

SWEET NOTHING

Written by

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INT. CAR - EARLY MORNING

ANDREW WHITFIELD drives to a psychiatry appointment. He has all windows up and is blasting ROCK SONG. He's texting and driving, very distracted.

He puts his phone down and begins anxiously tapping the steering wheel as MAIN ROCK SONG begins to play. He looks at the dash for a second before turning the song up to full blast.

CUT TO:

INT. PSYCHIATRIST'S OFFICE

Andrew nervously talks to the RECEPTIONIST at the counter.

RECEPTIONIST

Andrew what?

ANDREW

Oh yeah sorry... Whitfield. I'm here for...uh...

He looks around. There are two other patients on their phones in the waiting area.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

(low voice)

I'm here for an anxiety evaluation? I was referred here by -

RECEPTIONIST

(cutting him off)

Oh, okay I see. Yeah, you can fill out this first-visit paperwork and have a seat.

INT. DR. PAVRA'S OFFICE

Andrew opens the slightly ajar door to an empty room. He looks around for a moment, before walking in and sitting at a chair next to a desk.

He nervously twiddles his thumbs and zones out. As he snaps back to reality, he goes to pull out his phone from his back pocket. Just as he does so, DR. PAVRA walks in.

DR. PAVRA

(talking to receptionist
further down the
hallway)

Thank you, Alyssa.

Andrew turns around towards the door, before putting his phone back in his pocket. He awkwardly smiles and looks around as he waits for Dr. Pavra to address him.

DR. PAVRA (CONT'D)
Hello...

She trails off and looks down at her notes.

DR. PAVRA (CONT'D)
...Andrew?

Andrew nods. She goes to sit down.

DR. PAVRA (CONT'D)
Perfect! Well, I'm Dr. Pavra and I'm just gonna be asking you a few questions. It shouldn't take more than 5 minutes.

Andrew smiles and nods. He's being shy.

DR. PAVRA (CONT'D)
(checking notes again)
I see you were referred here by your PCP, Dr. Williams?

ANDREW
Yeah, I've just been feeling a little anxious lately and he thought it was good for me to come in.

DR. PAVRA
Ok. Have you had some kind of major event or traumatic experience happen recently?

ANDREW
Well I kinda just got out of a relationship but I wouldn't go as far as to call that "traumatic."

DR. PAVRA
Okay, tell me a little about that.

ANDREW
Well, we met like a year ago at this party...

FADE IN: PARTY FLASHBACK

INT. HOUSE PARTY - NIGHT

Andrew takes a shot. He puts the glass down and looks around, before getting hit by a wave of nausea. He becomes very uncomfortable and tries to look around for a bathroom.

He spots a door and rushes towards it.

INT. PARTY BATHROOM

Andrew slams the door shut and moves to the toilet. He starts throwing up and groaning.

WHIP PAN

A partygoer, CHRIS, walks into the bathroom

CHRIS
Oh shit man. I'm so sorry.

WHIP PAN

Andrew looks up at Chris from the toilet before going back down to throw up.

WHIP PAN

CHRIS (CONT'D)
Oh, god. Here, let me help you out.

Chris walks in and locks the door behind him. He pours out his drink, and fills his cup with water from the sink. He crouches down next to Andrew and grabs toilet paper.

CHRIS (CONT'D)
Fireball?

ANDREW
(shaking his head)
Pink Whitney.

Chris chuckles. He starts wiping off the corners of Andrew's mouth and puts the red solo cup up to Andrew's lips and rubs his back.

ANDREW (CONT'D)
Thanks.

CHRIS
No problem. We've all been there.
I'm Chris.

Chris puts his hand out.

ANDREW
(shaky voice, shaking
Chris's hand)
Andrew.

CUT TO: THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE

INT. DR. PAVRA'S OFFICE

DR. PAVRA
(writing notes)
Ok...when you think about the first
time you met him, how does it make
you feel? Sad? Anxious?

ANDREW
Not really. I mean, he helped me
out. It was kinda cute how he took
care of me.

DR. PAVRA
I see. Now, how long after this
party did you too start dating?

ANDREW
Well... We never...

He takes a second. Dr. Pavra looks up from her notes.

ANDREW (CONT'D)
(hesitantly)
We never actually... "officially"
dated.

DR. PAVRA
Huh. Ok. So...you were *seeing each
other* for a year?

ANDREW
Um...

He looks around for a little.

ANDREW (CONT'D)
I would say it was more of a
friends-with-benefits kind of
thing.

DR. PAVRA
But earlier, you described it as a
relationship.

ANDREW
Yeah. I guess we never really
talked about it.

CUT TO: HILL FLASHBACK

EXT. HILL AT A PARK

Chris and Andrew are playing monopoly- crisscrossed on a picnic blanket.

Chris looks down at the board as Andrew ponders a move. Chris visibly has a stack of monopoly money, Andrew doesn't.

CHRIS
I wouldn't do that...

Andrew looks up at Chris in frustration.

ANDREW
I'll be so honest, I really hate
this game.

Chris laughs.

ANDREW (CONT'D)
Like, it's just capitalism
propaganda for young kids...

