

Module 2: BRIAN AND AZIZ – The Movie document

The scene opens with a view of the back seat of a car which is filled with blue books, text books, half eaten pizza as the *Title: Brian and Aziz* appears on the screen.

Audio can be heard off screen. It is Brian talking.

BRIAN'S VOICE

(Phone rings) Hello, hey wha's up? Yeah, I'm goin' over there to his place right now.

(pause) Yeah, you know that guy in my sociology Class from Saudi Arabia.

The next scene is of Brian's mouth as he talks on a cell phone as he drives a car. As he drives, nice middle-class houses can be seen through the window of the car.

BRIAN

You know how they show on TV the men, the kings, the men with the beards and the long white dresses? Well last night I saw this thing on camel races. Yeah, well you know with all that's going on, I figured I go over to his place and see what he thought about everything, you know?

The next scene is of a view through the front windshield of Aziz who is driving and talking on the phone.

AZIZ

No man, he really wants to come to visit me. Yes the American guy. Actually he's my classmate in sociology class

4. EXT. ABDULLAH'S ARAB MARKET PARKING LOT. DAY 4.

The next scene shows a car pulling into a parking lot. Aziz is driving the red car as we hear his voice continuing to talk on the cell phone.

AZIZ

... No you are wrong. I'm sure he wants to be my friend...

The next scene shows Aziz parking his car as we continue to hear his voice.

AZIZ

Yeah I have made humous and tabouli and rice with chicken.

The next scene shows Aziz walking into a store. There are tables in front of the store and a woman with a scarf on her head is sitting at one of the tables. Aziz is wear a black sweater and tan pants. As he opens the door, a woman with no scarf and a red sweater comes out. The camera tilts up to show a sign that reads, "Abdallah's Bakery & Deli Imports.

AZIZ

But now I'm going to buy fresh bread. Yes, OK man. See you later.

The next scene shows Brian still with his cell phone by his ear is driving. He is looking at the houses as he drives slowly.

BRIAN

1024, 1026. Yep this is the place. I gotta go man- Yeah I forgot I was supposed to call my Mom.. yeah yeah I'll catch you later. Awright bye.

The next scene shows Brian pulling his car, a beige sedan, into the driveway of a two story, middle class house with a large front yard and trees in the back.

The next scene shows the lower side of the front car door as Brian opens it and gets out.

The next scene shows Brian going to the back seat, opening the door and taking out a backpack. He slams the door and leans against his car. He takes out his cell phone, dials it and then lifts it to his ear.

The next scene shows a bedroom with a woman wearing jeans making up a bed with a quilt. As she pulls the quilt up, the telephone on the table next to the bed rings. There is a closeup of the phone, with her hand picking it up to answer.

BRIAN (leaning against his car)

Hey mom....(pauses and nods) OK (Pauses)
Come on Mom. OK

In the next scene he begins to walk toward the house. The camera walks along beside him.

BRIAN

Uh huh...No...I'm gonna do some studying at a friend's house.

In the next scene, back in the bedroom, Brian's mom, speaking on the phone, sits down on the bed.

BRIAN'S MOM

That's okay hon.

In the next scene, there is a close up of her face still with her mouth on the phone as she suddenly on hearing footsteps (off screen) looks off camera.

BRIAN'S MOM

Laura Lee—I told you ALREADY, you are not going out looking like that- now you march yourself right back in there young lady and change that top.

She speaks back into the phone.

BRIAN'S MOTHER

Oh Brian she just exasperates me so. I'll be so glad when she gets through this. It didn't take you near this long. (She listens) Well don't be too late. Remember you and Laura are going to your Dad's this weekend.

The next scene shows Brian in front of a door.

BRIAN

Yeah, okay. Bye Bye (Hangs up phone)

In the next scene there is a wide angle view of the bedroom with Brian's mother sitting on the bed and a cross hanging on the wall over the bed.

BRIAN'S MOTHER

Bye Bye.

In the next scene, Brian as he flips off his cell phone and reaches out towards the door bell.

In the next scene, we see inside Aziz's house as he opens the door and looks out.

AZIZ

Hey how you doing? Welcome. (He reaches out and takes Brian hand and pulls him through the door. Brian walks into the house) I'm really happy to see you here.

In the next scene, the camera moves around the living room to show Middle Eastern furniture, covered with colorful pillows and drapings. Three small tables with bronze tops are in front of a stuffed small sofa.

