

MORGANNE'S WORLD

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FADE IN:

EXT. CAMPUS - DAY

We open gazing upon a group of students chatting with the camera slowly inching toward the group, 2 guys and 3 girls. They seem like a pretty eclectic group, each with their own style. Our narrator walks us through the group we are about to meet, the story we are about to hear, the journey we are about to embark on.

MORGANNE

Hello! I'm Morganne and that's me
and my friends. Let's do a
walkthrough, shall we?

The camera settles upon the group and then shifts focus to...

MORGANNE (CONT'D)

So this is Andrew.

The camera shifts to specifically focus in on ANDREW, a kid with long, brown, curly hair and a mustache that makes him look a lot older. He wears a crisp white button down and sleek, black denim trousers, with shiny, black Doc Marten loafers to match. His white socks stand out, cushioned betwixt a sandwich of black, like an Oreo cookie. He seems cool...somewhat too cool. Looks like he should be in fashion school. He sits with his legs stretched out and feet up on the table.

MORGANNE (CONT'D)

I've known Andrew the longest since
he's from where I'm from. He makes
music too so I sorta knew him that
way, before I knew him knew him.

As Morganne lists important characteristics of Andrew, they are listed beside him in the shot.

"LOCAL MUSICIAN" is added to Andrew's characteristics list.

MORGANNE (CONT'D)

He's the youngest of all of us but
his mustache is his saving grace.

Andrew interjects, breaking the fourth wall.

ANDREW

I literally never get carded. Like
anywhere.

"BABY" is added to Andrew's characteristics list.

Andrew goes back to the conversation.

MORGANNE

He also loves leading girls on.

GIRL (O.S.)

(shyly)

Hey Andrew...

ANDREW

(slyly)

Hey pretty lady. I'll see you and your friends on Friday?!...Alright.

"DICK" is added to Andrew characteristics list.

We shift to STARR. She rocks a high bun with her auburn, wavy braids. She is adorned in jewelry: a layering of gold necklaces (one in which her name sits bolded on her chest, dangling from a chain), classic, huge gold hoops with safety pins dangling from them, and an array of statement rings. She is rocking an oversized sweater vest with a button down underneath it, blue jeans and Air Jordans. Her nails are monochromatic blue. She sits with her legs across Andrew's lap.

MORGANNE

This is Starr. She's from NYC, which is pretty cool. Born and raised in Queens.

"AUTHENTIC NEW YORKER" is added to Starr's characteristics list.

MORGANNE (CONT'D)

She doesn't have the typical New York accent though.

Starr interjects breaking the 4th wall

STARR

I honestly don't know how that happened. Sometimes people don't believe me.

Starr rejoins the conversation as Morganne continues...

MORGANNE

Starr and Andrew are together, as indicated by this situation.

An arrow appears in a now frozen frame, pointing to Starr's legs across Andrew's lap. "DATING ANDREW" appears in Starr's characteristic list. The frame then unfreezes.

MORGANNE (CONT'D)

She's one of the most fashionable people I know, which is why I think her and Andrew work so well. She wants to be a fashion journalist. Spends way too much money on sneakers and swears by not creasing any shoe over 150 bucks.

"SNEAKERHEAD" appears on Starr's characteristics list.

The camera then shifts to WILL, a slender guy wearing a brown "ye must be born again" sweatshirt and green chino pants. Her rocks a brown hat that has "NY LA" on it and wears several silver chains around his neck. He wears solid black frames and scruffy beard. His skin shines in the sunlight.

MORGANNE (CONT'D)

Next up is Will. A graphic designer with an impeccable eye for color coordination.

"A CREATIVE" is added to Will's characteristics list.

MORGANNE (CONT'D)

He's from a military family, so he's constantly moving around. But I think he considers North Carolina home.

"SOUTHERN BOY AT HEART" is added to Will's characteristics list.

MORGANNE (CONT'D)

He's also a hot commodity among women. But it never seems to work out because every girl that wants him, he doesn't want. But any girl he does want is either not interested in him or is taken.

A DING comes from Will's laptop. Andrew looks over, appearing in the frame.

ANDREW

Dude, you two have got to figure out your shit. Are you gonna tell her you don't like her or should I?

WILL

Dude, I know. I'm trying.

Will breaks the 4th wall.

WILL (CONT'D)

We can still be friends though,
right?

"HEARTBREAKER" appears on Will's characteristics list.

The camera then shifts focus to GRAY, a bigger guy wearing a cream colored fisherman beanie, brown turtleneck and pastel blue sweater over top. He rocks a dangly sword earring and dark sunglasses. He is rubbing his head and SIPs his Starbucks coffee. His hair falls by his shoulders in twists.

MORGANNE

The famous Gray. Dangly earring guy
with enough personality for
everyone with some to spare.

Gray breaks the 4th wall.

