

The Dog Park

By

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EXT. DOG PARK - DAY

An thin, attractive young woman, EILEEN, sits alone on a bench at a dog park. She holds the leash to a toy MALTESE, which sits at her feet. Behind her several dogs and owners congregate in the open grass.

A tall, athletic young man, MARK, walks towards the bench with his BEAGLE. He sits down and removes the leash to his dog. It wanders over to the Maltese and sniffs its behind. The Maltese turns and watches the Beagle sniff it.

Mark and Eileen watch the dogs interact. They look over at one another and chuckle lightly. Mark smiles and offers his hand forward.

MARK
Hi, I'm Mark.

Eileen smiles and shakes his hand.

EILEEN
Hi, I'm Eileen.

MARK
You come here a lot?

EILEEN
Yeah, pretty often. You?

Mark shakes his head.

MARK
Nah, I've actually never been here.

Eileen smiles teasingly.

EILEEN
Oh, so you're a dog park virgin?

MARK
(chuckling)
Hah, yeah, I guess I'm a dog
virgin.

Eileen giggles.

EILEEN
Well, I would hope you were a dog
virgin...

Mark's face turns red. He laughs nervously.

(CONTINUED)

MARK
You know what I mean.

EILEEN
(chuckling)
Yeah.

The two both finish chuckling, looking out at the park around them. Mark turns to her after a moment.

MARK
So, are you from here?

EILEEN
Yeah, I grew up in Metairie. What about you?

MARK
I'm from N--

Mark trails off. He stares at his Beagle, RALPHIE, which is humping Eileen's Maltese, SUSIE.

MARK
Bad Ralphie, stop that!

Mark smacks Ralphie lightly. Ralphie dismounts from Susie. Eileen and Mark look up from the dogs, back to one another. She laughs while Mark smiles nervously.

MARK
Sorry about that.

EILEEN
Oh, that's alright.

Mark relaxes a little. After a moment he gathers himself.

MARK
But, yeah... I'm from New Orleans, uptown. Born and raised.

EILEEN
Oh, cool. Where did you go to high school?

MARK
Ben Franklin, but then I transferred to Lusher.

EILEEN
You didn't like it there?

MARK

Well, Franklin was great, but--

Mark trails off again. Ralphie has resumed humping Susie. Mark swats at Ralphie.

MARK

Ralphie! Stop that! Bad!

Eileen puts her hand on his, hold him back from swatting at Ralphie again.

EILEEN

No, really- don't worry about it. I don't care.

Eileen's hand lingers on Mark's for a moment before she takes it away.

MARK

Really? Let them do it?

EILEEN

Yeah, it's no big deal.

MARK

Oh. Uh, alright...

Mark sits back against the bench, watching the dogs. Eileen pays them no attention, smiling at Mark.

EILEEN

So you were saying, about Franklin?

Mark tries to turn to speak to Eileen again, but has difficulty breaking his gaze from the humping. After some struggling he finally manages to look over at her.

MARK

(still distracted)

Uh... Yeah. It... uh, the classes were a little too difficult for me I guess. And...

Mark continues to glance over at the dogs repeatedly.

MARK

(continued)

...I didn't get along with some of the kids there, so--

Mark trails off, staring at the dogs. A large Golden Retriever has joined Ralphie in humping Susie. They take turns entering her, getting off, and letting the other enter. Mark is visibly disturbed by this.

MARK

Uh... You okay with this...? That dog seems kind of... big... for her...

Eileen takes a quick glance at the dogs.

EILEEN

(nonchalantly)

Oh, yeah, that's fine.

Eileen ignores the dogs, smiling at Mark and waiting for him to return to the conversation. He cannot break his gaze from them.

MARK

Are you sure? She doesn't look like she's very happy...

Susie stands unmoving, stonefaced, as the two dogs continue humping her. Eileen glances at her.

