

FEED GEESE

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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 and then a friendly farewell.

Alan jogs away.

The other man jogs off in the opposite direction.

EXT. SKY

GEESE fly by.

EXT. PARK SIDEWALK

Alan stops to look at something.

EXT. PARK LAWN

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.

End of FLASHBACK

Alan approaches the geese on the lawn.

The geese slowly move away.

ALAN

You guys taste good. One of the best meals

I've ever had!

A goose turns to hiss.

ALAN

Ok, but don't push your luck. Your goose
could be cooked.

The geese squawk among themselves.

ALAN

Ah, shut up you dumb clucks.

MIKE, a young man sneaks up behind him.

MIKE

And you're as gay as a goose!

Alan quickly turns around.

ALAN

What the...

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.

What does gay as a goose mean?

MIKE

I don't know, but I've heard it before and
it sounds good.

EXT. PARK SIDEWALK

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 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

Alan jogs.

INT. DESK

Alan reads a book.

He closes it to reveal a psychology text book.

He types at a computer.

INT. SOFA

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 - FLASHBACK

A pensive Alan lays in bed on his side.

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

SUSAN

Good morning.

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.

End of FLASHBACK

EXT. PARK BENCH - DAY

Alan eats a sandwich as he looks out.

EXT. LAWN

Geese graze.

EXT. PARK BENCH

Alan takes a small bag of chips from the lunch and then moves away.

EXT. LAWN

Alan approaches to watch the geese.

He opens the bag of chips, and then takes them out to crush.

They scatter on the grass below.

The geese cautiously approach to feed on them.

EXT. PARK LEDGE

Alan stands to overlook a stream.

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.

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

Susan and Alan sit together.

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

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

An upset Susan gets up to walk away followed by a frantic Alan.

EXT. SIDEWALK

Susan walks quickly as Alan comes up from behind Susan.

ALAN

Don't go like this! I still love you, but not that way!

SUSAN

You have just turned my whole life around so I need some space!

ALAN

Yeah, yeah, for sure, but I need you now! I am so alone! Please?

Susan stops and then turns towards Alan.

Alan approaches her.

They quietly walk together.

EXT. BENCH

Susan with Alan sit together.

SUSAN

I don't like this. It changes everything, but this is the most honest we have been together. Are you sure?

ALAN

Yes, but it's hard to say.

SUSAN

Ok, be happy and try not to worry about it. Some are and some aren't, that's all. Either way, you're going to be just fine and so will I you damn jerk!

ALAN

Yes, I am, but what you just said is beautiful. Thanks, I feel lost.

SUSAN

Well, it looks like maybe you have been found.

ALAN

I hope so. Still friends?

SUSAN

Yes, but still need time and space to ease into it.

ALAN

Absolutely! I am not going away.

They hug.

With affection, they get up.

EXT. ANOTHER PARK SECTION

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

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. ANOTHER PARK SECTION

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, but they take off in flight to his disappointment.

ALAN

This is the corn they like!

EXT. SKY

Maggie and Alvin are in flight.

ALVIN (OS)

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 (OS)

Yeah, let's go!

EXT. PARK

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 because you are the best and will make some guy very happy.

ALAN

Thanks, you are also the best.

He looks upward to yell out.

ALAN

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!

EXT. SKY

Geese fly above.

EXT. PARK

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