

FEED GEESE

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FADE IN

EXT. PARK SIDEWALK - DAY

ALAN, a young man, jogs.

He stops for a break.

A young MAN jogs up to him for a break.

They have a brief conversation.

They shake hands.

After a friendly farewell, Alan jogs away.

The other man jogs off in the opposite direction.

EXT. SKY - DAY

GEESE fly by.

EXT. PARK SIDEWALK - DAY

Alan stops to look at something.

EXT. PARK LAWN - DAY

A few geese graze.

FLASHBACK on a festive Holiday meal with people around a table.

A cooked goose lays on a platter.

ALAN

This is good! I've never had goose
before.

Alan approaches the geese on the lawn.

The geese slowly move away.

ALAN (CONT'D)

You guys taste good. One of the best
meals I've ever had!

A goose turns to hiss.

ALAN (CONT'D)

Ok, but don't push your luck. Your
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALAN (CONT'D)
goose could be cooked.

The geese squawk among themselves.

ALAN (CONT'D)
Ah shut up you dumb clucks.

VOICE (O.S.)
And you're gay as a goose!

Alan quickly turns around.

ALAN
What the...

MIKE, a friend, is behind him.

MIKE
Stop harassing them! Goose Pervert!

ALAN
What are you doing here?

MIKE
Just out for a walk and take a look at
my friends here.

ALAN
Well, they are all just doing whatever
they do. What does gay as a goose
mean?

MIKE
I don't know, but it sounds good.

ALAN
But, why to me?

MIKE
Not to worry. Just a joke unless
there's something you want to tell me.

ALAN
No, not about that.

MIKE
Good, but you never know these days
and it would not be a problem for me.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALAN
Thanks, good to know old friend.

EXT. PARK SIDEWALK - DAY

Mike walks with Alan.

MIKE
How are you doing? Did you get my
message the other day?

ALAN
Yes, I've been meaning to call. I'm
all right, just busy with finals and
wanting to run away.

MIKE
Yeah, well hang in there. Janet and I
are engaged.

ALAN
Oh, congratulations.

MIKE
Thanks, the big plunge.

ALAN
Yeah, but are you ready?

MIKE
I truly love her, so the risk is worth
taking.

ALAN
Well, love may conquer all.

MIKE
So, they say. I want you to be the
best man.

ALAN
Well, of course.

MIKE
Great, you being there means a lot.
It's going to be a medium size in late
June.

ALAN
Well, you know I'll be there, and I
want to hear all about it, but I've
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALAN (CONT'D)
really got to get going now. The books
are waiting.

MIKE
Sure, let's get together soon and
thanks for wanting to do this.

ALAN
You're welcome.

MIKE
Great. Say hi to Susan.

ALAN
Yes.

They quickly hug.

EXT. PARK SIDEWALK - DAY

Alan jogs.

INT. DESK - DAY

Alan reads a book.

He closes it to reveal a psychology textbook.

He types at a computer.

INT. SOFA - DAY

Alan ponders alone.

He picks up a phone nearby to make a call.

ALAN
Hi, it's me. Sorry you're not home.
Hope to see you soon. Bye.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

A pensive Alan lays in bed on his side.

SUSAN, a young girl, brings her arm and face up over him from
behind.

SUSAN
Good morning.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALAN
Good morning.

Susan seeks affection, but he is unresponsive.

SUSAN
Are you all right? A penny for your
thoughts.

ALAN
It will cost more than that. I've just
got a lot on my mind.

SUSAN
Ok, but let me know if you want. I
have more cash than a penny.

ALAN
Will do.

Alan remains on his side as Susan retreats.

EXT. PARK BENCH - DAY

Alan eats a sandwich as he looks out.

EXT. LAWN - DAY

Geese graze.

EXT. PARK BENCH - DAY

Alan takes a small bag of chips from the lunch.

He moves away.

EXT. LAWN - DAY

Alan approaches to watch the geese.

He opens the bag of chips.

He takes them out to crush.

They scatter on the grass below.

The geese cautiously approach to feed on them.

EXT. PARK LEDGE - DAY

Alan stands to overlook a RIVER.

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CONTINUED:

Two GEESE mingle among rocks and driftwood.

A friendly WOMAN and MAN approach the ledge with a small bag to look over.

WOMAN

Hi Alvin!

MAN

Hi Maggy!

They look towards the geese below as Alan watches.

They take grain out of the bag to throw towards the geese.

ALAN

I gave them chips before.

WOMAN

Oh, yes. But, this is cracked corn.
They really like this. Don't you
Maggy?

ALAN

You gave them names?

MAN

Yes, they know us. We come here a lot.

ALAN

I didn't know they could get that
familiar.

WOMAN

Oh yes, they are very smart and have
good memories.

