

# Egg Shaped Cube

by

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EXT. CINEMA DAWN

Heavy rainfall accentuates the whimsical glow of a neon sign. A light flicks on behind the rain-streaked windows.

INT. CINEMA LOBBY

The lobby is quiet and empty.

The sound of rain intensifies for a moment as the front door is pulled open, and a boy [SAM] enters.

His long, unkempt hair is plastered to his face with rain, he is wearing simple baggy clothes and is completely soaked through.

He walks through to the lobby, trying his best not to drip puddles of water everywhere and failing miserably.

He looks around, confused as to the lack of people, and beginning to worry that he might be trespassing.

He looks nervously around the empty room, before moving to sit, huddled up on the steps to the auditorium.

He stares at the floor in front of him, and notices a pair of shoes, standing not too far from him in the lobby, he looks up and finds they are being worn by a girl [LENA], who stands there smiling at him, clutching a mug of tea.

She is tall and clumsy, glittery and spectral.

SAM jumps, having not heard anyone walk in.

SAM

Sorry, I...

LENA

Oh, no, I'm sorry. I didn't mean to... I mean... Hi.

(LENA smiles)

Did you have a ticket for the film?

SAM

Oh, no. Sorry. I just... It was raining and you looked open and... I'll leave.

SAM gets up from the step.

LENA

What? But you're all soaked, you don't have to leave.

SAM takes a step toward the door.

LENA

Please don't leave. I'll be lonely, at least wait 'till the rain stops.

SAM stops awkwardly. And mutters something resembling an apology

LENA  
I'm sorry don't really have  
anything to offer you to change...  
Unless... hmm...

LENA walks over, awkwardly close to SAM and measures herself up against him. The two are very similar builds.

SAM looks nervous being so close to LENA but doesn't pull away.

LENA notices and smiles mischievously.

LENA  
Anyway, do you want some tea or  
coffee?

SAM  
Oh, yes, thanks...

LENA  
Which? Or should I surprise you?

SAM  
Oh, right sorry. Yea anything's  
fine I guess.

LENA  
(chuckles)  
Ok.

SAM sits back on the step, staring down nervously.

When he looks back up LENA has disappeared.

He looks around at the empty lobby listening to the rain.

The sounds of crashing can be heard from through the door to the staff room as LENA exits, very awkwardly carrying a large portable radiator.

The heater has wheels but she has nonetheless decided to carry it in her arms.

She drops it down heavily near to where SAM is sat and stretches.

Looking around for a plug socket, LENA notices that the only available one is on the other side of the staircase, next to the door and so she wheels the radiator back across the room and plugs it in.

She takes a second to figure out the controls on the radiator, but she manages it in the end and the machine whirrs into life.

LENA

There, that should be better. Your tea and or coffee will be ready in just a sec.

SAM

Oh, thanks... Um, how much do I owe you?

LENA

(she shakes her hand)

It's fine.

SAM carefully watches LENA leave the room this time. She's not particularly graceful so how does she move so silently?

Once LENA has passed through the doorway, SAM turns his attention to the radiator.

Suddenly realising how cold he is, he warms his shivering hands.

SAM glances to the right of the radiator, and sees LENA's shoes standing just behind it.

He looks up and sees LENA standing over him, smiling. She has a towel draped over her shoulder.

She holds out a very elaborate hot chocolate to SAM with one hand and attempts to hide a frilly dress behind her back with the other.

LENA

Tricked you, it's actually a hot chocolate!

SAM carefully takes the hot chocolate and cradles it in his hands.

LENA

Aaand, I found you some dry clothes to change into.

(beat)

LENA

Although...

LENA presents the dress, she looks slightly apologetic.

LENA

Well... I think you'd look cute in it anyway.

SAM stares at the dress, a look of longing, and embarrassment.

SAM

Do you... I... That's ok

LENA

I mean, you don't have to. I can just give you my coat or something.

SAM

No, that's ok... I mean, it would be better right. If you think it'd look... I don't mind it.

LENA

(she smiles at SAM)

I'll go set up the film while you're changing then. Were you interested?

