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# VIRAL ON TIK TOK

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translated by Amalia Drăniceanu

(excerpt)

**PLAYED BY:**

NARCISA

Bianca Mihai

AIDA

Nicoleta Ghiță

OMEGA PRIUS

Cezar Grumăzescu

IULI

Adrian Mihai Petrache

**MUSIC BY:**

Andrei Horjea

**CHOREOGRAPHY BY:**

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**SET DESIGN:**

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**COSTUME DESIGN:**

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**DIRECTED BY:**

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## SCENE 1: NARCISA AND AIDA

*At Narcisa's home.*

**AIDA** Do you happen to have tweezers in that kit of yours?

**NARCISA** *(jokingly)* Oh, come on, you can't see the nose hair on the screen.

*She hands her the tweezers.*

**AIDA** Don't be silly. I need to take care of my mustache because I'm seeing luli tonight.

**NARCISA** So what, dear? Anyway, you're not going to kiss each other.

**AIDA** No, but apparently, he sees me as a man.

**NARCISA** Mhm. Hey, do you remember that time you came to school with a swollen lip?

**AIDA** When you plucked my mustache with your mom's expired hair removal cream? Hell, how could I forget?!

**NARCISA** Oh, I found that lying around the house.

**AIDA** You put five layers of that stupid thing on me, and it peeled off my skin, damn it.

**NARCISA** And you still have a mark there. When people asked, you told them you bumped into the door handle.

**AIDA** Well, I was embarrassed, what did you expect me to tell them? And besides, you told the whole class when we had a fight.

**NARCISA** Oooh, come on, I was so young. But I can see you remember all that stuff. But do you remember when I fought for you when they said you had monkey hair on your hands? You don't remember that, huh?

**AIDA** *(laughs)* Of course, my life. That's why I love you. With these monkey hands, I took out the bullies for you. Bang bang, we gave them quite a beating, the two of us.

**NARCISA** Haha, they called us the Iron Guard team.

**AIDA** Since then, whenever I look at the hair on my arms, damn it, it makes me feel powerful. I won't remove it for anything.

**NARCISA** Don't worry, my dear, let me worry about what Iuli wants. Come, let me do your makeup.

**AIDA** What's the point? I'll just put on that filter with makeup and the big lips. Iuli likes me natural. He doesn't even like me to wear lip balm.

**NARCISA** Well, you're "natural" with a mustache, my girl. Hey, does this guy have any authority over your body to tell you what to do? He won't let you wear makeup, but sooner or later, he'll ask you to shave down there.

**AIDA** Hey, watch your language, crazy. He's not thinking about that.

**NARCISA** Oh, no, he's not thinking about that, just like repented folks don't get... you know, aroused, God forbid, Ion is sleeping. And if he does get aroused, I suspect he will begin to say a prayer.

**AIDA** *(imitating a church song)* "Lord, forgive me for thinking about the most sinful, filthy, cursed, death-bringing one who separates man from God, yes, the very beautiful Mijanca."

*They both laugh. A brief moment of silence.*

**NARCISA** Hey, but why is she considered cursed?

**AIDA** I don't know, that's how God made her.

**NARCISA** Well, even in the Orthodox Church, they won't let us enter when we have our period because it's considered a great sin.

**AIDA** That's why God didn't allow women to be priests because we own a pussy and also a menstrual cycle.

**NARCISA** Well, didn't he create women in the first place?! Why did he give us a uterus and menstrual cycle?

**AIDA** To punish us for eating the apple from the tree. Because she was tempted by the snake.

**NARCISA** So, for one woman's sin, why did he have to punish us all? I don't agree.

**AIDA** Oh, come on, then become a priest yourself, crazy.

**NARCISA** Wouldn't be a bad idea, to put you all under my garment! Come here, for confession, on your knees, before the holy priest because all you think about is Luli's snake!

**AIDA** I won't come, Father, you want those nasty stuff, I want to enter the Lord's house pure. Luli will be the first man to get this body!

**NARCISA** Really, are you marrying the repented one?

**AIDA** You know how it is these days, it's best to marry a guy who repented. If he finds out you cheated, you both pray and blame Satan.

**NARCISA** Hey, didn't you say you're coming back to school this year? Why did I bother talking to everyone then?

**AIDA** Ohhh come on, don't jump to conclusions so quickly. I said I'm coming back, I'm coming back.

*Narcisa ignores her, upset.*

**AIDA** And what would you be called if you were a priest, girl?

*Narcisa doesn't responde.*

**AIDA** *(still in a church-like tone)* The esteemed Bishop- *(corrects herself)* Bishopess Narcisa from the Ghetto, the Great Saint of the Gypsies, she's the Light of Lights when she cuts their electricity off...

*Narcisa can't resist and laughs, ready for TikTok.*

**NARCISA** Alright, let's hit this up on TikTok.

(...)

## SCENE 2: AIDA AND IULI

**IULI** Do you think it's normal to film yourself like that on TikTok?

**AIDA** I already told you I'm not posting any more dances. And I'll give you my password so you can see that I'm not talking to anyone in messages.

