

Paul Stewart

**Moonlighting**  
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"THOSE LIPS, THOSE LIES"

(#88009)

**PICTUREMAKER**  
**PRODUCTIONS**

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

**CIRCLE**  
**FILMS**

-MOONLIGHTING-

"THOSE LIPS, THOSE LIES"

(#88009)

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&

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PICTUREMAKER PRODUCTIONS, INC.  
in association with  
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ACT ONE

FADE IN:

ON ELEGANTLY CLAD FEET 1

...skillfully negotiating a polished, black marble DANCE FLOOR as they steer a PAIR OF WOMEN'S FEET past...

A TABLE 2

...UNDER which we see...

TWO MORE PAIRS OF FEET 3

...a MAN'S and a WOMAN'S... entwined... the woman's leg rubs seductively up and down along the inside of the man's leg in time with the music... as the woman's HIGH HEEL drops to the floor... OFF CAMERA we hear the sound of KISSING... and then, we become aware that the couple is slowly SLIPPING out of the booth and onto the floor under the table as their romance intensifies and we see RICHIE ADDISON in a passionate clutch with a raven-haired beauty named CARLA... and we STAY WITH THEM as they land... and after a moment, ANOTHER PAIR OF FEET ENTER frame and the pedestal of a WINE COOLER is planted next to the table... and then... OFF CAMERA a WAITER CLEARS HIS THROAT... but...

RICHIE AND CARLA 4

...continue kissing unabated... and then...

WAITER (O.C.)

Mr. Addison...

...and then...

RICHIE 5

...pops his head out from under the table and smiles at the Waiter, who is somewhat less than amused...

RICHIE

Earthquake drill.

WAITER

Your wine.

...and reaches over and sips from a GLASS, then swishes it around in his mouth... savoring it, and then...

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

5

RICHIE

Excellent nose... Oak... hay...  
and a kiss of pepper...

...and with that, Richie DISAPPEARS back under the table as  
the waiter RETIRES... and then...

RICHIE

Promise me we won't hire stuffy  
waiters when we open our place.

CARLA

(trying to  
disengage herself)

Richie...

...but Richie silences her by planting another kiss on her  
mouth and then...

CARLA

Richie... we shouldn't be under  
here.

RICHIE

Worried about getting gum in  
your hair?

CARLA

People are looking.

RICHIE

So... close your eyes and you  
won't see them.

...and Carla resists... and then...

RICHIE

Come on... close your eyes...  
for Richie?

...Carla CLOSES HER EYES and then... Richie pulls a RING  
out of his pocket and...

CLOSEUP - RING

6

...as he SLIPS IT ON her ring finger...

CARLA

7

...OPENS her eyes in surprise...

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

7

CARLA

Oh, Richie... it's...  
beautiful.

RICHIE

It was my grandmother's.

CARLA

I don't know... I mean... you  
really think we're ready to  
do this?

RICHIE

No rush... Let's consider this  
a token of our agreement to  
agree that at some future  
date... yet to be  
determined... we might want  
to consider the outside  
possibility of a more formal  
relationship...

(and then)

Did I leave enough loopholes  
for everybody?

ANGLE ON CARLA

8

...a moment as Carla, very moved, gazes at the ring, then  
at Richie, and then, quite suddenly, she BURSTS INTO TEARS,  
as she bustles back up into her seat, and then...

RICHIE

9

...alarmed, scrambles after her...

RICHIE

Carla, what's wrong?

CARLA

Nothing's wrong...  
everything's... right... as  
rain... Only I can't accept  
this.

RICHIE

You don't like the setting?...

(and then)

We'll go to another  
restaurant... Check, please.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

9

CARLA

Richie... if you give me this  
ring... I'm afraid...  
(and then, and this  
is hard)  
I'll hock it.

RICHIE

I don't think my grandmother  
would like that very much.  
She's dead... but I think she'd  
oppose that idea from beyond  
the grave.

CARLA

We can't even afford this  
dinner... let alone the rest  
of our bills... and we may  
as well forget ever opening  
a restaurant.

RICHIE

Who promised you he'd get back  
every penny of your dough?

CARLA

Richie...

RICHIE

Answer the question.

CARLA

You did... but...

RICHIE

B-U-T, the three most insidious  
letters in the language...  
the word that separates people  
from their dreams...  
(and then)

Carla... may I call you Carla?

...and he's on a run and she laughs...

RICHIE (CONT'D)

I find the guy who swung with  
the loot... I get it back...  
you and me; big church  
wedding... we open a  
restaurant... we buy the  
biggest shoe we can find...  
fill it with tons of kids...  
bing, bing, bing, bing, bing.

ON CARLA

10

...just looking at this guy...

CARLA

What did I ever do to deserve  
a guy like you?

...and Richie just looks at her a long, loving moment...  
and then...

RICHIE

Well... I don't know for  
sure... but, if I had to  
guess... I'd say you probably  
weren't a formula baby.

SHOCK CUT TO:

MADDIE

11

...~~standing in the ELEVATOR~~... ready to meet the day...  
and then the ELEVATOR DOORS OPEN and a COUPLE ENTER and  
fall into each others' arms and begin kissing passionately  
and Maddie is uncomfortable at this public display of  
affection... and she looks up, then down, here and there,  
and then finally, thankfully, the DOORS OPEN and Maddie  
tries to EXIT...

MADDIE

Excuse me.

...but the couple is oblivious to her and Maddie has to  
CIRCUMNAVIGATE them to exit... and then... as Maddie SETS  
OFF down the hall, we...

CUT TO:

INT. BLUE MOON

12

...as Maddie ENTERS the office... marching past Dipesto's  
desk, tossing off a cursory...

MADDIE

Morning, Miss Dipesto.

...she continues a step or two, then STOPS, turns to  
Dipesto's desk, which she only now notices is unmanned...  
she shrugs, then CONTINUES to her office door...



INT. MADDIE'S OFFICE

13

...Maddie ENTERS, hears something, then looks over toward the couch, and then...

MADDIE  
Miss Dipesto?

...and then Dipesto's head pops up... and then...

MADDIE  
Mr. Viola?

...and then Viola's head pops up... and then the two of them scramble out from behind the couch... and Maddie just looks at them, a shocked expression on her face...

DIPESTO  
(flustered;  
babbling)  
Miss Hayes... I'm sorry...  
I don't know what I was doing.

MADDIE  
Mr. Viola... from the looks  
of it.

VIOLA  
Entirely my fault... What you  
just witnessed had nothing  
whatsoever to do with Agnes.

MADDIE  
It didn't?

DIPESTO  
It didn't?

VIOLA  
Of course it did... What I mean  
is... this round-the-clock  
surveillance on the Anselmo  
case is really taking its  
toll...

(and then)  
...Forcing me to snatch  
affection wherever and whenever  
I can get it... no matter how  
inappropriate the setting.

MADDIE  
You and Mr. Addison were out  
all night again?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

13

VIOLA

With only each other for warmth. Not that he isn't a fine detective and a great wit... But, five nights in a row without...

...and Viola just looks at Dipesto longingly...

DIPESTO

Miss Hayes, I know it was wrong for Burt and me to sneak in here and turn your office into our own private...

(searching, and then)

VIOLA

(head hung low)

...nookatorium.

DIPESTO

It'll never ever happen again. It's just... if you knew what it was like to go without Herbert for so long.

MADDIE

14

...A MOMENT, then...

MADDIE

I'll take your word for it.

ANOTHER ANGLE

15

...as Viola tries to matt down his hair and straighten his clothes as he realizes there's nothing much more to say...

VIOLA

Well... okay... I guess we'll get out of your hair then.

...Burt and Agnes start to back towards the door... and then...

MADDIE

... Is Mr. Addison in yet?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

15

DIPESTO  
(concerned)  
Yes... but he doesn't have to  
hear about this... does he?

MADDIE  
No...

ON VIOLA AND DIPESTO

16

...heaving relieved sighs...

MADDIE  
That doesn't mean I condone  
this sort of behavior in the  
workplace... but, I think we  
can let this one incident  
slide.

VIOLA  
(buoyant)  
Whatta gal.

ON MADDIE

17

...looking at Viola like he shouldn't push his luck... and  
then she CROSSES past them toward the door...

MADDIE  
I'm going to debrief Mr.  
Addison on the Anselmo case,  
and I'd appreciate it if you  
two would stop debriefing each  
other.

...and Maddie EXITS...

\*

CUT TO:

DAVID'S OFFICE

18

...as Maddie enters...

MADDIE  
David... there must be  
something in the air...

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

18

...she STOPS herself when she sees...

DAVID

19

...face down on the sofa, jacket off, a pillow over his head, clearly asleep...

ON MADDIE

20

...touched by this sight... she CLOSES THE DOOR gently, makes her way to the sofa, SITS down beside him... DAVID shifts a bit... as she looks down at him... an appreciative expression on her face... and then...

MADDIE

I'm really proud of you,  
David... working like this...  
the long hours... sleepless  
nights...

(and then)

You must be exhausted.

DAVID

Hmmmm...

...as he shifts again and puts a hand up to the back of his neck and stretches...

MADDIE

...stressed out... tensed up...

...and David indicates his neck... and then, Maddie regards him a moment, hesitating, and then David indicates his neck once again and it's clear he wants her to rub it... and then slowly, cautiously... her obligation clear... she puts one hand on David's neck, then the other... and then...

MADDIE

Boy... you're one great big  
knot.

...and then Maddie starts to massage his neck...

MADDIE

Haven't done this in a while,  
have I?... What am I talking  
about? I never did this...  
You were always the one who  
gave the back rubs...

...and then David PURRS with delight under her touch, and then...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

20

MADDIE (CONT'D)

Y'know, David... When you finish this damn Anselmo case... I want you to take a vacation... You deserve one... a couple days on a beach somewhere... work on your tan... Or a fishing trip...  
(and then)  
Why don't you do deep sea fishing?

