

CLOVER

Written by

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INT. KITCHEN - DAY

CLOSE ON: A dirty fish tank.

DAMIEN - 23, overanalytical - stares into the murky green waters at CLOVER - his beta fish and one true love.

Damien stands back up, now looking down at the tank. There's an unmistakable look of profound disappointment in his eyes.

DAMIEN
(raised voice)
Hey Naomi?

NAOMI (O.S.)
(raised voice)
Yeah?

DAMIEN
Can you come in here?

NAOMI (O.S.)
What's up?

Damien notices a framed photo. He picks it up.

DAMIEN
Can you just come in here?

NAOMI (O.S.)
I'm kind of in the middle of something here, babe.

Damien examines the photo. In it, he and Naomi - 22, his girlfriend, blunt - are at the carnival. Naomi has her arm around him while he holds a plastic baggy with Clover. She looks happily at him while he looks happily at his new fish.

DAMIEN
(loudly)
It'll just take a sec!
(quietly)
It's important.

Naomi hovers at the doorway.

NAOMI (O.S.)
What was that last bit? You said it all quiet and dramatic.

DAMIEN
Notice anything?

NAOMI

What, did you get a haircut or something? I'm studying, Damien. I've got a test tomorrow and I'm already screwed-

DAMIEN

I haven't cut my hair in like a month.

NAOMI

Maybe you should, it's getting a little scraggly.

DAMIEN

D'you not notice anything?

NAOMI

I don't have time for this right now. Can you just tell me?

DAMIEN

The fish tank.

NAOMI

Did you clean it? Good job?

DAMIEN

(boiling over)

No I didn't *clean* it. Does it look *clean*. You were supposed to *clean* it.

NAOMI

Well, I didn't. I forgot. I'm busy. My bad.

DAMIEN

"My". "Bad"?

NAOMI

(getting pissy)

My bad.

DAMIEN

That's it. That's all you have to say for yourself. Clover had to live in his own *feces* all day and all you can give me is "my bad".

NAOMI

Jesus, Damien, it's a fish. I don't even think fish *have feces*.

That irks Damien.

DAMIEN

Fish poop. It's those little pellets at the bottom of the tank.

NAOMI

You always do this. Look at the bigger picture!

DAMIEN

The bigger picture? You don't think I look at the bigger picture?! How's this for bigger picture...

Damien takes a deep breath.

DAMIEN (CONT'D)

This fish is a metaphor for our relationship.

NAOMI

Oh, here we go again.

DAMIEN

And right now? Right now it's lathered in shit.

NAOMI

Can we please, *please I'm begging you*, save this little temper tantrum for when I don't have a crap ton of work to do?

DAMIEN

Sure. Sure we can. Because we're through Naomi.

NAOMI

Are you being serious right now?

DAMIEN

"If you wanna be my lover, you gotta get with my fish."

NAOMI

You can't be being serious right now.

DAMIEN

I changed the lyric to fish to accommodate this situation.

NAOMI
(thoroughly pissed)
We've been dating for a year. And a
half. And you're gonna break up
with me. Over a stupid fish?

Naomi walks away.

DAMIEN
(calling after her)
That doesn't sound like you're
attempting to get with him.

Naomi returns with a baseball bat.

DAMIEN (CONT'D)
What are you doing?

NAOMI
Fuck.

Damien tries to keep her back.

NAOMI (CONT'D)
Your.

Naomi threatens him with the bat. He cowers out of the way.

NAOMI (CONT'D)
Fish.

She smashes the fish tank. In slow motion, Damien dives and catches clover before he can hit the ground.

NAOMI (CONT'D)
I'm going to the library.

Naomi walks away while Damien desperately tries to save Clover. Off-screen, the front door opens and SLAMS shut.

BLACK.