

GET OFF ME!

Written by

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Genre: Socio-Psychological Drama (9 Pages)

INT. OFFICE - DAY

The world is seen from the CHARACTER'S PERSPECTIVE (POV) in first person. The camera is like the character's "eyes."

POV CHARACTER walks through the office, employees are working at their desks, the BOSS approaches the door.

INT. BOSS'S OFFICE - DAY

The POV CHARACTER enters the BOSS'S office. The BOSS is a middle-aged man with sly eyes. A young EMPLOYEE sits to the side of the BOSS'S desk, his head held high and looking arrogantly at the POV.

BOSS

(in a dissatisfied tone)

Smith, you even walk to me, your boss, at the speed of a turtle! You walk as slowly as you work! But you probably eat much faster! Our company sells essential things for people. This fact alone helps any sales agent, even one as dumb as you, to get good results. Anyone, but not you! Your sales are down 15% this month. And that's while you're selling SHAMPOO! And the main trump card in this sales direction is dandruff shampoos! You should not sell "SHAMPOO"! You must sell "HELP" to people suffering from dandruff! People have hair on their heads, even you know it, you fool.

Head man thinks, he eats with his head, he wears his favorite baseball cap. The head is the most important part of the human body! The head of a person suffering from dandruff itches and itches all the time! He can't concentrate, he can't relax and eat his favorite burger, he can't even sit at a baseball game happily throwing up his hat! Because everyone will see that he has dandruff!!! You understand how important our shampoo is for such a person! Take Miller's example, Smith!

CLOSE-UP OF SECOND YOUNG EMPLOYEE

The employee's face is smug and pompous with an arrogant smile.

VOICE OF THE BOSS

BEHIND THE FRAME (continues his angry tirade)

Miller understands this well! Although the product is much more difficult for him to implement. Miller sells nipple candies "Chupa-Chups"!

INT. BOSS'S OFFICE - DAY

BOSS

Do you know why he's more successful than you, Smith? Because he can convince customers that SUCKING is so nice and delicious! Miller's task is to put this idea in people's heads. Sweets are not just for children! All ordinary people in our country—adult women, old men, farmers and truckers—must all SUCK! And you, Smith, must think about one thing in the morning, during the day, and even at night when you go to the bathroom to pee: people have ITCHY HEADS! Smith, if you want to improve your life, think about DANDRUFF! That's it, go to work.

EXT. SMITH'S HOUSE - DAY

The green lawn in front of the house. A little house in the middle of the green lawn grows a sunflower.  
SMITH (POV) enters the house.

INT. SMITH'S HOUSE - DAY

The interior of the house is modest, you can see that there is a poor man living here. SMITH (POV) enters the bathroom, washes his hands, then he goes into the kitchen where his WIFE is busy. His WIFE is a middle-aged woman, in household clothes, with streaked hair and a stupid face. SMITH (POV) makes himself coffee. His WIFE is always quickly whispering with an unpleasant voice all sorts of nonsense.

SMITH (POV) at this time, having a cup of coffee, goes to another room. He goes and we move with him into that room.

INT. SMALL ROOM - DAY

In this small room, there is an easel with an unfinished drawing of a sunflower. His WIFE'S voice continues from the next room.

VOICE OF SMITH'S WIFE

(shrill and unpleasant)

Where'd you go? So that bitch Jane, you know what she said to me? What, she started a month ago to attend the fitness club and advised me to go there too! Athlete, fucking! (MORE)

SMITH (POV) puts a coffee mug on the table next to the brushes and paints and takes one of the brushes.

VOICE OF SMITH'S WIFE (cont'd)

(shrill and unpleasant)

She's got a bunch of candy, and she's bragging about how she lost 10 pounds! She thinks I believed her!

SMITH (POV) dips the brush in the paint and makes a test stroke on the drawing.

VOICE OF SMITH'S WIFE

(shrill and unpleasant)

Well, this bitch told me I have too big buttocks! That I have a big ass! Can you imagine?

SMITH (POV) takes a deep sigh (he is so tired of her chatter!) and lowers the brush into the paint.

VOICE OF SMITH'S WIFE

(shrill and unpleasant)

She doesn't like my ass! Skinny bitch! (silly giggles) Ben, are you listening? You're doing your stupid daub again?