SAM thinks for a second, then shrugs, as if to say 'sure, why not'.

LENA smiles again, places the dress and towel down next to where SAM is sitting and exits to the auditorium.

SAM takes a sip of the hot chocolate and places it down.

He holds the dress out in front of himself, examining it. He smiles a shy smile

Carefully he undresses, placing his wet clothes on or next to the radiator.

He dries his body with the towel and then, standing there in his underwear, he once again examines the dress.

It's elaborate and frilly, with big puffy shoulders.

He picks up the dress and holds it against his body.

SAM puts it on and steps out into the room, examining themselves in their new outfit.

They smile, twist left and right and then turn around and see LENA standing at the entrance to the auditorium, watching them, smiling kindly.

SAM immediately stops, and stands there looking embarrassed, as though they have been caught doing something they shouldn't be.

LENA

Oh, I'm sorry I didn't mean to...

SAM

(laughing nervously)

Sorry, it's kinda silly... I'll change it when my stuff's dry...

LENA  
No, that's ok...

(beat)

LENA  
It looks good on you

SAM strikes a stiff, awkward pose. Their face is bright red, but they are smiling.

INT. AUDITORIUM

The cinema auditorium is quiet, the curtains are drawn.

SAM finds a seat near the front.

They watch as LENA walks over toward the projection room door.

She turns and flashes a cutesy peace sign, before turning and exiting through the door.

SAM sits there, as the curtains open, examining themselves in the dress.

The lights fade and the auditorium is plunged into darkness.

The film's title sequence fades in and illuminates the auditorium in a flickering glow.

LENA is now sat in the seat next to SAM, smiling at them.

SAM looks over at her but quickly averts their gaze as their eyes meet.

The two sit and watch the movie in silence for a while.

LENA  
You have nice hair.

SAM  
Oh, really?

LENA reaches out and gently strokes SAM's hair. SAM doesn't protest.

SAM  
I don't really do anything with it...

(beat)

LENA  
Do you want me to braid it. I think it would look nice.

SAM

You think?.. I've never really  
tried anything like that... I mean,  
I don't mind...

LENA stands up and leads SAM by the hand to sit on the stage.

SAM sits on the floor facing the stage and LENA sits down behind them.

Carefully LENA brushes SAMs hair with a brush pulled from thin air, and draws it into two long braids.

The images from the projector dance along the back of their heads.

LENA ties off the two braids with cute ribbons and leans back to admire her work.

LENA

All done.

LENA retrieves a hand mirror from nowhere and holds it out in front of SAM for them to see their new hairstyle.

SAM is taken aback by how much they like it, turning their head this way and that to admire it.

LENA hands off the mirror to SAM and stands up, moving to a space in front of them.

She begins mimicking the characters on screen, a scene from a romance film, [need to find the perfect scene for this] and holds out her hand, enticing SAM to join in.

The two enact the scene, SAM hesitantly at first, as the female role and LENA as the male.

The two laugh nervously with each other as the scene ends.

LENA

You make a good [character]

SAM blushes and looks down.

SAM

You'd've been better.

LENA

(laughs)

No seriously, it was really cute.

SAM

(jokingly, nervous)

It's kind of a shame I'm a guy,  
right...

LENA  
(serious)  
You don't have to be.

SAM  
(laughing nervously)  
What do you mean? I'm not trans or  
anything stupid like that.

LENA is slightly hurt by this comment, but more than that,  
she now realises where SAMs thinking is at.

LENA  
It's not stupid.

(beat)

SAM  
Oh, no... I didn't mean it like  
that, I just... I'm not,  
obviously...

LENA  
(holding her hand out to  
SAM)  
Do you wish you were?

This comment stirs something deep inside SAM.

SAM stares at LENAs hand for a short while, then at her  
face, then at their own hair, then at the dress.

Tears begin to well up in SAMs eyes, their face a strange  
mixture of anger, sadness and a deep longing.

SAM removes the ribbons from their hair and unpicks the  
braids, carefully at first then faster and violently before  
escaping off of the stage.

LENA opens her mouth to protest, but then thinks better of  
it.

She stands there on the stage, thinking.

