

OVERDUE

written by

Parker Hughes

INT. DINER - AFTERNOON

A DJ's radio bumper BLARES from the RETRO RADIO on the diner countertop. Next to the radio is an unfolded, black APRON.

RADIO DJ

(from radio)

And now the hottest hit from the one and only D-Druh! Whether you like it or not, we're playing this *BLEEP* on repeat until I gouge my eyes out!

The pop song equivalent to white bread BOOMS from the radio.

BILL

(O.S.)

Could ya turn that down? Can't think of my own name with that noise.

MARTHA(60, tough as nails farmer who makes a mean pot pie) turns down the radio from behind the counter and continue to count CASH from the OPEN TILL.

MARTHA

Well get on with it then?

BILL(60, grey bearded hunter who claims to know bigfoot) continues his story on his stool opposite of Martha.

BILL

Where was I, Oh yeh, so 'em out there at the creek, packing up camp, n'all of a sudden I seen't it. Tall, glowin', walkin' 'cross the ridge. I watched it 'till it -

The FRONT DOOR to the diner SWINGS OPEN, letting in a flurry of guests: a SOUND TECHNICIAN, two CAMERA CREWS(one with a professional camera and the other simply with a phone), and an ASSISTANT - together they move to a corner of the diner and begin setup. Professionals.

KENNEDY(40, holding a clip board dressed as though she were about to meet the president) enters the diner makes for the counter.

KENNEDY

(to the crew)

Open the blinds, we're going for ambient.

Kennedy extends her hand to shake Martha's.

KENNEDY (CONT'D)
 (to Martha)
 Hi! I'm Kennedy.

Martha's attention is occupied by the bustling crew and pays Kennedy's gesture no mind. Kennedy retracts her hand, no offense taken.

KENNEDY (CONT'D)
 Great to meet you, we're filming a documentary for D-Druh and she would like to use this location for filming. Do we have your consent?
 (to Bill)
 You. Perfect. Stay right where you are.

Bill looks at her with the blankness of a bored math student.

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| MARTHA | KENNEDY (CONT'D) |
| (to Kennedy) | (to crew members) |
| Are you paying? | Let's pick up the pace people |
| | D's getting antsy - |

Kennedy retrieves A BUSINESS CARD from her pocket.

KENNEDY (CONT'D)
 Of course we'll pay you. Here's my card, we'll discuss further and make sure you get payment as soon as we wrap filming.

Martha takes the card and examines it.

MARTHA
 What's the movie about again?

The ASSISTANT (20s dressed to match Kennedy but doesn't look half as good) rushes to Kennedy's side.

ASSISTANT
 Kennedy, she's coming.

KENNEDY
 (to the crews)
 Alright, places people! Remember, she's going for organic, it's just a normal day back in town. We're letting her do her thing! Sound speeding? Camera speeding? Action!

Kennedy backs away from Martha and places herself behind one of the cameramen pointed to the front door.

Through the front door enters D-DRUH (30's woman dressed as though she emerged from a Dr. Suss book about skincare products). Sunglasses shield her eyes as she looks around the diner.

D-DRUH
Smells just like I remember.

The crew closes in as D-Druh soaks in the space by giving the camera the exaggerated expressions it needs.

MARTHA
Can I help you sweetheart?

D-druh approaches Martha.

D-DRUH
Long time no see.

MARTHA
I don't think even Bill has ever seen anything like you.

D-Druh takes off her sunglasses and winks.

D-DRUH
How's it going Mama Martha?

MARTHA
Dee?

D-Druh nods and smiles in relief of recognition.

MARTHA (CONT'D)
Barely recognized you darling, how the hell you been?

D-DRUH
Oh you know, rich, famous... Doing better than I've ever been in my entire fucking life.
(to Bill)
Finish your food Bill, you never finish your food.

Bill does not obey, his brain works overtime to figure out how the hell the strange woman knows his name.

D-DRUH (CONT'D)
So Mama, does Steph still work here?

A loud FLUSH of a toilet erupts from the now opened bathroom revealing STEPHANIE(30s, black clothing with her messy hair in a bun).

Stephanie is frozen for a beat, so is D-druh, until Stephanie breaks the ice by moving for her APRON.

STEPHANIE
Hey Dee, or D-Druh?

D-DRUH
Stephanie! Oh my god it's been too long!

D-Druh throws her arms in the air and wraps them around Stephanie in a hug, encumbering Stephanie's attempt to tie her apron.

D-DRUH (CONT'D)
(to cameras)
This is Steph. My best friend from high school.
(to Stephanie)
Everything ok?

Stephanie blinks into focus.

STEPHANIE
Yeah. Sorry I just wasn't expecting to see you.

D-DRUH
Been awhile hasn't it? I didn't think I'd ever come back to this god forsaken town either. But I'm bored and thought I'd take a trip down memory lane. And might as well make a movie out of it, am I right?

