

A Day At The Lake

by

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EXT. JOE AND MARY'S PLACE-MORNING

MARY 20's walks out of the apartment she and JOE, Mid 20's share and locks the door. With a back pack slung over one shoulder, she walks towards Joe who is near the car talking with someone on the phone. As she approaches, she catches the tail end of his conversation.

JOE

Thanks Cassandra. Call me in a couple hours. Okay. Bye.

Mary looks at him suspiciously

MARY

Who's Cassandra? Someone I should know about?

Joe doesn't catch Mary's suspicious look

JOE

Oh. She's just someone I work with. She's helping me with a project.

MARY

What sort of project?

JOE

A secret project that I can't tell you about right now.

MARY

But you'll tell me later?

He realizes what she is eluding to and puts a comforting hand to her cheek and looks her in the eyes

JOE

You have nothing to worry about. Okay? She is just a co-worker. I love you and no one else.

Gesturing to the vehicle

JOE

Now. Let's enjoy your birthday and have some fun at the lake okay?

Mary reluctantly acquiesces to Joe and gets in the car flashing a smile

MARY

Oh, alright. Let's get going. I want to get there before it gets too hot.

We see the car leave and drive off into the distance.

EXT. THE LAKE - AFTERNOON

We see the vehicle arrive and park. The lake is abandoned. The couple exits the car and set up their spot

MARY

I am so glad to be here! This birthday is starting out great! Should we eat first then swim, or swim then eat?

JOE

I prefer to work up an appetite so let's swim

Mary jumps up and down excitedly like a little girl almost.

MARY

Yay! Last one in's a rotten egg!

She rips off her shirt and shorts and starts running

JOE

Hey! Cheater! You've got a head start!

Already wearing his swim shorts he rips off his shirt and takes off after Mary nearly catching up to her as she makes it into the water

MARY

Ha Ha! You're a rotten egg!

JOE

You're a dirty cheater. You need a good washing.

With that, Joe dunks Mary in the water. She resurfaces and dunks Joe in turn. We see their antics continue followed by lunch and lounging under the shade of their umbrella.

MARY

I love you Joe.

JOE

I love you too Mary.

MARY

Do you think we will ever get married.

JOE

I think so, but we've only been together for a year. I think for us, we need to be together at least two years before that happens.

Mary looks a little perplexed by this.

MARY

Why do you think that is? Are we not marriage material as we are now?

JOE

It isn't that, it's just that you and I have both been in relationships that have ended badly. You've had your heart broken numerous times.

MARY

So what are you saying exactly? Are you saying that one of us could change and we would not be right for each other anymore? Are you saying you could fall out of love

for me?

Seeing her train of thought, Joe quickly reassures Mary

JOE

No. God no! That isn't what I am saying at all! What I mean, is that marriage is a really big step and I think it is better for our relationship if we take the time to grow close enough that marriage is the next natural step for us. Let's just enjoy what we have and build on that.

MARY

Oh. That makes sense. I guess I just want to be sure that you aren't going to leave me for someone else.

JOE

Why would I do that? You're worried about the phone call earlier.

MARY

Yes. You've been on the phone with her a lot over the last week. What else am I supposed to think?

JOE

Look Mary, it is not what you think. She is helping me with a project that I can't tell you about until it is finished. Please, have some trust in me.

Mary looks him hard in the eyes. Seeing his resolve, she decides to let the issue go in spite of the fear in her own eyes, which Joe can see.

MARY

Alright. I trust you. I won't bring it up anymore.

JOE

You're sure? Because you still look concerned.

She lies

MARY
(nodding)
I'm sure. Not a problem. I'm going to get my book and read for a little bit.

Mary takes the KEYS and goes to the car. Joe looks concerned. He is unsure that everything is really okay because he knows that Mary has deep trust issues. Mary arrives at the car. While grabbing her book, Joe's phone goes off. She picks it up and sees that he has received a message from Cassandra.

JOE'S PHONE
Cassandra: Call me as soon as you get this. It's urgent.

Mary checks the phones call log and sees that there are ten missed calls from Cassandra and two voice mail messages. Mary quickly becomes enraged. She takes the phone, storms over to Joe and throws it at him.

MARY
Your GIRLFRIEND has been trying to get in touch with you!!!

JOE
Ow! Girlfriend? What the hell are you talking about?

He looks at his phone and sees the numerous attempts to contact him. Mary, incensed, grabs her stuff and storms off toward the car. Joe follows. Mary stops at the back trunk, unlocks it and throws her stuff in.

JOE
You're over reacting Mary! I've told you the truth. There is nothing going on between me and Cassandra!

MARY

Then tell me what is going on! What is so urgent that she has to keep calling and messaging you?

JOE

Well, the deadline for the project we are working on is today and the client is a very important person and we cannot screw this up. It really took some convincing to get today off so I could spend the day with you.

Joe doesn't realize that Mary has already worked herself up into a frenzy. Mary sees a TIRE IRON in the trunk and pulls it out. She begins moving toward Joe with it raised in front of her.

MARY

I don't believe you! You're making it up to cover your tracks and conveniently took today off so I wouldn't be suspicious!

She begins to swing the makeshift weapon wildly, causing Joe to back away.

MARY

I've seen this all before! The phone calls, text messages, I've heard all the lies and excuses! I can't take it again! ESPECIALLY FROM YOU!!!

She begins to cry hysterically, still swinging the tire iron. Just then, Joe's phone rings. Desperate and unsure of what to do in the present situation, he answers.

JOE

Hello...Cassandra! I can't talk right now. Mary's gone crazy...What?! The surprise can wait right now I need to...

Mary charges at him and hits him with the tire iron, causing him to drop the phone.

MARY
 NOOOOO!!!! NOT AGAIN!!! I WON'T LET
 YOU!!!

JOE
 OW!!! FUCK MARY!! WHAT'S GOTTEN
 INTO YOU! STOP! OW!! OW!!

Mary is lost in a rage. She continues to assault Joe with the tire iron.

MARY
 (screaming repeatedly)
 NOT AGAIN!!!!

Joe falls to the ground, arm broken and bleeding from lesions on his chest and legs. He manages to scoot back to the car. Mary, who is feral by this point pursues him like a predator it's prey. We can hear Cassandra on the phone which is on the ground.

CASSANDRA
 (Off Screen)
 Joe! Joe! What's going on! I hear
 screaming. Joe! Oh God!

Mary is swinging so wildly that most of her blows hit the car. Her screams have become animalistic shrieks. Joe continues to try and get through to the raging woman. We see dents in the side of the car close to where Joe's head is.

JOE
 (voice shaking)
 Mary. Please. Stop. You don't
 understand. I'll tell you what
 Cassandra is helping me with.
 Please. Baby, I love you. Stop
 this. We'll get you help.

We see Mary from Joe's perspective. She has gone completely crazed her eyes glazed over with rage. She raises the tire iron slowly as Joe pleads only pausing for an instant as if pondering his words before bringing the tire iron down in a vicious swing. We hear a sharp sound like tile snapping in half when struck combined with the thud of something hitting

the side of the car. Joe's body goes limp. After a few moments that seem to take long minutes. Mary turns and lurches toward the phone. Cassandra's voice can still be heard coming from it. Mary picks it up. She only breaths into the phone.

CASSANDRA

Joe! My God Joe! What's happened?!
Joe is that you? No. Mary? What
have you done?

MARY

(calm, emotionless)

Now neither you or I can have him.
He's gone. I kept you from taking
him from me.

Not waiting for Cassandra to reply, Mary hangs up the phone, then throws it; still angry