On the center table is a silver tray piled high with rice and meat. Another tray holds taboli, pita bread and other hommous. The camera moves up to a black picture with gold frame and gold Arabic writing on it, back to Aziz and Brian still standing by the door. Brian is looking around the room with wide eyes.

AZIZ (Pointing to a sofa)

Sit down my friend. (Brian sneezes and looks down and notices that Aziz is not wearing shoes. He reaches down to begin taking off his shoes.) I'm glad you could make it.

BRIAN

Yeah me too. (He is still untying and taking off his shoes.)

AZIZ (Pointing and walking in)

Have a seat. (Brian walks into the room. He looks at the furniture, paintings and starts to sit at the first seat.) No please there (points to another seat) Have a seat there. Thank you. Thank you for coming.

In the next scene, Aziz pours coffee from a gold Arabic coffee pot into a small cup with no handles. He hands the small cup to Brian.

AZIZ

This is some coffee.

In the next scene, Brian picks up a cup, looks at it and drinks it as Aziz hands a plate of dates to Brian.

AZIZ

These are some dates

BRIAN (looks at the date in his hand)

Yeah

AZIZ (Getting more coffee)

Actually, we eat the dates with the coffee. I'm going to get you some coffee.

BRIAN

Okay

AZIZ

Like it?

BRIAN

Interesting taste. (It is taking time for him to chew the dates

AZIZ

Thank you.

BRIAN

You got any chips?

AZIZ

Yeah. I got it, Just a second

In the next scene, Aziz gets up to leave and Brian looks around and spots a landline. He says to Aziz in another room.

BRIAN

Listen, can I use your phone a minute?

AZIZ'S VOICE

Sure go ahead. You don't have to ask man.

In the next scene, Brian walks to the phone, picks up the phone and dials. Aziz returns to the living room with a glass bowl filled with chips which he places on one of the small tables and sits down. He looks up at the sound of a door opening.

AZIZ (Looking up at someone coming in.)

Ahlan (He kisses Mazen on each cheek as Mazen comes into the room. The two shake hands.) They speak a few sentences in Arabic. Mazen sits at the first seat and Aziz pours him a cup of coffee and hands it along with dates to him. After giving his guest coffee and dates, he returns to his seat and sits down. They continue to speak in Arabic. Brian continues to speak on the phone as the two young men continue to speak in Arabic in the background. He glances over at them from time to time and they glance at him also.

BRIAN

Hey Tom... did you get your paper back in

statistics? (Pauses) Uh huh. Yeah I was wondering how you did. (He is pausing and listening to the other conversation.) Uh huh. (Pause) Okay. We can do that. Um huh. What about your chemistry? Okay. Um huh. Alright ...alright. bye.

In the next scene Brian smiles slightly looking in the direction of Aziz and then almost visibly reluctantly hangs up the phone. He walks back and sits down next to Aziz.

BRIAN (to Mazen)
Hi my names' Brian. Are you from
Arabia too?

AZIZ
Yes. I forget to introduce you. My friend Mazen. He's my
classmate in Economics class.

BRIAN
Oh

AZIZ
Brian (Mazen stands and reaches over to shake Brian's hand who
belatedly sticks his hand out to shake without standing.) Aziz
looks at Brian.)
So how's everything? How's your family?

BRIAN
They're fine

AZIZ
How's your brother?

BRIAN
He's he's fine.

They sit in a brief awkward silence.

MAZEN
Are you studying the same major like Aziz?

BRIAN
Yes (Pause)
Well, it looks like you're gonna
be busy with your friend

AZIZ

No wait (He puts his hand on Brian's knee)

BRIAN

I'm gunna go to the library and study

AZIZ

Just wait - we eat and then we will study together.
Just wait

BRIAN

No I'd rather go to the library (He gets up as he says this, taking a few steps towards the door. Brian continues to walk to the door with Aziz by his side)

AZIZ

Man hold on - Just sit a little bit, then we eat and then we start studying together man. Just wait man

In the next scene, we see Brian, in front of the door, looking back at Aziz.

BRIAN (At the door)

Well I gotta work too.

In the next scene, we see the back of Brian at the door and Aziz's face as he talks to him.

AZIZ

We just start to relax

BRIAN

I gotta go Bye. (He leaves as Aziz closes the door. He gets in his car, starts it and pulls out of the driveway)

In the next scene, there is a closeup of Brian talking on his cellphone as he drives his car.

