

Desperate me

By Anthony Brennan

INT. CAFE

the scene shows Jackson being flustered as he walks in. He is holding a phone in one hand and paper work in the other. This should show how unorganized and how unaware his life is, waiting at the table is his friends Rhian and James

JACKSON

sorry sorry sorry, I am so late I just slept through my alarm, again.

RHIAN & JAMES

classic Jackson (laughing)

JACKSON

I know, I know classic me. Anyway I have some great news that is going to prove I am not a spinster

RHIAN

Oh well I am looking forward to hearing this

JACKSON

Be nice, so anyway I spent the night with Bryan

JAMES

What? Oh my god? thats a big step

JACKSON

yeah I'll talk about that later, the sex was amazing well at least I thought it was. He kept pushing me down when I would look back at him and before either of you make a paper bag joke or say its because he didn't want to look at me hear this, he said he loves me

RHIAN

okay i hate to ask but did he say it before or after sex

JACKSON

what why would you ask that, why does it matter? he said he loves me

RHIAN

yeah I know he said he loves and I'm not taking that away from you, but I just want to know when he said it

(CONTINUED)

JACKSON

I'm not answering that

JAMES

I think Rhi is asking because you have just started seeing him and he was kind of pressuring you into having sex

JACKSON

what, this isn't some after school moral story, I wanted sex as well

JAMES

yeah, when you said to him that you thought the relationship was going somewhere and now he says he loves you and you guys have sex its just a little...

JACKSON

a little what? What? I can't believe this! I have come to you guys after being told the most amazing thing in the world and all you can do is question his motives

RHIAN

Don't be this friend right now, just answer the question or don't, I think it is weird thats all

JACKSON

fuck you, what would you know about a relationship? you cheat on every guy you meet. You have no leg to stand on and you (points to James) you wouldn't know what a relationship is, you have sex with every guy you meet online so lets not even go their

JAMES

c'mon Jackson, don't deflect, we didn't mean it like that. Just sit down and we will talk about the positive, right Rhi?

JACKSON

No I am not talking to you two, I can't believe this. I never get to be happy I am always the friend everyone goes to for their shitty

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

JACKSON (cont'd)

whoa is me problems and I listen to how hard it is being attractive and single and finding the right guy and the whole time I am thinking what the fuck is your problem. The one time I am happy the one fucking time. I can't deal with this right now, I am behind on my uni stuff and I probably can barely afford this coffee, which is another thing stop choosing places that are expensive, I am a uni student I can barely afford the noodles I am living off. i can't deal with this

Jackson storms out and trips over and the waitress brings the coffee over to Rhian and James

JACKSON

oh fuck, Jesus fucking Christ, What are you all looking at, its like you haven't seen a fat person fall over. Fuck my life

RHIAN

shit, he is going to be mad for days

JAMES

he will get over it, hopefully. If he makes it back to his house safely (both laugh)

EXT. CENTRAL CITY MAIN ROAD

Jackson is walking down the city main road after his fight he is frantically calling his boyfriend to see him. and walks back to his apartment. He is living with 3 straight guys

INT. JACKSON APARTMENT

Bryan is waiting at the apartment outside the door

JACKSON

I am so sorry I called you

BRYAN

No its fine, i was only showering anyway

(CONTINUED)

JACKSON

I need to know something, and I
need you to be honest

JACKSON

Do you remember what you said
yesterday?

BRYAN

I said many things, what are you
referring to?

JACKSON

you know, the thing you said

BRYAN

I honestly don't remember, what did
I say.

JACKSON

Jesus fuck, Jesus fucking Christ
Bryan, they were right

BRYAN

what, and who are they?

JACKSON

you said you love me, you said you
mother fucking love me

BRYAN

when? I don't remember that

JACKSON

I feel like such an idiot

BRYAN

hey don't feel bad, you probably
misheard me. I wouldn't have said I
love you maybe I like you,
no, probably not that

JACKSON

get out

BRYAN

what, c'mon this is stupid

JACKSON

you know where I come from, when
someone says they love you that is
what it means

(CONTINUED)

BRYAN

Was it while I was having sex with you

JACKSON

yes, it was. Why does it matter?

