

PUMPKIN

INT. COUNSELOR'S OFFICE - DAY

DR. CRUZ:

I don't have a lot of time to coax you, Miss McDuffy. Thousands of students come here for counseling. Most of them are helped. It's not a big deal. You're obviously hurting otherwise you wouldn't be here.

CAROLYN:

It's horrible. I can't tell you. I can't.

DR. CRUZ:

Have you been raped, date-raped, drugged or fondled, assaulted or sexually harassed?

CAROLYN:

No.

DR. CRUZ:

Are you having mental problems, such as high anxiety, depression, manic episodes, multiple personalities, or maybe even voices urging inappropriate actions on you?

CAROLYN:

No.

DR. CRUZ:

Are you having sexual feelings or fantasies towards members of your own sex, your immediate family, your professors, or any non-traditional subjects?

CAROLYN:

No, not exactly.

DR. CRUZ:

You're not helping me very much, Miss McDuffy. I assure you that anything you say here is confidential. I'm not going to judge you. You have nothing to be afraid of.

CAROLYN:

It's not exactly sexual, Dr. Cruz. It's just that I'm afraid I'm falling in love. And I don't want to. It's ruining everything.

DR. CRUZ:

Uh, love is not such a bad thing, is it?

CAROLYN:

Yes it is. He's mentally retarded.

DR. CRUZ:

You say retarded. Uh, retarded is not a medical term. How retarded?

CAROLYN:

Retarded, retarded. He's in the challenged games and I'm his mentor. He has this beautiful soul. It's like my poetry teacher says: "Only people who suffer can grow into beauty."

DR. CRUZ:

You definitely have a problem. I, um, I've been in this business for over 20 years, and, do you have a boyfriend that is not retarded?

CAROLYN:

(Nods yes)

We've been having problems. I haven't been myself.

DR. CRUZ:

Let me, let me suggest something to you Carolyn. You are letting your compassion take over to create a, a fog of poetic romantic fantasy. You need to ground yourself in what's real, that's in your relationship with your boyfriend, the one that's not retarded. The fantasy will disappear and the fog will lift.

Dr. Cruz begins to usher her from her seat to the door.

DR. CRUZ: (CONT'D)

Thank you for coming, Miss McDuffy.

CAROLYN:

Dr. Cruz, you don't know how badly I want my life back. I was so happy.

DR. CRUZ

Good, good, Carolyn, just remember that when you indulge in these fantasies you dangerously affect the object of your compassion.