

MIDDLEMOST POST

#061 - "To Narwhal, With Love"

Written by

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EXT. BLUBERG - ESTABLISHING

1	PARKER (O.S.)	1
	Hey, Angus? Can I ask you something	
	really, really important?	

EXT. BLUBERG MANSION - DAY

ANGUS pushes a cart holding a large package to the front door of a mansion. PARKER is the cart. RUSSELL follows behind.

2	ANGUS	2
	Sure, kiddo. You can ask me	
	anything, anytime.	

3	PARKER	3
	Is a hot dog a sandwich?	

4	ANGUS	4
	Of course not. A hot dog is a hot	
	dog.	

5	PARKER	5
	But it's meat with a piece of bread	
	on both sides. Same as a sandwich.	

6	ANGUS	6
	Same, but totally different.	

VINCENT (BL3) opens the door.

7	PARKER	7
	Special delivery from the	
	Middlemost Post!	

Parker <POOFS> back to normal. The package lands on Angus' foot. <SMASH>!

8	ANGUS	8
	OW!	

9	VINCENT	9
	Wonderful. Must be the new aquatic	
	accoutrement I ordered for my dear	
	Winifred.	

10	ANGUS	10
	Accoutre-what?	

11	PARKER	11
	Wini-who now?	

Vincent opens the package and pulls out a POOL TOY.

12 VINCENT 12
It's a pool toy for my daughter's
narwhal, Winifred.

Vincent points to the POOL on the side yard where we find
WINIFRED, an elegant narwhal, sunning on a diving board.

13 ANGUS 13
Oh.

14 PARKER 14
Cool.

Even though Angus and Parker are ambivalent, the same can't
be said for Russell, who stares at Winifred slack-jawed and
in awe. Hearts in her eyes.

15 RUSSELL 15
<LOVESTRUCK DOY>

16 VINCENT 16
I'm narwhal sitting until my
daughter gets back from Elsewhere.
(whispers)
She's getting some "work done," if
you know what I mean.

17 PARKER 17
Angus lo-lo-lo-lo-lo-loves getting
work done. Oh, he gets work done
all the time.

18 ANGUS 18
It'd be a lie to say I didn't.

Vincent takes a closer look at Angus.

19 VINCENT 19
Yes, yes. Now I see it. It looks
good. Very natural.

20 ANGUS 20
(confused)
Uh, thanks?

21 PARKER 21
Have a nice day!

Angus and Parker walk off. Russell is still transfixed by
Winifred. The narwhal peeks at Russell over a pair of
sunglasses, which only captivates Russell even more until...

22 ANGUS (O.S.) 22
What's the hold up, girl?

Russell turns to find Angus right next to her.

23 ANGUS (CONT'D) 23
 You gotta go to the bathroom or
 something?

Now embarrassed, Russell cowers in fear.

24 RUSSELL 24
 <MORTIFIED EMBARRASSMENT>

25 ANGUS 25
 You went three times this morning
 already and that last one was--

Russell leaps onto Angus' face, stopping him from saying anything else.

26 ANGUS (CONT'D) 26
 <STARTLED MUFFLED YELPS>

Russell looks back at Winifred one final time.

27 ANGUS (CONT'D) 27
 <MUFFLED CHOKING>

28 RUSSELL 28
 <SIGHS>

EXT. S.S. STEADFAST - ESTABLISHING

29 PARKER (O.S.) 29
 Okay, so let me get this straight.
 If I put lettuce, a pickle...

INT. S.S. STEADFAST - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Lights out, time for bed. Parker lies in his bed hammock.

30 PARKER 30
 ... and a tomato on my hot dog,
 would it be a sandwich then?

On Angus, in bed.

31 ANGUS 31
 No. Still a hot dog. A hot dog that
 ruined a perfectly good sandwich.

On Russell, in bed, staring dreamily into space. She's clearly lovestruck.

32 ANGUS (O.S.) (CONT'D) 32
And if we're being honest, a hot
dog bun is a bread based product
and technically not bread.

As Parker and Angus ramble on, Russell blissfully falls
asleep.