BRYAN

well hun, it was during sex. People say shit when your having sex

JACKSON

I am going to die, I am going to never leave my house again

BRYAN

oh its not that bad, nothing has changed between us

JACKSON

my self esteem isn't that low, were done

BRYAN

what? whatever. Its your loss

JACKSON

my loss, you have a small penis

BRYAN

yeah well your fat, good luck finding someone like me.

JACKSON

Fuck you I could go to a animal shelter and find another fuckinbg dog like you. I deserve good things, I deserve to be happy fat or not

Jackson slams the door in Byran's face, and starts crying he goes to the answering machine and plays his messages

RICHARD

Hi son its your dad, in case you have forgotten. well its your sisters birthday and your mum and I were wondering if you were coming, I know you and your mum haven't spoken for a while...

(CONTINUED)

JACKSON
five years

RICHARD
...but it would be great to see
your face every now and than.
Anyway call my cellphone if you
don't feel like calling the land
line

Jackson, still angry from the fighting he has had today,
calls his home and his mum picks up

SARAH
Hello

JACKSON
I'm not coming to Ella's birthday,
and please stop calling me. I hate
you and I can't stand getting all
the stupid invitations to shit
things. You are trash and I hate
you, don't fucking call me again

Jackson starts breathing heavy and throws the phone across
the lounge. He lies down and starts crying. He falls to
sleep in the corner. His flatmate Brad wakes him up

BRAD
are you okay? why are you in the
corner

JACKSON
I'm fine Brad, can't a person sleep
in the corner

A couple of days past and Jackson hasn't handed in his
assignment and hasn't left his house. He gets up to get
noodles out of the pantry and grabs his Mi-goreng noodles he
than has a bath and lies in the bath. He picks up the phone
and calls Rhian

RHIAN
Hello

JACKSON
he said it during sex

RHIAN
what?

JACKSON

he said he loved me when he was cumming, I didn't tell you guys because than I would have to admit that the fantasy I wanted was just that a fantasy. Am I a loser?

RHIAN

no sweetheart your not, I am sorry I brought it up

JACKSON

no its fine, you were just being a good friend and I was being an asshole as usual. I don't know why you put up with me

RHIAN

don't pity yourself, are you in the bath now?

JACKSON

No, yes

RHIAN

you always have baths when your depressed, you need to hop out and have a shower but not to after you tell me whats been happening in your life these past two days?

JACKSON

I broke up with Bryan, and I called my mum

RHIAN

ooh? one, good for you two, How did that go with your mum, wait, you didn't do it when you were angry did you?

JACKSON

I might have

RHIAN

shit, what did you say?

JACKSON

not much, I said I hate her and to not call me again

(CONTINUED)

RHIAN

fuck Jackson, that is bad, that is really bad, I know you are angry at her but holding onto all this anger all the time is getting you nowhere. It always ends up consuming you and then when you're angry, you get angry at all the wrong people

JACKSON

I said sorry

RHIAN

no you didn't, but it doesn't matter. I know you are sorry but that doesn't mean that the next time you're angry you're going to snap at me or someone else not so forgiving

JACKSON

I know, I know

RHIAN

well I have something for us to do

JACKSON

Not the Buddhist place again. I can't sit for that long ever. I cramped for hours

RHIAN

no I just came back from a visit with my friend Alex

JACKSON

is that the one you had a lesbian relationship with?

RHIAN

No, that was Rowena, and I don't talk to her anymore she went batshit crazy and sends me photos of rainbows, don't ask. No Alex is the one who is my spiritual friend

JACKSON

oh yeah the hippy that doesn't eat anything that casts a shadow

RHIAN

yes, anyway I spent the night at hers when I was feeling depressed and...

(CONTINUED)

JACKSON

wait you spent the night at hers
when you were depressed, why didn't
you call me?

