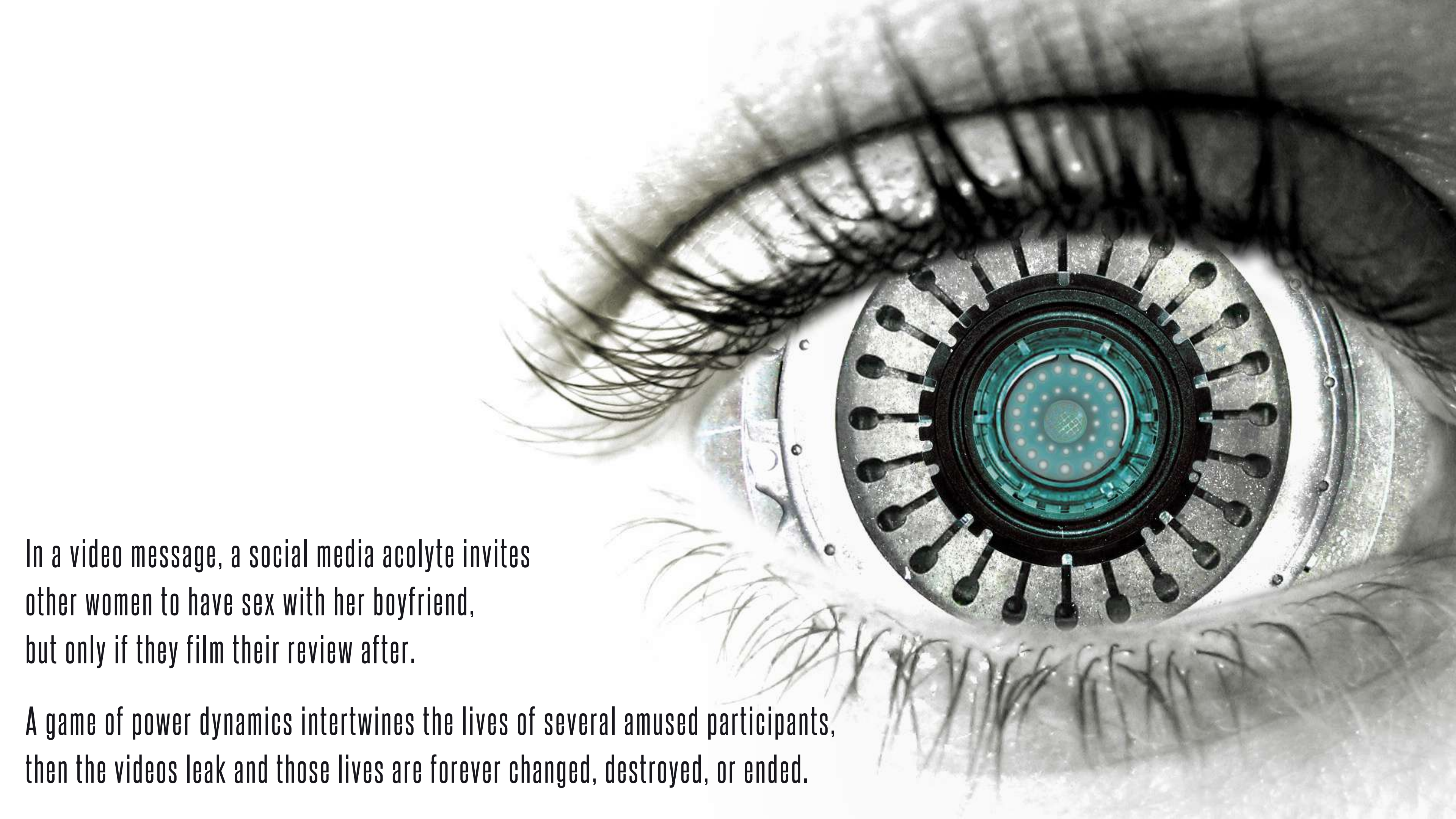


CONTROL
ALTERNATIVE
FIDELITY



Review

FILM PITCH DECK BY JONATHAN ZARANTONELLO



In a video message, a social media acolyte invites other women to have sex with her boyfriend, but only if they film their review after.

