

V-DAY

by

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Registered WGAw

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BLACK SCREEN

2:14 - Valentine's Day falls on February 14, and is the traditional day on which lovers let each other know about their love. Or is it just another day?

FADE IN:

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Valentine's Day decorations can be seen in the bar. Music blasts as a few DRUNKS dance next to a cigarette machine. A MAN walks around selling roses. A MALE sits at the bar drinking a beer. His name is VET. VAL, Female, 40's pulls up a seat at the bar and sits next to Vet.

VET

Are you here for the toast?

VAL

Of course, every year.

Vet takes a sip of his beer. Val orders a beer.

VET

You look like this girl I used to know.

VAL

That's funny a guy said that to me last year when I was trying to celebrate.

VET

What are you celebrating? Those who have been shot at or shot down?

VAL

Both soldiers and lovers.

VET

That reminds me of a story of love and a soldier. There were these two guys. One of them gets a beer from a girl he doesn't know...

Audio Fades

INT. BAR - NIGHT

TINA, (25), white, bartending, talking with VDAY, (25), black, long hair.

TINA

Do me a favor. Take this drink to those guys over there.

VDAY

Sure.

Tina hands Vday two drinks. Vday walks over to the table. TWO MEN sit at a table. CHRIS, (27), black, plays with an ashtray as SHAWN, (25), white, drinks a beer. Vday hands Chris a drink.

CHRIS

Thanks.

Vday walks away.

SHAWN

Are you going to go over or what?

Shawn looks across the bar at a pretty Italian girl smoking a cigarette and holding a glass of wine. She is ADRIANA, (21), who returns the glance with a smile and nonchalantly blows smoke in the air.

CHRIS

We'll see.

SHAWN

If you don't go over there I'm going to have to question your sexuality, Capote.

CHRIS

Shut up!

SHAWN

Where ever I'm at, I would get up and cheer if you had the courage to seal the deal!

Shawn puts his fingers over his eyes as if he is wearing glasses. Tina walks over to Chris and Shawn.

TINA

Two more, boys?

CHRIS

Yeah.

Chris peeks at Adriana and sees her moving to the music. She looks back and Chris quickly looks away. Tina notices this and smiles at Chris.

TINA

You like her, huh?

CHRIS

She's alright, not really my type though.

SHAWN

Get outta here! As long as she's milky white, she's alright in your book.

CHRIS

Oh, now you know my type, Nostradumbass...

TINA

(to Chris)

So, why don't you go over and talk to her?

SHAWN

He won't. I don't think he's gotten any since Clinton left office.

CHRIS

You are unbelievable you know that...

TINA

That can't possibly be true. A good looking guy like you.

SHAWN

I'm telling you. If it wasn't for porn this dude would have forgotten what a vagina looks like.

Tina laughs. Adriana moves from the bar to the restroom.

CHRIS

Great... she probably heard you.

TINA

Ok... here is what I'm going to do. When she comes back I will try to find out her situation and I'll try

to hook you up. You still have the same number?

CHRIS
Yeah, good looking out. But please don't text me. I'm kinda' on a tight budget now.

SHAWN
You cheap bastard.

CHRIS
(chugs beer)
Alright, I'm out of here.

CUT TO:

INT. BAR - CONTINUOUS

A older man, bald head, white, SMOKEY, approaches the bar.

SMOKEY
I want to give a toast!

CUT TO:

INT. BAR - TABLE

SHAWN
Yo, it's only ten o'clock!

CHRIS
I care about work unlike you. I'll see you tomorrow.

Chris exits. Shawn remains seated.

CUT TO:

INT. BAR - CONTINUOUS

SMOKEY
To all of are fall 'n lovers.
May they have the heart to go
after what they want and the
courage to express how they feel.
May they continue to be recognized
as we toast to them!

Everybody in the bar cheers in unison.

EXT. STREET - DAY

A IMMIGRANT MAN (50), with arm in sling, head wrapped in a turban. He is selling American Flags. Sign on stand reads "Amerikan Flags" Shawn across the street notices the Immigrant selling American Flags. He shakes his head

IMMIGRANT
(Heavy Accent)
American Flags, American Flags!

