

## CANNIBAL STORY

1. EXT. STREET

We see a girl standing on the street, waiting for someone. We hear a notification and she takes her phone out to see a text

We see the text conversation on the screen

ANNA  
(over text)  
Where are you?

LEAH  
(over text)  
On a date with a guy

ANNA  
(over text)  
What??!!

Leah's phone starts to ring. Anna is calling her. Leah looks over and sees Rahul walking towards her and rejects the call

LEAH  
(over text)  
Sorry, can't talk right now

Rahul walks over and stands next to Leah

RAHUL  
Sorry, had to use the restroom real quick

LEAH  
No worries! Actually I loved the food, great choice!

RAHUL  
Yeah, although I usually prefer to cook at home myself so I don't come here often

LEAH  
You'll have to cook for me some time

RAHUL  
Of course, it would be my pleasure.

LEAH  
But this was a fun date!

RAHUL  
Yeah it was. Hey, not to be too forward or anything but would you want to come back to my place?

LEAH  
What? Oh! Um. Yeeeeeah, sure

RAHUL  
(chuckling)  
Just for a glass of wine or  
whatever. I live just right around  
the block

LEAH  
Yeah, no, of course

RAHUL  
It's only 7:30 and I had a really  
good time with you at dinner and I  
just figured we could keep the date  
going a little longer

LEAH  
Yeah, of course, sorry didn't mean  
to sound hesitant or something

They start walking along the street back to Rahul's apartment  
building

RAHUL  
Do you have any favorite spots in  
the city yet?

LEAH  
No, this is actually my first time  
coming down town even. I've mostly  
spent my time shopping for  
furniture and stuff. I don't even  
know many people here other than my  
roommate.

RAHUL  
There's this beautiful park about  
15 minutes from here that I love to  
hang around sometimes

LEAH  
Oh, nice

RAHUL  
They have a flower garden and a  
bunch of fountains, maybe we could  
go this weekend?

They reach the doors of the apartment building and Rahul  
opens the door for Leah

## 2. INT. APARTMENT BUILDING LOBBY

LEAH  
Oh thanks. And I wish! But I'm  
actually heading back home for the  
holidays tomorrow

RAHUL

Oh. Maybe when you get back then!

LEAH

Yes, definitely

There is a pause as they wait for the elevator together

RAHUL

I just moved here about 3 months ago. I was living a little outside the city before that

LEAH

It looks like a really nice place

RAHUL

Yeah, I'm loving it here

The elevator opens and they both walk in.

3. INT. APARTMENT BUILDING HALLWAY

The elevator doors open and they step out and continue to walk through the hallway towards Rahul's apartment

LEAH

So where are you from, again?

RAHUL

California! After living there for 20 years I'm still getting used to the cold here.

LEAH

Ah yeah I can imagine

He opens the door for Leah, then follows her in

4. INT. APARTMENT LIVING ROOM

RAHUL

Sorry, it's a bit of a mess

LEAH

It's like literally not even slightly messy

Rahul walks over and slightly adjusts the position of a pillow on the couch

RAHUL

There we go. Soooo wine?

LEAH

Sure!

Leah takes off her jacket

RAHUL

Let me grab that for you

He takes off his jacket as well and puts them both in the closet. Leah walks around the apartment and looks at the decorations on the wall

LEAH

I like your place! Love the posters

We see a string of polaroids hung on the wall

LEAH

Hey, who are these?

RAHUL

Oh, those are just some of my friends back in California. It's been a while since I've been out there so it's just nice to have a few memories of friends

Leah continues looking around

LEAH

That's so cute. How long did you say you've lived here again?

RAHUL

About 3 months, why?

LEAH

Nothing, just asking

Rahul looks up and smiles

RAHUL

I got that one in Egypt

LEAH

Huh?

RAHUL

This poster right here

LEAH

Oh. That's cool! When were you in Egypt?