RHIAN

really? with all your problems, I
can't call you

JACKSON

Ouch, but true. Sorry carry on

RHIAN

yeah well she made me do this kind
of exercise and it made me feel a
whole lot better. I'm actually
excited to see if I can follow this
through. and it would be great for
you. Lets meet up for coffee and we
will do it together

JACKSON

Ugh, I'm not sure. I have a lot on.
I am watching re runs of friends
all day so you know...

RHIAN

c'mon my shout

JACKSON

buy a sailor a drink, I'm keen for
free food. Somewhere not so
expensive though

RHIAN

okay, I'll try and see if I can do
it. Maybe tomorrow?

JACKSON

sounds good, oh shit I have to do
my uni assignments, maybe tomorrow
night?

RHIAN

okay, tomorrow night, give me a
text or message me on facebook

JACKSON

okay will do

RHIAN

I love you and you are loved. Just
know that okay?

(CONTINUED)

JACKSON
okay, okay. K bye love you

FLASHBACK

INT. ANDERSONS HOME

Jackson and his mum are arguing

JACKSON
god, I am so sick of you and sick
of pretending you are a good mum
when all you are is a monster.

SARAH
enough with your queeny dramatics

JACKSON
Queeny dramatics? What does that
even mean. Fuck you

SARAH
everyone was wondering why I let my
dad into our lives and when I found
out he was touching you I knew on
some level it must have been
because you acted so queer

JACKSON
What do you mean (starts
uncontrollably crying)what the fuck
do you mean Sarah?

SARAH
I mean, it can't have been all of
his fault, maybe you lead him on
unintentionally because of the way
you are you know all (imitates
putting hand down, stereotypical
gesture)

JACKSON
I can't believe you, your
disgusting. I fucking hate you you
worthless piece of shit mother.

END FLASH FORWARD

EXT. MCCAFFE

JACKSON

I can't believe you chose this
place haha (kisses Rhian on the
cheek) Hi

RHIAN

Hey, I know right, I did good right

JACKSON

you did good kid haha

INT. MCCAFFE

Jackson and Rhian are sitting at the table and Rhian grabs a
huge notepad

JACKSON

Wait let me guess your going to
show me a series of pictures and I
have to make out what it means to
me

RHIAN

be serious or else this isn't going
to work

JACKSON

okay, okay I'll be serious.

RHIAN

Okay take this bit of paper and
write in the middle your name

JACKSON

okay (writes his name in the middle
of a blank pad)

RHIAN

okay now write in the top left
'positives' are you doing it?

JACKSON

Yeah I am see (points to where he
has written)

RHIAN

kay, now put in the bottom right,
negatives and in the top right put
wants and needs'

(CONTINUED)

JACKSON

okay

RHIAN

now in the bottom left put 'what you want to let go of' okay when your done tell me

JACKSON

okay I'm done

RHIAN

now list everything in the categories on the paper so what you see as positive about yourself and negative

JACKSON

what I want and need and what I want to let go etc etc. I got this

Jackson starts writing down in negatives - Liar, manipulator, mean spirited and fat in positives he puts- good eyes, friendly, vivacious, compassionate, loving, sometimes gentle nature, talented, great cook in wants and needs he puts - Wants someone to love me and not be repulsed, want to travel the world, to achieve something significant in my lifetime, to have my own family and own my own house, to be debt free and for what he wants to let go of he puts - my grandfather, my y discontent and hate towards my mum, my selfishness and arrogance, my better than everybody else attitude and my emotional eating and my fear I will repeat what I my granddad did to my own kid

JACKSON

okay I'm done

RHIAN

okay, now read it out

JACKSON

(reads it all out)
told you I'm fucked up

RHIAN

i have never judged you, I wouldn't start now

JACKSON

but I do it to you all the time

(CONTINUED)

RHIAN

I really hate when you act like
this, I love you for you so shut up

JACKSON

(starts imitating Alfalfa from
'The little rascals')
you are so beautiful to me

RHIAN

ha ha, okay now you need to keep
this piece of paper and after a
year you need to go through this
and write out another one and
compare the two of them and see how
different or not different they
are, but hopefully different

JACKSON

okay, so is this my Bridget Jones
moment? I'm going to do great
things now

RHIAN

you're being sarcastic but I have a
feeling this will work this is
going to change your life you
watch. Anyways I have a doctors
appointment

JACKSON

is everything okay?

