

GLOZELL IS CANCELLED

Written by

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FIRST DRAFT

INT. GLOZELL'S HOME - AFTERNOON

TITLE CARD: The word "CANCELLED" plops from the sky, lands with a thud. "IS" lands on top of it; both wobble. GLOZELL joins the other two, the "ELL" in both words lined.

And the image of a woman begins to load from the top, pushing the title down, off the screen. It's GloZell filming a new video.

And WE PULL OUT to show we're on her computer monitor, facing away from her, as her camera is filming her, on the far side of the desk. She's dressed as a clown, making a lighthearted, unoffensive video.

GLOZELL

Over and out.

GloZell leans in, turns the camera off. It freezes on the computer monitor.

TIGHT ON the monitor with the frozen video. WE HOLD.

Time has passed. We watch as GloZell tidying up, quietly, in an extreme wide shot, the high ceilings at top of frame.

And A SPLIT SCREEN BEGINS TO CRAWL HORIZONTALLY from the left, splitting the image in half.

As it does, THE MONITOR appears in the top half. And AS WE PUSH IN ON THE SHOT, it SLOWLY LOWERS until it fills frame.

NOW GloZell is sitting at the desk. She notices her name trending on Twitter. She clicks it to see a prominent video at the top with the words "GLOZELL IS CANCELLED" as the subheading. The video (linked from TikTok) is clicked and we see a woman, speaking with the cadence of Regina George:

TIKTOK MANDY

Okay, so the artist known as GloZell is cancelled. I know we all love her but she's done some sketchy things. Like, I've gone through all her recent likes and she liked the comment on an actress's Twitter and the actress's parents are Scientologists so GloZell's practically endorsing Scientology. That's really dangerous since she has so many young fans, many whom will now become Scientologists and probably end up dying while working towards becoming an Operating Thetan.

She leans in, clicks the video off.

TIGHT ON GloZell, aghast. She leans in to read THE COMMENTS. They FLOAT OFF THE SCREEN as we hear them in V.O.:

- *"Oh, my gosh, that's so scary. Thanks for letting us know."*

- *"I used to like her but not anymore."*

GLOZELL
(to herself)
What in the world...

GloZell sits at her desk, dumbfounded. Finally decides to lean in. Loads TikTok. Starts a live chat.

GLOZELL (CONT'D)
People, please. I don't know anything about Scientology. I just liked a Tweet 'cause I liked the Tweet. It wasn't that serious.

A wave of relief rushes over her. She clicks off.

GloZell sits, stares at the screen, hoping all the backlash fades away. She finally leans in...

LOADS TWITTER. A new video from Mandy on top --

TIKTOK MANDY
The fact GloZell won't even apologize is really problematic. She's gaslighting us to make us think we're being unfair. When we're not the ones who are telling kids to join Scientology!

Scroll down to the replies, again in V.O.:

- *"One of my friends became a Scientologist and he's now in jail for stabbing people at Walmart."*

GloZell scoffs. She can't take this seriously.

BUT TIME HAS PASSED. And now she's leaned in, doing a deep dive on Twitter. Going through the notifications, which pop up, FLOAT ONE BY ONE, as they're read in voiceover...

- *"Cancel Glozell, everyone. She is not who you thought."*

- *"Glozell is over."*

And then, a Tweet with a video link. **"THE TRUTH ABOUT GLOZELL."** GloZell clicks it. The video plays --

ON SCREEN: A YouTube video of a teen girl, trying to build her channel, desperate for attention:

YOUTUBER APRIL

Hi, you guys. It's your girl, AprilShowers. If you're new here, don't forget to like and subscribe. And hit that notification bell so you can stay up to date on all my future videos. Also leaving a comment really helps this channel grow because it recommends us to others. So on this video, I'm giving one lucky winner a a \$10 gift card to iTunes. Just tell me what you love most about me and I'll choose the comment that's my favorite.

She pivots, turns to a second camera.

YOUTUBER APRIL (CONT'D)

Now on to the video. I unearthed this footage when I did a deep-dive on GloZell to see just how awful she is... now that we know she's awful. Some of you may find this unsettling.

A video begins to play in the upper right corner before emerging into FULL SCREEN:

EXT. PARK - DAY [ON VIDEO]

TWO GIRLS are taking a selfie at a park, but secretly shift over their shoulders to reveal GloZell, eating lunch on a bench.

GIGGLING GIRL IN PARK

Oh, my God... GloZell's right behind us.

They zoom in as GloZell finishes her meal, then tosses the bag in the trash. The FOOTAGE PAUSES.

BACK TO YOUTUBER APRIL --

YOUTUBER APRIL

(frantic)

That bag was made of kraft paper which is both recyclable and compostable!

(MORE)

YOUTUBER APRIL (CONT'D)
 But NOT IF YOU DON'T TAKE THE TWO
 SECONDS TO DROP IT INTO AN
 APPROPRIATE RECYCLING BIN!

