

FRESHLY POPPED

by

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Escape Artists

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FADE IN:

INT. CINEPLEX - NIGHT

The run-down movie theaters are empty, the screens dark.

FEMALE VOICE (V.O.)
Hello and thank you for calling
Movietown Four, Oxford Valley.

The gaudy pink neon lights of the concession stand blink off.

FEMALE VOICE (V.O.)
The following are movie times for
April third. "Velocity", R. Four-
thirty, seven and ten o'clock.

An EMPLOYEE cleans a popcorn popper while ANOTHER EMPLOYEE sweeps the stained carpet. Both wear teal polyester uniforms.

FEMALE VOICE (V.O.)
"Lust and Guts", R. Four o'clock,
seven-ten and ten-thirty. "The
Evening Star Returns", PG. Four-
twenty, seven and ten o'clock.

INT. CINEPLEX OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

The voice belongs to MADY WRIGHT, 18, annoyed with and beleaguered by life. She wears no makeup and a frizzy ponytail peeks out from beneath her backward visor. Mady's no supermodel, but she's by no means unattractive. As she reads from a doodled-on notebook into the phone, MR. FISH, a starched and gangly older man, counts money at a dented metal desk, and a plump thirty-something, LESLIE, eats a hoagie. The room is very neat and very taupe.

MADY
"Donkey's a Daddy", rated G. One
o'clock, two-thirty, four o'clock
and seven o'clock.

Mady flips the page. Her uniform has gunk on the sleeve.

MADY
If you have any questions about the
Movietown Four Cineplex, directions
or any other matters, please go
fuck yourself and eat my --

Mr. Fish looks up. Mady stares at the page, then slams down the phone and sprints out of the office. Leslie chuckles.

INT. THEATER TWO - LATER

NICK, 19, a muscly guy with holes in his "Pennsbury High School" T-shirt, uses a leaf blower to blast trash across the floor. He's obnoxious, but there is something magnetic in his vulgarity. Mady storms in and pushes him in the back. He spins, grins and switches off the blower.

MADY
Douchebag!

NICK
Mad Dog! How are ya?

MADY
"Go fuck yourself and eat my asshole"?

NICK
Bend over.

MADY
Do you know how long those take?!

NICK
You actually read it onto the thing? Sweet. I spent like an hour trying to match your handwriting.

MADY
That's not scary or anything.

NICK
The only thing scary is how fucking awesome I am.

Mady grunts, turns and fumes up the aisle. Nick follows.

NICK
(sincerely)
Wait, Mady.

She turns and he switches the blower on, pointing it at her face. She falls down, then rises, seething, and tackles him into a pile of trash. Nick easily rolls on top of her.

NICK
Haven't exercised in a while, huh?

Mady violently pushes him off, brushing popcorn and licorice out of her hair. She punches him in the arm, hard.

NICK

I think a little pot belly is sexy.

MADY

I don't have a pot belly, asshole.

NICK

You know you want me.

MADY

I want you like I wanna jump in a pool of sharks with chum stapled to my ass, idiot.

She gets up and storms out. He smirks after her.

INT. MADY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The foyer is decorated with needlepoint roosters. Mady enters and the floor creaks loudly. She throws her head back in disgust as loud, ferocious barking erupts in the kitchen.

MADY

Shh! Daffodil, Tulip, it's just me.

MADY'S MOM shuffles into the hallway in a flannel nightgown. MADY'S DAD, a bearded lumberjack of a man, appears and heads into the bathroom, apparently unaware of the commotion.

MADY'S MOM

Madeline! It's one o'clock! Now they're going to whine all night again. Can't you be quiet for once?

MADY

Sorry Mom, the floor is loud and --

Her Mom leans over a gate that barricades the vicious, unseen dogs in the kitchen. She speaks in a high-pitched voice.

MADY'S MOM

My poopies, did mean ol' Mady wake you up? Do you want some biskies?

Mady trudges up the stairs.

INT. MADY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The walls of the tiny, messy room are plastered with movie posters like "Amelie", "Say Anything" and "Super Troopers".

A stuffed Alf is positioned doggy-style behind a Cabbage Patch doll. Mady plops in bed and shuts her eyes.

LATER

Mady breathes heavily, sweating. Her hand clutches the bedspread. The alarm clock blares and her eyes snap open.

MADY

Fuck.

Mady sits up, looking like she's been tumbling under the wheels of a bus. She gets out of bed, walks by the mirror, stops, steps back and inspects her stomach closely in the reflection. She plops down and does some sit-ups.

