

**MONSTER DATING GAME**

Written by:  
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*Monster Dating Game is our Editor's Choice for Lore.*

INT. GAME SHOW STUDIO - AFTERNOON

Game show music starts playing as lights come up. Music fades. Everyone on stage is clapping. DAVE (a ghost with a sheet over his head), VLAD (a vampire with a thick european accent), and JEFF (a werewolf who can't stop moving) are sitting in three chairs on one side of a large curtain. On the other side is a young woman named JENNIFER. All are holding microphones. JOHNY STARLIGHT, the host, jogs on stage with a long skinny microphone. He has a bright smile on his face.

JOHNY STARLIGHT

Ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to The Dating Game!

There is a long pause. Johnny coughs at the audience.

JOHNY STARLIGHT

Where's that enthusiasm, folks?

He gestures to the audience. The audience begins to clap.

JOHNY STARLIGHT

There we go.

He gestures for the audience to stop clapping.

JOHNY STARLIGHT

Alright. Well, you all surely know me. I'm your host, Johnny Starlight. Tonight's episode has a little bit of a twist, but I'll let you figure that out for yourselves.

(forced chuckle)

Let's meet tonight's lucky lady.

He walks over Jennifer.

JOHNY STARLIGHT

Tell us your name and a little bit about yourself.

JENNIFER

Hi. I'm Jennifer. I'm from the valley. I really like guys who are strong and muscular and strong. Just kinda like a bad boy, ya know?  
(laughs)

Johnny looks at her as if he was expecting her to say more. Jennifer starts to twirl her hair.

JOHNY STARLIGHT

Okay... moving on to our fellas. Starting with contestant number one.

He walks over to the monster on the other side of the curtain.

DAVE

Hi. I'm Dave. I'm an alcoholic. I'm three months sober except for the weekends.  
(laugh that turns into a sad sigh)

JOHNY STARLIGHT

(blank stare)  
Alright, um. Contestant number two.

VLAD

Hello. I am Vlad. I know 47 languages and I have definitely never killed a person.

JOHNY STARLIGHT

Oh. That's not suspicious at all. And you?

JEFF

What?

JOHNY STARLIGHT

What's your name?

JEFF

Oh. I'm Jeff.  
(smiles)

JOHNY STARLIGHT

That's it? Just Jeff?

JEFF

Yeah.  
(larger smile)

JOHNY STARLIGHT

(endearing chuckle)  
Alright, now give it up for our contestants!

Johny gestures to the audience again to clap.

JOHNY STARLIGHT

You know how this works, folks. Our lady over there is going to ask our three gentlemen three questions which they will all answer. Then each of our gentlemen will ask her a question. Alright then Jennifer, your first question please.

JENNIFER

Alright my first question is 'what are some of your hobbies?'

JOHNY STARLIGHT

Let's start with you, Vlad.

VLAD

I quite like to play instruments in my free Time.

JENNIFER

Ooo, like what? Guitar?

VLAD

The harpsichord and the Blackpool High Tide Organ. In that order specifically.

He raises his eyebrows and grins.

JOHNY STARLIGHT

Ah, okay.

JEFF

Ooo. Ooo me, me, me. Me next! Me next!

He raises his hand and waves it around.

JOHNY STARLIGHT

Alright Jeff. You can go next.

JEFF

I like going on walks and umm and I like food and I like eating people and ooo! I like playing with my tennis ball.

(smiles)

JOHNY STARLIGHT

(stunned)

What was that third one?

JEFF

Eating people?

JOHNY STARLIGHT

Yup. Just wanted to make sure I heard you right. Dave?

DAVE

I like making my feelings go away-

JOHNY STARLIGHT

Okay! What's that next question you got there,

Jennifer?

JENNIFER

Well, my next question is 'what is your favorite decade?' Mine is the 60's because everything was just better back then.

JOHNY STARLIGHT

You know the civil rights movement was happening in the 60's, right?

JENNIFER

What's that?

JOHNY STARLIGHT

Wow. I'm not even going to try to explain that to you right now. Anybody got an answer to that Question?

*(These next few lines are said in rapid succession)*

VLAD

1867.

DAVE

The 90's because my dad was still around.

JEFF

What's a decade?  
(pants like a dog)

Johnny sighs dramatically and shakes his head.

JOHNY STARLIGHT

Okay? Let's move on to Jennifer's last question

JENNIFER

So my last question is 'What is your favorite beverage?'

JEFF

I like water.

VLAD

Blood.

DAVE

I'll have a martini if you're asking.

Game show music starts again.

DAVE (CONT.)

So no martini?

JOHNY STARLIGHT

And now we're back!

(fake laugh)

Our next part of this episode gives our lovely gentlemen the chance to ask Jennifer a question of their very own. Why don't we start with you Dave?

DAVE

Alright... Ugh I don't really know how to ask this, but how do you feel about being transparent?

JENNIFER

(waving Johnny over) What does transparenting mean?

Johnny shakes his head in annoyance.

JOHNY STARLIGHT

Moving on. Vlad, your question?

VLAD

So... what is your type? Your blood type?

JOHNY STARLIGHT

Jennifer, you don't have to answer that.

JENNIFER

No! Haha! I'll answer. It's red, silly.  
Just like everyone else.

Everyone turns to face her while she continues to twirl her hair.

JENNIFER (CONT'D)

What?

VLAD

I would like to make it known that the dog is pissing on the floor.

Jeff is standing near his chair with one leg up while panting.

JOHNY STARLIGHT

Jeff! Jeff no! Bad dog! Jeff!

(whistles)

Jeff, sit! Sit down. Alright now ask your question.

JEFF

Oh ah. Ooo, do you like going on walks and going outside

And going to the beach and, and, and do you-

JOHNY STARLIGHT

Alright Jeff, let her answer.

JENNIFER

O. M. G!!! I love going on walks on the beach. My last boyfriend tried proposing on the beach but golden hour had already passed at that point so my instagram pictures wouldn't have turned out good, so I had to say no of course. Then this random guy asked me to be on this show and yeah.



JOHNY STARLIGHT

You broke up with someone because it was at the wrong time of day?

JENNIFER

Well not only that. He also got me a gold ring even when he knew I only wear silver.

(crying)

JEFF

Silver? SILVER!?! No, no, no! No silver!

Jeff begins to panic and run around. Johnny and Vlad try to calm him down. Dave also gets up.

VLAD

Jeff, I think you're overreacting.

JEFF

Overreacting? *Overreacting?* I'll show you overreacting.

Jeff charges at Vlad, causing him to scream like a little girl and run the other way. Dave takes out a flask and takes a swig.

DAVE

(looking at the flask) I deserve this.

Jeff continues to chase Vlad around the studio. Johnny tries to break up the fight but Vlad pulls out a bat from under his cape and swings for Jeff, but hits Johnny. Johnny falls and doesn't get back up, not even a small twitch. Everyone stops. Vlad and Jeff look at each other then run in opposite directions as fast as they can. Jeff stops before he can get off stage

JEFF

Oh, a bat! I get it because he is a vampire.

Jeff continues to run off stage, while screaming. Dave stumbles while getting out of his chair. He walks to downstage center.

DAVE

Alright everybody, see you next Tuesday at the meeting. Ha Ha.

Dave curtsies then passes out. Game show music play, lights fall.

END



*Concert by Mia Van Kirk*