

PARADISE PARTY

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FADE IN

EXT. BEACH - DAY

People are on the sand and in the surf.

ALAN, a fifty-year-old, walks with a camera.

He takes a few shots out towards the ocean.

EXT. BEACH - DAY

JERRY, a young man stands with a GIRL in an ARGUMENT.

With mutual frustration they part to walk off in opposite directions.

EXT. BEACH SAND - DAY

An upset Jerry sits down with intense thoughts.

Alan walks nearby to notice Jerry.

Alan reacts as if he recognizes someone familiar.

Alan strolls closer to Jerry.

Alan sits on the sand near him.

Alan aims the camera towards the beach for a shot.

Alan quickly aims it towards Jerry for another shot.

FLASH on a close up of Jerry.

**JERRY** 

What the hell! What's with the picture?

ALAN

No I.

**JERRY** 

I'm not stupid! You aimed it at me!

ALAN

Oh, sorry. Your inspired look got me.

**JERRY** 

Well, how about privacy? You fuckin didn't ask!

ALAN

I apologize. All right?

**JERRY** 

Ok, maybe I over reacted. I'm really pissed off about something else.

ALAN

Well, it was a wrong thing and looks sneaky.

**JERRY** 

Ok, no problem.

ALAN

Hope your problem gets worked out.

Alan gets up to leave.

**JERRY** 

Hey, what did you mean by inspired look?

ALAN

I'll show you.

Alan walks towards Jerry.

He shows him the picture from the camera.

**JERRY** 

Yup that's me with the inspiration of being pissed off.

ALAN

Well, maybe, but I saw a very interesting face. Look, I'm primarily a headshot photographer which is also why this. I'm Alan.

**JERRY** 

Jerry. I've been known to like faces too. I'm an artist and have painted some portraits in a class exercise.

ALAN

Oh, a student. So am I.

**JERRY** 

What are you studying?

ALAN

Life, and it will take a lifetime.

**JERRY** 

Oh, right. Do you live here?

ALAN

No, in New York.

**JERRY** 

Long way, are you visiting?

ALAN

Yes, with family, but I'm on my own today. My passion is headshot and landscape photography. Interesting faces and nature turn me on such as yours.

**JERRY** 

My nature or face?

ALAN

Maybe both. I'd like to take more of you if that's ok?

**JERRY** 

Sure, this is strange. I've been wanting to get into photography.

ALAN

All right, a good thing for both of us!

EXT. BEACH - DAY

Jerry walks with Alan as they speak in voice over.

ALAN (O.S.)

You might be at your prime physical shape. I have a theory that everyone has that prime period and should visually record it if possible. Because the physical look changes with time.

JERRY (O.S.)

Interesting.

Jerry and Alan continue to walk together as Jerry points things out.

Alan takes various pictures some of which include Jerry.

Alan pauses with a THOUGHT as he looks at Jerry.

ALAN

I'm hungry. Please join me and it's my treat. Do you have any suggestions?

**JERRY** 

Yes, but you don't have to treat.

ALAN

Look, I'm on vacation and this fun. So it is my pleasure.

INT. SMALL RESTAURANT - DAY

Jerry and Alan sit with glasses of wine with menus.

ALAN

Let's have a paradise party!

**JERRY** 

What?

ALAN

Oh, my niece and nephew came up with that.

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

OSCAR, a young boy, and CAROLINE, a young girl, guide Alan towards a tent.

OSCAR

Come inside! We're going to have a paradise party inside!

CAROLINE

With snacks and everything!

ALAN

Ok, let's go!

Alan crouches to go inside.

INT. TENT - DAY

The three sit with snacks and festivity!

EXT. LAWN - DAY

Oscar, Alan. and Caroline are in a conga line kicking up.

OSCAR

Come on! Everybody congas! It's paradise party time!

EXT. LAWN - DAY

Alan and the two kids throw a large beach ball back and forth on the lawn.

EXT. LAWN - DAY

Alan with the two kids make soap bubbles.

They pop them when they get larger.

INT. SMALL RESTAURANT - DAY

**JERRY** 

Sounds like a fun time.

ALAN

Yes, it's been great with family. I am also recovering from a serious blood clot and heart trouble but am feeling better here. An important transition is about to happen.

**JERRY** 

Hopefully, you'll keep feeling better. Ok, let's paradise party here!

