

Love in Tattoos

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FADE IN:

1. INT. LABORATORY - FRONT VISITOR'S PORTION - DAY

LARA, a very beautiful lady, 35, is sitting behind a desk with a couple of neatly kept files. There is a Rubik's Cube on top of the files. She is peering at a Laptop screen and simultaneously hitting the keys, and scrawling down the www.chem.org website.

LARA
It's about time. The Press interview
is by 11.30, right, Dave?

LARA'S POV

LARA turns her head back and looks at DAVE, around 40 years in age, sitting behind her on a chair reading a magazine.

DAVE
(Nodding)
Yeah

2. INT. LABORATORY - FRONT VISITOR'S PORTION - DAY

ANGLE ON LARA

A buzzer rings; LARA gets up, goes to the door and opens it.

A lady named, LESLIE READ, a REPORTER from a local RADIO/TV Station, with curly hair and a slightly weird look of about 38 years, appears.

The two LADIES shake hands.

REPORTER
Hello. Good Morning. I am Leslie Read,
a Reporter from SelfStarter Channel.
We would like to make a small story
about your new findings for our Radio
Station and then the TV Channel.

LARA shows the chair opposite her work desk for the LADY to sit down.

LARA
Thank you. That is nice. Be seated,
please.

3. INT. LABORATORY - FRONT VISITOR'S PORTION - DAY

The LADY is seated, and LARA goes and sits gracefully on her chair. Dave is not in the frame.

LARA
Have some coffee please?

REPORTER
(Smiling)
No, not really. Thank you. I have a
few more beats to cover.

REPORTER
Allow me to fix these, please.

The REPORTER takes out her recording microphone and attaches it to LARA's collar, a mobile phone to which the microphone is attached, a pen and a pad. She, then settles down.

REPORTER
Let me say, I find your discovery
curious and very amazing. Our channel
finds it interesting to give a Break-
the News coverage before the others
find out!

LARA
That's nice. You are welcome.

REPORTER

Let's begin, then.

(3)

She pauses. Takes the Recording CELLPHONE near to her mouth and asks.

REPORTER

Ms. LARA GREEN, May I know about the work being done here, in this laboratory?

LARA

(All smiles)

Oh, yes. In this lab, we are doing some important work in Pheromone Chemistry. We are trying to discover a love chemical. Its wearing attracts the opposite sex powerfully.

REPORTER

That's fantastic! An aphrodisiac?

LARA

No, not, really. An affection chemical, a bonding chemical.

REPORTER

Fabulous. What could be your motivation for this?

LARA

We really lack affection, bonding in this world. We just have it for some time and then it goes smithereens. We need life-long bonding; I hope this chemical-mix will help fix that.

LARA'S POV

LARA turns her head back and smiles at Dave sitting on a chair some distance behind. He smiles back knowingly.

REPORTER

That's great. Too much materialism may be.

REPORTER (CONT'D)

(Pause)

And what may be the inputs, if you could reveal to the extent possible?

LARA

Yes. The ingredients, I can't reveal to you for obvious reasons. But they have to be carefully calibrated. Over use of one can get you go bonkers; then love goes over the wall and something else could take over! Isn't it Dave?

LARA'S POV

Looks at DAVE and he smiles.

REPORTER

That means your first tests were not very encouraging?

LARA

True. I did them all on myself. Weird, you should say. In one of the tests, I found the entire planet missing. I was on empty space. I floated in a vacuum. In another, I was a warrior of 2000 years back, in skimpy clothes and a club to kill! I was entering and re-entering planet earth on the Palestine side!

REPORTER

(Astonished)

Oh, My! Since when did you start
having success?

(5)

LARA

(Energized)

I started working alone. Twenty four
into Seven. Day and night. Started the
permutations, combinations and re-
combinations all by myself. Slowly,
the results showed up.

LARA (CONT'D)

(Pause)

Initially, I did a lot of tests on
myself. A lot of chemicals went into
my system. It was sort of weird. That
was the sacrifice part of it. Then,
at last we arrived at the right combo
for mass production.

REPORTER

Obviously, you can't take tests on
yourself alone as valid, right?

LARA

We did it on mice.

LARA suddenly takes off the recorder and the microphone with a
vehemence.

LARA (CONT'D)

(In a hush)

On illegal immigrants. This is off the
record, mind you. The end justifies
the means!

LARA suddenly replaces the microphone and all.

LARA (CONT'D)

(Taking a breather and suddenly smiling sweetly)
Then, the tests were on us.

