

Secret Duck Society

By Jeremy Palladino

Devin  
Mary

EXT. LAKE MARY NELL- DAYTIME

MARY and DEVIN are sitting on the grass by a lake having a picnic. Both of them rest by a blanket, sitting about six feet apart for narrative purposes and no other reason. They are on a first date and it is going relatively well. They are laughing or giggling or something, I don't really know what happens on first dates.

MARY

I'm so glad we finally met in person.

DEVIN

Hey me too!

MARY

I just love coming here to the lake, especially on a nice day like this. Don't you?

DEVIN

Not gonna lie, not a big fan of the lake.

MARY

(Disbelief) What?

DEVIN

I'm sorry!

MARY

What do you mean?

DEVIN

I just don't like it.

MARY

What, are the fountains too loud?

DEVIN

No, they're fine.

MARY

The trees? Too many trees?

DEVIN

Nope, not that.

MARY

Then what is it? Scared of the ducks?

Devin grows silent. The truth has been revealed.

MARY

Devin, are you scared of the ducks?

DEVIN

No.

Devin is clearly scared of the ducks.

MARY

You're scared of the ducks.

DEVIN

No I'm not!

MARY

Are you kidding me? They're so cute-

DEVIN

You need to stop talking about them right now.

MARY

Uhh, why?

DEVIN

They can hear us.

MARY

They seem pretty far away. I don't see why you're so afraid.

Mary points towards the ducks.

MARY

Look at the little baby duckling right there.

DEVIN

Don't point. Don't point! Why are you pointing?

Mary is frozen for a second. She then points again.

MARY

But the baby-

DEVIN

Stop pointing. You don't want to piss them off.

MARY  
I don't think they mind.

DEVIN  
Well, you're calling attention to them  
so you should stop.

MARY  
Okay, and?

DEVIN  
Oh, you don't know. You don't know?!

MARY  
Know what?

DEVIN  
About the SDS.

MARY  
I don't know what that means.

DEVIN  
(Coughs) Secretducksociety.

MARY  
The what?

DEVIN  
The secret duck society! Okay, really,  
I have to spell it out for you!

MARY  
What are you talking about?

DEVIN  
The ducks, Mary. The ducks. Don't.  
Die.

MARY  
Yes they do!

DEVIN  
Have you seen one die?

MARY  
Well, no. But-

DEVIN  
Coincidence?

MARY  
Yes. I sure they die.

DEVIN  
Oh good lord.

A brief montage of ducks is accompanied by suspenseful sounds and eerie music.

DEVIN  
They're onto us.

MARY  
What about the swan? Didn't the swan die recently?

DEVIN  
It was a cover-up. The biggest conspiracy since the death of Tupac Shakur.

MARY  
Oh, really?

DEVIN  
One-hundred percent.

MARY  
Well, I don't really care. I still think they're cute even if they're immortal.

DEVIN  
That's what they want you to think. See, I'm not falling for that trap.

MARY reaches into a basket to pull out food. Horrific duck montage briefly enters again. She pulls out a fragment of bread.

DEVIN  
What are you doing?

MARY  
I'm gonna show you they're not that scary.

DEVIN  
That's a horrible idea!

Mary starts to rip the bread into little pieces.

DEVIN  
Have you lost your mind? Don't give  
them bread! Who are you, Betty White?

MARY  
Just a little bread won't hurt.

DEVIN  
You're feeding into their agenda!

The duck montage is even more menacing. Mary pulls out  
another piece of bread from the basket.

DEVIN  
Wait, is that a basket full of bread?

MARY  
Yeah, why?

DEVIN  
What was your name was again?

MARY  
Mary.

DEVIN  
No your last name?

MARY  
Nell.

Devin reaches a chilling revelation. He slowly looks at the  
sign of the lake, which is revealed to be "Lake Mary Nell".

He quickly looks back at Mary. Mary quacks loudly and  
assertively. He shrieks.

END SCENE