RHIAN

yeah, its just my normal 6 monthly
check up

JACKSON

Oh your so middle class, haha I
haven't been to the doctors in like
5 years

Jackson and Rhian say goodbye and walk separate ways

INT. JACKSON APARTMENT

All of the guys are home, Logan is working out in the
corner, brad is watching TV and Cameron is on his computer

JACKSON

hey guys

(CONTINUED)

BRAD

their he is Mr. can't I sleep in
the corner? what are you doing
home? don't you have uni?

JACKSON

yeah, I'm taking the day off

BRAD

what a surprise

LOGAN

that guy Bryan called he was
checking if you were home wanted to
talk to you

CAMERON

ooh who's Bryan, some raging homo
you met? Have you fucked him

JACKSON

that is weird you would ask and yes

LOGAN

well he sounded desperate to talk
to you, the sex must have been good

JACKSON

okay why can't you guys be like
normal straight guys and be
homophobic and don't ask me stuff

BRAD

because its 2012 Jacky, don't be so
narrow minded

JACKSON

I'm the gay one, how can i be
narrow minded? Anyway I have to go
because this is awkward. I just
came back to change

INT. DOCTORS OFFICE

Rhian is waiting in the doctors room nervously she is
tapping her fingers on the desk, the doctor walks in

DR. ROSE

So your blood work has shown high
levels of hCG which indicates that
your pregnant but I will perform a
pelvic exam just to be sure. What
would you like me to do?

(CONTINUED)

RHIAN

I umm, I'm not sure what I want to do, what are m options for an abortion?

DR. ROSE

well the quicker the decision the better the test have shown that you are about 2 weeks in so you have about 5 more weeks and than after that it becomes slightly more difficult, I'll grab some pamphlets for you and we can discuss your options next week if your not ready to talk about it now

RHIAN

great thanks doctor

DR. ROSE

in the meantime it might be good for you to let the father know so he can come on board

RHIAN

I don't know who the father is

DR.ROSE

Okay

RHIAN

can I find out who the baby is? You know with a blood test or something

DR. ROSE

unfortunately not until the baby is born can you request a blood test for a baby, the earliest would be blood taken from an umbilical cord during childbirth but until than its impossible and unethical to carry out blood test on an unborn baby

RHIAN

shit, motherfucker shit. Thank-you doctor I'll grab those pamphlets

Rhian is inside her car and she lights up a cigarette and starts dialing Jackson

(CONTINUED)

JACKSON
hey you, whats up

RHIAN
hi, just checking on you

JACKSON
ha ha suicide watch is it? I'm fine
I have so much on this evening, I'm
going to see my sister can you
believe it

RHIAN
really, thats so good!

JACKSON
I know right, but I'm only going to
drop her present off. baby steps.
Who knows maybe the list will work
ah aha, anyway are you okay you
sound a bit weird

RHIAN
yeah I'm fine, I was just checking
on you.

JACKSON
well I'm fine, I'm not crawled up
in my bedroom watching you've got
mail, or sleepless in Seattle so
I'm doing good. Okay don't worry
about me, worry about you, maybe go
hang out with one of your
boyfriends ha ha make the rounds ,
I didn't mean that to sound slutty
maybe I did ha ha. Anyways I have
to go, I got to catch the bus. But
call me later okay? Love you

RHIAN
shit

The end scene shows a montage of Rhian looking at her pregnancy test and throwing it in the bin and Jackson, dropping off his present for his sister at the door step, he watches through the lounge window as he walks away. He see's his sister and his little brother and his mum and dad at the table. She is eating her birthday cake

END SCENE