

## Disconnected

### **Setting:**

A dorm room with two beds and two desks. Aaron's desk should be center stage while Ron's is off to the side. Separated from the dorm room part of the set by an invisible wall are the desks of Teamspeak and Teamspeak 2. They are in some distant location but connected by a voice chat program to the Aaron. The time is 8:45pm on a Tuesday.

### **Characters:**

Aaron - 20 y.o. Male college student. Math major, plays WoW a lot.  
Girlfriend (Anna) - 18 y.o. Female college student. Aaron's girlfriend of 6 months.

Ron - 20 y.o. male college student. Roommate of Aaron. Friend of Aaron and Girlfriend.

Teamspeak - 20 y.o. Male WoW player. Guildleader of Aaron's guild, a more serious player than Teamspeak 2.

Teamspeak 2 - 19 y.o. Male WoW player. More laid back than Teamspeak.  
*(both Teamspeak 1 and 2 communicate with Aaron through a voice chat program on their computer).*

Narrator.

### **Script:**

#### **Narrator:**

The complete and total noob's guide to World of Warcraft, part I.

Definitions.

WoW, World of Warcraft.

Player

*(1 flexes with sword).*

Mob

*(2 makes growl sounds, looks menacing).*

*(1 approaches, swings hard to no effect, mob slaughters him in one hit).*

Noob.

Priest.

*(3 enters, begins praying).*

Loot.

*(3 notices 1's sword and steals it).*

Rez.

*(1 comes back to life but looks haggard).*

Heal.  
(1 looks better).

(1 notices sword is gone).

Aggro.  
(1 looks at 3 angrily, 3 waves hands and steps back)

Feign death.  
(3 pretends to die).

(1 pokes him and then leaves smiling).

Noob.

Instructions:

- 1) Kill mobs to get loot.
- 2) Use loot to kill mobs.
- 3) Kill mobs using new loot to get better loot to kill better mobs to get shinier loot to do more damage to kill more mobs to get better loot.
- 4) (pause) Repeat.

This has been the complete and total noob's guide to World of Warcraft, part I.

(Aaron enters the room)

**Girlfriend:**

Hey

**Aaron:**

Hey...

**Girlfriend:**

Where were you at dinner today? Ron and I waited for like ten minutes before we just gave up and got a table.

**Aaron:**

Huh? I told you I couldn't make it, I had a late exam today.

**Girlfriend:**

Oh. I don't remember hearing anything like that, but whatever.

**Aaron:**

I told you right after you finished talking about whichever party you went to yesterday.

**Girlfriend:**

It doesn't matter. I forgive you for missing dinner...*(slightly agitated)* again.

**Aaron:**

How was your day? You had that job interview right?

**Girlfriend:**

*(As she turns to Ron)* Fine. I didn't tell you about that party did I Ron?

**Ron:**

Nah, Sara wasn't there was she?

**Girlfriend:**

Of course she was. Would she miss an opportunity to publicly make a fool of herself?

**Ron:**

Nope, not that girl. She was the only person I ever knew that could remember where and when every party was, but never what she did at any of them.

**Girlfriend:**

Yeah, that girl was kinda, out of it.

**Ron:**

Yep. It was tough having a significant other that was "gone" all the time. *(making fun of Aaron)*.

**Girlfriend:**

*(looks to Aaron, conversation fading)* I swear, if he had to choose between saving me or that computer, I'm not sure I'd be able to smash that thing to pieces fast enough to change his mind.

*(Lights dim on Ron, GF. Aaron typing on computer, headphones on)  
(GF and Aaron make motions indicative of chatting)*

**Aaron:**

Hey guys.

**Teamspeak:**

Heya Melor, how goes it?

**Aaron:**

Meh, it's been a rough day.

**Teamspeak:**

Aww, I'm sorry to hear that. What happened?

**Aaron:**

Exams didn't go too well. Though I'm sure staying up till 3 AM last night raiding didn't help.

**Teamspeak:**

Sure it did, raiding teaches all kinds of important concepts like organization, communication, regular destruction of misunderstood beasts for fun and profit.

**Aaron:**

Yeah, well, unfortunately my tests were on differential equations and sociology.

**Teamspeak:**

Ah, I guess you're in the wrong major then. How do you think it'll play out in the course?

**Aaron:**

It should be okay. But if I don't get the A I'll get you to sign some sort of form or something. I'm sure "Guild Emergency" is a perfectly valid excuse.

**Teamspeak:**

Hey don't blame me for your WoW addiction. I merely facilitate it.

**Aaron:**

Don't you think I know better than to blame something on our benevolent Guild Leader?

