

THE PERFECT PAIR

by

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FADE IN:

INT. CARROLL HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

KEVIN CARROLL (25) chows down on a bowl of Wheaties and a half a dozen hard boiled eggs at the table like a man on a mission. He weighs close to two hundred fifty pounds all in his upper body. He has an obvious tendency to skip leg day.

PEGGY CARROLL (50) a sweet-faced woman, stands over the counter making herself a cup of coffee. Next to her is her husband FRANK (55). His face haggard and drawn as he adjusts his glasses and browses the morning paper.

Peggy nudges him in the ribs and nods in Kevin's direction. Frank hesitates.

PEGGY

Talk to him.

FRANK

Do I have to?

PEGGY

For me.

Frank sighs and sits himself down across the table from Kevin.

FRANK

Good morning son.

Kevin raises an eyebrow. Peggy watches on.

FRANK (CONT'D)

Your Mom was thinking --

Peggy clears her throat. Frank checks back.

FRANK (CONT'D)

Actually we were thinking maybe you might wanna start looking for your own place. You know somewhere you can feel comfortable bringing girls to.

Peggy shuffles towards the table.

PEGGY

You do need a girl son.

KEVIN

Sometimes I think I'm adopted.

FRANK

You are adopted. Your adoption papers are framed and have been hanging over your bed for the last twenty-five years.

KEVIN

You know what I mean.

PEGGY

Not really son, no.

KEVIN

This is about Nicole isn't it?

Frank throws his hands up in the air.

FRANK

No no noooooooo... well yes that's got a lot to do with it. Actually most of it. Come to think of it, Yes, it's all Nicole.

KEVIN

She said you don't like her.

Peggy moves closer to Frank and rests her hands on his shoulders.

PEGGY

Listen Kevin, we just think you can do better.

Kevin stares blankly. He slowly raises his other hand over the table. A small red wig followed by two google eyes and a bright red lipstick mouth painted on a white sock emerges from under the table.

Frank rests his head in his hands and mumbles.

FRANK

Sweet Jesus.

Kevin opens Nicole's mouth wide. He rotates Nicole to glance at him then at his parents. He changes his voice a few octaves higher and talks through his gritted teeth.

KEVIN/NICOLE

Why don't you like me?

FRANK

I'm not doing this.

Frank begins to breathe exaggerated breathes.

PEGGY

Son, you're giving your Father a heart attack and I can't deal with that right now. I have a nail appointment and I'm not missing that.

KEVIN/NICOLE

Can I come with you? Just us girls?

PEGGY

Nicole... You're a sock!

Kevin opens Nicole's sock mouth as wide as possible as if in shock. Kevin glares at Peggy.

KEVIN

You hurt her feelings.

Frank bangs his fist on the table.

FRANK

This is not normal. You can not have a relationship with a sock.

KEVIN

Other guys do.

FRANK

That's different, more for clean up.

Kevin uses his other hand to place his finger and thumb over her "ears".

KEVIN

You don't understand, she won't let me. She said she'll hurt me if I find someone else.

FRANK

We're gonna give you ten days to find an actual woman of the human kind. Otherwise your bags are packed and you're outta here.

Peggy checks her watch.

PEGGY

Ohh I'm gonna be late.

She kisses Frank on the lips, walks around kisses Kevin on the forehead. Kevin lowers Nicole's "head" and waits for a kiss.

Peggy pats her instead, shakes her own head and leaves. Kevin continues to cover the "ears".

KEVIN

(Whispers)

This ultimatum is not fair How do I even know if I found the right girl?

FRANK

Easy. You'll want one that cares for you, trusts you and wants only you.

KEVIN

Ok.

FRANK

You'll want a girl that makes you laugh.

KEVIN

I agree.

FRANK

You'll want a girl who makes your home a home. You know... Likes to cook, clean, maybe has a job. Of course you must definitely find a woman that's good in bed.

Frank signals to Kevin to get closer, he leans in.

FRANK (CONT'D)

And most importantly, make sure those women never meet each other.

Kevin and Frank trade warm smiles. Nicole glares at Kevin.

INT. CARROLL HOUSE - BASEMENT - DAY

Kevin sits in front a computer, guzzling muscle milk from a can. He's joined by his best friend JIM WARD(24) who's got a face only a mother could love.

JIM

It's a little rough with the ultimatum but they do have a point. Nicole is a little creepy.

Nicole is propped up on an upside down fake plastic foot. Jim shivers.

JIM (CONT'D)

The whole thing is weird. Can you throw a blanket over her?

KEVIN

Nope, anyways you live in a one bedroom apartment with your Mom. I believe you sleep in the same bed.

JIM

Yeah but it's not like we share the same alarm clock, if that's what you mean... That would be strange.

Kevin throws his empty protein shake to one side. It joins the other twenty or so in a pile on the floor. He clicks on the mouse and the computer powers on.

KEVIN

There are thousands of sites for hookups, all you gotta do is search and be honest, nobody likes to be disappointed.

Kevin cracks his fingers and glances back at Nicole.

KEVIN/NICOLE

I'm warning you.

