

SCRIPT TITLE

Written by

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Based on, If Any

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BUTTERFLY

INT. PUBLIC LIBRARY---9 A.M.

APHRODITE 23 YEAR-OLD TRANSGENDER walks in just as they are opening their doors. She gets the books from the drop box and brings them to the check in area. She is a beautiful librarian, but she becomes shy when a handsome male, whom she would like to get to know better approaches her. She dresses in a pink frilly dress and pink high heals. Library members of the male persuasion stare at her as she goes about her business. She has pouty lips and bends provocatively at the waist to pick up a caterpillar book on the carpet. A male library member whistles and cat calls.

APHRODITE
Quiet! We're in a library.

The patron sits down and smiles at her. He blows her a kiss.

APHRODITE (CONT'D)
If you don't behave Mike I'm going
to have to take your privileges
away.

MIKE 30 YEAR OLD waves his arm like he's not worried. His wife, **JENNIFER 28 YEARS OLD** and **2 kids** comes up to him and he hides behind a magazine. His wife notices the magazine is upside down and hits him on the head with her purse.

JENNIFER
How dare you even look at that...
that...ooooohhhh. We're leaving.

Mike looks at her with a question on his face.

JENNIFER.
Now!

Mike gets up and he and his family walk out of the library. Aphrodite just shakes her head and smiles.

The phone rings and Aphrodite picks it up.

APHRODITE
Hawthorne Public Library, Aphrodite
speaking.

It is her **MOTHER 50 YEARS OLD**.

MOM

Hello dear. I'm going to be in town. What do you say we have lunch?

APHRODITE

Mom, I am working. Last time I didn't get back here soon enough.

MOM

Well, we went clothes shopping. Maybe we should just go to lunch this time.

APHRODITE

I don't know.

Another guy who brought his stack of books up to the counter is eyeing Aphrodite and liking what he sees. **BRIAN 30 YEARS OLD** is a total mess. He is a slob. He is not Aphrodite's type.

BRIAN

Hummm. Ummm ummmm.

APHRODITE

Okay mom. I'll see you at 11:00. I gotta go. Bye.

Aphrodite hangs up. She helps Brian, another library member, check out his books. The other librarians are in the back repairing books and working on a computer ordering more titles.

BRIAN

Hey, what's your name? Afro what?

APHRODITE

It's Aphrodite.

BRIAN

You want to go out with me?

APHRODITE

I don't think so.

BRIAN

Why not baby? I'll treat you right.

Aphrodite gives him a receipt.

APHRODITE

Your books are due back by October 13th.

BRIAN
Come on. What do you say we go out
to dinner tonight?

APHRODITE
I think I'll pass. Thanks. I
already have a boyfriend. Here are
your books. Have a nice day.

Brian shoves the books back at her.

BRIAN
I changed my mind. Keep your
fucking books!

Aphrodite is in shock. Brian storms out, purposely pulling
down a shelf of books as he leaves.

APHRODITE
Karen call the police. I still have
his library card, which I'll cut in
half.

EXT. LIBRARY-----11A.M.

Aphrodite's mom picks her up in a blue four door sedan. They
head to a restaurant.

INT. RESTAURANT

They are seated at a table where a waiter takes their order
for drinks. His name is **FRANK 30-YEAR OLD**. He is gorgeous.
Aphrodite and Frank keep giving each other the 'eye'. He
takes the order and leaves to help other customers.

MOM
How was your day, Patrick? I mean
Aphrodite?

APHRODITE
Oh I had an altercation with a
member where we had to call the
police.

Aphrodite and her mom put their napkins on their laps.

MOM
Oh that's too bad. What happened?

APHRODITE

A guy wanted to date me and I turned him down. So he flipped out. And made a mess in the library.

MOM

Oh dear. I don't know what to make of all this transgender stuff you're doing. But couldn't you just be my little boy anymore?

APHRODITE

No mom, I feel like a female inside.

MOM

Well at least go to therapy to help you get through this change in your life and especially the reassignment surgery.

APHRODITE

I'll think about it.

The two women are looking at the menu when the waiter comes up to them.

FRANK

Have you decided or do you need more time?

MOM

I'll have the Ruben and can you hold the fries? I'll take the salad though.

FRANK

Very good choice ma'am. What dressing?

MOM

Ranch.

FRANK

(reading her name tag)
And Aphrodite what will you have?

APHRODITE

I'll take the same but with...

Reading Frank's name tag.

APHRODITE (CONT'D)

Frank on the side.

Aphrodite and Frank laugh. Frank winks at Aphrodite.

MOM
(sniffs)
Uh huh. We are going to have a talk
on the way back to the library.

Frank takes their order and walks away.

APHRODITE
Oh mom it's harmless fun.

Another man walks into the Restaurant and oogles Aphrodite.

Mother tisks Aphrodite and shakes her finger at the man.

Frank brings them their salad and hands Aphrodite his cell
phone number. They grin.

EXT. LIBRARY---12:00

Aphrodite leaves her mom's car her shoulders droop. She drags
herself inside the library, Where we meet Aphrodite's friend
KAREN 48-YEAR-OLD

KAREN
Hi Aphrodite. How was lunch?

APHRODITE
We had Rubens, and my mom lectured
me. I thought I was too old to be
berated.

KAREN
We are never too old. We are still
their kids.

APHRODITE
How was your lunch?

KAREN
I had microwave ravioli. Blah, I'm
getting sick of it.

APHRODITE
Want to know what's sick? I got a
cute boy's phone number.

KAREN
Lucky girl. Wish it was me.

A line begins to form with **6 PEOPLE** at the check out and they
both get to work.