EXT. THE S.S. STEADFAST - DAY/DREAM

The ship sails the ocean blue on the most beautiful day ever.
On closer look, we find Russell behind Winifred on the bow
doing the classic *Titanic* pose. The two look perfect
together. Winifred opens her mouth to talk.

33 ANGUS (O.S.) 33
Russell?

INT. S.S. STEADFAST - BEDROOM - PRESENT

Russell spoons Angus from behind at the end of his bed.

34 ANGUS 34
You mind telling me what we're
doing?

Russell <STARTLES>, dropping Angus, who hits the ground with
a <THUD>.

35 ANGUS (CONT'D) 35
Oof!

Russell scurries back to her bed, playing it off as a joke.

36 ANGUS (CONT'D) 36
It's not funny, girl.

Angus settles back into bed. Russell does the same.

37 ANGUS (CONT'D) 37
<SNORES>

EXT. SOMEWHERE STORE - ESTABLISHING

38 LILY (O.S.) 38
One can of sardines...

INT. SOMEWHERE STORE - DAY

LILY stares blankly at two items on her counter. A can of SARDINES and FRESH BREATH SPRAY.

39 LILY 39
 ... and one bottle of fresh breath
 spray. Looks like someone has a hot
 date.

We find a blushing Russell at the counter. Lily smiles.

40 LILY (CONT'D) 40
You go, girl.

Russell confidently struts out of the store.

EXT. BLUBERG MANSION - DAY

Russell watches Winifred from outside an iron fence. She takes out her breath spray and squirts a couple shots in her mouth. She sprays some under each flipper too because, you know, why not?

41	RUSSELL	41
	<HACKING COUGH>	

Russell startles, realizing Winifred has spotted her.

42 WINIFRED 42
 <NARWHAL COO>

The narwhal gestures for Russell to join her. Russell looks behind her like "who, me?" Winifred nods.

Confident, Russell squeezes in between the fence poles. But she gets stuck. She's really wedged in there! This is embarrassing. Finally, she slips through.

43 WINIFRED (CONT'D) 43
<POLITE GREETING>

44 RUSSELL **44**
 <SAYS HELLO TOO LOUDLY>

Russell covers her face, turning away from Winifred.

45	RUSSELL (CONT'D)	45
	<MOUTHS "OH MY GAWD">	

It's awkward for a beat. Winifred asks Russell if she's hungry.

46 WINIFRED 46
<NOM-NOM SOUNDS>

Then Russell remembers! She <HORKS> up the can of sardines and offers them to Winifred.

Winifred looks over at a table with an elegant CAVIAR spread. Russell deflates, thinking she totally blew it with the sardines until...

47 WINIFRED (CONT'D) 47
<NO, IT'S OKAY, WATCH THIS>

Winifred grabs the sardine can, cracks it open using her HORN, and "shotguns" the sardines like a total baller.

48 WINIFRED (CONT'D) 48
<CHOMPS!>

Russell is gobsmacked.

49 RUSSELL 49
<DAMN GIRL>

50 VINCENT (O.S.) 50
What is the meaning of this!?

Vincent stands there, holding a HOSE. He blasts Russell!

51 VINCENT (CONT'D) 51
SHOO! You filthy walrus. Shoo!

Spooked, Russell flees, slipping and falling all over the place before escaping. Vincent picks up the sardine can and shows it to Winifred.

52 VINCENT (CONT'D) 52
We have the finest caviar in the world, and you take "canned" fish from a dirty walrus?

Winifred looks away, ashamed.

53 VINCENT (CONT'D) 53
You're better than that, Winifred.

Vincent tosses the can into the pool.

EXT. S.S. STEADFAST - ESTABLISHING

INT. S.S. STEADFAST - BATHROOM - NIGHT

Parker and Angus, dressed for bed, brush their teeth.

54 PARKER 54
Angus, you put mustard on your ham
sandwiches, right?

55 ANGUS 55
<BRUSHES TEETH>
(while brushing)
That I do. <CONTINUES TO BRUSH>

56 PARKER 56
(while brushing)
You also put mustard on your hot
dogs if I'm not mistaken.

57 ANGUS 57
(while brushing)
It still doesn't make a hot dog a
sandwich.

Both spit.