INT. MADY'S CAR - LATER

Wet-haired, Mady listens to old school punk music in her shit-brown Chevy Celebrity. She parks, hooks a bungee cord from the steering wheel to the brake pedal and grabs her bag.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

A typical suburban PA high school. The huge hallways teem with whitebread kids milling around their puke green lockers. As Mady opens her lock, EMILY, 18, Caucasian, calm and conservatively attired, appears.

EMILY

What's crack-a-lackin', home slice?

Emily and Mady perform an absurdly complicated handshake.

MADY

Not much, my Nubian sister.

EMILY

You remember a shirt for gym?

MADY

Shit.

Emily reaches into her bag and hands Mady a folded T-shirt.

MADY

Thanks, you saved my ass. How bad would it suck to fail gym?

EMILY

Did I tell you I'm failing gym?

MADY

Yikes... Lucky you don't need
grades, Em. You're hot with big
boobs. You'll marry some rich dude
and rub elbows with the wealthy.

EMILY

I bet their elbows are oh-so-nice
and smooth.

They head down the hall. When people walk toward them, Emily and Mady are the ones that get out of the way.

EMILY

Alas, I'm going to die alone in a
house with fifty cats.

MADY

Hey, I'm the boobless one. Wanna
come visit me on Crazy Cat Lady
Lane? I'll be the one throwing
kittens at the neighborhood kids.

EMILY

Shut up, your juglets are perfect.

MADY

If you like divots where the
breasts should be.

A young-looking mullet-ed nerd, Rob, joins them.

ROB

You have nice boobies, Mads.

Mady fixes his errant shirt collar, then cuffs his head.

ROB

Hey, I calls 'em like I sees 'em,
Perky Town.

A wad of wet paper towel whizzes by, barely missing Rob's head, and hits the locker next to them. As they turn to see where it came from, Mady gets wailed in the cheek with another wad. It slowly slides down her face and some JOCKS nearby laugh shamelessly. She wipes her face with her shirt.

ROB

Sorry, Mads, I think that was meant
for me. Gotta go, ladies.

Emily and Rob do a speedy, truncated version of the handshake and he steps onto a swiftly-moving A/V cart, high-fiving the NERD driving it. Mady gives the jocks a long angry look, then she and Emily walk off. After a step, a giant wad of paper towel hits Mady in the back of the head.

BURLY JOCK
Suck it, popcorn girl!

Mady angrily tries to extricate paper towel from her hair.

MADY
I can't wait 'til Rob's rich and
those mongoloids work at 7-11.

EMILY
Ignore them. You busy tonight?

MADY
I have to work. Shocking, I know.

Two CHEERLEADERS trot by carrying a "SENIOR PROM" banner. Mady and Emily watch the giant letters go by.

EMILY
That guy still trying to get into
your pants?

MADY
Nick? Yeah. Like I'd even consider
it. My first should be with a guy
who looks at me, in all my pasty,
beached-whale glory and thinks "I
love being with her", not "Sex, I'm
getting sex! Penis in, penis out,
now let's get the hell out of here
before the she-beast wakes up."

Mady finally gets a chunk of the paper towel out of her hair and flings it, hitting KAREN, a shy-looking girl, in the eye.

MADY
Oh, shit! Sorry, Karen!

KAREN
I just got Lasik! Oh God, it burns!

Mady and Emily slink into their classroom.

INT. CONCESSION STAND - NIGHT

SIMON, 17, fiddles with his register. He is tall and pale with a shy smile and a sweet demeanor. FINN, 17, a small, slightly effeminate guy with soap opera hair, eats from a cup of bright yellow popcorn. Mady writes on a clipboard.

SIMON

Shit, my register's flipping out.

FINN

I have a fresh batch of death here,
Mads. If you can handle it.

Mady takes his cup and eats a couple of kernels. She moans.

MADY

Quality salt distribution. How much
oil did you put on this puppy?

FINN

About ten Big Macs' worth.

MADY

You have a gift, my friend.

Mady nudges Simon away from the faulty register. She clears her throat and Simon and Finn turn around.

MADY

Oh, more from my parents today. The
new thing is if I get home after
1:30 I'm not allowed in the house.

SIMON

What?! What are you supposed to do?

Mady pushes a couple of buttons, then hits the corner of the register. The drawer opens.

MADY

Sleep in the car, I guess. All set.
Well, I'm off to do counts. Smell
ya later, studs.

Mady grabs the clipboard and leaves. Simon stares after her.

FINN

(to Simon)

When are you going to grow some
testes and ask her out?

SIMON

When you come out of the closet.

