

SLOW MOTION SPEED DATING

By

David Benoit

WGAE Registered
dvdbnt122@gmail.com

FADE IN:

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

Two men stand in front of a wall. They hide in the corner, away from everyone else. JIM (30s) and TONY (30s) are single men.

JIM

There's lots of girls here!

TONY

You don't need lots. You just need that one.

Tony holds up one finger.

JIM

But, it's a numbers game. You have to go out with lots of girls to get good at it.

TONY

That's backwards logic. The more dates, the more each one becomes less special.

JIM

Come on. Don't be a party pooper. How do you know "the one", if you don't go on many dates. How do you compare?

TONY

Just like anything else. When you meet the one, you'll know it.

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

Two Women stand in front of a wall. They hide in the corner away from everyone else. NANCY (20s) and AMBER (20s) are single women.

NANCY

Oh man.

(shakes head)

This is going to be rough.

AMBER

Come on. This will be fun.

NANCY
About as fun as pounding my hand
with a hammer.

AMBER
Well, I hope it's more fun than
that.

NANCY
It won't be!

AMBER
Looks like there's some nice guys
here.

NANCY
Yeah, until we have to talk to them
and they open their mouths.

AMBER
Wow! You're tough.

NANCY
I'm sure this is loser's lounge.

AMBER
Come on, relax. Have some fun.

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

LINDA (30s), the event coordinator. Holds a bell in her hand
and she rings it, looks around and smiles.

LINDA
OK daters. Let's get dating.

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

Tony, stands facing the camera, the wall to his back. He
talks directly at the camera. Similar to a police line up.

TONY
Hi. I'm Tony.

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

Amber, stands facing the camera, the wall to her back. She
talks directly at the camera. Similar to a police line up.

AMBER
Hi. I'm Amber.

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

A table against the wall, two chairs on the left and right. Tony and Amber sit at the table facing each other. Tony on the right, Amber on the left. A table card visible with the number "9" written on it.

AMBER
So have you done this before?

TONY
Once before.

Tony holds up one finger.

AMBER
How did it turn out.

TONY
It was interesting. I would say I would do it again, but that would be obvious.
(taps finger on table)
...Here I am.

AMBER
Yeah. I see that.
(sarcastic)
Good job.

TONY
So what do you do?

AMBER
I'm an actress.

TONY
I believe it. You're attractive.

AMBER
Well, thank you. But, it's about acting. Not how I look.

Amber fixes her hair.

TONY
It's just a compliment. This is about dating. I'm flirting.

AMBER
Well, yeah. I guess. Sorry.

TONY
Have you done anything interesting,
with you're acting?

AMBER
I hate that question. I always just
name stuff that no one has seen.
(shakes head)
It's so competitive to get good
rolls.

TONY
(curious)
Can you do something for me now?

AMBER
...What?

TONY
You know. Get in character.

AMBER
Come on.

TONY
Well... What kind of movies do you
like?

AMBER
Oh, usually romantic comedies.

TONY
Harry met Sally? That kind of
thing? That's the big one, right?

AMBER
Of course.

Tony smiles, smirks at Amber. Then points at her.

TONY
Hey, do that scene!

AMBER
What scene?

She pauses. Then it hits her.

AMBER

Oh? Are you joking?

TONY

Come on, it will be fun. I make movies, I'm in a film coop. Let's see what you can do.

AMBER

Please no. You're joking right?

TONY

I'm not joking. I'd like to get you on the Director's couch.

AMBER

Yeah. I bet you would.

TONY

Do that scene. You know the one in the restaurant. The fake "O".

AMBER

Well...

Amber puts her hands down on the table and throws her head back. She starts to moan a little, and get in to it. Then stops and comes out of character and just smiles.

AMBER

Oh, come on now. Did you think I would? That will have to wait for our second date.

TONY

You big tease.

AMBER

Well...

TONY

I mean with me, you would never have to fake it. But that's -

AMBER

- Easy big guy!

TONY

I'm just getting started.

The bell rings. Ding. Ding.

AMBER
I guess not. You're done!

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

Linda the event coordinator, stands with the bell in her hand. She smiles.

LINDA
OK guys. Move up one.