DAVID (O.C.)

Wanna come along and bait my hook?

...and Maddie turns and looks over at...

DAVID

21

...in yesterday's shirt, unbuttoned, standing at the open door of his bathroom, wiping his freshly shaved face with a towel...

MADDIE

22

...looks back at the figure on the couch and then it hits her and she PULLS her hands back abruptly... and then, RICHIE ROLLS OVER and looks up at Maddie...

RICHIE

Oh... hi, Maddie... Mind taking a swipe at my lower lumbar?... actually... lower than my lower lumbar... store most of my tension there...

DAVID

(to Richie,  
bundling him  
toward the door)

... Great seeing you...  
congrats... hope you and the  
little lady'll be very happy...  
bye... the blonde and I got  
turkey to talk.

ON RICHIE

23

...on his feet now... but dragging them...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

23

RICHIE

Hold the phone, bro... Gimme  
a chance to say 'hey' to the  
boss lady...

(to Maddie)

...who's looking mightee fine,  
I might add.

DAVID

Save the butter, Rich.

(to Maddie)

The answer is no.

MADDIE

What's the question?

DAVID

You don't want to know.

MADDIE

Maybe I do.

DAVID

Trust me, you don't.

...as both of them wheel on Maddie...

RICHIE

I'm in love.

DAVID

Do you have any idea what the  
failure rate is for a new  
restaurant?

RICHIE

This one's slam dunk...  
almost... Which is where you  
guys come in.

DAVID

And you go out.

MADDIE

David, let him talk.

RICHIE

Yeah, Dave, let him talk.

DAVID

Fine... walk and talk.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (2)

23

RICHIE

(as he's edged  
toward the door)This is about a lot more than  
a restaurant... This is about  
our future... Carla's and mine.

MADDIE

(yanking him back)

Who's Carla?

RICHIE

The woman of my dreams.

DAVID

The flavor of the month.

MADDIE

David...

RICHIE

On our first date... we fell  
madly, deeply, passionately  
in love.

DAVID

(singing)

She wore Blue Velvet... whoa...  
whoa... whoa...

...and Maddie just rolls her eyes as David SLIDES OFF into  
the bathroom to tie his necktie and he keeps SINGING  
tauntingly in the BACKGROUND... not the least bit  
interested in the conversation...

RICHIE

Restaurant I took her to was  
a horror show... sent back the  
food... the wine... the  
dessert... coffee... and got  
hit with a check for a 180  
clams... Best evening of my  
life, though.

...and David POPS his head out and CROONS...

DAVID

Whoa... whoa... whoa...

...then DISAPPEARS again... keeping up the serenade...

RICHIE

Great girl... terrible  
dinner... and a dream was  
born.

(more)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

23

RICHIE (cont'd)  
We decided that if these hash  
slingers could charge an arm  
and a leg, we could open our  
own place... and do it right.

DAVID  
(belting out the  
finale)  
And I still can see Blue Velvet  
through my tears...  
(and then; bowing)  
Thank you.

MADDIE  
(to Richie)  
Expensive proposition...  
bankrolling a restaurant.

RICHIE  
Not a problem.

DAVID  
Only it is a problem... it is  
the problem.

RICHIE  
Dave... she's got the money.

DAVID  
Had the money.

RICHIE  
All we have to do is find the  
guy who took it.

MADDIE  
Who took it?

RICHIE  
Benny Largo.

DAVID  
And he's just gonna give it  
back?

RICHIE  
He'll give it back.

DAVID  
Seventy-two thousand dollars?

MADDIE  
Gone?

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (5)

23

DAVID

Rich... have you gone to the  
cops about this?

MADDIE

Oh, they'll be a big help...  
shuffle around some papers,  
then it's...

RICHIE

...off to the donut shop.

MADDIE

You got it. And by the time  
they get around to Carla's  
case, this... this...  
(really getting  
wound up)  
...snake--

RICHIE

Bennie Largo.

MADDIE

Bennie Largo, will have spent  
all their money on the Riviera  
or something. And where's  
Richie?

DAVID

In my office using up valuable  
oxygen.

MADDIE

David... he needs help... Carla  
needs help... They need help...  
professional help...  
(and then; to  
Richie)  
Have you thought about hiring  
a detective?

ON DAVID

24

...slapping a palm to his forehead...

ON RICHIE

25

...who gives a smile of triumph...



ON DAVID AND MADDIE

26

DAVID

Excuse us for a second.

...as he takes her by the arm... and then he HUSTLES her out of his office, we ...

CUT TO:

DAVID

27

...pulling the door shut behind him... he HUSTLES her across the outer office toward her office...

DAVID

I've been working twenty-four hours a day... seven days a week... bustin' my hump, eatin' bad food... watchin' Viola's beard grow... Don't get me wrong, he's a fine detective... and a great wit.

MADDIE

Where have I heard this before?

DAVID

Fact is... this agency is over-worked and under-staffed... and while I love my brother like a brother...

...as they approach Maddie's office, the DOOR OPENS and Dipesto EMERGES... Her lipstick, a Rorshach test across her mouth, she CROSSES to her desk as she tucks in her blouse as Maddie and David BLAST into the office and find...

VIOLA

28

...lying on the floor... shirt open... smoking a CIGARETTE... a satisfied, post-coital smile splashed across his face...

MADDIE

Out.

...and Viola VANISHES... and then...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

28

DAVID (CONT'D)

The thing you need to know  
about my brother...

(and then)

As a child he only brought home  
pets that had things seriously  
wrong with them.

MADDIE

I think we should help him.

DAVID

Of course you do... because  
he's an operator and you're  
a soft touch... an easy mark...  
a sucker.

MADDIE

Just like this woman... whose  
bank account was cleaned out  
by someone she trusted...

(and then)

I wake up every morning  
thinking how much better my  
life would be if I hadn't been  
taken like that.

DAVID

You wouldn't have met me.

MADDIE

I rest my case. But, it's not  
just the money, David... Don't  
you want to see your brother  
happy? Don't you want this  
relationship to get off to a  
good start?

DAVID

Relationship? Hah... Richie  
only falls in love after  
midnight...

(and then)

I know what he's thinking. We  
track down this babe's loot,  
he'll be the hero, and she'll  
drop the laundry.

MADDIE

Your brother is a man in  
love... you can hear it in  
his voice... see it in his  
eyes...

(CONTINUED)

DAVID  
He probably couldn't even tell  
you this babe's last name.

...and then the DOOR OPENS and Richie sticks his head in...

RICHIE  
Look, guys... I don't wanna  
start a fight around--

MADDIE  
(wheeling on him)  
What's her last name?

RICHIE  
Huh?

DAVID  
Carla's last name?

RICHIE  
McCabe.

...and Maddie just turns and smiles at David... and then  
David grills Richie...

DAVID  
What color are her eyes?

...and then, after a moment...

RICHIE  
Blue... Hazel...  
(and then)  
You know... I'm not sure.

...and now David turns and smiles at Maddie...

MADDIE  
Where's she from?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

28

RICHIE  
Back East somewhere.

DAVID  
(smelling blood)  
Where?

RICHIE  
Beats me.

...and David flushes at the prospect of victory...

MADDIE  
How old is she?

RICHIE  
Thirty-five.

...and Maddie is vindicated...

DAVID  
When's her birthday?

RICHIE  
What is this?

DAVID  
Answer the question.

RICHIE  
I don't know when her birthday  
is.

DAVID  
Advantage, Dave.

MADDIE  
Where'd you meet her?

RICHIE  
In a bar.

...and Maddie sags in defeat...

DAVID  
Match point.

RICHIE  
Look... I don't know her life  
story... okay... only met her  
a couple weeks ago... but, the  
one thing I can tell you...  
(more)

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (4)

28

                  RICHIE (cont'd)  
                  (and then; after  
                  a moment)  
                  She's a keeper...  
                  (and then)  
                  At night... when I crash...  
                  I wanna sleep fast, so I can  
                  wake up and see her again.

ON MADDIE

29

...caught up in this... and then...

ON DAVID

30

...not buying...

                  DAVID  
                  Sheesh...

                  RICHIE  
                  I want to find out the answers  
                  to all those questions... I  
                  mean she's... she's...  
                  (and a smile  
                  flickers across  
                  his face as he  
                  conjures her up  
                  in his mind)  
                  I never let anybody inside the  
                  wire like this...  
                  (and then; plainly,  
                  simply)  
                  It's really weird... I love  
                  her...  
                  (and then)  
                  But, look... you're busy...  
                  and I'm holding up the war...  
                  Sorry to have taken your time.

...and Richie TURNS and HEADS for the door...

ON MADDIE

31

...watching him go... and then, looking to David...

ON DAVID

32

...looking away... and then...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

32

DAVID  
What's Benny Largo look like?

ON RICHIE

33

...TURNING BACK, he's one vast, sincere smile...

ON DAVID

34

...looking to Maddie...

DAVID  
Don't gloat... I hate it when  
you gloat...

CUT TO BLACK

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

ON MADDIE

*Brown*

35

...at the wheel... David riding shotgun and sulking... they drive in silence for a long moment... David looking like he's being held prisoner... and David checks his watch as Maddie glances over to him... and then...

MADDIE

You're awfully quiet.

DAVID

Am I?

MADDIE

Yes, you are.

DAVID

Oh.

...and after a long moment...

MADDIE

I mean... usually when we're driving together, I can barely get a word in edgewise.

DAVID

Oh.

...and there's another long moment and David looks at his watch again...

MADDIE

Maybe we've finally run out of things to yammer about.

DAVID

Could be.

MADDIE

...Like some old married couple.

DAVID

Hmm...

...and then David looks at his watch again...

MADDIE

David... why do you keep looking at your watch?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

35

DAVID

To see what time it is.

MADDIE

Look, maybe we're taking the wrong tack... Maybe there's a smarter way to find Benny Largo than going door to door... trying to shake something out of his business contacts.