58 ANGUS/PARKER 58
<GURGLES><SPIT!>

INT. S.S. STEADFAST - BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Angus and Parker head to their respective beds.

59 PARKER 59
What if you cut up a hot dog into
tiny little pieces and put it on
bread? Would you call it a sandwich
then?

60 ANGUS 60
No. I'd call it disgusting.
Goodnight, Parker.

61 PARKER 61
Goodnight, Angus. Goodnight,
Russell.

The two settle into bed.

62 ANGUS/PARKER 62
<SNORES>

We find Russell already fast asleep in bed. That is, until the lights go out. She opens her eyes and peels off her blanket to reveal... she's wearing a FANCY TUX!

She sneaks out of bed and dives out of the porthole window, but not before using Angus' belly as a springboard.

63 ANGUS 63
Oof! Ahh, spiders!

Angus' eyes widen before he slowly falls back asleep.

64 ANGUS (CONT'D) 64
<SNORES>

EXT. MT. MIDDLEMOST - NIGHT

Russell slides down the mountain, disappearing into the night.

EXT. BLUBERG MANSION - SIDE YARD - NIGHT

A melancholy Winifred swims in the pool. She spots something shiny at the bottom and swims down to check it out. It's the empty SARDINE CAN. She admires it as if she's reliving the memory.

Suddenly, she looks up to see Russell's tuxed-up reflection standing at the surface. Is she seeing things? She zips to the surface and sure enough, there's Russell!

Russell grins, trying to look as "high class" as possible. Winifred takes her HORN and rapidly slices up Russell's outfit. (Think Edward Scissorhands cutting hedges.)

When she's done, Russell's tux is tattered and torn in all the right places. She looks "cool." Narwhal and walrus share a look. Nice.

65 VINCENT (O.S.) 65
Winifred?

Russell and Winifred freeze. Oh no! Russell takes cover behind a bush as Vincent appears on the mansion's balcony.

66 VINCENT (CONT'D) 66
What is that racket?

67 WINIFRED 67
(back to Vincent)
<RESPONDS ALL IS WELL>

<RESPONDS ALL IS WELL>

68 VINCENT 68
Are you okay, dear?

Vincent pulls out a pair of binoculars to scope the area.

69 VINCENT (CONT'D) 69
That smelly wharf creature isn't
back, is she?

Russell smells her pits. Smells fine to her.

70 RUSSELL 70
<HARUMPH!>

71 VINCENT 71
Can you hear me? Is someone with
you? I'm coming out.

Winifred pushes Russell away, implying that she should leave.
Russell acts calm and cool. She <HORKS> up a BOX. Displays it
for Winifred on her tongue.

C.U. of box. It's an INFLATABLE NARWHAL pool toy, like one
you'd buy at CVS. Winifred looks at Russell, impressed.
Russell straightens her bow tie, cool like that.

72 VINCENT (O.S.) (CONT'D) 72
Winifred...

Vincent exits the mansion.

73 VINCENT (CONT'D) 73
Winifred, darling. Where are you?

He looks around, then spots the INFLATABLE NARWHAL that
really looks nothing like Winifred.

74 VINCENT (CONT'D) 74
Ah, there you are. Enjoying a
midnight swim, are we? Well, try
and keep it down, dear.

Falling for it, Vincent heads back inside.

EXT. MT. MIDDLEMOST - VARIOUS - MONTAGE

Russell and Winifred have a cute as hell date night out on
the town. Through the whole thing, nobody seems to realize
how weird it is that a narwhal and walrus are out alone
together. Like *Lady and the Tramp*.

- At an ICE RINK, happy couples ice skate. We PAN DOWN underneath the ice where Winifred and Russell skate on the same rink, just upside down below the surface.

- At a RECORD STORE, they thumb through vinyl. Then share a pair of headphones to listen to the same song.

- They swing on swings at a PLAYGROUND. Two exhausted CHILDREN push them.