SMITH (POV) inadvertently makes a mistaken brush stroke and with irritation throws the brush aside.

VOICE OF SMITH'S WIFE (unpleasant, now with irritation)

You don't care about me at all! It's like I'm living with a silent idiot! Can you hear me? Tomorrow is your day off, go to the store and buy a light bulb! We have a light bulb burned out in the pantry! And on the way back do not forget to buy toilet paper at the market! Only one roll left! What are you going to wipe your ass? Or "artists" don't wipe your ass?! (with angry irony)

SMITH (POV) takes a cup of coffee in his hand, holds it to his mouth, but then.... With a sharp movement he pokes coffee onto the canvas!

CLOSE-UP OF SMITH

The coffee drains through the painting, blurring the paint on the image.

EXT. CITY STREET. DAY

SMITH (POV) is walking along a busy street. There are lots of people around. The noise of cars. A GIRL with a folder in her hands approaches him.

GIRL (nice smile)

Excuse me, sir! May I ask you a question? (Smith pauses) How do you feel about the environmental situation on our planet? All over the world there are terrible events—polluted atmosphere and ocean, cut down tropical forests, which in turn leads to the disappearance of entire species of animals! (anxious concerned voice)

GIRL

I'm collecting signatures in defense of the Tanzanian Hard-Headed lemur population! Would you like to sign, sir?

SMITH (POV) quietly takes a step to the side and quickly begins to walk away. He hears a girl's voice behind him.

GIRL

I'm collecting signatures in defense of the Tanzanian Hard-Headed Lemur population! Would you like to sign, sir?

SMITH accelerates his step.

INT. SMALL SHOP - DAY

SMITH (POV) packs his shopping bag, toilet paper and something else. Then he goes to the CASHIER (camera follows him). At the cashier she puts out purchases.

The CASHIER is a full woman with a tired face, on which it is written: "how you all bore me!" She looks at Smith. She scans the goods and names the amount.

CASHIER

(in a sleeping voice)

Eighty-six dollars thirty-two cents.

SMITH (POV) touches the plastic card to the terminal—payment NOT ACCEPTED! Second attempt is the same.

CASHIER

(with a slow sound)

We've had a repairman come over twice in the last week, something's wrong with the terminal. Trouble... Do you have any cash, boy?

SMITH (POV) takes cash out of his pocket, counts the money.

VOICE OF STRANGER BEHIND SMITH  
(irritable)

Hey guy, move!

INT. SHOP - STRANGER

An UNKNOWN MAN, bald in a baseball cap, 40 years old, is forced before SMITH (POV) to the cashier.

STRANGER

I'll pay for my groceries! I ain't gonna stand here 'til the end of time!

The stranger in a hurry takes out the products, his bag drops out a glass jar with sauce.

CLOSE-UP. JAR WITH SAUCE.

The jar is smashed on the floor, the glass shatters sideways, the sauce splashes SMITH'S shoes (POV).

INT. SHOP - DAY

SMITH (POV) is in a rage. He with a deaf growl throws the package with the purchased goods towards the racks with the goods and runs out of the store.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

SMITH (POV) takes a quick step down the street. There are many people around him. On his left, he sees two men arguing with each other.

CLOSE-UP. GUY'S MOUTH

GUY

(screams angrily)

You asshole! You owe me 200 bucks for a month now!

SMITH (POV) takes a quick step down the street. There are many people around him. In front of him he sees two gay guys coming towards Smith. One of them shows SMITH (POV) his tongue. SMITH accelerates his step.

INT. BAR - DAY

SMITH (POV) stands near the bar. In front of him is a glass of whiskey. On the wall hangs a television, showing a news channel. The ANNOUNCER says something. Then a POLITICIAN appears.

POLITICIAN. CLOSE-UP ON THE PERSON ON TV.

POLITICIAN

While you're sitting on the TV couch eating popcorn, your country's public debt is growing by several million dollars every day! Every US citizen must be a patriot! Be the patriot of your country! Come to the polling station and cast your vote for me! I, Senator Jack Talker, will bring America back to greatness!

INT. BAR - DAY

SMITH (POV) drinks a dash of whiskey, puts the glass loudly on the bar and comes out of the bar slamming the door.

