an alpha.

CLAWDE
I saved you!

PINCHTON
Only because of my heroic management. I'm definitely going to
get a promotion now.

CLAWDE
Somehow the worst got worse. I am so quitting.

Where are we?

PINCHTON
On the road to success.

CLAWDE
And where is that exactly?

PINCHTON
In the ocean.

Their voices fade as they float into the distance

CLAWDE

Has anyone ever told you you're super helpful?

PINCHTON

No.

CLAWDE

That's because you're not.

PINCHTON

That's really insulting and hurtful you know.

CLAWDE

My insult - intended to hurt your feelings - was insulting and hurtful?