DAVID

Can't think of a better way to waste...

(looking at watch)

...four hours, seventeen minutes and thirty-seven... eight... nine...

MADDIE

He's your brother.

DAVID

...one quarter of a day... dragging our fannies from one modeling agency to another... looking for Clutch Cargo...

MADDIE

Benny Largo.

DAVID

...when we could be bringing home the bacon on the Anselmo case.

...and they drive in silence for a moment,... and then...

MADDIE

Okay..maybe Benny Largo's flown the coop... maybe he's not even in L.A. anymore.

DAVID

Local hustler... he's hustling locally.

MADDIE

If I embezzled seventy-two thousand dollars from my modeling agency... I'd want to put some real estate between my partner and I...

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (2)

35

DAVID

My partner and me.

MADDIE

I'd move to the south of France.

DAVID

Not on seventy-two G's... Keep you in snails for a year... Max.

MADDIE

If we just had a lead.

DAVID

If we had a lead... we'd solve the case... and we wouldn't be having all this fun.

MADDIE

David... We agreed to help your brother.

DAVID

You agreed... I'm along for the ride... a long, tedious, boring, non-paying ride... but who's complaining?

MADDIE

Okay... Pretend he's not your brother.

DAVID

Tried.

MADDIE

Why can't you just tell yourself, you're helping two people in love.

DAVID

(rolls his eyes)

Saccharin's been linked to cancer, you know.

...and they drive in silence for another long moment... and then...

DAVID

Tell you one thing this little field trip's taught me...

(more)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

35

DAVID (cont'd)

You had some racket going for yourself in the modeling biz... raking in all that moolah for saying cheese.

MADDIE

Not as easy as it looks... believe me. The most grueling thing I can imagine is putting in a long day in front of a camera...

(and then)

No wonder Carla wants to get out of the agency business and open a restaurant.

DAVID

Yessiree... smiling and wearing clothes at the same time... a real death march.

MADDIE

Demanding clients... tempermental photographers ...hot lights.

DAVID

And a great big check waiting for you at the end of the day.

MADDIE

Which you earn by giving up a lot.

DAVID

Like?

MADDIE

Privacy, for instance. David... you have no idea what it's like to walk into a supermarket and see your face everywhere.

DAVID

Used to happen to me all the time back in the 60's.

MADDIE

Goodbye, anonymity.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

35

DAVID

Hello, swimming pools,  
mansions, and sports cars.

MADDIE

People forget you're a human  
being. You're just an image...  
a logo... they talk about  
you... to your face... in the  
third person.

DAVID

That like a threesome?

MADDIE

They treat you like a piece  
of meat.

DAVID

... for five thou a day.

MADDIE

I made a lot more than that.

DAVID

And you walked away from it,  
so you could drive around...  
(and then, looking  
around at his  
watch)  
...for four hours and nineteen  
minutes and forty-seven  
seconds... making squat?...  
Maddie... shoulda had a chat  
with your guidance counsellor.

MADDIE

What's next?

DAVID

Thirtysomething.

MADDIE

On the list.

SHOCK CUT TO:

BEAUTIFUL LEGS

36

...taking us through a DOOR emblazoned with the LOGO for  
EMBASSY MODELS...

SHOCK CUT TO:

A PERFECT PAIR OF LIPS 37  
...being CAREFULLY OUTLINED by a steady hand... and the  
MUSIC COMES UP as...

BEAUTIFUL HAIR 38  
...is SWEEPED UP into a CHIGNON... while...

ANOTHER MODEL 39  
...scarfs half a SANDWICH while the STYLIST PAINSTAKINGLY  
PINS a DRESS to fit her... and they LAUGH as they share a  
joke, while...

AN ELEGANTLY SHAPED EYEBROW 40  
...is BRUSHED over by a DARK PENCIL... and then...

THE PHOTOGRAPHER'S ASSISTANT 41  
...adjusts the LIGHTS... as...

THE DRESSER 42  
...helps another MODEL into an outfit... and...

ONE OF THE MODELS 43  
...beautiful... perfectly-coiffed and dressed in an elegant  
little Chanel suit... fluidly goes through a SERIES OF  
MOVEMENTS... captured on film by the...

PHOTOGRAPHER 44  
...who SNAPS away... as...

DAVID AND MADDIE 45  
...ENTER the lobby... walking into the midst of all this  
activity... David carries a large black portfolio...  
craning at the girls as Maddie LEADS HIM past... and  
then... an efficient-looking WOMAN approaches...

WOMAN  
I'm sorry, this is a closed  
set.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

45

MADDIE

We have an appointment.

WOMAN

With?

MADDIE

With Mr....

...searching... and then Maddie looks to David, who is absorbed in a YOUNG LOVELY... and Maddie plants an elbow in his side... and David TURNS... and then...

DAVID

Eddie Skins here...

(extends his hand)

Eddie Skins Personal

Management. Benny Largo phoned this morning, told me you were interested in using my client... May I present?...

(making an  
introduction)

...Madolyn Hayes.

WOMAN

(she looks at  
Maddie; and then  
recognition sets  
in)

Maddie Hayes... didn't realize  
you were trying to make a  
comeback.

...to which Maddie can only offer a tight-lipped...

MADDIE

Yes...

...and then...

WOMAN

I'm sorry... Who did you say  
referred you?

DAVID

Benny Largo...

WOMAN

Name doesn't ring a bell...  
(and then)  
Are you sure it was Embassy  
that was interested?

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (2)

45

...and suddenly they are interrupted as an ANGRY MAN cuts in...

MAN

...Where'd you dig up this meat puppet?... Nobody looks like this. Do you know anybody who looks like this? I've never even seen anybody who looks like this.

...and Maddie and David turn to see...

A MALE MODEL

46

...standing next to the angry man... dressed in beachwear... perfect face... perfect body... perfect smile... which remains firmly in place throughout...

MAN

The hair... the teeth... save me from these teeth...  
(emphatically)  
...wrong...

...and the woman recoils... and then he blusters on...

MAN

I'm trying to sell a product to men... out there... in America... This isn't a man... This is a statue... Why don't we find ourselves someone real?... not too bright... bicycle tire around the waist, maybe... I want ordinary, I want run-of-the-mill... I want...

...and then, his gaze falls on David... and then...

MAN

...this guy... I want this meat puppet.

CUT TO:

DAVID *W*

47

...on a BEACH SET... now wearing the BEACHWEAR seen earlier on the Male Model... only it kind of hangs off David...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

47

and he's just STANDING ABSOLUTELY STILL while four bikini-clad MODELS go through their POSING MOTIONS all around him... as the photographer arranges David who is constantly hectored by the angry man... as...

MADDIE

48

...watches off on the sidelines, obviously enjoying David's ordeal...

CUT TO:

DAVID

49

...LEANING AGAINST a nearby PALM TREE... and the TREE and David CRASH OUT OF FRAME...

CUT TO:

A FAN

50

...being TURNED ON...

THE GIRLS

51

...who FLUFF OUT their thick HAIR in the wind... which kicks up a sandstorm into David's face...

CUT TO:

DAVID

52

...as a big POWDER PUFF SMACKS him in the face... and a CLOUD of POWDER hangs momentarily in the air... he COUGHS... and we...

CUT TO:

DAVID

53

...wind and water lashing his face as he shoots the tube at the Banzai pipeline... and we PULL BACK to find him standing on a surfboard being rocked by two grips and then David loses his balance and crashes onto the floor of the studio...

CUT TO:

ALL THE GIRLS

54

...KNEELING in the SAND... next to David... who's BURIED in a MOUND OF SAND... feet and head exposed with a SAND CASTLE rising out of his mid-section... and then, the CASTLE COLLAPSES and David takes a LOAD OF SAND in the face... looking really uncomfortable... and we...

CUT TO:

ALL THE GIRLS IN A LINE

55

...HOLDING DAVID across them... like a surfboard... and the PHOTOGRAPHER SNAPS AWAY... then TURNS AWAY to wait for the next setup... and the GIRLS all simultaneously DROP David on the ground...

ON DAVID

56

...as the MUSIC CUTS OUT... looking up at the girls... in pain...

DAVID

Any of you girls ever run  
across a guy named Benny Largo?

CUT TO:

MADDIE

57

...sitting in a DIRECTOR'S CHAIR just off the set... and then...

A VOICE (O.C.)

Miss Hayes...

...and Maddie looks over and sees...

MODEL

58

...one of the GIRLS from the shoot... up close we see how young she is... maybe seventeen, tops... a real China doll... and she very meekly approaches Maddie...

GIRL

Excuse me... could I have your  
autograph?... I mean, if it's  
not too weird or anything.

MADDIE

Not at all... I'm flattered.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

58

...taking a PENCIL AND PAPER from her...

MADDIE

What's your name?

GIRL

Oh, it's not for me... It's for my mom. Her name's Marie.

MADDIE

(writing)

To Marie...

GIRL

You were her idol...

MADDIE

Really?

GIRL

Huh... huh... I mean, she even did her hair like yours... I mean... back then... when your look was in.

ON MADDIE

59

...the smile freezing on her face... and then... we hear a groan OFF CAMERA... as an exhausted, used up David stiff-legs his way off the set... looking more like a post game casualty of the gridiron than a male model... and then, he cocks his head and a STREAM OF SAND POURS OUT... and then..

MADDIE

Let's get outta here.

...grabbing his arm, she HAULS HIM OUT... and we...

CUT TO:

A PAIR OF ELEVATOR DOORS

60

...and they OPEN... and David, looking a bit depleted after his ordeal, STEPS OUT into the corridor of yet another office building... He carries Maddie's PORTFOLIO, and Maddie hangs back...

MADDIE

David... would you mind if I didn't go in this time?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

60

...and the DOORS STARTS TO CLOSE and David CATCHES it...