**IULI** If the Lord tests you, be vigilant. Narcisa is not a good influence on you.

**AIDA** *(lies)* It was my idea, not hers.

**IULI** Mhm. Are you coming to the Gathering on Thursday?

**AIDA** Yes, I'll come.

*Pause.*

**AIDA** Hey, Iuli, have you ever... done that thing... you know, what you talked about on TikTok... the one with the sin of malady?

**IULI** *(corrects her)* Malahie you mean. What are you talking about? Since I got baptized, I'm a different person. But you? Have you ever done it?

**AIDA** What's wrong with you? Are you crazy? How could I do that? We were just kids, playing around, we had no idea those were bad things... And not just us, all the kids in the neighborhood.

**IULI** What kind of games?

**AIDA** "Tangled intestines"<sup>1</sup>... which we used to play it naked. We would show our private parts to each other. There was also "Thick milk"<sup>2</sup> or "The goat; The new goat nouă"<sup>3</sup> where we would jump on each other.

**IULI** Weren't you ashamed?

**AIDA** No. We were kids; how would we know it was shameful? We were curious.

**IULI** We did it because we had a bad education. That's why kids need to be brought to the Gathering.

**AIDA** Oh, come on, "Emperor Luminous," you played with us too. That's how I remember it.

**IULI** (*embarrassed*) I don't remember.

**AIDA** Don't you remember? (*Reenacts the game*)  
"- Emperor Luminous, last night at 7 o'clock, the milk cow was stolen!  
- And the emperor said: 7 giant steps toward me, servant!"  
And we took 7 steps until we got close to someone, body to body. We laughed until we were about to burst when we touched each other, and that was it. Alright, now tell me your part.

**IULI** Uh-huh.

**AIDA** Come on, just tell me. Before you got repentant... what kind of games did you play?

**IULI** I don't remember.

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<sup>1</sup>a traditional game involving tangled legs

<sup>2</sup>a game where kids jump on each other

<sup>3</sup>a variation of a traditional game

**AIDA** Oh, come on, Iuliiii, I already told you. Just tell me.

**IULI** These are not things to talk about.

**AIDA** Then why did you make me tell you? Come on, say it!

**IULI** Fine. To avoid others suspecting, we used to say "let's go play 21," and people would think, "oh, they're going to play cards, 21."

**AIDA** And in reality, you were going to do some other thing.

**IULI** Yeah.

**AIDA** So? Go on and continue, I've already told you everything.

**IULI** We would go in the forest and separate from each other, so we wouldn't see each other. You know, we were alone... each one at their own tree.

**AIDA** Oh my god, with the tree, huh?

**IULI** At the tree, not with the tree! We leaned against it.

**AIDA** Which one was your tree?

**IULI** Does it matter? It was one farther away, among the saplings.

**AIDA** Was that the one where we sat down when we were looking for plants for our herbarium in 8th grade?

**IULI** I don't remember, maybe... yeah, that could have been it, damn it. God damn you got me here talking nonsense...

**AIDA**            *(with a sense of satisfaction)* I see. Alright, continue.

**IULI**             Don't interrupt me anymore.

**AIDA**            *(impatiently)* Fine, fine. Go on.

**IULI**             So, we all took out our phones from our pockets, each one at their own tree, and we sent all kinds of videos from explicit websites to each other.

**AIDA**            And?

**IULI**             And we watched those videos, each on our phones. Forgive me, but I don't want to remember.

**AIDA**            And what was in those videos?

**IULI**             What kind of question is that?!

**AIDA**            I'm curious.

**IULI**             Aida, it's a big sin to be curious. You have to pray to God to rid yourself of such thoughts if you have them.

**AIDA**            I don't have any thoughts like that, but I said we'd talk honestly about it, especially since we're getting married next year.

**IULI**             First, you need to repent.

**AIDA**            I told you I will. *(hesitates to ask)* Iuli, have you ever done it with a girl?

**IULI**             Never. Sing that song that soothes my soul, Aida.

**AIDA**            The one about the bride of Christ?

**IULI**            Yes, that one

(...)

### **SCENA 3: AIDA AND NARCISA**

**BOTH** Since I was little, I hear all the time:

**NARCISA** All that matters is being a virgin!

**AIDA** When you get married, that's when you have sex, after the wedding, because if you don't do it after, your father is going to kill both you and me. Don't dress like a whore! What? Do you wanna get fucked?

**NARCISA** If you do anything before the wedding, you are no longer my child

**AIDA** I'm deleting you from my name

**NARCISA** Because you're a bad influence to my name

**AIDA** I'll cut your tendons and leave you at the station

**NARCISA** You cut your hair to 0 so everyone knows you're a tramp

**AIDA** You leave my house if you embarrass us!

**NARCISA** We never discuss sex. But only about ..."no sex"

**AIDA** What sex is we are not allowed to know

**BOTH** Since I was little, I hear all the time:

**NARCISA** Damn, look at those tits.

**AIDA** That ass.

**NARCISA** It's obvious you're good in bed.

**AIDA** Do you want to be my mattress?

**NARCISA** You're bomb! I would give it to you until you puke!

**AIDA** To shoot at you like birds

**NARCISA** Hau e mij!  
Tot ce aud pe stradă e doar despre sex

**AIDA** But we're not allowed to know what sex is "it's disrespectful to you as a girl, to your parents and to the community".