

Primary Longing

A Screenplay By:

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FADE IN:

INT. PSYCHOLOGIST OFFICE-DAY

A young, mid-to-late 20s, sophisticated, trendy couple, LINUS, male, and BLAIR, female, are sitting by each other, arms crossed, looking away from each other. Linus sighs, Blair uncrosses her arms and looks down at her feet, shaking her head. There is silence for a few moments. Linus starts sniffing the air, closes his eyes, and has a slight smile on his face. Blair looks at Linus carefully, he opens his eyes and sees that she's looking, he stops smiling and looks down sadly.

LINUS
(quietly)
I can't believe you're making us do
this.

BLAIR
(defeatedly)
I can't think of what else to do.

Linus chuckles bitterly.

LINUS
You just shot down all of MY
suggestions. You didn't even want to
meet with my friends.

Blair looks at him intensely.

BLAIR
(slowly and deliberately)
You can't expect me just to accept
it.

Linus inches closer to Blair and grabs her hand.

LINUS
(pleading)
Babe, what about just trying to
accept it? Baby... come on...for
us.... just try not to think
about it!
Blair's silent for a few seconds and then gives a bitter
smile.

BLAIR
You proved me wrong... There's no way
in hell I could ever just act like
this is normal!

Blair shakes her head and pulls her hand away.

LINUS
Is what I do so bad?

BLAIR
How can you even ask me that? Yes! It is! It's disgusting!

Linus looks away and tears up.

LINUS
(upset)
Don't say that! It's not!

BLAIR
Linus, I love you.... But what you're doing isn't normal!

LINUS
Why are you being so judgmental?

BLAIR
Because you're hurting people!

LINUS
No I'm not!

BLAIR
I'm talking about ME! I love you and you have been the sweetest, most loving boyfriend I've ever had.. but this is insanity!!

Linus smacks his hands on his knees, stands up. His face angry and frustrated.

LINUS
Whose fault was that? I didn't even get a chance to explain -

Blair throws her hands up, gets up and stands in front of Linus.

BLAIR
(exasperatedly)
Oh my god! Listen to yourself! Do you think there's a RIGHT way to explain this?

LINUS
I trusted you to have my back!

BLAIR
How can you expect me to support you
with this?? It's vile and disgusting!

Linus looks at her with a hurt look and is about to respond when the psychologist, DR. ORANGEGROVE, an attractive, professional-looking female, commanding respect and trust, a few years older than Linus and Blair, walks in.

Blair and Linus sit down quickly, embarrassed. Both Blair and Linus try to compose themselves, and give fake, tight smiles

DR. ORANGEGROVE
(Very friendly and warmly)
Hi, I'm Dr. Orangegroove.

Dr. Orangegroove smiles and leans down to shake their hands. Then sits in the chair opposite them and pulls out a notepad and pen from her bag.

DR. ORANGEGROVE
Now...Blair, you called me. You said
you were having issues in your
relationship regarding Linus's
needs....?

LINUS
(muttering under his breath,
annoyed)
I can't believe she brought a
stranger into this.

BLAIR
She's the top psychologist in the
city. We need her to help me get
through to you and fix your...

Blair catches herself and makes a guilty face. Linus gives a start and almost jumps from his seat, eyes blazing.

LINUS
OH!! So we aren't here to work on OUR
issues...we're here to brainwash ME!

DR. ORANGEGROVE
 (soothingly)
 Now, now Linus, please calm down...
 I'm not here to brainwash anyone.
 Think of me as being here to pick
 each of your brains and get to the
 heart of the matter.

Blair laughs and Linus rolls his eyes. Dr. Orangegroove looks from one to the other, with a puzzled look.

DR. ORANGEGROVE
 Am I missing something?

BLAIR
 (Sarcastically)
 Ohhh nooooo. You have no idea how on
 point you are.

DR. ORANGEGROVE
 (confused but composed)
 Okaaayy... moving on, Blair, can you
 tell me what's troubling you?

BLAIR
 I can barely say it out loud.

LINUS
 Oh come on! You're such a drama
 queen! I never should've told you
 anything.

BLAIR
 I WISH YOU HADN'T!! Everything would
 have been GREAT!!

DR. ORANGEGROVE
 (soothingly)
 Linus, Blair...I'm hearing a lot of
 judgement, and "You" words. That's
 not going to help us rebuild
 communication and trust. Remember,
 this is a safe and gentle space for
 everyone.