DAVID

You're not throwing in the towel?... What about Carla?... What about Richie? What about...

(heavy lidded;  
Elvis)

...loove?...

...and Maddie PRESSES THE BUTTON and the DOORS START TO CLOSE and David CATCHES it again...

MADDIE

I can't go into another one of these places and have everyone look at me like I'm some ex-model who blew all her money and needs a job.

DAVID

Why not?... It's true.

MADDIE

I have a job.

...and she PUNCHES the elevator once again... and David catches it once again...

DAVID

No... This is not a job... This is an obligation, a duty, a millstone around our necks. The Anselmo case is a job... as in ca-ching...

MADDIE

The Anselmo case... the Anselmo case... Do you know how sick I am of hearing about the Anselmo case?... Why can't the Anselmo's solve their own case?...

(punching the  
button)

I'll wait for you in the car...

...and as the DOORS CLOSE, and David HEADS OFF, we...

CUT TO:





CONTINUED:

64

...David brightens at the prospect of paydirt...

DAVID

Are you kidding?... Benny and  
me kicked the gong around  
pretty good in our day...

(and then)

This isn't his place, is it?

...and Ginger doesn't answer... and David knows he's found  
his man, and then...

ON DAVID

65

...looking around...

DAVID

Ole Benny did pretty good for  
himself.

ON GINGER

66

...assessing David warily... and then, re: the picture...

GINGER

We're not really looking for  
any new girls right now...  
but, I'll keep this on file.

DAVID

Appreciate it...

(and then)

You wouldn't know where I could  
get hold of Benny, by any  
chance?

GINGER

(her discomfort  
growing)

I think he's out of town.

DAVID

Any idea when he'll be back?

GINGER

He didn't say.

DAVID

Yeah... well... sure would like  
to see him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

66

...and Ginger wants this conversation to end and David knows she's covering... and then...

DAVID

Maybe you could give me a ring when he gets back... here's my number...

...and David WRITES down his number... and then... sliding her a COUPLE BILLS along with the number...

DAVID

And here's a coupla dead presidents... in case it's a toll call.

...and she just looks down at the cash... clearly rattled by David and her HAND SHAKES... and then, she DROPS one of the COFFEE POTS which SHATTERS... and then...

ON DAVID

67

...confused by her reaction... and then...

DAVID

Oughta switch to de-caf.

SHOCK CUT TO:

INT. BMW - NIGHT

68

...Maddie at the wheel... David shotgun... and after a moment...

MADDIE

What are you wearing tonight?

DAVID

Halter top and a tube skirt... What'd'ya mean, what am I wearing?

MADDIE

...To dinner.

DAVID

(brightening)

Wanna have dinner... great... I've got Laker tickets... Chili dogs are on me.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

68

MADDIE

We're having dinner with  
Richie.

...and David sags against the seat with a groan... and  
then...

MADDIE

You forgot?

DAVID

I didn't forget... I just  
didn't remember...

(and then)

We're just gonna have to make  
it another time.

MADDIE

David... he made reservations.  
I'm sure Carla's a nervous  
wreck about meeting you...  
We can't cancel at the last  
minute.

DAVID

I've got Laker tickets.

MADDIE

Give'em to Burt and Agnes. \*

DAVID

Jack Nicholson's gonna love  
sitting with Burt and Agnes. \*

MADDIE

I'll drop you off so you can  
change... Then you can cab it  
over to the restaurant.

...and David sits in silence for a disgruntled moment...

DAVID

I haven't seen this guy in six  
months... all of a sudden, he's  
the focus of my entire being.

MADDIE

You haven't seen you own  
brother in six months?

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (2)

68

DAVID

Maybe seven...

(and then, off  
Maddie's look)He's my brother... what do I  
have to see him for?

MADDIE

Because he's family... your  
flesh and blood.

DAVID

We're two ducks who happened  
to cook in the same oven.

MADDIE

What is it... you two just  
don't get along?

DAVID

We get along fine... He lives  
his life... I live mine...  
except when you drag me into  
his.

MADDIE

You'd appreciate having a  
sibling a lot more if you were  
an only child like me.

DAVID

...Who never had to wear hand  
me downs... always got to sit  
in the front seat of the  
station wagon... never got  
stuck with a bottom bunk.

MADDIE

You don't have bunk beds when  
you're an only child...(and then, after  
a moment)You had someone to talk to when  
you were growing up.

DAVID

You didn't have anyone around  
to tell on you.

MADDIE

You had someone to play with.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (3)

68

DAVID

No one borrowed your stuff and lost it.

MADDIE

Pretty lonely... the only kid in the house.

DAVID

...the center of attention... everyone's darling.

MADDIE

You never had to worry about making friends...

DAVID

...Never was a problem.

MADDIE

...because no matter what happened, you always had one... built in... at home.

DAVID

...stealing my allowance... hitting on my girlfriends...

...and then...

DAVID

Look... I like my brother... I suppose I love my brother... I'm sure he feels the same. I mean, if anything ever happened to me... he'd be ripped up pretty bad... and vice versa... one of the things families are supposed to do...

(and then)

But, if I met him in college, say... I don't know if we'd have hung out together...

(and then)

I doubt it.

MADDIE

But, look at how much you have in common... all those memories... of growing up together.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

68

DAVID

Yeah... so?

MADDIE

Excuse me, David... I don't know how you can be so detached.

DAVID

Who's detached?

MADDIE

You are... detached, remote, and unfeeling about someone who's an important part of your life.

DAVID

Hey... it's not like he's my best friend... We share some memories... fine. But, you can't just chew over the past... and stay close to someone..... Hell, look at you and me.

ON MADDIE

69

...reacting as...

DAVID

70

...realizes what he's said and we...

CUT TO:

CLOSE ON A STEAM-COVERED MIRROR

71

...and we hear David SINGING along to James Brown's "Sex Machine", which thumps away in the other room... after a moment A HAND ENTERS FRAME, WIPES the steam off the mirror to REVEAL DAVID drying his hair with an ELECTRIC DRYER... and then David TURNS OFF the dryer and we can hear the SOUND OF A BUZZER buzzing incessantly in the background...

ON DAVID

72

...wrapping a TOWEL around his waist as he TRANSITS the living room... grinding to the MUSIC as he goes... and the BUZZER SOUNDS once again... and then...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

72

DAVID  
Keep your pants on.

...and he reaches the door... and OPENS it to reveal...

CLAUDETTE

73

...a tall, extremely attractive blonde...

ON DAVID

74

...taking her in for a moment, and then...

DAVID  
Maybe I spoke too soon.

CLAUDETTE  
Hi.

DAVID  
Hi.

CLAUDETTE  
I'm Claudette.

DAVID  
Hi, Claudette... Dave here.

...and then...

CLAUDETTE  
Are you going to invite me in?

...and then David OPENS the door and gestures for her to enter... not knowing what to make of this...

ANOTHER ANGLE

75

...as Claudette ENTERS...

DAVID  
You girls are out selling  
cookies earlier than last  
year... different uniforms,  
too... big improvement.  
(and then)  
What can I do for you?

CLAUDETTE  
You can take my coat.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 75

...and Claudette TURNS and SLIPS the coat off her shoulders, offering it to David... and David takes it and she KICKS OFF her heels, then PULLS OFF her earrings... and then...

ON HER FEET 76

...as her DRESS falls to the floor...

ON DAVID 77

...just looking at Claudette, who stands there in a camisole...

DAVID

Make yourself comfortable.

CLAUDETTE

So... where would you like to play?

DAVID

Finally, a dream sequence I can sink my teeth into.

CLAUDETTE

Ginger didn't call to tell you I was coming?

DAVID

Ginger?...

CLAUDETTE

From Pinnacle... \*

DAVID

Oh... right... the redhead... jumpy.

CARLA

Cute guys make her nervous.

DAVID

Musta missed her call...  
(and then)  
How'd you find me?

CLAUDETTE

You left your number... so we looked up the address in one of those... backward... books.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

77

...as she moves toward him seductively...

DAVID

This must be pretty urgent.

CLAUDETTE

Benny Largo is very interested  
in your business proposition.  
He sent me over to say...  
thanks.

DAVID

Fruit basket would've been  
fine.

...and now Claudette slips her arm around David's neck...

CLAUDETTE

He liked the blonde in the  
picture... a lot...

DAVID

Maddie?

CLAUDETTE

...Thinks she's got an...  
I'll-use-you-up-and-throw  
you-away-like-the-worthless  
piece-of-trash-that-you  
are-look...

...and then...

DAVID

...That's Maddie.

CLAUDETTE

Guys really shell out for girls  
like her... She better lay off  
my regulars, though.

...and David just looks at her... his confusion deepening  
as she pulls herself close to him...

DAVID

Claudette... I think you'n me  
should talk.

CLAUDETTE

You're shy... I understand.

...and Claudette sidles against David who PULLS BACK...

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

77

DAVID

Tell me about this agency.

CLAUDETTE

Hey... you're not from vice,  
are you?

DAVID

No... just... looking out for  
my girls, that's all.

ON CLAUDETTE

78

...sizing him up... unsure...

CLAUDETTE

You're sure you're not the  
heat?

DAVID

Honest Injun.

CLAUDETTE

Only one way to prove it.

ON DAVID

79

...looking off... as he re-adjusts his towel...

ON CLAUDETTE

80

...watching him... and then satisfied...

CLAUDETTE

Pinnacle's a great place to  
work... good benefits... been  
there since Benny split with  
his ex-partner... I like Carla  
okay...good business woman...  
but, with Benny, I get free  
dental. \*

ON DAVID

81

...reacting... and then, covering his surprise...

DAVID

Heard Benny and Carla had a  
falling out.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

81

CLAUDETTE

Different management styles...  
got pretty messy...

DAVID

Yeah... well, I'll give Benny  
a jingle about the blonde in  
the morning... But right now  
I really oughta book.

CLAUDETTE

What about you'n me?

