

**AKRASIA**  
by Kate McMorran

**SCENE 1: THERAPIST'S OFFICE**

*A therapist's office. JASON is seated in a chair. We only see him, but it should appear that he is talking to a therapist.*

JASON

I was watching one of those nature things on Netflix...you know, with the British guy narrating? Ian McKellan or whoever? And there were these monkeys...like there are these monkeys who go to the most *dangerous* part of the jungle so they can drink from this *one* lake. Because the lake has like, a special mineral in the water? That they need to survive?

So they go to the lake to get the mineral, but it's dangerous because the predators, like, cheetahs and shit, go to the lake too - cause they know the monkeys are gonna be there?

So the lake is like - EXTREMELY DANGEROUS for monkeys - but the monkeys go anyway, cause, the mineral, they need it? And I'm watching this like, A - who *told* the monkeys they needed this mineral to survive, B - how does a monkey even know what a mineral *is*, and C, how did they know that this lake had the mineral in it? Is this like, universal monkey knowledge??

Like, it's not just *one* monkey who took a sip from this lake and was like fuck yes, I feel amazing I love this *mineral water*; no, this is like, EVERY SINGLE monkey. In the jungle. Or, rainforest, I don't know, whatever Ian McKellan said.

Anyway, it's *blowing my mind* that these monkeys just *know* what they *need* and then they risk their lives going to get it, whereas I'm a human fuckin' being and I barely even know what I should eat for breakfast in the morning, let alone...what I'm SUPPOSED to be DOING. Like... with my LIFE. You know?

*LIGHTS UP - we realize that Jason was not talking to a therapist. He was talking to AMY in the waiting room. She sits across from him with an open magazine on her lap.*

AMY

It's David Attenborough

JASON

Huh?

AMY

The documentary you're talking about. It's not Ian McKellan. It's David Attenborough.

JASON

You've seen it??

AMY

Yeah, everyone has seen those.

JASON

So you know the monkeys I'm talking about?

AMY

I don't think I've seen that one, specifically

JASON

So you haven't seen it

AMY

I have watched the David Attenborough documentaries. Just not that one.

JASON

Well.....you should watch this one, cause I'm telling you, it blew my mind

AMY

Clearly.

JASON

Like, don't even get me started on these ANTS that get turned into ZOMBIES

AMY

I'm sorry - can you stop talking?

JASON

....what?

AMY

Can you just - stop?

JASON

Um.... you asked me how I was, so

AMY

I just said "how are you" in like a polite way, I didn't expect to hear your stoner musings about Blue Planet

JASON  
THAT'S the name of the show!!

AMY  
....Yeah.

JASON  
Wait, stoner?

AMY  
What?

JASON  
You think I'm a stoner?

AMY  
You just talked for ten minutes straight about monkeys and the meaning of life

JASON  
So?

AMY  
It's just a little....

JASON  
What?

AMY  
Cliche, like stoner cliche

JASON  
CLICHE?? You think other people are out there thinking about MONKEYS and the meaning of LIFE??

AMY  
Yeah

JASON  
Who?

AMY  
I don't know. Charles Darwin.

JASON

...

AMY

...

JASON

Well, then he and Ian McKellan should make a show together cause that shit would be fire.

AMY

....I'm sorry it's just - I'm having a bad day, and I don't really want to hear about....ants that get turned into zombies.

JASON

A bad day?

AMY

Yeah

JASON

What happened?

AMY

....It's none of your business

JASON

Are you okay? You can tell me!

AMY

I don't want to tell you.

JASON

Dr. Pearson would say that when we don't want to share something, that's actually the thing we should share most.

AMY

....you go to Dr. Pearson too?

JASON

Yeah, why do you think I'm here?

AMY

I guess I thought.... there were other therapists here....

JASON

Nope. I mean, yeah, there probably are. But not for me!

AMY

Great.

JASON

So what are you here for?

AMY

What? Therapy.

JASON

No, I know, but like, WHY are you in therapy?

AMY

.....that is an unbelievably inappropriate question.

JASON

You're right, you're right. I'm sorry. "Boundaries!"

*Amy stares down at her magazine.*

JASON

*(Almost to himself)* I definitely need to work more on boundaries.

*Amy flips through the magazine, but there's something weirdly endearing about the way he said that.*

AMY

I'm here because my boyfriend broke up with me.

JASON

See, I could tell you wanted to talk about it! I'm really good at sensing stuff like that.

AMY

Of course you are

JASON

No, really! I, I'm really sorry you're going through that.

