

ACE ATTORNEY

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CAST

JUDGE JOHNSON - JP
MS. ANDERSON - TIFFANY
MARY - HOLLY
MS. EDWARDS - KRISTIN
JURY MEMBER 1 - MITCH
JURY MEMBER 2 - JAPO
JURY MEMBER 3 - PHIL

(A courtroom. MS. EDWARDS is standing at the center of the court. MARY is at the stand.)

MS. EDWARDS

...And so, the defendant is clearly guilty. The evidence against her is insurmountable. Destruction of property. Evading a police officer. Her blood was found on the dashboard of the car. So I ask you, esteemed members of the jury, to do what is right. I rest my case.

(MS. EDWARDS returns to her seat.)

MS. ANDERSON

Your Honor, we'd like to cross-examine the defendant.

JUDGE JOHNSON

I'll allow it.

(MS. ANDERSON stands at the center of the court.)

MS. ANDERSON

Ms. Davidson, you had a... Sexual relationship with the victim, yes?

MARY

Technically, yes. But it's complicated.

MS. ANDERSON

Complicated, you say? And why is that?

MARY

I'm asexual.

(The court is aghast. They murmur to each other. "Peas and carrots.")

JUDGE JOHNSON

Okay, I'm interested. Asexual, you say?

MARY

That is correct. I don't experience sexual attraction.

JUDGE JOHNSON

Wonderful. Love is love. Now, the court is free to ask the defendant any questions regarding the matter at this time.

MARY

Oh. I'd love it if we could talk about the murder, actually.

JUDGE JOHNSON

There'll be time for that. But first, we're allowing you a moment of representation. Speak. We're listening. Questions?

(JURY 1 raises their hand.)

JURY 1

You had sex with the victim. How did that work?

MARY

I can have sex. I can want sex. I just don't feel attracted to someone sexually.

JURY 1

Okay, cool. I'm going to show you some pictures of me without a shirt on, will you tell me if that does anything for you?

MARY

I can't imagine anything worse.

MS. EDWARDS

Do you watch pornography?

MARY

No, but that's just because the plots aren't interesting.

MS. ANDERSON

Your Honor, might I say something?

JUDGE JOHNSON

Sustained. She is our Google.

MS. ANDERSON

I don't have a question. I just wanted to let you know that I, too, am in the LGBTQIA+ community.

MARY

You are?

MS. ANDERSON

Yes. I'm the A. Ally.

(Heartfelt applause from the room.)

JURY 3

What if you're just bad at sex?

MARY

What if I just confessed to the crime right now?

JURY 2

Are you sure you're asexual and not just Catholic?

MARY

How would you like me to answer that question?

JUDGE JOHNSON

Very good, very good. My niece watched But I'm a Cheerleader last weekend. Any more questions?

JURY 1

Maybe you just haven't found the right thing you're into, yet? I never felt any type of attraction for a long time. And then I saw the tiger from Zootopia.

MARY

I don't know what you're referencing, I've never seen Zootopia.

JURY 1

Well- There's your problem! I mean, case closed, right?

MS. EDWARDS

Is asexual genetic, or can anyone get it?

MARY

I'd love to unpack the way you phrased that sentence.

JURY 3

Did you know that the song "Take Me to Church" was about sex?

MARY

Yes.

JURY 3

Okay. How did you know? Because I just found out last week and I do not want to get caught off-guard again.

MARY

Alright, could we hurry this up? My mom is coming to visit me at the prison today and I'd prefer to be in a good mood for that.

JUDGE JOHNSON

And she has a healthy relationship with her mother! A win for the community!

(Every hand in the room is up.
JUDGE points to JURY 2.)

JURY 2

I've never had sex, does that mean I'm asexual?

MARY

Do you want sex?

JURY 2

Yes, but no one has ever wanted to do it with me.

MARY

You're not asexual, you just can't pull bitches.

JURY 2

Ahhhhhhh. I see. Thank you, defendant.

MS. ANDERSON

We have time for one more question. Is that cool, your honor?

JUDGE

Yeah, yeah, yeah - Cool with me. I'm just chilling, learning, listening. One might say I'm being an ally-

(The room applauds.)

MARY

No! No more questions! I'm tired of this! The same thing happens every time! "Does this mean you'll never have kids?" "Do you reproduce with yourself like a plant does?" "My cousin is asexual, do you know him?" No! We do not all know each other! Honestly, I'd rather go to jail so I don't have to sit through any more of these invasive and impressively stupid questions. So, please, can we get back to a normal trial and ask normal questions about the normal murder.

(A beat. JUDGE JOHNSON slowly raises their hand.)

JUDGE JOHNSON

So, does this mean that you and I could never—

(Blackout.)