# Middle Eastern punk

# BY RONEN BLUMBERG

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SUPER: ISRAEL 1982 TEL AVIV.

#### 1. EXT. HIGH SCHOOLYARD - EVENING

A high school graduation ceremony takes place. Large plaza full of students all dressed up pretty in front of a stage decorated with flags and a large sign that reads "1982 Graduation Ceremony.". on the stage stands in front of the microphone an elderly woman (60s). Along with the students, parents all dressed up dignified some take pictures of the ceremony. At the plaza's edge are standing YONI and AVI (both 18), two teenagers dressed in sloppy clothes. They smoke a cigarette which they pass between them.

#### ELDERLY WOMAN

...Finally, I would like to say to you, our school graduates, how proud we are of you. We, the team of educators and teachers, are proud of you for joining the Army and taking an active part in defending the homeland in Operation Peace of the Galilee currently being conducted...

YONI

I can't believe what I'm hearing! Avi! throw that cigarette! We gotta do something! Let's shout, boo!

Avi takes one last drag from the cigarette, throws it to the floor, and stubs the cigarette out with his foot.

AVI

Yalla, I'm with you, Yoni!

Avi and Yoni start shouting boos and whistles, parents and students yelling at them to shut up or leave Avi and Yoni spites with contempt on the floor and leave the plaza, and the ceremony continues.

#### 2. EXT. PUBLIC GARDEN - NIGHT

Avi and Yoni sit on a bench lighted by a flashlight in the garden. Avi holds a bottle of Maccabi beer, and they both smoke and pass the beer between them and drink from it intermittently.

YONI

Fuck man! What are we gonna do?
I already received a draft
(MORE)

YONI (CONT'D)

letter. How the hell am I gonna get rid of the Army's hand on my back?

AVT

We're fucked, Yoni. They are drafting everyone except the blind, the handicapped, and gays.

YONI

There's gotta be a way!

AVI

Tell them you're openly gay, and you'll see you'll get a 21.

YONI

It's easy to tell them that, but will they really believe me?

AVI

Grow your hair and your nails a bit and talk feminine like

Avi laughs

YONI

I'm serious, man! I want that 21 profile to get the fucking Army off my back!

AVI

Okay, just tell them you're a male prostitute who sleeps with men in Gan-Ha-atzmauth. They won't ask you any more questions after that.

YONI

What about you? You're gonna walk like a sheep to the slaughter?

AVI

Yep, I'm not going to try and get a 21. I'm going to (mimics the voice of the elderly woman from scene 1) "take an active part in the protection of the people and the homeland"... kibinimat! Our stupid School (MORE)

AVI (CONT'D)

headmaster! Like As if we are joining the Pal-mach on the independent war.

YONT

You're really going just like that? To fight and kill or get killed?

AVI

I've already thought about all this, believe me, and I've come to accept it — I have no choice, Yoni. I don't want a Cain mark for the rest of my life. I don't want my whole life to be considered a chicken dodger and who everyone everywhere will wanna screw with me.

YONT

Listen to me, good Avi. I'm telling you as your friend. Even if you fight this stinking war and succeed in coming back in one piece, you'll return screwed all over! I tell you.

AVI

As much as I agree with you and hate going to the Army, I have no choice — everybody I know is being drafted.

YONI

Good thing not everybody is jumping off the rooftops; otherwise, you'd probably jump too. Just promise me you won't come back as a dead hero.

AVI

I'll try...

(finishes the bottle) you're coming to the kiosk to buy another beer?)

YONI

Okay. Let's go.

Yoni and Avi get up and go. Avi throws and smashes the bottle on the floor, they exit the garden.

SUPER: ONE YEAR AFTER

#### 3. INT. YONI'S APARTMENT - DAWN

Yoni sleeps on a single bed in a one-bedroom apartment. The furniture is poor and messy, and improvised. Next to the bed, A small dresser with an alarm clock shows the time of 5:20. The alarm clock starts to ring. Yoni gets up and turns off the alarm clock. There are clothes scattered all over the floor on the apartment floor. Yoni starts picking up clothes from the floor and wears them.

