

8. DENIED

The major question of our time is how a small group can make itself heard. How can the lines of democracy be broadened so the larger populace can be influenced by the concerns of a few individuals? Contrary to this model, the system has been rigged to short-circuit the participation of the majority. The freedom to voice clear argument has been curtailed in favor of shrill demagoguery. There is not an effort to broaden consensus. How can the citizen be kowtowed to toe the conformist line? When the individual seeks redress, he is frightened off by the formidable state power. On the other hand, corporations get the government constantly to do their bidding, and then they pretend that they are private concerns.

–How can I make you like me? How can I get you to notice me?

Guys tell me that I've got great legs. I've got a nice ass. I do my best to keep it this way. I want to be liked.

–Do you think that you have a pretty face?

–I wasn't thinking about that?

–How can I make you notice me for me?

–Who would that be?

–A truly lovely creature.

–A goddess.

–That sounds right.

–You're going to have to do a lot more work to get to that point.

–I have to go with what the Good Lord gave me.

–That is a start. If he did give you enough.

–I'm not feeling sorry for myself.

–You have to have an image in your mind of how you want to be seen.

–Like an angel.

–Who can get away with anything that she wants.

–Someone who guys want to kiss.

–If I kiss you, will you do some things for me.

–I don't want it to be like that. I want you to want to kiss me even if I'm never going to kiss you.

–That's weird.

–I want to be desirable. But I don't want fucked-up guys to desire me.

–How are you going to manage that?

–I want to be a star.

–Really.

–I just want that look. You know. When guys just want to get naked with you.

–Isn't there more to it? You want guys to like you for your personality.

–If you're ugly, who cares what's in your personality.

–That is pleasant.

–It's got me this far.

–You do have a nice ass!

–What is that supposed to mean?

–You have great legs.

–And?

–I want to get with you.

–Huh?

–Hook up.

–I thought that you were already with a girl.

–I am. But that wouldn't stop me from being with you. If you were really good, I'd quit being with her.

–That seems really shitty.

–But you seem much sweeter than her. I've just got to know that things go on past first impressions.

–Oh, they do. I can make you feel really good.

–You know guys tell me that all the time.

–Sure they want to get with you, but do they want to stay with you?

–Try me, and find out.

–You want to just go get busy.

–Not like that. But you are fine.

–And you think that I'm going to give it to you.

–You're a guy.

–But I don't like girls coming on so strong. It makes me feel as if something is wrong.

–Something is wrong. You're not being as sweet as you should.

–I'm trying to. It's just that you're being a little weird with me.

–I told you that I like you. What more do you want?

I've held myself together over the years. And guys have wanted to take care of me. I just needed to hold on to my loveliness.

–I just can't stand my body image. I feel as if something has to be done.

–Do guys notice you?

–Yeah, but for the wrong reason. They just want to hook up. They aren't willing to really care for me.

–Do you let them care?

–The kind of guys that I meet aren't really about caring. They try. But it's all a front so that they can get some. You know what I mean.

When a girl is in a mess like I am, she's looking for a miracle. Some guy who'll take the mess that I've made and call it his own. Just take all this shit off my hands. It's not as if I'm a loser. I just haven't been turning up aces. Maybe someone can steal my identity, and I can start again at the beginning. Oh no, this is me. I'm hating myself.

It all started as one little mistake. I've just been doing the same thing over and over again. To what end. Maybe I can find one of those lucky stocks that I can buy for a song and sell for a fortune. Who am I kidding? I just need some new clothes to make me look like a knockout.

I've got a lover who is going to pay for all of this. I just need to look chic for him. Not a care in the world. To sit on my pedestal and look great. I've never looked this good in my life. And then Prince Charming kisses me, and I wake up from my dream.

I'm a beauty with the brains to match. So how did I get stupid old me in such a crazy predicament. You know how they say that you are what you eat. In my case, I am what I am not. Sounds pretty mysterious. I'm just slipping down with any traction. Won't someone take me seriously?

