

A Dolphin's Yearning

By Joshua Townsend

INT. APARTMENT BEDROOM - DAWN

Dolphin (male dolphin) wakes up in bed, alone with a poster of a human lady in a bikini above his headboard. Dolphin turns off his alarm, sits up and sighs expressing discontent and sadness about waking up to the day.

INT. KITCHEN

Dolphin prepares and eats breakfast alone at a kitchen table for two where he begins sipping on a mug of coffee. Dolphin checks messages on his phone to find out he has none. He looks at his 0 messages and then the empty chair across from him and sighs.

INT./EXT. APARTMENT BALCONY - MORNING

Dolphin takes his coffee with him to the outside balcony where he looks at people in the streets below.

He sees various couples, all human couples. He stares at his fins in self-reflection and self-doubt.

He notices a straight couple walking arm in arm. The man has a full beard and mustache. The lady kisses him on the cheek. Dolphin lights up with an exciting idea and runs inside.

INT. APARTMENT

Dolphin uses his fins and types away quickly at his computer. He hears a knocking noise shortly after and runs to his front door.

Dolphin opens the door finding a shipped package sitting on the ground. He opens it up in excitement and pulls out a beard and mustache. He puts it on and checks himself out in the mirror, stunned by his new disguise.

Dolphin uses his phone to take various selfie photos with his fake beard and mustache on.

Dolphin uses his phone to start setting up an online dating profile. He begins looking through profiles, swiping left or right. He receives a match with a woman he finds attractive.

Dolphin spends days texting back and forth with his match, having a great time. She sends him a message, a call to action.

WOMAN (TEXT)

So, when are we actually going to meet?

DOLPHIN (TEXT)

How about this Friday at 3? I'll meet you at that new vegan Cafe downtown?

WOMAN (TEXT)

Great! I'm sooooo excited to meet you in person!

DOLPHIN

Yah, me too!

INT. APARTMENT - FRIDAY

Dolphin checks his phone notification that reminds him of his date and begins preparing for the event. He is about to leave when he sees himself with his fake beard and mustache in the mirror. He is caught in a moment of realization and shame which then shifts to courage and transparency. He removes the beard.

DOLPHIN (TEXT)

Hey, I'm looking forward to our date but... I've gotten rid of my beard and mustache... and I'm

concerned you're not going to
like me without it...

WOMAN (TEXT)

No worries! I bet you're just as
handsome without it!

DOLPHIN (TEXT)

I hope so...

WOMAN (TEXT)

Haha, you're so funny! See you
soon!

INT. CAFE

Dolphin and his date sit awkwardly at a table
together. She stares at him in shock while he looks
around the Cafe, nervously tapping his fins against
the table. Awkward silence eats at Dolphin until she
finally speaks first.

WOMAN

You said you were taller in your
profile!

The lady gets up and walks away angrily.