RAHUL

Last year. Over the summer

LEAH

What's that on it?

RAHUL

That is the Egyptian calendar. It's amazing, they knew that we had 365 day years even back then.

LEAH

That's so cool

Rahul begins narrating a story while pouring the wine

RAHUL

You know, the Egyptians had such an interesting fascination with death. That's why they built the pyramids. They're tombs for the Pharaohs. Magnificent tombs for the most powerful beings on earth. And they would fill their tombs with magnificent treasures so that they could live just as lavishly in the afterlife. There was a belief that in the afterlife, the Pharaoh would hunt, cook, and eat the Gods to take their powers and ascend to the heavens. They were kings in life... and Gods in death

Rahul finishes pouring the wine and makes his way to the couch where Leah is sitting and hands her a glass.

RAHUL

Interesting fascination with death.

He shakes his head as if coming to a realization

RAHUL

Wow that's really dark, isn't it?  
Not a first date kind of thing at all

LEAH

(chuckling)

No, it's interesting. God that must have been a really cool trip

RAHUL

Yeah it was amazing. So much history.

LEAH

I haven't traveled much. Not outside the United States at least. Maybe some day

RAHUL

(smiling)

Maybe some day

They clink their glasses and take a sip of their wine

LEAH

I wish I didn't have to leave  
tomorrow. I just started getting  
used to the city

RAHUL

I suppose we'd better make the most  
of tonight then

They kiss while getting increasingly handsy. Rahul eventually  
slides his hand down her thigh and Leah shifts her legs away  
as a reaction

RAHUL

Sorry, I didn't mean to be too  
forward. I hope I didn't make you  
uncomfortable

LEAH

No, no, you're fine. This is all  
just a little new to me.

RAHUL

(slowly smiling)  
Why don't I give you a massage

LEAH

Oh?

RAHUL

I got this oil last year when I was  
in Morocco. You won't believe how  
nice and... sensual it feels.

LEAH

Um. Ok! Sure!

RAHUL

You sound hesitant, I don't want to  
force you

LEAH

No. Yes. Let's do it

RAHUL

Ok! Give me a minute, I'll just go  
look for it

LEAH

Do you mind if I use the restroom

RAHUL

(off screen)  
Go for it!

## 5. INT. APARTMENT BATHROOM

Leah pulls out her phone and makes a call

LEAH

Hi

ANNA

Where are you?

LEAH

(hesitantly)

I may have gone back to his place

ANNA

You what? Isn't that a bit soon?  
Are you ok?

LEAH

Yeah but isn't that why it didn't  
work out last time? Because I  
wouldn't take any risks? Because I  
was too boring? This is me being  
fun and spontaneous

ANNA

Why are you still thinking about  
that asshole. Don't forget, you  
broke up with him. Don't let him  
keep telling you how to live your  
life! You're not boring, screw that  
guy.

LEAH

I'm not letting Mark tell me how to  
live... but he was kind of right,  
wasn't he?

ANNA

No!

LEAH

Listen, we're just here for a glass  
of wine. Nothing else

ANNA

Really? Nothing else?

LEAH

Ok we may have started making out a  
bit

ANNA

Wait why are you on the phone with  
me?



LEAH

So we were making out and then he  
tried to slide his hand up my thigh  
and I pulled away and I don't know  
if I'm ruining this night

ANNA

Where are you?

LEAH

I'm in his bathroom. To be honest I  
don't know why I called you. The  
date's going fine.

ANNA

Is it?

LEAH

Yes! Ok I gotta go

She pauses for a second

LEAH

Thanks

6. INT. APARTMENT LIVING ROOM

Leah walks out of the bathroom and bumps into Rahul, who  
drops a vial when they do.

LEAH

Oh my god, I'm so sorry

Leah picks up the vial and hands it back to Rahul.

RAHUL

Thanks

LEAH

Is that the oil?

RAHUL

It certainly is. Why don't you  
relax on the couch and we can get  
started.