A game of power dynamics intertwines the lives of several amused participants, then the videos leak and those lives are forever changed, destroyed, or ended.

Review is Sex, Lies and Videotape on the set of *American Psycho*, a quirky thriller with interlocking storylines and a protagonist hidden behind the camera.

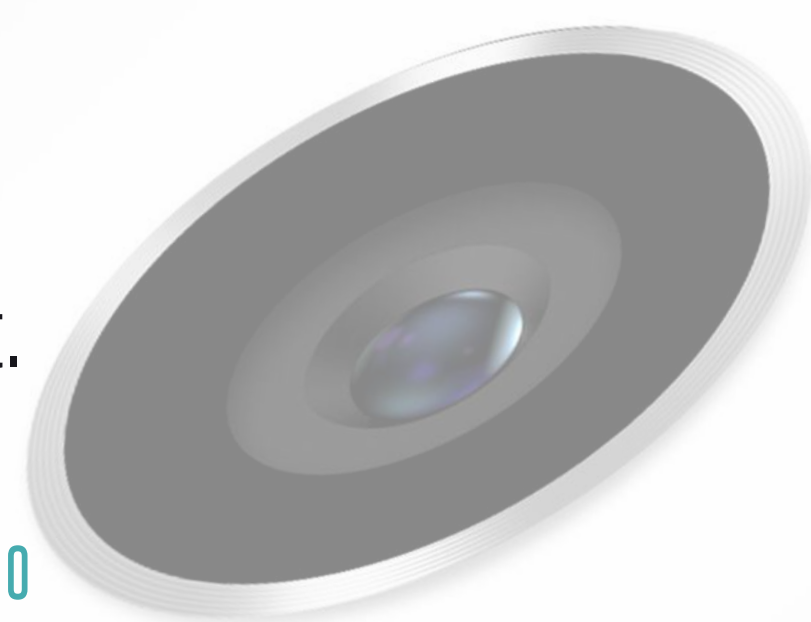
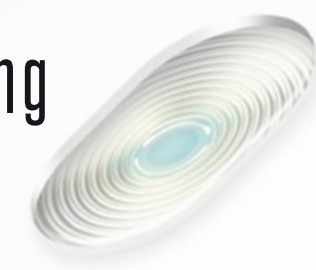
It's a movie about sex, though *sex is never shown*, like the shark in *Jaws*: the audience anticipates it, but never sees it.

A (non)romantic comedy with the structure of a thriller, *an ontological found footage where how the story is filmed is also what the story is about*, *Review* is a tale told through a series of reviews captured on smartphones, webcams, snapchat spectacles and other devices.

Review avoids the classic structure of movies that deal with non-monogamy: *couple is bored - couple tries something alternative - couple goes back to monogamy - couple is happy*. An outdated structure, now that *open relationships are becoming increasingly popular*.

Without a preachy heavy hand, *Review* portrays the duplicitous nature of relationships and their entanglement with social media and technology, leading its characters into laughable situations that spiral out of control, resulting in manipulation, deceit and murder.

A caustic commentary on the current world we live in, Review presents thought-provoking scenarios that have yet to be explored in film.





