Stinky Pete
"The Prospector"



"Your choice Woody. You can go to Japan together or in pieces. If he fixed ya once, he can fix ya again. NOW GET IN THE BOX!"

Toy Story 2:

Key: FSIQ, FSEQ, FSSQ, FSAQ, Psychology, Manip/Decep, Thinking/Reasoning, Strat/Planning, Misc, Context

Prior to the events of the film, Pete was an ownerless toy who, having never been bought, grew immensely bitter towards children as well as space toys which had taken over the cowboy

trend following the launch of sputnik. At some point, he was purchased by Al McWhiggin, the owner of the toy store “Al’s Toy Barn” who had started to collect merchandise from “Woody’s roundup” an old TV show starring Sheriff Woody that had been cancelled years ago due to wanting to sell the collection to a Japanese toy museum in Tokyo for “big buck buck bucks” as he puts it. Pete became close to Jessie and Bullseye, two other members of the roundup gang and the three waited for the day Al would find Woody so they could end up at the museum.



(part of Al’s collection)



(the old TV show, “Woody’s Roundup”)

Now, during the events of the film, Woody ends up stolen by Al McWhiggin who finds him after he successfully saves a toy from a yard sale, prompting him to steal the toy after unsuccessfully bartering for it. Woody is brought to Al's apartment and placed into a display case before Al leaves. At this point, Woody attempts to escape through the vents, which are screwed shut.

Here, Jessie and Bullseye appear, having opened the storage box they were kept in to greet Woody, fawning over him. Bullseye then brings "The Prospector" out to greet Woody too, as he's "mint in the box" he requires aid to move around (note that this means he's hidden his
ability to leave the box at will from Jessie).



Woody is shocked by their admiration for him and Stinky Pete prompts Bullseye to show him who he really is- revealing all the merchandising as well as the TV show Woody comes from.



He then reveals to Woody that they'll be going to Japan to the Tokyo toy museum, much to the latter's shock.



Woody protests, claiming that he has to return to his owner, causing Jessie to panic about the prospect of returning to storage (due to trauma following being abandoned at an earlier point in her life), Pete attempts to calm her down and explains to Woody that the museum is only interested in the collection if he is included: otherwise they return to storage- Jessie lashes out at Woody who attempts to explain that he'd been stolen by Al at a yard sale.

Here Pete quickly interjects, questioning him as to why he was in a yard sale, even though Woody explains he was saving another toy, Pete ignores him and posits that it must be because he was damaged- concluding that Andy must have been the one to do so (this is important for later as it builds onto his gradual breakdown of Woody's goal of returning to Andy).

Al is heard through the door and Pete convinces Jessie to jump back into the storage box, promising that she'll come back out, and Woody rushes back to his case.

[emotional understanding + facilitation + perception, abductive reasoning, charisma, social cognition + skills, influence, direct + emotional + social manipulation, misdirection + acting skills, tactics, prediction, setting traps]

While Al prepares to take photos of the toy, he accidentally causes Woody's damaged arm to fall completely off, causing him to panic and call for Geri to come fix him, Geri is unable to come until the following morning and so Al leaves for the moment. Woody panics having lost his arm, but Pete explains that it's "simply a popped seam- easily repaired". Jessie tells Pete to just let him go, mocking him for wanting to return to his kid and the possibility of him being played with in his state.

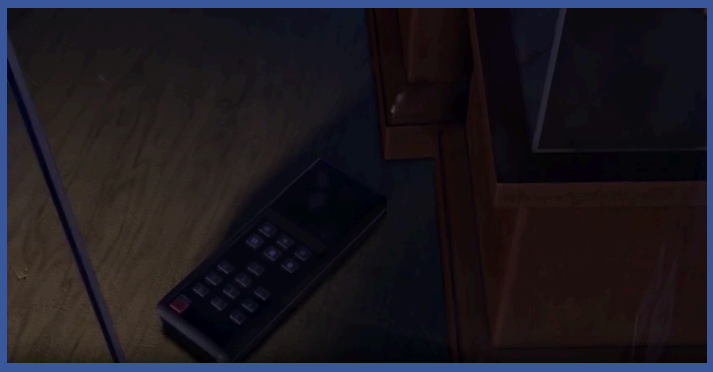
Pete dismisses this, telling Woody he wouldn't last long on the streets in his condition.

Later that night while Al is asleep, Woody attempts to steal back his hand from the man's breast pocket. However, just as he grabs it, the TV unexpectedly turns on causing Al to wake and panic, seeing Woody lying outside his case and picking him up, turning off the TV while heading off to his actual bed with Woody's arm now in his hand. Woody notes that the remote is in front of Jessie's display case and after Al leaves the room confronts her, following a brief scuffle, Pete prevents this from going on further and tells Woody he'll have to wait till tomorrow to be fixed.









