

You're Not There Yet

A young woman fights for perfection in an age where she is
constantly torn down by the Perfect Woman.

1

INT. BEDROOM - EARLY MORNING

1

A stark white bedroom, clean and stylish. On the bed lies ADIRA (early 20's, black female). She pulls back the covers and swings her legs over the bed.

She walks to the expansive window and opens the blinds. Staring into her apartment is a digital billboard featuring the PERFECT WOMAN. Beautiful, ethnically vague, straight shiny hair, perfect exposed legs and large perky breasts. She wears a little black dress, and red lipstick. The billboard reads "You're Not There Yet" as the woman speaks the same words, tauntingly.

As Adira walks away from the window, the clock next to her bed reads 6:15am. The same voice from the billboard emits from her alarm.

ALARM

You pressed snooze today. You have lowered your potential for optimum impact by 5%

2

INT. BATHROOM - EARLY MORNING

2

Adira is wrapped in a towel. She faces the mirror and parts her thick curly hair and section by section takes a blow drier to it before straightening it. Smoke billows. The PERFECT WOMAN from the billboard appears in the corner of her mirror.

PERFECT WOMAN

Your hair is still 2.67 inches from optimum length. You're not there yet.

Adira pulls out jar after jar of lotions, salves, powders and proceeds to pluck, rub, pull at herself before walking into her...

3

INT. CLOSET - EARLY MORNING

3

An entire closet of little black dresses. She touches each one, the look on her face glazing over. She selects a dress and heads out. On the way, she catches a glimpse of green in the corner. She walks over to it. It is a beautiful cashmere sweater. She rubs her fingers over it whistfully for a moment before the voice of the Perfect Woman sounds from her watch.

PERFECT WOMAN

This article of clothing does not fit the perfect look.

4 INT. BATHROOM - EARLY MORNING 4

Adira looks in the mirror at herself. Her hair now sleek and straight, wearing a little black dress. She opens a drawer full of red lipstick tubes. She chooses the closest one and leans into the mirror to apply it.

5 EXT. STREET - MORNING 5

As Adira walks down the street, she watches all the other women dressed the same way. Everyone has straight brown hair with black dresses and red lips.

The men wear jeans, sweaters, suits. A much larger spectrum for them. Every block there is another digital billboard, featuring the Perfect Woman. She mocks them, saying "You're Not There Yet".

A beep grabs Adira's attention. She looks at her watch. It reads "25 audio notifications". She presses play.

NOTIFICATION 1

You are operating at 85% today. Try a new pair of shoes tomorrow to improve your score.

NOTIFICATION 2

5 people have noticed you this morning. 3 of which are available men.

Another beep sounds from her watch. She looks again to see:

SPAM MESSAGE

Do you need a real vacation? Do you remember what nature looks like? When is the last time you spoke to someone face to face? Let us remind you. Try Paradosen and enjoy some time away.

Adira looks around curiously before turning in the other direction and walking with a new purpose.

6 EXT. ETERNAL PARADISE FUNERAL HOME 6

Adira stands in front of a unassuming funeral home on a busy block of the city. Gray yet clean, it is essentially hidden between two large and modern buildings.

She looks at her watch and reads the address:

ADIRA
Eternal Paradise Funeral Home, 1544
West 86th Street.

7 INT. LOBBY - ETERNAL PARADISE FUNERAL HOME 7

Adira walks slowly through the room. Empty chairs, framed photos of families. Zero caskets. From a door in the corner emerges a man in his mid 40s, dressed slickly in a gray suit.

MAN
May I help you?

ADIRA
Um, I'm not sure... I recieved a
message about something called
Paradosen?

MAN
Ahhh, yes. Please, follow me...

The man turns on his heel and begins to walk back through the door he appeared from. Adira hesitates for a moment before jogging after him.

8 INT. LONG HALL WAY - ETERNAL PARADISE FUNERAL HOME 8

On either side of the hallway are cots in which women are lying down wearing head sets. Some are asleep with a green light emitting from their head sets. Others look tired with a faint yellow glow coming from theirs. Finally, some are seemingly deceased, with a red light exiting their sets.

9 INT. BACK OFFICE - ETERNAL PARADISE FUNERAL HOME 9

Adira and the Man sit at a desk.

MAN
Do you know anyone who has taken
Paradosen?

ADIRA
No. I hadn't heard about it until
today.

MAN
Let me show how it works.

The Man pulls out a electronic tablet and hands it to Adira.

10 - VIDEO PLAYING ON THE TABLET SCREEN-

10

Vast green landscapes. Trees, ponds, colorful animals.

VOICE OVER

There was a time before social media. Before tech. A time in which interaction with nature and humans was pleasureable. Before you tried to reach the ultimate standard of perfection.

Women dressed comfortably in pants, t-shirts with loose curly hair in ponytails. Laughing as they talk to one another.

VOICE OVER

Go back to that time. In just 48 hours you can refresh, recharge and enjoy yourself and those around you. No judgement. No perfection. Just nature. Don't forget where we came from.

11 INT. BACK OFFICE - ETERNAL PARADISE FUNERAL HOME

11

ADIRA

This sounds amazing. What do I have to do.

The man turns his chair to face an armoire behind him. He opens it to reveal rows upon rows of small glass boxes, each with a capsule inside. He pulls out one box and puts it on the table in front of Adira.

MAN

Paradosen. A perfectly measured dose of cyanide. Just enough to slow your heart rate down to the perfect rythm. With the help of our head set technology we can guide you into our virtual world.

ADIRA

Wait...what?

MAN

There is a moment before you pass away when the body makes a decision to either move into the after world, or stay put. We get you to that moment, and then guide you into our world. You will only have 48 hours before the drug wears off.

Adira nods her head.

MAN

There are a few risks that you need
to be aware of before we begin.

He pulls out a peice of paper and hands it to her. As she scans through the risks, her eyes land on one part in partiucular. The bottom of the page reads "Risk of death is approximately 25%". Adira's face flushes as the fear begins to really set in. Still, she signs the paper and nods.

The man stands and Adira follows suit.

12 INT. LONG HALL WAY - ETERNAL PARADISE FUNERAL HOME 12

The two continue down the hallway littered with women. As she reaches her cot, she looks at the woman next to her. Red light flashes from her head set. She has passed on. Her eyes are open, yet there is nothing behind them. Adira gasps. They are the same eyes that have been staring at her through her bedroom window every morning. It's the Perfect Woman. She's not so perfect after all. Wrinked skin, chapped lips, gray streaks sprinkled throught her hair.

ADIRA

Shit.

Adira stands up from her cot, grabs her purse and walks down the hallway into the...

13 INT. LOBBY - ETERNAL PARADISE FUNERAL HOME 13

She wipes the red lipstick off of her mouth with the back of her hand. Red streaks mark her cheek. She opens the front door and walks into the...

14 EXT. STREET - AFTERNOON 14

The sun is high in the sky as Adira walks down the busy street. Make-up ruined, dress askew from the adventure. A grin on her face.

ADIRA

Yeah...I'm not there yet.