INT. STORAGE ROOM

SAM is huddled in the corner, staring out the window.

The rain has stopped leaving raindrops still on the glass.

LENA is stood at the prepared piano, playing an improvised,  
melancholy tune.

SAM turns to watch LENA playing.



SAM stands and walks over to the piano to watch LENA playing.

LENA turns to face SAM as she walks over and indicates to the piano as if to ask 'do you want to have a go?'

SAM  
(shakes her head)  
I don't know how to play...

LENA  
Neither do I, I'm just pressing  
stuff and seeing what happens.

SAM  
Oh, well... It sounds really good  
anyway...

LENA moves a bit out of the way to let SAM in.

LENA  
It's easy, I'll show you.

LENA moves behind SAM, grabs her hands and moves them to the piano keys, with her own hands on top.

Both their hands match in size.

SAM watches as her hands are guided by LENA to play a similar song to the one she was playing earlier.

LENA  
Why does it scare you so much?

SAM  
What if you're wrong, what if I'm  
not good enough?

LENA  
What is good enough? Womanhood can  
only be what it means to you.

SAM  
I'd rather be a real man than a  
facsimile of a woman.

LENA  
Stop being so dense.  
(beat)

LENA  
Wear the ill-fitting dress, put on  
your makeup badly, tie your hair up  
with bright ribbons. There is no  
perfect self to aspire to.

SAM turns to face LENA, staring into her eyes.

SAM  
You're so pretty.

(beat)

SAM  
Do you think I could ever be as  
pretty as you?

LENA  
Do you want to find out?

INT. STAFF ROOM

LENA and SAM are sat on a bench next to a table, LENA carefully tying SAM's hair up in two cute braids with bright ribbons.

When she is finished, LENA hands sam the small hand mirror.

SAM admires herself in the mirror for a short while.

When she finally puts the mirror down to look for LENA, she finds her sat on the table, her legs straddling SAM's body.

LENA holds out some eyeliner and makes a face as if to ask 'do you want some?'

SAM inspects the makeup for a second and then smiles and nods at LENA.

LENA applies the makeup slowly, eyeliner, mascara, lipstick blusher, a simple and cute design, nothing too over the top.

LENA leans in close as she works, gently manipulating SAMs head in her hand.

On a few occasions it appears as if they might kiss, but they don't quite.

INT. LOBBY

LENA is stood behind a record player looking through a stack of records.

She finds one she likes, slides it out of the sleeve and places it on the turntable.

She looks at the tracklist on the label and counts in the songs from the grooves on the record.

She finds the spot she thinks is the song she wants and places the needle down.

There is a scratch then a dance track kicks in.

LENA seems pleased.

She moves out into the middle of the room to dance as SAM enters.

SAMs hair is tied up in cute twin braids again and she has makeup on, she is admiring herself in LENAs hand mirror and smiling.

LENA moves over to grab SAMs hand, enticing her to dance.

SAM

Ah, I dunno I can't really dance.

LENA

Don't be silly, everyone can dance.

SAM hesitantly follows LENA, carefully copying her moves.

LENA

There you go, just like that.  
Relax, it's easy, see?

LENA grabs SAMs hand again and pulls her into a flamenco drop and then up and into a spin.

SAMs dress billows out as she turns.

SAM notices this and gasps.

She spins a few more times before beginning to dance on her own watching the different ways that her dress responds to her movements.

The pair dance for a bit more, LENA following SAMs movements this time before SAM performs three or four spins in a row and loses her balance.

She grabs LENA as she falls, pulling them both to the ground, SAM lying on her back with LENA on top.

The two lie there laughing, looking at each other.

As their laughing dies down, SAM plants a quick peck on LENAs lips.

LENA

(smiling)

Do that again, I dare you!

The two stare at each other in silence for a few moments before both moving in for another kiss at the same time.

They bonk heads.

LENA

Ow! Why?

SAM

Sorry...

LENA laughs and moves in again.

They share a kiss.

Suddenly the front door to the building unlocks and opens up and two people walk in chatting.

They stop, surprised when they see SAM lying on her back by herself in the middle of the lobby.

END