

BLIND JUSTICE

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. COURTROOM - DAY

Behind the judges' bench sit three CLERKS wearing pantyhose on their heads, distorting their features, masking their age and gender. In front of each, on a pedestal, is a smart-phone facing out toward the courtroom. Each pedestal has a logo from one of the following companies: Apple, Google, Amazon. On the wall behind the bench is a large TV screen. Phones and TV show a smiley face emoji.

Facing the bench are two tables. Behind one table sits a small battered WOMAN (30s) and the PROSECUTOR (40s). At the other table sits the huge male DEFENDANT (20s) and his ATTORNEY (30s).

The Prosecutor lurches to his feet and throws down his notepad.

PROSECUTOR
...but your honors!

On the phones and TV appears a FROWNEY FACE, accompanied by a BUZZING SOUND. After the buzzing comes the DEEP VOICE OF:

JUDGMENT
The court has ruled.

The ATTORNEY rises, smirking, and steps closer to the bench. Behind him, the Defendant looks across at the Woman, who looks back at him, a hurt expression on her face.

ATTORNEY
An accredited psychiatrist has given my client a score of ninety-eight on the Freudian sexual-confusion scale -

PROSECUTOR
(interrupting)
Objection. The Supreme Court has ruled that opinions from bearded authorities are not valid.

On the phones and TV appear s smiley face, accompanied by a DING-DING SOUND.

JUDGMENT
Sustained.

Defendant shrugs his shoulders at Woman, a contrite expression on his face. Woman smiles tentatively.

Prosecutor joins Attorney in front of the bench. Behind them the Woman and Defendant get to their feet and slowly approach each other.

ATTORNEY

Your honors, it is our contention that my client was acting in self-defense when that vicious woman -
(points at empty table without looking)
- attacked my client.

PROSECUTOR

Hah! Let's go to the video!

On the TV appears a VIDEO from a surveillance camera showing the Defendant chasing the limping Woman around a convenience store, throwing punches when she gets in range.

Ignoring the TV, the Woman and Defendant stare into each other's eyes.

ATTORNEY

We object to the introduction of that video as evidence on the grounds it is prejudicial to the defense.

Instantly the TV and phones display the frowney face, accompanied by the BUZZING.

JUDGMENT

Overruled.

Woman and Defendant slowly embrace each other.

PROSECUTOR

Not only did that brute cause the defendant great bodily harm, he deeply injured her soul.

ATTORNEY

This is a secular court. Mention of the soul is prohibited. Prosecution should have filed in a religious court if they wanted to inject the "soul" into this case.

TV and phones display smiley face, followed by DING-DING.

JUDGMENT

Sustained.

Unnoticed by all, Woman and Defendant share a brief kiss.

PROSECUTOR
Atheist cretin.

ATTORNEY
Holy roller lout.

On TV and phones appear the picture of a gavel BANGING a cockroach flat on a desk.

JUDGMENT
Order in the court.

Woman and Defendant now engage in a full-on embrace and tongue combat. Their fevered MOANS draw the attention of the court.

PROSECUTOR
Your honors, the defendant is accosting the victim!

ATTORNEY
Wrong. That's love. Besides, this is Valentine's Day, so Valentine's Day rules apply: no law shall be enforced separating lovers on this day. Even now, millions of lovers are flooding prisons to engage in their yearly conjugal visit.

TV and phones display smiley faces, followed by DING-DING.

JUDGMENT
Sustained.

Defendant's hands work their way to Woman's neck and start choking her.

PROSECUTOR
He's choking her! Somebody stop him!

TV and phones display frowney face, followed by BUZZING.

JUDGMENT
Use of force in a court of law is prohibited.

ATTORNEY
Hah, hah.

Attorney steps up the couple. Woman is beating at the Defendant with her little hands to no avail.

PROSECUTOR

Fine. Let him kill you. Then we'll be sure to send him away for the rest of his life.

ATTORNEY

Your honors, I demand that all cameras in this court be turned off as the video may be detrimental to my client's future freedom.

On TV and phones appear a series of emojis displaying increasing degrees of uncertainty, finally stopping with an emoji showing a downward-cast mouth, accompanied by the TROMBONE WAH WAH WAH FAIL SOUND.

JUDGMENT

There doesn't seem to be precedent, so let us all withdraw to chambers to further consider the matter.

The three clerks pick up the phone in front of them and solemnly file out of the courtroom through a door behind the bench.

Prosecutor and Attorney follow them, leaving the dying Woman in the hands of the Defendant.

As they near the door, Attorney CLAPS his hands twice and the lights in the courtroom go out.

PROSECUTOR

Hey, I wanted to do that!

ATTORNEY

Screw you.

FADE OUT.