

Cupid's Grasp

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INT. BAR - NIGHT

BLUE, a 20-something brunette male wearing a puny shirt, is talking to PIPPA, a 20-something blond female.

BLUE
What the hell, Pippa? Dump his ass.

PIPPA
I mean, I would but he said it didn't mean anything.

BLUE
And it didn't mean anything the last time and the time before that and th-

PIPPA
Yeah, yeah. I get it.

BLUE
Clearly you don't get it. Because if you did, then you wouldn't be with that shitstick.

PIPPA
But, he gave me this necklace and it is just so pretty and it reminded me of how much I love him.

Pippa starts to pull A LONG CHAIN out of her shirt.

BLUE
Jewelry shouldn't make up for immorality.

Pippa stops pulling the necklace out before we see what is on it.

PIPPA
Love is love, Blue.

BLUE
And cheating is not love.

PIPPA
Exactly! He said he didn't love her.

BLUE
He can't just go sticking his dick in everything that he doesn't love. What if it was a donkey? He doesn't love the donkey, so it's okay?

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PIPPA

But who could resist such a nice
ass?

Pippa laughs feebly at her own joke and Blue glares at her.

PIPPA

Whatever. I don't wanna talk about
it anymore. What were you gonna
tell me about that girl you like?

BLUE

Oh, uhm.

PIPPA

Yeah?

Blue doesn't say anything for a long moment then looks up
and smiles at Pippa.

BLUE

Well, it doesn't matter now.

PIPPA

Just ask her out. How could she
resist your dorkish charm?

BLUE

It seems she has thus far.

PIPPA

You never know until you try.

Pippa mimes an arch of a rainbow with her hands.

BLUE

Shut up. She likes this other guy.

PIPPA

Kay, don't complain to me when you
don't get any.

BLUE

It's not about getting any. I just
want someone who will be there for
me long term who is like a best
friend. . . but more too. . .

PIPPA

Well, I will always be here for
you. Except for right now because
I'm gonna get another drink, you
want one?

BLUE
Yeah. Get me a Mi-

PIPPA
Mike's Hard Lemonade poured into a
beer glass? You got it.

BLUE
You know me so well.

Blue sighs as Pippa heads to the bar. After Pippa is gone
Blue picks up two pieces of POPCORN from THE BOWL on THE
TABLE and mimes them talking to each other.

BLUE
So, funny story that girl I was
talking about is you.

BLUE
(Imitating Pippa)
Oh Blue! When I said nobody could
resist your dorkish charm I meant
me! I can't resist you!

Blue smashes the two pieces together. Pippa returns.

PIPPA
Wow. What did that popcorn ever do
to you?

Blue throws the popcorn over his shoulder.

BLUE
No one. I mean nothing. Uh, hey
where are the drinks?

PIPPA
Well, Amar texted me actually and
he is nearby and was gonna stop in
and then he was gonna take me
somewhere. So, I just told them to
bring your drink to the table.

BLUE
Oh, great.

PIPPA
Hey, maybe he can give you some
advice on how to get that girl.

BLUE
I doubt he'd be very helpful.

AMAR, a devilishly handsome 20-something guy with dark eyes, slides into the booth.

AMAR
Hey, Pipsqueak. What were you saying I could help with?

BLUE
Nothing.

PIPPA
Oh, c'mon. Blue's got a crush.

AMAR
Who's the lucky guy?

BLUE
I'm straight.

AMAR
My bad bro. Who's the babe?

BLUE
Nobody that'd matter to you.

PIPPA
Oh, don't be so blue, Blue. Ha. You could always call up Cupid and ask for some love.

BLUE
Wow. Two great jokes in one go.

AMAR
Enough chit-chat. Pipsqueak, my buddy just got a snake and I wanna watch it eat a mouse whole.

BLUE
Maybe, while it's at it, it could eat you whole.

PIPPA
Oh, well I don't know if I wanna watch that.

AMAR
After I came all the way in here to see you? Okay, then.

Amar gets up and leaves.

PIPPA

I'm sorry Blue. I've gotta go, you understand, right?

BLUE

No. I don't. But I was gonna head home soon anyways. So, have fun.

