

USE ME UP

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Story By
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Inspired by Bill Withers' song, "Use Me"

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FILM FOR DAWN, based on song, "Use Me Up" by Bill Withers
Story by Dawn Sam Alden, dialogue by Tamar Kummel 5/11.

EXT DOG PARK

We see our female lead Lily Whyte (white woman) in a dog park, training a German Sheppard to sit, stay, lie down. She has treats and she lavishes the obedient dog with praise.

LILY
(to dog) Good boy. Good boy. Sit.
Oh kisses. Kisses. What a good boy.

The dog does something wrong, and she swats it on the butt, or grabs its muzzle.

CROSS FADE

EXT PARK, NEAR THE DOG PARK

A group of 6 shirtless, great looking men are playing volleyball. Close up shots of chests, butts, anything "sexy". Ending of the game, guys toweling off, relaxing, drinking, etc. FYI, At least Baako and Obi are African American men. The conversation clips along at a fast, natural pace. The men talk to distract from Baako preparing.

FRIEND 1
Obi, you kicked ass in court
yesterday.

BAAKO
He always does.

OBI
Thanks man.

FRIEND 2
Is that crook going away?

OBI
Oh yeah. For a LONG time.

BAAKO
(produces a cupcake and candle)
Happy birthday little brother.

ALL
Happy birthday Obi! Long life, etc.
Happy birthday boss.

OBI
What, no singing?

BAAKO
I'm not fucking singing to you. I
got you a cupcake.

FRIEND 3
Pussy ass cupcake.

OBI
I like the cupcake.

SOME OF THE GUYS
(mocking) I like the cupcake.

OBI
Thanks guys.

FRIEND 4
What are you doing tonight for your
birthday?

OBI
I have to go to a work function for
Lily.

SOME OF THE GUYS
(guys all react in natural ways of
disappointment, pissed off, lame,
pussy-whipped, etc)

OBI
It's not...I like those parties. I
like the people she works with.

BAAKO
No you don't! They treat you like
shit. It's embarrassing.

OBI
For who?

BAAKO
For me!

OBI
I've told you before, Baako, Just
leave it alone.

Guys start getting a little uncomfortable and shifty.

CUT TO:

We see Lily start to come from a distance to meet them with the dog. Men start to gather to leave, especially as they see Lily coming.

ALL

I got to go, happy birthday, have a great night. See you next week, Congrats on your promotion. etc

OBI

Baako, come to the party. It's at Julie's place.

All men but Baako leave. Lily has temporarily stopped to tie her shoe, throw a ball to the dog to fetch, etc. We see she's stopped. Baako pulls Obi aside.

BAAKO

Look man. It doesn't look good. If she was the greatest woman on Earth, I would just be happy for you. But I don't like seeing my little brother be controlled like that.

OBI

Don't worry about me. You don't know everything. (she's now upon them) I'm a lucky man. (he goes to kiss her, she turns her head)

The three stand in silence for one awkward moment waiting to see who will speak first. The dog is on a leash.

BAAKO

Lily.

LILY

Baako. (pause, then, to Obi, as if to a dog, maybe even patting her thigh)

Come now.

OBI

I'll see you later. 8pm!

Obi smiles, nods, says bye to his brother in some brotherly way and follows Lily off.

CUT TO:

INT PARTY NIGHT

The camera scans around the room as we see as many party goers as we can find. Dressed up. Fancy and attractive. We see Baako there talking to people. Lily enters with Obi behind her. He takes off her coat and goes to put it away and she greets people.

FADE TO:

INT PARTY NIGHT CONT. SHORTLY AFTER

Obi, Baako and Lily have joined a group. The women are dominating the conversation while the men adorn the women. Lily has a small plate of food and is talking, while Obi holds her ultra feminine purse and her glass of champagne where she can reach it. Although there's little in the glass.

JULIE

Congratulation Lily, I understand your research study is going very well.

LILY

Yes. Thank you. Our first few patients are responding extremely well.

PATRICE

That must be very encouraging.

LILY

It is. It's been a long struggle for funding and respect and now I'm finding the medical board kissing my ass for a change. I could get used to that. (she goes for her glass and sees it's nearly empty, to Obi, sharply) Glass.

Obi immediately runs off for a refill, much to Baako's chagrin.

JULIE

Hard to find good help these days.

Her date winces.

LILY

I find Obi extremely helpful.

PATRICE

He's certainly pretty.

DATE OF PATRICE
I'm right here.

Woman 2 brushes off the comment. Baako can't take it, and goes off to find Obi.

LILY
Yes. He is pretty. He's also just been made a partner in his law firm.

JULIE
(slight laugh) Really? It's funny, I would think you'd want someone more challenging.

LILY
Isn't life challenging enough? Don't confuse quiet, with simple. (beat) Not that it's any of your business. (Pause) Look, he CHALLENGES the defending attorneys. He doesn't need to challenge me. I'm not his enemy. We're on the same team. (beat) Excuse me.

Lily disappears toward the bathroom.

SCAN TO

INT PARTY NIGHT CONT.

Obi and Baako are already in discussion where he's gone to get champagne (buffet? Kitchen?), Obi quietly puts down Lily's purse.

BAAKO
Man, you are not making this easy! Look at you holding her purse! Where is your dignity?

OBI
Seriously? I don't question the choices you make.

BAAKO
If I was making embarrassing choices, I hope you would question them. (quietly, trying to not make a scene) She's treating you like...

OBI

(quietly, with a slight smile, slowly, deliberately) A slave? Dude. (Pause) How do you know that's a bad thing? You ever been treated like a slave? You ever been allowed to NOT be in charge. Even for a minute? All day long I control the situations. I AM the master all day.

BAAKO

(softening) Look...I don't think...

OBI

No, sometimes you don't think, you definitely don't listen. You know why I didn't tell you where Lily and I met? (Baako shakes his head) Because I knew you wouldn't approve. You don't want to hear about being a sex slave, or any other kind of slave. But I know she makes me happy, very happy. She's not the boss of me, but she can pull my chain. (beat) Take that any way you want.

BAAKO

(pause) But does she have to treat you like that in front of others?

OBI

Bro, I don't care what other people think. She certainly doesn't care. You know how attractive that is? She is smarter than anyone I know, and she has to fight her ass off for every inch she gets. (pause) Well, she doesn't have to fight with me. And trust me, she gets exactly what she wants.

Lily approaches.

LILY

Done?

Obi nods.

Let's go.

They head out the door into the hallway/front porch/etc.

EXT/INT ON OTHER SIDE OF PARTY DOOR

Lily puts her arms around Obi.

OBI
Thank you. You're amazing.

LILY
Whatever you want. (pause) As long
as you're good.

OBI
Yes Mistress.

LILY
People are so narrow minded.

Obi nods.

The door suddenly opens, and Baako is there holding Lily's tiny purse. They see him, he sheepishly holds it out to her. She pauses.

BAAKO
You know you have the greatest guy.

LILY
(sincere) I know. And I'd do
anything for him.

BAAKO
You could treat him better.

LILY
I treat him exactly as he's asked
me to.

BAAKO
(pause) I'm the asshole.

They just look at him like, yup.

He hands Lily her purse. She kisses his cheek. He melts a little.

BAAKO (CONT'D)
Happy birthday little bro. (he
closes the door)

LILY
You ready to go home?

OBI
Yes Mistress.

LILLY
Good. I think we have birthday
celebrating to do.

OBI
Yes Mistress.

She grabs his butt, and before he can kiss her, she walks
off, with him smiling and following.

END