

**“LAPTOP LIKE YOU”**

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Synopsis:

A girl almost loses her best friend, her laptop.

The Cast of Characters

<u>MAC:</u>	A laptop, wears a shirt with a computer logo, M/F
<u>ADA:</u>	A laptop owner, F
<u>DR. GENIUS:</u>	A computer repairman, wears a labcoat, M/F

Place

A bedroom, A hospital

Time

Present day

“Laptop Like You”

*A Bedroom.*

*(MAC and ADA are asleep together. MAC wakes up, and checks the time, and gets out of bed. MAC grabs a ukulele or guitar and starts to sing “Laptop Like You” by Jonathan Coulton. ADA slowly wakes up.)*

**MAC**

*HERE YOU ARE AT LAST  
TO BRING MY COLD LONELY SOUL SWEET RELEASE  
FROM MY WEARY PAST  
ALWAYS SEARCHING, THE ONE MISSING PIECE WAS YOU --*

**ADA**

Okay, okay, I’m up. You can stop.

*(ADA taps MAC. MAC stops singing and grabs a pile of envelopes.)*

**MAC**

Cool! Hey, while you were asleep, I picked up your mail. You’ve got all these messages! I sorted them by importance. Do you want to see them?

**ADA**

Sure.

*(ADA takes the envelopes.)*

Wow, this is a lot of spam...

**MAC**

No sweat, I’ve got you covered.

*(ADA gives back the letters and MAC inspects them. MAC chucks some of them into the trash, and hands ADA a letter.)*

**ADA**

Oh look! Jonathan’s having a birthday party! I’m going to RSVP! Right. Now.

*(MAC sits down on ADAs lap, hands ADA a pen, and holds up some paper.)*

Is this letter template different?

**MAC**

Yes, it's the new template. I changed it last night. I wanted to optimize your writing experience, so I went ahead and changed it for you.

**ADA**

Is there any way to change it back?

**MAC**

Nope!

**ADA**

Fine. Also, will you go back to that song? I like it when you play music.

*(ADA writes, as MAC hums "Laptop Like You." ADA hums along.)*

Done!

*(MAC stuffs the letter into an envelope and casually chucks it offstage.)*

**MAC**

Sent! Hey, look at this one. It's super shiny!

*(The envelope looks extravagant.)*

**ADA**

Woah!

**MAC**

It's from biggerpackage4u.ru!

**ADA**

I don't remember ordering anything from them, but it says I've earned all these benefits from shopping there and I can claim them if I just open the little package inside!

**MAC**

I wonder what's in it! Only one way to find out.

**ADA**

Open it!

**MAC**

It's... a chewed up pencil! And I don't know what this powder is.

*(It's anthrax.)*

**ADA**

Huh. You should put that in the trash.

*(MAC throws the contents out.)*

Hmmm, what do you think I should do today?

**MAC**

Well, I finished downloading the last season of "Star Trek, The Next Generation" and we --

*(MAC begins coughing.)*

**ADA**

What's up?

**MAC** *(coughing)*

I don't know... something funny about that... package... it's...

*(MAC collapses.)*

**ADA**

Hey, are you okay? Oh no, oh no, this can't be happening...

*(ADA leans down, checks MAC's pulse and presses MAC's neck repeatedly as if it were a powerswitch. MAC makes sad noises in response and then falls silent.)*

Come on, wake up! ARGG! Why won't you wake up?!

*(ADA carries an incapacitated MAC to DR. GENIUS.)*

**ADA**

Please help! I think my friend is really sick.

**DR. GENIUS**

Hmmm...

*(DR. GENIUS checks MAC's pulse. Nothing. DR. GENIUS picks up MAC's arm and drops it. It falls limp. DR. GENIUS pokes MAC in the forehead. Then again.)*

Looks dead. Might have to open him up.

**ADA**

Dead?! Do anything you can to save him!

**DR. GENIUS**

Okay, but it looks pretty bad.

**ADA**

Please. He's... really important to me... I... don't know what I'll do without him.

**DR. GENIUS**

I understand. We'll try our best. Come back tomorrow.

**ADA**

*(grabbing MAC's hand)*

I'll be back later, buddy... hang in there.

**DR. GENIUS**

Your friend... definitely can't hear you.

*(DR. GENIUS pulls MAC away. ADA returns to the bedroom, which is now empty of all props.)*

**ADA**

This room feels different without you here. I... don't know what to do now. I hope you get better. I hope they know how to help you. You even had "Next Generation" all fired up and ready to go. I'll watch it with you when you get back. If you come back... I wish... I wish I

could sit with you and read a book or go shopping with you. Maybe we could play solitaire or minesweeper! You were always much better than I was... I wish I could just hear you play our song one last time.

*(ADA looks around the room while starting to hum "Laptop like you." She lays down, huddled under the small blanket and stops humming.)*

Please be okay.

*(Lights go to black. Lights up, and ADA is back talking to DR. GENIUS.)*

**DR. GENIUS**

You're back so soon.

**ADA**

Is he better? Did you cure him? Can I see him? Is he... dead?

**DR. GENIUS**

Your friend's fine, just had a virus is all. We were able to get rid of it, but we noticed some memory issues. Want a new one? Insurance covers it.

**ADA**

No!

**DR. GENIUS**

Your loss.

*(MAC enters, still tired and shaken from the night. MAC and ADA embrace.)*

**ADA**

I'm so glad you're better! I hope you were okay last night.

**MAC**

I was okay, but a little scared... I woke up and you weren't here. I thought you abandoned me.

**ADA**

I would never abandon you. You mean too much to me. I missed you.

**MAC**

I missed you too. My schedule says you have a busy day tomorrow. Come on, let's go home.

*(They hold hands, walk back to the bedroom, and crawl into bed.)*

**ADA**

Ready to sleep?

**MAC**

I'm almost ready. I just need to close these folders first.

*(MAC physically closes folders. ADA gives MAC a kiss on the forehead.)*

**ADA**

I don't know what I would do, without a laptop like you.

*(They slowly doze off in the bed, together again.)*