PIPPA

You're the best!

Pippa runs after Amar. Blue puts his head down on the table. A DRINK clinks on the table and he lifts his head up.

There is A BUSINESS CARD under the drink. Over the shoulder we see that it reads Cupid with a phone number below in red letters. He looks up but nobody is nearby.

Blue picks up the card and walks over to the BARTENDER.

BLUE

Did that blond girl tell you to put this under my drink?

BARTENDER

Sorry, I've never seen that before.

Blue puts the card into his wallet, pays his tab and leaves.

INT. PIPPA'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Blue enters Pippa's place. Pippa is on the couch in sweats.

BLUE
Hey, is this thing suppose to be
like a love hotline or something?
Cause it is not like I'm desperate.

PIPPA
What do you mean?

Blue takes out the card and puts it on the table.

BLUE
I mean this Cupid card that you put
under my drink.

PIPPA
You got a guy named Cupid's number?
Wow, things must have gotten crazy
after I left.

BLUE
What? No. You put it there.

PIPPA
Sorry, but I didn't. Haha! You
should give it a call!

BLUE
No, that's ridiculous.

PIPPA
Okay, well you came over at a bad
time. I've gotta shower for the
party tonight. You're coming right?

BLUE
To Lisa's? Yeah, I'm going.

PIPPA
Okay. Be out in a little. There is
food in the fridge.

BLUE
Thanks Pipsqueak.

Blue does air quotes with his fingers as he says that.

PIPPA
Ugh.

Pippa rolls her eyes and exits.

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Blue picks up the card and then takes out his phone.

ON SCREEN Blue types the phone number into Google and it shows no results.

BLUE

Well, what is the worst that could happen? Yolo.

Blue dials the number and PINK SMOKE begins to come out of the phone. Blue throws the phone on the ground and backs away.

BLUE

Wait... did I just say Yolo?

The pink smoke begins to form in a cloud and grabs his attention again.

A MAN IN PINK steps out with his face obscured by smoke. As the smoke clears we see that it is Amar.

BLUE

Amar? What the hell? Did Pippa invite you over, right now?

AMAR

Seriously, are you that stupid dude? Did you not see the pink smoke?

BLUE

Oh, so you're suppose to be Cupid? Very funny.

AMAR

Do I have to do the whole pink smoke thing again? I am Cupid.

BLUE

Holy shit. You're Cupid.

AMAR

Now that you have a firm grasp of the obvious, let's move on. That girl you want? I've got you.

BLUE

So, you could actually get me any girl I want?

AMAR

As long as she's not already under the influence of another arrow.

BLUE

So, you really just shoot someone with an arrow and they fall in love?

AMAR

People don't like randomly getting stabbed anymore. So, the arrow is more of a symbolic thing now. So just pick an arrow-shaped thing and give it to a hot babe, bone her and break it.

BLUE

What? Don't you mean fall in love forever and ooey- gooey stuff?

AMAR

It's more of a short term thing. People's attention spans these days are so short that it wears off fast. If you want long term results you have to keep giving them new ones. So, its really mostly good for a hit it and quit it kinda deal.

Amar winks.

BLUE

That's disgusting.

AMAR

You called me. What were you expecting?!

BLUE

Woah hush. Keep your voice down. No, I would use it for true love.

AMAR

Grow up. You can't have one sided "true love." So, who cares if you smash and dash or wine and dine?

BLUE

It does matter. Jeeze, you must be what's wrong with this world.

(CONTINUED)

AMAR

What's WRONG? How else would wimps,
like you, get laid?

BLUE

Holy shit. Did you use one on
Pippa?

AMAR

Why would I need to? Look at me.
Pipsqueak would never leave me.

BLUE

You did! I know you did. I know
Pippa's not that dumb to stay with
you.

AMAR

Excuse you. That would be so tacky
for me to use my own product.

BLUE

It all makes sense now.

AMAR

Listen here little shit, you gonna
buy one or just waste my time?

BLUE

Buy one?!

AMAR

Love ain't free.

BLUE

I don't think I need one now.

AMAR

Yeah, right. Like you could get any
without me.