# YONI (V.O.)

Avi was right as soon as I stated to the draft officer that I was a homosexual, I was immediately signed up for a discharge and no longer asked any more questions, but my parents told me that I had to prepare to leave the house. So I found a job in a small photography shop, and two months later, I moved into a crumbling one-bedroom apartment, and that's how I started living hand-to-mouth.

Yoni turns on the light and enters the kitchenette at the end of the apartment, where a kettle stands on a stove next to a small window and makes him coffee. He lights a cigarette and opens the window, and looks outside. The sounds of the birds chirping can be heard, and the sky is seen clearing. The streetlights are still lit, and from a distance, a door of a large building gate above it is a lit sign with the words "Cuckoo's Nest — Club."

# YONI (V.O.)

This miserable room apartment was located close to some dance club and a bar called "Cuckoo's Nest" and all night, I would hear from afar the sounds of partygoers and echoes of music and see them coming out or going in there until the place was closed at about 5:30am and then the last of the partygoers would leave and then I would usually see her come out and disappear.

The door of the club gate opens a young woman dressed in a green jacket with a hooded hat and jeans and high black boots with blonde hair in a punkish Mohican hairstyle. The girl walks fast, covers her head in a hoodie, and

disappears up the street. Yoni looking at her and follows her with his gaze

#### 4. INT. PHOTO-NISSIM PHOTOSHOP - DAY

Yoni (19) dressed in jeans and a simple T-shirt, arranges inside The drawers envelopes of films and developed photos. Over the counter at the checkout stands Nissim (50s), a balding man with glasses wearing a brightly striped button-down shirt and long trousers, and talking to an old lady dressed in a floral dress holding a purse.

#### NISSIM

Don't worry, Ms. Buchler. The film will be sent to a professional photo lab, and the pictures and negatives will be ready for you on Sunday.

MS. BUCHLER

I hope so. These are the photos of my grandchildren.

#### NISSIM

Your photos are in good hands, Ms. Buchler. That will be 55 thousand shekels you can pay some of it now and the rest on Sunday when you'll come for the photos.

Buchler opens her wallet and takes out a 20,000 old shekel bill. Nissim registers the details on the envelope for the film's development, registers the money, and takes out a receipt, and gives it to Ms. Buchler. Ms. Buchler exits the store. Nissim looks at his hand watch, then goes to the glass entrance door and takes off the "open" sign, and hangs the "we're closed" sign instead.

# NISSIM

That's it for this week, Yoni leave what you're doing for Sunday and come help me close the registry.

Nissim starts closing the register and counting the money. Yoni comes to help him and brings the mobile cash safe.

# NISSIM

(angrily)

looks like we have here a few billions of shekels. Dammit, our currency isn't worth a thing with this crazy inflation... Nissim counts the money, and Yoni writes down the sums in the record book, they put the money inside the mobile cash safe and lock Nissim taking the key for himself.

NTSSTM

Yalla Yoni, let's close and say sabbath shalom

YONI

Ah... Mr. Nissim, I have a question.

NISSIM

Yes, just make it quick.

Nissim takes out from his pocket a set of keys

YONI

Near where I live there is this dance bar called "Cuckoo's Nest" what's that place?

NISSIM

(laughs)

a young man like you asking me what is a dance bar? That would be like me asking you what's it like to be a business owner.

YONT

I know what a dance bar or a club is, yet I just don't get the style of that place... All sorts of strange people come there...

NISSIM

(Sighs) Look, Yoni, I recommend you stay away from that place. It's a place of entertainment for raiders and punks and promiscuous girls. They don't come there to hang out but to look for trouble. All the deranged who dropped out of high school or who dodged the Army go there. They're a bunch of people from the fringe, most of them gay and lesbian, and the rest are perverts and deranged - you have nothing to look for there. Believe me, it's a lame imitation of what goes on abroad (MORE)

NISSIM (CONT'D)

with only foreign music, punk and rock, and the god knows what else... each night, there's fights and beatings of drunken, violent punks there, it's only a matter of time before blood is spilled there. You don't belong there. Do you understand?... Okay, so now let's close and lock down the store. My wife is waiting for me, and I still got to do the shopping for Shabbat.