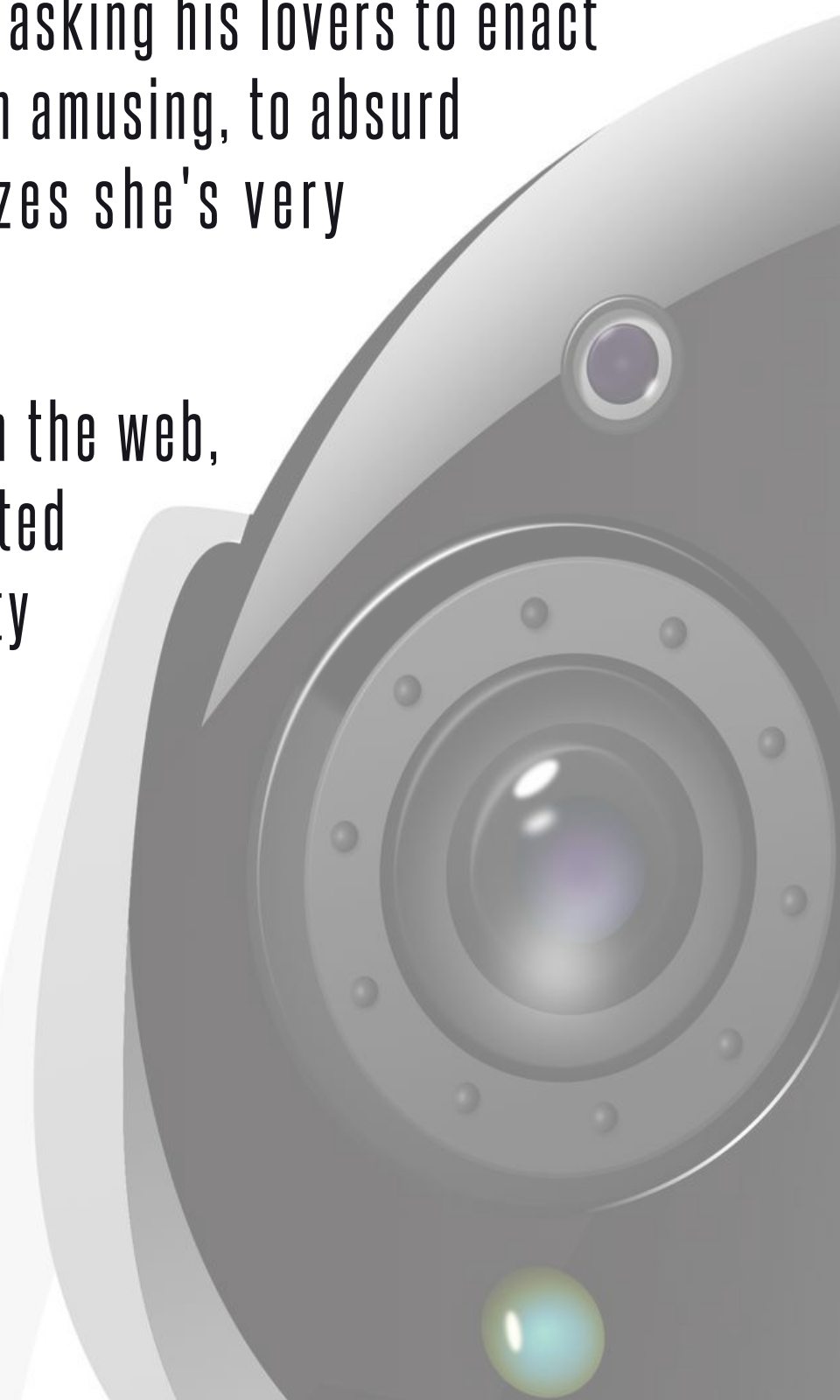
Through a camera lens, Tasha invites other women to sleep with her boyfriend, who films their review of the experience afterward. A faceless, silent figure behind the camera, we get to know The Boyfriend only through the reactions of people he films, like Greta and Greg, two married swingers, or Denise, who falls in love with him. Tasha makes video comments on the reviews, asking his lovers to enact her fantasies, with results ranging from amusing, to absurd. Then, the videos leak and she realizes she's very much not in control.

Harassed online and slut-shamed everywhere she goes, she seeks out a dangerous hacker to erase her from the web, while Denise teams up with The Boyfriend and becomes the new orchestrator of the reviews. And Greg, incited by his duplicitous friend Cameron, holds a contest to find his wife a new partner, but their online celebrity carries them away and endangers their marriage, as well as their lives.

Tasha seeks revenge on The Boyfriend, with the help of his new lover Jessica, but things take an unexpected turn when an AI sex doll gets in the picture. The reviews become the way all the characters interact with each other - and at the center of it all is *control*: who has it, lacks it, and wants it.

Turbulent conflicts push everyone to their limits, up to the unsettling reveal of The Boyfriend's identity, when he finally appears on-camera in the last scene.

Because you can't act in a love story without being framed...





THE BOYFRIEND

Age: 30

A faceless figure hiding behind the camera, his identity is only revealed at the end of the film.

