

SCENE 1, SWAN 5 (LEE KITCHEN 12/06/2023)

Signs indicate *Earth Day*. JEFF walks on a main street looking up in a crowd, bumps into WICCAN 2.

JEFF

Sorry! Wasn't looking where...

WICCAN 2

Hard to see ahead when you don't know where you're going.

JEFF

(smiling)

That a metaphor or platitude?

WICCAN 2

No. Your aura. Unmistakably lost, searching for something.

JEFF smiles, extends his hand. He's intrigued.

JEFF

You must be a psychic.

WICCAN 2 extends her hand. Smiles. Embraces him for a minute.

WICCAN 2

No. I'm a massage therapist by day, Wiccan by night.

JEFF

Been looking for a good massage therapist but what's a Wiccan?

WICCAN 2

Think a good witch though over simplistic. Research it. Been here thousands of years.

JEFF

You're putting me on? (Pause) I'm not sure I...

WICCAN 2

Trust me? Trust women?

JEFF

Listen, this is a bit uncomfortable. I don't even know you.

WICCAN 2

I know it is a lot to take in. But your aura is definitely negative towards women. I sense sexual energy but also anger--distrust. Maybe we can help you.

JEFF

We?

WICCAN 2

My sisters. You need a guide.

JEFF

Guide? (Pause) I don't know, just moved here, but sure could use friends.

WICCAN 2

We will be your new friends. My sisters will be here in twenty minutes. We'll all have tea...

JEFF

Maybe coffee for me. Not sure I go for tea with Wiccans.

WICCAN 2

(laughs)

Afraid we'll slip magic in your tea?

JEFF

(laughs also)

Don't know. Tea has stuff floating around. Coffee is black and bold. Coffee, I know; tea, I distrust.

WICCAN 2

Like women?

JEFF

Let's keep this light, OK?(Pause) But I do want to meet your sisters. Hope y'all aren't man haters.

WICCAN 2

Oh, no! Not man haters. We believe men are a necessary evil, sometimes.

JEFF

I'm always up to new adventures. Sometimes.

LIGHTS FADE

SCENE 2, SWAN 5

Three months later.

JEFF squats on the floor in a farmhouse with three WICCANS, a redhead, a blonde and brunette. The redhead (WICCAN 1) shuffles Tarot Cards while the brunette (WICCAN 2) and the blonde (WICCAN 3) focus intensely on cards arranged on the floor in front of Jeff.

JEFF

(laughing nervously)

Don't know much about Tarot Cards. Are y'all claiming dibs?

WICCAN 1

Hold your 'ole horses. Not going to learn anything if you let that doubting energy mess with the cards.

WICCA 2

You must channel that one way of thinking behind you now.

JEFF

One way, you mean sex?

WICCAN 2

No. Your preconceived notion of women, Wiccans, your distrust.

JEFF

(feigning confidence)

If I'm your token male, who gets the token?

(pondering the cards, ignoring Jeff)

Is this dark magic?

WICCAN 3

Nothing like that.

JEFF

You've become my closest friends since moving here. Just thankful you picked me as...

WICCAN 1

(picking a card; turning it over; shouting)

A Hawk!

(picking a second card; turning it over)

MERCY IN HELL!

JEFF

What?

WICCAN 1

Your lady friend--in New York, she's..

JEFF

(anxious, excited)

What?

WICCAN 1

Young?

JEFF

So, so.

WICCAN 1

Beautiful too, correct?

JEFF

Yes. Gorgeous.

WICCAN 1

Possibly a bit naïve and quiet?

JEFF

This is a spooky. Never described her to y'all.

WICCAN 1

(turning over card; showing it to the other
Wiccans)

See!

WICCAN 2

Holy shit!

WICCAN 3

Daughter of Cups!

JEFF

What'd you say?

WICCAN 2

She said your card is Daughter of Cups. See, the young swan on the card, it's Daughter of Cups!

JEFF

Don't understand. What's it mean?

WICCAN 1

Your first card was a Hawk. A good sign. Meant you are looking from above, something good will happen. And...

JEFF

...What about Daughter of Cups?

WICCAN 2

The Hawk is a messenger. It's telling you that you can overcome a difficult situation you're e facing. You said you hated your job. The corporate bullshit strangles your creative side, yes?

JEFF

True. But--back to the Cups card.

WICCAN 3

(smiling, gently touching his arm)

You are in a test of your ability to observe the nuances of power lurking nearby. It's about power, the talent you have and are not using.

WICCAN 1

This so unbelievably fucks my mind!

JEFF

What the hell are you all talking about?

WICCAN 2

(embracing him)

Need to get in touch your dark side. And the Daughter of Cups, well, she's...

WICCAN 1

(raising her voice)

You can't keep fucking the Daughter of Cups if you want to get to your dark side!

JEFF

Let me see if I've got this straight You saying I have to break up with her so I can, whatever you mean, get in touch with my dark side? Have to pick? Leave the gorgeous, knock-out twenty-three-year old OR, be miserable because I can't achieve my dreams, OR, choose to hang out with Wiccans and become what? A Warlock?

WICCAN 2

(smiling and kind, touching him again)

You're not listening. The cards combined say your relationship with the innocent, the pure, the young swan, will have to end.

JEFF

Meaning, I must break up with...

WICCAN 3

...The cards say it's happening. You are coming in touch with your dark side.

JEFF

I am so friggin' confused.

WICCAN 1

You met us, a destiny to help you on your journey. To open your eyes. To see the future.

JEFF

(turning to WICCAN 2)

Does any of this have to do with gayness or bibles?

WICCAN 3

Only if in combination, dear. We are somewhat gay ourselves.

JEFF

That part was clear when we first...

WICCAN 1

...Darlin', we're going to help take you there.

JEFF

(nodding; trying to hide enthusiasm)

Take me where? Honestly, y'all just wanted a token male. A boy-toy though I'm well past the boy stage.

WICCAN 3

(laughing)

Part of the journey!

All laugh. JEFF hugs each one as they hug and kiss each other. WICCAN 1 breaks it up. Turns to him

WICCAN 1

I'm going to help you. Take you to a place where there are other men learning to trust women.

JEFF

Where?

WICCAN 1

My breast. And, Al-Anon

JEFF

Your breast--fine--don't know Al-Anon. Cub for WICCANS?

WICCAN 3

No. A club for people who fear attachment and need a guide.

JEFF

Do the two necessarily go together?

WICCAN 3

You mean, our breasts and Al-Anon?

JEFF

Yeah, can't I chose ?

WICCAN 3

(laughing)

You poor boy! First the path, then...

JEFF

(shrugging; turning back to the cards;
holding *Daughter of Cups* card; staring at
it)

I'm going to miss you so much.

WICCAN 3

You will. But you're on another journey now. There are more swans in the lake.

JEFF

Are you swans?

WICCAN 3

No. We're the lake.

LIGHTS FADE