

SCRIPT TITLE

Written by

Name of First Writer

Based on, If Any

Address  
Phone Number

Super. Month 1

MARIE, late 30s, tiny blonde, energetic and all over the place.

GIA, 7, sweet, hyper, emotional.

Marie enters carrying groceries, her daughter's school bag.

Gia carries a lunch bag.

GIA

I asked Chloe if she is my best friend and she said she has to think about it.

MARIE

Well, that's her loss.

Phone rings.

MARIE (CONT'D)

Marie speaking.

LOCAL BUSINESS OWNER

Is this Marie Emmolo who called about a film?

MARIE

Yes, hi! I was wondering if your business wanted to be a sponsor in my film, Single Mom Stories, its about healing through humor. (Dial tone is heard) Hello?

Looks up at the sky.

MARIE (CONT'D)

I'm sorry to all the bill collectors and telemarketers I ever did that too.

Places her bags on kitchen table.

GIA

I want a best friend.

MARIE

I understand. But best friend doesn't really mean anything.

(MORE)

MARIE (CONT'D)

As long as you treat people with kindness and respect that's all that matters.

Phone beeps. Marie opens her instagram messages.

MARIE (TO HERSELF) (CONT'D)

Hi Marie, would love to interview you for my podcast, Divorce: The Beginning. I am also a filmmaker, I've done a few things, so you could pick my brain if you like.

GIA

I just want a best friend.

MARIE

I think what you are doing is awesome!

GIA

You can't be my best friend you're my mom.

Gia moves to the living room and starts playing.

MARIE

(To herself) Filmmaker huh? Let's see what "films" you've done.

Michele opens her laptop, types his name into IMDB, a list of his films pop up.

MICHELE

Oh...ok, he's legit.

She types on her phone.

MICHELE (CONT'D)

Sure, sounds good. Let's set up a time.

GIA

I just need to keep asking her to make sure she will be my best friend at some point.

Intercut.

INT. PETE'S HOUSE

PETE, short, stocky, bald hispanic male, kind eyes.

PETE (V.O.)  
Great! Is Saturday a good time?

MARIE (TO GIA)  
No! Do not do that.

Her voice records on a voice message that is sent.

PETE  
Oh, well what's a better time?

MARIE  
No no, I'm sorry meant that for my daughter, Saturday's great.

PETE  
Great. Look forwarding to meeting you. Hakuna Mata.

Marie looks strangely at the phone.

MARIE  
Lion King? (Beat. She notices Gia pacing) Let her come to you honey, if someone isn't giving you the attention you deserve, their loss.

Marie and Gia hug.

CUT TO:

2 INT. MICHELE'S HOUSE/PETE'S HOUSE

2

Michele and Pete are both on zoom together. They are laughing.

MARIE  
I found my identity again because of my divorce.

PETE  
Wow, that's interesting most people lose their identify with divorce.

Marie, spills her coffee.

MARIE  
Shit!

PETE  
I'm super thankful for you to be a part of this. I didn't think you were going to respond.

MARIE  
Really why?

PETE  
You have 4000 followers. But I had  
to take a chance.

MARIE  
I'm glad you did.

Beat.

PETE  
So tell me about your film.

MARIE  
Yes!!

Gia, comes out of the room and is making noise.

MARIE (CONT'D)  
So its about my life obviously,  
like the office meets SMILF, or the  
office meets Roseanne with a little  
bit of married with children if  
married with children were  
divorced.

Gia bangs on her keyboard.

MARIE (CONT'D)  
Gia, can you be a little quieter.  
Hang on let me go in my room.

Marie shuts door.

MARIE (CONT'D)  
I want it to be like the Grace  
Under Fire for North Jersey girls  
kind of thing, ya know.

Gia bangs on her keyboard again.

GIA  
Mommy, this isn'y working I need  
help.

PETE  
It sounds like you have a lot going  
on.

MARIE  
No, no its fine, I'll shut the  
door.

PETE

Marie, you're all over the place. You gave me like 6 shows, but what is your show about. I can sense you want this to happen now, and I get it, but these things take time, you have to be willing to trust the process and stay focused.

MARIE

Right...of course.

GIA

Mom!!!

PETE

You can call me back I'm not going anywhere.

CUT TO:

INT. MARIE'S HOUSE/PETE'S HOUSE

Super. "Month 2"

Intercut. Marie and Pete are on the phone.

MARIE

I want it to be a show like the Golden Girls, no matter what age people can relate to it.

PETE

Which golden girl are you?

MARIE

I used to love Blanche.

PETE

You're the slut?

MARIE

I'm boy crazy I guess. More like love crazy. Last guy took me out for a while. I haven't been with someone in over a year.

PETE

Its been two years for me.

MARIE

Really?

PETE

Yea. I have no interest in just having sex anymore. I need someone to fuck my mind first.

MARIE

I don't know if they make condoms that size.

Beat. Marie feels stupid that she made the joke.

PETE

Ribbed for her mental stimulation.

They laugh.

3 INT. MARIE'S HOUSE/PETE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

3

Super. "Month 3"

Intercut. Marie and Pete are on the phone. Pete is holding a mug that reads "Divorce the Beginning" and he holds a script.