FINN

I'm not gay, but if I was, I'd be
ramming you in the ass.

Simon tilts his head, confused.

INT. CINEPLEX LOBBY - CONTINUOUS

Nick and a red-haired frat boy-type, MIKE, exit a theater. They each carry a "Jerry's Kids" cup with a few singles and coins inside. Mike reaches in and pulls out the bills.

NICK

What the fuck, dude?

MIKE

What do 'tards do with cash? Run around chewin' it, making 'tard sounds? For all we know, the Fish uses it to buy butt plugs anyway.

NICK

Put it back.

Mike looks at Nick with a half-smile. When Nick just stares, he stops smiling and puts the money back in the container.

INT. BACK CONCESSION STAND - CONTINUOUS

Mady sits on the floor, counting candy. Two PRETTY GIRLS walk by, gabbing loudly. They can't see Mady.

PRETTY GIRL

I saw her when I came in. She's here, like, every day. So pathetic.

PRETTY GIRL TWO

If all you can afford is a car the color of feces, you should get a new job, am I right?

PRETTY GIRL

Ha ha. She's probably eating a whole barrel of nachos back there.

PRETTY GIRL TWO

You're so mean! I think it's kinda
sad. I mean, has she ever even
hooked up with someone?

PRETTY GIRL

Yeah right.

They flounce out of earshot. Mady waits, then peeks over the counter. The girls feverishly make out with two studly guys. Mady watches miserably, then sits. Nick knocks on the counter and peers over at her with the "Jerry's Kids" cups.

NICK

Yo, hoebag, can you put these with
the -- are you okay? You look like
Bobby McFerrin raped your grandma.

She takes the cups from him and goes into the kitchen.

INT. BOX OFFICE - LATER

The box office is a tinted glass rectangle with ticket windows in the front and a door to the lobby in back. SHELLEY, 19, pretty with short, precisely-gelled spiky hair, sits on a chair near the window. Mady slumps on the floor.

SHELLEY

Fucking skanks! Where are they?!

MADY

Easy there, Sugar Gay Lesbo. The
skanks make a valid point. If my
own parents can barely tolerate me,
why should I expect anyone else to?

Mady leans her head back against the wall.

SHELLEY

Ugh, your pity parties are so DULL.
Tell me more about your sex dreams.
In steamy, sweat-drenched detail.

Shelley makes porn music sounds.

MADY

They're not really about sex,
hornball. They represent a need to
be close to someone. Connect. Bond.

Shelley gives her a long look.

MADY

Okay, okay, they're about sex, too.

SHELLEY

I knew it! You little slut!

MADY

Gotta love that double standard.

SHELLEY

Fine, wanting a big ol' bratwurst
in your nether-regions doesn't make
you a slut... It makes you a whore.

MADY

I want both. That's my point.

SHELLEY

Slut and whore? Fine, slore. Just
get it over with. Ripping the ol'
hymen isn't that magical, trust me.

MADY

Graphic... Well, I'm torn.

SHELLEY

Pun pun pun pun!

MADY

Spaz. First of all, I don't want to
be naked in front of anyone. Ever.

SHELLEY

I always wear socks.

MADY

Nice visual. Thanks for that.

SHELLEY

Argyle socks.

MADY

Kinky.

(sighs)

I'm wasting so much energy on this!
Talking about sex, dreaming about
sex, stressing out about sex, wow,
how many times did I just say sex?

SHELLEY

Quite a few. Your point?

MADY

Maybe, if I just went out and sated
the biological urge, I could dump
the 'first time' stress and focus
on the actual important stuff.

SHELLEY

Whoa, what are you saying, slore?

Mady sits up straight and speaks dramatically.

MADY

I'm gonna do it, Shelley. On my
terms and with a worthy male, of
course, but I'm gonna do it. I'm
going to have the sexual relations!

SHELLEY

She declared, reminding us why she
was a virgin in the first place.

MADY

And soon. I'm getting sick of...
helping myself.

SHELLEY

Hey, don't knock paddling the pink
kayak. I do ten-a-day's sometimes.

MADY

How?! Even with Ryan Reynolds,
naked, feeding me Pop-Tarts, the
best I could do is five or six.

SHELLEY

(raises a fist)

I rule.

An OLD LADY squints into the window. Nick is behind her with
a mop handle between his legs, pretending it's his penis.

OLD LADY

One senior citizen, please.

SHELLEY

What movie would you like to see?

OLD LADY

I'd like one senior citizen ticket.

SHELLEY

For which movie, ma'am?

