

Short Sketch

***"I Know Sh\*t About Trees"***

by  
Rudi Anna

Rudi Anna  
C. 617-894-3056  
rudianna28@hotmail.com

WGA Registered - 2015

NOTE: FOR NETWORK TV, USE OF THE WORD 'SHIT' WOULD BE BLEEP  
CENSORED

EXT. A CITY PARK - DAY

A fall day. Overcast skies.

Strolling through the park this day is DOM DOMINICI. He wears a trenchcoat, flannel shirt, Doc Martins and a gloomy face.

We hear ELECTRIC GUITAR in the background.

A TITLE CARD TRANSITION WIPES ACROSS: ***I Know Sh\*t About Trees***

Dom passes a PINE TREE and stops. He takes in the tree before turning to the camera. We QUICK ZOOM to a MS of Dom.

DOM  
... Conifer.

FLASH CUT TO DOM IN FRONT OF ANOTHER TREE

DOM (cont'd)  
Red Maple.

SWISH PAN TO DOM IN FRONT OF ANOTHER TREE

DOM (cont'd)  
Sassafrass.

Dom looks right at the camera for a beat.

DOM (cont'd)  
I'm Dom. I know shit about trees.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER SECTION IN THE PARK - LATER

Dom walks along. He passes another TREE and we ZOOM again. Dom reaches out to touch a leaf.

DOM  
Deciduous.

Dom sighs. Looks at the camera.

DOM (cont'd)  
Deciduous means tending to fall off  
or falling away after its purpose  
is finished. Just like our  
relationship, right Tina?

CAMERA PANS TO:

TINA, a cute, nerdy girl with a clipboard, smoking a cigarette. She rolls her eyes and mouths "Stop it!"

CAMERA PANS BACK TO DOM

A beat. Finally, Dom walks away.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER SECTION IN THE PARK - LATER

Dom walks along. He caresses the bark of another TREE.

DOM (cont'd)  
The beech is a shade tolerant variety. It favors shade more than any other species. Good news for you, Darnell... You know what I'm talking about.

DARNELL (O.C.)  
(behind the camera)  
What the hell is that supposed to mean, Dom?

DOM  
(to Darnell)  
Just keep shooting.

Dom sighs.

DOM (cont'd)  
... The Beech is also known for its low branches.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER SECTION IN THE PARK

A MOTHER AND DAUGHTER look at a BUSH.

DAUGHTER  
What kind of tree is that?

MOTHER  
I don't k--

Dom walks over, smoking a CIGARETTE and interrupts, pushing the Mother aside.

DOM  
 It's not a tree. It's a bushy shrub  
 called the chokecherry. And there's  
 a difference.  
 (to camera)  
 I'm Dom... I know shit about trees.

The Mother's completely offended. Dom offers the Daughter a hand to shake, but she doesn't take it. He offers the Mother, but she doesn't take it either.

A beat. Dom offers the Daughter a cigarette. She doesn't want one. Dom throws one at her anyway. It bounces off her coat and falls to the ground.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER SECTION IN THE PARK

Dom stands by a TREE. Arms crossed.

DOM (cont'd)  
 Similar to that of the black birch,  
 the brown birch is usually much  
 wider in proportion to its length.

Dom looks down at his crotch. Then back at the camera. He smirks and nods.

TINA (O.C.)  
 You're a weirdo, Dom.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER SECTION IN THE PARK

Dom sits next to a TREE before a small creek.

DOM  
 Balsam Fir. The wood is light,  
 soft, pale brown in color and not  
 durable. Just like my friend  
 Darnell when the police ask him  
 questions.  
 (at camera)  
 ... Darnell, you're an assho--

CAMERA CUTS OFF

CUT TO:

ANOTHER SECTION OF THE PARK

The same Mother and Daughter from before sitting on a PARK BENCH. The Daughter sees Dom approaching them.

The Daughter and alerts her mom. When they both look at Dom, he freezes. Then they look at each other, so Dom continues walking towards them. Then they look at Dom again, so he freezes again. They're a little freaked out and leave. Dom walks to the bench and sits.

DOM (cont'd)  
(to camera)  
... I thought we were playing red  
light, green light.

Dom sighs.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER SECTION OF THE PARK

Dom stands in a CLUSTER OF TREES.

DOM (cont'd)  
Thanks for catching the show. You  
probably still don't know as much  
as me, but now you know a lot more  
about trees.

We QUICK ZOOM into a CU of Dom.

DOM (cont'd)  
I'm Dom... And I know the shit  
about trees.

Dom turns and walks away. He releases a BIRD from his trenchcoat. The bird starts to fly away, but one of its wings is injured, so it crashes to the ground a few feet away from Dom. It struggles on the grass as Dom walks away.