BRIAN

Hey man, you know that Arab guy in my Soc. Class?.. yeah well I was just at his place- We were gonna study together but then he had all this food and this other guy showed up and they started talking Arabic and..I felt weird-out of place... kinda stupid.
(pause)
.. you don't trust 'em? hum Yeah I guess I don't either.

Aziz walks back to the couch. He looks irritated and disappointed.

MAZEN

He left?

AZIZ

Yeah

MAZEN

Don't worry Aziz. I have been here like for 7 years. All Americans are like this- They're always in a hurry. They are always like interested in money just they wanna have time to work. That's it

AZIZ

You are right

MAZEN

You know? Because of that each summer I go back home just like to feel...to become our community.

AZIZ

You are right. Now I understand why my neighbors don't care about me either like we do back home. You know, this morning I just said good morning to my neighbor. He just smiled and said good morning. He didn't ask me how I'm doing...if I need any help. (Shakes his head)
How can we trust each other if we don't talk together as friends as a human being?

MAZEN

Yeah absolutely.

Module 2: BRIAN AND AZIZ: An Alternative Ending

Aziz's Living Room

Camera shows Brian and Aziz as Aziz hands Brian a piece of bread
as Title: *Brian and Aziz Alternative Ending* appears on the screen.

Brian and Aziz are sitting on the sofa together while Mazen sits on the other sofa,
looking at them.

BRIAN (to Aziz)

It looks like you're gonna
be busy with your friend and lunch so I'm gonna go to
the library and study alright?

AZIZ

No man just wait (He puts his hand on Brian's knee)
We eat and then we study

BRIAN

No I'd rather go to the library. (He stands up)

AZIZ

Please, please man - hold on man - we still have time man - we're
going to study. Let us eat some.

BRIAN

We've got time?

AZIZ

Yeah

BRIAN (Pauses and thinks)

Alright. (He sits down again.)

AZIZ

Okay man. Okay. I'll get some spoons. (He gets up to get spoons
and brings them back.)

BRIAN

So do you always eat like this? (He motions to the food on the
three small tables)

AZIZ

Yeah its our style. Its Middle Eastern style.

BRIAN

Middle Eastern style. (He nods and everyone smiles.) Uh
what does it mean to eat like this?

AZIZ

What do you mean..what does it mean?

BRIAN

Well..why...for what reasons do ya'll eat like this?

AZIZ (Looking at Mazen)

Why?

MAZEN

I don't know. This is the way

BRIAN

Its the way?

MAZEN

We do like this you know. Like we're sharing, caring
sitting together you know...to be all together (Brian is nodding)

AZIZ

Show your guests, you take care of them you care about them

MAZEN

How do Americans do it? You know, I wonder you know...how
do you share together, to be together?

BRIAN

We uh I don't know... we we just spend time together (Pause) So
where's my plate?

AZIZ

We're going to eat all of us from the same plate

BRIAN

Same plate?

AZIZ

This is our way

MAZEN

What's wrong with that?

BRIAN

There's nothing wrong with it. Its..I feel a little weird sharing from the same plate with everyone.

AZIZ

Is it alright?

BRIAN

No its fine. I'll try anything.

AZIZ

Okay. This side...this is hummous

BRIAN

Hummous?

AZIZ

Yeah, I think you'll like it.

MAZEN

Chicken and rice there

AZIZ

Tabouli

BRIAN

Tabouli?

AZIZ

Yeah, you will like it

BRIAN

What's in it?

AZIZ

Tomatoes, onions and something

BRIAN

Something?

AZIZ

Yeah a kind of salad

BRIAN

This?

AZIZ

Hummus

BRIAN

What's that

AZIZ

Its a kind of beans,

BRIAN

Beans?

AZIZ

Yeah...I make it

BRIAN

I think I'll have some of that

AZIZ

Okay man...You don't want to try this?

BRIAN

Okay

Last shot is of Aziz sharing a piece of pita break with Brian.

Man hold on - Just sit a little bit, then we eat and then we start studying together man. Just wait man

BRIAN (At the door)

Well I gotta work too.

OTS at Aziz

AZIZ

We just start to relax

TWO SHOT

BRIAN

I gotta go Bye. (He leaves as Aziz closes the door. He gets in his car, starts it and pulls out of the driveway)

13.

INT

BRIAN'S CAR

DAY

CU of Brian on the phone driving.

BRIAN

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