

RIDE SHARE: The Series

Ep.1 - Call me Keith

by

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RIDE SHARE WEB SERIES - EP.1

PREVIOUSLY ON...

NARRATOR

(previously on)

We meet Keith. We meet Denny. Nicole, Alex, and Richard.

KEITH

Call me Keith.

(beat)

It's not the name I was born with, but that's okay. It's too early in our relationship to really open up to each other in that way.

(beat)

I'm going to assume you've taken a Ride Share before, or maybe you even were a driver yourself in a gig economy: transporting people, packages or food from one place to another. Drivers pick up strangers and the passenger gets into the backseat of a strangers car.

NOTE: New actor playing Richard. We will re-record from Episode #0

RICHARD

Let me just turn the alarm off.

SOUND: House alarm is keyed off and Richard and Kieth wander in.

KEITH

Wow. Look at this place. You have great taste in furnishing. The paintings. All these really nice ornaments.

RICHARD

Thanks. Other than the stuff that you want to be "old", everything is top shelf and brand new. I was seeing this girl until a couple of weeks ago. She's an interior designer. I wanted to break up with her, but I had to wait until she finished the job.

KEITH

Oohhh... sounds uncomfortable.

RICHARD

(shrugs)

Not to bad. I had all the work done for next to nothing.

KEITH

When did you break up with her?

RICHARD

(grin)

24 hours after she finished, I didn't want to seem like a total ass, so I took her out one last time and treated her to a night in the new bed she had ordered for me.

KEITH

You conned her pretty good, huh?

RICHARD

We both got something out of the relationship.

(beat)

Speaking of which the beautiful bathroom Lydia designed is the first door on the right. I think it's got heated seats if you need a little time in there.

KEITH

Just need a minute. I really appreciate it, Richard.

SOUND: Keith walks over to the bathroom and heads in and shuts the door and covertly takes stock of the decor.

KEITH (CONT'D)

(mocking laugh)

Made in China. Ahhh so this is how they snuck the virus in.

SOUND: Keith closes the bathroom door and walks out back to Richard.

RICHARD

Find everything all right?

KEITH

Heated toilet seats in the guest bathroom, nice.

RICHARD

Yeah. I hadn't even realize she had them installed.

KEITH

She really took care of you, huh?

RICHARD

Too much. Lydia tried to take control over everything in my life. - But, she found the wrong guy.

KEITH

All right, Richard. I guess I'm going to get back to work. Although I highly doubt I'll pick up anyone as interesting as you.

RICHARD

(beat)

I'm thinking about having a sit with a Cuban Cohiba Esplendido cigar and a taste of fine brandy.

KEITH

You sure know how to live, Richard.

RICHARD

Why don't you join me? I'd love to hear some crazy Ride Share stories. You've probably had some real whack jobs in your car, huh?

KEITH

(quick laugh)

I have stories you wouldn't believe.

RICHARD

Come on. Follow me to the den.

KEITH

You don't have to tell me twice.

INT. CIGAR DEN

MUSIC: Sophisticated piano.

SOUND: Keith and Richard are in the cigar den. LAUGHING while puffing on cigars and drinking brandy. Keith relaxes back into his leather chair.

KEITH (CONT'D)

I got to tell you, Richard, your living the life.

RICHARD

I worked hard getting to where I am.

(beat)

How's that cigar treating you?

KEITH

(puff)

Great. Best I ever had!

RICHARD

(laughs)

I'll give you a few for the road.

KEITH

Really? Best tip ever. Thanks, Richard.

RICHARD

So what's your dream, Denny? I'm guessing it's not to be a Ride Share driver your whole life.

KEITH

Of course I'm not to be doing this forever; I'm taking night courses to be an architect. In the meantime driving's not a bad lifestyle. People are interesting.

RICHARD

I'm so curious to hear.

KEITH

Yeah... my last trip, I picked up a couple that was completely wasted. The chick tried to read my palm, and then they tried to get them to drive them to Vegas.