Look at me, baby. I've got what it takes. So why can't I take what I want. I need to be a funnier person. It's strange. People respect you if you have a pleasant sense of humor. people take you seriously

So now I have a job to do. I have to get it done. I can wait as long as I need to. I'm some kind of spy. I'm looking for irregularities in dress or some other detail that might tip me off to what she's really about.

–I'll reward you for what you find out

He told us that he was working for the government. And his job was to report back on our activities. And if he finds out what we are about, then that may be the end to our good work.

I have to admit that I am a quite soulless individual. I am better suited to solving a problem in differential equation than I am at predicting the pleasantries of a woman's heart.

In my own way I just wanted to be noticed. And if that meant stretching the truth a little, that was OK. There was no one who was going to get hurt. Not really. I just had to do my best to look that part.

Someone has to take the world to the brink. Just to no that thrill. If you have that power, you just have to use it.

–You do not know the trouble that you have created for the world

–I trusted my instincts.

WHY DO YOU DO IT AGAIN AND AGAIN?

I'm a go-getter.

–I can give you what you need. Don't take this the wrong way. I just want you to give me something back to tell me that you're serious about this.

She is my secret weapon.

–I need you to sleep with this guy for me. For a thousand bucks.

–What?

–You've heard the offer. Don't keep me waiting.

–Who are you?

–Call me your fairy godmother. Here's an envelope for you. Open it up. This is your way out of debt.

So we got together for a drink last night. It wasn't what I thought it would be. But I realized that this is the end for us. We will never be together again.

What is wrong with you? I love you. I gave so much of my heart to you. But you never gave me back what I deserved. It is terrible to realize that I have wasted so much time on someone who doesn't love me. Someone who doesn't know how to love anyone. When I look in your eyes, I feel as if I can see your soul. When I kiss you, I feel that power. But I never want to be like that again. I never want to give so much of myself to you. You can't give me anything that I need.

Since I left you, I have been with a great guy. He's an incredible lover. He can go on

forever. He gets me to explore new territory, and he's got everything that he need to satisfy a woman if you know what I mean

–It's either the rule of the law or the rule of the jungle.

–I always was partial towards the lion.

It's everyone for himself! No law!

You take the government's money, then you screw the public. You tell us how you hate the government, but you're not above buying up government assets for a song, and then making a fortune from them.

He hates his own race. He sees his own short-comings, but it is easier to focus on the seeming laziness of others. He submits to blind acceptance of the letter of the law. It makes him seem as if he is less of a victim. His rewards are quite meager for his total devotion to the state. But he is always faulting government for its minimal acknowledgment of the less fortunate. He can't even control his own body. But he is not above lecturing others about their failings. He extols the meritocracy even as it has chewed him up and spit him up. He clings to what is left of his dignity as a sign of the gentle hand of liberty. He is the last to see that same swift hand cast him to the ground.

Who are the foot soldiers of the new fascism? They live off the false acceptance of their fellow conspirators, each suspicious of the other? With followers like this, they don't even need martial law. They create their own havoc along the way. Any voice willing to stand up to the corporate yoke that inflicts him is crushed in the wake. They have their squads of vigilantes: a loud and boisterous minority who make it seem as if their numbers are great. They often intimidate the confused to join their throng. It only makes them look stronger than they really are.

A girl may not be blessed with all the natural charm that she needs. But if she works at it, she can reach the level that she deserves. And from there, everything is possible. It's not worth wasting a designer dress on a body that doesn't highlight its attributes. Fashion is no substitute for hours in the gym working up a sweat. And you can't let all the work in the gym go to waste because of horrible diet.

A pretty girl only finds the rewards that she has coming to her. And, in that department, I get everything that I set out for.

Fashion is its own language. It tells you that you're worth it. It sets a standard that you have to live up to. And you reach the bar that you set. Such is real commitment.

If a girl loves beautiful things, she is going to work her ass to get them. And if she can't get everything that she wants, there is always some guy out there who can get her what she needs. Once a girl realizes that she has that power, she is gold.

You made a claim recently for a visit to Dr. Amber Sanderson. We regret that the services that you elected cannot be covered under your insurance plan.