**Teamspeak 2:**

Hey, don't give him too big of a head. He might find that his doesn't fit into that fancy helm of hers anymore.

**Teamspeak:**

Remember, my mouse is never more than 100 pixels and a click from booting you from this guild.

**Teamspeak 2:**

And you remember that I'm only one missed heal from leaving you lying flat on the ground.

**Teamspeak:**

Speaking of heals, we're running low on priests as usual. You think you can make it tonight Mel?

**Aaron:**

(*looks toward Girlfriend*) Yeah, seems like Anna's more interested in trading gossip with Ron than bothering to converse with me tonight. I'm in the clear.

**Teamspeak:**

Awesome, I wouldn't have anyone else on me.

**Teamspeak 2:**

That's what she said.

**Ron:**

Hey man, you missed out on a good time last Saturday.

**Aaron:**

B.R.B.

**Aaron:**

Is that so? I tried to come meet you guys, but you were gone by the time I got there.

**Ron:**

The nightlife waits for no one my friend. Besides, you were playing your game there, we would have been waiting for hours.

**Aaron:**

Meh, I was just helping a friend kill some monsters, would have been 5 minutes...what did you guys get yourselves into?

**Ron:**

Rounded up some people to go clubbin'. Well, actually, we had to pick up Jesse before heading out to the club. For being as flush with money as that bastard is, he should really be driving us, but whatever.

**Ron:**

So we get there and do our thing for a couple hours. Pretty soon we're ready to go, but we can't find Jesse anywhere. We look around a bit and eventually Josh notices him over in the corner where he's got not one, but two girls dancing with him.

**Girlfriend:**

(*sarcastic*) Oh he is quite the stud.

**Ron:**

Yeah, we were all like "Go Jesse." It only took us one look to know that he wouldn't be needing a ride back when, he had his own choice of "rides" right there (*in bad taste*).

**Girlfriend:**

When did he make it back?

**Ron:**

*(laughing as he says it)* That's the real kicker, Jesse stumbles in sometime early the same morning cursing about how we ditched him and how those girls were just playing him for a few free drinks. I tell ya, it woulda been damn funny if I it wasn't 6:15am.

**Teamspeak:**

9pm guys, raid time, invites will be going out in a second.

**Aaron:**

Yeah, just let me know next time you guys wanna go. I'll schedule some time.

**Ron:**

Yeah, I know you're busy *(sarcastically, kinda laughing)*.

**Aaron:**

Hey guys, I'm back, don't want you all getting worried or anything.

**Teamspeak 2:**

Yeah, I was just worrying about what I was gonna do with all the loot I got being the only priest here.

**Teamspeak:**

Everyone that needs to be summoned there please ask now, I don't want to leave anyone behind.

**Teamspeak:**

Does anyone know if Gell is going to be on today?

**Teamspeak 2:**

He told me he had a dentist appointment or something.

**Aaron:**

That's funny, he told me his girlfriend was dragging him to some concert.

**Teamspeak:**

Lawl, girlfriend aggro, betcha he wished he rolled a hunter for "feign death."

**Aaron:**

Yeah, there's something about the words "5 hour molten core raid" and "the guild needs me" that doesn't really go over well. Five hours at the mall though, perfectly reasonable.

**Teamspeak:**

You need to get your girlfriend to roll a character too Melor, that's the trick.

**Aaron:**

I don't think she is really interested in playing. Not while the game is populated entirely with anti-social nerds like you guys.

**Teamspeak:**

Hey, I am not anti-social, merely a nerd.

**Teamspeak 2:**

Amen, I have never been criticized for being too quiet.

**Aaron:**

Yep, that's why we had to give you your own channel in Teamspeak so you can talk to your hearts content without scaring away our new recruits or annoying the heck out of...I mean.

**Teamspeak 2:**

Yeah, but that's why you love me.

**Teamspeak:**

Alright you guys. As soon as we get buffs up we're gonna start pulling the easy mobs.

**Aaron:**

I'm ready.

**Teamspeak:**

Okay...Incoming.

**Girlfriend:**

*(taps Aaron on the top of the head)*. Hey Aaron, take those headphones off for a minute.

**Aaron:**

Sorry guys, one sec.

**Aaron:**

Huh, I'm a bit busy.

**Girlfriend:**

Oh right, don't let me disturb you *(sarcastic)*. I wouldn't want to endanger the gentle citizens of Azeroff.

**Aaron:**

*(mildly annoyed)* It's AzerOTH...

**Girlfriend:**

Whichever...Ron wants to know if you want to catch a movie tonight.