INT. VIDEO STORE - DAY

Chris checks in videos as JEFF, (28), the manager, fills out paper work. A clock reads 9:59 AM. Shawn races into the store.

CHRIS
Way to be on time.

SHAWN
What? I got here with a minute to spare.

Jeff looks at his watch.

JEFF
All right boys get to work. I don't care who does it but that cardboard needs to be thrown out.

Jeff takes some paper work into the back of the store. Chris and Shawn look at each other as neither one of them want to take the cardboard out. A YOUNG MAN walks into the store.

SHAWN
I did it last time.

CHRIS
That's because you lost.

SHAWN
Fine let's flip for it.

Chris reaches into his pocket for a coin then flips it in the air.

SHAWN
Heads!

The coin lands on tails. Chris pumps his arm in the air in celebration.

CHRIS

Yes!

SHAWN

That has to be a two headed coin.

Shawn picks the coin up.

SHAWN

You are so damn lucky.

Chris laughs, as Shawn picks up the cardboard and carries it outside to the dumpster. Chris remains at the register playing with a bottle cap. The Young Man folds his arms and looks around in frustration as he continues to wait.

CHRIS

Can I help you?

EXT. VIDEO STORE - AT THE SAME TIME

Shawn struggles to carry all of the cardboard to the dumpster. As he approaches the dumpster he hears a RUMBLING sound through the dumpster. It is SIGN GUY. A mysterious man, (40), dressed in army fatigue with signs taped to his body and his hat. He looks like a Vietnam veteran. Shawn sees sign guy digging into the dumpster.

SHAWN

What the...

As Shawn approaches the dumpster, Sign Guy notices Shawn and runs away.

SHAWN

I still can't be drunk.

Shawn puts the cardboard into the dumpster and walks back to the movie store shaking his head.

INT. VIDEO STORE - AT THE SAME TIME

The Young Man approaches the counter.

YOUNG MAN

I owe a late fee.

The Young Man puts some videos on the counter. Chris punches some keys on the computer.

CHRIS
The late fee is two dollars
and eleven cents.

The Young Man leans in to whisper to Chris.

YOUNG MAN
I couldn't get out of the poonie tang
this morning.

Chris and the Young Man laugh and give each other a
pound.

CHRIS
That is a good one. Let me take off
this late fee.

YOUNG MAN
I know you know all about that. It
was pre-Valentines Day gift.

CHRIS
(rolls his eyes)
I have that problem all the time.

Chris checks out the movies.

CHRIS
That will be four dollars and twenty
eight cents.

The Young Man hands the money to Chris. Chris puts the
money in the register.

YOUNG MAN
Have a good one.

The Young Man exits the store as Shawn walks into the
store.

SHAWN
I just saw that weirdo again.

CHRIS
Who?

SHAWN
Sign Guy.

Chris laughs.

CHRIS
Damn, I should have taken
out those boxes.

SHAWN

He scared the "Shite" out of me.
I thought he was a damn rat.

Chris laughs uncontrollably. Shawn walks from the side of the counter and grabs a bottle of water.

CHRIS

Not to change subjects but do you think Tina will come through?

SHAWN

(scratches head)
Tina?

A SHORT MAN comes into the store.

CHRIS

(to Shawn)
The bartender, you damn alcoholic!

SHAWN

Oh yeah. I hope so. That Italian chick was hot.

Shawn chugs a sip of water. A loud BEEP is heard. Chris reaches for his cell phone and opens it up.

CHRIS

I said no text messages!
(jaw drops)
Oh my god, Tina came through.

Shawn, chugging water, almost spits it up.

SHAWN

Are you serious? What she say?

CHRIS

She gave me that Italian girl's number. Her name's Adriana.

SHAWN

I was with an Adriana before.
You want to talk about a Golddigger!

Chris and Shawn begin to dance like Kayne West.

SHAWN AND CHRIS

(singing)
And she ain't messin' wit no broke..
broke... broke.

Chris looks at his phone.

CHRIS
What should I do?

SHAWN
Well you got to call her genius,
and I mean like now.

Jeff comes from the back carrying a box full of video's.

JEFF
What is this recess?

CHRIS
You mind if I take a quick smoke
break.