Chris jokingly rolls his eyes.

CHRIS
Oh my god shut the fuck up... it's
literally just a game.

Chris looks down at the board.

CHRIS (CONT'D)
But fine, if you wanna be a little
bitch about it, let's just do
something else.

Andrew laughs Chris's comment off and pretends to accidentally mess the board up.

CUT TO:

INT. DR. PAVRA'S OFFICE

DR. PAVRA
Wait, I'm confused. You guys just
met at a party and you're already
going on picnic dates?

ANDREW
Well, no. After the party we slowly
got closer. At first we started
texting each other back and forth.

MONTAGE:

INT. COFFEE SHOP

Chris and Andrew are sitting down drinking coffee and
studying together.

ANDREW (V.O.)
Then we started studying together
every week...

INT. GYM

Chris and Andrew run on the treadmills next to each other
and talk together.

ANDREW (V.O.)(CONT'D)
Eventually, we started working out
together...

INT. CLUB

Chris and Andrew kiss in the club bathroom.

ANDREW (V.O.)(CONT'D)
And went out clubbing...

INT. DINING ROOM

Chris and Andrew talk and eat dinner together.

ANDREW (V.O.)(CONT'D)
Then eating dinner together...

INT. LIVING ROOM

Chris holds Andrew's hand while they watch

ANDREW (V.O.)(CONT'D)
And watching documentaries...

END OF MONTAGE

INT. DR. PAVRA'S OFFICE

DR. PAVRA
(interrupting Andrew)
So you'd spend every day together?

ANDREW
Eventually, yeah. But we definitely
weren't dating - Chris made that
super clear...

CUT TO:

EXT. HILL AT A PARK

ANDREW
Oh no... The board got messed up.

CHRIS
(laughing)
Whatever... I have to get going
anyways I have a date.

ANDREW
Wait, what?

CHRIS
Yeah, remember I told you? I'm
seeing Ethan tonight. We're going
to get drinks.

Chris starts packing up the picnic stuff.

ANDREW
Oh...okay. I just thought...you
know...

CHRIS
Thought what?

ANDREW
Nothing, I just wanted to spend
time together.

CHRIS
We just did?

Andrew doesn't laugh. Andrew starts using his phone.

CHRIS (CONT'D)
Don't be selfish. I literally see
you everyday.
Plus, we still have to figure out
what we're doing for Halloween.

Chris snatches Andrew's phone to get his attention. He leans
in very close.

CHRIS (CONT'D)
 Stop being mad at me for no reason,
 and instead, just think about how
 much fun we'll have in our slutty
 costumes

Chris kisses Andrew on the cheek. Andrew smirks.

CUT TO:

INT. DR. PAVRA'S OFFICE

DR. PAVRA
 So he was being intimate with other
 men while you two were dating?

ANDREW
 (angrily)
 We weren't dating!

DR. PAVRA
 Ok, well regardless of your
 relationship status at this point,
 there were obviously still feelings
 involved... right?

Andrew looks down at the sexual exposure chart laying on Dr.
 Pavra's desk among other papers and intake forms.

He gestures to the chart

ANDREW
 (frustrated)
 What is this even for?

Dr. Pavra lightly moves the paper closer to Andrew.

Andrew lets out a deep sigh.

ANDREW (CONT'D)
 Look. We weren't dating and by that
 point, I hadn't even had sex with
 anyone.

DR. PAVRA
 Oh, so he was your first?

Andrew nods. Dr. Pavra takes notes.

DR. PAVRA (CONT'D)
 Were you his first?

ANDREW
(laughs)
Definitely not.

Dr. Pavra takes notes.

DR. PAVRA
Okay... Well, when thinking about
your first time, how does it make
you feel?

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

ONE-SHOT SCENE

Chris's bedroom door opens to Chris and Andrew in their Halloween costumes making out. Andrew is a cowboy. Chris is a vampire. The same rock song Andrew was listening to in the car plays faintly from the party speakers. Chris slams the door shut and they back into the wall next to the door. They switch and move toward the bed as they kiss. The fake blood from Chris's costume rubs off onto Andrew's lips.

They get on the bed and continue kissing. Andrew lays down on the bed and Chris pins Andrew's arms down.

CUT TO:

INT. DR. PAVRA'S OFFICE

DR. PAVRA
Wait, why are you telling me all
this?

ANDREW
Just hold on, it's important.

Dr. Pavra takes a deep breath.

ANDREW (CONT'D)
So after we had sex...

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

Andrew slowly opens his eyes. He is covered in fake blood, with only underwear and an unbuttoned white shirt.

Andrew looks around and sees Chris in the bathroom, who is showered, dressed, and brushing his teeth.

Slightly embarrassed, Andrew props himself up in bed and starts looking around for his phone.

ANDREW
Hey, have you seen my phone?

CHRIS
(shortly)
No.

Chris goes back to brushing his teeth without acknowledging Andrew further.

ANDREW
Oh, okay. Do you have an extra towel so I can shower? I feel a little dirty from-

CHRIS
No. I actually have -

Chris hesitates for a moment.