RICHARD

What's wrong with that? You could have made some good money on the faire.

KEITH

They wanted me to party in Vegas with them.

RICHARD

(laughs)

Ahh... so why didn't you? You don't like Vegas?

KEITH

I don't like the odds. I work too hard for my money to donate it to a rigged casino system.

RICHARD

Wise man. In my business I always try to get as close to a sure thing as possible.  
(sly laugh)  
I like to be the one doing the rigging.

PAUSE

KEITH

Man, I just can't get over this house. Do you know who the architect was?

RICHARD

I don't remember. Somebody famous.

KEITH

Yeah, definitely. Amazing craftsmanship.

RICHARD

(beat)  
Do you want a house tour?

KEITH

(awe)  
Really? That would be awesome.

SOUND: Richard stands up. Keith stands and walks over the hardwood floors.

RICHARD

Follow me. Oh and you can put your cigar down, Denny. No one is going to steal it.

(beat)  
Ok... so, here is the kitchen. All the appliances are top of the line.

KEITH

Nice.

RICHARD

I don't cook, but I do love having all those different flavored coffee pods.

SOUND: Walking from kitchen to dining room.

RICHARD (CONT'D)

Dining room. Table for six, with plenty of room to comfortably extend for twelve.

KEITH

Whoahh the stuff in these showcases are so cool. - And this vase...

RICHARD

Yeah, the ex-girlfriend was annoying , but talented. I don't know what's an antique... or what's some new piece from a noted artist, either way it looks good.

KEITH

Sure does.

RICHARD

Now here is the one room I designed and decorated myself. - Welcome to my game room: Play station, x-box, Darts, pool table, Foosball, and of course-

KEITH

Holey shit, Richard! I remember this Space Agent pinball machine from when I was a kid.

RICHARD

Go ahead. Try it out.

KEITH

Don't have to ask me twice.

SOUND: Keith pulls the knob shooter and launches a ball into play, bouncing off the bumpers, a variety of scoring bells chime. Through the speakers Peggy Monday and Space Agent spout a few lines (Note: From "Space Agent" Ep.4 of Digital Sky season 1)

RICHARD

Come on, man. I'll show you the best room in the house.

KEITH

(nervous)

Uhh... I really should be on my way...

RICHARD

I'm not going to show you the bedroom for fuck's sake. You're a handsome guy, Denny. But you have the wrong equipment for my tastes.

KEITH

Sorry. I didn't mean...

(beat)

(MORE)

KEITH (CONT'D)

Let's check out the "best room" in the house.

RICHARD

(sly)

Come on, Denny, I'm going to show you my "weapons room".

INT. WEAPONS ROOM

MUSIC - Zen music.

KEITH

Whoaaahhh... Richard, When you said weapons room, I assumed you meant guns.

RICHARD

Naa. I own a gun, but I'm not a gun guy. These Asian weapons are far more intriguing I think.

KEITH

Check out your collection of throwing stars! Are these things even legal?

RICHARD

You can buy and own them. You just can't carry them unconcealed. If you want to talk illegal weapons then we move to this section over here.

SOUND: Nunchucks being lifted and swung.

KEITH

Nunchucks. Do you know how to use them?

SOUND: The nunchucks are whipped around as if handled by an experienced master.

RICHARD

Does that answer your questions?

KEITH

(blown away)

Wow. Just wow, Richard.

RICHARD

Illegal in most states, including California.

KEITH

Do they hurt?



SOUND: Richard swings the stick gently and hits Keith on the arm.

RICHARD  
Did that hurt?

KEITH  
Aww man... what the hell!?

RICHARD  
Sorry. I only tapped you.

KEITH  
Yeah. No big deal. You just surprised me.  
You can go a little harder.

RICHARD  
No. I'm not going to really hurt you.

KEITH  
Go ahead. Give me a decent shot. I want  
to know what it feels like.