DAVID

I'd hate myself if I gave you  
this cold...

...as he manufactures a snuffle...

CLAUDETTE

It's not like we're gonna kiss.

DAVID

Thanks... but another time,  
maybe.

ON CLAUDETTE

82

...shrugging...

CLAUDETTE

Benny wants to meet you  
tonight... eleven-thirty...  
here's the address... He's  
anxious to put the blonde to  
work.

...and David takes the piece of paper she hands him...

DAVID

She'll be thrilled to hear it.

...and then Claudette makes one more run at David...

CLAUDETTE

Really want me to leave?...  
I mean... this one's on the  
house.

DAVID

No such thing as a free lunch,  
and I got dinner plans...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

82

                  CLAUDETTE  
You got time for an hors  
d'oeuvres.

                  DAVID  
On a diet.

                  CLAUDETTE  
Know a good way to burn off  
some calories.

ON DAVID

83

...reacting...

CUT TO BLACK

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

ON A PAIR OF MAN'S FEET

84

...steering a WOMAN'S around the DANCE FLOOR... a romantic 40'S PIECE playing in the BACKGROUND...

RICHIE (O.C.)

I just lie there on the  
pillow...next to her...  
watchin' her sleep.

...and we PAN UP and see Maddie DANCING with Richie... and they are both looking at someone OFF CAMERA... And then...

RICHIE

Look at that... never seen hair  
like that... that thick...  
and black... except maybe on  
a race horse?

...and Maddie looks at Richie... a little askance... and then...

MADDIE

You really like her, don't you?

RICHIE

Whew...

MADDIE

She seems very nice.

RICHIE

She is very nice.

MADDIE

And she's very beautiful.

...and then...

IN THEIR P.O.V.

85

...we see CARLA ... sitting alone at the table... a radiant brunette... bathed in CANDLE LIGHT... And then, she reaches for her WINE GLASS and takes a sip as she scans the MENU... and then...

RICHIE

86

...looks to Maddie...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

86

RICHIE  
You're very beautiful...  
(looking over to  
Carla)  
...but, she's all mine.

MADDIE  
You Addison boys really know  
to walk down both sides of the  
street at the same time.

...and Richie just flashes an Addison grin... and then...

RICHIE  
Here... check this out...

...and then, Richie STEERS Maddie ACROSS THE DANCE FLOOR  
until...

CARLA

87

...is seen in profile...

RICHIE  
Tell me that profile doesn't  
belong on a Grecian urn...

MADDIE  
Men really do this, don't they?

...and just then Carla LOOKS UP and sees that they are  
looking at her and flashes a big, sunny smile...

RICHIE  
Take me Lord... take me...  
I lived a lifetime in that  
smile... and what a cook.

MADDIE  
Richie... you're either coming  
down with malaria... or you  
should marry this woman toute  
suite.

RICHIE  
(a twinge of  
remorse)  
Her and some movie star...  
I get... But what she's doing  
with me?

DAVID (O.C.)  
You're not a bad little dancer.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

87

...and Maddie and Richie LOOK UP and see...

DAVID

88

...approaching... and then... to Maddie... as she and Richie continue dancing...

DAVID

Course I taught him everything he knows.

RICHIE

True... cash was tight... Dave got dance class... I took typing... showed him around the keys...

DAVID

I taught him how to samba...

RICHIE

(nodding toward  
Carla)

The brunette... What'dya think?

DAVID

Not bad.

RICHIE

Come on I want to introduce you.

DAVID

Mind if I shake a leg with the blonde first.

RICHIE

... once around the dance floor quickly... Carla's dying to meet you.

...and Richie SAILS BACK to the table as...

MADDIE AND DAVID

89

...start to DANCE... watching as...

RICHIE

90

...SLIDES IN next to Carla and gives her a kiss, as if being apart for one dance has been an ordeal...

ON MADDIE AND DAVID

91

MADDIE

Look at them, David... Don't  
they make a nice couple?

...and David's reserving judgement as she continues...

MADDIE

I've never seen Richie like  
this. I've never seen anyone  
like this. I mean, he's got  
it bad...

DAVID

Just hope whatever he's got  
can be treated with penicillin.

MADDIE

Always can count on you to be  
right there with a poison dart.

...and the SONG ENDS and some CHA-CHA MUSIC COMES UP and  
Maddie goes to leave but David catches her arm.

MADDIE

I hate the cha-cha.

DAVID

Come on... It's good for you...

...and David drags Maddie around in a cha-cha as he  
continues...

DAVID

Just had a visit from one of  
Carla's former employees...  
Claudette... Got quite an  
earful about the future Mrs.  
Richie.

MADDIE

From a disgruntled employee...  
David why are you so bent on  
poking holes in this  
relationship?

DAVID

Claudette wasn't disgruntled...  
matter-of-fact... she thinks  
Carla's a real professional...  
in the world's oldest  
profession.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

91

MADDIE

That's ridiculous...

(and then)

I've been talking with her.  
She's charming, intelligent,  
well-mannered.

DAVID

So was Miss Kitty... Carla and  
Benny Largo had a modeling  
agency... But their girls got  
paid to do a lot more than a  
photo spread for the client.

MADDIE

You're sure?

DAVID

Positutely...

(and then)

By the way, anytime you wanna  
pick up a little Christmas  
money... Benny Largo'd like  
to get your autograph on a W-4.

MADDIE

(sickening)

Oh David...

DAVID

Great benefits...

(and then)

Did I or did I not tell you...  
My brother's got radar... If  
there's night soil in the same  
hemisphere, Richie's foot'll  
find it.

...and David looks over at...

CARLA AND RICHIE

92

...who are lost in each other's gaze... and then...

MADDIE AND DAVE

93

...as David STOPS DANCING and LEADS Maddie back to the  
table...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

93

DAVID

Why don't you swap make-up tips  
in the powder room with Carla  
so I can talk to Richie.

...and Maddie STOPS in her tracks...

MADDIE

You're not going to tell him?

DAVID

No... I'm gonna keep it a  
secret. Just between you, me,  
and the Shriner's convention.

...and Maddie wrestles David back into the cha-cha...  
dancing him away from the table...

MADDIE

She has a past... so what?...  
Maybe she was desperate...  
Maybe she needed the money...  
Who knows? But look at her...  
She's crazy about him... She  
wants to settle down... turn  
over a new leaf... and you want  
to blow everything.

DAVID

I think Carla already took care  
of that.

...And Maddie steps on David's foot and he winces in pain,  
and then...

DAVID

Hey look... you're not talking  
to some L seven... I have no  
problem with her resume.  
Heck... it's entrepreneurs  
like Carla who built this great  
land of ours.

MADDIE

So you won't tell Richie.

DAVID

Of course I'm gonna tell  
Richie. If they wanna ride  
off into the sunset together...  
yippee-aye-o... But he should  
know.

...and then, after a moment...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

93

MADDIE

I don't disagree.

DAVID

You don't disagree?... So that means you agree?

MADDIE

(reluctantly)

I guess... but Carla should be the one to tell him.

DAVID

Fine...

(starting toward  
the table once  
again)

Take Richie for a cha-cha and I'll chat with our lady of the evening.

...And Maddie yanks him back...

MADDIE

Why can't you butt out?

DAVID

Only way she's gonna come clean is if she knows I know.

MADDIE

You know what stinks...

DAVID

(looking around  
the restaurant)

The wine list here.

MADDIE

You haven't seen your brother in months... but all of the sudden you can't wait to stick your nose in his business.

DAVID

For his own good.

...and the MUSIC STOPS... and David looks over to Richie... who's WAVING HIM over to the table... and he HEADS OFF and Maddie FOLLOWS...



ON RICHIE

94

...GETTING TO HIS FEET as David WALKS UP...

RICHIE

Carla McCabe... may I present  
the runt of the litter...

ON DAVID

95

...smiling at her... his most charming smile, but one that  
looks right through her...

ANGLE

96

...to include Carla... who is all warmth...

CARLA

David... I've really been  
looking forward to this...  
Richie's told me so much about  
you.

DAVID

Heard a lot about you, too.

...and Maddie shoots David a look as they sit...

DAVID

Sorry I'm late.

RICHIE

No prob, little bro... Addison  
affliction.

CARLA

Anyway... Maddie and I got an  
opportunity to get to know each  
other a little.

ON MADDIE

97

...a tight smile... giving way to a nervous laugh...  
somehow she can't help looking at this woman in a different  
light...

MADDIE

Yes, we did.

CARLA

Really amazing... how much we  
have in common.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

97

DAVID

That is amazing.

RICHIE

You know what I'm in the mood  
for...

(scanning the menu,

his expression falling)

No matter how haute the cuisine  
in our restaurant is... promise  
me we'll always have pizza on  
the menu.

CARLA

Double fromage

...and then...

DAVID

(to Carla)

So... Richie tells me you're  
a business woman.

...and Maddie tenses at this line of inquiry...

CARLA

Yes.

DAVID

Takes alot of love to build  
your own business... Right,  
Maddie?

MADDIE

Right.

CARLA

Don't I know... I guess Richie  
told you what happened?

DAVID

(nods)

...Shame...

CARLA

You know, it hurt... You build  
something from the ground up...  
all that work... then,  
pppffttt... gone... but...  
(and she just  
shrugs, and then)

C'est la vie.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

97

DAVID  
C'est la vie.

MADDIE  
C'est la vie.

...and then...

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

97

DAVID

Do you miss the grind?

...and Maddie kicks David under the table...

CARLA

I do actually... I like the  
pressure... deadlines \*  
...meeting payroll... keeping  
the clients happy...

(to Maddie)

But... I don't have to tell  
you.

MADDIE

...or anyone else for that  
matter.

CARLA

I just keep trying to convince  
myself that things happen for  
a reason.

MADDIE

A toast...

...as she raises her glass, trying to vector this  
conversation anywhere else...