OLD LADY
ONE TICKET!

Shelley prints up a ticket for "Lust & Guts". As the old lady shuffles into the lobby, Nick trails her with his "penis" erect. She turns around and he quickly goes back to mopping. An obese bald guy, COURTESY CUP MAN, waddles toward the box.

MADY
Heads, the Courtesy Cup Man cometh.

SHELLEY
(to Courtesy Cup Man)
Can I help you?

COURTESY CUP MAN
One for Velocity, please.

Shelley puts his change down and withdraws her hand quickly.

SHELLEY
Thanks. Enjoy your movie.

They watch him enter the lobby, walk to the pay phone and insert some coins. Mady looks over at Nick, who pretends to masturbate his mop. The other loitering USHERS crack up. The box office phone rings and Mady picks up.

LESLIE (O.S.)
Fish alert.

MADY
(to Shelley)
Gotta go.

Mady hangs up, waves to the security camera and hurriedly exits the box. The old lady returns to the window.

OLD LADY
This isn't what I asked for!
(throws ticket at Shelley)
Were you even listening to me?!

INT. CINEPLEX LOBBY - CONTINUOUS

Mr. Fish, who walks as if he has a deep wedgie, catches Mady trying to rush behind the concession stand.

MR. FISH
Mady, stay behind the stand! And reprimand Finn for eating popcorn.

MADY
Sure thing, Mr. Fish.

Mr. Fish enters the...

BOX OFFICE

and turns to spy. Through the tinted glass he sees Mady pull Finn aside, talking angrily and pointing her finger at him. Mr. Fish, pleased, turns around.

INT. CONCESSION STAND - CONTINUOUS

MADY
I will not stand for you having such thick, luxurious hair any longer! You make me some nuclear death corn right now!

Finn salutes and heads off. Mady shoves a handful of popcorn in her mouth, walks up to Simon and chews, open-mouthed, in his ear. He doesn't flinch. Courtesy Cup Man walks up.

COURTESY CUP MAN
Could I please have a courtesy cup?

SIMON
(places cup on counter)
Sure.

MADY
(to Simon, still chewing)
Does this annoy you?

Courtesy Cup Man ambles off toward the theaters.

SIMON
No, it's great. Do continue.

JOE, a tall, possibly heroin-addicted employee, walks by with his uniform shirt wrapped around his head. His naked chest sports crosses of black tape over his nipples and his stomach has "I LIKE BAGELS" written on it in Sharpie.

MADY
Hey, Joe.

JOE
Hey guys.

A MAN IN A SUIT knocks on the counter behind them.

MAN IN A SUIT

Hello?!

MADY

Sorry, sir, what can I get for you?

MAN IN A SUIT

What do you have with no fat or
calories?

MADY

Uh... diet soda?

MAN IN A SUIT

What the hell? What kind of fatass
place are you running here?! Fine,
just give me a thing of nachos.

Mady looks confused, then hands the man his nachos. He shoves
some in his mouth, cheese dripping down his chin, and leaves.

MADY

Damn people. Go back to your
shanties!

(to Simon and Finn)

They're here to be entertained.
Shouldn't they be happy?

FINN

Yeah. Doesn't mean they are.

MADY

No, they act like they're in hell,
being prodded with pitchforks and
chased by swarms of bees.

SIMON

What?

MADY

I don't like bees.

SIMON

Oh... kay.

INT. MADY'S HOUSE - DAY

Mady stands in the foyer, holding mail, staring at a bill.

MADY

Crap.

MADY'S MOM

What's that?

MADY

The car repair place is threatening to go to a collection agency if I don't pay part of my bill, but if I pay, I won't be able to buy gas to get to work to pay the rest of it.

MADY'S MOM

You'll figure out something. Did my Birdwatcher's Bi-Weekly come today? They're supposed to have a superb piece on the African Barn Swallow.

MADY

Gee, thanks, Mom. When I'm thirty and still living here because I couldn't afford tuition, are you and Dad going to charge me rent?

MADY'S MOM

Don't be a brat. A lot of people are much worse off than you are.

Mady clumps up the stairs.

MADY

That would be a "yes".

INT. MADY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Mady sits at her desk, which is piled with bills and papers. She tries to focus on homework, but glances at the time and puts down her pen. She slumps, putting her face in her hands.

INT. CINEPLEX BREAK ROOM - LATER

The place is filthy, crowded with a table, a couch and some beat-up lockers. Mady eats from a Styrofoam container. Nick ambles up and massages her shoulders.

NICK

Damn, you're tense. Whatcha eatin'?