RICHARD  
(sigh)  
Okay.

SOUND: Richard whips the chucks around. And this time hits Keith a bit harder.

KEITH  
Owww... fuck!

RICHARD  
Sorry, Denny. You asked me to do it.

KEITH  
(beat)  
Is that all you got?

RICHARD  
Seriously? You know how much that hurt  
and I was only going about ten percent  
strength.

SOUND: Keith slapping his arm two times.

KEITH  
Go for the other arm. And don't hold back  
this time.

RICHARD  
Naa. That all the pain I'm going to  
inflict for tonight.

KEITH

(beat)

Can I try it?

SOUND: Richard is placing the nunchucks into it's case.

RICHARD

I don't think so. I like you Denny, but I'm not crazy enough to let my Ride Share driver play with a dangerous weapon it takes years to master.

PAUSE

KEITH

Swinging it around like your a member of the Cirque du Soleil Bruce Lee show is a long way from being a master.

RICHARD

(stunned)

Excuse me?

KEITH

This house and all this stuff is just a cover up the fact that you are massively insecure man. Don't you think?

RICHARD

(seething)

All right. Tours over. Time for you to go.

KEITH

I didn't mean to piss you off, Rich. It's just that seeing everything you have here. Fanciest house, best cigars etc. Is it all real? Or are you just an insecure phoney trying to show off?

RICHARD

I assure you my bank account is very real. I'm even going to tip you a hundred dollars, as a fuck you very much.

SOUND: Keith slaps his own arm.

KEITH

Show me you have the guts to really use those things.

RICHARD

Fine. I'll give you one solid shot and then we're done!

(MORE)

RICHARD (CONT'D)

And then you can take your broken arm and get the hell out of my house!

KEITH

My arm!? That's kid stuff. I'm not leaving till you give me a solid hit... in the head.

RICHARD

Sure. But I like where I live. I'm not going to jail for murder.

KEITH

Don't worry. I got a hard head.  
(beat)  
Come on pussy! Hit me!!!

SOUND: Richard growls with frustration. Swings the chucks several time to gain momentum. The chain rattles tight as he swings toward Keith's head.

KEITH (CONT'D)

Do it!

SOUND: FWWWUMMP Keith catches the formidable stick in his hand and yanks the weapon out of Richards hands. Richard grunts as Kieth yanks the weapon out of his hand.

KEITH (CONT'D)

I asked you nicely if I could try them. I figured I should probably catch it if I wanted to save my IQ.

SOUND and MUSIC: Keith hums the tune of the Civil war Northern Calvary song, while whipping around the nunchucks crazy fast and to the beat.

RICHARD

Can I have them back please?

KEITH

No. I'm going to hold onto them so you don't try and stop me from stealing your stuff.

RICHARD

You know I have an incredible alarm system?

KEITH

Yeah. I watched you turn it off.

RICHARD

There are several other alarm triggers and video camera installed throughout the house.

KEITH

I know. I disabled them when we went on a tour. You were so busy showing off you didn't even notice.

SOUND: Keith taking his empty backpack off his shoulder and opens it up.

RICHARD

What are you doing now?

KEITH

I like to travel light, Richard - so you keep the heated toilet seats... I only have room to steal a few choice items.

RICHARD

(sigh)

Let me just pay you off, Denny. It will be much easier then trying to hock a bunch of things to a pawn shop for a fraction of it's worth.

(beat)

I can wire you 10k right now and we both come out ahead.

KEITH

I don't really do this for the money. So, Richard, would you mind touring me over to the most valuable stuff?

RICHARD

You just said you don't care how much something is worth.

KEITH

Yeah. But it matters to you.

RICHARD

Fuck you, ride share driver.

SOUND: Doorbell rings.

KEITH

Expecting someone.

RICHARD

Probably the police. I had one more alarm you didn't deactivate.

(MORE)

RICHARD (CONT'D)

You should get out of here now. I'll take you out the back door and I'll even cover for you.

