

SAY ANYTHING



say anything

by

Cameron Crowe

FINAL DRAFT
January 18, 1988

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FADE IN OVER BLACK:

- 1 OMITTED 1
- 2 INT. COREY'S BEDROOM - DAY 2

LLOYD DOBLER, 19, sits slumped in a small chair. He's tall, bulky, his nose looks slightly mashed. Hidden in there somewhere is a good-looking kid. Lloyd thumbs through a newspaper, sips a Super Big Gulp from 7-11.

We're in the bedroom of COREY FLOOD, 17. It's a weigh-station between school and home. Corey's walls feature photos and collages, most of them featuring a darkly-handsome young man named Joe. Corey sits on her bed, playing Led Zeppelin riffs on an amplified electric guitar. By her bed is a four-track cassette recorder -- the sign of a musician. Sitting on the floor, writing in a journal, is girlfriend D.C. She's a loyal supporter of her two friends, an introvert who mediates between two extroverts. Corey looks down at the school annual open on her bed.

COREY

I don't feel anything.

D.C.

Come on. It's graduation.

COREY

It's all so phony. Did you see what Mr. Carroll wrote in my yearbook? He ridiculed me all year long in English, then he wrote -- 'You're a real live wire...Love, Mr. Carroll.'

D.C.

He wants to leave things on a good note.

COREY

When Mr. Carroll says 'love' I start looking for a new word.

D.C.

Lloyd, she's being difficult.

Lloyd looks up from his newspaper.

LLOYD

If life was a movie, what would it be rated?

(CONTINUED)

COREY
That's a 'Lloyd' question.

D.C.
Probably R. Maybe X.

COREY
Since Joe, my life is definitely
X.

LLOYD
I'm probably PG-13 -- some material
may be too intense for young
children.

D.C.
That's too bad.

LLOYD
I'm doing something about it. I'm
going to take Diane Court out again.

The girls exchange meaningful looks.

COREY
Unlikely.

LLOYD
The movies is a good second 'date',
right?

COREY
You never had a first date.

D.C.
I hate that word 'date.'

LLOYD
I sat across from her at Bell
Square. We both ate. That's
sharing eating -- an important
physical event. Why isn't that
going out?

COREY
That's not even a scam.

LLOYD
What's a scam?

COREY
Going out as friends.

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED: (2)

2

D.C.
No it's not. Scam is lusting.

LLOYD
Then what is a date?

The girls take a moment to consider.

D.C.
A date is...prearrangement with a possibility for love.

LLOYD
I'm going to call her.

COREY
Lloyd.

LLOYD
What?

COREY
Diane Court doesn't go 'out'. She's a brain...

D.C.
...trapped in the body of a game show hostess.

COREY
Diane Court doesn't even know how good-looking she is. All she thinks about it bio-chemistry.

LLOYD
This all sounds great to me. I'm going to call her.

COREY
Lloyd. Brains stay with brains. The bomb could go off, and their mutant genes would form the same cliques.

He gets up, bounces lightly off the walls.

D.C.
I wouldn't get my hopes up, Lloyd.

LLOYD
Did she ever say anything about me, Corey? Tell me the truth.

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED: (3)

2

COREY
(high-strung)
She doesn't talk about that stuff!

LLOYD
Take it easy. I was just asking.

COREY
You're such a nice guy, Lloyd. We
just don't want to see you get hurt.

Lloyd stands, lumbers around the room.

LLOYD
I want to get hurt! Will someone
just let me get hurt?

3 EXT. LLOYD'S APARTMENT - AFTERNOON - CREDITS

3

A rain-stained Seattle apartment building. Lloyd practices kickboxing moves on a bag hanging from a tree in the yard. Next to him, his four-year-old nephew JASON attempts to duplicate his moves. Jason falls, and Lloyd picks him up. They both continue working out until a small timer sounds. Lloyd pulls the bag from his hook, throws it over his shoulder and they both charge up the stairs.

4 INT. LLOYD'S APARTMENT

4

Jason kicks open the door and they enter the cramped two-room apartment. Lloyd's corner of the living room is his bedroom. It's devoted to kickboxing photos, and a newspaper clipping of him in action. Lloyd sets down the bag with a thump.

JASON
Yaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa!

