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B U D D Y

JASON BATEMAN IS Ryan Reynolds. **RYAN REYNOLDS** IS Jason
Lantern and Teen Wolf (Too) swap bodies, and lives. And Empire

S W A P

Bateman. In this month's The Change-Up, the former Green
asks them to do the same again for our weirdest interview ever...

FROM FREAKY FRIDAY TO BIG TO 17 AGAIN, BODY-SWAP COMEDIES HAVE ALWAYS BEEN WHOLESOME, LIFE-AFFIRMING AFFAIRS. THAT IS, UNTIL THE

Change-Up came along. The tale of a sex-mad bachelor (Ryan Reynolds) and a staid family man (Jason Bateman) who switch physical forms after drunkenly peeing in a magical fountain, it plunges the traditionally family-aimed sub-genre into hard-R territory. We're talking nine-months-pregnant nymphos, oddly shaped testicles and Olivia Wilde in a thong. And not a massive floor-piano in sight.

Empire couldn't resist: we gathered Reynolds and Bateman in a Beverly Hills hotel and asked them to swap bodies once more. So Bateman becomes Reynolds, and vice versa. Just like that film with Judge Reinhold, then.

The result is one of the more unusual interviews in **Empire's** history, and one that thoroughly confused the publicist who came in to wrap it up. Read on for the skinny on a new rival to Green Lantern and a surprising update on the Arrested Development movie...

So, how does it feel to be in each other's body?

FAKE JASON (AKA RYAN REYNOLDS): I like it. There's a lot of room to graze. A man should be alone with his thoughts all day. It's nice.
FAKE RYAN (AKA JASON BATEMAN): I feel like I no longer need to exercise as much as I have been. I usually have to put in about six miles a day, just to keep this crap together. And I stopped trying in 1991. I thought, "Fuck it" in '91.

Are there any surprises?

FAKE JASON: There are a lot of nipples. I mean, piercing all of these things must have taken a long, long time.
FAKE RYAN: It's nice to have my unit bend right for a change. That's nice. It's an odd feeling, but nice.
FAKE JASON: It's a perfect right angle down there.

Jason, we know you get asked this a lot, but what's the latest on the Arrested Development movie?

FAKE JASON: If one more person asks me about that, I'm honestly going to turn them into a liquid. I'm going to turn you into a liquid, I'm going to throw you into a cup, I'm going to sip you back and I'm going to piss you into a magic fountain.

So we shouldn't ask about the storyline?

FAKE JASON: Well, I am the only person who's had a good read of it. And by the way, I'll go on record right now to say it's incredible. It begins production next week and we're just going to go for it. We've got a three-picture deal — three Arrested Development films. We're really excited about that.

FAKE RYAN: You're going to shoot them back to back, like Lord Of The Rings?

FAKE JASON: Yeah, we're shooting in New Zealand actually.



Ryan, you were voted Sexiest Man Alive by People magazine. Why do you think that is?

FAKE RYAN: In a landslide too, that's what I understand. Why? Well, take a look at me.

FAKE JASON: The competition was you and a club foot.

FAKE RYAN: It was an honour. It was a pleasure. The photoshoot was warm. We did it at a farm just outside of Atlanta on one of the hotter days on the planet. But Jesus, I couldn't argue with the artwork. It was just beautiful.

FAKE JASON: No Photoshopping.

FAKE RYAN: None whatsoever.

Where do you think Jason placed?

FAKE RYAN: Just a tight 35th. It was close. Inside 50 but outside 30.

FAKE JASON: Real Jamaica in the old Winter Olympics, there.

Ryan, what kind of exercise regime do you need to do to maintain that body?

FAKE RYAN: It's not much. I just skip food.

FAKE JASON: Dinner's just a hot cup of water.

FAKE RYAN: A hot cup of water, yeah. No, it's all natural, man. I eat junk food all day and throw it up all night.

FAKE JASON: It's a lot of eating and puking.

Jason, what's your favourite thing about Ryan?

FAKE JASON: God, what's not to love about Ryan? I mean, he's got the gait of Charlton Heston and the man vomits poetry. The adventures and the misadventures — it's hard to distinguish between the two. He's got a memoir in the works, curiously called Blood & Alabaster. I don't know what that means, but I'm looking forward to reading it.

FAKE RYAN: My favourite thing about Jason is that he's alive. I wouldn't want to live without him being there. He's a gift to me and everyone he comes in contact with. (*To Fake Jason*) Thank you for keeping me alive, Jason.

FAKE JASON: You're welcome. I appreciate it.

Jason, another question you must get asked all the time: would you make another Teen Wolf movie?

FAKE JASON: I don't know if I'd make another. It seems like everyone else is making one for us. We have that adorable Teen Wolf saga on TV now.



FAKE RYAN: What about Teen Wolf 3 in 3D?

FAKE JASON: Oh, that's good. But no. You just never quite know where all that hair comes from that they're gluing onto you. It could all be Peruvian back hair.

What's your favourite quote from one of your movies?

FAKE JASON: I can't remember which film it's from, but the quote is, "Smell my finger... then smell my elbow." That was a powerful line of dialogue. Unfortunately I forget everything about my films as soon as I do them.

FAKE RYAN: I did enjoy reciting the Green Lantern oath, when the lamp-thing pulled it right out of my urethra. Who can forget those words: "Oh green one, take me from this place, I have seen too much." It made for a really powerful moment on screen.

FAKE JASON: You know, Ryan, because I'm so jealous of your Green Lantern success, I'm developing my own project: Beige Lightbulb. He's not an impressive superhero, but he gets things done.

Jason, you began your career at the age of 12, starring in Little House On The Prairie. What are your memories of that time?

FAKE JASON: A lot of coke. A lot of coke.

FAKE RYAN: Weird how it gets all the way to the



prairie. Must be a special wagon.

FAKE JASON: Wells Fargo, they weren't delivering money back then. It was straight white Florida snow. Yeah, yeah, real good stuff. Just getting all messed up with everybody out there. Oh man, those were the days.

Ryan, in the movie Buried you spent 90 minutes trapped in a coffin. How did you prepare for the role?

FAKE RYAN: I dated a heavy woman for a long time. One that preferred the top. And that got me into top shape.

Do you have nicknames for each other?

FAKE JASON: I call him Grey Squirrel.

FAKE RYAN: And I call him Hummer. Old Jason here just loves to hum. He says it's a method to make everything relax and unclench.

Finally, what do each of you think is your finest moment to date as an actor?

FAKE JASON: Well, there's no genre I can't do. If you look at my filmography, you'll see that there's a wide variety of dramas, action films, comedies. But an artist is always in pursuit, so my finest role is yet to come. I believe I'm still maturing in my craft. (*Starts to shout*) Because you know you're never satisfied. The moment an artist is satisfied is the moment you're dead!

FAKE RYAN: My hardest role to date has been pretending to understand the theory behind this question...

FAKE JASON: I can guess one of your lowest moments — when you woke up crying in that half-star motel in Butte, Montana, on Christmas Day.

FAKE RYAN: Yeah, that was a tough part.

FAKE JASON: When you're sitting down in the shower crying, you know it's bad when your asshole touches the floor of the shower...

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The Change-Up is out on September 16 and is reviewed on page 53.