SOUND: The buzzer get's more and more constant.

KEITH

Where's the closest front door monitor?

(beat)

Oh, here we go.

(beat)

Not the police Richard. Worse! It an incredibly pissed off woman.

SOUND: A throwing star whizzes past Keith's head and breaks the monitor. Richard grunt as he throws another toward Keith. Keith swings the chucks and bats it away. He moves toward Richard and pushes him over the back of the couch.

KEITH (CONT'D)

Stop, Richard! I don't want to be forced to spray your brains all over your weapons room. It's not fair to the person who has to clean up.

SOUND: Keith pushes Richard outside the door.

KEITH (CONT'D)

Come on. Let's answer the door together.

SOUND: The Buzzer continues to Buzz and now we can hear the voice of LYDIA for the first time.

LYDIA

(screaming)

Richard, what the fuuuuccck! When do you get the all the locks changed? I know you're in there.

SOUND: Kieth pulls Richard downstairs with him toward the door.

KEITH

Seriously tho, Richard.

RICHARD

What!?

KEITH

The original molding on this stair banister is really stunning.

RICHARD  
Ummm thanks. I had a good broker.

SOUND: Door knocking gets louder. Keith opens the door.

KEITH  
Hi.

LYDIA  
Who the hell are you!?

KEITH  
Not sure.  
(beat)  
You can Call me Keith.

LYDIA  
And why are you holding those giant chopsticks, Keith?

KEITH  
Oh, sorry. Richard was just showing me how to use them.

LYDIA  
Is this what you're into now, Richard?

KEITH  
You must be Lydia! So, nice to meet you. I'm a big fan of your work.

LYDIA  
(confused)  
Who is he, Richard?

RICHARD  
Denny is my ride share driver. When he was dropping me off he saw how wealthy I was and decided to rob my house.

LYDIA  
(beat)  
Should I tell him where all the really valuable items are?

RICHARD  
This is why I broke up with you.

LYDIA  
No. You broke up with me because I finished decorating your house.

KEITH

(claps)

Ohhh relationship drama. To the den! This looks like a job for fine cigars and expensive brandy.

LYDIA

(confused)

Seriously Richard, who is this guy!?

RICHARD

(sigh)

I told you, Lydia. This is my ride share driver. He also appears to be a very dangerous man who wants us to go into the den.

LYDIA

Bullshit! Put down the toy, Keith.

RICHARD

Who's Keith?

LYDIA

Him. Keith.

RICHARD

What? Your names not really Denny!?

KEITH

(amused)

Really, Richard. You're feelings are hurt because I didn't tell you my real name!?  
You have a warped set of values, bro.

SOUND: Lydia laughs. She walks over to Keith.

KEITH (CONT'D)

(laughing)

But let's not worry about that now. Lets just go to the den... and talk.

SOUND: Foot steps into the Den. Sound of picking up the brandy and pouring.

LYDIA

Come on. This is a joke, right?

SOUND: Keith sits in the leather chair.

KEITH

Oh cool. Just like you said Richard. My cigars is right where I left it.

LYDIA

I'm outta here man. And no one is going to stop me.

SOUND: CRASH of nunchucks smashing a humidor. Richard screams in shock.

KEITH

(cas)  
Um... Sorry.

LYDIA

No worries. That humidor was pretty cheap.

KEITH

Shut-up Lydia! I can't even stand the sound of your voice!

LYDIA

Is that why you broke my heart the next day after I finished decorating your... palace?

RICHARD

I didn't want it to get weird for us while we were still working together!

LYDIA

So instead you cheated on me with a steady flow of prostitutes!

RICHARD

Only one was a professional... escort, and how do you know what I've been doing!?

LYDIA

Your phone password is your birthday.

KEITH

(laughing hard)  
You really don't get the concept behind security do you, Richard?

LYDIA

He never even wanted to wear a condom.