Dr. Orangegroove smiles benignly. Blair and Linus look at each other and then her with uncomfortable looks.

BLAIR
 Umm...ok...But it's a little hard NOT
 to judge his...ugh...tastes

Linus slaps his knee and gives her an angry look.

LINUS
 (angrily)
 See! There you go again! You just
 can't help yourself!

Blair starts laughing with disbelief.

BLAIR
 Me?? I'm the one who can't help
 themselves??

LINUS
 You just love making the doctor
 think I'm a freak!

BLAIR
 Oh yeah, I just love it! Lets just
 totally ignore the fact that you ARE
 a freak!

Dr. Orangegroove leans forward with her hands up to calm them
 down.

DR. ORANGEGROVE
 Blair, Linus, mean words create
 distance in a relationship.

Blair and Linus look at her with dumbfounded looks. Linus
 turns back to Blair, pointing at her

LINUS
 You turned against me and you're
 trying to turn Dr. Orangegroove
 against me! You psycho!

Blair gets up and starts clapping.

BLAIR
 I'M THE PSYCHO?!?

DR. ORANGEGROVE
 (Alarmed but trying to hide it)
 Ok, everyone...lets all just take a
 deep, deep, cleansing breath and
 soothe ourselves.

Blair and Linus scowl and take deep breaths.

DR. ORANGEGROVE
 Inhaaaale... yes, good, now... exhale

slowly... Yes, yes, very good both of you. Ok, ahem... I hear a LOT of anger and frustration. We need to confront them and stamp them out! Before we do that, however, you must tell me what's coming between the two of you.

Blair shakes her head and sits down. Blair and Linus look at Dr. Orangerove.

BLAIR
(sarcastically)
You have no idea... I couldn't believe it when he told me.

LINUS
She laughed at me!

Blair glares at Linus.

BLAIR
What the hell did you expect?

LINUS
(upset)
I expected her to be supportive! To try to understand! To act like a normal, loving girlfriend!

Blair leans towards Dr. Orangerove and points to Linus.

BLAIR
He wasn't acting like a normal boyfriend! I'm very supportive. But this.. He... Ugh...

Blair puts her head in her hands. Linus looks at Dr. Orangerove.

LINUS
I eat dead people! I freaking eat dead people! There! I said it! I fucking said it!

Linus leans back with an angry but satisfied look and crosses his arms. Dr. Orangerove's mouth gapes open and there is a stunned but intrigued look on her face. She gets flustered and drops her pen and paper. Blair gives Linus a disgusted look and then turns to Dr. Orangerove and nods her head vigorously.

DR. ORANGEGROVE
I'm s-s-sorry...did...you just say
you...like to eat dead people?

Linus uncrosses his arms, stands up and slaps his hands on the table.

LINUS
(passionately, angrily)
Yes I did! And I'm done hiding it and
being food-shamed! Especially by my
girlfriend!

BLAIR
My boyfriend is a freaking cannibal!
He eats HUMAN FLESH!! What the fuck
did I do to deserve this!

Linus looks at the ceiling and rubs his face.

LINUS
(exasperated)
Stop making it about you!

Linus looks back at Dr. Orangegroove.

LINUS
Doctor, are you going to judge me now
too?

Dr. Orangegroove bends down to pick up her pen and paper and
hides a smile. She straightens up and tries to compose
herself and puts on a nonjudgmental, neutral expression.

DR. ORANGEGROVE
(Uncertainly)
Uh...umm.. Let me see if I understand
this
correctly...You...eat...people...
people...um human people??

BLAIR
YUP

LINUS
Can you let me talk? You're so rude!
Look, I know it's little unusual-

Blair stares at him with her arms crossed, Dr. Orangegroove
clears her throat and covers her mouth to mask her reaction,
but her eyes seem interested. Linus sits down.

LINUS

(softly)

I first realized it when I was 13. I was at a camp for young geniuses, Camp Einstein Davinci Beethovenwonkoncoma. One night after lights out, me and some guys snuck out into the woods. We were just goofing around, I separated from them and got lost. I was--

BLAIR

Oh my god.....are you going to tell her your whole damn life story?

DR. ORANGEGROVE

Blair, please, this is important for Linus. I must say, you are exhibiting some very aggressive behavior that is not helping to nurture a positive communicative flow. Please let him continue.

Blair give Dr. Orangegrove an angry and suspicious look. Linus looks at Dr. Orangegrove with gratitude, smiles and leans towards her.

