

A FUNNY FEELING

an original screenplay by

PETER BLAIR

OVER BLACK:

WILL (V.O.)

The average person has their first kiss at 14, falls in love at 16, and loses their virginity at 17.

FADE IN:

INT COFFEE SHOP - DAY

WILL, 21, wearing a black hoodie stands against the back wall of a coffee shop. Behind a counter decorated with the usual chill coffee tchotchkies stands DANIELLE, 20, wearing an apron.

WILL (V.O.)

My name is Wilson Jacob Stafford, and I am 21 years old.

Young People walk past Will. Will Watches.

WILL (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I've always thought of myself as a romantic, I've just never had anyone to romance.

Will follows young men and young woman stepping forward in line.

WILL (V.O.) (CONT'D)

On the silver screen, the romantic lead learns their way by being themselves. The problem with that? Nobody in a movie at the end of the day has to be me.

The menu. Will contemplates.

WILL (V.O.) (CONT'D)

They get to be Mathew McConaughey, Patric Swayze, or Ryan Gosling.

Will sees Danielle. Will steps up to the counter.

WILL (V.O.) (CONT'D)

My name is Wilson Jacob Stafford, and I have been myself for 21 years.

Will and Danielle lock eyes.

WILL (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Today is different.

DANELLE

What can I get started for you today?

Will transforms. Suit jacket, unbuttoned dress shirt, slick hair.

WILL

Do you come here often?

DANIELLE

I work here. Can I get you started with something?

Will looks down to the name tag, it reads "Dee".

WILL

Vanilla bean frap. You know, I come in here almost every week and I would have remembered your face.

DANIELLE

My school year just ended. This is my first today. Can I get a name?

WILL

Anytime.

DANIELLE

Your name is anytime?

WILL

No, but you can call me anytime.

Danielle smiles.

DANIELLE

Maybe. Cash or card.

Will hands over a debit card. Danielle swipes it and hands it back. Will leaves the line.

VOICE (O.S.)

Anytime!

A frap rests on a counter, a phone number is written next to the word "Anytime" on the cup. Will looks to Danielle. Will smiles and lifts up the cup.

EXT. PARK BENCH - DAY

Will sits on a park bench under the shade of trees. A set of picnic accoutrement sits at his feet. A small table rests in front of him. He holds roses.

DANIELLE (O.S.)
Anytime? Is this where you are going to murder me?

Danielle skips in and sit next to Will on the bench. Will hands Danielle Roses.

DANIELLE (CONT'D)
You got me to climb up a hill on my day off and I don't know you.
Can I tell you a secret? I've never been on a real date before.

WILL
Really?

DANIELLE
Ok, like you have been on so many? Cut the crap!

WILL
Fine. This is my first date too.

DANIELLE
Thank you.

WILL
You look beautiful.

DANIELLE
You can relax.

WILL
What does that mean?

DANIELLE
It means I don't need any more shmoozing. Consider the ice broken.

WILL
Can I add one more layer of shmoozing?

DANIELLE
At your own risk.

Will turns on the boombox. Romantic Italian music starts playing. Danielle laughs.

WILL
My name is Will by the way.

DANIELLE
Well Will, what's in the basket, I'm starving.

Will reaches in a basket and lifts a small basket of bread and a charcuterie board on the table.

DANIELLE (CONT'D)
Bread?! And cheese! Marry me.

Danielle eats a slice of cheese and exhales. Will smiles.

WILL (V.O.)
And then it was history.

INT. MILK SHAKE - DAY - MONTAGE

A pristine strawberry milkshake. Two straws. Will and Danielle sit on high-chairs. They smile.

WILL (V.O.)
I felt like no-one mattered because we had each-other.

EXT. STREET - DAY - MONTAGE

Danielle holds up Will's arms while he attempts to roller-skate. Will slips off his feet.

WILL (V.O.)
We were in the whirlwind romance I always wanted.

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT - MONTAGE

Two glasses clink. Will, wearing formal attire smiles from across a small dinner table. Danielle, wearing a dress, props her head up with her arm. They hold hands across the table.

WILL (V.O.)
And nothing could go wrong.

EXT. DRIVE IN MOVIE - EVENING - MONTAGE

Two hands meet on a bowl of popcorn. Will and Danielle sit on lawn chairs watching a projection of "Say Anything".

Danielle turns to Will.

EXT. CAR - NIGHT - MONTAGE

Will and Danielle lay in the fully reclined front seats of a car. Will looks at Danielle, the shadow of trickling water against glass flows down his face.

DANIELLE

I love you.

EXT. RIVERSIDE SWAN BOAT - DAY

SUPER: The End of Summer

The head of a large plastic swan sweeps across frame. Will and Danielle are wearing sweaters on a swan paddle boat. Will and Danielle paddle downstream in a circle. Waiting. Spinning.

