

Pretty/Vacant

Logline:

Dr Lionel Carter, a brilliant geneticist, invents a revolutionary weight-loss treatment - one that melts fat at a DNA level. The catch? There's no off switch. When her research is stolen by failing pharma giant DietMax and rebranded as 'D'minishe,' a skinny plague Jonestowns L.A.'s ultra-rich. Framed for the rising body count, Lionel must team up with drag artist Mariana Trench - D'minishe's sole survivor - to stop the shedding crisis before DietMax's corporate greed slays them all.

Synopsis:

At failing pharma giant DietMax, CEO Darnel Depardieu steals Dr Lionel Carter's promising-but-unfinished genetic research (code-named GS0458) in a desperate grab for cash. Rebranded as 'D'minishe', Darnel pushes it for megabucks to the ultra-rich clientele of Le Waif, DietMax's luxe spa in Montecito, run by shady dietary dominatrix Fraulein Inga von Kluck.

There's just one problem - D'minishe has no off switch. A-Listers soon find themselves fuckstarving to death at terrifying speed, triggering a media frenzy.

Lionel's personal life also implodes when her morbidly obese husband, Abe, suffers a heart attack. She gambles by injecting Abe with GS0458 to ease pressure on his failing heart, knowing full well it could be a death sentence. As Abe's weight plummets, Lionel must race against time to devise a 'stop' treatment.

Enter drag artist Mariana Trench, who miraculously survives their D'minishe jab - making them the genetic key to halting the shedding crisis. But just as Lionel is sashimi-ing Mariana's DNA, she's framed for the skyrocketing death toll and arrested by corrupt District Attorney Randall Einhorn, who's secretly in cahoots with Darnel.

In the high-stakes courtroom showdown, Mariana gets payback by injecting Darnel with D'minishe. As Darnel's body grotesquely snaps, crackles and pops, she confesses - implicating her co-conspirators Fraulein Inga, Judge Janice Morte (presiding) and D.A. Einhorn.

Abe receives Mariana's vital 'stop' gene just in time, Lionel is exonerated, DietMax collapses and Darnel, Einhorn and Judge Janice all face multiple charges. Mariana dedicates a TV special to the D'minishe 'fallen' and assesses the cost of their vanity insanity.

But Fraulein Inga vanishes - until a post-credits sting reveals her launching a new 'luxe spa on the sly somewhere in South America.

Pretty/Vacant is *Painkiller meets Death Becomes Her* - a razor-sharp biotech satire for our image-obsessed times.