

The Heat Is On In PyeongChang

an interlude

by Kev Berry

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Draft 1.2: February 2018

THE HEAT IS ON IN PYEONGCHANG was commissioned and first produced by The Tank (Meghan Finn + Rosalind Grush, Co-Artistic Directors) as a part of The Fast and the Furious at The Tank in New York City In February 2018. It was performed by Kev Berry.

Who

Man

Black t-shirt and jeans

When

Again

Where

in his dark place

A dark theatre with a music stand

This play is for Adam Rippon

-kb

Man in his dark place again
With his music stand
He looks at us

MAN

Let's talk about my sex life
Yes an interlude
And now for something completely different
Because until yesterday
I had no idea the Olympics begin tomorrow in South Korea
Which is to say they've already begun in South Korea
Because today here in America
In New York
In the Garment District
Is tomorrow in South Korea
In PyeongChang
In the various stadiums spread round that freezing city
Where fans have already been reported to be suffering hypothermia
In the open air stadiums
Which the PyeongChang Olympic folks
Thought wouldn't be a bad idea
But there's brutally cold weather there this time of the year
So what else could go wrong
Oh South Korea as we all know
Is directly south of North Korea
Directly to the North
So what else could go wrong
Is a question I'd normally be asking
And then worrying about angrily
But this interlude isn't about nuclear bombs going off
Or the Russians who've been allowed to compete competing under a neutral flag
Because the Russians were disqualified because they're obsessed with
Rigging the system
This interlude is about the Eiffel Tower

This year for the first time
The US is sending two gay male Olympians to compete
Which isn't to say that they haven't sent openly lesbian women to compete
Or even closeted folks before
One of the men in question competed within the closet in Sochi

And is now out of the closet
And actually dating a friend of mine
So this interlude is partially about how I had a sex dream about my friend's boyfriend
And the Eiffel Tower
And of course they've sent them from behind the closet door before
One or two or who knows how many closeted gay male Olympic athletes
But this is breaking records
The US Olympic team is sending 200% more
Out gay Olympic athletes to PyeongChang
Than they have to any previous Olympics
Wow
Isn't that amazing
Oh wait it's still two fucking gay guys on a team of 243
Two fucking gay guys on a team of 135 men
These two are the first openly gay male athletes the US has ever sent to the Games
I just want to send that home please
Wrapped up in a big messy beautiful package called the Gay Liberation Movement
Because part of the movement is this movement not being over
Until the IOC makes changes to their rules that allow countries with
Anti-gay and other discriminatory practices in place to compete
Because part of the movement is this movement not being over
Until gay and queer and lesbian and trans and bisexual athletes feel just as home
In Olympic Village as their hetero brothers and sisters do
But this is not about the movement

This is about Gus Kenworthy
Augustus Richard Gus Kenworthy
Born October 1 1991
He's 26
Is a British-born American freestyle skier
From Telluride Colorado
Who competes in slopestyle and the halfpipe
Kenworthy won the silver medal
In Men's freestyle skiing
At the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi Russia
But he's so much
More than that
In addition to being a skier
He's also an activist for gay rights
And for animal rights

But he's so much more than that
He's a little brother to two older brothers
Hugh and Nick
And a son to his parents
Pip and Peter
But he's so much more than that
He's fucking gorgeous
And his abs are sculpted from marble
And his ass is the creation of a
Pervy Homosexual God
Who knows what kind of content
The gays are looking for when they're
Scrolling through Instagram before bed
And this is where the dream I had the other night begins

I wake up screaming

Ah Golde ah Golde
Tevye Tevye wake up
What's the matter with you
Why are you screaming like that

Where is he
Where is he

Where is who
What are you talking about

Ski photographer Robin MacDonald
Gus Kenworthy's first boyfriend
He was standing there a minute ago

What's the matter with you
Robin and Gus broke up two years ago
Right after Sochi
He may not be dead
But he's certainly dead to Gus
You must have been dreaming
Tell me what you dreamt
And I'll tell you what it meant