Marie is in her bedroom with a laptop

PETE

I would have probably never read the script if you hadn't sent this to me.

MARIE

Ah...good to know.

Marie does the sign of the cross.

PETE

I am impressed with what you have done in a month. Its funny, the bones are there, but needs some work. I can't produce it right now, but I can consult and help you.

MARIE

I'm all ears.

PETE

That is why I like this friendship you are willing to listen.

MARIE

Friendship, I'm friend zoned?

Beat.

PETE  
I'm sorry?

MARIE  
Nothing. Just...a joke.

PETE  
Do you look at me more than a  
friend?

MARIE  
Oh...no. Of course not.

Beat.

PETE  
Oh.

Beat.

MARIE  
I mean, maybe. Talking to you is  
...nice.

PETE  
Yea, yes same.

Beat.

MARIE  
Too bad we live 3000 miles away.

PETE  
Right, exactly, would be a whole  
other story.

MARIE  
It would?

PETE  
Yea...I think you are a really cool  
person. I just want to build a  
friendship with you...is that ok?

MARIE  
Yes, yes of course.

PETE  
Great because I think that would be  
shame if we couldn't.

Beat.

CUT TO:



EXT. MARIE'S HOUSE/INT. PETE'S HOUSE - DAY

Month 2 1/2

On the phone.

Gia rides her scooter in the park with other kids.

MARIE

I got a list of potential people  
for your podcast I sent them all  
inquiries and I shared the google  
doc with you.

PETE

You are AMAZING.

Marie smiles. Pete opens his email and reviews the document.

PETE (CONT'D)

Oh wow like you did research.

MARIE

Gia don't go near that hill.  
(To Pete) Yes of course I did.

PETE

I went a date today.

MARIE

Oh...how did it go?

PETE

It was ok. No chemistry but good  
conversation.

MARIE

Oh that's great. I mean...ok.

PETE

I'll go out with her again though.  
I haven't been on a date in two and  
a half years, I have to remember  
how to flirt.

MARIE

I don't know if I can do this.

PETE

What?

MARIE

This,...I don't feel comfortable talking about your dates. I think we have chemistry.

PETE

Emmolo we have never met, how do you know I don't have six toes?

MARIE

I just know...it won't matter. I just don't think I can sit and listen to you talk about your dates...

PETE

What do you want then?

Gia falls on her bike and is crying.

MARIE

Gia!

CUT TO:

INT. MARIES HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Super. Next Day

CHRIS early 30s, gay, married, smart, empathetic, Michele's confidant.

Marie sits with CHRIS on their couch sipping coffee. Gia is wearing a light cast on her arm happily playing with Annie, Chris' daughter.

CHRIS

Until he's wining and dining you,  
or flies you to LA to wine and dine  
you or flies here to wine and dine  
you or flies you to chicago -a  
midway point-and wines and dines  
you.

MARIE

I don't know it may be hard for me  
to do that. I feel a connection.

CHRIS

You can feel a connection but its  
up to you to keep that hat on, once  
you take the hat off, we open up a  
can of worms.

(MORE)

CHRIS (CONT'D)

Pete seems interested in you, the person, professionally, and he's not trying to lead you on. But this is something you have to stick to. Can you do that?

MARIE

Yes...ish.

CHRIS

Then maybe you need to keep distance from him for a while till you are certain.

MARIE

Yea...

CUT TO:

EXT. PETE'S HOUSE

Super. MONTH 3

Pete is watching a clip from Marie's social media page.

MARIE (ON VIDEO)

The neighbor and I are sitting talking about the schools etc. He's a single dad and a special education teacher, ok ok ok we like, and he gives me his number, then KISSES, yep, KISSES me on the cheek, so now I'm not hating it but I'm not sure about it either, he lives next door so if things go wrong, then what? So what do I do with the number? Do I text him?

Pete picks up his phone.

MARIE (CONT'D)

Hey

PETE

So did you text the neighbor?

MARIE

Huh?

PETE

Did you text the neighbor?

MARIE  
Oh, the live? No not yet.

Marie looks inquisitive at her phone.

PETE  
I have a producer friend in New York who may be interested in your show, can I send him your script?

MARIE  
Yea that would be great! Oh my gosh thank you!

PETE  
Do not thank me, nothing has happened.

MARIE  
Ok...right. May I ask his/her name?

Pause.

PETE  
Not yet. Patience.

MARIE  
Right...working on it.

PETE  
These things take time Emmolo. Patience. You are hungry I get that but I have big plans for you as a friend, I am emotionally invested with you. By the time I get done with you I'm going to have you so polished. Like a gem.

Marie looks shocked and a bit confused.

MARIE  
Great, well maybe it'll be when I'm out in LA for my show.

PETE  
You are coming to LA?

MARIE  
Yes, for a few shows out there, my manager booked me on.

PETE  
We'll have to hang out.

MARIE  
Definitely.

PETE  
Emmolo in LA, in 3D

MARIE  
I'm even better in that D.

Beat. They both laugh.