5. INT. YONI'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Yoni lays on the bad. The apartment is a dirty mess—clothes all over the floor. The kitchen is full of dirty dishes and empty cups.

YONI (V.O.)

Another lonely Saturday in the big city, and I had nobody, no friends, and no love. I was just 19, and I hated those lonely weekends, and I kept thinking about my boss warning me and likewise people.

Yoni gets up, puts on his jeans, goes to the closet, and takes out a leather jacket.

YONI (V.O.)

I decided that I won't know a thing until I don't see the place for myself.

Yoni takes from the floor a white T-shirt and wears it and on top wears the jacket.

YONI (V.O.)

After all, what did I had to lose?

6. EXT. CUCKOO'S NEST CLUB ENTRANCE - NIGHT

Yoni stands in a long line to the entrance of the club. The young partygoers are all young and dressed in a punk or glam rock fashion. Suddenly there is a fight between a young teenage boy and an older young guy. The young teenager tries to run away. The older-younger guy runs after him and catches him a few meters away and pushes him to the ground, and starts to punch him. The teenager begins to yell and curse, the partygoers yell to them to

stop. Two guards come and separate the two and give medical aid to the teenager.

#### 7. INT. CUCKOO'S NEST CLUB - NIGHT

Yoni enters the club. The song "London's calling" by the clash is played in the background. To the left, there's a bar and also sitting seats and lounges. The right is a dancing space where some dance POGO or other kinds of dancing to punk music sounds. Yoni goes and sits at the bar. On his left, two teenage girls kiss and make out. People stare at Yoni. YOGEV (22) approaches Yoni and smiles at him.

YOGEV

Hi stranger, welcome to the cuckoo's club.

YONI

(stares at him)

Thanks, I guess anyone can see it's my first time here.

YOGEV

That's okay. Newcomers are always welcome. My name is Yogev. What's yours?

YONI

Yoni

YOGEV

Can I invite you for a drink?

YONI

(embarrassed)

You're trying to hit on me or something?

YOGEV

Why not? A handsome young man like you. But if that's not your thing, that's okay too

YONI

Well, I don't know what thing I'm into right now, but that's not why I'm here.

YOGEV

Okay then, let's make a deal. Have a drink with me, and we'll talk. I'll answer your questions, and you'll tell me what brought you here.

YONI

Okay sounds good to me.

Yogev buys two Maacbi beers from the bar, and he and Yoni go and sit together at one of the empty tables. Yoni lights a cigarette.

YOGEV

Let me take a quick guess. You weren't drafted to the Army like 90 percent of the people here.

YONI

Yep. I didn't want to die in Sharon's little dirty war.

YOGEV

Well, you were more intelligent than me. I just finished full military service in Golani one year ago.

YONI

You let them draft you? But you could have easily gotten a 21. I mean, you are gay, no?

YOGEV

Yeah, but when I finished high school, I was deep in the closet, so I played it macho and ended up in Lebanon, seeing my friends get killed or blown up

YONI

Sorry to hear that, Yogev.

YOGEV

Don't be. I managed to survive the fucking war and come back in one piece with a motion that I only live once, so I might as well start living and being who I truly am. I came out of the closet thanks to that dam war.

YONT

I thought gays go to Gan-Haazmaut and places like that.

YOGEV

It would be a mistake to think like that, Yoni. There are gay people everywhere you look. And (MORE)

YOGEV (CONT'D)

anyway, I hate Gan-Haazmaut cause not only gay people go there but also those who want to beat up gay people. So I prefer this place.

YONI

But here also, there is beating. I witnessed a beating just outside of this club.

