

The Movies  
Written by  
Annie Lewis

Copyright (c) 2015

FADE IN:

INT. MOVIE THEATER - NIGHT

VALERIE, ELLIOT, and TYLER, all of them 16, stand at the very end of a moderate line to the ticket booth. As they speak, they move forward, progressively reaching the front.

ELLIOT

What's this movie even about?

VALERIE

I forgot, but I remember it sounding like a three-hour BDSM.

ELLIOT

Really? Tyler, are you trying to tell us something?

TYLER

What do you mean?

VALERIE

You dragged us here.

ELLIOT

Yeah. Enlighten us.

TYLER

What? I didn't drag anyone here.

VALERIE

Really? You think I'd be going to see some foreign movie with subtitles because I wanted to?

TYLER

Well, the Batman movie's sold out and I really don't feel like doing family game night. So let's just try this out, okay?

ELLIOT

Okay. But what is "this", exactly?

Valerie takes out her phone and does a search.

VALERIE

It's about a married couple that gets separated by a war. The wife gets involved with some enemy soldier who  
(MORE)

CONTINUED:

VALERIE (cont'd)  
ends up taking her hostage in a  
chicken coop for two years.

ELLIOT  
Sounds like we're gonna have some fun  
entertainment on a Saturday night. I  
bet the critics are eating its ass.

VALERIE  
(checks, then nods)  
All of 'em.  
(to Tyler)  
I think you are trying to tell us  
something. It's that you're  
pretentious.

ELLIOT  
He's trying to infect us, Val.

TYLER  
You know what? We can see The Bunny  
Boppers instead. How's that for  
pretentious?

VALERIE  
Oh, god, no. My sister sings the  
songs non-stop and I think about  
putting my head through a wood-  
chipper.

ELLIOT  
My brother's the same way.

TYLER  
Sounds like that's the real  
infection.

VALERIE  
True. I think we should start  
keeping an eye on Disney. If they  
wanted it to happen, they could make  
all kids in the world slit their  
parents' throats and become part of  
their cult.

ELLIOT  
You've obviously thought of this  
before.

VALERIE  
I can't help it. My dad keeps making  
me paranoid. He's one of those  
conspiracy theorists, or whatever.

(MORE)

CONTINUED:

VALERIE (cont'd)  
You know - 9/11, the Illuminati,  
hidden dicks in cartoons.

TYLER  
I'm so sick of that word.  
Illuminati. I don't think it's a  
secret group anymore if, like,  
everyone knows about them.

ELLIOT  
They still rule the world.

VALERIE  
I want that kind of power.

They have reached the front of the line. Tyler leads them  
to the ticket booth, where there's a TICKET VENDOR.

TYLER  
(slightly deeper  
voice)  
Uh, yeah, three tickets to...  
(tries to pronounce  
it)  
Den hubsha tag hat...sick...

TICKET VENDOR  
The German one?

TYLER  
Yeah.

TICKET VENDOR  
That'll be 36 dollars.

TYLER  
(to Val and Elliot)  
12 each?

Valerie and Elliot nod, pull out their money, and hand it to  
Tyler. Tyler struggles a little getting money out of his  
pocket, then hands everything to the ticket vendor. The  
tickets print and the vendor hands them over to Tyler.

TICKET VENDOR  
Three tickets.

TYLER  
Thanks.

The gang moves along to the --

INT. SNACK STAND - CONTINUOUS

-- where they get behind another moderate line. Tyler distributes the tickets.

ELLIOT  
What time is it?

Valerie takes out her phone and checks the time.

VALERIE  
7:26.

TYLER  
What would you be doing at 7:26 if we weren't standing here?

VALERIE  
Sleeping, probably.

TYLER  
Really? At 7?

ELLIOT  
Are you 70-years-old or something?

VALERIE  
(sarcastic)  
That was so funny. Making fun of old people is just so funny.

ELLIOT  
Who said 70 is old?

VALERIE  
Well, you guys are still ignorant. You don't understand how working long shifts can seriously fuck you up.

TYLER  
No, I don't.

ELLIOT  
(smiles)  
One of the perks of being unemployed.

VALERIE  
(rolls her eyes)  
Toddlers.  
(beat)  
I really need to pee.

CONTINUED:

ELLIOT  
Well, don't do it here!

VALERIE  
(mocking voice)  
I wasn't gonna do it here.  
(normal voice)  
If I'm not back, can you get me Sour  
Patch Kids?

ELLIOT  
Okay, I will get you Sour Patch Kids,  
also known as the nastiest candy  
ever.

Valerie flips him off playfully and leaves the line.

ELLIOT (cont'd)  
(to Tyler)  
She takes her candy to the heart.

TYLER  
I don't know why she wouldn't be back  
in like two seconds. Does it take  
her that long to pee?

ELLIOT  
I don't know, man. Maybe she is 70.

They laugh a little. A beat.

TYLER  
So, Elliot, what would you be doing  
at 7:26?