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

TODD (20s) stands facing the camera, the wall to his back. He talks directly at the camera. Similar to a police line up.

TODD
Hi. I'm Todd.

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

SANDY (20s) stands facing the camera, the wall to her back. She talks directly at the camera. Similar to a police line up.

SANDY
Hi. I'm Sandy.

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

A table with two chairs on the left and right against the wall. Todd and Sandy sit at the table facing each other. Todd on the right, Sandy on the left. A table card visible with the number "8" written on it.

TODD
Are you having fun?

SANDY
I always have fun.

TODD
I bet you do. You're very attractive.

SANDY
Well, thank you.
(beat)

(MORE)

SANDY (cont'd)
 ...I think?

TODD
 No. I mean... You're kind of pretty
 to be here! Why are you at speed
 dating?

SANDY
 Well, it's hard to meet nice guys.

She pauses. Tries to get a read on Todd.

SANDY
 Hey, this ain't loser's lounge.
 (taps finger on table)
 You're here too! Why are you here?

TODD
 I guess.. It's hard to meet nice
 girls?

They both smile.

SANDY
 Nice cop out.

TODD
 ...Cop out?

SANDY
 Do you always repeat everything
 people say?

TODD
 ...Repeat?

SANDY
 Now you're a parrot. Listen and
 repeat.

Sandy stares in his eyes like a hypnotist.

SANDY (CONT)
 You're a goddess, I worship you.

TODD
 You're a goddess...

Todd pauses and smiles. He gets the joke.

SANDY
Hey, You're too easy.

TODD
Oh. I got ya.

SANDY
Do ya? I'm pretty quick! But
according to you a minute ago; just
"pretty".

TODD
I didn't mean it like that. Let's
start over. How about this...

...Bell rings. Ding. Ding.

SANDY
Looks like we're not starting over.

TODD
I guess not.

SANDY
Looks like the end, not the
beginning.

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

Linda stands with the bell in her hand, she just rung. She smiles and looks around the room.

LINDA
All right. You know what to do, and
it's time to do it. Guys move up
one.

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

NICK (20s) stands facing the camera, the wall to his back. He talks directly at the camera. Similar to a police line up.

NICK
Hi. I'm Nick.

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

JUDY (20s) stands facing the camera, the wall to her back. She talks directly at the camera. Similar to a police line up.

JUDY
Hi. I'm Judy.

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

A table against the wall with two chairs on the left and right. Nick and Judy sit at the table facing each other. Nick on the right, Judy on the left. A table card visible with the number "7" written on it.

NICK
Hey, how's it going?

JUDY
Good. How about with you?

NICK
I'm surprised how many nice people are here.

JUDY
Oh yeah. Well, I've got another surprise for you.

NICK
Oh yeah. What's that?

JUDY
This is the date I've been waiting for tonight.

NICK
...What?

Nick pauses and looks confused.

NICK
Judy we're here together!

JUDY
I know.

NICK
You asked me to come with you because you said you were uncomfortable coming alone.

JUDY
Yeah...Well.

NICK
We're friends!

JUDY
I invited you here to change that.

NICK
Change what?

JUDY
Us as friends. I want something more. That's the real reason I invited you here.

NICK
(surprised)
Judy?

JUDY
Nick! Wake up!

NICK
I...I just don't know what to say.

JUDY
Say you're going to check me off on your date sheet.
(points at sheet)
Say we're a match.

NICK
Judy, I didn't know you felt this way. I don't know what to -

JUDY
- Say yes. Be smart and see the opportunity.

NICK
No. I do. I do. Yes. Let's go on a real date. I'm so comfortable with you. You know that!

JUDY
I didn't know that till just now. You never really talk to me.

NICK
Well, now you know.

JUDY
I'm looking forward to our second
date.

Bell rings. Ding. Ding.

NICK
Judy, I don't know what to say? I'm
looking forward to that date also.

JUDY
Are you glad you came?

NICK
Yes, of course. I didn't think I'd
find such a great match!

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

Linda the event coordinator, stands with the bell in her
hand. She smiles.

LINDA
OK. Guys, be gentlemen and move up
one. As usual, ladies stay seated.