Jason kicks, loses his balance and starts to cry hysterically. Lloyd's 28-year-old sister CONSTANCE enters from the kitchen.

CONSTANCE
You're headed for Day Care, buster.

LLOYD
Be tough, J-man.

Jason stops sniffing.

JASON
'Kay.

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED:

4

CONSTANCE

Look -- he's a mess.

Constance pulls Jason into the kitchen, as Lloyd takes the phone into the bathroom. CREDITS END as he zoom-dials the number with one hand.

5 INT. COURT LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME

5

JAMES COURT, 48, is a friendly and charismatic father. There is an infectious good humor about him, even in the way he takes a light nap while Sam Cooke's "You Send Me" plays on his prized jukebox. Court sings along, harmonizes with the record -- he's not bad. The PHONE RINGS, Court leans across the coffee table to pick it up. The phone is one of those too-new, too-sophisticated models. Court must unfold it to answer it. He has a tough time with it, as he deals with the call.

COURT

Jim Court. No, Diane isn't home.
Is this the guy with the Mustang?

INTERCUT:

6 INT. LLOYD'S BATHROOM

6

Lloyd tries to pace in a tiny bathroom, around a potty chair.

LLOYD

No sir.

COURT

The guy with the Datsun.

LLOYD

No.

COURT

The truck.

LLOYD

No sir, you don't know me. I am basically a friend of your daughter. I sat with her yesterday at Bell Square, and...you know...I guess I'm pretty bad at this...

Court grabs a copy of Omni Magazine, pulls an expensive-looking black pen from his pocket. He scribbles on the back of the magazine.

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED: (2)

11

COURT

...and all the competition and
hoopla narrows it down to one
brilliant person who is so special
that they celebrate you on two
continents and it's you.

(pause)

You've always wanted this. Today,
you have it. Now tell me something.
What's the flaw in that?

Diane tries to respond.

COURT

(joyous)

See, there is no flaw!

Diane smiles. She stands, faces her father with new eyes.
Something has changed and she knows it.

12 EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAYS LATER

12

A LONG SHOT from the back of the football field. The
graduating classes sit on the field, the family and friends
in the bleachers. It's packed. We hear the booming p.a.

PRINCIPAL

I just can't introduce this girl
without saying...

13 CLOSE ANGLE ON DIANE COURT

13

who sits looking out on this sea of people, seated behind
the Principal, who fiddles with a pencil. She's on the
pedestal again.

DIANE

Please don't do a big thing...

PRINCIPAL

...that we're all going to remember
this one student who said 'Hey world
-- check me out'. The Reed
Fellowship Conqueress -- our own
Diane Court!

She takes center stage, looks into the audience. The
Lakeside Rooster dancing in the aisles. This makes her more
nervous.

- 14 ANGLE ON LLOYD DOBLER 14
- who sits with the boys, on the end of his row. Across from him, seated with the girls, are Corey and D.C. He shares a look with them, then notices the nervous father standing nearby in the bleachers. James Court begins filming his daughter with a video camera on a tripod.
- 15 ANGLE ON COURT 15
- 15A CLOSE ON DIANE 15A

DIANE

Thank you.

(pause)

The Real World. We're all about to enter 'The Real World'. That's what everyone says, but most of us have been in the Real World a long time...For example, standing here. If this isn't the real world, I don't know what is!

Little response from the audience.

- 16 ANGLE ON A ROW OF FOUR GUYS 16
- who make OOGA-OOGA NOISES. Lloyd turns from the row in front of them.

LLOYD

A little respect, guys.

They quiet down.

DIANE

I should say this. I took a few courses at the University this year. I missed being with my own class, but I have something to tell everybody. I have glimpsed our future and all I can say is...it's overrated.

Only a few laughs from a few students.

DIANE

O-kay.

- 16A ANGLE ON JAMES COURT 16A
- with a surprised look on his face.

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED:

23

D.C.
It's like she won the lottery of
the mind.

LLOYD
I'm happy for her.

COREY
(bitter)
I can't believe they're going to
let Joe sing. This place is going
to torture me to the last possible
second.

The Principal takes the stage.

PRINCIPAL
Okay, people, this is it. We don't
want to see any hat-throwing this
year. I declare you people the
graduating class of Lakeside High
School.

