

DATING WITH A DEMON

Written by

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INT. OFFICE - AFTERNOON

NATALIA MARSHALL (34), is a plain, average, middle-aged woman with no immediately remarkable features. She is neither ugly nor beautiful. Large, silver hoop earrings hang from her ears.

Bookshelves can be seen behind her, stacked to the ceiling in places. A few random boxes and storage tubs take up some of the space. It is cluttered but not sloppy.

A BANG is heard from another room. Natalia rolls her eyes and opens the video messenger on her computer.

NATALIA (V.O.)

Oh God, my hair!

Natalia fusses with her hair, moving pieces as she looks into the webcam. She jumps and drops her hands as JOSHUA NOLAN (31), a man with an athletic build and tousled hair, appears onscreen. Joshua smiles.

JOSHUA

Hi NATALIA. How are you?

Natalia smiles.

NATALIA

Hi! I'm good. How're you doing?

JOSHUA

I'm great. Glad it's Saturday. No work, ya know?

NATALIA

Yea. I hated working on the weekend. That's my time to relax and meet up with friends.

Natalia's hand moves to her hair and she twirls a lock in her fingers.

NATALIA (CONT'D)

So, what did you think of *Homeland*? Isn't it great?

JOSHUA

Eh...it was alright. I never bought into the whole "good Drow" thing.

NATALIA

Are you serious? This is basic D&D cannon.

(MORE)

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NATALIA (CONT'D)

Everyone knows Drizzt is
exceptional! Besides, who says all
Drow have to be pure evil?

A loud BANG is heard offscreen. Joshua jumps and his eyes
widen.

JOSHUA

What was that?

Natalia keeps her eyes on Joshua.

NATALIA

What was what?

JOSHUA

That bang? Did something fall?

NATALIA

Oh, that. Just an old apartment. It
makes all kinds of sounds. It's
fine.

Joshua raises his eyebrows.

JOSHUA

That must get annoying...

DEMON

You're annoying!

Natalia's eyes go wide.

JOSHUA

Who was that?

NATALIA

Um...no one. Just...

A book goes flying behind Natalia. The Demon CACKLES.

JOSHUA

Did...did someone just throw a
book?

NATALIA

Oh, things just fall all the time
here. Like I said, it's an old
apartment.

Natalia coughs and smiles at Joshua.

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NATALIA (CONT'D)
You said you have family in
Chicago, right? Is that where
you're from?

Joshua furrows his brow and looks past Natalia.

JOSHUA
Yea...I grew up in Wrigleyville.

NATALIA
I've never been to Chicago. It
looks beautiful though. What's
Wrigleyville?

Joshua looks back to NATALIA and smiles.

JOSHUA
What's Wrigleyville? You're joking,
right? It's the area around Wrigley
Field!

NATALIA
What's that?

Joshua looks at her with wide eyes.

JOSHUA
It's a baseball field. One of the
great historic ones at that. Home
of the Cubs!

The words YUPPIE LOSER appears on the wall behind Natalia.

JOSHUA (CONT'D)
How...who's writing that?

NATALIA
Writing? What...

Joshua points to the wall behind her. NATALIA turns toward
the wall behind her.

NATALIA (CONT'D)
Oh...that...is just...

Natalia turns back to Joshua.

NATALIA (CONT'D)
...old paint. I keep trying to
paint over it but things keep
bleeding through. I think there
must have been kids here before or
something.

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Joshua looks at her sideways and opens his mouth to speak.

DEMON

You have yuppie hair! Buzz off
freak!

JOSHUA

(yelling)
Who was that?

Demon appears on screen blocking out Natalia looking at Joshua with red eyes.

DEMON

AHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!

Demon vanishes and laughs.

JOSHUA

What the hell is wrong with you?!

Natalia's eyes go wide and she looks to the right with a furrowed brow and pointed eyes.

NATALIA

It's just this thing with the
apartment...I can explain...

JOSHUA

Explain what? That you're a friggin
psycho?

Natalia's jaw drops and her eyes narrow at Joshua.

NATALIA

What did you just call me?

JOSHUA

A psycho! Who else would do crap
like that? Nelson was right. You're
weird as hell.

DEMON

You're a weirdo, you little
sycophant. Take your yuppie ass
back to your loser team!

Joshua's mouth opens and his face turns red.

JOSHUA

Oh forget this. I'm out.

Joshua leaves the call.

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NATALIA

Well, was that really necessary?

DEMON

Yes. He was a Cubs fan. And he had
horrible hair.

Natalia sighs and closes the video window.