ELLIOT  
I don't know. Watching TV. It's  
boring being a privileged teen.

TYLER  
Tell me about it. My parents are  
probably breaking out Monopoly right  
now.

ELLIOT  
C'mon. Is game night really that  
bad? I wish my family did more stuff  
like that, believe it or not.

TYLER  
Well, I guess it's not too bad. But  
we only do it 'cause they keep  
fighting and it's like the only time  
(MORE)

CONTINUED:

TYLER (cont'd)  
they actually seem to get along --  
probably because it's competitive.

ELLIOT  
(sarcastic)  
Oh, yeah, that makes total sense.

They laugh a little.

TYLER  
I don't know. It's just really  
awkward and I don't want to be around  
it.

ELLIOT  
Maybe they need you there.

A beat. Elliot tries to change the subject.

ELLIOT (cont'd)  
Why'd you do that thing with your  
voice?

TYLER  
What do you mean?

ELLIOT  
At the ticket booth. It sounded like  
you made your voice deeper.

TYLER  
I have no idea what you're talking  
about.

He does. Elliot smirks.

ELLIOT  
You made your voice deeper because  
you thought they were gonna ask for  
ID, right?

TYLER  
Well, it is rated R. Don't you have  
to be 17 or something?

ELLIOT  
You're such a nerd.

TYLER  
I know.

They look at each other and share a smile.





CONTINUED:

ELLIOT  
Are you sure?

TYLER  
Yeah.

ELLIOT  
Okay. Thanks.

CASHIER  
It's \$15.87.

Tyler pulls out money and hands it to the cashier. They wait a little as the snacks are put together. During this time, Elliot sneaks a look at Tyler as he looks ahead.

INT. THEATER HALLWAY - LITTLE LATER

Tyler and Elliot walk down the hallway looking for their theater number. Valerie appears behind them.

ELLIOT  
How was your pee?

VALERIE  
Refreshing.

TYLER  
It took you long enough.

VALERIE  
Whatever. Did you get my Sour Patch Kids?

ELLIOT  
(disgusted)  
How could I forget 'em?

He hands her the candy. Tyler spots their theater.

TYLER  
Here we are.

But before they enter --

ELLIOT  
Hey, Val, do you mind if I talk to you for a sec?

Valerie raises an eyebrow.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

VALERIE

Okay...

ELLIOT

(to Tyler)

You can go inside. We'll catch up with you.

TYLER

Okay...

Tyler disappears into the theater. Elliot turns to Valerie.

ELLIOT

I think I'm in love.

VALERIE

(sarcastic)

Shocking.

ELLIOT

Huh?

VALERIE

With Tyler, right? It's obvious.

ELLIOT

Is it?

VALERIE

Uh, yeah.

ELLIOT

(sighs)

Fuck.

VALERIE

What's wrong with being obvious?

ELLIOT

Well, I don't want to freak him out.

VALERIE

You won't freak him out. I think he likes you too.

ELLIOT

(surprised)

Really?...

Valerie gives him a look. "Are you kidding?"

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

VALERIE

(nods)

You're forgetting I'm basically the third wheel here. Why don't you tell him you like him?

ELLIOT

Because -- I don't know -- because I'm ugly.

VALERIE

Ugly? Okay, listen. Do you know what the word 'ugly' is in French?

ELLIOT

Huh?

VALERIE

The word 'ugly' in French.

ELLIOT

No, I take Spanish. Why would I know what 'ugly' is in --

VALERIE

In French, the word 'ugly' becomes 'laid', and if that doesn't give you hope then I don't know what will.

ELLIOT

(sarcastic)

Because all relationships depend on sex, right?

VALERIE

Not at all. But if you're gonna keep worrying about what's skin-deep, then all of yours might. Now let's just go into that theater and enjoy...

She looks at the film's poster near the entrance. The movie's title: "Die hübsche tag hat sich zu einem albtraum".

VALERIE (cont'd)

I'm not even going to attempt that. C'mon.

ELLIOT

(re: poster, under his breath)

It's in black-and-white, too?

Valerie leads Elliot into --

INT. THEATER - CONTINUOUS

They reach Tyler in the very back. The seats surrounding would be totally empty if there wasn't a MAN sleeping with a popcorn bucket over his head.

ELLIOT

(re: man)

Looks like this'll be some exciting cinema.

VALERIE

I'm gonna go take a picture with him.

TYLER

Be careful.

Valerie goes, leaving Tyler and Elliot together.

ELLIOT

So. You ready for a three-hour German lesson?

TYLER

Sure, I guess.

ELLIOT

We should speak over them and make our own dialogue.

TYLER

We should.

They watch Valerie take a picture with the sleeping man. Even though the flash goes off, he doesn't wake.

Tyler and Elliot laugh, then reach for the popcorn. Their hands brush. They chuckle nervously, blushing, then look into each other's eyes as the lights dim and the screen comes to life.

FADE OUT:

THE END