

THE VENUS
Written by James D. Long

OPEN.

1. EXT. PARK (DAYTIME)

A MAN sits on a park bench. The MAN is in his mid-20's, smartly dressed with a preppy edge and smart, slicked hair. The MAN's eye browse across the park before his eyes pause. Something to the right of the MAN's eyes has caught his attention.

Sitting on a separate bench is a GIRL. The GIRL is also in her mid-20's with dark hair and a clear complexion. She is reading a book. The MAN notices she is only a few chapters through the book. The MAN watches her intently before gently biting his bottom lip. The GIRL brushes her hair back behind her eye and looks up towards the MAN. The GIRL smiles. The MAN nervously smiles back before standing up and walking away quickly.

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

2. EXT. PARK (DAYTIME)

The MAN is again sitting on the bench. This time the MAN has a book of his own closed on his lap. The MAN opens on the book on his lap and starts to read. The MAN's eyesight slowly wanders up and to his right. The GIRL is sitting on the same bench to his right reading her book. The MAN pays attention to her eyes...then her hair...then her lips.

3. INT. MAN'S FLAT - BEDROOM (DAYTIME)

The MAN is sitting at his desk with his back to the camera. The room is in darkness with the curtains pulled. The room is illuminated by the glowing light of his laptop. On the laptop screen are pictures of the GIRL. The pictures are amateur, voyeuristic, candid and taken by the MAN.

4. EXT. PARK (DAYTIME)

The MAN is sitting on the bench with his book, again watching the GIRL. The GIRL is further through her book.

5. INT. MAN'S FLAT - BEDROOM (DAYTIME)

The MAN is again at his desk in front of his laptop. Picture of the GIRL fill the screen. The MAN reaches out and touches her face on the screen.

6. EXT. PARK (DAYTIME)

The MAN continues to watch the girl. The GIRL is onto the final few chapters of her book.

7. INT. MAN'S FLAT - BEDROOM (DAYTIME)

Sitting at his desk in front of his laptop the MAN leans forward. The MAN slowly leans closer to the screen, closes his eyes and kisses the image of the GIRL on the screen.

8. EXT. PARK (DAYTIME)

The MAN is sitting on his bench. The book is closed on his lap. The MAN is looking around nervously. The MAN looks at the GIRL's bench but she is not there. The MAN stands and walks towards her bench when he sees her book sitting closed on it. The closer the MAN gets the slower he walks. Just as the MAN reaches the bench he see the GIRL. She is walking away from the park with her back to him. The MAN looks around him and cautiously follows.

9. EXT. STREET (DAYTIME)

The GIRL walks down the street before turning and approaching her flat. The GIRL opens the door and walks in. The MAN suddenly appears. The MAN stands looking at her flat. The MAN looks around and starts to walk gradually towards the flat. There is a noise and commotion from inside causing the MAN to panic and hide. The door opens and the GIRL walks out. The GIRL walks past the MAN without noticing him and carries on down the street. The MAN comes out of his hiding place and moves towards her front door. The MAN spots the door is not fully shut. The MAN pushes against the door and it swings open. The MAN takes a deep breath and walks in.

10. INT. GIRL'S FLAT (DAYTIME)

The MAN walks into the GIRL's flat. The MAN runs his fingertips along the wall until he reaches the first door. The MAN opens the door and walks inside.

11. INT. GIRL'S FLAT - LOUNGE (DAYTIME)

The MAN enters the GIRL's lounge. The MAN looks slowly around him. The MAN see a cardigan on a sofa. The MAN picks it up, holds it close and smells it deeply. The MAN collects the cardigan and goes to leave with it. Just as the MAN leaves he sees a laptop on a table. The MAN walks towards the laptop and clasps his hand over his mouth. On the laptop screen are pictures of the MAN. These pictures are also voyeuristic, amateur and candid but taken by the GIRL. The pictures dissolve from one to another in a slideshow.

The final slide appears on screen. The final slide is a plain black screen with the words "BEHIND YOU" written on it. The MAN slowly turns around and see the GIRL standing there. The MAN is startled and freezes. The GIRL smiles at the MAN and lifts up a bright torch blinding the MAN.

FADE TO WHITE.

FADE IN:

12. EXT. PARK (DAYTIME)

A SECOND MAN sits on the bench playing with his phone. The SECOND MAN puts his phone away and sits back looking around. On his right the SECOND MAN sees something that catches his eye. On the other bench is the GIRL reading a book and eating an apple. The GIRL brushes her hair back behind her ear, looks at the SECOND MAN and smiles. The SECOND MAN smiles back as the GIRL bites into the apple.

CUT.

THE END.