He's at the center of the reviews game - **driven by his narcissistic need for validation** yet conflicted by his jealousy of other male partners. We learn about him through the reviews he films, and the women's correspondence with each other when they realize he isn't who he seems.



TASHA

Age: 25

A counterpart of Nola Darling from Spike Lee's *She's Gotta Have It*, Tasha is fearless and unapologetic, confident and curious. She agrees to share her man, because **with the reviews she can still be in control** - and well, because it's fun. But when she becomes an online phenomenon, everything falls apart and she plummets into a state of anxiety and depression. Her role ranges from comedy to paranoia, walking the fine line between the famous and the infamous.



GREG

Age: 50ish

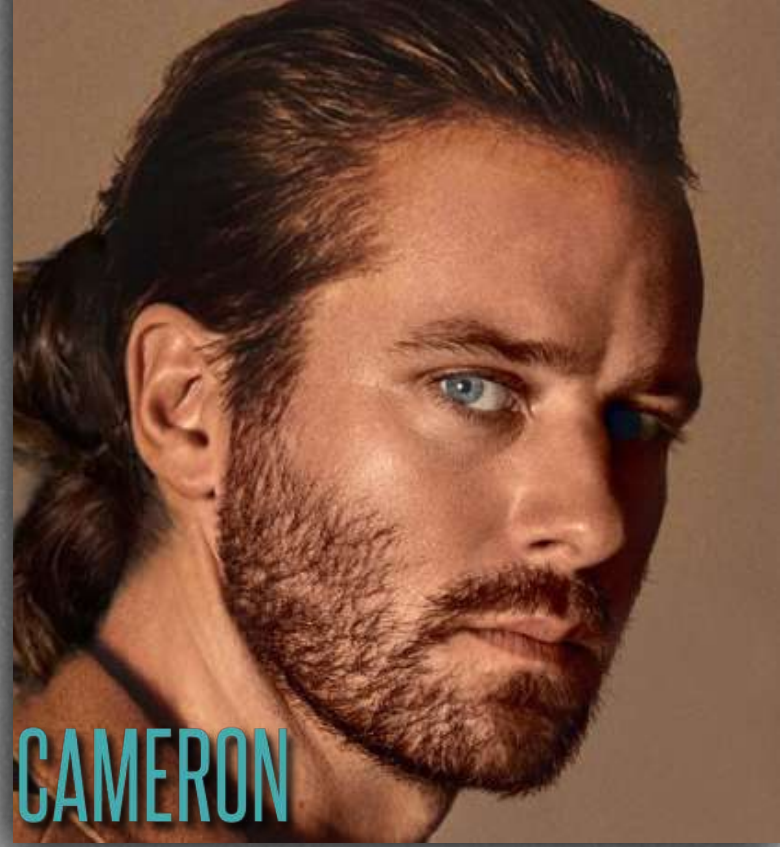
Greg has had it all in life: good parents, girlfriends, an awesome career, a lovely wife, and a devoted daughter. The one thing he's always outrun: boredom and that led him to explore swinging and cuckolding with his wife and accomplice, Greta. **A fascinating man who lives in a world of his own**, he's the driving force behind several hysterical scenes, as well as some intensely dramatic moments when he has to come to terms with the reality around him.



GRETA

Age: 40ish

With the help of yoga, pilates, and a collection of expensive face lotions, Greta looks younger than she is and feels younger than she looks. Thanks to her PR job and open-minded husband, Greg - who never let her give up her wild feminine spirit - family, career, and fun have never been mutually exclusive. But when her private life becomes public, she realizes **the world may not be ready for women like her.**