YOGEV

Our world is a violent place to live in Yoni. A lot of assholes also come here. We call them "hitters," young teens and adults outside Tel Aviv who come here to get drunk and start a fight. Just stay out of their way and stick with the ones who you know you can trust. This club is a microcosmos of our society Yoni, and our society is full of violence. But if it comforts you, I'll just say that it's much safer here than to go fight in the war in Lebanon. There the chances to return in a bodybag is much higher.

Yoni and Yogev drink from their beer

YOGEV

Okay, now it's your turn.

YONI

My turn for what?

YOGEV

Your turn to tell me about yourself, what brought you here and what you are looking for.

YONI

I'm 19 years old. All alone in the big bad world, living a small life in a small apartment and work in a small photoshop, and the reason I'm here is pretty stupid. YOGEV

All History is driven by stupid reasons. It's okay, you can tell me I won't laugh.

YONT

I can see the entrance of this club from my apartment's windows, and each night, I see someone coming here regularly. She comes around midnight and leaves when the place closes at 5:30 in the morning.

YOGEV

How does she look like?

YONI

She's hot! She's dressed in a green jacket, jeans, and long black boots, and she has blonde hair in a Mohican punk style. Do you know who I'm talking about?

YOGEV

Maybe... there are some punk girls here with a Mohican that comes here regularly.

YONI

Are you sure you don't know who I'm talking about? I mean, how many blonde Mohican punk girls with green a jacket come here?

YOGEV

Okay, I'm not gonna lie to you. I know who you're talking about, but...

YONI

But what? She already got someone?

YOGEV

You can ask her that yourself cause she'll be here tonight at midnight as usual. She happens to be a close friend of mine, and I can't tell you much about her cause she hates people talking about her behind her back.

YONI

At least tell me her name.

YOGEV

(signs)

Her name is Anna. We call her "green Anna."

YONI

Cause of the green jacket?

YOGEV

Cause she has green eyes

Yogev finishes his beer

YOGEV

Well, Yoni, it was nice to get to know you, and once again, welcome to our little club.

YONI

Where are you going?

YOGEV

Don't get me wrong, it was nice to chat, but I'm gonna look for a sex partner for the night, and who knows, maybe get lucky and find someone to love. So anyhow, have a good night and good luck.

Yogev goes away and vanishes.

# 8. INT. CUCKOO'S NEST CLUB - NIGHT

Yoni sits and sips a beer and smokes, peeping at his watch and at the entrance door of the club. Around him are young man women teens all drinking, smoking, talking, and laughing.

YONI (V.O.)

I was waiting for her to show up like in the fairytales at midnight. I was nervous. Around me, all sorts of people were having a good time. And all I could think of was how to get her attention and what will my first sentence be so she'll notice I exist.

Yoni peeps again towards the club entrance door, and into the club enters ANNA (21). Dressed in a green coat with a hoodie and brown skirt and wearing long leather boots. She takes off her hoodie and exposes her Mohican her eyes are green. She marches confidently towards the bar, where three other girls wearing black leather clothes and Mohicken hairstylings sit. Yoni smiles, turns off the cigarette, sips the rest of the beer, gets up from his seat, and walks towards her. Anna walks past him quickly and doesn't notice him at all. Yoni is surprised and follows her with his eyes. Anna goes towards the girls at the bar. One of them notices her and jumps out of her place and happily shouts "My lover!" and immediately Anna and the girl kiss a passionate kiss. Yoni freezes in his place and looks in pain at how Anna and the other girl sit together, hugging each other with attraction.

YONI (V.O.)

I couldn't believe how it ended before it even started without me being able to say anything.

Yoni goes and sits at the bar not far from Anna and her friends

YONI

Hey, barman, give me three shots of clean vodka.

The barman hangs to Yoni three shots of vodka, and he starts to drink them slowly. He looks at Anna and her friends. They are in deep conversation—he barriers his face in his hand.

YONI (V.O.)

Instead of just going back home, I stayed and got myself so drunk that what happened after Yogev told me.

# 9. INT. CUCKOO'S NEST CLUB - NIGHT

Yoni's completely stoned trunk at the bar. He is leaned over the shoulder of AVIV (30s), a man wearing a pink button-down shirt. Yoni silently weeps.