*He leans forward, earnest, and makes clear eye contact with her. Something happens in that beat.*

*We hear a door open.*

DR. PEARSON'S VOICE

Amy?

**SCENE 2: OUTSIDE THERAPY**

*Jason leans against a wall outside the therapist's office, smoking a cigarette. Amy walks out, wearing headphones, looking at her phone. She has just been crying. Jason quickly flicks his cigarette aside.*

JASON

Amy - AMY!

*She doesn't hear him, and begins to walk away. Jason runs up behind her and grabs her shoulder.*

AMY

*(startled)* What the fuck!

JASON

Sorry, did I scare you?

AMY

YES.

JASON

Sorry! I just - ahhh, I just felt really bad that I was talking so much to you about my own shit in the waiting room while you clearly didn't want to talk and I just wanted to - to apologize.

AMY

Okay well.... thanks!

JASON

I just, I'm trying to be more sensitive and I can tell that I wasn't respecting your space and I'm sorry and it won't happen again.

AMY

Okay, well, I'll probably never see you again, so

*She tries to leave, but he's in front of her now.*

JASON

Well, what time is your therapy appointment next week? Maybe I'll be here!

AMY

I'm not gonna tell you that

JASON

OH my god, I did NOT ask that in like, a stalker way, I just, fuck!

AMY

...

JASON

Okay. I'm just gonna leave you alone now.

AMY

Great

JASON

But if you do want to talk...to someone, about your breakup, other than your therapist, I mean.

AMY

Oh my god

JASON

I mean, I - I just went through a break up, too.

AMY

Can't imagine why.

JASON

What?

*Jason is hurt by that*

AMY

Sorry, I don't know your business, I shouldn't have said that.

JASON

It's okay.

AMY

Alright, I'm just gonna....I have to go to work now.

JASON

Okay, sorry! Hope - I hope you feel better. About your breakup.

AMY



Yeah...you too...

**SCENE 3: OUTSIDE THERAPY. A FEW DAYS LATER.**

*Amy walks into therapy. Jason is there smoking, but he ignores her deliberately.*

.....Hey

AMY

Oh!!! Hey, Amy! I didn't see you there!

JASON

You absolutely saw me there.

AMY

Ahh, I mean, I didn't - last time I scared you and you seemed worried that I was gonna -

JASON

- wait outside the office for me like a stalker

AMY

Haha, yeah! But the thing is I really do have the appointment before you and I couldn't NOT go to therapy just because I was worried about stalking you

JASON

Right.

AMY

But then I thought if you saw me in the waiting room it would like, ruin your therapy session

JASON

Uh huh

AMY

So I just came out here.

JASON

Uh huh.

AMY

*Jason flicks his cigarette, doesn't know what to say.*

AMY

How do you know my name?

JASON

I heard Dr. Pearson call you in the other day. Sorry. Is that weird? Sorry.

*Beat.*

AMY

What's your name?

JASON

My name? Oh, Jason!

AMY

Are you sure?

JASON

Yes, sorry, I'm sure, I'm Jason

AMY

Like the Argonauts

JASON

Huh?

AMY

Oh, like Jason and the Argonauts?/nevermind

JASON

/Is that a band?

AMY

No it's a - nevermind

JASON

No, I want to know!

AMY

It's - it's a story from Greek Mythology.

JASON

Oh, sick! I love mythology.

AMY

...You do?

JASON

*(he says this basically all in one breath)* Yeah! I mean, I don't really know much about it but - I've seen Troy! That's mythology, right? Brad Pitt got in like, incredible shape for it. Not that - not that men need to be in really good shape, there are lots of forms of masculinity - uh - anyway that's cool, I didn't know I was named for a myth!

*Again, there is something endearing about this to Amy. She takes him in.*

AMY

Um - I have to go to therapy now.

JASON

Oh! Okay, have a great session!

AMY

*(hesitating for a second)* But if you want to...um, do you want to meet me there? When I'm done?

*She points to a bar across the street*

JASON

Oh uh....what?

AMY

Do you want to get a drink. After this.

JASON

Oh, I'm not - I'm not um, interested in like, dating you or anything

AMY

Oh - Neither am I, that's not what -

JASON

Oh!

AMY

I just, it seems like you wanted to talk to me....or something

JASON

Oh!

AMY

Like I just feel like....you're "expressing a subconscious desire to talk to me" by constantly running into me.

JASON

What?

AMY

It's just - something that Dr. Pearson said - nevermind

JASON

Oh, oh, no no I totally see what you're saying! Yeah, I can see how you would think that

AMY

.....So, see you in an hour then?

JASON

Oh, sure! Yes! Yes.

AMY

....Okay!