EILEEN

No, believe me- she loves it. Every morning she wakes me up and begs to come here. Any day that we don't go to the dog park, she's mopey and grumpy. This is her sanctuary.

Two more dogs, a BULLDOG and a GREAT DANE have joined in on humping Susie. One of the dog walks around to her face. Susie licks its butt and genitals. Mark tries to not act disturbed.

MARK

Oh, so... This happens a lot...?

EILEEN

Oh, yeah. Pretty much every time we come here. She's got a reputation I guess.

Eileen laughs. They watch as another dog, a CORGI, joins the growing gang bang. Mark laughs nervously.

EILEEN

I just think you should let them do what they want. Same for people...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

EILEEN (cont'd)

Like, who cares if someone wants to get gang banged? What's the big deal?

These words seem to strike a chord in Mark. He holds back a surprised smile as he turns and looks at Eileen.

MARK

Ohhhh... Yeahhh, you're right.
For sure.

Mark gathers himself, trying to appropriately word his next sentence.

MARK

So you're, uh, an advocate... For..
for that... kind of thing?

Eileen doesn't say anything for a moment, watching the dogs. Mark watches her nervously.

EILEEN

I just think love shouldn't be limited, you know? You should do what you feel like doing.

Mark is staring at her with a smug smile now. He scoots a few inches closer to her on the bench.

MARK

Oh, yeah, yeah, sure- sure- who would want to limit love?

Eileen doesn't notice him coming closer. She stares out in front of her, seemingly getting angered.

EILEEN

Some people do. They try to control others by passing judgment on them... like they're so much better.

Mark continues to scoot closer to her, paying little attention to her words. He eyes her body up and down.

EILEEN

Everyone, whether it's dogs, cats, humans, whatever, they should all be able to love who they want, when they want, and how they want. As long as you're not hurting anyone, it shouldn't matter to anyone else.

MARK

Hell yeah! You're so right.

Mark is sitting closely up against Eileen now. He stretches his arms behind her on the back of the bench.

MARK

So...

Eileen looks at Mark, noticing how close he has come to her.

MARK

How about I call up a couple of my buddies, we head over to my place... Crack open a few drinks..

Mark strokes her hair with a free hand. He whispers into her ear.

MARK

And, we'll give you all the love you can handle.

Eileen stares at Mark with a disgusted look on her face. He stops stroking her hair, confused.

MARK

Or, uh- your place. Uh, your friends. As long as I'm included, I don't really care who else is there--

Eileen stands up quickly.

EILEEN

Ugh! You fucking pervert!

A nearby couple with a small child looks over at them. Mark notices and wiggles nervously on the bench.

MARK

What? But, I..

EILEEN

(shouting)

You think just because I want to let my dog do what she wants, that I want to get gang banged?

MARK

But... I didn't want to control my love for you.. Cus you said.. you said all that stuff about... free love.. and stuff.

(CONTINUED)

Eileen turns away from him, completely disgusted.

EILEEN

UGH! You can't even go to a dog
park nowadays without running into
a pervert!

Eileen pulls Susie's leash.

EILEEN

Come on Susie. Let's go home.

Susie is unwilling to be removed from the gang bang. Eileen yanks at her leash.

EILEEN

Susie, Susie... come... on!

She yanks at the leash again, dragging Susie out of the crowd of dogs. Susie walks with a wide stance in her back legs, limping. The two of them walk away. The crowd of dogs follows Susie, sniffing her butt as they walk. Mark watches them go.

Only Ralphie remains next to Mark. Ralphie looks up at Mark, hanging its tongue out, seemingly smiling. Mark looks at him, annoyed.

MARK

Don't give me that stupid grin.

Ralphie wags his tail.

MARK

I don't care that you got some.
Stop gloating.

Ralphie runs around in a circle.

MARK

You're an asshole, Ralphie.

Mark stands up.

MARK

Come on, let's go.

The two walk away.

FADE OUT