

## **GROSSE POINTE BLANK**

MARTIN

So, I got invited to my 10 year high school reunion. I'm conflicted. I mean, I don't know if I really want to go. It's in Detroit, you know and I grew up there, but I just honestly don't know what I have in common with those people any more. I mean, or with anyone really. They all have husbands and wives and children, and houses and dogs, and you know they all made themselves a part of something and they can talk about what they do, and what am I going to say? I killed the president of Paraguay with a fork. How have you been? I'm just thinking it will be depressing. It will be depressing! Shouldn't you be taking notes or something?

DR. OATMAN

I'm not taking notes Martin because I'm not your doctor.

MARTIN

Please don't start with that stuff again.

DR. OATMAN

Martin, I'm emotionally involved with you.

MARTIN

How are you emotionally involved with me?

DR. OATMAN

I'm afraid of you...

MARTIN

You're afraid of me.

DR. OATMAN

...and that constitutes an emotional involvement, and it would be unethical for me to work with you under those circumstances.

MARTIN

Don't you think maybe you're just upset because I told you what I do for a living, and you got upset, and you're letting it interfere with our dynamic.

DR. OATMAN

Whoa! Martin, you didn't tell me what you did for a living...

MARTIN

Yes I did.

DR. OATMAN

You didn't tell me what you did for a living for 4 sessions. Then you told me. And I said "I don't want to work with you". And yet you come back every week at the same time. That's a difficulty for me. On top of that, if you've committed a crime, or if you're thinking of committing a crime, I have to tell the authorities.

MARTIN

I know the law, ok? But I don't want to be withholding. I'm very serious about this process... And I know where you live.

DR. OATMAN

Oh, now see, that wasn't a nice thing to say. That wasn't designed to make me feel good. That's a kind of a not too subtle intimidation. And I, uh, I get filled with anxiety when you talk about something like that. I mean, that's...

MARTIN

Come on, come on, I was just kidding alright? The thought never crossed my mind.

DR. OATMAN

You did think of it, Martin. You thought of it and then you said it. and now I'm left with the, with the aftermath of that thinking I gotta be creative in a really interesting way now or Martin's gonna blow my brains out.  
You're holding me hostage here. That's not right.

MARTIN

I just want to work, ok? There's some issues I need to work on in my life.  
I've read your books, your best sellers, on the top 20.

DR. OATMAN

They were both ghost written, Martin.

MARTIN

What, "The Annihilation of Death?"

DR. OATMAN

Yes

MARTIN

"Kill Who: A Warrior's Dilemma?"  
I read it, the New York Times Top 20.

DR. OATMAN

Well, I don't know what to say.

MARTIN

Well what do you say to other patients, you know? I don't know, how does it work? Ask me how I'm feeling.

DR. OATMAN

How do you feel?

MARTIN

I'm feeling uneasy man. I'm just dispassionate, I'm bored. It's hard to sustain a good mood. I've got problems with work, you know, concept execution stuff. And I'm just ill at ease.

DR. OATMAN

Well look, Martin, I don't want to suggest anything that might be uncomfortable for you. But you might consider, just consider the possibility that part of your problem, part of the thing that's making you so miserable is the angst of killing a lot of people. Maybe, just put it in the background there.

MARTIN

Come on, I show up at your door, chances are you did something to bring me there. Ok? I don't care about that stuff.

DR. OATMAN

You don't care about what stuff?

MARTIN

You know, morality.

DR. OATMAN

Mmmh.

MARTIN

I don't want to talk about work because I don't think necessarily what a person does for a living reflects who he is... So what do we do? Do we talk about dreams, or what's next? What's next, what's the score here?

DR. OATMAN

We can talk about dreams, we can talk about dreams. It's your nickel.

MARTIN

Sure, um I had another one about Debbie.

DR. OATMAN

That girl you're obsessed with?

MARTIN

Don't you think obsessed is a strong word?

DR. OATMAN

Ah, recurring dreams of loss and pain for 10 years featuring the same person, yeah maybe that's a bit obsessive.

MARTIN

Um, I had one where I was that um television mechanical rabbit. You know with the.....

DR. OATMAN

The battery bunny.

MARTIN

yeah, I was the bunny.

DR. OATMAN

that sounds like a very very depressed dream.

MARTIN

really?

DR. OATMAN  
yes.

MARTIN  
why?

DR. OATMAN  
Martin, it's a terrible dream. It's a depressing dream to dream about that rabbit. It's got no brain, it's got no blood, and it's got no anima. It just keeps banging on those meaningless symbols endlessly, and going and going and going....Time is up.

MARTIN  
time is up already? You really want to do half a session?.....can we just pretend that we have a normal doctor patient relationship. I'll ask you a piece of advice. You give me an answer, you know. Advice, should I go to the reunion?

DR. OATMAN  
yes, yes. Get out of town.

MARTIN  
thank you.

DR. OATMAN  
go see some old friends. Have some punch. Visit with what's her name.

MARTIN  
Debbie.

DR. OATMAN

Debbie. Don't kill anybody for a few days, see what it feels like.

MARTIN

ill give it a shot.

DR. OATMAN

no, no. don't give it a shot. Don't shoot anything...

Martin leaves

DR. OATMAN

argh.....