The ELECTRIC GUITAR plays in the background.

END

NOTE: FOR NETWORK TV, USE OF THE WORD 'SHIT' WOULD BE BLEEP  
CENSORED

EXT. A CITY PARK - DAY

A fall day. Overcast skies.

Strolling through the park this day is DOM DOMINICI(20s). He wears a trenchcoat, flannel shirt, hair in a ponytail, Doc Martins and a gloomy face.

We hear ELECTRIC GUITAR in the background.

A TITLE CARD TRANSITION WIPES ACROSS: ***I Know Sh\*t About Trees***

Dom passes a PINE TREE and stops. He takes in the tree before turning to the camera. We QUICK ZOOM to a MS of Dom.

DOM  
... Conifer.

FLASH CUT TO DOM IN FRONT OF ANOTHER TREE

DOM (cont'd)  
Red Maple.

SWISH PAN TO DOM IN FRONT OF ANOTHER TREE

DOM (cont'd)  
Sassafrass.

Dom looks right at the camera for a beat.

DOM (cont'd)  
I'm Dom. I know shit about trees.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER SECTION IN THE PARK - LATER

Dom walks along. He passes another TREE and we ZOOM again. Dom reaches out to touch a leaf.

DOM  
Deciduous.

Dom sighs. Looks at the camera.

DOM (cont'd)  
 Deciduous means tending to fall off  
 or falling away after its purpose  
 is finished. Just like our  
 relationship, right Tina?

CAMERA PANS TO:

TINA, a cute, nerdy girl with a clipboard, smoking a  
 cigarette. She rolls her eyes and mouths "Stop it!"

CAMERA PANS BACK TO DOM

A beat. Finally, Dom walks away.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER SECTION IN THE PARK - LATER

Dom walks along. He caresses the bark of another TREE.

DOM (cont'd)  
 The beech is a shade tolerant  
 variety. It favors shade more than  
 any other species. Good news for  
 you, Darnell... You know what I'm  
 talking about.

DARNELL (O.C.)  
 (behind the camera)  
 What the hell is that supposed to  
 mean, Dom?

DOM  
 (to Darnell)  
 Just keep shooting.

Dom sighs.

DOM (cont'd)  
 ... The Beech is also known for its  
 low branches.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER SECTION IN THE PARK

A MOTHER AND DAUGHTER look at a BUSH.

DAUGHTER  
 What kind of tree is that?

MOTHER  
 I don't k--

Dom walks over, smoking a CIGARETTE and interrupts, pushing the Mother aside.

DOM  
It's not a tree. It's a bushy shrub  
called the chokecherry. And there's  
a difference.  
(to camera)  
I'm Dom... I know shit about trees.

The Mother's completely offended. Dom offers the Daughter a hand to shake, but she doesn't take it. He offers the Mother, but she doesn't take it either.

A beat. Dom offers the Daughter a cigarette. She doesn't want one. Dom throws one at her anyway. It bounces off her coat and falls to the ground.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER SECTION IN THE PARK

Dom stands by a TREE. Arms crossed.

DOM (cont'd)  
Similar to that of the black birch,  
the brown birch is usually much  
wider in proportion to its length.

Dom looks down at his crotch. Then back at the camera. He smirks and nods.

TINA (O.C.)  
You're a weirdo, Dom.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER SECTION IN THE PARK

Dom sits next to a TREE before a small creek.

DOM  
Balsam Fir. The wood is light,  
soft, pale brown in color and not  
durable. Just like my friend  
Darnell when the police ask him  
questions.  
(at camera)  
... Darnell, you're an assho--

CAMERA CUTS OFF

CUT TO:



## ANOTHER SECTION OF THE PARK

The same Mother and Daughter from before sitting on a PARK BENCH. The Daughter sees Dom approaching them.

The Daughter and alerts her mom. When they both look at Dom, he freezes. Then they look at each other, so Dom continues walking towards them. Then they look at Dom again, so he freezes again. They're a little freaked out and leave. Dom walks to the bench and sits.

DOM (cont'd)  
(to camera)  
... I thought we were playing red  
light, green light.

Dom sighs.

CUT TO:

## ANOTHER SECTION OF THE PARK

Dom stands in a CLUSTER OF TREES.

DOM (cont'd)  
Thanks for catching the show. You  
probably still don't know as much  
as me, but now you know a lot more  
about trees.

We QUICK ZOOM into a CU of Dom.

DOM (cont'd)  
I'm Dom... And I know the shit  
about trees.

Dom turns and walks away. He releases a BIRD from his trenchcoat. The bird starts to fly away, but one of its wings is injured, so it crashes to the ground a few feet away from Dom. It struggles on the grass as Dom walks away.

The ELECTRIC GUITAR plays in the background.

END