

La Fiancee

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"La Fiancee" by Jean-Francois Coatmeur

EXT. PARK-LATE AFTERNOON

A young woman, EVELYNE, is sitting on a bench in an open, gray park. A yellow dog is laying on the ground in front of her, its leash in her hands. She looks bored and, after a few seconds, gets up and walks away with the dog.

INT. FOYER-EVELYNE'S HOUSE-LATE AFTERNOON

Evelyne enters through the front door, the dog, Sacha, following her. Without removing Sacha from the leash, Evelyne leads the way through another door.

INT. KITCHEN-EVELYNE'S HOUSE-LATE AFTERNOON

Evelyne's MOTHER is standing at the counter, cutting up vegetables when Evelyne enters.

MOTHER

How was your walk?

Evelyne doesn't respond. She sits down on the floor, still holding Sacha's leash, and starts to pet the dog. She innocently watches her mother, absentmindedly rubbing Sacha. Finally releasing the leash, Evelyne gets up and walks to her mother.

EVELYNE

Can I cut vegetables?

MOTHER

No, Evelyne, why don't you sit down. Your only job is to take care of Sacha.

Evelyne sighs and plops down in a chair in front of the counter. A small box sits in front of her. She opens it and pulls out a necklace, holding it up in front of her eyes to examine it. Her mother notices and quickly snatches it away from her.

MOTHER

Don't touch that! It was a present from your father, it means a lot to me.

She puts the necklace back in the box and puts the box in her pocket. Evelyne is clearly upset by her mother's reproach. She looks on the verge of tears and hurriedly leaves the kitchen.

INT. BEDROOM-EVELYNE'S HOUSE-LATE AFTERNOON

Evelyne enters her bedroom, still upset. She sits in a desk chair and catches her reflection in the mirror that's propped up against the wall. She plays with her face, making funny expressions. Becoming more serious she purses her lips as if she's about to be kissed and then runs her finger along them.

EXT. PARK-DAY

Evelyne is sitting on a bench watching her dog Sacha roll around in the grass. A handsome BOY approaches and sits next to her. Evelyne moves over and the boy smiles.

BOY
You scared of me?

Evelyne shakes her head.

BOY
What's your name?

EVELYNE
(hesitantly)
Evelyne.

BOY
Evelyne! What a pretty name! What do you do?

EVELYNE
Nothing. I take care of Sacha.

The boy smiles. He moves closer, examining her carefully.

BOY
You have beautiful eyes. No boyfriend?

EVELYNE
No.

BOY
What do you do on the weekends?

EVELYNE
Nothing, I walk Sacha.

BOY
(biting his lips)
How old are you?

(CONTINUED)

Evelyne shrugs her shoulders.

BOY

I like you. You wanna take a ride?

EVELYNE

(batting her eyelashes)

A ride?

BOY

I have my Yamaha, just over there.
Ever been on a motorcycle?

EVELYNE

No, never.

The boy stands up.

BOY

Come on, I'll take you.

Evelyne looks at him.

EVELYNE

I have to take Sacha home.

BOY

I'll come with you. Where do you
live?

EVELYNE

(pointing)

Just over there.

EXT. EVELYNE'S HOUSE-DAY

They walk over to the motorcycle. He helps her strap her helmet on, amused. She smiles at her reflection in the rear view mirror and climbs on behind him, putting her hands around his waist.

BOY

Hold on, I'm gonna go fast!

EXT. ROAD-DAY

Evelyne and the boy drive out of town. The landscape changes from apartment buildings to a rocky seaside.

(CONTINUED)

BOY
(shouting)
You okay?

EVELYNE
Yeah!

They drive off into the distance.

EXT. BEACH-DAY

The boy stops the motorcycle.

BOY
(getting off the motorcycle)
I have to stretch my legs. You
coming?

She gets off the motorcycle and he comes up behind her. He playfully puts his hands over her eyes and laughs. She panics for a moment and he spins her around. They're faces are inches apart. She starts trembling.

BOY
Evelyne. Yeah, I like that...

EVELYNE
What's your name?

BOY
Roger.

EVELYNE
(mouthing, as if to herself)
Roger...

Evelyne smiles. They sit down on the beach. Roger kisses her. She's still trembling.

ROGER
Have you ever kissed anyone before?

Evelyne shakes her head. Roger puts his arm around her shoulder and pulls her down onto the sand. He clumsily rolls over on top of her.

EXT. BEACH-DAY(LATER)

It is now almost dark out. Roger stands up.

ROGER

So.

Evelyne does not move.

EVELYNE

Roger?

ROGER

Yeah.

EVELYNE

Do you love me?

ROGER

Sure I do!

EVELYNE

(searching for the right words)

So am I... Am I your fiancée?

ROGER

(laughing)

My fiancée? Yeah, sure! You know what? I'll take you to meet my friends... Oh, come on, they're probably at Dan's house down the road, on Loop Drive.

Evelyne smiles shyly and stands up.

EVELYNE

It's late, I should go home.

They walk towards the motorcycle. He helps her put on her helmet.

EVELYNE

Roger, will you come back tomorrow?
I'll be on the bench, in the park.

ROGER

(laughing)

Sure, sure...

INT. BEDROOM-EVELYNE'S HOUSE-NIGHT

Evelyne smiles at her reflection in the mirror. She slowly takes off her clothes and inspects herself in the mirror meticulously.

