

just love me

RODNEY BILLINGS is an average guy doing an average job – building management and maintenance for a middle-class apartment building. His is frumpy and introverted as he moves through his boring life, repairing toilets and dealing with tenant issues.



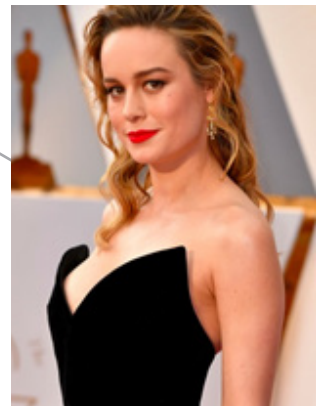
A bright spot for Rodney is that he is in a relationship with a woman named **CAROLINE LILLARD**, she's kind of a goth chick with a big heart.



Their monotonous lives are turned upside down when a new couple hurriedly moves into the apartment building. These new tenants, **DANIEL AND LACEY RHODES**, are both strikingly gorgeous people. He is tall and lean, with piercing blue eyes and a brooding quality; quiet and soft spoken, very intense and intimidating. She, on the other hand, is more personable, with an accommodating demeanor and dazzling smile; socially graceful and welcoming. They both look like they came right out of Hollywood.

Rodney and Lacey seem to share a wavelength and an instant friendship is formed. But for Rodney something deeper immediately sets in.

Daniel and Lacey come with pieces of a puzzle that don't seem to connect. Rodney is called by the Rhodes' neighbors on multiple occasions due to noise complaints. It seems as if there are violent arguments happening, but when Rodney investigates all seems well.



The Rhodes are running a business out of their apartment. They call their business "personal consulting", and their tagline is "We give you what you need." Rodney sees their clients come and go, and is struck by the transformation these people undergo during these mysterious sessions.

As Rodney's friendship with Lacey develops he becomes more and



more interested in their consulting business. His interest in Lacey, her husband and their business grows into a full-blown infatuation and obsession.

At the half-hearted urging of one of his friends Rodney purchases a set of PC-based spy cameras. He throws a mixer for the tenants in the apartment building as a distraction so he can sneak up to the Rhodes' apartment while they are attending the event and install the cameras. He succeeds.

Rodney immediately begins to witness dominant and brutal treatment of Lacey by Daniel. Sexual, physical and emotional control and abuse seem to be fundamental to their relationship. Rodney is appalled, but when he lightly questions Lacey about her marriage she defends Daniel effortlessly, projecting the totally convincing aura of a wife who is deeply in love with her husband.

Also, Rodney watches the "personal consulting" sessions that Daniel and Lacey conduct with their clients. They take the phrase "we give you what you need" very literally. Some clients need sessions that closely resemble conventional therapy; other sessions involve the Rhodes and their patient watching a movie together. Some sessions involve wild, unhinged sex between the couple and their patients, and in others they are doing workouts and aerobics. Rodney begins to understand that Daniel and Lacey Rhodes are consultants who meet with their clients, assess their needs, and give them whatever they need, no matter what that need is, just like their tagline says.

Caroline stumbles onto Rodney's secret videos, and while she's upset at first she witnesses one of the wild sex scenes and it ignites a flame between her and Rodney. They both begin a voyeuristic journey together of watching Daniel and Lacey and their personal consulting sessions.

Rodney and Caroline bring their friends into the mystery, soliciting their opinions as to what the Rhodes are really up to. They come up with half-hearted and even ridiculous suggestions, like they might be drug dealers, robots or even angels doing a service to humanity.

Rodney's feelings for Lacey continue to develop until he's convinced he's in love with her. Daniel and Caroline begin to grow suspicious that there might be something emotional between Rodney and Lacey. Caroline books a session with Daniel in retribution, knowing that Rodney will be watching on the secret cameras. She almost lets herself get carried away with Daniel, but backs out at the last minute.

The mystery sessions, the relationships and the tension come to a head. Rodney admits to Daniel and Lacey that he is in love with Lacey. Daniel is incredulous and cruel, and to show Rodney how foolish he is he says a voice command that causes Lacey to kneel down on the floor as a small control panel opens on her head. Daniel then attacks Rodney, and right when he's about to deliver the crushing blow we hear Caroline issue a voice command and Daniel also kneels down with an open compartment on his head. Rodney passes out.

Rodney comes to a few moments later. He is trying to absorb the fact that Daniel and Lacey are both androids. He is struggling to cope. His breathing becomes heavier and heavier until it blossoms into a panic attack. Then we hear Caroline issue another voice command and Rodney shuts off, revealing he is an android also. Caroline has been controlling the entire situation all along.

This film is a commentary on the human need for love. Daniel believes he shows his love for Lacey by abusing and controlling her; Lacey starts to love Rodney because he is kind. Rodney needs to be loved and validated by someone who he sees as better than him; and Caroline, the mastermind behind the whole situation, needs someone to love her unconditionally.

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