MAN

We know these two and have seen them
with their babies. One year they had
ten, but only three lived.

ALAN

They are monogamous, aren't they?

WOMAN

Yes, and good parents. They remember
where they were born and come back.
This is their natural habitat.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALAN

How do you know which gender? They both look alike.

MAN

I know. You have to get up close and personal to find out. But they know.

ALAN

That's good. I guess that's all that matters.

MAN

Yes, it's too bad that they didn't make a larger area for them when they planned the park.

The couple throws more grain towards the geese as Alan looks on.

After a brief time, they walk away with "goodbyes" to Alan as they happily hold hands.

ALAN

Nice talking to you.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Alan walks with Susan.

ALAN

I apologize for being so mysterious.

SUSAN

That's ok. Is something bothering you?
Like school?

ALAN

Yes, but not school.

SUSAN

Well, maybe we should talk about it.

They continue to walk in silence until Alan gestures towards a bench.

EXT. BENCH - DAY

Susan and Alan sit together.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALAN
I'm scared.

SUSAN
About what?

ALAN
Us.

SUSAN
Well, so am I. Maybe that is good.

ALAN
Why?

SUSAN
It's something we have in common.

FLASH on Geese in flight.

EXT. PARK - DAY

From a distance, Susan with Alan continue their conversation on the bench.

EXT. BENCH - DAY

Susan with Alan continue to sit together.

ALAN
I have been tormenting about this for quite a while, so before I explode...

SUSAN
Yes, let's do it!

ALAN
What?

SUSAN
Get engaged so you don't have to explode!

ALAN
No, this is all fucked up!

SUSAN
What, you don't want to get engaged?

ALAN
No, I'm gay. I wasn't trying to
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALAN (CONT'D)

deceive you. I really like you, but
I've got to stop deceiving myself
before it's too late!

SUSAN

Well, I was falling in love with you!
And I just made a fool of myself about
getting engaged!

She gets up to leave.

ALAN

Please don't go! I know, I had
feelings for you as far as they could
go. That's why this is so hard! I need
you right now to understand!

She sits back down.

SUSAN

This changes so much, but this is the
most honest we have been together. I
felt the growing distance between us.
Are you sure about this?

ALAN

Yes, but this coming out thing is a
scary new trip.

SUSAN

Yes, it could be but try to be happy
about it and not worry. About this gay
thing think of it this way. Some are
and some aren't, that's all. Either
way, you're going to be just fine.

ALAN

That's beautiful. Thanks, I needed
that. I feel lost.

SUSAN

Well, it looks like you have been
found.

ALAN

I hope so. Still friends?

SUSAN

Yes, I hope still one of your best.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALAN

Absolutely! I am not going away.

They hug and then kiss with resolution.

With affection, they get up.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Susan with Alan Walk closely on a path.

ALAN

Now there is something else to do.

He takes a plastic bag of grain out of his pocket to show.

SUSAN

What?

ALAN

Come on let's go.

He takes her hand as they walk on the path.

EXT. PARK LEDGE - DAY

Alan guides Susan to look below at the rocks and driftwood.

SUSAN

This is beautiful.

ALAN

I know, but they're not here.

SUSAN

Who?

ALAN

Come on, you'll see.

EXT. PARK - DAY

FLASH scenes among other people as Alan looks for something with Susan in tow.

The geese Maggie and Alvin are on the distance on a lawn with others.

Alan with Susan move towards them.

Alan throws grain to them.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

They take off in flight to his disappointment.

ALAN
This is the corn they like!

EXT. SKY - DAY

Maggie and Alvin are in flight.

ALVIN (O.S.)
Come on Maggie, let's get outa here.
It's that same guy maybe with those
nasty chips. And he talked about
eating us!

MAGGIE (O.S.)
Yeah, let's go!

EXT. PARK - DAY

Alan and Susan continue to walk.

FLASH scenes as dusk approaches with no geese in sight.

ALAN
This is weird!

SUSAN
Where did they all go?

ALAN
They knew I was coming out and are
trying to avoid me.

SUSAN
Yes, that's it. They have all decided
to hide from you.

ALAN
Just so long as you don't hide from
me.

SUSAN
No, you are stuck with my friendship.

ALAN
Great.

SUSAN
I wish you the best with all this
because you are the best and will make
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SUSAN (CONT'D)
some guy very happy.

ALAN
Thanks, you are also the best.

He looks upward to yell out.

ALAN (CONT'D)
Hey you guys. Everything is going
better. I apologize about making
cracks about eating you! Let's make
peace! Also, it's ok to be as gay as a
goose!

Susan with Alan share the humor.

EXT. SKY - DAY

Geese fly above.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Alan with Susan stand as they gently throw grain below for
the cautious, but receptive geese.

FADE OUT