

"A Single Story"

Written by:

Jazmin Lucky
Darrien Staton

FADE IN:

EXT. OUTSIDE

NICHOLE, a college student who just got out of a bad relationship, is looking at a picture of her and her ex-boyfriend. She is hurt and decides to throw the picture away and burn it.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM

Nichole's friend, RAINA, is at NICHOLE'S house to help with her recent break up.

RAINA

So what happened with you and Jeremy last night?

NICHOLE

There's nothing to say. (shrug shoulders)

RAINA

What do you mean? Nichole stop playing!

NICHOLE

I am officially done with dating! I might as well find me some cats by now and start my life with them. At least they will care about me.

RAINA

Girl! You have to get over him. Look at you. You are fine! You can do so much better.

NICHOLE

Yea, but every single relationship I've had ended badly. They never take the time to get to know me. They just assume I am one way and not the other.

RAINA

Nichole stop being so dramatic. (thinks for a second)

NICHOLE cuts on the shower.

RAINA (CONT.) (V.O.)

Okay. Well look, tonight I am working a late shift at the coffee house and we're hosting a speed dating event.

(O.S.)

You should come.

NICHOLE

Uhhh..

The steam from the shower fogs up the mirror and Nichole steps out of the shower

RAINA

(Rolls her eyes) Ugh! Look. Think of all of the guys...

Nichole puts on her make up and takes the clothes off of her bed to get dressed.

RAINA (CONT.) (V.O.)

correction the FINE guys that will be there tonight. (Waits for Nichole to respond)
Girl! Are you in?

Nichole puts on her shoes and starts to leave.

RAINA (CONT.) (O.S.)

NICHOLE!

NICHOLE

Yes!

NICHOLE walks towards the mirror to get a finally look at herself.

NICHOLE (CONT.) (V.O.)

I will be there.

NICHOLE looks at herself in the mirror before leaving her room. On the mirror is "A Single Story" written with lipstick.

CUT TO:

EXT. Outside Greensboro

As NICHOLE is traveling to the coffee house for the speed dating event. The audience gets to join along and see clips of Greensboro.

CUT TO:

INT. SPEED DATING ROOM – A TABLE WITH TWO CHAIRS

NICHOLE is sitting down in her chair adjusting herself before the speed dating event begins.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Good evening Greensboro students and welcome to college speed dating. The rules are ladies stay in your seats while these fine young gentlemen come to you when they hear the *Ding*. You have two minutes. Now let's get started!

Ding

CHRISTIAN slides into the empty chair at her table and the speed dating process begins.

CHRISTIAN

Hi I'm Christian.

CHRISTIAN holds out his hand for NICHOLE to shake.

NICHOLE

Nichole.

NICHOLE shakes CHRISTIAN'S HAND.

CHRISTIAN

How is your day going so far?

NICHOLE

It's okay so far. How is your day going?

CHRISTIAN

Exceptional!

Both NICHOLE and CHRISTIAN don't know what to say next so they sit there in awkward silence until CHRISTIAN thinks of something to say.

CHRISTIAN

So um... If you won the lottery today what would you do with the money?

NICHOLE

That's a random question.

CHRISTIAN

Yea, I know. Just a fun question to ask. You know like an ice-breaker.

NICHOLE giggles at CHRISTIAN'S random question but decides to go ahead and try to answer it.

NICHOLE

Okay. Well, umm I would pay off my tuition. I would of course give my family some money. Uhh save some for the future and invest some to make more money.

CHRISTIAN

I like the way you think. What School do you go to?

NICHOLE

I go to A&T. What about you?

CHRISTIAN

Oooh you go to A&T. You have it made! Everyone says your professors are easy. You guys don't do anything! I wish I was you. The struggle is real at UNCG.

NICHOLE tries to say something but is cut off by CHRISTIAN.

CHRISTIAN (CONT.)

But obviously A&T has the fine females.

CHRISTIAN leans in closer to NICHOLE and whispers.

CHRISTIAN (CONT.)
But I heard y'all a little ratchet.
SQUAAAA...H!

Ding

CHRISTIAN slides out of the chair while NICHOLE takes a sip of her drink.

NICHOLE
This is going to be a long night.

Trent sits down and looks at NICHOLE'S nametag to get her name.

TRENT
Nichole. Right?

NICHOLE
Yup. Nice to meet you Trent. What school do you go to?

TRENT
A&T. You?

NICHOLE is relieved that TRENT is a fellow aggie.

NICHOLE
Me too! Can you believe some asshole just called our school easy and ratchet.

TRENT
Really... Where he at?

TRENT starts to jokingly look around the room for CHRISTIAN.

TRENT (CONT.)
Nah! I'm just playing. So as you know homecoming is coming up and I am throwing a little kickback at my place in Riverwalk. You should come.

NICHOLE
You have to be a senior.

TRENT
How did you guess that?