**Aaron:**

Sorry Ron, I'll have to take a rain check, guild needs me.

**Ron:**

Alright, bro just don't say I never...(cutoff).

**Girlfriend:**

Come on Aaron, don't you want to spend *some* time with your friends?

**Aaron:**

I am spending time with my friends...

**Girlfriend:**

No, I mean *real* friends, not your happy little elf buddies.

**Aaron:**

(glares) Yeah, well at least some people are happy, later Ron. (puts on headphones). Hey guys, I'm back.

**Teamspeak 2:**

Took you long enough, having fun with your girlfriend, wink wink.

**Aaron:**

Yeah, she was just whispering sweet nothings in my ear.

**Teamspeak 2:**

I never will understand what women find so attractive about Dwarves...

**Teamspeak:**

Alright, enough...we're pulling a boss next. Melor, I have you healing me, and we're gonna have Radix healing Tala. That okay with you?

**Aaron:**

That's fine.

**Teamspeak:**

Alright, incoming in about 2 minutes, look alive.

**Aaron:**

Sorry about earlier, I've been distracted....

**Teamspeak:**

No problem, I know you can't resist a nice shiny object.

**Girlfriend:**

Aaron...Aaron.

**Aaron:**

What?

**Girlfriend:**

I'm bored.

**Aaron:**

(*losing patience*) Then why are you still here?

**Girlfriend:**

Because I never get to talk to you anymore, and I thought maybe if I sat here long enough, you'd turn around at some point.

**Aaron:**

Oh, I see you're interested in conversation now.

**Girlfriend:**

Look, I'm sorry I said your friends weren't real, I'm sure they're perfectly fine people, but what about me? Aren't we real?

**Aaron:**

I know I *really* screwed up a couple of exams today and you didn't seem to care.

**Girlfriend:**

I do care, I just...do you remember when we first started dating, before this game or anything came between us?

**Aaron:**

I'm not sure I do.

**Girlfriend:**

We used to do stuff together, go out with friends. Now the only "out" I'm going is out of my mind.

**Aaron:**

Yeah, we went out, with your friends, to your places, while I sat there smiling and wondering who all those people were.

**Girlfriend:**

And what exactly is your place, WoW?

**Aaron:**

I invited you to DnD, to art museums, and to that play I saw alone last weekend. You didn't want to go. And yes WoW is one of my places.

**Girlfriend:**

That isn't a place Aaron, that's a game.

**Aaron:**

Is that what you think? We fight because I spend too much time in front of a glorified minesweeper?

**Girlfriend:**

I think if you put as much time into me as you did this game. As much time as a normal person puts into their *significant* other, then we'd both be happier.

**Aaron:**

I try my best okay, we try.

**Girlfriend:**

I know *I* try, but you said you would cut back.

**Aaron:**

I'm not any more occupied with this than you are with visiting friends and clubs and stuff.

**Girlfriend:**

That's different Aaron, you can't be addicted to...Look, if you want be with me then look at me. I just want a bit more attention than a game (*with distaste*). Is that okay?

**Aaron:**

Yeah, I guess.

**Girlfriend:**

You guess? Show me you mean it.

**Aaron:**

What? I have a raid right now. We'll plan something for tomorrow, just me and you okay? These guys need me right now.

**Girlfriend:**

I need you Aaron, and I don't share well.

**Aaron:**

It'll be like 15, or 10 minutes more. We'll hang out just like what you remember.

**Girlfriend:**

Do you remember this? (*shoulder massaging like gesture*)

**Teamspeak:**

Incoming in 10.

**Girlfriend:**

Come on Aaron, leave that silly game to itself, it'll be fine. (*moves to sit upright on bed*).

**Teamspeak:**

Alright, here he comes, everyone focus and stay strong.

**Girlfriend:**

I'm over here Aaron. (*Aaron moves toward the bed to sit next to her*).

**Teamspeak:**

Melor, are you there?

*(5 second pause, lights dim on Aaron and GF).*

**Teamspeak 2:**

Shit. I'm dead guys. I had my party up until the boss reamed me with his axe. Guess that's a wipe.

**Teamspeak:**

What happened to Melor?

**Teamspeak 2:**

I dunno, I think he got disconnected.

*(Lights down on all, up on narrator).*

**Narrator:**

*(Sober)*The complete and total noob's guide to World of Warcraft, Part Two.

**Narrator:**

Definitions: Wipe, the unfortunate subjugation of the will of the players to the will of the mob. Frequently results from a collapse of communication or not understanding one's role in the encounter. As a player, remember to talk to the guild if you are confused and to evaluate the choices you made. Do you understand the role of your class, what will you do next time?