CHRIS (CONT'D)
I have...a friend...coming over. So I kinda need you to get dressed and head out.

Andrew is frozen in disbelief. Andrew's mood shifts.

ANDREW
What friend?

CHRIS
Don't make it weird, Andrew. You know which friend.

ANDREW
I don't think I'm the one making it weird.

Chris starts swishing mouthwash as Andrew stares at him.

ANDREW (CONT'D)
(emphasis)
Are we not going to talk about last night?

Chris spits the mouthwash out.

CHRIS
No. That was a mistake and it's definitely not gonna happen again.

ANDREW
Are you fucking kidding me?

Chris walks out of the bathroom and gathers Andrew's clothes together from the floor. Chris tosses him the clothes.

CHRIS

Can you get dressed, please?

ANDREW

(angrily)

No actually. I think it's weird to fuck the guy you've been dating for the last five months, only to kick him out so you can fuck some other twink!

ANDREW(CONT'D) (CONT'D)

Oh sorry- not dating-

Andrew sarcastically makes air quotes

ANDREW (CONT'D)

Cause you refuse to even have a conversation about what we are without acting like a little bitch and changing the subject.

CHRIS

What the fuck is your problem? I'm not having this conversation right now.

ANDREW

So after all these months you really had no feelings for me at all?

CHRIS

(YELLING)

Yeah, Andrew! It was stupid meaningless sex - it just happens!

ANDREW

(tearing up)

Well, I'm glad you think us sleeping together was a mistake.

Andrew starts gathering his scattered belongings from the floor, in a rush to get out.

CHRIS

Oh my god, are you really gonna cry right now? You always do this.

(MORE)

CHRIS (CONT'D)
You take things way too fucking seriously and then get hurt and try to blame it on the other person. But that's the thing, Andrew - it's never the other person's fault. It's just you!

CUT TO:

INT. DR. PAVRA'S OFFICE

Andrew tears up as he recounts the events to Dr. Pavra. With each detail of the story, her jaw grows more agape.

ANDREW
So, yeah...that's what happened after that.

Dr. Pavra, still reeling, looks down at her notes.

DR. PAVRA
Is this when it ended?

ANDREW
Oh, no. He apologized that night when I came over for dinner. And after that, we just kept hooking up.

Andrew looks down.

ANDREW (CONT'D)
(somberly)
I just made sure to act like I didn't have feelings for him...

DR. PAVRA
But, you did, still - right?

Andrew sheepishly nods. Pause.

DR. PAVRA (CONT'D)
When you got here, you said you just got out of a relationship. How long ago did it end?

ANDREW
Well...he started dating someone else so he stopped talking to me like, a week ago.

Andrew looks down again.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

I think he...I don't know. I definitely think he had to have liked me to some degree or why else would he have kept me around for so long?

DR. PAVRA

Well...

ANDREW

(interrupting her)

I just...definitely saw us being together at some point. I thought he just wasn't in the right headspace for a relationship at the time.

DR. PAVRA

(sympathetically)

He seemed to be in the right headspace for someone else.

Andrew looks down at his hands in his lap before taking a deep breath. Clock ticks.

ANDREW

(quietly)

I know you're right. Everyone has been telling me for months but- it just hurts to think he never cared about me.

(tearing)

It hurts to know he was just using me this whole time but was too embarrassed to make anything official. Or that I've been so blinded by the idea of someone showing a slight interest in me that I couldn't even realize things for what they really were.

Andrew starts crying. Dr. Pavra sits next to Andrew on the chair next to him. She gently reaches for his hand.

DR. PAVRA

I don't think you should beat yourself up for being in love with someone that didn't love you back.

Long pause. Andrew looks up at Dr. Pavra.

MONTAGE SEQUENCE:

INT. COFFEE SHOP

Chris starts flirting with Barista while Andrew looks back at him.

DR. PAVRA (V.O.)
Sometimes, we're so hopeful for a
happy ending...

INT. GYM

Andrew and Chris are on the treadmill before Chris walks away.

DR. PAVRA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
That we let it cloud how we see the
present.

INT. CLUB

Chris gets annoyed at Andrew and storms out of the bathroom, leaving Andrew sitting alone on the counter as he stares in confusion.

DR. PAVRA (V.O.)
But I'll tell you this...

INT. DINING ROOM

Chris is on his phone, ignoring Andrew, while they eat dinner.

DR. PAVRA (V.O.)(CONT'D)
The love that you deserve...

INT. LIVING ROOM

As they watch the documentary, one of Chris' roommates walks out and he drops Andrews hand and pushes him off.

DR. PAVRA (V.O.)(CONT'D)
Isn't going to come from a
relationship that brings you so
much pain and hurt.

END OF MONTAGE.

EXT. DR. PAVRA'S OFFICE

Andrew wipes his nose as he walks out of Dr. Pavra's office towards his car.

INT. CAR

Andrew starts the car and the same rock song immediately starts playing. He begins to drive away. As he drives away, he looks down at the radio playing the song and starts to cry.

After crying for a little, he takes a deep breath. Still teary-eyed, he looks down at the radio again and turns the song off completely.

THE END.