The bleachers flash with cameras, as parents and friends
crowd onto the field. Inevitably, a number of hats go in
the air. The school band plays "The Greatest Love of All".
Joe begins performing in cap and gown, with eyes shut.

JOE
(sings)
'The Great-est Love...of All'.

Lloyd and Corey exchange a rueful look.

LLOYD
Joe. He's darkly handsome. He's
intense. Joe is many things, but
he is not a singer.

Corey smiles.

24 OMITTED 24

24A ANGLE ON JOE 24A

who takes off his hat and chucks it into the audience as
he sings.

25 EXT. PAY PHONE - MINUTES LATER 25

Lloyd is on a pay phone near the football field. A MANIC
KID in cap and gown runs by, slaps the side of the pay
phone.

(CONTINUED)

26A CONTINUED:

26A

LLOYD
The air around her must be
different.

Lloyd sniffs in Diane's direction.

COREY
Lloyd, give it up.

LLOYD
Do me a favor, Corey. Take my
picture with her.

Corey pauses a moment, agrees. Lloyd tries to work into Diane's crowd. He casually tries walking in front of her, just as Court is saying:

COURT
Honey, your graduation present is
parked right over there.

Diane can't believe it, looks over at a used red VW Rabbit parked nearby. She's amazed and thrilled, and it's the same split second that Lloyd appears in the f.g. The picture is snapped...

27 SHOT OF THE PHOTO

27

as we HOLD for a moment, and it actually appears that Diane is overcome with emotion and reaching out for Lloyd. The action continues as Diane and her father move to the car. She was never even aware of his presence.

LLOYD
I hope you caught that, Corey,
because something was really
starting to happen between us...

COREY
Lloyd, spare yourself.

LLOYD
...when she calls back, I've got
everything planned out.
(pulls note from
pocket)
I'm ready at all times.

27A INSERT NOTE

27A

which is filled with writing, most everything is starred or underlined.

(CONTINUED)

33 CONTINUED: (2)

33

LLOYD
Are you busy on Friday?

DIANE
(nodding)
See, that's the problem. I'm busy.
I've got to help my father.

LLOYD
How about Saturday?

DIANE
I've got some things to do around
the house.

LLOYD
So you are...monumentally busy.

DIANE
Well...
(almost smile)
...Probably not monumentally.

LLOYD
Then what about tonight? You going
to the party at Vahlere's?

DIANE
Well...

LLOYD
Diane. I'm sorry, but I can't allow
you to leave the country without
attending Ethan 'Par-tay' Vahlere's
Graduation Event. He's twenty-two,
he comes out of hiding once a year
for this occasion. He dresses up
as the Lakeside Rooster. He created
his own drink, Purple Passion, if
you like that sort of thing...

DIANE
Actually, I think...

LLOYD
(wailing)
You're not in England yet. And by
the way, I lived in England for
three months. My parents are in
the Army, and we lived there for
a summer, then we moved to Germany,
and I could give you an enormous
amount of tips. Many tips. English
tips.

(CONTINUED)

33 CONTINUED: (3)

33

DIANE
(smiling)
It's funny, because...

LLOYD
Then no tips. I will give you no
tips of any kind.

DIANE
(laughing)
Lloyd. I'll go.

LLOYD
Pardon me?

DIANE
I'll go.

LLOYD
Really? This is great! It's a
date. It's a scam. Whatever.
We're going out. I have your
address, hasta luego. I'll see you
at 8 and good-bye.

She hangs up.

DIANE
Hasta Luego.

She pulls her legs off the counter, and jumps off to get dressed. She passes her dad, who has been watching CNN on a mini-tv and chopping onions in the kitchen.

34 INT. LLOYD'S APARTMENT

34

Lloyd hangs up and turns to his silent nephew.

LLOYD
Thank you!

Lloyd picks Jason up and holds him horizontally. Jason remains joyously still -- it's one of their routines -- as Lloyd literally plays him like a guitar.

35 INT. DIANE'S ROOM

35

A studious-looking room. Nice desk, big dictionary. Diane thinks about the evening ahead, shuts her eyes and places her face in the breeze of a small desk fan for a quiet moment as we:

CUT TO:

148 CONTINUED: (2)

148

They sit closely. Both nervous, staring at the NO-SMOKING sign. Waiting...

They look at each other, as we:

FADE TO BLACK

We hear the sound of the DING.

THE END