RICHARD

Because I loved you.

LYDIA

Ewww...



KEITH

(loving it)

This is great stuff! Keep going guys.

LYDIA

The killer thief keeping us hostage wants us to go on.

KEITH

No. Lydia, if you want to leave it's fine. You didn't deserve to get pulled into this whole thing.

LYDIA

Ok great. I'll be off then...

KEITH

Sure. After your go I'll just be nunchuck Richard to death.

LYDIA

You wouldn't...

KEITH

Well, actually I planned on killing him after this whole thing anyway. Keep things nice and tidy as far as witnesses.  
(beat)

But if you stick around, Lydia I probably won't. Probably... I don't want to make any promises just yet.

LYDIA

So, I'm still trapped.

KEITH

From one perspective... sure. But you hate this guy. Why not just let me... Ya know... crack his skull like a coconut.

LYDIA

He deserves to be castrated, not murdered.

KEITH

Really? You think we should castrate him first?

RICHARD

(defeated)

Please just take whatever you want to and leave me alone.

KEITH

We're lucky to have your designer here to point out the really good stuff. Save us all a lot of time.

LYDIA

Sure.

RICHARD

What!?! You're going to help him rob me?

LYDIA

The sooner we get him out of here, the sooner we won't be being held as hostage by a killer with ninja sticks!

KEITH

I have an idea.

(beat)

Why don't you take these "ninja sticks" and give Richard a couple of hard shots for revenge.

RICHARD

Stop it, Denny! I know when I'm being fucked with. I fuck people over for a living.

SOUND: Keith extends the nunchucks.

LYDIA

Your going to just hand me those. What stops me from using them to knock you out?

KEITH

You can try, but it won't work. Ask Richard.

SOUND: Lydia take the chucks and sing it a little clumsily and then starts getting it.

LYDIA

Is this right?

RICHARD

Lydia, we were together for more than six months. Doesn't that mean anything to you. Can you please just help me!?

LYDIA

And you've been cheating on me for three of them.

KEITH

Even the score, Lydia. Not only was he cheating on you, but he was staying together with you to take advantage of months of your hard work and expertise... for free!

RICHARD

That's not why. I've been waiting for your final bill to pay you!

KEITH

See Lydia. He was going to pay you.

LYDIA

Bull shit, Richard! But don't sweat paying for my services. When I discovered you were cheating on me. I started buying some nice decorations for you from art fairs, Pottery Barn and good will, and them marked them up obscene amounts.

KEITH

You hustled me!

LYDIA

Yeah, well you stepped on my heart and tried to make a fool out of me.

SOUND: Keith picks up the precious egg from it's display setting.

KEITH

What about this shiny egg thing? It looks valuable.

LYDIA

He already had the faberge egg. His parents are filthy rich.

KEITH

Really!

RICHARD

Please, that egg has been in our family for generations.

KEITH

Really!? Now I want it even more! I'll just keep it as a souvenir of our time together.

LYDIA

(laughs)

You are pretty cold ride share driver.

KEITH

All right guys, here's how the plan lays out. Lydia points out all the actual good stuff. - Than I take care of you, Richard. I have to make sure nobody comes after me.

RICHARD

(defeated)

Please, um... Keith. I'm much better off not telling anyone about this myself. Nobody has to get hurt.

Richard starts to cry.

KEITH

It's okay to cry , Richard. You're in a really stressful situation.

RICHARD

Just let me go...

KEITH

So, first we lock Richard into the cigar den for a couple of days, then I drop an anonymous something to someone that can let you out of here!

RICHARD

You're not going to kill me?

KEITH

Not unless I have to. So, Lydia-

LYDIA

We've already agreed that I can leave safely.

RICHARD

Lydia!

LYDIA

Shut up Richard! I'm saving your life.

KEITH

So just to be clear... you DON'T want Richard dead?

LYDIA

No.

(beat)

That would be... messy.

