

PARKED

INT. OFFICE - DAY

The small office buzzes with activity. Workers either answer phones or type mindlessly on their computers. KATE (27) sits at her corner desk, secluded from the rest, transfixed on her computer screen. A loud uproar of laughter and yelling make Kate look up. ERIC(39) dips and moves with a balled up piece of paper in his hand. He looks to make a shot into the trash can at the back of the room. AL(26) jumps up from his desk to block the shot. The game of cat and mouse goes on until Eric finally takes a shot; he misses. A chorus of disappointment echoes through the office. Al taunts Eric, trying to make him take another shot. Kate grins at the daily routine then gets up and weaves her way through the "trashketball" game to the copier. She places her papers in the tray and pushes the copy button. Eric has grabbed another piece of paper and the "trashketball" game is on again.

INT. CAFETERIA - DAY

Employees with trays full of food fill the small cafeteria. Pots and pans clang loudly from the kitchen giving a backbeat to the hum of multiple conversations. Kate sits at a table with her lunch box in front of her. She hunches over a paperback novel trying to read quietly. Three of her co-workers gossip loudly beside her. They keep asking Kate for opinions. Finally, politely, Kate closes her book and joins the conversation.

MONTAGE

The days blend into each other becoming confused and indistinct.

Phones ring. Workers enter data into their computers. Kate makes her way to the copier ducking under the "trashketball" game.

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INT. OFFICE - DAY

Kate enters data into her computer. Across the room Eric takes a shot with a crumpled up paper ball. Kate shakes her head and grins. She looks at the clock. It shows 12:00. Grabbing her lunch box, she heads out.

She stands in the hallway and sees her friends headed for the cafeteria. They wave for her to join them. Kate doesn't move. She looks to her left and sees the exit. Sun streams in through the darkened glass door, hits the floor and forms a path, a route for escape, for something different. She looks back at her friends then to the exit. She makes her choice and heads out into the light.

INT. KATE'S CAR - DAY

Kate starts her car and drives out of the parking lot. She drives past fast food restaurants and gas stations. She watches people cross in front of her at red lights. Kate spots what appears to be an abandoned office building with a large parking lot and only a few cars parked here and there. She turns in. There are many shaded spots that look inviting for a quiet lunch.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

She parks in the shade under a big tree.

INT. KATE'S CAR - DAY

Kate takes the last bite of her sandwich and pulls out her paperback. A LOUD KNOCK on her window makes her jump and drop her book. She looks out her window and sees ROBERT(45) standing there. He yells and motions wildly with his arms, pointing at Kate's car. Kate, frozen with fear and surprise just stares at him, not sure what to do. Robert bends down and gets face to face with Kate, only the thin glass of the window separates them. A long moment passes. CHRIS(28), a tall handsome man, grabs Roberts arm and pulls him away from the car. Kate watches as the two men have a very animated conversation. Finally, coming out of her trance, Kate slowly exits her car.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

She cautiously approaches the men.

KATE  
I'm sorry, what...

ROBERT  
You're in my space!

Robert takes a step toward Kate; Chris grabs his arm.

CHRIS  
Robert, I told you.

ROBERT  
She's in my space. My space. That's  
my space.

KATE  
Oh I didn't think this building was  
open.

She looks around the mostly empty parking lot.

CHRIS  
(to Kate)  
It's not.  
(back to Robert)  
Maybe you can park in another spot  
today Robert.

ROBERT  
I park there everyday. Everyday!  
That's my space. Why should I have  
to park...

He motions wildly with his arms at the other spaces in the  
lot.

ROBERT  
I park here everyday. You know  
it...they all know it.

Kate looks around the parking lot and notices something she  
didn't at first glance. All of the cars have people in them.  
Eating, sleeping, talking. Kate focuses her gaze back on  
Robert, who stares at her with obvious hate in his eyes.

KATE  
I'll move. Okay? I'll move.

Kate gets into her car.

INT. KATE'S CAR - DAY

She starts the car and backs out. Robert quickly pulls into the parking space. Chris walks over to Kate's car. She rolls down the window.

CHRIS

Sorry about that. He's been parking there for...years. Those spaces over there are open.

KATE

You sure?

He smiles.

CHRIS

Yeah. That's my piece of crap blue car, you're welcome to park anywhere near it. Nice shaded spots if you catch'em at the right time.

She looks over at the car then back at Chris.

KATE

I should get back to work. But, thanks.

CHRIS

Of course.

She drives off.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

Kate finishes typing a document. The clock shows 12:00. She grabs her lunch box and leaves.

INT. KATE'S CAR - DAY

She drives by the abandoned building's parking lot and sees Chris' car.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

Kate pulls in to the parking lot and parks four spaces away from Chris.

INT. KATE'S CAR - DAY

He looks over at her and smiles. She smiles back, pulls out her sandwich, and takes a bite.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

The clock hits twelve. Kate grabs her lunch box and leaves.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

She parks three spaces away from Chris.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

The clock hits twelve. Kate grabs her lunch box and leaves.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

She parks two spaces away.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

The clock hits twelve. Kate grabs her lunch box and leaves.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

She parks one spot away.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

Chris gets out of his car and walks over to Kate's.

INT. KATE'S CAR - DAY

Chris knocks on her passenger side window. Kate rolls it down.

CHRIS  
Come here often?

They both chuckle.

CHRIS  
You maybe want to have lunch  
together?

KATE  
Yeah, sure.

CHRIS  
Your place or mine?

Kate glances at his car.

KATE  
We might be more comfortable in  
mine.

CHRIS  
You're probably right.

He goes to his car to get his lunch. Kate quickly cleans the car seat and checks herself in the mirror. Chris opens the door and gets in.

KATE  
I'm Kate, by the way.

CHRIS  
Chris. Nice to meet you, Kate.

Silence. Kate takes a bite of her sandwich.

KATE  
So...what's with this place?

CHRIS  
I don't know. It's kinda like a  
drive-in cafeteria. My office  
doesn't have any type of lunch  
room...I found this place, much  
like you did, and have been coming  
here ever since. It's kinda nice.  
You can listen to the radio, read.

He points to Kate's book.

CHRIS  
Or sleep if you like. Believe it or  
not there are quite a few people  
who come here.

KATE  
Like a club?

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