If you feel that this claim has been made in error, then you can resubmit it for further consideration.

–In my agreement, it states that mental health services are covered.

–If you were referred to the doctor by one of our primary care specialists, then we could cover the cost.

–It does stipulate other conditions for covering such a claim.

–If you’re actually treating a condition, then we can cover the visit. But we don’t have any documentation to support our claim.

–I thought that my plan covers counseling services.

–It would have to be with one of our doctors.

I need to see the doctor.

–I always feel as if I am on a treadmill. If I let up, I am going to slip completely.

–You just have to slow down a little. Then you won’t feel as you’re being pulled along by the exercise machine.

–I was just using an analogy.

–I realize that. I was making a suggestion on how you can think about it in a different way.

–I’m open to thinking about myself in a new way.

–That seems quite positive.

–When I’m with a guy, I find that I’m doing everything to please him. But I’m not doing anything for myself. I get caught up in the situation, and I can’t help myself.

–You’re setting these unrealistic expectations for yourself. And when you can’t live up to them, it’s making you feel bad.

–So how do I prevent all that from happening?

–You have to take pleasure in the little things in life. And when you’re again in one of those situations, it won’t be all that overwhelming.

–How do I do that?

–We’re going to put you through a set of exercises.

–I’m not sure if I’m going to be able to come back.

–What’s the problem?

–My insurance doesn’t want to cover the claim.

–I have to get some kind of fee. We might be able to work something out.

She is willing to help me dispel with the magic. But am I willing to take that chance. It seems as she is asking me to go naked. I am ready to surrender the one thing that makes me unique.

–You are special. I wanted to kiss those lips from the moment that I saw them.

–You have a girl.

–And she’s away for the weekend. You’ve got a crazy magic. You’ve got to put it to use.

–Buy me some champagne, and we’ll see what we can make with magic.

–Champagne isn’t cheap.

–Either am I.

–You better be worth it.

–Do you like sneaking around on your lover?

–You make me sound devious. We aren’t getting along.

–You could do the decency and just leave her.

–Make this worth my while.

–You really shouldn’t hurt me.

–She’s away. She could be with another guy for all I know.

–You like telling yourself that.

–We’re together. Let’s make the best of what we have.

I melt in his arms. No questions asked. That is all that matters. He is a masterful lover. He never lets ups. He has what it takes.

–Romance is one of these accidents.

–You love the power of prying me away from another woman.

–I love the power pure and simple.

–No expectations.

–Anything that I can get on my account.

–And you want me to believe that.

–You are the one who’s taking the risk.

–You have no surprises up you sleeve.

–You know what I want from you.

–And what is that?

–Tell me what you need from me.

I am never going to succeed at this game. I don’t have enough going my way.

The body is like a canvas. You can paint on it anyway that you like. What you shape is exactly how you will be seen. And the image that you project is an indicator of how you are within.

–I can give you what you want. I can give the face that you want. I can shape the body that your want. My scalpel is your destiny.

–And what do I have to give you in return.

–You just have to tell me what you want to look like. And I can give you the world that you want.

–You are really confident that this will open up all door for me.

–Not all. But it will facilitate anything else that you might desire for yourself. I would love to help you in any way that I can.

At first, I thought that he might be coming on to me. That he would fall in love with his creation.

–I don’t want to hurt you.

–What are you saying?

–I am telling you that I can’t give you what you are asking me for. No matter what it might be.

–I just want you to see me in the same light that I see myself.

–How can I do that?

–Love has a way!

–I can’t love you.

–The body has a way of transforming to meet your needs. You can think about what I do as giving you something that you need. I like to think of all this as something that is natural.

I hate the idea of plastic surgery. But if that is what I need to do for my peace of mind, so be it.

–We are not looking at anything too drastic. Just a few adjustments so nature can take its proper course.

We regret to inform you that we cannot cover the recommended surgery with Dr. Malcolm Davis. The procedures do not come under the definition of necessary operations as stipulated by your plan.