GRAY

Sometimes being known is
exhausting, Take it from me.

"INFLUENCER" is added to Gray's characteristics list.

MORGANNE

He's fresh off his summer
internship with E! Mans knows
everything there is to know about
any given pop culture moment.

"IN THE KNOW" is added to Gray's characteristics list.

MORGANNE (CONT'D)

He loves pastels and actually does
art on the side. He goes to the
SPRINGBREAK ARTSHOW every year in
NYC.

"CULTURED" is added to Gray's characteristics list.

We shift focus to TAI, a shorter girl rocking neat space buns with her dark brown hair. She is draped in a heavy, vintage black leather jacket with a Harley Davidson tee riffled with holes underneath. She wears a locket key chain and a violet, fuzzy bucket hat. Her lip gloss draws a pleasant shimmering effect in the sunlight.

MORGANNE (CONT'D)

And THIS?...well this is Tai. An avid thrifter and swears by drinking lemon water every morning.

"FASHIONS ON A BUDGET" appears on Tai's characteristics list.

MORGANNE (CONT'D)

Tai's into late 90s R&B and sends hand-written letters to us on our birthdays.

"OLD SCHOOL" appears on Tai's characteristics list.

MORGANNE (CONT'D)

She has three younger brothers, so she's well-versed in a "no bullshit" policy. She literally keeps us all in line, especially Will, Andrew, and Gray.

Tai breaks the 4th wall.

TAI

I am the mom of the group.

"RESPONSIBLE" appears on Tai's characteristics list.

Tai goes back to the conversation.

The camera then focuses on our narrator, MORGANNE. She sits pretty decked out in an all-black ensemble. She wears a "You Matter" hoodie and overlays it with a black denim jacket. Her hat is black to match. Her Telfar bag sits not too far away from her. Her lashes are to die for. She has a smile brighter than the sun. Her necklace, golden and shinny, dangles around her neck. The pools of her eyes, as brown as chocolate and as mesmerizing as clay turning on a potter's wheel

MORGANNE

And this stunner right here is me. I'm from North Carolina and I want to be a journalist eventually but right now I am more worried about juggling senior year.

"CLOSE TO ACTUAL ADULTHOOD" appears in Morganne's characteristics list.

MORGANNE (CONT'D)

I'm still figuring myself out, ya know. I'm a simple girl. I have a dog. Had a girlfriend.

Morganne breaks the 4th wall

MORGANNE (CONT'D)
Yikes. Different story.

A beat. Morganne is still talking to us.

MORGANNE (CONT'D)
And this story is about me and a little secret I have, involving a list of "used to's" (Morganne air quotes this physically).

Another brief pause. Morganne continues.

MORGANNE (CONT'D)
I haven't really told this story before but here you are, obviously intrigued I assume. So...welcome.

A title card, showcasing name of film appears over the shot.

MORGANNE (CONT'D)
Let's start from the beginning shall we?

A BLARING alarm sounds during this shot until...

INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

The BLARING alarm continues to ring through a now different shot. Our camera is pointing straight ahead, facing the part of the window we can see. Along with this window, we see the blinds half open with plants on a ledge, the sunshine laying gently upon the leaves. A candle sits on the edge of the window's edge. Images adorn the wall near the window: a framed 90s Nike ad, a Drake world tour poster, AKA paraphernalia, polaroids of friends and family...graduations, birthdays, and reunions.

Suddenly, we hear SHUFFLING. GROANING ensues and up comes Morganne, our main character. She rubs her half-open eyes, yawns and attempts to find the annoying reminder of class, off-screen. She finally finds it, after what is a long couple of seconds. Once the earsplitting sound SILENCES, Morganne finally opens her eyes, SIGHS and turns to us, the onlookers. She is wearing a black shirt with a graphic that we can't really see.

MORGANNE
(slowly and annoyed-like)
Good morning. This is not normally how I wake up just fyi.
(MORE)

MORGANNE (CONT'D)

I'm an early bird - but there's just something off today but I don't know what's going on.

Morganne hunches over in discomfort, rubbing her temple and MOANING.

MORGANNE (CONT'D)

You would think I was drinking last night.

She reaches over to grab Ibuprofen (OS). She SHAKES the pills into her hand and gently places the bottle back off-screen. As she goes to take the pills, she SIGHS again, making this one more obvious than the others.

Morganne tilts her head back to down the Ibuprofen and the camera follows her movement from above. The action is shot in slower motion so that we can emphasize on this. The camera pans back upright with Morganne, resuming her position.

MORGANNE (CONT'D)

(beat)

Might as well start the day.

