

FRIENDS & LOVERS

Revision 1

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DC BRANDON

INFO@DCBRANDONFILMS.COM

EXT. HIKING PATH IN THE WOODS NEAR THE CAMPGROUND - AFTERNOON 1

ALEX (32, handsome, with an easy-going smile) and NANCY (25, cute but a bit withdrawn) are temporarily stopped on a hiking path near the river.

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Alex is enjoying nature and taking pictures of the sun kissing through the trees while Nancy is on her phone, surviving the experience.

NANCY

Seriously dude, you've taken like 25 photos of the same thing. I think you've got it.

ALEX

What's the rush? It's not like you've got anywhere to be.

NANCY

Don't remind me.

The two continue walking down the trail.

ALEX

I figured fresh air might do you some good.

NANCY

I'm not a plant.

ALEX

Humans need sunlight too.

NANCY

I'm not human.

ALEX

Just 1 more click and we are there.

NANCY

Ugh.

They walk for a while. Alex stops again to take a picture of a deer.

ALEX

Shhh.

Alex takes a picture. The deer gets spooked and runs away.

NANCY

Smart. Guess she's seen what a man can do to a girl.

ALEX

We're not all pigs, Nancy.

NANCY

No?

ALEX

There are some nice guys left out there.

NANCY

Yeah, so they say. Haven't found one yet.

EXT. CAMPGROUND - AFTERNOON

2

Alex roasts a hotdog while Nancy sits in a lawn chair, drinking a beer, staring into the fire.

Alex pulls the hotdog off the stick and puts it in a bun. He walks over to the picnic table and puts ketchup on it and hands it to Nancy.

ALEX

Here you go. One hotdog a la Alex.

NANCY

A hotdog a la Alex looks suspiciously like a hotdog with ketchup on it.

ALEX

Don't judge a book by its cover. Sometimes the things most familiar to you can surprise you.

Nancy takes a bite of her dog.

NANCY

Mmmm. This is soooo good! Oh my God! You should write a recipe book! I can see it now, Alex Chandling: Ketchup on Everything. The cookbook for campers.

ALEX

Ha - Ha - .

Alex opens a beer and sits down in his share and takes a

swig. He puts another hotdog on his stick and puts it over the fire. He looks like he's kinda started to give up on trying to cheer Nancy up.

NANCY

Why are you such a good friend?

The word friend doesn't make Alex feel so good.

ALEX

I don't know. Sometimes I wonder myself.

Nancy walks over to Alex's chair and sits on his lap. She rests her head on his chest.

NANCY

I'm cold. Do you mind?

ALEX

Can you shift a little? You're sitting right on my balls.

Nancy giggles and shifts her weight a bit to the right.

NANCY

Most action they've seen since, who? What was that skank's name?

ALEX

I've never dated a skank. What are you talking about? *

NANCY

Um, hello, what about Pamela?

ALEX

Ok, she doesn't count. I was young and dumb and didn't know any better. Plus, as a young man, it's considered a score to be with a MILF. *

NANCY

What were you saying about there being nice guys?

ALEX

I've changed. You know that.

NANCY

Yeah. I know. You're like a rock-solid *

guy now. You've got a good job. You work out. You own a house. You donate your time to charity.

ALEX

I don't donate to charity...

NANCY

You're here with my sorry ass, aren't you?

ALEX

You're not charity Nancy.
You're...special.

NANCY

Like how? I mean, I know I'm hot,
super intelligent and all, but how am
I special?

ALEX

Like... here, can you get off me for a
second?

Alex stands up. He's nervous to tell Nancy his secret. She sits back down in her chair.

ALEX

There's something I gotta tell you...

NANCY

Dude, you're scaring me.

ALEX

It's hard to say this...

NANCY

Oh my God, are you dying?

Nancy starts to cry.

NANCY

Oh I just knew it. Of course, the only
good thing in my life would be taken
away from me. What am I gonna do now,
huh? Who will go for coffee with me at
any time of the day with zero notice?

ALEX

Nancy.

NANCY

Who will watch horror b-movies with me
and eat plates of nachos with melted
cheese?

ALEX

NANCY!

NANCY

What?

ALEX

I'm not dying.

NANCY

Well, what is it then? You can tell me
anything.

*

ALEX

I'm...I mean I...

He moves towards her and kisses her. Nancy pulls away
quickly. She looks horrified.

NANCY

That's even worse.

She runs off.

ALEX

Nancy! Come back!

EXT. PLAYGROUND SWINGSET - LATE EVENING

3

Nancy sits on a swing, alone in her thoughts.

Alex comes into frame, out of breath. She doesn't look at
him.

*

ALEX

I looked for you everywhere!!!

NANCY

Yeah.

ALEX

I'm sorry. Hey. Can you look at me?

NANCY

No.

Alex moves to sit down on the swing beside her.

ALEX

I am so sorry for what I did. The last thing I would ever want to do is lose you.

NANCY

Well, that's what you're gonna do if you ever do that again. Don't you understand, we're friends. You're in the friend zone. For life.

ALEX

Yeah. I get it. I didn't mean to start to like you that way. It just kinda happened.

Nancy finally looks at him.

NANCY

How? I mean, you of all people shouldn't feel that way about me. You've seen the worst side of me. You've seen me cry until snot came out of my nose after being dumped. You were there when I got arrested for shoplifting. You've held my hair while I puked in the toilet.

ALEX

Yeah, that was pretty gross.

NANCY

And you were there through my eating disorder and my fights with my dad and everything. I'm a frickin mess!

ALEX

Hey, no argument here.

They both laugh.

NANCY

Alex...boyfriends never seem to work out with me. I always end up scaring them away. I don't want to lose this friendship.

ALEX

I understand. I don't either.

NANCY
Can't we just be friends?

*

ALEX
Yeah, for sure. I'm so sorry. I just got lonely the past few months and we've been spending so much time together since you broke up with Blake. It's been nice. I guess I just jumped to a conclusion that I shouldn't have jumped to.

Nancy stands up, then Alex stands up.

NANCY
Hug?

Alex turns to her and hugs her. It's a deep hug. A hips to hips full embrace kind of hug.

NANCY
You're everything to me Alex.
(whispers in his ear)

ALEX
You too.

They part and look into each others' eyes.

ALEX
You wanna walk back to the tent?

NANCY
I'll be right there. I just wanna stay here for a bit. See you soon.

ALEX
You sure?

NANCY
Go! I'm fine. I'll see you back there.

INT. TENT - NIGHT

4

Alex is asleep in the tent. Footsteps approach. The tent is unzipped. Nancy crawls into the tent. She takes off her jacket, then pulls down her pants and unzips Alex's sleeping

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bag. She crawls on top of him. He wakes up.

ALEX

Hey - what are you do...

Nancy leans down and kisses Alex then pulls back and looks him in the eyes.

NANCY

You've seen me cry until snot came out
of my nose after I was dumped.

*

She leans down and kisses him, then pulls back up.

*

NANCY

You bailed me out when I got arrested
for shoplifting.

Her hair dangles over his cheek as she leans forward.

NANCY

You held my hair back when I was
puking.

ALEX

Maybe not the best time to mention...

*

NANCY

Shhh.

She puts a finger on his lips and kisses him gently again.

NANCY

You saved my life when I had an eating
disorder. You helped me with my

ALEX

Don't say the d-word, it would be
disrespectful.

NANCY

Daddy.

ALEX

Oh, God.

*

NANCY

You don't like me. You love me.

ALEX
I've loved you for years.

CUT TO AN EXTERNAL SHOT OF A TENT.

*

FADE TO BLACK