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

BILL (20s) stands facing the camera, the wall to his back.
He talks directly at the camera. Similar to a police line
up.

BILL
Hi. I'm Bill.

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

SARAH (20s) stands facing the camera, the wall to her back.
She talks directly at the camera. Similar to a police line
up.

SARAH
Hi. I'm Sarah.

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

A table against the wall, two chairs on the left and right. Bill and Sarah sit at the table facing each other. Bill on the right, Sarah on the left. A table card visible with the number "6" written on it.

BILL

Hey. So where do you work?

SARAH

I work in publishing.

BILL

Oh, really. That sounds like fun.
Work with anyone good?

SARAH

We just published the new Philip
Roth novel.

BILL

Really? That's incredible.

SARAH

You know Roth?

BILL

Know him! I read his new book every
year.

SARAH

Really? He's had a new book every
year for the past twenty years.
You've read them all?

BILL

Well, I haven't read him that long.
But, I try to keep up. It must be
fun, what you do.

SARAH

Oh it is.

BILL

I think I would like it.

SARAH

I don't meet many guys that read
novels.

BILL

Well, then you're lucky I'm here.

SARAH

Oh come on. Don't get cocky. You're the lucky one.

BILL

Oh don't I know it. You're nice to look at, and your smart. I'm in the lucky seat.

Sarah smiles, leans back and starts to relax.

SARAH

Actually, you're not bad either. Where have you been hiding? In the library?

BILL

Hey, come on. I'm not that geeky. Do I look like I carry a library card?

SARAH

Let me see your wallet.

BILL

Well, maybe later. I'm a wild man, no library card in there. I'm dangerous.

SARAH

Yeah. It looks like I might have to call security over to our table. Let me check your wallet for that library card, I know it's in there!

BILL

Oh come on, you don't want to check my wallet.

SARAH

Yes, I do.

BILL

You're just trying to get in my pants.

SARAH

(surprised)
...Excuse me?

BILL

See I am dangerous.

SARAH

Hey, I take it back wild man. Put the library card back, don't whip it out. I see you're a man of action.

BILL

Actually, I've got a bunch of books I haven't returned, if you know what I mean. I'm overdue. Can you renew my card.

SARAH

Look what I started, now I can't keep you quiet.

BILL

Are we going to have a second date? Check me off your sheet.

Bell rings. Ding. Ding.

SARAH

Well, our time is up.

BILL

Are you going to renew my card?

SARAH

First lets see if I give you an approval stamp.

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

RICK (20s) stands facing the camera, his back to the wall. He talks directly at the camera. Similar to a police line up.

RICK

Hi. I'm Rick.

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

KELLY (20s) stands facing the camera, her back to the wall. She talks directly at the camera. Similar to a police line up.

KELLY
Hi. I'm Kelly.

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

A table against the wall with two chairs on the left and right. Rick and Kelly sit at the table facing each other. Rick on the right, Kelly on the left. A table card visible with the number "5" written on it.

RICK
So how are you doing? I'm Rick.

KELLY
I'm OK. It's pretty fun.

RICK
Have you been a good girl?

KELLY
Yeah...
(confused)
...I guess so.

RICK
Do you like to be naughty?

KELLY
Hey, what is this? Come on! Does that ever work?

RICK
No. I was just -

KELLY
- Just what? That's lame man.

RICK
I was just getting bored. I thought it would be interesting.

KELLY
Interesting?

RICK
Yeah, you know. It gets boring playing twenty questions all night. Where do you work, where do you live etc. Blah, blah, blah. Over and over.

KELLY

Oh? OK.

RICK

I was just trying to spice it up.

Kelly nods her head and points at Rick.

KELLY

Are you bored with this?

RICK

Yeah. How many times can you ask, "what do you do"?

KELLY

Yeah. I guess, it's kind of awkward.

RICK

I thought I would break away from the format and be funny.

KELLY

Funny, really? Maybe you need to understand the rules before you break them.

RICK

Well, maybe yeah.

KELLY

Maybe you need a little discipline?

RICK

Discipline? Well.. maybe.

KELLY

Maybe you need a little spanking!

RICK

Hah! What? Come on now.

KELLY

I can joke too.

RICK

All right you got me.