AVIV

(to Yoni in a feminine tone) Quiet my sweety soon I'll take you to my place, and we'll have a good time

(in normal voice)
Hey buddy! Give us two more
shots of vodka.

Yogev appears from the back passes then stops and takes a look, and approaches.

YOGEV

Leave him alone! Aviv, go find yourself another victim, you old wrinkled drag!

AVIV

Mind your own business Yogev! I found him first! He's not a minor, and he drank from his own free will, and anyway, what do you care?

Yogev grabs Aviv's shoulder with one hand and turns him to face him, and he fists the other hand close to Aviv's face.

YOGEV

(in an intimidating tone)
Listen to me, good Aviv! Leave
the kid alone! There are plenty
of fishes in the sea, and I'm
serious, and you know by now not
to mess with me when I'm
serious!

AVIV

Are you threatening me, sweety?

YOGEV

Did I ever tell you how I killed that Syrian soldier with my bare hands on the Litany bridge?

AVIV

Okay, relax, you win. The sweet boy is all yours, you horny jealous bitch!

Aviv gently leans Yoni on the bar, gets up, and goes away in a hurry. Yogev takes Yoni and helps him get on his feet, leaning on his shoulder. He takes out his wallet and looks at his I.D.

YOGEV

Come on, poor kid, I'm taking you to your home. The party is over for you, kid.

Yogev starts to walk with Yoni towards the exit of the club.

FADE OUT

FADE IN

#### 10. INT. YONI'S APARTMENT - DAY

Yoni lays in his bed and slowly wakes up. Daylight pears from an open window. The apartment is tidy and clean. Yogev sits in the kitchen smoking and reading a newspaper. The headline on the newspaper "Prime minister Begin resigns from office.". A small radio transistor is playing Israeli music. Yoni wakes up. Yogev notices it and gets up, and starts to make Turkish coffee.

YONI

Oh! My head is exploding!

YOGEV

Good morning.

YONI

What's the time? How did I get here from the club?

Yogev approaches with a glass of coffee.

YOGEV

Long story... here take this it's Turkish coffee it will help you with the hangover.

YONI

But my head is killing me.

YOGEV

Listen to some with some experience with hangovers. This coffee will help you with the headache.

Yoni takes the coffee and takes a sip from it

YONI

God. How much alcohol I drank...

YOGEV

Never get drunk like that at the club ever again. If you do, you'll get into trouble.

Yoni looks around and drinks more from the coffee.

YONT

Am I dreaming, or is this place suddenly tidy and clean?

YOGEV

No, you're not dreaming. After I brought you back safe from the club, I didn't have the heart to just leave you in this pig stock (MORE)

YOGEV (CONT'D)

mess. Plus, you vomited twice on the floor. So I cleaned the mess and tidy up the place, and I asked your friendly neighbors for help with some food and groceries for Shabbat. You didn't have any food in the fridge except some coffee and beer... why the hell do you let yourself live like this? Hum? Did you ever think about that? What if you'll want to bring someone here as a guest? I mean, don't you deserve better?

Yoni finishes the coffee and gives the glass back to Yogev. He goes to the kitchen and washes it, and gets back standing near Yoni's bed.

YOGEV

How's the head?

YONT

A little better.

YOGEV

Told you so... if I'd known you'd take it so bad, I would have told you straight in the face and save you the pathetic alcoholic kamikaze binge.

Yoni tries to get up but falls back.

YOGEV

Dizziness?

Yoni nods. Yogev goes to the kitchen and makes another coffee.

YOGEV

Do you have any idea how many times I wanted someone, but he was straight? But what can we do? That's part of life kid, Deal with it!

Yogev brings Yoni another coffee. Yoni takes it and drinks slowly.

YOGEV

Rejection, loss, heartbreak,
(MORE)

YOGEV (CONT'D)

falling in love, or just a plane one nightstand. It's all part of life. You'll be alright, kid?

YONT

Yogev tell me, Am I to you what Anna is to me?