All right all right
Only
Don't be frightened
In the beginning
I dreamt that we were having
A celebration of some kind
Not dissimilar to the Closing Ceremony
Of a grand Olympiad
Everybody we knew was there
Musicians too
And dancers dressed in costumes
Designed to boil down
The essence of a country
Into a single united costume aesthetic
Suddenly in comes Robin MacDonald
May she rest in pieces
Naturally I went up to him and greeted him
And he let out a guttural scream
And transformed slowly but surely
Into Gus Kenworthy
Screaming all the while
And then he started spitting flames
Once the transformation was complete
He made me 5 gin and tonics and we
Chatted and drank them
And he told he me had a surprise for me
Which is when he told me
To take off all my clothes

A blessing on your head
Mazel Tov Mazel Tov
To see Kenworthy naked
Mazel Tov Mazel Tov

And while this Demon Dream Gus Kenworthy
Is going down on me in the dream
A chorus starts singing

Look who is this
Who is this

Who comes here
What skater is this by righteous anger shaken
Could it be
Sure
Yes it could
Why not
Who could be mistaken
It's the gay skater
Come from the DMZ
It's the skater
Born in Scranton PA
Adam Rippon
Adam Rippon

Adam Rippon
Born November 11 1989
Is an American figure skater
He is the 2010 Four Continents champion
And 2016 US national champion
Earlier in his career
He won the 2008 and 2009
World Junior Championships
The 2007 and 2008
Junior Grand Prix Final
And the 2008 US junior national title
Rippon was selected
To represent USA
At the 2018 Winter Olympics
In Pyeongchang South Korea
This makes him
The first openly gay American athlete
To qualify for any Winter Olympics
But he's so much more than that
He's an outspoken advocate for gay rights
As one of two out of 243 it seems to

Automatically become your political platform
But he's so much more than that
He's the oldest of six children
But his siblings are not listed on his
Wikipedia page
And neither are his parents
But he's so much more than his family
He was born nearly deaf
And underwent corrective surgery
Before his first birthday
And it is shocking to me
That this narrative has somehow
Not been skewed yet
To paint him as a survivor
But he's so much more than that
I was scrolling through his Instagram feed
The other night before bed
And discovered a picture of his thighs
With which
He could crush me
And I would still sign a release form
Like murder me Adam
Like let me objectify you Adam
Please

And as Gus Kenworthy is going down on me
In the dream
Adam Rippon descends from a mile high
Triple lutz
And sings

What is this about Kenworthy blowing this guy
Would you do this to
Your friend and teammate
Adam Rippon
Such a worthy mouth for such a worthy penis
Please Kenworthy
Go down on me here in Olympic Village

Meanwhile I'm there agog and aghast

In the dream
That this is happening

There's a saying similar to another we fat non-athletes might know
About the Olympics

That's

What Happens in Olympic Village Stays in Olympic Village

And there's a statistic going around

That the Games Committee

Will be providing the largest number

Of condoms

In the history of the Games

In Olympic Village

110 000

Which comes out to 37 condoms per athlete

Or

2 point 3 fucks a day per athlete

Which I guess makes sense

When the threat of nuclear destruction

Gives the Games a fresh urgency

It's like Survivor season 97

The show is so stale and outdated

That they give the season a twist

The humans are competing

Against Westworld Robots

With superhuman strength

It's like that

But it's Olympians fucking as though

Each fuck will be their last

Because it might be

But this is not about the looming explosion

This is about countries

Putting aside politics

Putting aside war

Putting aside anti-gay policies

And coming together

For two weeks

To compete

And to fuck

There's a hookup app for gay men
Called Grindr
That some of you may have heard of
You log on and you find a gay man you want
Near you
And you message them and you say
You down to fuck
And they either do
Or they don't
And then you fuck
Or you don't
And you move on
The thing about Grindr up in Washington Heights
Is that the closest gay guy to me
Might be 45 feet away
But he might look like
He's ringing the bells of Notre Dame
Or be old enough to have grandkids
Or both
Or he might be asking me if I want to do meth
Before we fuck
So that makes things difficult
The thing about Grindr in Olympic Village
Is that everyone has a rock solid body
And are so pent up from the competition
That once they're eliminated
All they'll wanna do is
Bang bang into the room

