

1 INT. DAY - THE MINISTRY OF LONELINESS

1

The Minister of Loneliness is hurries to the head of a conference table in his office and places down several binders, pads of paper, and notecards. The room has a lofty but threadbare appearance. The Minister of Loneliness takes a deep breath to calm his nerves.

MINISTER OF LONELINESS

Thank you to everyone at coming.

He winces.

MINISTER OF LONELINESS (CONT'D)

Thank you everyone *for* coming. I know this meeting was scheduled several months in advance..

The room is empty

MINISTER OF LONELINESS (CONT'D)

I'll try to give it a little bit more warning in the future. Anyhow, we have several points of interest that we've been working on very hard at the ministry of loneliness that I'd like to discuss today. I know everyone's time is important, so let's get to it.

The Minister of Loneliness puts together some sort of complex lecturing tool. An easel with large sheets of paper on it, or a slide carousel with projection screen. We're in for a rudimentary Power Point presentation.

MINISTER OF LONELINESS (O.S.)

Topic #1: Things that are best eaten when nobody's looking.

For the first time The Minister Of Loneliness seems to be more excited than nervous.

MINISTER OF LONELINESS (CONT'D)

Many believe that the lonely are bereft of joy or comfort. Have you ever thought this? In reality there are plenty of times when the socially encumbered are at a distinct disadvantage. Take food. Some people think it's necessary,

but after my cat left me I didn't eat for weeks and all that happened to me was that I had to go to the hospital. More so there are foods that many of us would like to ingest simply for pleasure but would find doing so around company to be embarrassing, unwieldy, or socially unacceptable. Example:

CUT TO:

2 INT/EXT. DAY - MONTAGE VARIOUS

2

The Minister of Loneliness narrates a series of vignettes depicting himself engaging in the various activities that he's describing.

MINISTER OF LONELINESS (V.O.)

*Ketchup sandwiches

CUT TO:

*A microwave dinner you didn't have the energy to heat up.

CUT TO:

*A Capri Sun that's missing it's straw.

CUT TO:

*An entire loaf of bread wadded up into a ball the size of your fist (ketchup is optional)

CUT TO:

*Mashed potatoes in the shape of someone you don't like, or someone like very much.

We hear a phone ring.

3 INT. DAY - THE MINISTRY OF LONELINESS.

3

The Minister of Loneliness is so enthralled in his presentation that it takes him a second to snap back to reality.

THE MINISTER OF LONELINESS
Oh, pardon me. This could be important.

He goes to his desk to pickup the phone.

THE MINISTER OF LONELINESS
 Ministry of Loneliness this is the
 Minister of Loneliness how may I be
 of service?

There is a long pause before the line goes dead. He hangs up
 the phone.

THE MINISTER OF LONELINESS
 That happens a lot. Well where were
 we? Oh hello!

THE MINISTER OF DEGENERACY is sitting at the conference table
 scribbling notes on random bits of loose leaf.

MINISTER OF LONELINESS
 Are you here for my meeting?

MINISTER OF DEGENERACY
 (Nonchalantly)
 We're having a meeting in a few
 minutes about the ministry wide
 debauchery celebration.

MINISTER OF LONELINESS
 Oh well, I'm afraid I don't have
 much experience with that.

THE MINISTER OF DEGENERACY
 That's quite alright, you're not
 invited.

MINISTER OF LONELINESS
 I see, I'll just be taking my things
 then.

THE MINISTER OF DEGENERACY
 No need, I can take care of it.

The Minister of Degeneracy sweeps all of the Minister of
 Loneliness' papers onto the floor. The Minister of Loneliness
 stares down at it for a second before leaving.

The End