MADDIE

...To things happening for a  
reason.

...and then... David... lifting his water glass...

DAVID

Well... don't worry, Carla...  
you'll be back on your feet  
in no time.

...and Maddie aghast, SPITS a mouthful of wine all over  
Richie... and Richie LEAPS up from his chair and dabs at  
the front of his shirt...

MADDIE

Richie... I'm sorry.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

97

RICHIE

No, big deal... I look great  
in beajolais... anyway... it's  
Dave's shirt.

CARLA

Honey... you better try and  
get that out right away.

DAVID

Little cold water'll do the  
trick...

(standing)

Lemme give you a hand.

ON MADDIE

98

...smelling trouble... tries to stop David...

MADDIE

Richie can take care of  
himself, David.

DAVID

(off Carla)

Yeah... right...

(to Richie)

C'mon, let's hit the head.

...and then two guys HEAD OFF...

ON MADDIE

99

...who just smiles at Carla... and we...

CUT TO:

RICHIE

100 \*

...at the sink in the men's room, blotting his shirt...  
and David stands next to the sink, against the wall...  
looking off, contemplating a way into this difficult  
agenda...

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

100

RICHIE

She really likes you... I can tell... not that it matters one way or another... but Thanksgiving dinners are a lot more sane if everyone in the family gets along.

DAVID

You're really serious about this girl?

RICHIE

I know what you're thinking... chasing after a babe who looks like that... I got only one thing on my mind, right?... Wrong... Now, that one thing happens to be the absolute best it's ever been with Carla... but she's all around wonderful...

...and David doesn't want to hear this because it only makes his job more difficult...

RICHIE

...Make a great wife... terrific mom... and a five-star restaurateur.

DAVID

Rich... aren't you rushing things a little?

RICHIE

Who you talking to, buddy boy?... I'm just as incapable of commitment as I've always been... but if anyone can turn me around... she's the one...

(and then)

By the way... brown eyes, Manitowoc, Wisconsin, and October 3rd.

...and David just smiles at him... and then...

RICHIE

Any luck with Benny Largo?

DAVID

Yeah...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

100

RICHIE

Well, don't hold out on me,  
buddy boy.

DAVID

Eleven-thirty... tonight...  
here's the address...

...and David hands over the card... and then...

DAVID

But Rich--

RICHIE

(cutting him off)

Thanks, brother of mine...  
knew you'd come through...  
by the way, Carla doesn't know  
you're helping me out... so  
let's keep this kinda Q-T...

...as he pockets the directions... and then he looks up at  
David... and then...

RICHIE

David... why the long face?

DAVID

We gotta talk.

RICHIE

You and the blonde at each  
other's psyches again?...

DAVID

I found out something today.

RICHIE

You sick?

DAVID

(shakes his head)

It's Carla.

RICHIE

She sick?

DAVID

She seems like a great girl.

RICHIE

She is a great girl... that  
a problem?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

100

...and then, barreling ahead...

DAVID

It's like this... Carla is...  
or at least, was... involved  
in a business venture that...  
what do I want to say here?...  
a business venture that some  
people might construe as...

RICHIE

David... you're beating around  
the bush...

DAVID

That's exactly what I'm  
doing... I'm beating around  
the bush... because Carla ran  
a cat house.

RICHIE

It wasn't a cat house,  
really... it was more of an  
out-call fantasy sex thing...

DAVID

You know?

RICHIE

We don't have any secrets from  
each other...

ON DAVID

101

...steaming here... and then...

DAVID

Why didn't you tell me?

RICHIE

...'Cause it isn't any of your  
business...

...and Richie turns to get a towel, but David straight arms  
him into the wall...

DAVID

None of my business, huh?...  
but I'm supposed to drop  
everything to find her partner  
in pandering.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

101

RICHIE

(eyeing David's  
hand)

Hands off the worsted, bro.

DAVID

You lied to me.

...and now David is holding Richie against the wall...

RICHIE

I didn't lie... I just spared  
you the fine print, that's  
all...

(and then)

You really gotta let go or I'm  
gonna get peeved here.

DAVID

You're a piece of work, you  
know that?

RICHIE

I'm gonna count to three...

DAVID

You expect me to be  
Johnny-on-the-spot when you're  
in a jam.

RICHIE

One...

ON DAVID AND RICHIE

102

...as Richie, clearly annoyed, visibly reddens...

DAVID

...but, you can't even be  
straight with me....and Richie tries to shake loose, but it's no good...  
and then...

DAVID

Can't help feeling a little  
used right about now...

RICHIE

Two... you, of all people,  
oughta know you can't choose  
who you fall in love with...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

102

DAVID

This is all my fault?

RICHIE

I warned you, brother of  
mine...

(and then)

Two and a half...

CUT TO:

MADDIE AND CARLA

103

...seated at the dinner table... listening to the waiter...

WAITER

Everyone in the kitchen is  
terribly excited about  
tonight's soup.

MADDIE

I'll have the special...

...and just then... Maddie looks up as the DOOR to the  
MEN'S ROOM SLAMS OPEN and sees...

DAVID

104

...FLYING out into the dining room and LANDING on a TABLE  
which COLLAPSES under his weight...

MADDIE

...to go.

ON DAVID

105

...who looks up at the TWO STARTLED DINERS...

DAVID

Can you do this with your  
tongue?...which he demonstrates by rolling it... and then he  
VAULTS to his feet and HEADS BACK into the MEN'S ROOM...

ON MADDIE

106

...getting up from the table and brushing past the waiter

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

106

as she HEADS OFF...

CUT TO:

THE MEN'S ROOM

107

...where there's a RIOT in STALL THREE as...

DAVID

108

...SETS ON his brother, who's landed there...

ON THEIR FEET

109

...seen under the staff as they duke it out... CRASHING,  
BANGING, GRUNTING and GROANING... and then... one pair of  
feet LIFT OFF the floor...

RICHIE (O.C.)

You sonava...

...and as the feet appear OVER THE TOP OF THE STALL... WE  
HEAR a GURGLE, GLUB-GLUB, and a FLUSH... and then...

DAVID

110

...BLASTS backwards... KNOCKING the STALL DOOR off its  
hinges as...

DAVID

111

...lands on the floor... and a DRENCHED Richie sets on him  
as...

MADDIE

112

...barrels into the men's room, sees them and wrestles in  
between them...

MADDIE

Stop it...

DAVID

Outta here, Maddie... this is  
the men's room.

MADDIE

Stop it... stop it... stop it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

112

...as she wrestles them apart...

DAVID

He knew.

MADDIE

He knew?

RICHIE

Yeah, I knew... doesn't mean  
you have to give me a porcelain  
shampoo.

...and Richie LUNGES at David who eggs him on, but Maddie  
is there to separate them... and they all TUMBLE into a  
heap onto the floor...

DAVID

See. This is what you missed  
out on... This... is what it's  
like to have a brother.

...and then...

CARLA

113

...ENTERS the men's room and just looks at the pile of  
bodies on the floor...

DAVID

(managing a tight  
smile)

Family feud.

...and as they disentangle and Maddie gets to her feet...  
Richie rights himself and takes Carla by the arm...  
shooting David a severe look...

RICHIE

Come on, Carla... time to go  
home.

CARLA

(smiling awkwardly)

Nice meeting you.

...and they EXIT and then Maddie wheels on David, who  
CROSSES to the SINK and SPLASHES SOME WATER on his face...

MADDIE

I should count my blessings,  
David... at least you're not  
my brother.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

113

...and Maddie STALKS OUT and then we hear a FLUSH and an OLD GUY... a couple of cocktails into the evening... EMERGES from one of the stalls and eyes David...

MAN

She's got that right.

...and the old guy CROSSES to the sink as David STORMS OUT... and we...

CUT TO BLACK

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. BMW - NIGHT

114

...SILENCE... DAVID drives, DISHEVELED from the fight, jaw set, gripping the wheel too tightly... MADDIE looks at him for a LONG MOMENT... she looks back at the road... SIGHS... after a moment...

MADDIE

Okay... Maybe Richie should have told you the whole story.

DAVID

Great... You're gonna take his side.

MADDIE

No, I'm not. But I can understand why he didn't.

DAVID

Sure sounds like his side to me.

MADDIE

How's he supposed to come to you and say, "Look, I fell in love with a hooker"?

DAVID

Just like that... Was that so damn difficult?

MADDIE

David, you don't make it easy for Richie... You don't make it easy for anybody to come to you with their problems.

DAVID

You make it sound like I'm unapproachable or something.

MADDIE

You can be, sometimes... a lot of times...

DAVID

(hot)

I'm the most approachable guy I know!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

114

MADDIE

I can't even approach you about  
Richie being afraid to approach  
you... That's how  
unapproachable you can be.

...David just looks at Maddie, then back at the road...  
they drive in silence for a long moment...

DAVID

Jerk.

MADDIE

Excuse me?

DAVID

Richie's a jerk... despite the  
fact that you think I'm  
detached... remote... and what  
was it?

MADDIE

Unfeeling...

DAVID

Unfeeling... toward him...  
I've always been there when  
he's needed me. But he won't  
even let me help him get his  
life together... instead...  
he lies to me... uses me...  
to help him screw it up even  
more.

...he TURNS the car into the DRIVEWAY of...

EXT. MADDIE'S HOUSE

115

...the BMW pulls up to the front door, stops...

MADDIE

What makes you think he's  
screwing up his life?

DAVID

Maddie... gimme a break.

MADDIE

Carla didn't lie to Richie...  
She was straight with him...  
That's what matters, isn't  
it?...

(more)

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

115

MADDIE (cont'd)  
(and then)  
You're the only one with a  
problem.

DAVID  
Oh, yeah... this is all my  
problem...

MADDIE  
I think maybe it is... He's  
found someone who makes him  
happy and all you see are  
obstacles.

DAVID  
You're a fine one to talk.

MADDIE  
You're jealous of him, David.