HER VIDEO IS PAUSED. We hold a beat -- in the freeze frame,
 the vlogger is so heated, her eyes are filled with tears.

ON GLO:

GLOZELL
 Child...

BACK ON THE SCREEN. A new video has been posted on Twitter,
 from a GloZell fan, an aspiring influencer --

INFLUENCER NATALIE
 This GloZell thing is worse than
 you thought. In one of her famous
 videos...

THE FOOTAGE PLAYS BEHIND THE INFLUENCER AS SHE POINTS --

INFLUENCER NATALIE (CONT'D)
 ...GloZell decides to take the
 cinnamon challenge but uses not a
 teaspoon, but an entire ladle.
 That's a huge, heaping amount for
 one person. And then she just
 chugs a whole bunch of water, just
 lets it fall to the floor. There
 are literally children who don't
 have any food, in countries like
 Africa. But she wants to just waste
 it all, for the sake of
 entertainment.

A new video, of GloZell eating cereal in a bathtub, pops up.
 But the VIDEO IS QUICKLY PAUSED instead of continuing.

DOLLY ZOOM IN on GloZell, panicked, trying to catch her
 breath. And THE BACKGROUND BEHINDS HER fades into oblivion,
 fog. She senses it. Begins to feel unnerved, unsafe.

She grabs her keys, heads outside.

EXT. SIDEWALK - DAY

TIGHT ON GloZell, walking hurriedly in the park. We SLOWLY
 CRANE OUT to a wider shot as her eyes dart every which way.
 She's deep in thought. And then finally mutters to herself --

GLOZELL
Africa isn't a country. It's a
continent.

A beat. Then she continues on.

TIGHT ON the phone in her hand as she walks. A text
notification pops up: "GloZell, is you good? Is you okay?"

But she ignores it. Logs onto the Twitter app.

And under notifications is a new video, to a LIVE FEED with
Mandy. GloZell clicks, is sent to the site, where she hears --

TIKTOK MANDY
Oh, my God. NatalieB simply pointed
out that GloZell wastes food on her
Instagram and GloZell was just seen
calling her dumb for not knowing
Africa wasn't a country. I mean,
she definitely wasn't calling me
dumb 'cause that's something I
already knew but I still feel bad
for NatalieB because she's so sweet
and has done nothing but bring
positivity to the GloBugs.

ON GLO:

GLOZELL
How did she...

BACK ON LIVE FEED:

TIKTOK MANDY
Here's a video of the incident.

And Mandy holds up her phone, playing footage that had been
sent from a source. GloZell in the park -- from a low,
distant angle -- muttering, "*Africa isn't a country. It's a
continent.*"

GloZell turns to see --

A 15-YEAR-OLD GIRL filming her from the bushes. The girl
panics, DUCKS DOWN, scrambles backwards, pivots, runs north.

Just as GloZell pivots, runs back where she came, south.

GLOZELL
AGGGGGHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!

INT. GLOZELL'S HOME - MOMENTS LATER

CAMERA PUSHES IN as GloZell enters, slams the door behind her, shields it shut with her body.

DOLLY ZOOM on her computer.

TIGHT ON GLO. She doesn't want to but can't help herself...

BACK AT HER DESK, her room now dark with only light from the evil screen glowing, sucking her in. She begins clicking links. On YouTube, she's searched her name by "Upload Date."

RANDOM VIDEOS ARE SUGGESTED. She SETTLES ON ONE, of a woman in her 50s ("Cool Mom") sneering at the camera:

YOUTUBE "KAREN"

My daughter met GloZell at a convention and I used to think she was nice but now I realize how awful she was.

THE VIDEO OF THE INCIDENT NOW FILLS THE SCREEN -- an 11-year-old girl nervously chatting with GloZell at a convention:

INT. CONVENTION CENTER - DAY

11-YEAR-OLD GIRL (ON VIDEO)

You're so pretty.

GLOZELL (ON VIDEO)

Awww, thank you.

BACK ON KAREN:

YOUTUBE "KAREN"

Notice she didn't return the compliment and say Melissa was pretty. She only cares about herself. I'm throwing out all my official GloZell merchandise.

SMASH CUT TO:

The "Karen" smugly carries a handful of items into the kitchen, tosses them in the trash. We scroll to THE COMMENTS BELOW --

- "I didn't realize it but the same thing happened to me. I met her and she didn't tell me I was pretty or anything. She's not very nice!"

- *"She didn't say anything to me either! I guess back then I didn't have self-esteem like now. So I let people not tell me I was pretty all the time and thought it was okay. But now I know differently. GloZell, you're cancelled!"*

GloZell clicks back on Twitter. A recent post, from a 30-year-old Black man --

30-YEAR-OLD MAN

Haha, I love this new video from GloZell.

And beneath is a link to a YouTube video, the one GloZell just filmed as a clown. Tons of comments come flooding in --

"You support GloZell? Kill yourself!"

"Don't you know what a horrible person she is?"