JEFF
I didn't know you smoked.

SHAWN
That's cause he usually wears the
patch.
(winks at Chris)

JEFF
Alright, just make it quick.

Chris runs out of the store as Jeff hands Shawn the box
of videos.

EXT. VIDEO STORE - MOMENTS LATER

Chris pulls out his phone and quickly dials a number. The
other line picks up.

ADRIANA (VO)
Ciao!
(hello)

CHRIS
Uh, is this Adriana?

ADRIANA (VO)
Yes.

CHRIS
Hi, this is Chris. I'm a friend
of Tina's.

ADRIANA (VO)
Who? What?

CHRIS
You know Tina the bartender.

ADRIANA (VO)
Oh, ok. She told me about you.

CHRIS
So you remember who I am?

ADRIANA (VO)
Yeah, you were with a friend.

Chris holds the phone away from his ear for a second then shrugs his shoulders.

CHRIS
Yeah that's me.

ADRIANA (VO)
I'm sorry. I sometimes have trouble understanding. I just came here from Italy three months ago.

CHRIS
Oh really, that's what's up.

ADRIANA (VO)
What's... up? What is up?

CHRIS
(chuckles)
It's just an expression.

ADRIANA (VO)
Expression, what does that mean?
Are you talking about coffee?

CHRIS
Never mind. I got to go but it was nice talking to you.
(rolls eyes)
Hopefully we'll talk again.

ADRIANA (VO)
Ok, ba bye!

Chris closes his phone and kicks the wall clearly upset, then opens the door of the store.

INT. VIDEO STORE - LATER

Chris has his head buried in his hands as a CUSTOMER waits in line.

CUSTOMER

Are you going to help me sir?

Chris ignores the man. Shawn sees this and runs over to the register and checks out the customer. Shawn looks at Chris slightly pissed.

SHAWN

So your going to kill yourself over one phone conversation.

CHRIS

Do you have any razorblades on you? My wrist itch.

SHAWN

She's a damn immigrant! I can't believe you can't see the bright side of this. The girl can barely speak English, let alone understand it, right?

CHRIS

Yeah, so.

Shawn smacks Chris in the head.

SHAWN

That's where you come in. You can teach her that and some other things. American style baby!

Shawn, with a smile, nudges Chris with his elbow.

CHRIS

I'm outta here.

Chris walks for the door.

SHAWN

Call her!

INT. CAR - DAY

Chris starts the ignition. He pulls out his phone, opens it as if he is about to dial a number, then closes it. As he shifts gears a loud BEEP is heard. Chris opens the phone.

CHRIS

I can't believe this girl texted me.

CHRIS
(reads text)
This may sound silly but how
do you spell your name?

Chris types on his cell phone.

CHRIS
(to himself)
I'm so in.

SUPER - 200 BEEPS LATER

Chris, eyes drooping, texts another message on his phone.

CHRIS
(reads texts as he types)
I would love to be the first to
buy you flowers and take you out
for Valentines. I seriously, have
to go, now!

CHRIS
(to himself)
Psycho!

Chris dials a number on his phone.

CHRIS
Yo Shawn. I'm in.

SHAWN (VO)
With who, the Italiana?

CHRIS
That's right. We are going out
tomorrow for V-day. I got my mojo
back, baby.

SHAWN (VO)
Wow, talk about a 180.

CHRIS
Any advice?

SHAWN (VO)
Don't be cheap!

CHRIS
Got it. I'll holla.

Chris closes his phone and drives away smiling from ear to ear.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Shawn walking down the street. He sees a guy with one leg sitting on the ground. A pair of crutches leans against the wall.

ONE LEG GUY

Got any change?

SHAWN

Yeah I got some change.

Shawn reaches into his pocket and grabs a dollar bill. He tries to hand it to One Leg Guy, but he fumbles the dollar bill.

ONE LEG GUY

Can you help me out?

Shawn gets furious.

SHAWN

Can I help you out? I just helped you out!
Do it yourself!

As Shawn reaches for the crutches, he thinks to himself.

SHAWN

(Wispering)

Dam shame. I seen an immigrant with his arm in a sling Selling American flags. You're rolling around for change. Shawn takes the crutches and walks away.