DAVID  
Me... jealous?... You... crazy.

MADDIE  
You can't stand the thought  
that your brother is capable  
of something you're not...

DAVID  
Collecting unemployment in  
three states?... Or is this  
the old "Dave's afraid of  
intimacy" mantra?...  
(then; chanting;  
blissed out)  
Dave's afraid of intimacy.  
Dave's afraid of intimacy.  
Dave's afraid of intimacy.

...and Maddie gets out of the car... and then...

MADDIE  
Goodnight, David.

ON DAVID

116

...watching her go... wondering if she's right...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

116

DAVID  
Goodnight, Chet.

CUT TO:

INT. DAVID'S APARTMENT - NIGHT - ON DOOR

117

...as we HEAR the KEYS JINGLE in the LOCK... and then the  
DOOR OPENS... and...

DAVID

118

...walks in... still a little perturbed... and he's halfway  
in the room before he notices...

GINGER

119

...sitting on the STEREO SPEAKER... in the dark... shadows  
playing across her face...

GINGER  
Mr. Addison... we need to talk.

ANGLE TO INCLUDE DAVID

120

...keeping his distance.....

DAVID  
You guys ever heard of soft  
sell?

GINGER  
(rising)  
Please, just hear me out. I'll  
match whatever it is they're  
paying you... I've got ten  
thousand dollars.

...she pulls a FAT ENVELOPE from her coat pocket and holds  
it out to him... and David just looks at her in  
confusion... and then...

DAVID  
Oughta keep me in milk and  
cookies for awhile.

GINGER  
Please, Mr. Addison... You've  
got to change your mind.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

120

DAVID

Gotta tell Claudette not to  
take rejection so hard.

...she WALKS TO HIM... next to him... hanging on his arm...

GINGER

If you kill Benny... I don't  
know what I'd do...

DAVID

Whoa... whoa... whoa...

...her head falls against his chest... she leans into  
him...

DAVID

Why would I want to kill Benny?  
(and then)  
My brother, maybe.

GINGER

Look... I know... everyone on  
the street knows...

DAVID

Wanna enlighten me?... 'cause  
I seem to be outta the loop  
on this one.

GINGER

You don't have to play games  
with me, Mr. Addison... There's  
a hit out on Benny... and when  
you showed up this morning...  
asking a lot of stupid  
questions... I knew you were  
the one.

...she starts SOBBING... David doesn't know what to do with  
his hands... whether to comfort her or not... he finally  
sticks them in his pockets...

DAVID

I'm tryin' to find this guy  
because he owes my brother's  
girlfriend seventy-two thousand  
dollars.

...A MOMENT, then... shaking her head... not getting  
through...

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (2)

120

GINGER

If you want more money... I'll need time.

DAVID

Lemme clear up a little misconception here... See, I am not a hit man...

GINGER

(coolly)

Alright... I understand you're a professional... but understand me, Mr. Addison...

...and without stepping away... she PULLS OUT A GUN... and STICKS it in his ribs...

GINGER

Benny and me got married last week... and I don't want to be a widow just yet...

(and then)

I tried to get him to leave town... so you wouldn't find him... But he wants a showdown... the jerk. So he sent Claudette... to set up the meeting tonight...

DAVID

(alarmed)

He's waiting for me now?...

GINGER

I tried to tell him. He doesn't stand a chance against a professional killer...

ON DAVID

121

...feeling precious seconds trickling away... and then David looks off...

DAVID

Hi, Mom... like you to meet my girlfriend...

...and Ginger looks off... and David TOSSES his SPORT COAT over the GUN... the GUN GOES OFF in the struggle... David BOLTS from the apartment, and we...

CUT TO:

EXT. BMW - NIGHT 122  
...as the car FISHTAILS past...

INT. BMW - NIGHT 123  
...David DRIVES like a man possessed... full throttle...  
as he LEANS on the HORN...

EXT. CITY LIGHTS - NIGHT 124  
...as the BMW WHIPS along, slicing through the light  
traffic...

EXT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT 125  
...a desolate neighborhood... gumballs on police cars FLASH  
RED and BLUE... COPS everywhere... A PARAMEDIC opens the  
rear door of an AMBULANCE which is parked next to a PIZZA  
DELIVERY TRUCK... TWO OTHER PARAMEDICS are collapsing the  
legs of A GURNEY, on top of which lies a DARK GREEN BODY  
BAG... \*

ANGLE ON THE BMW 126  
...arriving at the scene, SCREECHING to a halt... DAVID  
arrives just in time to see...

THE PARAMEDICS 127  
...zipping up a BODY BAG...

DAVID 128  
...JUMPS out of the car, RACES over as they load the body  
into the ambulance... the ambulance drives away... David  
catches his breath as he WATCHES it go for a long moment...  
as the terrible reality begins to sink in... and then...  
he looks up and sees... \*

BENNY LARGO 129 \*  
...oily... agitated... flanked by cops who lead him to a  
waiting police car... he's handcuffed to one of them...  
LT. MORRIS PLANNER...



CONTINUED:

129

BENNY

I had to shoot him... it was  
self defense... I'm telling  
you he was coming for me...

PLANER

With a pizza.

...and Benny looks up as...

DAVID

130

...sets on him... a tornado of grief and fury...and the  
surrounding cops try to restrain him... but in vain...

DAVID

You killed my brother  
(to the cops)  
He killed my brother.

...and then, finally, one of the cops raises his baton to  
give David a tranquilizing thump...

CUT TO:

RICHIE

131

...approaching... a SIX PACK OF BEER under his arm...and he  
sees the commotion... then spots...

DAVID

132

...in the melee... on the receiving end of an officer's  
convincer... and...

RICHIE

133

...drops the six pack and dives into the brawl...

RICHIE

Hey... leggo my brother.

...and then in the midst of the donnybrook David looks up  
and sees his brother...

DAVID

Richie

RICHIE

Watch it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

133

...and David ducks just as a cop takes a swing with a club...

DAVID  
(to Richie)  
Thanks...  
(and then)  
I'm going to kill you...

...and then the Addison boys disappear in a sea of blue...  
as we...

CUT TO:

INT. JAIL CELL - NIGHT

134

...David and Richie, battered, bruised and torn, SLUMP SIDE BY SIDE on a BENCH. Richie sports a beauty of a shiner. David gingerly checks for LOOSE TEETH...

DAVID  
(wincing)  
You are, without a doubt, the  
worst fighter in the world.

Richie PAINFULLY shifts position himself.

RICHIE  
Well, you weren't exactly Mike  
Tyson either.

...they LAPSE into SILENCE again, each lost in his own thoughts. Finally...

DAVID  
(this is hard)  
You know, when I thought you  
were dead, it made me feel...  
(groping for the  
right word; gives  
up)  
...bad.

RICHIE  
Imagine how I would've felt.

DAVID  
I'm serious, Rich. It all hit  
me in a split second. All the  
stuff I said in the bathroom.  
All the stuff I've said all  
along. And then you were gone.



...Richie looks at his little brother... he knows what it's costing him to say all this...

RICHIE

(gently)

Hey, man, I'm here, though.

DAVID

(introspective)

All my life it seems like I've been looking out for you... at least, I always felt that way. Always givin' advice on how to get your act together...

(takes a deep breath)

... even when my act was fallin' apart. Then, when you do start to get it together, I try to rain on your parade.

RICHIE

More like a hurricane.

...David gives a little SNORT, but he's not quite finished...

DAVID

(finally looking  
Richie in the eye)

Guess I couldn't stand to see you happy when I wasn't.

(beat)

Pretty low, huh?

RICHIE

(nodding)

Yeah. So...

(beat)

... you wanna be my best man?

DAVID

What?!!!

...Richie recoils like Ed Norton...

RICHIE

All this life and death stuff got me to thinking... those beer commercials were right... you only go around once in life, so you've got to grab for all the gusto you can get.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

134

DAVID

(alarmed)

Rich, marriage isn't something  
you just jump into.

RICHIE

Hey. I'm the guy who just  
came...

(pinches two  
fingers close  
together)

... this close to joining the  
invisible choir. Carla's the  
woman for me. I'm not letting  
her get away. We can be in  
Vegas in less than an hour.

...David starts to object, but then he restrains himself...

DAVID

(a little grudging)

Guess you wouldn't be the first  
guy to do it. How does Carla  
feel about this?

RICHIE

She's gonna love it.

DAVID

(surprised)

She's gonna love it?

...but before they can continue, a SLIGHTLY SLEEPY Maddie  
ARRIVES outside the cell, ESCORTED by a COP...

MADDIE

Love what?

RICHIE

(rising)

Ah, the maid of honor.

...and off Maddie's questioning look at David we...

CUT TO:

EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX - NIGHT

135

...as the BMW pulls up to the curb...



INT. APARTMENT BUILDING HALLWAY - NIGHT

136

...Richie, still looking completely battered and disreputable, shoots his cuffs and RINGS an apartment DOORBELL as Maddie and David fidget behind him. He waits for a moment, then turns to Maddie and David...

RICHIE

How do I look?

DAVID

You look like hammered sh--

MADDIE

David...

(to Richie)

Don't worry, Richie. You  
look... like you.

RICHIE

Aces.

...he turns back to the door as CARLA, wearing only a slinky robe, OPENS it...

CARLA

(very surprised)

Richie!

RICHIE

Hey, baby.

...he wraps his arms around her, plants a wet one. In his enthusiasm, he lifts her off the ground, spins her around, into the...

APARTMENT

137

... then separates as he puts her down, and DROPS TO ONE KNEE...

RICHIE

Carla Anne McCabe... Will you  
marry me? Tonight?

ON MADDIE AND DAVID

138

DAVID

(aside to Maddie)

Nothing like the long build-up.

BACK TO CARLA AND RICHIE

139

...CARLA just stands there, dumbstruck. She looks at Richie, then at Maddie and David, then back to Richie...

