

Invitation Only

By

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FADE IN:

INT. CAR - DAY

COLIN KLATT (17) checks the contents of this backpack. He finds condoms, heavy cigarettes (e.g. Marlboro Red 100s), chewing gum, and a passport. He removes COLOGNE and sprays himself with it.

He flip the visor down to check himself out in the mirror. He pulls a cigarette from behind his ear, rolls down the non-automatic window, and practices his smoking style to appear suave.

EXT. CAR - SIMULTANEOUSLY

TRACY (5-10 years old) waddles up to the car while holding a headless DOLL.

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

Colin attempts to start the car to no avail. Frustrated, he swings the car door open and smashes against something.

EXT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

Tracy flies backwards when the car door hits her. Colin steps out and hovers over her.

COLIN
God dammit, Tracy.

Tracy looks up at him, judgmentally.

TRACY
Ahem? What did you just say?

COLIN
What? You're the one sneaking up on me.

TRACY
But you just said?

Colin thinks about it and rolls his eyes.

COLIN
I meant *Gosh* Dammit, sorry Tracy.

Tracy stands up and brushes the dirt off her butt.

(CONTINUED)

TRACY

And?

COLIN

Sorry, God.

TRACY

We forgive you. Where are you going?

COLIN

Nowhere, apparently.

TRACY

Cool! So you can play with me!

COLIN

I can't. It's really important. I've been waiting forever to be able to go to this thing and if I can't...well, you wouldn't understand.

TRACY

Would, too! One time, we were gonna go to Hannah Montana on ice, but my mom stepped on Susie and fell down the stairs, so we couldn't go.

COLIN

Who's Susie?

Tracy thrusts her headless doll into the air like a prize.

COLIN (CONT'D)

Is that how she lost her head?

TRACY

(mysteriously)

Oh, no. You don't want to know.

COLIN

Well, I need to find a way to get out of here. See you later.

TRACY

Wait! I can take you!

COLIN

Little kids aren't allowed to go.

Tracy's eyes well up with tears. She kicks the dust.

(CONTINUED)

TRACY

Why?

COLIN

They just can't. It's a super scary place for some people.

TRACY

(brightening up)

Like a PG-13 movie?

COLIN

Definitely not.

TRACY

The circus? Hospital?

COLIN

No. And no.

TRACY

Zoo?

COLIN

Tracy!

TRACY

Well if it's so scary, why do you want to go?

COLIN

I just do, alright? Now shut up and go inside.

TRACY

No! I'm taking you there. I'll wait outside when we get there.

Colin looks at his watch, the car, the empty garage in the distance, then back down at the 6-year-old.

EXT. ROAD - DAY

Tracy drives a MOTORIZED CHILD VEHICLE (e.g. Barbie Jeep, Hot Wheels car, etc.) while Colin- on ROLLERBLADES- allows himself to be dragged along.

The makeshift transportation slows to a stop.

COLIN

Why are we stopping? We need to get there by dark!

(CONTINUED)

TRACY
Uh-oh. Battery.

COLIN
You told me it was fully charged!

TRACY
It was!

Colin removes his backpack and slams it on the ground. He storms a couple feet away from Tracy, furious.

TRACY (O.S.)
Stop pouting, you stupid baby!
Let's go!

Colin looks behind him and sees Tracy, who is sitting inside of Colin's backpack.

He walks over to her, laces his arms through the straps of the bag, and raises it into his back so that Tracy is hugging his shoulder blades. He begins to skate.

TRACY
Hey Colin? Will you tell me where you are going?

COLIN
To an execution.

TRACY
Is it fun?

COLIN
It's where they kill bad guys.

Tracy thinks it over, then beams.

TRACY
Cooool! Like in movies?

COLIN
Some movies.

TRACY
PG-13 movies?

COLIN
Sure.

A car approaches and Colin screeches to a halt. He sings Tracy off of his back and onto her feet. He grabs her hand and runs into the middle of the street. She skips along with Colin's momentum. The car slows down.

(CONTINUED)

COLIN (CONT'D)
Play along, alright?

Car driver rolls down his window, looks suspiciously at Colin, then sympathetically at Tracy, who bats her eyelashes.

INT STRANGER'S CAR - LATER

Tracy is sound asleep in the back. Colin sits in the front with the driver.

DRIVER
You had to go *tonight*?

COLIN
Yes! I've been on a waiting list for *weeks*! Finally, my invitation comes in the mail for tonight's show. Sorry, but I'm not willing to miss my turn because of a few obstacles.

The Driver slows the car down, pulls towards the side of the road. The Driver rubs his forehead and takes a breath.

DRIVER
You know, I'm not sure about all of this. I mean, what in the world are you planning on doing with the girl?

COLIN
(matter-of-factly)
Bike lock.

The Driver blinks a few times, ignoring the response.

DRIVER
How old are you?

COLIN
17.

DRIVER
Why in the hell do you want to see someone put to death?

COLIN
Inspiration.

Driver gives him another in a series of incredulous stares.

(CONTINUED)

COLIN (CONT'D)
Poetry contest at school. There's
this bitch, Michelle Kelly.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY - FLASHBACK

MICHELLE KELLY (18) is dressed as though she is trying to appear troubled/misunderstood. She gives Colin a death stare as she gets up to read her poem.

COLIN (V.O.)
Every single year the class votes
on the best poem for the school
magazine.

Michelle starts to read her poem, all the while staring at Colin.

COLIN (V.O.)
And every year, I'm *this close!*
Until Michelle Kelly does her
status-quo, pity me, I-was-molested
and-can't-stop-writing-about-it
bullshit!

Miscellaneous STUDENTS start melodramatically crying and applauding.

COLIN (V.O.) (cont'd)
They all start dropping like flies.
Crying and voting for her...every
single time.

Michelle Kelly meanders back into her seat, slowly turns towards Colin, and smirks.

INT. STRANGER'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

COLIN
So I want to see someone die. Then
I can one-up her with a traumatic
theme.

Driver nods, understanding, and decidedly drives on.

WIDE: CAR ACCELERATING ALONG EMPTY ROAD

EXT. PARKING LOT - LATER

PROTESTERS roar and wave SIGNS protesting the death penalty.

Camera DOLLIES along the group of protesters to find Tracy, who remains a short distance away from them. She is tied to a poll with a BIKE LOCK, playing with her headless doll.

FADE OUT.