Shawn looks back and lifts the crutches in the air.

SHAWN

This is for the change.

Shawn continues to walk down the street.

INT. CHRIS'S APARTMENT - DAY

Chris is getting dressed for his date. He then begins to prepare how he is going to act on the date.

CHRIS
(To himself)
I am going to give her flowers.

DAY DREAM - CUT AWAY

Chris hands a dozen of flowers to Adriana.

INT. CHRIS'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Chris continues to prepare for his date. He buttons his shirt and then unbuttons in uncertainty. He sprays some cologne on his body.

DAY DREAM - CUT AWAY

Adriana leans into smell Chris's neck.

INT. CHRIS'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Chris walks to his closet and opens the door.

CHRIS
(Mutters)
What coat should I wear?

Chris reaches for a coat.

DAY DREAM - CUT AWAY

Chris grabs Adriana's jacket as they begin to walk down the stairs. Chris is holding a bottle of champagne in his other hand. Adriana and Chris sit on a coach. Chris pours some champagne.

ADRIANA
Thanks for dinner.

Adriana takes a sip of champagne.

CHRIS
Thanks for this kiss

Chris leans in to give Adriana a kiss. Adriana disappears. Chris is baffled as he is left to stare at the picture.

CHRIS
(Baffled)
What the...

A beep is heard.

BACK TO SCENE

INT. CHRIS'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Chris is lying on his bed awakes from his dream. A magazine is placed across his stomach. He reaches for his phone as it makes a beep. He reads his message on his phone, shakes his head and then exits.

EXT. CHRIS'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Chris walks to his car.

INT. VIDEO STORE - DAY

Shawn is at the register counting money. Chris stumbles in clearly hung-over wearing a wrinkled suit. A WHITE ENVELOPE can be seen sticking out of his suit pocket. The clock reads 11:30 AM.

SHAWN
Way to be on time.
(looks at Chris' clothes)
Must've been a hell of a night.

CHRIS
It was a complete disaster.

Chris grabs a bottle of water, chugs it. Jeff looks at Chris.

JEFF
Chris you're late! I'm going to have to write you up for this.

CHRIS
I don't give a (BEEP), go ahead and do it you (BEEP) (BEEP) (BEEP)!

Jeff with a scared look on his face bumps into a rack of videos as he makes his way to the back room.

SHAWN
(laughing)
You got to tell me what happened?

INT. BAR - NIGHT (FLASHBACK) (FAST MOTION)

Chris, suit not wrinkled, sits across from Adriana in a booth talking and laughing. Red roses and a box of chocolates are on the table in front of Adriana.

A waitress keeps walking over dropping off shots. Chris and Adriana do the shots, laugh, and continue talking.

CHRIS (VO)
So, I'm ordering shots left and right trying to get this girl loaded. Conversation is good, the vibe is feeling right, and the way she is looking at me is telling me I'm going to have my face buried between those two soft white pillows she calls breasts.

INT. VIDEO STORE - DAY

Shawn raises his arms in the air as to signal a touchdown.

SHAWN
Touchdown baby!

CHRIS
Not quite.

SHAWN
Don't tell me you dropped the ball!

CHRIS
I don't know what happened but we're in the car and I'm about to drop her off hoping she asks me to come inside...

INT. CAR - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Chris shuts off the car and looks at Adriana.

CHRIS
I had a great time tonight.

He extends his arms to her about to give her a hug. As she comes closer, Chris moves in to kiss her but she turns her head and pats him on the shoulder.

ADRIANA

Thanks for the shots.

CHRIS

No problem. We definitely have to do this again.

Adriana opens the passenger door and steps out of the car holding the flowers. She looks deeply into Chris' eyes.

ADRIANA

Don't worry... we won't!

She slams the car door shut.

INT. VIDEO STORE - DAY

Shawn reaches into his back pocket and acts like he is throwing an imaginary flag.

SHAWN

We won't! What the hell does that mean?

CHRIS

What do you think it means, genius?

SHAWN

Maybe it's Italian for we will.

CHRIS

You're a mental midget.

Shawn pauses as he doesn't know what to say next.

SHAWN

Did you at least try and grab the snacktrays? They looked so nice.