BLUE

Really? The guy that comes in a
puff of pink smoke thinks I'M gay?
I have to tell Pippa! Holy shit!
Maybe I have a chance. She doesn't
actually love that shit. How am I
gonna get her to believe that her
boyfriend is Cupid? Doesn't matter.
I'll figure it out. This is great.

Pippa enters the room in a fuzzy robe toweling her hair off.

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PIPPA

From all the yelling I would have thought you had the T.V. on. What are you yelling about?

BLUE

Oh, don't worry. It is great!

Blue runs into Pippa's room. He closes the door behind him. There are many ARROW-SHAPED THINGS in the room.

BLUE

Shit. How am I suppose to know which one to break?

Blue begins to pile all the arrow-shaped things onto the bed.

Pippa enters the room.

PIPPA

Okay, why are you rearranging my stuff? If you're exploring your interior decorating skills, I would quit now. You're sucking at it.

BLUE

I just thought maybe the goodwill could use some of this arrow-shaped stuff.

PIPPA

I think I'll keep it, thanks. Why are you acting so weird?

Pippa begins to put back the stuff from the pile.

BLUE

Look, I really should take that.

PIPPA

Why?

BLUE

Well it's kind of hard to explain.

PIPPA

Okay, fine. Don't then. Just help me put it back.

Blue picks up A BEAR HOLDING AN ARROW and goes to the other side of the bed. Pippa turns around and reaches for it but Blue doesn't give it to her.

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BLUE
Did Amar give this to you?

PIPPA
Why does that matter?

BLUE
I think you'll feel better without
it.

Blue rips the bear triggering its recorded message.

BEAR
You're the arrow to my heart.

PIPPA
Blue! What the hell!?

BLUE
How do you feel about Amar right
now?

PIPPA
Who cares?! What matters right now
is how I feel pissed at you! Tell
me what is going on right now!

BLUE
Okay, so bear with me here. Sorry,
bear. So, that card that I found
came from Amar and it turns out
he's Cupid and he put a spell on
you to make you love him and so you
don't actually love him and you'll
see that when we break the right
thing.

PIPPA
So, you just want to ruin all my
gifts from Amar?

BLUE
No, that is not the point. Just
wait you'll see, you don't actually
love him!

PIPPA
Are you okay? Are you on something?

BLUE
No! Aren't you listening? It's you
that is on something! And once we
fix it we can together like we
should be!

Blue looks horrified and claps his hands over his mouth and the halves of the bear fall onto the bed.

PIPPA

What? That is what this is about?
You're jealous of Amar and want to
break all of his things. Wow.

Pippa reaches for the bear and so does Blue. They struggle for control of the bear, until Pippa's robe falls a little and reveals part of her necklace. She grabs the bear and stands upright.

Blue looks open mouthed at her.

PIPPA

My eyes are up here, bud.

BLUE

Oh, it's the necklace.

Blue is looking at the necklace that is now visible that it has an arrow pendant on it. Blue grabs for the necklace but Pippa slaps his hand away.

PIPPA

Woah, I think I'll keep my robe on
thank you very much.

BLUE

No, you don't understand! That is
it! The necklace, you have to break
it! That is why you keep forgiving
Amar for these horrible things,
because he keeps giving you these
to keep you hooked. Just break it
and you'll see.

PIPPA

You're talking crazy just because
you're, I guess, jealous of Amar or
something.

BLUE

He is not right for you. You will
see. Just break that necklace and
you will see.

PIPPA

You need to go before I break your
face.

BLUE

Oh, c'mon. Like you'd hurt me.

Pippa gives Blue a death glare. Blue's expression goes from smiling to serious.

Pippa pushes Blue out. Blue drops the Cupid card on the bed as he is exiting.

Pippa leans against the door, closes her eyes and holds onto her necklace.

INT. PARTY - NIGHT

Blue is talking to MONICA, a 20-something girl who is attractive in a slutty way. They are looking at Amar and Pippa across the room.

MONICA

God, just look at Amar. I'd kill to get with him.

BLUE

Wow. Thanks for sharing.

MONICA

Too bad he's with Pippa over there.

BLUE

That's never stopped him before.

MONICA

Interesting...