INT. BATHROOM - DAY

Morganne flips on the light switch in the bathroom and we focus in on the products on her counter (tight shot). She speedily grabs her toothpaste and her electric toothbrush from out of the shot. We overhear her VROOMING over her teeth. We cut to briefly watching Morganne from the viewpoint of the mirror. She spits out the toothpaste and after, we are back to our tight shot of the products. Morganne grabs mouthwash from out of the shot and we hear the SWISHING. Soon after, we hear her SPIT out the liquid. She then grabs her face-wash out of the tight shot and we go back to being the mirror.

MORGANNE

(to us)

Gotta do it.

We watch her wash her face and as she finishes, we are back to the tight shot of the products. Morganne places her face wash back but it's not quite perfect, so she shifts it over a little bit, acknowledging how ritual this routine is

As she finishes for good and leaves the bathroom, she HITS the switch, and we are left behind, surrounded by darkness. Is she just...not going to shower? Morganne suddenly pops back in...

MORGANNE (CONT'D)
(almost as if she can
hear our thoughts)
I took a shower last night.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

We are back in the bedroom as Morganne SWINGS open her closet. It's full of clothes, with green and black being the most dominant colors. Nikes line the top shelf. We now shift and face Morganne, as if we are her clothes. We can see a little more of her room in the background: Chance the Rapper posters and a huge calendar above her desk. Morganne RAKES through all her clothing options, finally zoning in on an outfit. She takes a shirt, a jacket and pants out of the closet and throws them on the bed behind her. We switch back to Morganne's POV and there is a tight, tracking shot of all the Nikes as Morganne pans to pick a pair. We stop at the end of the row then backtrack two or three pairs and Morganne's hand, draped in gold jewelry, reach for a pair. Very Wes Anderson style-inspired.

We zone in on Morganne getting dressed with tighter shots: Her hips as she pulls up her pants, her stomach as she puts on and pulls down her shirt, her ears as she puts on earrings, her feet as she puts on sneakers, her lips as she puts on lip gloss, her eyes as she does her lashes, her eyes as she puts on her glasses.

We finally get a full shot of the outfit Morganne picked out. The music suddenly stops as Morganne asks:

MORGANNE
(as if she's asking us)
You like?

We cut to Morganne looking in the mirror.

MORGANNE (CONT'D)
My mirror likes.

Soon after, Morganne prepares to head out the door, bag and keys in-tow.

MORGANNE (CONT'D)
(whispering)
It's really hot in here.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

Morganne walks toward her car in the dorm parking lot. She OPENS the door and then...

EXT. SCHOOL OF COMM - DAY

Morganne SHUTS the door to her car, having arrived on campus.
She runs into Andrew in the parking lot of the building.

ANDREW

Gooooood morning. What is up? Any updates?

MORGANNE

(confused)

Updates?...

ANDREW

Yeah man, updates. You know what I'm talking about. What's up? You said you would send my demo to folks you know back home...I'm tired of trying to promote my shit at club fairs.

MORGANNE

Oh, lol. Yeah, yeah I sent it. I haven't heard anything back though.

ANDREW

Damn. Well that's alright, as long as you sent it. Keep me here.

Andrew forms a circle with both his hands.

MORGANNE

Explain.

ANDREW

It's a loop. Like a circle, so keep me inside it.

MORGANNE

Goodbye.

Andrew splits off as Morganne enters the building for class. The camera follows her just a little bit into the building and then stops a bit into the foyer.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

A full class, polluted with bored faces, with the monotonous lecture being given by the professor tags along softly in the background. Some students are taking notes (or checking their messages) as indicated by the CLICK-CLACK of their keyboards. Others staring straight ahead. Others with laptops completely closed. We see Morganne online shopping.

Then a slew of messages come across her screen: all from a group-chat that does not have a name.

ON THE FACE OF THE LAPTOP

Starr chimes in.

“The way this class teaches me nothing. Should’ve stayed in bed.”

Will responds.

“Bro, I feel you. White kid in my class playing devil’s advocate and I’m trying to figure out why...”

Tai chimes in.

“Try driving all the way to class and THEN checking your email to see class was cancelled.”

Morganne lightly CHUCKLES at the action happening in the group chat. As she goes to add her comments, she receives another text, except this time it’s from an unsaved number.

ON THE FACE OF THE LAPTOP

“Hey um...I just got my test results back and I think we have a lot to talk about...”

Morganne’s face immediately tenses and she appears to zone out. The boring lecture in the background fades away and we just hear a small low, steady beeping noise. WE focus on her eyes and see the glare of the computer facing her. She goes back to the group chat.

Morganne TYPES quickly on her laptop:

“Y’all will never believe who just texted me. I cannot make this up.”

As Morganne sends the text and eagerly waits for the responses, her teacher comes back into ear-view and calls her out.

TEACHER

Morganne! Care to answer?...

MORGANNE
 (shifting focus back and forth between the teacher, the board and her classmates)
 Um, can you ask the question again?