EXT. CITY STREET. ROAD REPAIR - DAY

SMITH (POV) is walking fast down the street. To his right he sees—the road is being repaired. The WORKER works with a jackhammer. Noise, the rattle of a jackhammer.

CLOSE-UP OF JACKHAMMER

The jackhammer is in the hands of the WORKER. Everything shakes, a terrible NOISE.

EXT. PARK - DAY

SMITH (POV) takes his time walking through the park. Greenery, nice weather. He sits on an empty bench. There is no one around.

Suddenly, a MAN and a WOMAN—"Jehovah's Witnesses"—come to him with a book in their hands. They sit on the bench near SMITH (POV). The MAN turns to SMITH (POV)

MAN

Hello, brother! My name is Adrian. Let me ask you, do you know who Jehovah is? He's waiting for you! Me and Mary (the woman is smiling stupidly), modest broadcasters of his will...

EXT. PARK - DAY

SMITH (POV) runs, breathing hard, then stops and falls face down into the grass from fatigue.

CLOSE-UP. GRASS IN FRONT OF EYES.

SMITH (POV) sees the grass in front of his eyes. He is lying face down in the grass. Suddenly he hears a voice:

MALE VOICE

MALE VOICE

Hey, guy, you okay?

EXT. PARK - DAY

SMITH (POV) turns on his back and sees a POLICEMAN standing over him.

POLICEMAN

I saw you running like a pack of wolves was chasing you! Did you steal something? (change tone to rude) Show me your papers, runner!

INT. SMITH'S HOUSE - DAY

SMITH (POV) comes to the kitchen table and sees his WIFE'S NOTE on the table.

CLOSE-UP OF THE TEXT OF SMITH'S WIFE'S NOTE

"I went to Jane's for a 'bachelorette party'. I'll be back home by tomorrow evening. Fix your own food! "

INT. SMITH'S HOUSE - DAY

SMITH (POV) throws away his WIFE'S NOTE. Then goes to the storeroom and takes a SHOVEL.

EXT. LAWN IN FRONT OF SMITH'S HOUSE - DAY

SMITH (POV) in the middle of the lawn stabs a shovel and spins a piece of ground.

The camera goes to one side and focuses on a separately growing SUNFLOWER. THE CAMERA IS APPROACHING.

CLOSE-UP OF THE SUNFLOWER.

Very bright!

INT. TUNNEL. CELLAR ROOM

Twilight, dim light of the lamp on the head of SMITH (POV). He digs a shovel tunnel. WITH A ROAR HE GNAWS INTO the unruly ground and throws the earth away. Once-two! Once-two! Then weary he throws the spade and turns. SMITH (POV) sees the light ahead. He walks into the light and enters a small basement room. In the room there is a bright light from a portable lamp (electric cord goes somewhere up) and stands with clean white canvas.

Near the easel is a table with paints and brushes. On this same table there is a coffee pot, a cup of coffee and a sugar bowl. SMITH (POV) puts a spoonful of sugar into the coffee.

VOICE OF SMITH'S WIFE  
BEHIND THE FRAME, FAR AWAY (angry-shrill)

What the fuck? Where are you, Ben?

SMITH (POV) mixes the sugar in a coffee mug.

VOICE OF SMITH'S WIFE BEHIND THE FRAME, FAR AWAY  
(angry-shrill)

You want to test my nerves? You know, bastard, my nerves are stronger than your balls!

SMITH (POV) puts the mug on the table and goes to the wall, where the ladder is attached. He raises his head up and there at the top about three meters, in the entrance of the basement you can see the face of SMITH'S WIFE. SMITH (POV) goes up the stairs.

VOICE OF SMITH'S WIFE BEHIND THE CAMERA, CLOSE UP  
(angry-shrill)

Get out of that hole! Go upstairs, you bastard! What are you doing?

SMITH (POV) reaches almost the end of the stairs, a sudden movement slams the door to the basement from the inside! BANG!

DARKNESS.

SMITH'S ROUGH MALE SCREAM

A cry from the depths of the human soul. This cry is like the sound of a burst of human nerves. Scream of pain, despair and... at the same time hope for freedom!

SMITH

"GET THE FUCK OFF ME!!!"

THE TITLE OF THE FILM  
IN THE DARK: Get off me!

END OF SHORT FILM