CAMERON

Age: 30

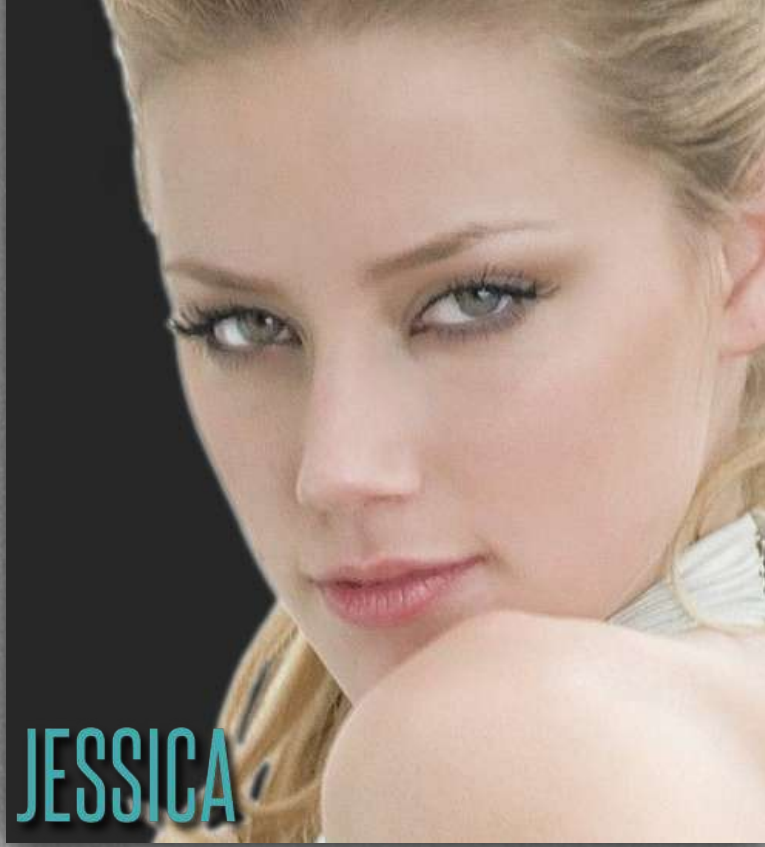
A pot-head and an attorney, brilliant, unpredictable and moved by the destructive desire to be different, no matter what. A friend to Greg and one of Greta's lovers, his relationship with the couple brings out an unexpectedly manipulative darker side, as he struggles with his inability for non-monogamy and his jealousy of those able to practice it. This interior conflict generates amusing moments of insanity, that escalate until they are amusing no more.



DENISE

Age: 20

Although she just moved from her hometown to a college campus, she prefers to hang out with older people instead of her peers. She enjoys challenges, and Tasha definitely represents one. Unaware of her own beauty and the power that comes with it, Denise ends up hurting and getting hurt, exploring undiscovered traits of her sexuality, and growing as a woman. Most importantly, she will realize she should get off this crazy ride before it's too late.



JESSICA

Age: 30ish

Denise's first female partner and The Boyfriend's ultimate love. Thirsty for unusual life experiences, she eagerly participates in the reviews game and subverts it along with The Boyfriend's life.

Independent and empowered, she has multiple partners, she's a sex party habitué and a strenuous advocate for sex positivity. Very proud of her lifestyle, she radiates a captivating energy that seems to tame The Boyfriend.



PANDORA

Age: 30ish

A sex doll whose witty talking AI and animated head make The Boyfriend fall for her.

The RealDollX model "Harmony," she's wrapped in human-synthetic skin and equipped with a robotic head with synced eyes and lips on a PVC skeleton that allows her to assume human-like positions. She can currently be bought online for \$12,000. For real.

Review will be the first film to cast a robotic sex doll, thanks to her remote functionality that will allow her to deliver her lines, prompted by a software.

'A bold and highly unconventional script that explores many thought-provoking themes with an original voice, amusing dialog and smartly dark wit.'

SCREENPLAY READERS - consider



CINEMATIC STYLE



Review aspires to renew the found footage genre. Akin to how *Borat* revamped hidden camera movies, proving that cameras don't need to be hidden anymore, *Review* will avoid all the genre clichés: grainy quality, shaky shots, excessive zoom, picture-in-picture, graphics etc. in lieu of a pleasant cinematic quality that will allow audiences to focus on the story. Since displays are so intertwined with our lives, that they've been upgraded to being our

actual lives, it's time for an upgrade to cinematic quality. Or, in other words: we get it, it's a phone camera, it doesn't need to look like one...



VISUAL APPROACH

Sleek and cold like the back of a smartphone, dark like its display, the tone is occasionally warmed by bursts of vermilion color as the characters joyfully explore their sexuality. But like in binary code where 1 is followed by 0, the darkness inevitably follows and often swallows the characters, leaving them alone in dark rooms, or lit by a spectral black light.

