

(Printed with an unregistered version of Fade In)

# Assassinating Zeus

Written by

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CAST OF CHARACTERS

ZALIA: 22. Any ethnicity. Female. Econ Major.

TY: 30s. Any ethnicity. Male. Flight attendant.

PETER: 40s/50s. Any ethnicity. Male. Therapist.

GEORGIE: Late 30s. Any ethnicity. Female. Housewife.

SETTING:

Peter's office, not necessarily inside of time.  
Peter and Georgie's kitchen.  
Perhaps a combination of the two.

TIME:

Now.

CONTENT WARNING:

Violence.

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Assassinating Zeus, Daniel Prillaman, 1.

ZALIA, TY, and PETER.

ZALIA

Look, I drank on my 21st birthday. I don't know anyone who didn't.

TY

I don't drink.

Anymore.

ZALIA

But it was just the one time. You can't blame each time on the alcohol. It doesn't make sense.

PETER

Just walk me through it.

TY

You'll say I'm crazy.

ZALIA

You're not going to believe me.

PETER

Just walk me through it. I'm here to listen.

*Hesitance.*

TY

It's like how when you first learn a new word. As an adult. You're reading a book or a news article, and for once in your life, you come across a word you don't know, and you actually decide to look it up.

But then you start seeing it. Everywhere.

I mean, fucking everywhere.

And you wonder if it was always there and you're finally just noticing it is, or if...

ZALIA

Or if it's following you?

I drank on my 21st birthday. I don't know anyone who didn't. I left my girlfriend's, and I drove home. I wasn't drunk. I was fine to drive.

And I know people will say that I'm lying out of my ass because everybody drives drunk, but I mean it. I was fine to drive.

(MORE)

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Assassinating Zeus, Daniel Prillaman, 2.

ZALIA (cont'd)

Even if I wasn't, you can only blame the one time on the alcohol. You can't explain the others.

TY

You really want to hear all of this?

PETER

Why else are we here?

ZALIA

I don't want to go through this just for you to tell me I'm overthinking it or reading into shit.

PETER

Is that what you think I'm going to do?

TY

I mean, yeah.

PETER

Would you give me a little credit?

Keep going.

*Hesitance.*

ZALIA

On the way to my complex, there's a long stretch of road that's just nothing. Grass.

It's dark. My high-beams don't work.

And this goose is just suddenly in the middle of the road.

Right there in the headlights.

I swerve so I don't hit it. And the car runs off the road and hits a fence.

Car's smashed. Fence is smashed. I'm beat up. But nobody's hurt.

I look back at the road and the goose is just there, minding it's own business.

It's fine.

And then it just walks off.

The car still runs, so I...get back in and get home.

And ever since...

(MORE)

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Assassinating Zeus, Daniel Prillaman, 3.

ZALIA (cont'd)

Every time I pass by an accident...

I see that same motherfucking goose.

Staring at me.

Fender bender, I see this goose. 3 car pile-up. That fucking goose is on the opposite side of the road.

And it's staring at me.

This one goddamn goose is causing car accidents everywhere. And it knows I know.

It knows I recognize it. It knows I remember it.

And I don't know what to do because I am going completely insane.

It's a goose. It's a goose why is this happening? Why is this happening to me? Why?

Why am I the only one noticing it?

I mean, what is this fucking goose up to?

PETER

Like a regular goose?

ZALIA

Told you you wouldn't believe me.

PETER

I didn't say that. Did I?

Go on.

TY

I am a flight attendant. My job is travel.

Smiles and travel.

Two years ago. I was at DFW.

ZALIA

Miles away from me, mind you.

TY

We were just cleaning the plane in-between flights. Scrubbing the seats, spraying off-brand Febreze everywhere.

And I glance out the window. And there it is on the tarmac.

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Assassinating Zeus, Daniel Prillaman, 4.

PETER

The goose?

TY

The same fucking goose.

Just staring at me. With those beady little eyes. Like a shark's eyes. Like a doll's eyes.

You ever see a goose's eyes?

PETER

Yes.

You mean it's--

ZALIA

The same goose.

TY

The same goose.

I look away.

And I start seeing it. Everywhere.

Cleveland. Pittsburgh. Little Rock. I see it everywhere. It is following me.

PETER

And it's just standing there?

TY

Staring at me. Into me. Into the darkest depths of my soul. It's like it's hunting me.

