

First Date

Elidijona Kurtolli

**INT. THERAPIST WAITING ROOM, DAY.**

Shot of two people waiting to be seen, MASON, early twenties, male and LINDSEY, early twenties, female. They sit in an awkward silence for a couple mins, yet it feels like forever.

Shot of Door opening to reveal our THERAPIST, early forties, female, who smiles warmly at the couple.

THERAPIST  
Mason and Lindsey?  
(They nod and smile.)  
Come on in.

**INT. THERAPIST OFFICE, DAY.**

It seems homely with dozens of art pieces and plants draped around. Lindsey and Mason sit on the couch but try to leave as much space as possible between each other. Therapist sits in the seat across from them and grabs a notebook.

THERAPIST  
So, Lindsey could you start by telling me how long you've been with Mason?

LINDSEY  
(A bit startled.)  
Ummm... th-three years. We've been married for about seven months though.

THERAPIST  
Bit early for couples counselling no?

LINDSEY  
Well-

MASON  
(Fed up. )  
I just can't deal with it anymore!

Therapist looks at Mason a little surprised not anticipating the sudden outburst. Mason looks over at Lindsey who's staring at him as if he's just slapped her mother.

THERAPIST  
(Softly.)  
What seems to be troubling you Mason?

MASON  
(Wide eyed)  
I mean -  
(Turns to look at Lindsey)  
Where should we start dear?

Mason and Lindsey stare at each other for a beat, raising their eyebrows, just daring the other to start.

LINDSEY  
(Uncertain, stumbling on her words.)  
We- Well, we could start with the Christening!

MASON  
(Rolling his eyes.)  
Oh my God! Again with this I don't know why you keep bringing this up!

LINDSEY  
You tripped me up at the altar and I ripped the poor priests gown! It was mortifying!

MASON  
(Turns to face Therapist.)  
It was fucking hilarious actually.

Mason giggles a little bit but no one laughs with him. he stops awkwardly.

MASON  
(Accusing.)  
Okay well do YOU want to tell her how you BROKE my nose on our HONEYMOON!

LINDSEY  
I already told I'm sorry! At least you're all healed up now. I can never look that priest in the eye again!

THERAPIST  
(Trying to change the topic.)  
Let's try and look deeper into your relationship-

MASON  
Yes! Let's do that! How about we talk about Lindsey's wildly unrealistic expectations of me!

LINDSEY

(Matter of factly.)

Hey! You said yourself that you could  
clear a double back flip and I have  
YET to see it!

MASON

I did it just last week on the  
Trampoline at your mum's place!

LINDSEY

If I didn't see it then it must not  
have happen.

(Mason gasps theatrically.)

Also speaking of my Mother, Why did  
you tell her you knew George Clooney  
personally?!

MASON

(In a huff.)

I wanted to seem interesting to her.  
you know she hated me in the  
beginning.

LINDSEY

Yeah well now she calls me everyday to  
get the scoop on whether he's finally  
single. How the hell should I know!

They both sigh in annoyance as Therapist desperately tries to  
scribble everything down on her notepad.

LINDSEY

You know what else really pisses me  
off.

MASON

What?

LINDSEY

Your outlandish, ridiculous and  
utterly absurd conspiracy theories! I  
swear if I have to hear that every  
Tesla is controlled by a chip in Elon  
Musks brain or all celebrities are  
really secret lizard people one more  
time, I might kill you.

MASON

(Defensively.)

You simply cannot convince me that Justin Bieber is not a lizard. I saw the video Lindsey! There's obviously something wrong with him!

LINDSEY

(About to lose it.)

Oh My God! I'm gonna kill you!

Lindsey tries to lunge for Mason who flinches.

THERAPIST

(exasperated.)

Enough! Both of you, sit down now!

Lindsey cowers back into her side of the sofa while Therapist slams her notebook shut and tries to rub the stress off her face.

THERAPIST

(Feeling defeated.)

Do you two even like each other?

MASON

To be honest, it feels like we don't even know each other.

THERAPIST

In my twenty years as a therapist, I have never seen a married couple behave in such a way. I usually would never say this because my entire job is to keep people together but if I'm being totally honest, I don't think you two should be in the same room let alone in a relationship.

Mason and Lindsey look at each other, scared that they have just broken their Therapist.

THERAPIST

(Sighs with relief as she looks at her watch.)

That's all we have time for today, I strongly recommend that if you want this marriage to work, you book in another session at the front desk.

Mason and Lindsey mumble a few thank you's and sorry's to Therapist as they walk out into the waiting room.

**CUT TO:** Mason and Lindsey walking past the receptionist without booking in and out the front door.

**EXT. OUTSIDE THERAPIST BUILDING, DAY.**

The couple door close the front door and walk down the steps. They turn to face each other. In a matter of seconds, their sad, silent demeanours morph into howls of laughter.

LINDSEY

(In-between the laughter.)

I can't believe we pulled that off!

MASON

I told you it would be fun.

LINDSEY

Hands down, the best first date ever!

MASON

(Rather smugly.)

I know. really outdid myself on this one.

LINDSEY

You fancy grabbing a bite to eat? All that screaming, I've worked up an appetite.

MASON

Yeah go on then, there's a nice little pub up the road.

Mason wraps his arm around Lindsey's shoulders as they walk down the road.

LINDSEY

You don't think we took it too far do you? She looked proper annoyed.

MASON

Nah. I'm sure she's fine.

**CUT TO:** Therapist back in her office, bringing out a glass and a bottle of vodka. She flicks off the bottle cap and decides instead to just chug the bottle.

**END.**