STEPHANIE
Do I have to be in it?

D-DRUH
It's okay we don't need to put this in the movie we can just film for the hell of it.

STEPHANIE
Dee, Can I talk to you for a minute?

D-Druh ignores Stephanie and plants her palms on a nearby TABLE.

D-DRUH

Remember when we ate lunch here
then take our smoke breaks on the
front bench right after?

Stephanie nods and grins.

STEPHANIE

Super breaks.

D-DRUH

Yeah! Super breaks! We'd break for
like 45 minutes Martha hated it.

MARTHA

Lazy brats.

D-DRUH

Hey what did we call that guy who
only tipped in two dollar bills and
smelled like shit?

STEPHANIE

Two Covered In Poo?

D-DRUH

Two Covered In Poo! Oh my god, I
can't believe you remember that!

STEPHANIE

I mean, I did come up with it.

D-DRUH

Yeah you came up with lots of
nicknames didn't you?

Beat.

STEPHANIE

Sure did.

D-DRUH

You called Martha Mama. Mama
Martha.

MARTHA

Practically was your Mamas.

D-DRUH

Sure was.

(to Stephanie)

What would you call me again?

STEPHANIE

Called you Dee.

D-DRUH

You started calling me a couple different things in highschool, 'round junior year, can't put my finger on them though.

D-Druh's attention turns toward the LAST SEAT at the countertop.

D-DRUH (CONT'D)

Who was the boy who always sat at the end of the bar?

D-Druh waltzes to the end stool and sits on it.

STEPHANIE

Bill?

D-DRUH

No. What? Bill never sits there.

BILL

(mouthful of burger)
I never sit there.

D-DRUH

He was in our grade, blue eyes, as beautiful as Peter Pan. Not the cartoon, the 2003 live action.

STEPHANIE

Oh... Walter?

D-DRUH

Walter! God damn. I had a crush on him since preschool. Never had the courage to talk to him so I made you do it for me. Remember?

STEPHANIE

Yeah.

D-DRUH

He never ended up talking to me though, and eventually started dating you. Funny right?

(to the cameras)

(MORE)

D-DRUH (CONT'D)

Walter actually ended up being very mean, spread rumors that I pissed myself because I was too scared to talk to him. Which was a damned lie, I pee myself only when I laugh.

STEPHANIE

Dee, can we talk?

D-DRUH

Sure.

D-Druh stays put on the stool and begins swinging her legs.

STEPHANIE

Without the cameras?

D-DRUH

Can't share it for the movie?

Stephanie takes in a deep breath.

STEPHANIE

I'm sorry.

D-Druh stops swinging her legs and sits still on the stool, listening.

STEPHANIE (CONT'D)

I'm sorry for all of the stupid shit I put you through you in high school. Me, Walter, the girls, we were all assholes to you. Because of me.

D-Druh glances at Kennedy and the cameras, Kennedy watches silently as the cameras strike gold.

STEPHANIE (CONT'D)

It felt like I was punching up, with how pretty and talented you were. It was stupid teenage shit, ya'know? You never deserved it, and I've regretted it ever since graduation. I wanted to apologize but... you skipped town and I didn't know if an apology would mean anything when you became hot shit. It's probably too late now, but I am truly, truly sorry.

D-Druh looks around the bar, avoiding eye contact with everyone.

Martha continues to count the till while Bill munches on his food, both share an awkward glance.

Stephanie points at the CAMERA.

STEPHANIE (CONT'D)
And that wasn't for the movie.

D-DRUH
Let's wrap it up.

KENNEDY
You sure?

D-Druh hops off the stool.

D-DRUH
I said let's wrap it up. Delete the footage, we ain't going to be using any of this is anyway.

D-Druh is the first to let herself out of the diner before the remaining crew follows suit.

Martha looks over the cash in front of her.

MARTHA
With how today's goin' I think I'm gonna' be needing a thousand bucks.

Kennedy addresses Martha before being the last one out.

KENNEDY
What? Yes. Fine. We'll make sure you get paid.

MARTHA
(under breath)
Yeh I better.

The diner emptied just as fast as it had filled, leaving only Martha, Bill, and Stephanie.

Bill SLAMS his hand on the counter.

BILL
Wait that was Pissy Dee? Pissy Dee's a rock star now?

STEPHANIE
(to Martha)
I'm going on break.

EXT. FRONT OF THE DINER - AFTERNOON

The remaining cars in D-Druh's entourage speed out of the parking lot as Stephanie sits on the bench before taking a puff from her VAPE.

Stephanie pulls out her PHONE, then grins.

She reads an Instagram notificatiion: ONEANDONLYD-DRUH HAS STARTED FOLLOWING YOU!

END