KELLY

Maybe Mommy need to teach little Ricky the rules.

RICK
Ha, Ha. You're pretty quick.

KELLY
I'll be quick with that paddle.

RICK
Hey, I might like it.

Bell rings. Ding. Ding.

RICK
You're pretty funny. That was different.

KELLY
Hey, have a good time wild man!

RICK
I'll be thinking about that paddle.

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

JIM (20s) stands facing the camera, his back to the wall. He talks directly at the camera. Similar to a police line up.

JIM
Hi. I'm Jim.

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

NANCY (20s) stands facing the camera, her back to the wall. She talks directly at the camera. Similar to a police line up.

NANCY
Hi. I'm Nancy.

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

A table against the wall with two chairs on the left and right. Jim and Nancy sit at the table facing each other. Jim on the right, Nancy on the left. A table card visible with the number "4" written on it.

NANCY
So what's your story?

JIM

Oh. I've got plenty of them.

NANCY

We haven't got that much time.

JIM

We do if we pick each other as a match, and meet for a second date.

NANCY

Well...

JIM

Then we potentially have a lifetime together.

NANCY

Well, let's not get ahead of ourselves. Let's stay grounded.

JIM

Grounded? But, I'm a dreamer. Especially tonight.

NANCY

Why especially tonight?

JIM

I saw you at the last break, and I've been dreaming of you ever since.

NANCY

Oh my god. You must be kidding with that line. You expect that to work?

JIM

I know it will work. It's fate, we are meant for each other.

NANCY

How can you be sure? Convince me!

JIM

I can only convince myself. I'm sure. It might be unrequited love. All I can do is hope.

NANCY

So you're a fish on a hook. I got you. And you're hoping for what?

JIM
That soon you'll feel the same way.

NANCY
Well, you're a ball of confidence.

JIM
I'm not so confident, only when something definite comes along.

NANCY
...Definite?

JIM
We're going to be an item.

NANCY
Well...
(smiles)
You might have a shot.

JIM
The bell won't ring for us. Our date will last forever.

NANCY
...And you're sure about that?

Bell rings. Ding. Ding.

NANCY
Well, I guess you were wrong!

JIM
Wrong?

NANCY
Did you hear that?

JIM
Hear what?

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

Linda the coordinator, stands in the corner with her bell. She points at one of the tables.

LINDA
Ok guys. Hey, move down one.

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

Nancy and Jim sit at their table.

JIM
I can't move!

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

Linda stands in the corner with her bell. She has a look of confusion.

LINDA
Can't move?
(curious)
Why not?

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

Nancy and Jim sit at their table.

JIM
I've found the one. There's no
reason to keep going.

Nancy hesitates, then smiles. Jim confident, smiles back at her.

INT. CORNER OF ROOM - NIGHT

Linda stands at a table collecting sheets from the participants.

The rest of the staff VICKY (30s), SYD (30s) and ANTON (30s), stack and order the pencils and sheets.

The participating daters start to head out of the event.

ANTON
So who do you think is going to
hook up?

VICKY
I can never tell.

SYD
Those two definitely.

Syd points at a Man and Woman leaving.

LINDA

You can never tell, we just help them meet. The rest is up to them.

ANTON

But, it makes you think. What makes people click.

VICKY

I can never tell.

SYD

Come on. You can sometimes tell.

LINDA

Well, see you guys next time. I've got to clean up.

INT. COFFEE SHOP TONY AND AMBER DATE 1 - DAY

Tony and Amber sit next to each other sipping coffee.

TONY

I'm surprised you checked me off.

AMBER

Surprised? You seemed so confident.

TONY

The confidence thing is a front with most men.

AMBER

I couldn't tell.

TONY

So you said you liked Rom Coms.

AMBER

Rom Coms?

TONY

Romantic Comedies! What are some of your favorites? Have you ever seen "The Philadelphia Story"?

AMBER

Of course, it's classic? Hey, old man do you watch any new movies?

TONY

Of course...

(smiles and points)

You look like an 'Annie Hall' fan?

AMBER

Oh, I love the suits she wears.

TONY

Have you ever seen "Slow Motion
Speed Dating"?

AMBER

Now, that's really my favorite.

FADE OUT.

THE END