EXT. LIBRARY-----3 P.M.

Aphrodite calls the phone number as she walks to the apartment.

FRANK

Hello?

APHRODITE

Hello Frank? Hi This is Aphrodite from the restaurant. Remember you served me and my mom?

FRANK

Oh yeah, Aphrodite. Hey do you want to get a burger and watch a movie?

APHRODITE

Sure. Sounds fun.

FRANK

Great. How about tonight at 5 and where do I pick you up?

APHRODITE

Come to the White Ridge Apartments. I'm at 22C.

FRANK

Great see you at 5.

APHRODITE

Bye.

They hang up.

INT. APARTMENT -----3PM---- AFTERNOON

Aphrodite dances inside. She takes a shower and applies make-up and jewelry. She puts on a denim skirt and a nice blouse. Frank knocks on the door. He's carrying a dozen roses and a bottle of tequila, Triple Sec, and fresh limes.

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FRANK

I brought you these flowers.

APHRODITE

They are beautiful. I'll put them in water.

They finish their drinks and set them aside.

APHRODITE (CONT'D)
You're so beautiful.

FRANK
I could say the same. And I will.
You are the most beautiful woman
I've ever seen.

APHRODITE
Frank, I have to tell you
something.

FRANK
What?

APHRODITE
I don't know if I can say this.

FRANK
Com'on baby, You'll do fine.

APHRODITE
Okay, I was born male.

FRANK
What?

APHRODITE
I'm transgender.

FRANK
Oh.

APHRODITE
It shouldn't affect us, you know.

FRANK
No Aphrodite... I'm sorry but, I'm
going to have to go. I have to get
up early in the morning.

APHRODITE
Can I call you?

FRANK
Sure... sure... thing.

Aphrodite walks him to the door.

FRANK (CONT'D)
Bye.

He left buttoning up his shirt.

APHRODITE

Bye.

A tear rolled down her cheek. She called Karen.

APHRODITE (CONT'D)

Hi Karen can you come over? I need to talk to you.

KAREN

Sure girlfriend I'll be right over.

Cut to

Aphrodite opening the door and letting in Karen. They hug and Aphrodite bursts into tears.

KAREN (CONT'D)

What's the matter, hon.

APHRODITE

I told Frank I was born male. I really should get the surgery and finish the reassignment.

KAREN

Why don't you do it?

APHRODITE

Ugh, my mother and dad want me to stay a boy.

KAREN

It's really up to you in the end.

APHRODITE

Yeah, my end defiantly needs to change.

They laugh.

I'm going to therapy tomorrow. Hopefully they can speed things along. I'm 60 percent I want to be a woman. Do you want a Margarita?

KAREN

Sure. Too bad you don't live during the middle ages, where the trans people were treated with respect.

APHRODITE

I hear you.

Cut to

EXT. OF APARTMENT

APHRODITE
I'll see you at the library
tomorrow.

KAREN
Bye.

INT. THERAPY OFFICE

Aphrodite enters **SHARRON BLAKE -46-YEAR-OLD'S** therapy office.
She sighs. She calls Frank on her cell phone.

APHRODITE
Hello? Frank?

FRANK
Who is this?

APHRODITE
It's Aphrodite. I was wondering if
you want to go out with me?

FRANK
Oh, I've got a lot to think about
right now. So maybe I can take a
rain check?

APHRODITE
Sure. Sure. Okay bye.

They hang up. Aphrodite's shoulders droop.

SHARRON
Was that an interested friend?

APHRODITE
Yes, but he may not want to see me
again.

SHARRON
Well, lets find out if you are
ready to make the next step and
change into a beautiful butterfly.

APHRODITE
Okay.

SHARRON
Is anyone forcing you to change?

APHRODITE
No, not at all.

SHARRON
Using the numbers 1-10, 10 being 100 percent positive in becoming a woman and 1 being no way. What would you rate how you feel about changing?

APHRODITE
I would give myself a 6.

Sharron hands Aphrodite a few questions on paper.

SHARRON
Why don't you go ahead and answer the questionnaire.

APHRODITE
There's like 50 questions.

SHARRON
I want to know everything about how you express yourself to what bathroom you use.

APHRODITE
What if I can't answer a question?

SHARRON
That's where I come in and help you.

APHRODITE
Okay, I guess I should get started.

SHARRON
Very well.

The therapist shuts the door.

INT. LIBRARY

Frank walks in and returns his books. He sees Aphrodite.

FRANK
Oh, is this where you work?

APHRODITE
Yes it is. The other night was fun.

FRANK
Let's do it again tonight.

APHRODITE
Really?

The phone rings. Aphrodite holds up her finger to let Frank know she will get back to him in a minute.

APHRODITE (CONT'D)
Hello Hawthorne Public Library.
Aphrodite speaking.

Beat

APHRODITE (CONT'D)
Oh hi mom.... Meet for lunch again?
No I'm busy.

Beat

APHRODITE (CONT'D)
I don't want to buy pants, T_shirts
and sneakers..... No.

Brian, the trouble maker, walks in and hears the conversation. He looks at Frank who's staring at Aphrodite.

BRIAN
(discussed)
What? She doesn't want pants?
Aphrodick is probably what he is.

Brian points at Aphrodite and laughs.

FRANK
(pretending to laugh)
Ahhhh, I don't see what you mean.

Frank punches Brian in the face. Brian falls in surprise and leaves the library.

APHRODITE
Good bye mom.

Aphrodite hangs up.

Thanks Frank. You want to get
lunch?

FRANK

Okay.

They smile. Then a child puts a butterfly book on the check out counter.

THE END.

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