LINUS

Thank you. As I was saying, before Blair decided to be a bully...

BLAIR

(annoyed)

Are you serious??? You aren't exactly being the man of MY dreams right now!

LINUS

At least I'm following my heart!

BLAIR

And eating others'!

DR. ORANGEGROVE

(sternly)

Blair, you are exhibiting a very undesirable attitude.

Blair opens and shuts her mouth, glares at Dr. Orangegrove, and crosses her arms, looking away.

LINUS

(smugly)

Thank you Doctor. I was wandering around, and then fell over something....It was a dead guy.... I had no idea who he was or what happened. It didn't matter. I smelled him and wasn't grossed out...I wasn't scared or freaked. It felt normal, like I was meant to find him. To be there.... I started salivating.

BLAIR

Oh my god.

Linus turns to Blair and gets in her face.

LINUS

Shut up.

Linus turns back to Dr. Orangegrove.

It smelled so good... my stomach started grumbling, I got so hungry. I couldn't help myself. I lifted the man's hand and I... I took a bite.

Blair gags. Dr. Orangegrove looks intrigued and leans closer to Linus.

DR. ORANGEGROVE

Go on...

LINUS

It was the best thing I've ever tasted. Better than the best steak. It felt like I had been missing out on that juicy tender flesh my entire life!

Blair looks at Dr. Orangegrove.

BLAIR

(irritated)

Aren't you disturbed by this?? Why are you just sitting there?

DR. ORANGEGROVE

(sweetly, condescendingly)

I'm not here to judge, Blair, I'm here to listen and understand and help

Linus...I mean you both...work together to resolve your problems.

BLAIR

You seem more concerned about letting him explain his fucked up—

DR. ORANGEGROVE

Blair..if you can't give Linus the space to explain himself, or the time to work through his...unique tastes ...maybe you don't need to be here...

Linus and Blair look at her, Linus has a surprised but grateful look on his face. Blair is stunned.

BLAIR

What?? Are you kicking me out?

Dr. Orangegroove gives her a fake-warm, condescending look and leans over.

DR. ORANGEGROVE

Now now... don't put words in my mouth. I am simply saying that maybe my role is to help facilitate the ending of the relationship. Linus, what do you think?

BLAIR

Why are you all of the sudden on his side?

LINUS

Is it that strange to believe someone could be on my side?

BLAIR

Uh...yes!

DR. ORANGEGROVE

Blair, I'm on both of your sides. But Linus needs a lot of compassion and support right now.

BLAIR

What about what I need?

LINUS

My god! If I have to hear that one

more time!! You are so selfish!

BLAIR

I'M not the one with the problem! You two are out of your minds!

Blair gets up, grabs her purse and storms out of the office. Linus gives the door the middle finger, Dr. Parker-Lexington gives him a little smile and shakes her head. She stands up and goes to sit by his side. She takes his hand and smiles. Linus looks at their hands and then at her, with a confused smile on his face.

DR. ORANGEGROVE

(softly, warmly)

Now, now Linus. I understand that reaction, but it's not going to help. Resentment and frustration will only eat away at you. And we don't want that.

LINUS

You're right doctor. I feel like you really understand me.

DR. ORANGEGROVE

I do. And I want to help you. I think we were meant to meet. Do you believe in fate?

LINUS

Yes. I do. Blair always laughed at me about that.

DR. ORANGEGROVE

Let's not worry about her right now. Right now you think about what your next steps will be. How about we meet next week to see where your head's at?

Linus nods, gets up. Dr. Orangegroove clasps his hand with her other one and smiles at him.

LINUS

Thank you Doctor. I would like that

very much. I'm actually really glad that HARPY dragged me here. I think I needed this.

DR. ORANGEGROVE

That's what I'm here for. I'm looking forward to seeing you again.

Linus leaves and as the door closes on his back Dr. Orangegroove smiles, walks to her desk and opens her iPad. She turns it on and logs on to a website called "The Secret Dish: A Social Network for Homosapivores" She waits for the welcome page to load. As she's waiting she pulls out a Ziploc bag labeled "Tuesday - Fingers (Male)" and a container filled with a red liquid. She opens the bag, takes out a finger, dips it in the liquid and starts nibbling on it. Once the webpage is open she licks her lips and giggles softly as she clicks on a message board and types, "I think I've found my next boyfriend. He's one of us! ;)). "

FADE OUT