75 MORGAN/LIL GORDY 75
<PUSH EFFORTS>

- They SQUARE DANCE in the Orangefield Barn with DanceBot and the gang. (DanceBot and the Gang... Nick's next spin-off!)

- They get a couples massage from the ROCK BROS.

76 ROB 76
<HURTFUL MASSAGE EFFORTS>

- They watch a MOVIE in the theater and <TALK> throughout it, pissing everyone else off.

77 CITIZEN WALLA 77
<ANGRY WALLA>

Angry moviegoers throw popcorn at the couple, but they catch it in their mouths.

78 RUSSELL/WINIFRED 78
<TALKING WITH MOUTHS FULL>

- At the County Fair, Russell crushes SKEE-BALL and wins Winifred a stuffed WALRUS that looks just like Russell.

79 RUSSELL/WINIFRED (CONT'D) 79
<SHARED LAUGH>

- On a HILLTOP, Russell and Winifred overlook the twinkling city of Somewhere down below. Romance is in the air!

EXT. BLUBERG MANSION - NIGHT

Russell and Winifred say goodbye outside the iron fence. It's kinda awkward as they hug, <SQUEEZING> the walrus toy.

80 RUSSELL/WINIFRED 80
<SHARED LAUGH>

They wave goodbye. Russell walks away, all smiles, floating on air. What she doesn't see is Vincent watching from the window. The dude is not happy.

EXT. CITY OF SOMEWHERE - MAIL ROUTE - MORNING

Angus and Parker make deliveries.

81 ANGUS 81
I'm just saying, if I go to a hot
dog vendor and say, "Eh, give me a
sandwich," that fella's gonna think
I'm coo coo.

82 PARKER 82
More like rude. You didn't even say
please.

83	<GROANS>	ANGUS	83
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Angus stops, looks behind him.

84 ANGUS (CONT'D) 84
Come on, Russell. You're falling
behind.

Parker also looks back. We don't see what they're looking at.

85 PARKER 85
Angus, have you noticed anything
different about Russell lately?

We see what the two are looking at. It's Russell, in the middle of a full on *La La Land*/500 Days of Summer MUSICAL NUMBER.

She dances with random INCIDENTALS, fountains shoot into the air as she passes, etc. It's pure joy and could probably last a solid minute. By the end of it, Angus and Parker seem unfazed.

86 ANGUS 86
She seems the same to me.

87 PARKER 87
Yeah, me too.

EXT. BLUBERG MANSION - DAY

Angus and Parker continue delivering mail, nearing Vincent's mansion.

88 PARKER 88

I bet if you closed your eyes and
ate a hot dog, you'd think it was a
sandwich.

89 ANGUS 89

Nope. I'd be able to tell from the shape, Parker. Sandwiches are square or rectangular. Something a hot dog bun is not.

Russell takes this opportunity to say hello to Winifred...
but the narwhal is nowhere to be seen.

90 RUSSELL 90
 <SHRIEKS!>

Angus and Parker greet Vincent, who stands next to the floating pool toy.

91 ANGUS 91
Hi, Vincent. Got your mail here.
Whatchu doin' there?

92 VINCENT 92
My daughter surprised us with an
early return.

Russell's face falls.

93

VINCENT (CONT'D)

93

She and Winifred departed this morning. I bought them a cruise around the world. It's how I show my love.

(while deflating the pool toy)

They should be embarking any moment now.

94 RUSSELL **94**

<GASPS!>

Vincent looks to Russell, clearly with intent.

95 VINCENT 95
All things must come to an end, I
suppose. <SATISFIED CHUCKLE>

Angus and Parker look confused. They really didn't ask.

96 PARKER 96
Who's Winifred?

97 ANGUS 97
No idea.

The two leave.

98 ANGUS (CONT'D) 98
Come on, Russell.

But Russell is heartbroken, staring at the glasses Winifred once wore.

99 ANGUS (CONT'D) 99
Russell?

She FLASHES to moments the two had together... Sardines, Ice Skating, Record Store, maybe something we never saw them actually do.