RICHIE  
You're overwhelmed.  
(to Maddie and David)  
She's overwhelmed.  
(back to Carla)  
Hey... I'm overwhelmed, too.  
(rising)  
But look. I love you... You love me... We're already way ahead of most marriages.

...a brief moment... Carla shifts uncomfortably. Richie doesn't let himself notice, tries to maintain momentum as he DASHES toward the BEDROOM...

RICHIE  
(as he goes)  
I'll help you pack.

CARLA  
Richie. Wait!

RICHIE  
(opening the bedroom door)  
Where do you keep your-

...he stops in surprise as he sees...

IN THE BEDROOM

140

... Detective Daniels, who we recognize from the warehouse fight scene, is standing by the BED, his CLOTHING slightly ASKEW...

RICHIE  
(deflated)  
...suitcase... What're you doing here?

DANIELS  
(covering)  
Um... Police matter. Following up on the Benny Largo investigation...

...DANIELS EDGES past Richie into the LIVING ROOM. CARLA manuevers herself between the two men...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

140

CARLA

(to Richie)

I'm so glad you're okay...  
Sergeant Daniels told me what  
happened at the warehouse.

DAVID

What'd he use, body language?

RICHIE

(jumps to Carla's  
defense)

They were just talking, Dave.

MADDIE

(looks toward a  
table)

I guess good news goes down  
easier over a couple of  
cocktails.

ON A TABLE

141

...two cocktail glasses, having seen recent use.

BACK TO SCENE

142

...an awkward moment...

DANIELS

(ready to squirm  
out)

Well... I better get back to  
work, Miss McCabe. If you  
remember anything else about  
this aff-- matter, feel free  
to call. Now if you'll excuse  
me...

MADDIE

Don't forget your shoes.

...DANIELS stops, turns to see his shoes by the sofa... as  
he goes to get them...

RICHIE

143

...looks at Carla, not wanting to believe the evidence...



CARLA 144  
...looks away, somewhat ashamed.

DANIELS 145  
...quickly puts on his shoes... as he rises...

DAVID AND MADDIE 146  
...who've been surveying the whole scene, simultaneously  
SMACK their respective foreheads.

DAVID MADDIE  
Time out on the field! I figured it out!

WIDESHOT 147  
...as DANIELS tries to edge by David to the door...

DANIELS  
Pardon me...

...DAVID blocks his way...

DAVID  
I've already decked two cops  
tonight. Might as well go for  
the hat trick.

RICHIE  
Easy, Dave.

DAVID  
They set you up, Richie.  
(to camera)  
Listen carefully.  
(back to Richie)  
Carla put the word out on the  
street that she'd hired a hit  
man to kill Benny Largo.

MADDIE  
(to Richie)  
Benny was supposed to think  
that you were the hit man.

DAVID  
Then Benny would murder you  
and Daniels would be there to  
arrest him.  
(more)

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

147

DAVID (cont'd)  
(to Carla)  
Kinda clears the field of the  
competition, eh?

MADDIE  
(to Richie)  
But before you arrived, Benny  
killed the janitor by mistake.

DAVID  
She used you, Richie.

RICHIE  
Carla wouldn't do that to me.  
She loves me.

CARLA  
(quietly; she's  
not a monster)  
Shut up, Richie. You should  
listen to your brother  
sometimes.

...Richie turns to Carla, regards her carefully, realizing  
he has no choice but to accept the truth...

ON DAVID AND MADDIE

148

DAVID  
(aside to Maddie)  
Put on your running shoes,  
Maddie. Time for the chase.

DANIELS  
Why should we run? You don't  
have any proof. Just  
conjecture.

DAVID  
(considers a  
moment; to Maddie)  
He's right, you know.

MADDIE  
Too bad. You need the  
exercise.

DAVID  
Why I oughta...

WIDESHOT

149

CARLA

Richie, I want you to know that  
I'm glad it wasn't you in the  
body bag.

RICHIE

(flat)

Right about now I wish it was.

...Richie TURNS to LEAVE, but STOPS when he HEARS Carla's  
voice..

CARLA

(removing the ring  
Richie gave her)

Here. Your grandmother's ring.  
I don't deserve it.

RICHIE

Yes, you do. It's paste.

On MADDIE AND DAVID'S reaction...

FADE OUT.

End Of Act Four

TAGFADE IN:

...SFX: THE SONG "LEAN ON ME" BY BILL WITHERS...

CLOSEUP - A 50'S STYLE-NEON SIGN THAT READS "DINER" - NIGHT 150

...the Sign shines in the night atop a post ABOVE a DINER... as the CAMERA slowly BOOMS DOWN, we hear...

DAVID'S VOICE (O.S.)

Whoa! Whoa! Rich. Don't turn around. Babe alert. Babe alert.

RICHIE'S VOICE (O.S.)

I'm not interested.

DAVID'S VOICE (O.S.)

Are you kidding me? We're talking gam-o-rama.

RICHIE'S VOICE (O.S.)

Sorry.

THROUGH A WINDOW

151

...where we see two guys talking in a booth...

CUT TO:

INT. DINER - SOMEWHERE IN PHILADELPHIA - NIGHT (4 AM-ISH)

152

...it's 1973, Richie and David sit across from each other in a cracked, red plastic BOOTH. David's back is to the entrance. Some cold french fries and ketchup lie on a plate between them... it's obvious they've been there for hours... Richie has LONG SIDEBURNS and COLLAR LENGTH HAIR. He wears a slick POLYESTER JACKET with his SHIRT COLLAR over his LAPELS. David has a MOUSTACHE and LONG HAIR, too, but he wears a tie-dyed T-SHIRT and an old ARMY JACKET...

DAVID

Check out the rack. Full house.

RICHIE

You're wasting your breath, Dave, I'm joining a monastery.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

152

DAVID

Here she comes! Here she  
comes! Look cool.

...David adopts an extremely CASUAL POSE as a stunning,  
MEDITERRANEAN BEAUTY of about 18 SAUNTERS by the table.  
She gives them both the eye... but doesn't stop. After  
she's gone...

DAVID

See? There is life after  
Muriel.

RICHIE

Maybe, but not on this planet.

DAVID

Rich, c'mon. A good lookin'  
guy like you? Soon as word  
gets out that you're available,  
the babes'll be on you like  
flies on--

(catching himself)

--on... stuff they really like.

RICHIE

Dave, it's not working. She  
said I had the personality of  
a car wreck.

DAVID

How long'd you know her...  
two weeks?

RICHIE

Three... But enough  
blubbering, we're supposed to  
be celebrating.

...Richie hoists the dregs of his milkshake in a toast...

DAVID

You could come with me, you  
know. Plenty of beach bunnies  
dyin' to show off their tan  
lines.

RICHIE

Naw, I'm an East Coast kind  
of guy. Besides you can't get  
a decent cheesesteak out there.

DAVID

You'll have to send me some.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (2)

152

RICHIE

You got it. And anything else you want. Just pick up the phone and--

(he makes a dialing motion)

DAVID

(chuckles)

My brother the millionaire.

RICHIE

I'm telling you, Dave, this time, this time it's gonna happen. Eight track tapes are going to be around forever.

...David gives a little skeptical SNORT...

RICHIE

(continuing; a little pompous)

So don't EVER be afraid to put the tap on ol' Rich, okay?

DAVID

Okay.

RICHIE

Paisan?

DAVID

Paisan.

...they reach out and do one of those special brother handshakes. You can feel the affection between them... they break and Richie pulls out his WALLET to pay the check. His smile slips for half a sec..

RICHIE

Uh, can you spare me a five?

...David SMILES, SHAKES his head and takes out his wallet...

DAVID

Here's a ten. Keep the change.

...suddenly, Richie SPOTS something over David's shoulder...

RICHIE

Dave! Don't turn around! Two o'clock, walking this way.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

152

DAVID  
 (like a  
 sportscaster)  
 Yo! Addison on the rebound!

...Richie is totally focused on what's walking towards him  
 now; Muriel is a thing of the past...

RICHIE  
 Remember that babe in "The Last  
 Picture Show"?

DAVID  
 Swimming pool scene?

RICHIE  
 (nodding; about  
 the approaching  
 girl)  
 Better.

...the GIRL'S FOOTSTEPS STOP right beside David. WE CAN'T  
 SEE her face, but Richie looks up at her in awe...

MADDIE'S VOICE (O.S.)  
 David?

SMASH CUT TO:

DAVID 153

... as he JERKS awake. He's slumped in the corner of a red  
 plastic booth in a...

DINER - THE PRESENT 154

... in L.A. Richie sits across from him and Maddie slides  
 in next to him. Cold french fries lie on their plates...

MADDIE  
 (continuing)  
 Maybe I better get you to bed.

DAVID  
 (still sleepy)  
 Promise to undress me?

MADDIE  
 (smiling)  
 No.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

154

...Maddie reaches for the CHECK, but Richie TAKES IT from her...

RICHIE  
This one's on me.  
(as he takes out  
his wallet)  
Look you guys, I really  
appreciate what you did for  
me tonight. It was above and  
beyond the call.

DAVID  
Yeah, it was.

RICHIE  
You don't have to agree with  
me.

DAVID  
Hey. That's what brothers are  
for. Right?

RICHIE  
Right.

...David puts out his hand like he did in the flashback for their special handshake...

DAVID  
Paisan?

RICHIE  
(doing their  
special handshake)  
Paisan.

...Richie suddenly looks in his wallet and his face falls...

RICHIE  
(continuing)  
Uh, Dave...

...David knows what's coming. He reaches for his own wallet....

RICHIE  
(continuing;  
smiling)  
... got change for a fifty?

...David and Maddie SMILE...

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED: (2)

154

SFX: EARLY 70's SITAR VERSION OF THE MOONLIGHTING THEME  
FADES UP.

FREEZE FRAME.

The End





Simple  
for pure bond