YOGEV

Looks like the alcohol messed with your brain. You're talking nonsense.

YONI

Really? Then why the hell would you bother so much?

YOGEV

Maybe I'm just a nice guy with a golden heart.

YONI

I don't fully buy it

YOGEV

Well, think whatever you want, I can't stop you. Anyway, I'm going home. I need to sleep. I've been up for 24 hours.

YONI

Will I see you again?

YOGEV

Sure, if you'll keep coming to the club, you'll run into me there.

YONI

Thanks, Yogev.

YOGEV

Don't mention it, kid, see you and take care of yourself.

Yogev exits. Yoni stumbles to get to and goes to the window with a view of the street. Yogev appears walking across the street in the distance. Yoni follows him with his look until he disappears.

YONI (V.O.)

Today I understand he had no choice but to deny it.
Otherwise, the pain would be too hard to bear. So he switched to (MORE)

YONI (V.O.) (CONT'D) the tough, macho mode like he was in the Army, and of course, he hoped never to see me again in the club, and the more I'll see him, the less he'll stand being around me till he'll turn into a stranger who doesn't care. It wasn't only Anna that I lost that weekend but also eventually a good guy like Yogev.

FADE OUT

FADE IN

#### 11. INT. PHOTO-NISSIM PHOTOSHOP - DAY

Yoni stands with Nissim. Nissim is looking at a newspaper ad with a young man and woman models with a Mohican haircut.

NISSIM

(shocked)

Mohican? You want to do a punk's Mohican haircut?

YONI

I'm asking Mr. Nissim if I'll do it. Will I be able to continue working here?

NISSIM

Well, it could be a problem. The customers might be scared.

YONI

And what if I'll wear a hat over it?

NISSIM

That Could help... say Yoni do you have any other strange fashion style you wanna adopt that I should know about?

YONI

Well, I've been thinking about doing a tattoo on my arm and an earring.

NISSIM

(angrily)

Have you lost your mind?

YONI

That's how young people fashion is today, Mr. Nissim

NISSIM

Look, Yoni, you are an adult, and you have the right to do as you choose; however, if you're going to do to yourself a haircut of a rooster's squat and an earring and a tattoo, I doubt I'll keep you as an employee.

YONI

That's why I'm asking you in advance.

NISSIM

(angrily)

Well, I'm glad you asked! And the answer is no! absolutely not! Do you understand?!

YONI

(signs)

Yes, Mr. Nissim.

Nissim throws the newspaper ad into the trash can.

NISSIM

Now let's get back to work. Go and prepare the photos that came back from development, including Ms. Buchler's photos. She'll soon be here for them.

YONI

Yes, Mr. Nissim.

# 12. INT. CUCKOO'S NEST CLUB - NIGHT

Yoni and Yogev sit at the bar drinking beer. Behind them sits TZIPORA (27), a woman wearing stylish punk clothes smoking and gazing at Yoni.

YONI

So if I'll do it, I'll have to look for another job.

YOGEV

Then find another job.

YONI

There aren't many places that will hire someone like me who didn't do full military service, and I got rent to pay.

YOGEV

Well, like everything in life, there is a price to pay. But you look good enough like a 50's rocker.

(takes a sip from the beer) By the way, I see Tzipora is interested in you. She's gazing at you from the back.

YONI

Tzipora?

Yoni turns to look at her.

YONI

Who is she?

YOGEV

She's someone who comes here regularly to look for one-night stands, and her taste is young men like you. If you are interested in losing your virginity, you better approach her and invite her for some beer before she moves on to someone else.

Yoni turns around and takes a better look.

YONI

Should I?

YOGEV

It's your choice. If you go for it, she'll give herself gladly. But I got to warn you she's looking only for sex, not love, nor relationship, nor romance, nor nothing.

YONI

I hope you don't mind me leaving you and going to her.

YOGEV

(laughs)

Go to her kid. She's waiting just for you.

Yoni goes over to Tzipora. She smiles at him, and they start to talk without their voices heard.

YONI (V.O.)