They toast with wine glasses.

EXT. WATERFRONT DOCK - DAY

Alan takes a picture of Jerry.

Alan steps back with a compelling THOUGHT.

Alan shows the image from the camera to Jerry.

EXT. BENCH - DAY

Alan and Jerry sit.

ALAN

You remind me of someone.

**JERRY** 

Who?

ALAN

Someone important from the past. He's been gone awhile.

**JERRY** 

A lover?

ALAN

No, but why do you ask that?

**JERRY** 

Just a vibe. You are very nice, but I don't go that way. I have a girlfriend.

ALAN

Look, I don't expect you to go anyway or anywhere. We are just looking at scenery and taking pictures! Ok?

**JERRY** 

Yes, how long has he been gone?

ALAN

My son Beau was killed in a car accident a few years ago.

**JERRY** 

I'm so sorry for jumping to conclusions. That's too bad. Sorry for your loss.

ALAN

Thank you. He died very young but would be about your age now if still here. I understand you being cautious about an older man being friendly. Hopefully, you won't make the same mistakes as mine at your age. Like thinking that all I needed was my good looks to get by. They passed as does life.

**JERRY** 

Again, I'm sorry.

ALAN

You don't have to be. No need to be (MORE)

ALAN (CONT'D)

afraid of this gay man.

**JERRY** 

So, you are...

ALAN

Yes, I am that among other things and your instinct was right. I got married to a woman, had a son, recognized my true self and then married a man, the love of my life who died a while ago.

**JERRY** 

Well, you must have many stories to tell.

ALAN

Yes, but enough for now.

**JERRY** 

Sure, so let's continue.

ALAN

Good, I'm not here to make you uncomfortable.

EXT. VILLAGE STREET - DAY

Alan and Jerry take in the sights with more pictures.

Alan takes a picture of Jerry.

Alan offers the camera to Jerry to show him how to use it.

Jerry takes a picture of Alan.

EXT. BENCH - DAY

Jerry and Alan sit together to look at pictures from the camera.

They look out at the scenery in conversation.

ALAN

Hopefully, you will work things out with her if it's meant to be.

**JERRY** 

Yeah, hope so, but I am confused. Questioning a lot of things.

ALAN

That's great! Life is one big question that may never get answered. But we're here for some reason. Right now, being. You are searching.

**JERRY** 

I suppose.

ALAN

So am I. Probably until the day I die. It's so beautiful here.

**JERRY** 

Yes, so vast and possible.

ALAN

I should move out here. A great place to live and transition into the next life.

**JERRY** 

Do you believe in an afterlife?

ALAN

Yes, but a mystery still at the same time. I don't know for sure yet.

EXT. BOARDWALK - DUSK

Jerry and Alan continue to take pictures at sunset.

They stop to face each other.

ALAN

Well, thank you for the tour. It was fun.

**JERRY** 

Yes, thanks, for the pictures and the photography lessons.

ALAN

You are welcome. Please take this.

Alan takes the CAMERA off his shoulder to give to Jerry.

**JERRY** 

What?

ALAN

I want you to have it.

**JERRY** 

But it's yours. It's what you do.

ALAN

I have others and this might open up some other doors or help with the art.

**JERRY** 

How about the pictures you took?

Alan reaches into his pocket to pull out a business card.

ALAN

Here's my information. Email them to me. If not, I also took pictures here.

Alan points to his head and heart.

**JERRY** 

Wow, this is great! I'll be sure to do that. Thanks again.

ALAN

My pleasure. This isn't goodbye unless you want it to be. Keep up the art work and take care.

**JERRY** 

You too.

Alan extends his hand.

Jerry quickly wraps his arms around Alan in a warm hug.

They part with mutual emotional surprise.

Alan walks to the end of the boardwalk where the beach sand begins.

EXT. BEACH - DUSK

Alan walks onto the sand towards the ocean surf.

He sits.

He looks out over the ocean.

He lays back to look up at the sky.

He closes his eyes.

ALAN

Beau, my son, a paradise party.

Later, in the dark Alan still lays motionless on the sand.

EXT. OCEAN SUNRISE - MORNING

A vibrant sun rises in a clear sky across a beach.

EXT. BEACH - MORNING

Alan leads in a long joyous Conga line with Caroline, Oscar, Beau, Jerry, and others as the sun continues to rise.

FADE OUT