

THE SETUP

This is the second scene these two characters share together in the play.

In their first appearance - Love's Prick Excerpt 3 with Celia, Orlando & Jacob - Jacob and Celia sparred verbally when Jacob came looking for Orlando to get him to come to wrestling practice. Later, in Love's Prick Excerpt 5 with Orlando & Jacob, Jacob flaunted his naked body in front of Orlando in the locker room after practice. As this scene begins, we find Celia and Jacob in the college library...

Another pool of light where CELIA is intently typing something on her lap top computer.

JACOB sneaks up on her.

JACOB

Whatcha' writin'?

CELIA slaps the laptop shut.

CELIA

What are you doing in a library?

JACOB

Guy's gotta do homework at some point.

CELIA

Almost didn't recognize you with your clothes on.

JACOB

He told you.

CELIA

Too good a story to keep to one's self.

JACOB

Oh really?

CELIA

The incident, not the particulars. Down, boy.

JACOB

So he didn't tell you --

CELIA

I thought you had homework to do.

JACOB

At some point.

CELIA

You're so interested in what he told me, ask him yourself.

JACOB

He's here?

CELIA

I meant I'm nobody's go-between. Seek him out. Have another little skin-to-skin, heart-to-heart, whatever it is you boys do when you strap your jocks on. None of my business.

JACOB

We could fix that.

CELIA

You are one odd duck.

JACOB

I could say the same about you.

CELIA

Yes, but I'm not prancing about in my birthday suit, now am I?

JACOB

More's the pity.

CELIA

Begone. You have issues, boy, and they are things with which I cannot help you. Trust me.

JACOB sniffs CELIA.

JACOB

You smell good.

CELIA

You...

(surprised)

...showered.

JACOB

I'm not a complete neanderthal.

CELIA inspects JACOB's hand.

CELIA

Knuckles relatively unscathed. Not dragging on the ground yet.

JACOB

I like your hands, too.

CELIA

Please forget I just touched you.

JACOB

Not likely.

CELIA

Scamper away now.

JACOB

Later, Celia.

JACOB goes.

CELIA watches him go, gives one last check around, then slowly cracks open her laptop and begins her work again.

She gives a cursory glance up every now and then, just to be certain.