From that moment, everything happened fast. After a brief introduction and a drink, we went to my place, where before I could understand who what and how we found ourselves having sex.

# 13. INT. YONI'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Complete darkness. Sounds of a man and a woman breathing heavily faster and faster and of a bed mattress squeaking. Then the climax and after that relaxed moans and then quiet. The light switches on Tzipora and Yoni are in bed naked. The bedsheets hide their naked bodies. Their clothes are scattered on the floor. Tzipora gets up quickly and starts dressing up. Yoni is catching his breath.

YONI

Wait, where are you going?

TZIPORA

I had a good time, thanks, sweety, but I need to go now.

YONT

Just wait a minute, will ya? Please?

TZIPORA

Sorry honey, but I'm not interested in sticking around for chatting or coffee or a cigarette and all that shit, so I'll just be on my way.

YONI

(looking for his underwear)
Fuck! You're acting just like a
man who fucks and throws away.
Dammit, why are you like that?

TZIPORA

(stops dressing and look at Yoni with an angry look)
Yeah! Exactly! I'm just like you men! I fucked you up, and now
I'm throwing you away, and I'm off to brag about it with my friends, and I don't care about you even one bit! All I wanted (MORE)

TZIPORA (CONT'D)

was to feel a man inside me and to have an orgasm! That's what all you men are in my eyes, just dildos! And if you can't accept that honey, then that's your problem! not mine!

Tzipora finished undressing as Yoni looks at her with a sad face, and she walks to the door, opens it, and then stops to turn to look at Yoni with a mean look.

TZIPORA

(in an evil voice)
I was your first one! And you'll
remember all this and me
forever! Goodbye!

Tzipora exits and slams the door. Yoni stays in shock, then finds his underwear and puts them on, gets up and goes to the window, and looks outside to the street on Tzipora walking down the street until she disappears.

YONI (V.O.)

This is not how I expected my first time would be. Sadness, anger, and shame rose in me and the understanding that all of this was just revenge for all the men who broke her heart, used her, and abused her, leaving her in tears until she decided to act as they did to her. Her heart was so broken that she stopped believing or wanting love.

FADE OUT

FADE IN

### 14. INT. CUCKOO'S NEST CLUB - NIGHT

Anna sits alone at the bar and drinks a drink with a straw. There are few people around her. Suddenly a young man aggressively grabs her hand and starts to shake her, yelling at her.

YOUNG MAN

You fucking dyke! Who are you to say no to me?!

Anna shouts for help. The drink falls down to the floor. Youi comes rushing in, grabs the young man, punches him several times, and yells for the guards to come. Two

guards rush in and separate and take out the young man. Anna is crying. Yoni takes her and sits her down on a chair at the bar.

YONI

Anna, are you okay? Are you hurt?

ANNA

I'm not hurt physically.

YONI

Are you okay then?

ANNA

(crying as her make up runs down)

No, I'm not okay. I'm hurt in my heart, not in my body.

YONI

How can I help you?

ANNA

Take me the fucking out of here!
I don't care where!

YONI

I'm Yoni. I'm one of Yogev's friends

ANNA

I know who you are. Yogev already told me everything about you.

YONI

I live not far from here. Would you like me to take you to my place so you'll recover?... will that help?

ANNA

I don't care anymore. Sure take me to your place for whatever. Let's just get the fuck out of here!

# 15. INT. YONI'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Yoni and Anna enter the apartment. Yoni turns on the light. The apartment is tidy and clean. Anna goes to the kitchen sink and was the makeup from her face. Yoni hands her a towel. They sit down at the kitchen table.

ANNA

Thanks, Yoni, for helping me.

YONI

You're welcome

ANNA

Do you have any beer?

YONI

Are you sure you don't want coffee instead?

ANNA

I prefer beer. Would you mind if I smoke?

YONI

I'll bring you an ashtray.

Yoni goes to the fridge and comes back with an astray and cold Maacabi beer and a glass. Anna takes out Nelsson cigarettes and a zippo lighter and lights a cigarette. Yoni sits next to her.

YONT

That's a nice lighter.