Shawn squeezes the air as if he is touching breasts.

CHRIS

I didn't even get a chance. I told you she got out of the car before I could do anything. To make matters worse I was so bombed I couldn't even drive home so I had to sleep in my car.

(pops collar of suit)

Hence the wrinkled suit.

SHAWN

This is why Bush needs to close the borders. Damn, immigrants! I'm sorry man. I just don't get it.

CHRIS

Me either.

SHAWN

Hold up. How many flowers did you get?

CHRIS

A dozen.

Throw arms in the air in a frenzy.

SHAWN

Oh my god, I told you not to be cheap! You should have gotten two dozen, Capote!

Shawn puts his fingers over his eyes as if he is wearing glasses.

CHRIS

It couldn't be that cause she was eating those chocolates like Willy Wonka.

(scratches head)

It's almost like she... Oh my god, that's it.

Shawn looks at Chris dumbfounded.

SHAWN

What? What's it?

Chris paces around angry. He kicks a video on the floor.

CHRIS

How could I have been so stupid! This girl probably thought I was you.

SHAWN

Naw! Hold up, now that I think about it, she did smile at me at the bar.

CHRIS

I bet she don't even like black people. Racist...

SHAWN

Well only one person would know the answer.

Chris and Shawn both look at each other.

CHRIS & SHAWN

Tina!

They run out of the store and bump into Sign Guy coming into the store. Sign Guy looks at the unattended register and smiles.

EXT - STREET - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Chris and Shawn come rushing out of the store. Shawn notices One Leg Guy sleeping with American flag. Chris and Shawn begin to walk at a slow pace. Shawn is stunned after seeing the One Leg Guy.

CHRIS

Man, are you alright?

SHAWN

I seen that one legged guy yesterday.
I took his crutches.

CHRIS

Why would you do that?

SHAWN

Look at him. He is drowning in self pity. So he has one less leg he's not dead!

CHRIS

Did it ever occur to you that he may be a vet?

SHAWN

I seen this immigrant the other day that probably can't speak English, selling American flags, his arm was in a sling. Does that mean he is a Vet too?

Chris remains silent.

SHAWN

I'm not saying he didn't catch a bad break. All I'm saying is you can't be consumed by self pity.

CHRIS

All this time I didn't have a leg
to stand on. Maybe you should have
taken my crutches.

SHAWN

(Very Sarcastic)
What would that of done?

CHRIS

I wouldn't have been so hasty to
rush into a relationship with a girl
I didn't know. All this time I was
looking for love maybe I should just
let love find me. I need to stop looking
through rose colored glasses

EXT. PARK BENCH - CONTINUOUS

Chris and Shawn sit on park bench. Shawn's eyes wonder
as Chris has his head down.

CHRIS

I have a confession.

Shawn stops wondering and looks at Chris.

CHRIS

I didn't sleep in my car. I
Slept over there.

Chris points to the "LOVE SIGN". Shawn looks over at the
sign.

SHAWN

Where in the water?

CHRIS

(Sarcastically)
No under the sign.

SHAWN

You should have slept on top.
Maybe you would have fallen in love.

CHRIS

After the date I was driving around.
From the street I saw the sign.
I pulled over and went into the park.
Man I just wanted to do some thinking.
(Collect my thoughts)

SHAWN

So what were you thinking?

CHRIS

I was thinking about love...the date...
and my parents...

SHAWN

What about them?.

CHRIS

My parents fell in love on Veterans Day.
When I was younger my father told me
how they met. He knew she was the one.

SHAWN

How did he know she was the one?

CHRIS

That part he wouldn't tell me. He just
said that I would know when it was my turn.
Man I know I felt something at the bar.

INT. BAR - DAY

Chris and Shawn storm into the bar. Tina picks a beer
bottle and throws it in the trash.

CHRIS

Tina we gotta talk!

TINA

Hold on guys, I will be with you
in a second.

Chris and Shawn walk to their usual spot at the bar.

SHAWN

You want a cigarette.

CHRIS

You know I don't smoke.

SHAWN

Well if there was ever a time to start I can't think of a better time than now.