Pippa goes to get a drink while Amar heads in the other direction.

MONICA

I'm gonna go to the bathroom. I'll see ya later, Indigo.

BLUE

Uhm... Close enough.

Blue watches Monica head in the same direction as Amar. He looks over at Pippa and sighs.

BLUE

Dammit.

Blue walks over to Pippa and grabs a Mike's from the able and begins to pour it into a RED SOLO CUP. She turns the other way.

BLUE

I know that you are mad at me right now but I thought that you should know that Monica was gonna try to hook up with Amar, so-

PIPPA

Fuck off. Just because he has made mistakes in the past doesn't mean he's down to fuck every bimbo that

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

PIPPA (cont'd)
comes along. And another thing,
fuck off.

BLUE
Well, they were both headed for the
bathroom . . .

Pippa looks towards the bathroom and doesn't move for a moment. She sets down her drinks while giving Blue a dirty look and heads in the direction of the bathroom.

INT. PARTY BATHROOM HALLWAY - NIGHT

Pippa goes to the bathroom and looks down at her necklace and then barges into the bathroom. There is nobody in there. Pippa lets out a loud breath.

PIPPA

Some friend you are, Blue.

Pippa exits the bathroom and starts to go back to the party when a noise comes from a closet next to the bathroom. Pippa turns around and listens to the door.

She opens the door to see Monica and Amar making out.

AMAR

Oh, shit. Babe! Uh, it's not what it looks like?

Pippa runs into the bathroom and locks the door behind her. She starts to cry and slumps to the ground. Amar comes to the bathroom door.

AMAR

Babes, I'm sorry. It didn't mean anything. I don't love her. I only love you.

Pippa mouths the words along with him.

AMAR

Baby, I got you these really nice earrings to go with your necklace that I forgot to give you before.

Pippa looks down at her necklace. She takes the cupid card out of her pocket.

AMAR

Pipsqueak, let me in.

PIPPA

I hate it when you call me Pipsqueak!

Pippa takes out her cell phone and dials the number on the card furiously.

AMAR

Oh, shit.

Pink smoke comes out of Pippa's phone and she sets it down looking shocked. Amar steps out of the smoke.

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AMAR

Hey babe... so, did you want those earrings?

Amar makes the earrings appear in his hand. Pippa leans in to look at the earrings wide-eyed.

PIPPA

Wow, Blue isn't off his rocker after all!

Pippa grabs the earrings and runs out of the bathroom and Amar follows her.

PIPPA

Blue! Blue!

People in the party shout various colors back to her. She glares at them. Pippa finds Blue in the far corner

PIPPA

Blue! You were right! He was with that Monicunt. . . and I was gonna tell you something about these earrings but I think I need to go thank Amar for them first. Arn't they lovely?

Pippa's words get slower and softer as she speaks and begins to look fondly at the earrings.

Amar looks at Pippa from across the room and smiles. He walks over slowly.

Blue quickly grabs the earrings and throws them on the floor and smashes them with his foot until they turn into pink dust.

Pippa looks confused than she looks over at Amar. She glares at him and rips off her necklace and smashes it under her foot until it also turns to pink dust.

Amar looks angrily at Blue. Blue and Pippa flip Amar off. Monica comes up to Amar and tugs on his arm. They walk away together.

Pippa and Blue high-five and smile at each other. They look around and blush when they see that everyone is staring at them.

PIPPA

And that's all folks.

Pippa and Blue walk off quickly.

PIPPA

Wow, I can't believe he messed with my head like that.

BLUE

He is a God.

PIPPA

Well, jeeze. You should have stopped me!

Blue looks at Pippa with a fake aghast look.

Pippa pushes Blue jokingly and trips in the process.

She falls and Blue catches her in a sweeping dancer-like motion.

BLUE

I think you just fell for me.

Blue pulls her up and kisses her dramatically.

They stand up and smile at each other.

BLUE

Let's blow this popsicle stand.

They walk away from the camera holding hands out of the party.

PIPPA

That was hella smooth.

BLUE

I'm always that smooth. You just haven't noticed before.

PIPPA

I don't know about that... but I think that I'm noticing a lot more now.

FADE OUT.