- April, none of this is really necessary.
- I need to change my identity. It is necessary for my work.
- If it is work-related, get them to pay.
- I’m trying to get away from their control of my life. This is my only way.
- You need to learn how to separate your private and you public life.
- My private life is that part of my public life that I can get over.
- An operation isn’t going to do that.
- They made me this way. They can unmake it.
- We all want to change our lives.
- But I have a chance to really make a difference. I just have to do my best to make the needed change.

This is to inform you that the requested clearance for brain surgery under the auspices of Dr. Richard Milton has been granted. You are asked to submit all necessary documents further to support your claim.

- I didn’t order brain surgery.
- It could do the trick.
- Is it going to make me feel beautiful?
- It will make you forget all the things that make you feel terrible.
- Like erasing bad memories.
- There is a procedure for that.
- Getting rid of a headache by just cutting it out.
- That does sound pretty nasty.
- But if it works.
- Does it leave a scar?
- It’s pretty strange that I can get covered for something this frivolous. But I can’t get money for those things that are really necessary.
- What if you had a brain tumor?
- I don’t. I’m just a little cracked in the head.

In the drive to attract the best physicians, the private companies use the governmental payments as a benchmark and charge an amount that is competitively greater than the public-stipulated price. When the public program can no longer cover the procedures at the lower rate, they follow suit. Thus the public programs is being tricked to drive the increases in the private sector. The private sector hardly wants to keep the process going. Its only choice is to cut services. But if it is alone in cutting the services, then it will lose the subsequent business to the public sector. So it is essential that the public sector sets a limit on its covered services. And the private sector can place blame on the public program. It falsifies evidence to demonstrate that it can deliver more for less. The only way that it can monopolize a market thus described is by eventually raising prices.

- You have a fine disposition. You just need the body to go along with it.
- There is no way that my insurance will cover the surgery. And I can’t afford it.

–We only have to demonstrate that your body is disordered. Then the surgery will be corrective.

–What are you telling me?

–We can give you the body that you want.

–Or the body that we want for you. When some guy passes you by, he's going to be staring at your ass.

–Wow!

–Nice ass!

–I can hear it now. When that guy passes, he'll be thinking about me.

–We are going to put what is inside on the outside.

–I've always waited for a change like that.

–It is going to be yours. You are in good hands.

–As long as my claim is accepted.

–And you will be accepted for whom you really are.

–Thank you, doctor.

–I give every girl what she really wants.

–True love!

–*I want to squeeze that rock hard ass of yours.*

–*Go for it!*

–*The perfect fusing of form and idea. I am touching the soul.*

–*Give it to me, baby!*

–What are you doing?

–I was just looking. So you go to the gym all the time.

–I need to keep what I have.

–I wish that it was so easy for the rest of us.

–I wish that I was as easy as you think I am. But I'm not. I've got a complex. And you're too simplex for my complex.

–What a put down!

–It comes with the body.

I am starting to hate myself. I need to see that shrink after all.

–You've been given a Maserati, and you still don't know how to drive it.

–I could just hide in the trunk.

–You need to stretch out on the open road.

–This is starting to look the way that it should.

–How would it look better?

–I could make money by confessing my troubles.

–The reverse of what I do?

–It would make guys feel as if they had a purpose.

–Isn't that what got you in this predicament in the first place.

–I want a hot mind to go along with my body.

–What do you think that means?

–I'd be a genius. I could do physics problems in my sleep.

–Doesn't sound that restful.

–You know what I mean. I just want guys to like me for who I am. Not because I have a tight ass.

–But you do have a tight ass.

–That seems like a terrible claim to fame.

–It gets guys thinking.

–Are you a psychiatrist or some kind of sex surrogate?

–What is insurance willing to cover.

–This is America. They are leaning towards the surrogate.

–Can you get me off?

–I’m not get if that’s what you want to know. But I can teach you some techniques that might help you to pleasure yourself.

–You’re going to touch me.

–I’m going to talk to you about how you can relax.

–Are you going to touch me?