100 ANGUS (CONT'D) 100
<CLEARS THROAT> Russell, you coming
or what?

With new determination, Russell puffs up her chest heroically and <DASHES> off!

101 ANGUS (CONT'D) 101
Okay, back to work--

She blows right past Parker and Angus.

102 ANGUS (CONT'D) 102
Hey!

EXT. MT. MIDDLEMOST - VARIOUS - DAY

In a sequence à la *Love Actually* or any other rom-com with a "running through the airport" scene, Russell races through the different neighborhoods.

103 RUSSELL 103
<PANTING>

She takes a shortcut through the MAYOR PEEVE AQUATIC CENTER. DOUG looks around, puzzled.

104 DOUG 104
Dougie? Has anyone seen Lil'
Dougie?

LIL' DOUGIE's small, frail arms desperately reach out from the pool. Russell dives in, rescuing him in the process.

105 DOUG (CONT'D) 105
Oh, never mind. Hey, Dougie.

Along the way, Russell continues to bump into people.

106 CITIZEN WALLA 106
<VARIOUS BUMPED WALLA> / "My sandwich!" / "That's a hot dog, lady." / "Watch where you're going!" / "Looks like she has an intention."

Russell's determined to get to Winifred before she leaves!

EXT. PURPLETON LAKE - CONT.

Carrying a shit-ton of luggage, Winifred sadly trudges along a pier, following others loading onto a BOAT.

107 FEMALE OWNER (O.S.) 107
Come now, Winnie. No time to dawdle.

Winifred <SIGHS>. In the distance she hears...

108 RUSSELL (O.S.) 108
<HORSE NEIGHING!>

Hopeful, she spins around, looking desperately for Russell. And there she is, racing straight for her! She drops the luggage and dashes to her.

109 FEMALE OWNER (O.S.) 109
Winifred! What has gotten into you?

Walrus and narwhal meet, spinning in each other's arms until... the <HORN> on the boat <BLARES>. They both know what that means. It's time to go.

Winifred pulls Russell in close, refusing to let go.

110 WINIFRED 110
<HEARTBROKEN CRIES>

111 RUSSELL 111
<I WANT YOU TO HAVE SOMETHING>

Russell <POPS> out her TOOTH and gives it to Winifred.

112 WINIFRED 112
<SAYS SOMETHING ENDEARING>

113 RUSSELL 113
<BLUSHES>

Winifred <POPS> off the HORN on her head and holds it out for Russell as a gift.

Russell puts Winifred's horn where her tooth once was, and Winifred sticks Russell's tooth where her horn once was.

Both smile. Something to remember each other by. Russell watches as Winifred boards the ship. Flipper and fins wave bittersweet goodbyes.

Just then, Angus and Parker walk up, hot dogs in hand.

114 ANGUS 114
 <SIGHS> Geez, girl! Why'd you run
 off like that? You wanna tell me
 what's going on? <TAKES BITE/CHEWS>

Parker sees Russell gazing out into the distance at Winifred's ship.

115 PARKER 115

Angus, I think Russell and that narwhal might have had a full-blown romance while we were talking about sandwiches.

Angus blinks, considering this.

116 ANGUS 116
 (mouth full)
Eh, I doubt it.

117 PARKER 117
Yeah, probably right. <TAKES BITE>

118 ANGUS 118
 Alright, come on, you two. We have
 mail to deliver.

We watch as the MMP walk off.

119 PARKER 119
What about submarine sandwiches?

Russell looks back one more time where she left Winifred. The boat disappears out of sight. Russell happily rejoins her best buds.

120	ANGUS	120
	Now we're getting into "sub-genres"	
	of sandwiches. There's a whole	
	plethora of those. I mean, you got	
	your grinders, your hoagies, your	
	cubanos, y-your paninis, your open-	
	faced sandwiches, which is just a	
	sandwich a lazy person made...	

EXT. BLUBERG MANSION - ESTABLISHING

INT. BLUBERG MANSION - DAY

Vincent opens an ENVELOPE. A large letter unfolds.

121

VINCENT

121

What is this?! Five thousand
dollars for a couples massage??

He passes out.

THE END.