Shawn walks to the cigarette machine and grabs a pack of cigarettes. Chris looks down at his coat pocket and pulls out the envelope, which is a phone bill. Chris tears it partially open but is interrupted by Tina.

TINA

So, what is it you wanted to talk to me about?

Shawn approaches with the cigarettes and drops them in front of Chris. He looks at the front door and nudges Chris.

SHAWN

You won't believe this.

Chris looks at the front doors and sees Adriana walk in holding hands with a BLACK GIRL. Adriana kisses the black girl on the cheek. Chris' jaw drops.

SHAWN

God I love immigrants.

Chris chuckles, then shakes his head in disbelief. He finishes opening up the phone bill which reads' "You owe \$500 dollars." His face tightens in anger.

CHRIS

Fuck Valentine's day!

BACK TO PRESENT DAY

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Vet and Val sit at the bar having a drink.

VAL

That reminds me of a similar story of love and a soldier...

INT. BAR - NIGHT

TINA, (25), white, bartending, talking with VDAY, (25), black, long hair.

TINA

Do me a favor. Take this drink to those guys over there.

VDAY

Sure.

Tina hands Vday two drinks. Vday walks over to the table. TWO MEN sit at a table. CHRIS, (27), black, plays with an ashtray as SHAWN, (25), white, drinks a beer. Vday hands Chris a drink.

CHRIS

Thanks.

Vday walks away.

SHAWN

Are you going to go over or what?

Shawn looks across the bar at a pretty Italian girl smoking a cigarette and holding a glass of wine. She is ADRIANA, (21), who returns the glance with a smile and nonchalantly blows smoke in the air.

CHRIS

We'll see.

SHAWN

If you don't go over there I'm going to have to question your sexuality, Capote.

Shawn puts his fingers over his eyes as if he is wearing glasses. Tina walks over to Chris and Shawn.

CHRIS

Shut up!

SHAWN

Where ever I'm at, I would get up and cheer if you had the courage to seal the deal!

Shawn puts his fingers over his eyes as if he is wearing glasses. Tina walks over to Chris and Shawn.

TINA

Two more, boys?

CHRIS

Yeah.

Chris peeks at Adriana and sees her moving to the music. She looks back and Chris quickly looks away. Tina notices this and smiles at Chris.

TINA

You like her, huh?

CHRIS

She's alright, not really my type though.

SHAWN

Get outta here! As long as she's milky white, she's alright in your book.

CHRIS

Oh, now you know my type, Nostradumbass...

TINA

(to Chris)

So, why don't you go over and talk to her?

SHAWN

He won't. I don't think he's gotten any since Clinton left office.

CHRIS

You are unbelievable you know that...

TINA

That can't possibly be true. A good looking guy like you.

SHAWN

I'm telling you. If it wasn't for porn this dude would have forgotten what a vagina looks like.

Tina laughs. Adriana moves from the bar to the restroom.

CHRIS

Great... she probably heard you.

TINA

Ok... here is what I'm going to do. When she comes back I will try to find out her situation and I'll try to hook you up. You still have the same number?

CHRIS

Yeah, good looking out. But please don't text me. I'm kinda' on a tight budget now.

SHAWN
You cheap bastard.

CHRIS
(chugs beer)
Alright, I'm out of here.

SHAWN
Yo, it's only ten o'clock!

CHRIS
I care about work unlike you. I'll
see you tomorrow.

Chris exits. Vday notices Chris leaving and runs after him.

CUT TO:

INT. BAR - CONTINUOUS

A older man, bald head, white, SMOKEY, approaches the bar.

SMOKEY
I want to give a toast!

EXT. BAR - NIGHT - AT THE SAME TIME

Chris standing outside the bar looks at his phone. Vday exits the bar and catches up to Chris.

VDAY
You're going to leave with out
asking me my name?

INT. BAR - AT THE SAME TIME

SMOKEY
To all of are fall 'n lovers.
May they have the heart to go
after what they want and the
courage to express how they feel.
May they continue to be recognized
as we toast to them!

CUT TO:

EXT. BAR - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Chris and Vday remain talking in front of the bar.

VDAY
My name is Vday.

CHRIS
Do you maybe want to go some
where and talk?

You can hear Everybody in the bar cheer in unison.

THE END