–I’m going to give you permission for you to touch yourself.

–Seems like a sex talk line.

–You can think about it that way. Only it’s a little more expensive, and it’s covered by a reasonable insurance plan.

–What is reasonable?

–A reasonable person would sign off on the coverage.

–A reasonable person while they were getting off!

–*Why did you come back to me?*

–*I want my money back. You made me a freak.*

–*You always were a freak. You never had the will to act it out.*

–*I want you to turn off the will.*

–*I’m a plastic surgeon, not a psychiatrist. I told you to talk to a good counselor before the operation. In fact, I required it.*

–*It only encouraged me to go off the deep end.*

–You have to take it easy.

–I feel as if I’ve become this monster. I seduced my best friend’s husband.

–Does she know?

–You can’t tell her.

–Is that all you have to say.

–I have a lot to say. I’m not sure where to start.

–You’re the doctor.

–You can’t go around doing whatever you want.

–I’m not.

–So quit doing it right away.

–It’s fun. Guys have never looked at me this way before.

–But you originally came to me because you wanted this kind of thing to stop.

–I didn’t know how good it would be.

–This is not good for you. You are giving in to this image of the monster.

–How would you feel if I seduced your husband?

- I’m not married.
- You’re a successful doctor. You have a great life. Why no husband?
- I guess because of work, I denied myself.
- Now’s your chance to really live.
- This is not about me. It’s about you.
- I’m trying to sympathize with women like you. You just resent me because I can get any man that I want.
- Why are you trying to turn this around?
- Let’s talk woman to woman! You hate your life worse than I ever did. But you work all the time so that you don’t have to think about it.
- Where did you learn that?
- You can’t even make statements. Just more questions.
- I can talk freely about myself. But this is your session. And it is not right for me to get personally involved.
- But I have made you more involved than you can know.
- Just in a manner of speaking. In your mind.
- But if we both wanted the same man, you know that he’s rather be with me. He love running his tongue along my silky smooth legs.
- We need to change the subject.
- This is the subject. You are envious of the power that I have over men.
- I don’t worry about that!
- You do because that is the real reason that you are along. Women like me always attract the guys that you love.
- April, you need to break from the monster.
- My name was never April. That was a name that the government gave me for a cover. My real name is Sybil. And I have special powers to attract men and to see into the hearts of women. There is nothing that you can do to defeat me.
- This is not a contest. I am here to help me.
- Doctor, help yourself. You need it.
- The session is over for the today.
- Because I have to find some guy to bone me!
- Some guys are going to reject you because you are too brash. Others are going to sleep with you, and then they are never going to call you. And you’re going to get all pissy on them.*
- What am I supposed to do?*
- You have to destroy the monster that you have become.*
- Can I buy you a drink.
- I’m waiting on a friend.
- Let me get you a drink until she arrives.
- It’s actually a guy. My fiancé.
- I have to say that he’s a really lucky guy.
- Thanks for the complement. Maybe you can get me a drink.
- What about your guy?
- He’ll be around in a bit. So what do you do.

- I’m a lawyer.
- You should give me your card. A girl never knows when she is going to need a good lawyer.
- Yeah!
- What is it?
- Sorry, I was just staring in your eyes. I love the sparkle.
- It’s the candlelight.
- It really brings out the vibrant color of your dress as well.
- It’s new. I’ve been on a health kick. It’s made me confident enough to wear a dress like this.
- Where did you meet your husband?
- At a horse show.
- Do you ride?
- No. I wish that I did.
- I’ve got a friend with some horses. You really do have to make it out there sometime.
- Could I bring my fiancé?
- Yeah, bring him along.
- You seem pretty accommodating.
- Do you want me to tell you to come on your own?
- That would be a little more honest.
- Is that what you want honesty?
- Is that what you want?
- As much as those juicy red lips that I’m looking at right now.
- You want to take your chances with me.
- What about your man?
- You have time to make your argument.
- I just don’t want to be denied.
- You play it safe, and you never get what you want.
- You take too many risks and you end up on the other side of a gun.
- Tough guy!