LARA (CONT'D)
Ha! Isn't it, Dave?

(6)

LARA'S POV

LARA turns back at DAVE and they have a hearty laugh.

REPORTER
(Flustering)

How does the Love Chemical work?

LARA
It is a wearable.

REPORTER
Wearable?

LARA
Yes

She shows her wrist. There is a pink multi patterned tattoo.

REPORTER
(Shaken, still pretending Amazement)
WoW! Amazing.

LARA
(Excited)
Yes. It's really amazing!

REPORTER
Have you noticed any change? I mean in love?

LARA
Yes, of course. Even grandmas w'd put
on high voltage lipsticks!

REPORTER

(7)

Wow! Could you say that your love for Dave is now even more than you first met because of this Love Tattoo?

LARA

That's right. I am now fiercely in love with him. Violently, I must say....

REPORTER
(Startled)
Violently?

LARA

Yes, we can't pass a day, without....

LARA'S POV

LARA turns back at DAVE who has the magazine on his lap, he now looks up; then both of them break into a coarse, crude, unreal laughter.

ANGLE ON LARA

LARA flinches as if hit by a friendly bat on her head by DAVE. The REPORTER is clearly uncomfortable.

LARA
(Making a high pitch laughter to the REPORTER)
See, what the scoundrel is doing?

The REPORTER just makes an artificial smile back at LARA.

4. INT. LABORATORY - FRONT VISITORS PORTION - DAY

ANGLE ON THE REPORTER

(8)

Her Mobile phone rings, the REPORTER excuses, gets up from the chair and walks slightly away. She talks in a low voice.

ANGLE ON LARA

LARA goes back and talks to DAVE. LARA, returns and plunks in her chair and watches as the REPORTER who duly returns and takes her seat.

5. INT. LABORATORY - FRONT VISITOR'S PORTION - DAY

REPORTER

I am sorry. It's my kid. I don't like to be bothered at work. But she is mentally so backward and needs help. I am really sorry about that.

LARA

That's alright. Just fine. Here is another kid, mentally retarded this, Dave!

She looks back and laughs at her own joke.

REPORTER

(Seriously)

Yes, and the Love Tattoo?

LARA

Measured quantities have to be tattooed in. Once in six months! The correct administration is the criterion. Overdose should be avoided. He knows...

LARA pushes her thumb back and points at DAVE.

6. INT. LABORATORY - FRONT VISITORS PORTION - DAY

(9)

REPORTER'S POV.

The REPORTER looks at the chair were DAVE was supposed to sit. It is empty. There is no DAVE there.

The REPORTER'S gaze falls on a white wall hung BOARD. On it an arrow diagram is given.

Feed, Treated African Iboga --> Steam out Sweat -->> Collect
Sweat -->>Process

She smiles nervously at LARA, picks up her stuff quickly and gets up.

REPORTER

Thank you; let me get this info in
order.

LARA gets up from the chair and shakes her hand firmly.

LARA

Thank you. When would the program be
aired, may I know?

REPORTER

Yes, we will get our act together
first and inform you.

The REPORTER puts her stuff in her bag and walks out the door.

7. EXT. LABORATORY - DAY

ANGLE ON THE REPORTER'S BACK.

(10)

As the REPORTER walks alone and away,
she takes out her mobile phone out and
punches in a number.

REPORTER
(in a low voice)
Researcher Margi this side, Prof....

The REPORTER waits for some response from the other side of the
line.

REPORTER (CONT'D)

That's right. Dave's cousin. On trial
of the same case. Did my research,
hush, hush... and got it! Can't wait to
tell you, Prof.

REPORTER
(Pause)
The subject has a preference for
sexual activity outside loving,
committed relationships...inability to
form relationships...Crude and Hardy,
Insensitive to other's feelings....

Chatter from the other side of the mobile phone.

REPORTER (CONT'D)
(Pause)
She's far, far too much into her chemicals
and hallucinations. Dave was her sex
partner. Still imagines him up alongside
her!

REPORTER (CONT'D)
(Pause)
..... and is undeniably, a crude, go-
getting, blood thirsty, Psycho!

7. INT. LABORATORY - FRONT VISITOR'S PORTION - DAY

(11)

ANGLE ON LARA

LARA watches without any emotion as the REPORTER walks away. She takes her mobile phone and punches taps a number.

LARA
(Mischievously)
Professor Gilberti, Lara this side.

LARA laughs deliriously in a shrill, high-pitched voice.

FADE OUT.

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