

It's the End of the World

Written by Cody Hargreaves and Nicholas Hargreaves

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Cody is slouched on the couch under a blanket, eating junk food, looking unhappy and watching TV.

Nick enters.

NICK: Hey. Whatcha doing?

CODY: Eating breakfast.

Cody dips a chip into a bowl of chocolate mousse and eats it.

NICK: Did you get your exam results back?

CODY: Yeah.

NICK: How'd you do?

CODY: Good.

NICK: Really?

CODY: (breaking down) *No.*

NICK: (sympathetic) Oh.

CODY: I'm going to fail the course. Get kicked out of uni. Join a 90s cover band and move to the coast. (Spark of hope) Fall in love with a dancer named Beatrice. (Despair returns) Then she's gonna leave me because I don't have sufficient tertiary qualifications.

NICK: When was the last time you went for a walk?

CODY: January.

NICK: Oh.

CODY: (a great wail) Last year.

NICK: Why don't we take one now.

CODY: (meekly) Okay.

NICK: Okay.

Cut to: Nick and Cody walking on a path outside. Cody is looking less miserable.

NICK: This is nice. See, failing's not the end of the world.

CODY: I guess.

NICK: So, how much preparation did you do for your exam?

CODY: You're not allowed to prep. It's closed-book.

NICK: No, that just means you can't bring notes in.

Cody stops dead in his tracks.

CODY: Ohh.

NICK: Okay, so there's some things that can you do differently next time.

CODY: Next time?

NICK: Yeah, for finals.

Cody lights up.

CODY: Finals?

NICK: Yeah, there's three assessments.

CODY: So I get another shot?

NICK: Absolutely! Why don't you give it another crack?

CODY: (sigh) I don't know. I still feel kind of down after this morning.

NICK: Okay. Take a break then. And at four o'clock this afternoon, why don't you email your tutor and ask for some feedback? In the meantime, why don't you find something you might enjoy.

Cody runs up to a tree.

CODY: My favorite tree!! You mean, I can just look at it for a couple hours?

NICK: Whatever you need.

Cody hugs the tree.

End screen text: "Failing can hurt. It's okay to deal with the feelings, and then you can move forward positively."