NICHOLE
Because it's not called Riverwalk anymore.
Now it's called...

NICHOLE takes a second to think about the answer.

NICHOLE (CONT.)
Habitat!

TRENT
No, No, No. It's um campus green. No that's
not right it's...

NICHOLE & TRENT
Campus Evolution!

They both start to laugh.

NICHOLE
They change the name of that place every
year.

TRENT
Seriously! They think changing the name of
that place is suppose to make it better. It
is still the same old place it was years ago.

NICHOLE
Thank You!

TRENT
So Nichole, where do you stay?

NICHOLE
I commute. I still stay at home around
the New Garden area.

TRENT is surprised at NICHOLE'S answer.

TRENT
Really? I got a homie that lives over
there. His parents pay for everything. They
pay for his apartment, he got a new whip and
he doesn't have to pay for his tuition. You must
be set. Tuition paid, probably even got a nice
car. That's what I call stress free.

Ding

TRENT
Kickback. My place. Don't forget

TRENT gets up out of his seat and NICHOLE starts to chug the rest of her drink but is interrupted by AMBER.

AMBER leans back in her chair to ask NICHOLE a question.

AMBER
Hey, Hey!

NICHOLE turns around in her chair to listen to what AMBER has to say.

AMBER
I'm just here to help a friend out and thought it would be fine to tag along but uhh... did I hear you're from Bennett?

AMBER winks at NICHOLE and NICHOLE rolls her eyes.

NICHOLE
Uhh No! A&T.

AMBER LOOKS NICHOLE UP AND DOWN.

AMBER
Dang! Never mind.

MIGUEL had already sat down during Amber and Nichole's conversation and startles NICHOLE when she turns back around.

NICHOLE
Hi

MIGUEL
Well hello A&T.

NICHOLE is embarrassed that MIGUEL overheard her conversation with AMBER.

NICHOLE
You heard that?

MIGUEL

Yea, but it's cool. You are beautiful.
Did you know that A&T?

NICHOLE

Thank You. So what's your major?

MIGUEL

Engineering

NICHOLE

Hmm. What made you choose engineering?

MIGUEL

It is a great job with a good income.
I want to be able to take care of my family.
I don't want them to have to struggle in life
like I did growing up; especially, not over
money.

NICHOLE

That makes sense.

MIGUEL

So A&T, what's your major?

NICHOLE

I'm an art major. I want to be able to make
a difference through my art. To give not only
myself but others a voice. You see there are
so many stories in this world and it seems
like we only get a chance to see one or
the other. I want to be able to show
everyone's side of a story, not just one.

MIGUEL

Wow! Really? How long has that been a dream
of yours?

NICHOLE

Ever since I was a child.

MIGUEL

My mom was an art major.

NICHOLE starts to invest in the conversation because of the
mutual similarity.

NICHOLE

Really?

MIGUEL

Yea! Art is the reason why I grew up in poverty. She choose her passion over a real job. Stupid!

MIGUEL takes a dollar out of his wallet and throws it down on the table.

MIGUEL

Here's a dollar. Good luck in that field.

MIGUEL gets up and walks away before the ding. NICHOLE places the dollar in her purse and chugs the rest of her drink. She then calls for another one and in mid chug of her second drink she hears...

ANNOUNCER(V.O.)

Now ladies remember there is only a two drink maximum. Let's be classy not trashy.

NICHOLE rolls her eyes and finishes the rest of her drink.

DING

NICHOLE

(sighs under her breath)
Here we go again.

KAVON

What was that?

NICHOLE

Nothing.

KAVON

Sounds like you've had it rough.

NICHOLE

Tell me about it! Everyone is just so... one sided. People only have one side to the story and just assume everyone else falls under that same umbrella. I can't stand people like that!

KAVON

Pssh... Trust me I understand.

NICHOLE looks up to take a look at who she is speaking with.

NICHOLE
and you are?

KAVON
Kavon. I study ballet at A&T.

NICHOLE
Uhh not to be rude, but why are you
here?

KAVON
See now your one sided. I'm not gay
Nichole. You have this single story
of what it means to be a male who
does ballet. My sexuality is not
determined by my profession!

NICHOLE
(stutters)
Your right. I'm sorry.

KAVON starts to walk away.

NICHOLE
Kavon! Wait!

(Kavon stops and looks back at Nichole)

NICHOLE
Do you want to get out of here?
I am willing to listen to your story
only if you are willing to listen
to mine.

KAVON
I would love that.

Ding

NICHOLE takes off her name tag and set it down on the table. She forgets about participating in the speed dating process and walks off with KAVON.

NICHOLE
(In a flirtatious giggling manner)
So will I get to see you
in those tights of yours.

CUT TO:

EXT. Outside - Evening

KAVON and NICHOLE leave the coffee house with each other and hangs out outside. They write "A Single Story" on the concrete with chalk and walk away together.

FADE OUT

Jazmin Lucky