This move is noteworthy as it serves to further Pete's goal in several ways- firstly, it drives a wedge further between Jessie and Woody (more relevant later), secondly, it keeps his ability to leave his box hidden, thirdly, it prevents Woody from escaping tonight, buying him more time to further manipulate him.

(indirect + emotional + logical manipulation, emotional understanding + facilitation, misdirection + scapegoating, tactics, setting traps, strategy control + shielding + vision + orchestration, cunning, FRI, creative + fast + lateral thinking)

The following morning, Geri arrives and proceeds to fix Woody's arm, while also touching up on his overall look, fixing any wear and tear (this is one of the most aesthetically pleasing scenes in animated films of all time in my opinion).



After being fixed, Woody prepares to leave, however is stopped momentarily by Bullseye who is sad to see him go. Pete recommends making amends with Jessie before he leaves, noting that she's been through a lot and it's the least he could do. He agrees and goes over to Jessie to talk things out with her, discovering her backstory and how she went through a similar issue with a beloved child who eventually grew old and lost interest, resulting in her being donated/abandoned. (indirect + emotional manipulation, emotional understanding + perception + facilitation + realisation, tactics, strategy vision + control + effectiveness, prediction)



Woody, visibly affected by Jessie's past heads to the vent to leave, but Pete asks him if Woody truly believes his relationship with Andy will remain through adulthood- whether he'd be taken to college or on his honeymoon, and highlighting the futility of Andy growing up- if he stayed with them, he'd be immortalised in a museum to be loved by children for generations to come. At this point, Woody is completely convinced and chooses to join them at the museum.

Now there are numerous reasons as to why Pete's breakdown of Woody is so impressive, but most importantly is his relationship to Andy as his favourite toy and deep + long lasting time together, this is displayed by the fact that ironically, Andy *was* going to take Woody to college in Toy Story 3, only changing his mind after Woody himself suggests donating to Bonnie, as well as Woody's constant efforts to return to Andy in both Toy Story 1, 2 (up until this point, and again later), as well as 3.

[direct + emotional + logical manipulation, tactics + strategy effectiveness + orchestration, emotional understanding + facilitation + engagement, psychological insight, social skills + charisma + cunning, acting skills]



Unfortunately for Pete, something I had neglected to mention has been occurring in the background this entire time- Buzz Lightyear and several toys from Andy's room had all gone out on a rescue mission to take Woody home from Al and at this point have just arrived at Al's in time before they leave for Japan.



Although Woody initially brushes them off, claiming that he has to stay for the round-up gang, when he sees himself on TV singing "You've got a friend in me" he has a change of heart and calls Buzz back, however he attempts to convince Jessie, Bullseye and the Prospector to all come with him.



At this point, Pete abandons his act, leaving his box and locking the vent with his pickaxe. Woody realises that it was Pete who turned off the TV the previous night and the latter reveals his motivations- Woody tries to call for Buzz to help, but Pete claims there's nothing that can be done. Al returns and packs the toys into his green suitcase and leaves. (tactics, setting traps, emotional engagement)





Buzz and the toys chase after Al, making it to the airport and attempting to intercept the suitcase in the baggage handling area, where once Buzz arrives, Pete assaults him before scuffling with Woody. Pete tries to force him into the box, however Buzz and the toys reappear utilising cameras to flash and blind Pete before grabbing and disarming him- following this they place him into a girl's bag to "teach him the true meaning of playtime".





Stinky Pete's category feats summarised:

Key: FSIQ, FSEQ, FSSQ, FSAQ, Psychology, Manip/Decep, Thinking/Reasoning, Strat/Planning, Misc.

1- direct + indirect + emotional + logical manipulation, emotional understanding + facilitation + perception, psychological insight + profiling + warfare (easily Pete's best category, his gradual breakdown of Woody's mentality and goal to return to Andy is sound and utilises a solid understanding of his character - such as knowing he wouldn't want to leave without making amends with Jessie - and crafting a situation where that would be necessary)

2- Tactics, strategy vision + orchestration + execution + efficiency, setting traps + prediction, misdirection, acting skills, creative + fast+ lateral + holistic thinking (from the moment he heard that Woody had an owner, Pete began to enact his strategy to manipulate Woody's thoughts into getting him to stay- notably doing well enough that he was completely prepared to go to Japan with them until a factor Pete had no clue about appeared (Buzz), also note he kept his box completely under wraps and general persona as the friendly prospector, most noteworthy tactic: TV remote tactic)
3- Perseverance, determination, stress tolerance, mental fortitude, emotional management + engagement (didn't mention this too much in the doc, because I think it's easier to cover here, but his backstory involves a lot of neglect and witnessing other toys get bought and played with, as well as his constant time spent in storage which would have adverse effects on mental health and despite all of that is able to keep up his façade as a jolly old man even when Woody is apparently about to leave, hiding his true self)

"Why the prodigal son has returned!"



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