PETER

Haunting?

TY

Hunting. No "A."

It follows me everywhere. I see it abroad. England. Mexico.

ZALIA

It wants something.

TY

One time.

In my hotel.

I woke up next to a dead drifter. Blood all over him. Me.

(MORE)

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Assassinating Zeus, Daniel Prillaman, 5.

TY (cont'd)

There was a knife in my hand and the goose was on the other side of the room.

ZALIA

It framed him for murder.

PETER

Wait.

TY

I hid it.

ZALIA

We're good at hiding things.

PETER

Wait.

You're--

You're fucking with me, right?

ZALIA

Told you.

TY

Told you.

PETER

No, I...

I believe you.

TY

No, you don't.

ZALIA

No, you don't.

PETER

Now hold on, let's just--

I'm not saying I don't believe you.

But sometimes, the mind can exaggerate certain moments.

ZALIA

So my memory is just unreliable?

TY

I think I remember hiding a dead body.

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Assassinating Zeus, Daniel Prillaman, 6.

PETER

When things go wrong...

It's natural to want to find something to blame.

Even if...

TY

But it's the goose.

ZALIA

It's the goose.

PETER

Right.

*Beat.*

TY

This hasn't been very helpful.

ZALIA

Fuckin' figures.

*Beat.*

PETER

I'll see you next week.

*GEORGIE appears.*

*PETER walks to GEORGIE.*

ZALIA

(To TY)

Wanna get a drink?

TY

I don't drink anymore.

ZALIA

You don't drink anymore. Right.

I forgot.

*Beat.*

GEORGIE

Hey, honey.

PETER

Hey, babe.

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Assassinating Zeus, Daniel Prillaman, 7.

*They kiss.*

GEORGIE  
How was your day?

PETER  
Ugh.

GEORGIE  
That good?

PETER  
Hah.

You know, I'm still trying to process it, actually.

GEORGIE  
Tell me about it.

PETER  
No. It's--it's silly.

GEORGIE  
Try me.

I'll get you a beer, start talking.

*Over the following, GEORGIE  
goes about getting a beer.*

PETER  
You know, it's strange, I--

I've been doing this long enough, you think I'd have heard everything by now.

GEORGIE  
What's up?

PETER  
Couple of patients are convinced that a goose is following them.

GEORGIE  
Following them?

PETER  
Yeah.

GEORGIE  
Why?

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Assassinating Zeus, Daniel Prillaman, 8.

PETER

They don't know. But it's malicious. Every time they see it, something bad happens.

GEORGIE

Huh.

But it's a goose.

PETER

It's just a fucking goose.

You can't blame all your life problems on a goose.

GEORGIE

No.

PETER

At some point you have to stop and ask, "How am I the problem in all this?"

GEORGIE

Amen.

*GEORGIE hands PETER a beer.*

PETER

Thanks, baby.

*PETER drinks.*

GEORGIE

So what are you going to tell them?

PETER

I don't know.

I can't indulge them.

GEORGIE

What if they're right?

PETER

Are you serious?

GEORGIE

Yeah. What if they're right?

*PETER stops drinking.*

PETER

This tastes funny.

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Assassinating Zeus, Daniel Prillaman, 9.

GEORGIE

What if the goose is following them?

*PETER coughs.*

PETER

What did you--

GEORGIE

That means the goose expects something of them--

*PETER continues to cough.*

GEORGIE

And they need to act on that expectation.

*PETER continues to cough.*

PETER

Georgie, what the fuck?

GEORGIE

For everyone's sake, we should listen to the goose.

PETER

Georgie.

*PETER violently dies.*

*GEORGIE o'erlooks his body.*

*Beat.*

*She crosses and opens a cabinet to reveal a goose.*

*She picks it up and caresses it.*

GEORGIE

It's over.

I did what you said.

It's over now.

He's gone.

He'll never hurt anyone again.

*GEORGIE exits with the goose.*

*Beat.*

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Assassinating Zeus, Daniel Prillaman, 10.

See you around, then. ZALIA

Yeah. TY

Yeah, okay.

See you.

*ZALIA exits.*

*TY wanders.*

*In his own world.*

*He bumps into PETER'S body.*

*Beat.*

*HONK.*

Oh my god, not again. TY

*HONK.*

*Blackout.*

END OF PLAY.