Steel, glass, greys, whites, and blues are *Review's* dominant tonalities, while greens and reds are muted, as if the technological devices used to film the reviews were infiltrating the visual quality of the images, giving them a high-tech feel.

High-tech, modern and sometimes impersonal is the look of the locations. Like an Apple store, *Review* is set in a metropolitan area in the present, but with the promise of the future.

And while recording devices diversify and multiply, the aspect ratio remains the cinematic 2.35:1.



'A very strong concept: intense, refreshing and exceptionally unique. Audiences have not seen this one before, yet it carries enough familiar characteristics to give confidence in its commercial capabilities.'

INDUSTRIAL SCRIPTS - consider

MONOGAMY OR NON-MONOGAMY?

Who benefits from 'friends with benefits'?

Swinging? Better than cheating!

Is family a business?

'YOU' VS. 'ONLINE YOU'

Internet shaming and online stalking

Privacy: too valuable to be public

Social media addiction

TECHNO-INTIMACY

Artificial intelligence and genuine love

Can human uniqueness be replicated?

Virtual love and safe sex





Jonathan Zarantonello is an Italian writer, producer, and director.

He produced and directed *The Butterfly Room* (2012), 'A devilish film' - *Ain't it Cool News* and *UncuT* (2003), 'The weirdest movie stunt of all time' - *The Miami Herald*, both based on his novels. The movies were featured at international film festivals, such as *Tribeca* and *Locarno*, and theatrically distributed worldwide.

In co-production with *Academy Award nominated Frame by Frame*, he also wrote, directed and produced the comedy *Spoof* (2017), a mix of 3D, animation and live action. His first movie, the horror comedy *Medley* (2000), received a nomination from the *Italian National Syndicate of Film Journalists* for best first-time director.

Zarantonello graduated in movie direction at the *Civica Scuola di Cinema* in Milan and studied special effects and screenwriting at the *USC School of*

Cinematic Arts and the *Columbia University School of the Arts*.

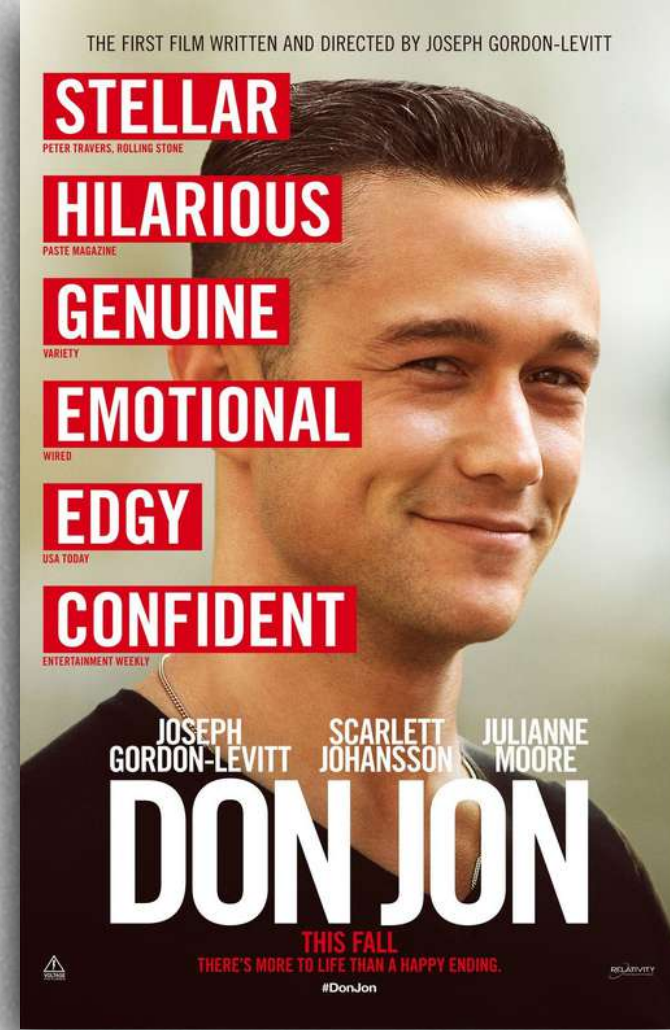
He has spoken at conferences about alternative lifestyles, is the co-founder of the New York agency *Rent a Gent* and one of the leaders of *Open Love NY*, which promotes the awareness of non-traditional relationships.