WILL

Babe.. we keep veering to the right because you're pedaling too slow.

DANIELLE

I don't want to pedal, I want to talk.

WILL

Can it wait until we are off of the swan?

DANIELLE

Do you love me?

Will stops pedaling. Will holds Danielle's hand.

WILL

Dee. I know the end of summer is stressing you out, but, we still have a few days left before you go. Can we just have this for a moment?

DANIELLE

You are ignoring my question.

WILL

Look, i'm sorry I didn't say it back, I just wasn't ready for it. It's not that Im upset that you said it its just that I was caught of guard you know? Just, love is a really serious word to hear.

DANIELLE

I'm pregnant.

WILL

Do you parents know?

DANIELLE

If I tell them they might pull me out of school. I think I should wait, I don't know what to do.

WILL (V.O.)

There were a lot of things I could have said.

Will looks at Danielle. The Swan boat looks at Will.

WILL (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I could have comforted her, I could have looked her in the eyes and said anything at all, but in that moment it got too mature for me. So I made the only move that I could handle.

Will dives off of the swan boat in to the water.

INT. BEDROOM - EVENING

Will lays on his bed wearing headphones. He stares at the shelf which is covered in souvenirs from dates past. Rain falls on his window.

WILL (V.O.)

Every love story has its low point, but this isn't a love story, this is real. She leaves tomorrow: the girl that taught me to love myself, to love everything, and I got her pregnant.

He picks up pillow and buries his face with it.

WILL (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I am a huge piece of shit arnt I? In the back of my mind I knew I had to talk to her again, but what could I say?

Peter Gabriel's in your eyes plays in his headphones. Will looks toward his shelf. A boombox.

WILL (CONT'D)

What if I didn't say anything at all?

Will picks up the boombox. A rock clacks against Will's window. Will rushes to the window and opens it.

Danielle stands on a wet lawn soaked in rain. She hoists a boombox loudly playing "in my eyes" by Peter Gabriel.

Will stands in the window holding his boombox.

DANIELLE

Will! Ever since the day we met, you taught me to love myself. I don't ever want to lose you.

WILL

You took the words right out of my mouth. I'm sorry D, about the swan boat. I'm in love with you, I'm not afraid to say it anymore. I want us to be serious, because I'm seriously in love with you and I don't care what happens!

Danielle drops the boombox and runs toward the house.

INT. FRONT DOOR - EVENING

Will sprints through the hallway. Will opens the front door. Danielle waits at the doorstep. Will and Danielle embrace. A flash of light.

INT. MONTAGE GREEN SCREEN - DAY

Danielle in a red dress with a 1940's hairdo stands by an old car.

Will, bearded, wearing a white shirt holds a bottle to cover his eyes from the sun.

WILL (V.O.)

In her eyes, every romance finally made sense.

Danielle, dark hair, pale face, stands in a forest.

Will, dark cloths, spiked hair, glistening pale skin, smolders.

WILL (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Not because I felt like I had to be in love.

Danielle, blonde hair, yellow soccer jersey, stands on a football field.

Will, white button shirt, blue jacket, holds a microphone while dancing on bleachers.

Will, cardigan, tie, headphones, stands in an elevator. Danielle, white blouse, enters.

Will, graphic tee, crushes a solo cup. Danielle, Pink hair, pink blouse, sips a solo cup.

WILL (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Not because I felt behind, but because I felt like I belonged.

Will, dress shirt, tie, dances. Danielle, yellow dress, dances.

Will, 1910's cloths, holds danielle's waist. Danielle outstretches her arms.

EXT. UNDER SHEETS - DAY

Will and Danielle lay under sheets.

DANIELLE

We can tell my parents after we come back thanksgiving.

WILL

I'll call every day. I know we can make it. I love you.

DANIELLE

I love you too.

INT. GRANDMA HOUSE - DAY

SUPER: THANKSGIVING

Holiday crowd chatter. A knock at the door. The Door opens. Will is embraced by an older man who pats his back and then walks away. Cheerful chatter sounds. Will waves and smiles.

WILL

Grandma!

GRANDMA, an old woman, hugs Will.

GRANDMA

The grandkids table is that way dear.

Grandma gestures to a small table. Grandma walks away. Will stands frozen.

Danielle sits at the kids table, she looks up and sees Will.

Will walks toward the kids table and towers over it.

WILL

Dee? What are you doing here?

DANIELLE

This is my Grandma's house.

GRANDMA

Wilson, you remember your cousin Danielle?

Will sheds a single tear.

WILL (V.O.)

My name is Wilson Jacob Stafford, and I got my cousin pregnant.

END