


*Daniel Michelob died about a year into me dating Julian. Even though Julian was just a fan, the actor had made a profound impact on his life.*





*Daniel Michelob,  
(as Derek O'Shaughnessy)*

*Body Pods had been a cultural touchstone for decades, but it seemed to hold a particular significance for males between the ages of 11 and 22. I'm not sure why. It's a pretty depressing movie, despite the action-adventure elements.*



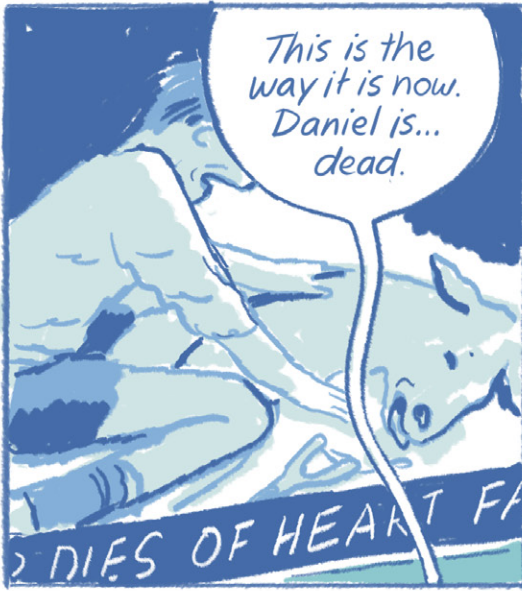
*Daniel Michelob died suddenly of heart failure, a fact not lost on his fans, who pointed out that his character in *BodyPods* dies of a broken heart.*

*We took a long walk around campus that night. Julian was dazed.*



*I feel like my childhood just died.*

We washed up at the engineers' pub.  
The TVs were blasting the news.



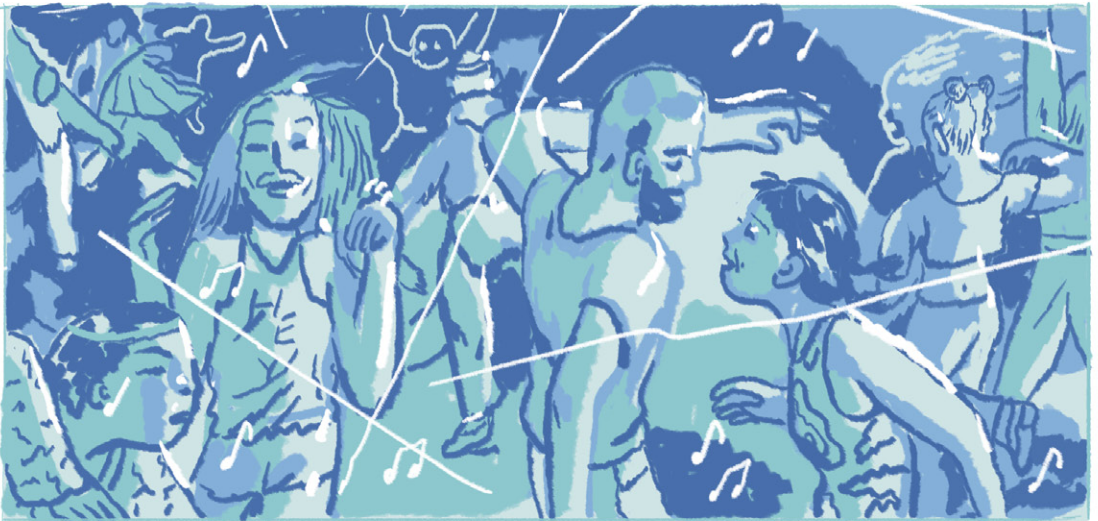


*My second boyfriend, Alex, was also obsessed with Body Pods. He had spent his youth in Russia and had come to the film as an adult.*

*Alex was a grad student in film studies and his appreciation for Body Pods was largely aesthetic.*



*He said it was an apex of American filmmaking, before computer graphics had, in his words, "industrialized the craft."*





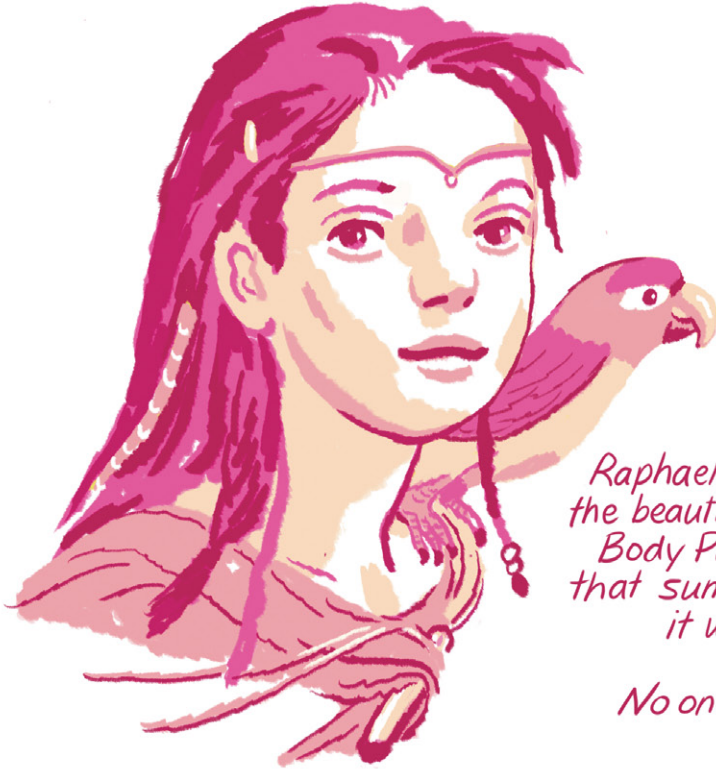
*The paper-thin production values held more than charm for Alex. For him, the visible boom mics and shoddily painted background sets created an "intensely human" effect.*



*Of course, we'd still laugh at the flaws.*



*But after the outburst, Alex would lean in towards the screen with wonder.*



*Raphaella Doig, who played the beautiful, young heroine of Body Pods, died tragically that summer. I had to admit, it was pretty sad.*

*No one should die at 46.*