Leah and Rahul both sit down

RAHUL

Here, give me your hand

Leah slowly extends her hand and Rahul starts slowly rubbing  
oil on her hand, and moves up her arm

RAHUL

You're so beautiful

LEAH

Where did you say you got this oil again?

RAHUL

It's Moroccan. How does it feel

Leah gets a text from Anna

ANNA

(over text)

Hey, I just want to make sure you're safe. Don't do anything you don't want to

Leah glances over and reads the text. She looks at Rahul with a exasperated expression and takes in a deep breath

LEAH

Hey, I have to go

RAHUL

What happened? Did I do something wrong?

LEAH

No, sorry, I just got a text from my friend. I think she's in trouble.

RAHUL

I'm sure she's fine. Do you really need to go?

LEAH

Yes, sorry, I just want to go check in on her

Leah is about to get up when Rahul grabs her wrist

RAHUL

I didn't even finish giving you the massage

LEAH

I really should go

RAHUL

I think you should stay just a bit longer

LEAH

Please let go

Leah tries to pull her hand out but Rahul grabs on tighter

RAHUL  
(aggressively)  
Just stay

Leah yanks her hand out and heads for the door. Rahul chases after her.

7. INT. APARTMENT BUILDING HALLWAY

She runs through the hallway, down the stairs...

8. EXT. STREET

And onto the street. She turns the corner and hides from him in an alleyway. He chases after her and we see him in the background run out onto the street but ultimately go back inside without pursuing her further

Leah is in distress, and falls to the floor crying

9. INT. LEAH'S APARTMENT

Leah walks in slowly with disheveled hair. Anna is inside studying

LEAH  
An-Anna?

Anna gets up and hurries over to Leah

ANNA  
Leah? Is everything ok?

Leah breaks down and hugs Anna. Leah keeps itching at her arm throughout this scene

ANNA  
What happened?

LEAH  
After I called you he started giving me a massage

ANNA  
A massage?

LEAH  
Yeah he had this oil from morocco and he was massaging my arm and he was like... Really into it. And then I saw your text and I just... I don't know, I felt really uncomfortable

ANNA

Did he do anything to you?

LEAH

I tried to leave but he grabbed my arm and wouldn't let go. I got loose and ran away and he chased after me and... You were right, I shouldn't have rushed back into things

ANNA

Hey, what happened wasn't your fault ok?

LEAH

I don't know what happened, he was so sweet during the date and when he asked me back I figured it would be fine.

Leah continues scratching her arm

ANNA

Are you sure you aren't hurt? What happened to your arm?

LEAH

I don't know, it just started feeling a bit weird

ANNA

What do you mean?

LEAH

I don't know, it's starting to itch a lot. And it's kind of sore. Feels like I'm getting a rash

ANNA

I think you need to see a doctor

LEAH

I'm sure it's fine. I only started feeling it after I left his place

Anna thinks for a second and says...

ANNA

What kind of oil did he use again?

LEAH

Uhh, some kind of moroccan oil he said

ANNA

Did you see the label?

We see a flashback of her noticing the label on the vial before handing it back to Rahul when he dropped it earlier.

LEAH

Actually yeah. It said something like... Chymo...trypo...sinogen? Chymtryposinogen

ANNA

That sounds familiar. Hold on

Anna walks over and grabs her laptop and searches for something. Her eyes turn wide

ANNA

Oh my god. Leah come here

Leah walks over and her eyes turn wide as well. We see a shot of the screen with an article about Chymtryposinogen. On the screen we see the words "The police have found that human cannibals have used this enzyme as a tenderizer for human flesh"

LEAH

Cannibals?

Leah and Anna look at each other with exasperated expressions

#### 10. INT. APARTMENT LIVING ROOM

Rahul is staring at his collage of polaroids and holding Leah's photo in his hands. He closes his eyes and crumbles the photo up angrily. He then opens his eyes and looks into the camera.