KEITH

So here's the thing to consider, Lydia. I've never been caught. But if you want to be cute, make it hard on me, please consider, I know where Richard lives, and one day, I will comeback and kill him.

LYDIA

(beat)

You'll be fine for two days, Richard.

RICHARD

No I won't! I'll starve to death!

KEITH

What do you mean, Richard? You have all this expensive brandy to drink. Not too bad really...

RICHARD

(sigh)

I can already feel the hangover.

KEITH

Goodbye, Richard. It was really cool of you to let me come in to use the bathroom.

RICHARD

You're a fucking asshole, Keith!

KEITH

From your perspective I see how that could be true.

SOUND: The den door closes locking Richard in.

LYDIA

(casually)

Now what, Keith?

KEITH

(laughs)

I'm taking my haul and going back home. How about you?

LYDIA

I guess... I'll call a ride share driver.

KEITH  
Which way you going?

LATER - CAR

SOUND: Car on a highway.

SOUND: From inside the car, Keith is in the drivers seat,  
Lydia the passenger.

LYDIA  
You're not going to go back an do  
anything to him right?

KEITH  
He's an arrogant, misogynistic jack ass,  
but we put him through enough.  
(beat)  
Maybe, I'll even let him out early an e-  
mail the alarm company later tomorrow. I  
just need his wallet and identity for  
tonight.

LYDIA  
I guess he got what he deserved.

KEITH  
I know I did.

SOUND: Rattles the bag.

KEITH (CONT'D)  
Anything you want from the bag?

SOUND: Lydia searches through the bag.

LYDIA  
Can I have the faberse' egg?

KEITH  
Nice try.

LYDIA  
I have buyers who get a thrill out owning  
stolen treasures. Makes em feel like  
Indiana Jones. Let me take it and I'll  
turn it into cash for both of us.

LYDIA (CONT'D)  
So... what got you into this line of  
work?

KEITH  
Ride share driver?

LYDIA  
Come on. Seriously?

KEITH  
Started as a hobby, but then I started making more money and having more fun. So July 29, 2019 was the day I decided to give up the grind and do what makes me happy.

LYDIA  
A professional con-man thief.

KEITH  
Just like you.

LYDIA  
Oh yeah, how do you figure?

KEITH  
There is no way a woman like you has a love affair with that. Richard was punching way above his weight.

LYDIA  
I'm not so great.

KEITH  
Don't disagree. You were embezzling money from this guy for the last half year.

LYDIA  
Maybe it didn't start that way...

KEITH  
Oh yeah... So why did you stay after the first time you caught him?

LYDIA  
(sly)  
I wanted to finish decorating.

KEITH  
He wasn't your boyfriend. He was your mark.

(laughs)  
How much did you get him for?

LYDIA

Just over three hundred thousand dollars,  
I could have soaked him for more, but I  
like to stay under the radar.

KEITH

Why did you come over to Richard's  
tonight?

LYDIA

(beat)

The egg of course. But you got there  
first.

KEITH

Ahhh.

LYDIA

I knew he was out for the evening because  
I track his phone. I wanted to get back  
here before all the passwords were  
changed. And as you know Richard already  
changed the locks.

KEITH

(laughs)

So you were going to rob him!? Awww bad  
night for Richard!

LYDIA

Yup. Richard's karma finally caught up to  
him.

(beat)

You can drop me off on the corner coming  
up on the right.

Keith drives for several more seconds and then pulls  
over.

LYDIA (CONT'D)

I assume this ride is free.

KEITH

Did you use the app?

LYDIA

No.

KEITH

Then it's free.

SOUND: Passenger door opens.



LYDIA  
Till next our path's cross.

KEITH  
They won't.

LYDIA  
You never know-

KEITH  
I know. We won't. Have a good life,  
Lydia.

LYDIA  
You too, Keith. Try not to kill anyone.

SOUND: Passenger door closes and Keith pulls away.

KEITH  
(epilogue narration)

END