

The Blind Date

By

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INT. LADY'S BEDROOM, 2PM

Music plays as a LADY steps out of the shower. Music continues as a montage begins: her selecting a shirt, getting dressed, combing her hair, putting on lipstick, painting her nails, looking for hair pins.

She enters the bathroom with a towel wrapped around her head and stands in front of a mirror which is covered in steam, practicing smiling and introducing herself. "Hi, I'm Dani" "Hello" like this.

Her phone is on the bedside table. It begins to ring.

DANI

It's unlocked. Come in.

A MAN outside of her apartment clicks off his phone and walks into her apartment. He notices her kitchen is quite messy.

THE DETECTIVE

(sighing in judgment,
whispering to himself)

Oh, Dani, what are we going to do
with you?

He begins to organize the mail on her desk, fill a kettle with water and put it on for tea, and neatly stack her books.

After waiting for several minutes, staring at his cup of tea, Dani walks in and clears her throat. She looks beautiful.

DANI

Detective.

THE DETECTIVE

Um..(fumbling) is this part of the
plan?

DANI

What do you think?

The Detective smiles.

EXT. PARKING LOT OF A NATURE PARK AT THE BOTTOM OF MO SHAN MOUNTAIN, DAY

A MAN wearing a sweatshirt is sitting in the driver seat of his car, waiting to meet Dani for a blind date. The car is cheap and he looks at himself in the rear view mirror with a concerned look on his face. He peers out of his window and sees warning signs. "Path narrows" "Caution: Beware" like this.

A few feet away, the detective and Dani turn on the blinker of their car. (Or get off bus 401 if no access to a car) They pull into the parking lot. She stops the car, turns the music down, and turns to look at the detective.

THE DETECTIVE

Oh, is this me?

DANI

I don't want him to see you with me.

THE DETECTIVE

What else could he possibly do?
He's already killed someone.

DANI

Without any evidence, that statement is like a cloud.

THE DETECTIVE

Fair enough.

DANI

I won't leave without something on him.

THE DETECTIVE

Just don't get killed.

He gets out of the car and walks a few feet, pausing to turn back.

The Detective knocks on the window of the car.

Dani unrolls the window.

DANI

Yes?

The Detective takes out a beautifully decorative Japanese fighting knife from inside his jacket pocket.

(CONTINUED)

THE DETECTIVE

In case you need it.

DANI

For what, a knife fight?

The Detective walks away from the car smiling, saying to her "It's handcrafted!"

Dani parks her car and writes out the text, "I have arrived." The man is leaning against his car, taking breadcrumbs out of a plastic bag, feeding some nearby birds. He looks up at her, his eyes widen.

MAN

Hi.

DANI

Hi.

MAN

Shall we?

They begin walking up a nature path surrounded by bamboo and trees. The path leads to the top of a mountain. Other couples and families are out enjoying the park. It's sunny.

The man is smiling and talking in an animated way. They find themselves at a crossroads with different paths in different directions. Dani studies him with a serious look on her face.

DANI

Will you please excuse me for a minute?

MAN

Take your time.

Dani walks a little bit away from the path. She kneels down to tie her shoe. Discreetly, she takes out her phone from inside her pocket. She calls the detective on speed dial.

EXT. BOTTOM OF THE MOUNTAIN, DAY

The Detective's phone is on silent. Close-up shot of his phone, it just keeps ringing. He's people watching and not paying attention to his phone.

DANI

(whispering)

C'mon...pick up...pick up your phone...

(CONTINUED)

The Detective's answering machine comes on and says:
"Hi...it's Dave...please leave a message after the
beeeeeeeeeep. (The phone beeps)

DANI

(whispering, panicked)
Dave, this man is innocent. I hope
you get this message. The plan's
off. I'll meet you back at the
office after this.. (she looks over
at the man, he waves at
her)..date.

Dani walks back to the man.

MAN

So which way should we go?

DANI

Let's go to the top.

MAN

Okay, you lead the way.

They begin to walk.

EXT. BOTTOM OF THE MOUNTAIN, AFTERNOON

The Detective notices two missed calls and a voicemail from Dani. He listens to the voice message and writes out the text: "How do you know he is innocent?" He tries to call her back, but her phone has lost signal.

THE DETECTIVE

Damn it. No signal.

The Detective walks up to a young man working in a ticket booth. He takes out his official Police Department badge from inside his jacket and shows the young man, pauses, and gives him a look.

The ticket booth man raises both of his hands.

TICKET BOOTH MAN

What do you want? Money?

THE DETECTIVE

(with an evil look)
Just those keys.

(CONTINUED)

TICKET BOOTH MAN
Under one condition..

THE DETECTIVE
(yelling)
The keys! Now!

TICKET BOOTH MAN
Charge the bike when you are done!
I'm serious, I need this job! Don't
forget (calling after him).

THE DETECTIVE
(getting on the bike)
Or what happens?

TICKET BOOTH MAN
I'll kill you.

EXT. TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN, AFTERNOON

Dani and her date are out of breath. They have almost reached the top of the mountain. It is beginning to get dark outside.

There is a slide people can take to go down the mountain quickly instead of walking.

As they walk up to the slide booth to buy tickets, it closes. The person working shuts the window.

DANI
I guess we'll have to walk back
down.

MAN
Do you know how to get back?

DANI
We can figure it out.

They turn around and get back to the top, where there is a statue. The Detective comes speeding on the electric bike, panting.

DANI
(shocked, embarrassed)
Dave??? What are you doing here?

MAN
(to Dani)
Do you know him??

(CONTINUED)

DANI

No.

THE DETECTIVE

She's lying. At least tell him the truth.

DANI

Since when do you know- didn't you get my message that he is innocent?

THE DETECTIVE

That's not why I'm here. I'm here to profess my love for you, Dani.

DANI

Oh, give me a break.

THE DETECTIVE

I'm serious.

MAN

Of course I'm innocent! What crime are we even talking about??

THE DETECTIVE

If I tell you, I'll have to-

The TICKET BOOTH MAN comes running up the mountain. He sees the Detective and lunges at him, attacking him. They begin wrestling on the ground.

TICKET BOOTH MAN

I'M GOING TO KILL YOU! YOU JUST COST ME MY JOB!!!

All four characters start fighting and pushing each other, speaking and yelling over each other.

Suddenly, they hear the roar/growl of a mountain lion and the rustling of some creature behind the trees in the distance. By this time, it's nighttime.

DANI

(yelling)

SO WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO NOW?

They hear a roll of thunder. It is about to rain.

The Ticket Booth Man tells them he knows a shortcut. They start to follow him but it is muddy and dark and dangerous, off the main path. The MAN and DANI are chatting about the crime he didn't commit. Dani says she knew it wasn't him,

(CONTINUED)

and is talking about her other ideas for who she suspects committed the murder last week.

The sky darkens even more and a big shadow casts over them, scaring them. In reality, it's a large inflatable character from a carnival for children, but also it's howling.

Dani shrieks, and the screen goes black.

TO BE CONTINUED...

THE END.