TEACHER
 (with pause)
 Gladly. But next time, pay attention. I'm sure your friends can wait.

Morganne closes her laptop entirely and slumps in her chair. She thinks to herself out-loud to us, with us as at diagonal, slightly above Morganne's line of sight.

MORGANNE
 What does she want?

Morganne then quickly raises her hand.

TEACHER
 Yes Morganne?

MORGANNE
 Oh um...nothing. Never-mind. I forgot. I'm so sorry.

The teacher simply turns his attention back to the board, ignoring Morganne's frantic apology.

Morganne talks to us again.

MORGANNE (CONT'D)
 Well, it's only up from here. Right?

CUT TO: INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - MORNING

Morganne sits quietly in a relatively empty and incredibly small doctor's office. The TV BLARES in the background...boring local news. Morganne's foot TAPS loudly and she INHALES sharply when...

DOCTOR
 Morganne. Are you listening?

MORGANNE
 (quickly)
 Um...yeah yeah.

DOCTOR

I want to see you back in two weeks
alright? I am not kidding.

MORGANNE

Yeah I got it. Thank you.

DOCTOR

I am here to help.

MORGANNE

(faintly)

Yeah, sure. I'll see you.

Morganne heads out of the waiting room into the drab, gray hallway. She turns and falls upon the elevators, presses the down button and waits patiently for her ride. We wait a few seconds and we hear a DING.

MORGANNE (CONT'D)

(to us)

Ride's here.

MAN (O.S.)

Wait! Hold the elevator.

Morganne quickly rushes into the elevator, with the MAN following her soon after, out of breath. Morganne looks a bit uncomfy.

MAN (CONT'D)

(in between breaths)

Hey thanks -- for holding -- the
elevator for -- me.

MORGANNE

(hesitantly)

No problem. Did you just run a
marathon up and down the hallway or
something or?...

MAN

(chuckling)

No, I have just been running around
all day, paperwork and such you
know.

A brief pause. The elevator makes a HUNDRUM CONTINUOUS noise as it descends.

MAN (CONT'D)

I just got my pills for my...thing.

MORGANNE

Thing?

MAN

Yeah I uh...a thing. Based on your pill bottle I think you know what my thing is.

The man turns to face Morganne. He is wearing a black suit jacket with a plain white tee underneath and a mustang (the horse) silver necklace to match. His dreads sit perfectly above his shoulders. His denim jeans fit perfectly over his Nike air forces.

MAN (CONT'D)

No I'm not trying to be rude! That was more of like a camaraderie thing like "Ah she can relate so the stigma is eased a bit" not like "I am actively going to be annoying." Um...I'm Chris.

MORGANNE

(smiling)

Chris. I'm Morganne. Um...yeah this whole thing is new for me. I got a text from an ex-partner and now we're here.

CHRIS

No judgement. Promise. I understand. It's how I found out my ex was cheating. It's been rough.

MORGANNE

Oh I'm so sorry.

CHRIS

No it's ok I mean you didn't' cheat on me.

A pause.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

Gotta come back in 2 more weeks, check-ups ya know.

MORGANNE

Yeah, I know. I'm due back in 2 weeks too.

A beat.

CHRIS

Hey, well there's like a support group that meets here every Thursday at 7 if you wanted to come out. See how it goes, give it a try maybe? Yeah?

MORGANNE

Yeah, I'll see.

The elevator stops abruptly and lets out a LOUD ding. The doors fly open

CHRIS

Well, our stop.

MORGANNE

Seems like it, yeah.

CHRIS

After you.

Morganne exits the elevator and turns to Chris soon after.

MORGANNE

Um...thanks for the info on the support group. And the company on the...on the ride...thanks for that. I like your outfit.

CHRIS

Yeah, no problem. Happy to help and yeah...thank you.

A pause.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

Um...so I had an idea. I could...um maybe give you my number? Ya know, so I can let you know if we change the support group meeting time or anything. Um...I could let you know? Maybe?...I don't know...

MORGANNE

(chuckling)

Um...yeah sure. That would be helpful...knowing if the meeting time changes. Staying informed.

CHRIS

Yeah, staying informed.

Morganne takes Chris's phone and punches her number in.

MORGANNE

Cool, there you go Chris. Keep me informed. Very important

CHRIS

Yes of course. Top priority.

A beat.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

Well um...my car is this way. So I guess I'll see you around? Yeah?...

MORGANNE

Yes! You shall...eventually sure. Yeah.

CHRIS

Alright um...well...I'll see you. Nice meeting you.

MORGANNE

Nice meeting you too Chris.

As the two turn to part ways, Morganne shifts her focus to talk to us, one more time.

MORGANNE (CONT'D)

Hmmmm. I am not confirming but I am also not denying. Only up from here...right?

The title card for the short film appears again here before...

FADE OUT.

THE END.