During the 2016 Olympics
Grindr usage in Olympic Village
Was so concentrated and was so high
That it shut the app down worldwide
For 10 hours
And then caused glitches for 3 days after that
Gays worldwide rioted
As though the Eagles had just won the Super Bowl
Except we were righteously angry
That we couldn't catch any dick or ass
Wild

What's even more wild to me
Is that the Olympic Community is so liberated
And the countries many of these folks come from are not
There was a disgusting Daily Beast article
That described the Grindr profiles of
Athletes in Rio Games Village
In vivid detail
And which could have been used
To trace and track closeted athletes
In their anti-gay countries
And the only good part of this article
Is that it highlighted
How open the worldwide community is
Or wants to be
As a single unit
And how tragically limited
The mindsets of individual countries
Can be
These two weeks
In Rio in Sochi in Tokyo in Lake Placid
Are two weeks of liberation
Of freedom
Of false hope
But this isn't about false hope

Now Golde at this point in the dream
Gus Kenworthy is sitting on my face
And I'm 4 fingers deep in Adam Rippon
There's that gay sex smell in the air
There's techno music playing

Mike Pence was chosen
To lead the Olympic Delegation
For the US Team
Who are for the first time sending two openly gay men to compete
As I might have mentioned once or twice before
Which I find completely ironic for a number of reasons

There's a sex position common

In gay porn and at sex parties and in threesomes
Called the Eiffel Tower
One person is on all fours
Forming the base of the Tower
At one end of the base there's someone fucking the base's mouth
While someone is fucking the base in the ass at the other end
The idea is that they can makeout across the base or the bottom
While fucking the base or the bottom
And it's very uncomfortable
And all the bending forward while thrusting
Is never very sexy or attractive
In straight porn since the two tops can't makeout because that would be gay
I understand the two tops tend to do the next closest thing to making out
That straight people know
And that's
They high five
So sexy

At this point in the dream
All three of us
Me Gus Adam
Are doing that doing the Eiffel Tower
And we are all in every position at once but it works
Because it's a dream
And somehow it's not an eyesore
And the bending forward and the thrusting works

Both Rippon and Adam have been outspoken advocates
Against Pence leading the Delegation
Both have called it a strange choice
Given Pence's homophobia

All three of us cum
And Gus Kenworthy cums gallons and gallons and gallons
And all of a sudden we are on a boat in the middle of the ocean
And there are fireworks
And then I wake up and

Congress should oppose any effort to put
Gay and lesbian relationships on an equal legal status

With heterosexual marriage

Congress should oppose any effort to recognize homosexuals as a
Discreet and insular minority
Entitled to the protection of anti-discrimination laws
Similar to those extended to women and ethnic minorities

Congress should support the reauthorization of the Ryan White Act
Only after the completion of an audit
To ensure that federal dollars were no longer being given
To organizations that celebrate and encourage
The types of behaviors that facilitate the spreading of the HIV virus
Resources should be directed toward those institutions
Which provide assistance to those seeking to change their sexual behavior

The Eiffel Tower was first seen as an awkward eyesore by the people of Paris
After the decision was made to leave the structure standing
At the closing of the 1889 World's Fair
But eventually grew and transformed into a cultural icon of beauty

This new Eiffel Tower
That is
Rippon and Kenworthy and Pence
Is for now
An awkward eyesore
And I wish that I could see it as progress
And I'm struggling to see it as anything but
The US Olympic Committee
Deciding that instead of sending
A homophobic xenophobic misogynistic mentally ill racist liar
A better choice would be to just send a homophobe

I'll be interested to see what sort of interactions
Pence and Rippon and Kenworthy will have
If any
Because the heat is on in PyeongChang
And we'll be watching any and every word Pence has to say
About these two

And if the heat really is on in PyeongChang

And the nuclear blast occurs
And takes Pence with it
I'll be on my boat
In the middle of a deep cerulean sea
With Gus and Adam
At least for the rest of the night

The lights snap out

End of Play