He is also an organizer of the renowned party *Kinky Salon* and one of the financiers of the international luxury club *Flirt*.





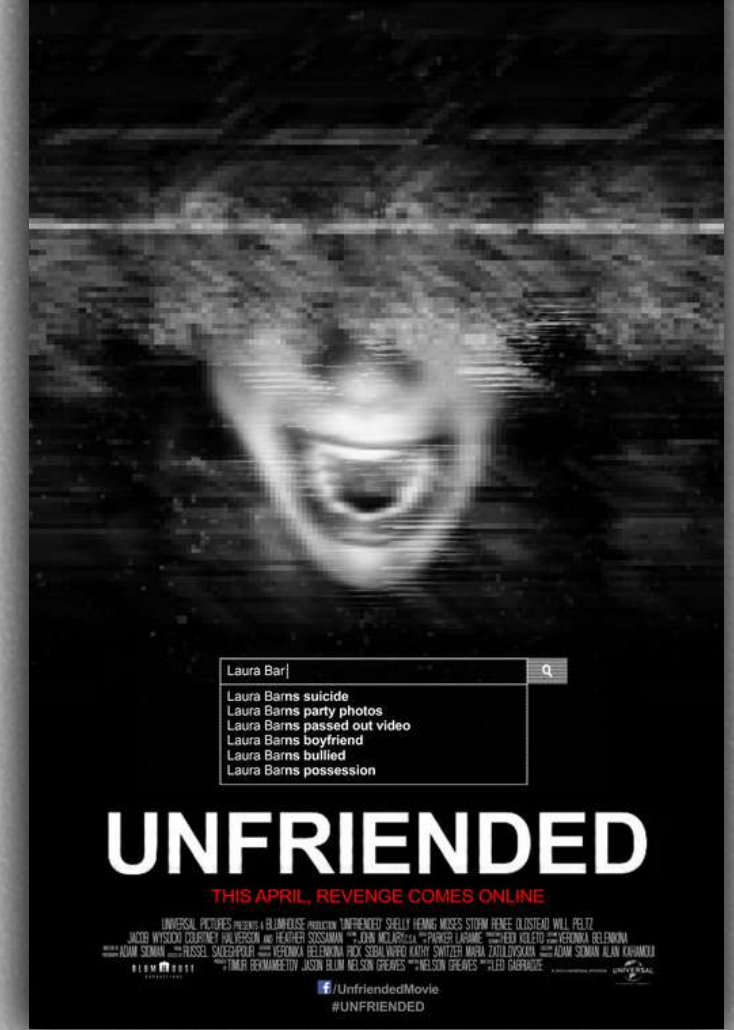
After his 16-year-old daughter goes missing, a desperate father breaks into her laptop to look for clues to find her.
 Budget: \$880,000
 Gross domestic box office: \$26,020,957
 International box office: \$49,441,080
 Cumulative gross box office: \$75,462,037



A guy develops unrealistic expectations from online porn and works to find happiness and intimacy with his potential true love.
 Budget: \$3,000,000
 Gross domestic box office: \$24,477,704
 International box office: \$14,961,651
 Cumulative gross box office: \$39,439,355



An unhinged social media stalker moves to LA and insinuates herself into the life of an Instagram star.
 Budget: \$1,500,000
 Gross domestic box office: \$3,024,308
 International box office: \$122,523
 Cumulative gross box office: \$3,146,831



A group of friends are haunted by a mysterious force using the account of their schoolmate who died as a result of online shaming.
 Budget: \$1,000,000
 Gross domestic box office: \$ 32,482,090
 International box office: \$30,400,000
 Cumulative gross box office: \$ 62,882,090

'Challenging, well written and a little naughty, it looks at dark things in human nature with an unflinching eye and the results are often stunning. In addition, it has excellent and complicated roles which should be quite attractive to name and emerging actors.'

BULLETPROOF SCRIPT - consider





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