KEVIN

I'm doing this for us.

Jim looks back and forth between the two.

JIM

I'm staying outta this.

Kevin begins to type.

KEVIN

Online dating sites for larger than life men who are in other relationships with socks.

JIM

Ok that's a little too specific.

KEVIN

Ahh here's twelve I can choose from.

JIM

What! Let me see.

Jim leans in.

JIM (CONT'D)

Here's a good one. Woolly mate... catchy! Fill in your details.

Kevin types then presses enter with confidence.

KEVIN/NICOLE
I'm not happy; we had something.

Kevin bangs the table and turns around to face Nicole.

KEVIN
Would you shut up!

Silence fills the air. They eyeball each other like an old style Western. Kevin begins to squint, Nicole's google eyes remain focused. Kevin blinks.

KEVIN/NICOLE
You're so weak.

KEVIN
Damn it.

JIM
That was intense.

A ding pops up on the computer.

KEVIN
Wow that was fast. Hmm.

INT. CARROLL HOUSE - FOYER - DAY

Kevin is dressed in a casual suit. He holds roses in one hand; Nicole is in the other. Peggy and Frank stand close by. Peggy picks some stray fluff off of the suit.

PEGGY
Are you sure you can't take Nicole off?

KEVIN
She needs to meet her too.

A car pulls up outside the front door.

FRANK
I think she's here.

Peggy opens the front door, JILL DONOVON (24) a full figured beauty approaches.

JILL
Are you Kevin?

Kevin just nods.

JILL (CONT'D)

Well I'm Jill, Jill Donovan.

She reaches out her hand. Peggy nudges him in the back. Kevin forces the flowers onto her.

KEVIN

These are for you.

JILL

Oh thank you and who is this?

KEVIN/NICOLE

I'm Nicole... his fiancée.

She reaches her other hand out to Nicole, unsure.

KEVIN/NICOLE (CONT'D)

Are you planning to stick that in my mouth? I don't know where it's been.

Frank and Peggy laugh nervously.

PEGGY

Well you kids have fun.

She pushes Kevin out and closes the door.

EXT. CARROLL HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

They look longingly into each other's eyes.

KEVIN

What do you wanna do?

MONTAGE - KEVIN AND JILL HAVE FUN TOGETHER

-- EXT. BEACH - DAY -- They run across the sand holding hands. A small dog jumps up, catches hold of Nicole and wrestles her to the ground.

-- EXT. COTTON CANDY STAND - DAY -- Jill makes her own cotton candy; she dips her stick in. Kevin accidentally dips Nicole leaving a huge cotton candy head. Kevin and Jill share a hearty laugh... Nicole not so much.

-- EXT. MOVIES - NIGHT -- Kevin has one arm around Jill the other arm has Nicole munching on popcorn. The popcorn is flinging everywhere.

An employee shines a light on her, tells her to leave. He takes Nicole off Kevin's hand and escorts her out. Kevin watches over his shoulder as she leaves and mouths "sorry".

END MONTAGE

EXT. CARROLL HOUSE - NIGHT

Kevin and Jill stare into each others eyes.

JILL
I had a great time.

KEVIN
Me too.

They close their eyes and lean in for kiss. Just before their lips meet Nicole sandwiches between them.

KEVIN/NICOLE
I won't let this happen.
(to Jill)
You've destroyed my life.

Kevin is disgusted.

KEVIN
I've had enough of you.

JILL
It's ok. Call me tomorrow.

KEVIN
I will.

Jill skips towards her car. She checks back to make sure Kevin watches; he does with a smile.

INT. CARROLL HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

Kevin stands at the counter making coffee. He whistles a happy tune.

His parents wander in.

PEGGY
Wow, someone is a good mood.

FRANK
Had a good night son?

KEVIN
Yeah, you guys want some coffee?

FRANK/PEGGY
Sure.

Kevin pours them both a cup.

KEVIN

Jill's coming over tonight, is that ok?

PEGGY

Oh yes son. And where's you know who?

KEVIN

Oh she's asleep... she's not happy. I'm just hoping she doesn't do anything stupid.

INT. CARROLL HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Everyone sits around the table. After dinner drinks are on hand. Nicole is wearing sunglasses as she lowers herself under the table. She pops up suddenly with a syringe full of liquid.

Nobody pays attention. She moves closer towards Jill's wine glass. She's just about to drop the liquid in when Jill turns around and faces her. She drops the syringe on the floor.

JILL

I have a surprise for you Nicole.

KEVIN/NICOLE

For me? Nobody ever surprises me.

JILL

Hold on.

Jill puts her hand in her purse. Everyone watches, puzzled. She pulls out her own sock puppet... a large black sock complete with google eyes, a stuck on goatee and a small red beret.

She opens his mouth and speaks a few octaves lower in a french accent.

JILL/ARNOLD

Bonjour, I'm Arnold, aren't you a pretty girl.

Nicole opens her mouth wide in astonishment as does Peggy and Frank. Arnold picks up a chocolate bon bon and shoves it in Nicole's mouth.

Frank turns to Peggy.

FRANK

Well isn't this romantic.

FADE OUT: