

Final Draft 7 Demo

Yenta 2.0

by
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INT. - DAY - SCIENTIFIC LABORATORY

Room is covered in stereotypical laboratory materials, test tubes and beakers and other bits of science. Seen from the back is a mid-sized figure in a lab coat sitting in a swivel chair.

(O.S.)

(Maniacally)

Bwa-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha! Ha-ha! Ha!

The figure in the lab coat turns around, revealing a mad scientist cackling in a movie playing on a laptop. The figure is MAGGIE, a woman in her mid-twenties. She closes the lid of the laptop and begins fiddling with test tubes. She moves around the lab, fiddling with bits of science. Finally, using an eyedropper, she pours a clear liquid into a small glass vial labeled SP-01, drops it into her pocket, and smiles.

INT. - NIGHT - APARTMENT KITCHEN

A small but tidy apartment inhabited by three twenty somethings. Maggie, with a knowing smile, drops the same vial into her pocket, picks up two plates of food, and carries them to a four person kitchen table, at which sit her housemates, LI, a man in his twenties and AMY, a woman in her twenties.

AMY

Maggie, I can't believe you cooked us dinner! Thank you so much!

LI

Seriously, Mags. We totally owe you.

MAGGIE (SOMEWHAT SLYLY)

Oh, the pleasure's mine. I have this new recipe I wanted to try out, I can't wait to see how you like it.

INT. - NIGHT - LATER

Maggie sits on a couch in the living room, typing on her macbook laptop. Through the wall from Li and Amy's room we hear SOUNDS OF PASSION. Maggie pauses her typing.

AMY (O.S.)

Oh, God, Yes!

INT. - LAPTOP SCREEN

Human experiment 1 on subjects L and A: Initial Success

INT. - NIGHT- APARTMENT LIVING ROOM

Maggie is sitting on the same couch, talking with her friend EVALINA, a grad student.

EVALINA

Maggie, I know I've said this a million times, but I'm just going insane, I can't get her out of my head! But every time I try to talk to her, I just freeze up and can't say anything except stupid small talk! And really cheesy jokes! She must think I'm such an awkward idiot.

MAGGIE

Okay, honey, just calm down, all right?

EVALINA

I know, I know, I should listen to your advice about talking to her but I can't, I just freeze up, I don't know what to do, I feel like I am just going to die pining away for her!

MAGGIE

Evalina, BREATHE. How about I have you both over for dinner with some people? You can drink some wine and give yourself time to prepare and relax.

EVALINA

Oh god I'll just screw it up and make a fool of myself she'll never talk to me again and I'll be so ashamed and...

MAGGIE (INTERRUPTING)

Eva, it'll be okay. I promise. Just show up and look pretty, and I'll take care of the rest.

INT. - DAY - COFFESHOP

Maggie sits with Malika, a gorgeous woman in her 20s. They each have a cup of hot beverage

MAGGIE

So, you wanna come over to my place on Friday for a little dinner party?

MALIKA

Who's coming?

MAGGIE

Well, Amy and Li cause they live there, and you hopefully, and maybe Esteban, and, uh, I think Evalina.

MALIKA

Oh god, Evalina? You know how awkward I am when I try to talk to her! She's so smart, and pretty, and I just get so overwhelmed...

MAGGIE

Malika, just come, okay?

MALIKA

Okay, okay, I'll come. So, Esteban, I totally thinks he likes you. You should ask him out!

MAGGIE (AWKWARD)

I, uh, maybe, I dunno.

MALIKA

Oh come on, it's been how long since Morgan? Have you seen anyone for more than a first date in all that time? You have to open yourself up, take some risks! And Esteban seems so nice!

MAGGIE

Hey, wouldya look at the time, I gotta go have office hours for those pesky undergrads, see you Friday?

INT. NIGHT - APARTMENT DINING ROOM

Six people sit around the dining room table in Maggie's apartment. The kitchen table has been expanded to fit more people, and the room is slightly cramped. Maggie presides at the head of the table. Evalina sits at the far end, next to Malika, the gorgeous object of her affections. Next to Malika sits ESTEBAN, a mild-mannered graduate student.

Filling out the table across from them are Amy and Li, Maggie's housemates. Everyone has glasses of wine and are engaging in friendly chatter. Evalina looks extremely nervous talking to Malika and gulps her wine. Maggie gets up from the table and walks towards the kitchen. Evalina looks for an excuse to leave the table.

EVALINA

Maggie, are you going to get the food? Let me help you!

MAGGIE

No no no, I'm the hostess - with the mostest - I'll take care of it.

INT. NIGHT - APARTMENT KITCHEN

Maggie pulls a vial out of her pocket, labeled SP-02, pours some of the liquid onto the food on each of two plates, and carries them to the dining room and places them in front of Evalina and Malika.

INT. NIGHT - LATER - APARTMENT LIVING ROOM

There are several empty wine bottles on the table, the sign of successful dinner party. Amy and Li stand up, yawning, wave goodbye and head to their bedroom. Esteban has fallen asleep on the couch with his head on Maggie's shoulder. Maggie wakes him and he groggily takes his coat and leaves. Evalina and Malika are curled up together in a love seat, giggling and flirting shamelessly.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

Well, goodnight guys! Just make sure the door locks behind you.

They barely notice her. Maggie smiles to herself, and leaves the room. Evalina and Malika, giggle, whisper, kiss, and then leave.

INT. - LAPTOP SCREEN

Human experiment 2 on subjects E and M: Initial Success.

INT. - MONTAGE SEQUENCE

A montage of scenes of Maggie using her invention. No dialogue, "Hairbrained Scheme" by Freezepop plays. ABRAHAM sits on the couch with Maggie, gesturing animatedly about

some crush he has, followed by a scene of Maggie and JUDITH talking in a coffeshop, followed by Abraham and JUDITH

getting together while out for drinks with Maggie. First GABRIELA confides in Maggie, then CHARLES moans to her over a nearly empty bottle of scotch, then Gabriela and Charles get together at a party Maggie hosts. RICHARD and PAMELA, a married couple, come over for dinner with Maggie and leave with MARIELA. This continues with several other couples, scenes of everyone involved confiding in Maggie then finding their desires fulfilled. Interspersed between the hookups are shots of "The Chart", Maggie's master list of who is with who and who has been with who, all the local gossip on one map that verges on being non-planar. The final scene is of Maggie out for a flirtatious dinner with Esteban. He gets up to use the restroom, and Maggie pulls out the vial. She almost drops some liquid in his drink, but freezes and puts the vial away, looking glum.

INT. NIGHT - A BAR

The room is full of young people, 20s-30s, milling about, drinking and talking, but not acting particularly amorously. Maggie enters with a large group of friends, all of whom are there with dates: Amy and Li, Evalina and Malika, Judith and Abraham, Gabriela and Charles. The couples all pair off and talk to each other, leaving Maggie alone and bored, drinking heavily and surveying the crowd around her. Her eyes focus on all the awkward flirtation of young academics, and all the lonely people. Maggie gets too drunk and has A Bad Idea.

INT. NIGHT - LATER - A CLUB/BAR

Maggie, very drunk, is sitting with her back to the bar, surveying the chaos she has created, sipping one of many drinks she's had. The club is filled with people making out shamelessly. The bartenders are dismayed. Amy is taking photos with her camera phone. In the distance, the sound of a siren. The door bursts open and in come police officers shining bright flashlights.

COP #1

All right, what the hell is going
on in here? Some kind of Ecstasy
party? Break it the hell up! All of
you, hands off each other!

Maggie and her friends slip out the back door, Maggie giggling while the others look concerned.

INT. - DAY - MAGGIE'S BEDROOM - THE NEXT DAY

Maggie lies on her bed, on top of the covers, alone, still wearing most of the same clothes from the previous night. She groggily awakens, blinks in the too bright sunlight, groans, rolls over, and opens her laptop. She checks her email.

INT. - LAPTOP SCREEN

"From: Amy

To: Maggie, Li, Evalina, Malika, Judith, Abraham, Gabriela,
Charles

Subject: What a crazy night!

Hey guys, wasn't that just the craziest thing at "The Thirty Post-Doc" last night? Practically an orgy! Anyway here are my pics of that madness, would you check out Professor Klein with that new post-doc? Not something I ever wanted to see! And isn't he married?"

MAGGIE (V.O.)

Oh gods, what did I do last night?

INT. - LAPTOP SCREEN

"From: Charles

To: Maggie, Li, Evalina, Malika, Judith, Abraham, Gabriela,
Amy

Subject: Re: What a crazy night!

Oh man, I just heard that the police made a bunch of arrests

last night for disorderly conduct, and they suspect there was some massive drug use going on. Check out this link, how many people from everyone's department? Greg from mine, and three more I recognize from Chemistry... This is crazy."

MAGGIE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Awww shit...

INT. - DAY - APARTMENT KITCHEN

Maggie sits curled up in a blanket on the couch, sipping tea, mostly recovered from her hangover. Evalina is sitting next to her happily babbling about how she and Malika are moving in together when Maggie interrupts her.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

So, you and Malika, you're really happy together, right?

EVALINA

Of course we are! Haven't you been listening to anything I've been saying! I've never been so happy in my life before!

MAGGIE

So, what matters is where you are now, right, not how you got there?

EVALINA

Well, yeah, I guess so, but we have you to thank for that, and we couldn't be more grateful!

MAGGIE

Well, that's the thing. What did I really do, right? You both wanted each other, you'd both told me that, but you couldn't actually manage to get together, and you just needed a little push from, you know, the situation and the alcohol and all that, right?

EVALINA

Yeah, I guess so...

MAGGIE

And it wouldn't really matter if it had been some other situation that got you together, as long as your happy in the end, right? It's not about how you first got together, it's about how much you love each other now and how well you work together and not about what you drank that night or who was encouraging you or anything like that? What's important is what you have now, of course, that's obvious.

EVALINA

Maggie, honey, what has gotten into you? What are you talking about? Did you meet someone, in some sketchy way, is this what this is about? Oh I hope you met someone!

MAGGIE

No, ha, I haven't "met someone" in God only knows how long... I, oh, can you keep a secret and promise

(MORE)

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

not to be angry at me? I really
need someone to talk to and I swear
I only wanted good things to
happen, I never meant any harm!

EVALINA

Honey, you're scaring me! Of course
I can keep a secret and I won't be
mad at you, you're my best friend!
Just calm down and tell me what
happened.

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MAGGIE

Oh I swear it all seemed like such
a good idea at the time...

FADE OUT

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