"It figures you'd like her considering you have a tweet about loving NASCAR and people who like NASCAR are bigots."

"GloZell is a bully and we're going to obsessively ruin her life because we hate bullies!"

GLOZELL

STOP!!!

And the ambiance/score fades into SILENCE.

GloZell leans in...

And ON THE COMPUTER SCREEN, we see her load a live TikTok feed again. As people begin to enter, the chat flooded with *"Is she crying?"* and *"Haha I want to see her face."* GloZell begins to speak, passionately --

GLOZELL (CONT'D)

Has every young person gone crazy? You're becoming unable to decipher real problems because you're turning everything into a problem. And once you get caught in the hysteria, you refuse to bend. When did everyone think this was normal and okay? When did cancel culture make it so we treat people as if they're "all or nothing"? Nobody is entirely their worst side, all the time, just like nobody is their best side, all the time.

(beat)

People are people. Everyone has good and bad.

(MORE)

GLOZELL (CONT'D)

Sometimes we do things that may be misconstrued as offensive. But if we ourselves believe in tolerance and acceptance and equality, why are you twisting us to make us bad people? Claiming we're criminals and problematic when we're on the same side as you? When we're not actually those things -- we've just made a bad joke or liked someone's tweet... or made a bad joke on a tweet a decade before that joke was culturally unacceptable. Ask the people actually in our lives who know us and love us and will vouch for us. But you won't listen. Because for a lot of you, canceling others is the one way you feel important. You put public figures on a pedestal for years and then one day, tear them down so you can take your power back.

NOW ON GLOZELL, sitting in front of her computer:

GLOZELL (CONT'D)

There has got to be a better use of your time. Where you're putting goodness into the world and trying to spread happiness. That's all I've ever tried to do. But now you're overanalyzing everything I do, in a quest for your own relevancy. Using five-second encounters with me, now that I'm a target; to be a part of the narrative and make yourselves a hero. Even if you're throwing an innocent person under the bus. You don't care who you hurt because we're inhuman to you and our feelings don't matter.

BACK ON THE LIVE FEED. More and more comments on the chat.

Then ON GLOZELL, TIGHTER NOW:

GLOZELL (CONT'D)

And then when people point out the flaws in your accusations, you double down and accuse them of victim-blaming. All while you're singlehandedly dismantling people's lives.

(MORE)

GLOZELL (CONT'D)

You love that you have the power to do that, like someone asking for the manager to scare an employee. Or if someone you idolized once replied to your messages and now they don't, you get to make these videos for revenge. So now my life is ruined. I mean, there are moments where I wonder if I'm a bad person, because everyone keeps telling me I am.

BACK ON LIVE FEED. Is she done?

No. WE'RE BACK ON GLOZELL:

GLOZELL (CONT'D)

You all say you're against bullying but that's exactly what you're doing. Cutting me down so you feel better about yourselves. Incessantly harassing me until I lose my self-worth. In the end, you're just hurting yourselves. Because if you only put out hate and judgment, you become a person who contributes nothing to the world but hate and judgment. That negativity seeps out of you and floats right back. It's bad karma.

AND ON LIVE FEED AGAIN, Glozell has one last comment before she leans in to turn it off --

GLOZELL (CONT'D)

So just stop it. Like... oh my God.

Click. It's off.

And WE'RE BEHIND GLOZELL, sitting at the computer.

MEDIUM ON GLOZELL as she feels relief. The rant was therapeutic. But has it made a difference? Made people self-reflect? Made any change at all?

She waits a beat. Then LEANS IN.

REVERSE: Glozell loads Twitter again.

TIGHT ON SCREEN: There's a new video from Natalie:

INSTAGRAM NATALIE

Today, on a live feed, Glozell said God's name in vain.

(MORE)

INSTAGRAM NATALIE (CONT'D)

Many religious people find that offensive. GloZell doesn't respect other's beliefs.

Behind her scrolls the text: *"Religions that are NOT okay to mock: Christianity, Catholicism, Proletarianism, Islam, Judaism, Buddhism, Mormonism, Scientology."*

THE COMMENTS....

- ***"I don't care how crazy your religion is. People need to respect it. GloZell, you're over and out."***

- ***"Over and out."***

- ***"Over and out."***

In EXTREME CLOSE-UP:

GLOZELL

AGGGGGHHHHHH!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

END CREDITS ROLL.

After a few beats, a FAINT SQUARE with a PINK BORDER begins to appear. As it solidifies, its border now a GLOWING NEON PINK/PURPLE, it BOUNCES THE TEXT aside, so each title/name is piled on top of the next, and TikTok Mandy DISSOLVES IN:

TIKTOK MANDY

Are you going to turn this video off now? Don't you know the entire point of credits is to give credit to all the people who worked hard to make a movie for you. That's why they're called CRED-ITS. Duh. I always sit through credits, even if they're ten minutes long. So I think you can probably sit through one for a short film. It's not that hard. But people nowadays, they have no attention spans. Really sad.

THE END