ANNA

It belonged to my older brother.

YONI

What is he doing today?

ANNA

He was killed in acting when I was 16 years old.

YONI

I'm sorry.

ANNA

Don't be. It's not your fault that He died. And anyway, he was a real patriot, and he wanted to go and fight for the country he loved so much, so maybe we should be happy for him. Cause you can also die crossing the street on your way home from the grocery store. Most people think I'm using this manly lighter cause I'm a lesbian, but no, it's just a way for me to remember him and how much I loved him and admired him. I see my green jacket and Mohican hair and clothes as my uniform when I (MORE)

ANNA (CONT'D)

go out at night to the club, just like a soldier fighting in a war zone.

YONT

Going to the club is like going to fight in a war zone?

ANNA

Yes, love and hate are both sides of the same coin. And love is a battle filed just like going to war. But life's too short for hate, so I try to forgive and let go of those who hate and hurt me for what I am.

Yoni lights a cigarette. Anna purs a glass of beer and looks around at the apartment.

ANNA

Your place is sure tidier and cleaner than mine. I live in a messy apartment. Do you have anything stronger than beer?

YONI

I have Arak in the fridge, but it's almost 4 am in the morning.

ANNA

After years going each night drinking in the club, it's getting hard for me to pass the night without drinking. Like most heavy clubbers, I'm becoming an alcoholic, just like Yogev, who drinks too much to forget Lebanon.

YONI

And what are you trying to forget?

ANNA

Loneliness, sadness, the fact that I'm "different" in a time and place that don't accept different people, and a broken heart.

YONT

Broken heart?

ANNA

My lover broke up with me and left abroad for good, and ever since, I'm alone again. You know what I'm talking don't you, Yoni. You are also alone, aren't you?

Yoni nods

ANNA

Ever since I'm alone again, I feel as if life isn't going nowhere that we are all stuck and just getting old, and it's shit to feel like that, so I go a lot to the club, and I drink a lot to not feel like that, but that's not the solution.

YONI

What is the solution?

ANNA

(sighs)

Maybe find a love that won't leave us and break our hearts.

YONI

Does such love exist?

ANNA

It's called self-love, Yoni. Self-love with self-dignity. It sounds simple, yet I wish I could know where to find it.

YONI

Maybe try to love yourself first before trying to love someone else?

Anna looks at Yoni and smiles.

ANNA

I think I'll have coffee with you instead.

Yoni smiles and goes to make coffee

YONI

Two Turkish coffee coming right up!

ANNA

Make mine extra strong!

YONI

No problem!

Yoni returns to the table with two cups of coffee. He and Anna continue to talk without sound. Anna starts to smile and laugh.

YONI (V.O.)

We sat down and just talked till sunrise—just two lonely souls in the night enjoying each other's company.

# 16. INT. YONI'S APARTMENT - DAWN

Anna and Yoni sit in silence at the kitchen table.

ANNA

Well, I gotta go home and rest before I prepare to go to work tomorrow.

YONT

Will you be alright?

ANNA

I'm already alright, thanks to you.

YONI

I'm happy to hear that.

ANNA

Do you have a pen and paper somewhere?

Yoni brings a pen and a piece of paper. Anna takes it and writes down her address.

ANNA

That's my address, and I'll be happy if you'll come to visit me once in a while to have a drink or coffee or whatever.

YONI

I'll be happy to.

Anna gets up and covers her Mohican with her hoodies, goes to Yoni, kisses him on the cheek, and exits the apartment. Yoni goes to the window and stares at Anna walking down the street till she disappears.

YONI (V.O.)

At first, she thought she "owes" me one for helping her, and she was prepared to get drunk and sleep with me. But I was happy

we didn't sleep... those were the eighties, and these were my friends. We were all looking for love in the city and acceptance in a hard place and time. Eventually, we all found true love and moved with our lives...

FADE INTO: BLACK

# OVER BLACK:

The "Cuckoo's nest" club in Tel Aviv was open and active till 1992 when it closed its gates for the last time.

THE END.