EVELYNE
(murmuring to herself)
Fiancee...

Evelyne smiles again, a proud look on her face.

INT. MOTHER'S BEDROOM-EVELYNE'S HOUSE-DAY

Evelyne slowly opens the door to her mother's bedroom and peeks inside. She quickly walks to the dresser and takes a lipstick out of the drawer. She takes her time dragging the red lipstick across her lips. As she throw the lipstick back into the drawer, she notices the box containing her mother's necklace. She spitefully opens the box, puts the necklace around her neck and darts out of the room.

EXT. PARK-DAY

Evelyne is sitting on the bench with Sacha, waiting for Roger.

EXT. LOOP DRIVE-NIGHT

Evelyne is walking determinedly down a road. She glances up at a sign that says "Loop Drive" and stops in front of a small house where Roger's motorcycle is parked outside. She hesitates for a moment and then enters.

INT. DAN'S HOUSE-NIGHT

Evelyne slowly walks into the house and bumps into a BOY in the hallway. He has a kind face and is smiling at her.

BOY
Can I help you?

EVELYNE
Is Roger here? I'm his fiancee.

The boy looks surprised, then examines her for a few moments.

(CONTINUED)

BOY
(shouting)
Roger, someone for you!

BOY
(to Evelyne, politely)
He's right in there. I'm Dan.

Daniel extends his hand and Evelyne nervously shakes it. She walks into the kitchen, where a large group of teenagers are crowded around a table, drinking beers. The group quiets down and looks at her as she approaches.

ROGER
Hey you! What's your name again?

EVELYNE
Evelyne.

ROGER
Oh, yeah, Evelyne.

Roger thinks for a moment, chuckles and turns to his friends.

ROGER
(sarcastically)
Guys, you know my fiancée?... The girl from the beach?

The group livens up, laughing. They make room for her next to Roger and she sits.

GIRL
Let's celebrate!

The group cheers. Roger kisses Evelyne passionately and holds a drink to her lips. She drinks reluctantly and coughs as the group laughs. Evelyne looks at Roger as he talks and laughs with his friends. He gets up and lifts Evelyne.

ROGER
Dance with me!

The group cheers and they start dancing. Evelyne hangs on to Roger as he twirls her around enthusiastically. He occasionally stops to bring a glass to her lips, then continues dancing. Evelyne looks ill, clenching her teeth and tightly holding on to him as he moves faster and faster. Suddenly, she slips from his hands, falling against a table. She can hear beer cans falling and people gathering around her as she closes her eyes. Daniel kneels down next to her and props her up.

(CONTINUED)

DANIEL
Cut it out! She's gonna be sick!

FADE OUT

INT. KITCHEN-EVELYNE'S HOUSE-DAY

Evelyne's mother is standing at the counter cutting vegetables, handling the knife roughly. Evelynne is sitting at the counter in front of a bowl of peeled potatoes, her head bowed.

EVELYNE
Why are you being so mean?

Her mother doesn't respond.

EVELYNE
(tearing up)
I told you it wasn't my fault.

Still no response.

EVELYNE
(shouting)
I didn't do anything!

Evelyne grabs a potato from the bowl and hurls it at her mother. Shocked, her mother freezes and Evelynne runs out of the room.

INT. BEDROOM-EVELYNE'S HOUSE-NIGHT

Evelyne is looking at her reflection in the mirror. She stares into her own eyes angrily, her lips pursed.

EXT. PARK-DAY

Evelyne is sitting on the bench, with Sacha. Roger approaches on his motorcycle. He stops, climbs off, takes off his helmet and walks towards her.

ROGER
Hey.

EVELYNE
Hi.

Evelyne looks away from him.

(CONTINUED)

ROGER
(nervously)
It's been a while... I've kept an
eye out... You know... The bench...

EVELYNE
(cutting him off)
I was sick.

ROGER
Ah.

Roger nervously shifts his weight from one leg to the other.

ROGER
I wanted to tell you... We were
pretty awful the other day. We were
really drunk, see... You know,
and...

EVELYNE
(looking away, distracted)
It's nothing. I was sick.

ROGER
I'm glad that you're not angry. You
know, sometimes, girls get the
wrong idea...

Roger sits down on the opposite side of the bench for a few
seconds. He looks at his watch.

ROGER
(jumping up)
Alright then.

Evelyne looks at him.

EVELYNE
Roger?

ROGER
Yes?

EVELYNE
Let's go for a ride. Like the other
time.

ROGER
(examining her uneasily)
If that's all you want...

Evelyne smiles. She ties Sacha's leash to the bench.

(CONTINUED)

EVELYNE
I'll take him back later.

Roger puts the helmet on her head and reaches to help her with the strap, but Evelyne does it herself. They get on the motorcycle and drive off.

EXT. ROAD-DAY

Evelyne and Roger are riding on a winding road next to a cliff.

EVELYNE
(shouting)
Faster!

ROGER
(shouting)
OK!

Roger accelerates. Evelyne is holding on to him tightly and looking at the sea. Suddenly, she throws her hands in front of his eyes.

CUT TO BLACK

EXT. ROAD-DAY

A passerby on a bicycle sees a helmet on the road. He stops and peers down the cliff, a look of horror on his face.

FADE TO BLACK