MADY

It's white rice with soy sauce.

NICK

What are you, a Chink now?

MADY

Racism. Awesome. As much as I'd love to be up to my neck in macadamia nuts, I happen to be broke, and this happens to be sixty cents at Happy Fun Smile Wok Place.

She begins to enjoy the massage, despite herself. As she relaxes, she makes a contented sound. He arches an eyebrow.

NICK

Just imagine what else I'm good at.

MADY

(snaps out of her reverie)

No.

NICK

If you're so hard up for cash, I can take you out for dinner and a screw. A lot of ladies have been happily satisfied with my à la mode, if you know what I mean.

MADY

Yeah right.

He tosses his uniform shirt into a locker.

NICK

Your loss, sweet tits.

MADY

Sweet tits?

NICK

I was gonna go with "no tits", since you wear such baggy shit, but take off the top, I'll size 'em up.

MADY

You take off yours first.

NICK

Really?

Mady nods and Nick pulls off his T-shirt without hesitation. His top half is chiseled and hairless. Mady's eyes widen.

NICK

Now you.

MADY

Do you shave your chest?

NICK

I wax. Get to the strippin', woman.

MADY

Wow, you're so... gay. But thanks
for the show, chump.

NICK

Cocktease! Does this even out the
recording thing? I am half nude.

MADY

Fine. Feel free to re-clothe now.

NICK

Why? Am I making you hot, baby?

Nick rubs his nipples and makes sex faces. Mady chokes on her
rice, laughing, and gets up.

MADY

Stop, I'm gonna puke!

NICK

Ooh, yeah. You wanna see my O-face,
baby? Oh, oh, oh.

Simon walks in and sees Nick rubbing his nips. Everyone
freezes, then Mady runs out, coughing.

NICK

How ya doin', Simon?

SIMON

Okay. You?

NICK

Fine, fine.

(long pause)

Well, see ya later.

Nick slowly lowers his hands from his nipples and exits.

INT. CINEPLEX LOBBY - LATER

Rob and Emily loiter by the concession stand.

MADY

I can't wait to get out of this
piece of shit town.

EMILY

Thanks a lot.

MADY

I'll miss you guys, but come on.
College means no parents, no high
school jerk-offs and no asshole
customers. Sweet, sweet freedom.

EMILY

You still have four months 'til you
spoon out of Shawshank, Dufresne.
What are we gonna do about prom?
Mom keeps bugging me about timeless
memories and all that horse shit.

ROB

You ladies could be my prom harem.

Rob points and makes cheesy clicking sounds with his tongue.

MADY

You really want to spend a night
with the jerks who go to our
school? Not to mention the dancing.
(shudders, repulsed)
I say fuck it. Let's have an anti-
prom instead. A slumber party, or a
chick flick marathon or something.

EMILY

Or we can start buying cats for our
inevitable solitary deaths.

MADY

Or we could do that.

EMILY

Eh, I guess I'm down. We can buy
some pouffy thrift store dresses,
eat junk and watch movies. We'll
give Rob a manicure.

ROB

I said I'm not doing that again.

Emily notices a group of ushers ogling a hot girl.

EMILY

Any of those broom jockeys Nick?

MADY

(looks over)

The one smacking the imaginary ass.

Nick is, indeed, smacking an imaginary ass.

EMILY

He's cute, Mads. In an "I'm gonna wrestle a gator and then take you to the Sizzler" kind of way.

MADY

Sadly, he'd probably be proud of that description.

EMILY

We better go. Enjoy unintentionally seducing Señor Assy-Smacks.

MADY

I am quite the seductress.

CUT TO:

LATER

Mady bends over, cleaning the front of a display case. Her huge underwear is visible, riding up her back. Nick watches.

NICK

Pretty sweet pair of granny panties you're rockin', Mad Dog. Do those undies go up to your neck or just the armpits?

She gets up, flustered, and adjusts her pants.

MADY

Shut up.

NICK

Hey, I'm not knockin' it. You like comfort. It's hot, in an old lady, really un-hot kind of way.

INT. BOX OFFICE - LATER

Shelley sits in her chair. Mady picks holes in her Converse.

MADY

Obviously, the ideal first time would be a cross between Ryan Reynolds, The Rock and Stephen Colbert carrying me to a satin-sheeted bed covered with rose petals where we'd make passionate love then fall asleep spooning amidst a pile of puppies...

SHELLEY

Your imagination is a spooky place.

MADY

But apparently that's not feasible.

Shelley picks up a rubber band ball and quickly throws it at the wall next to Mady. Mady dives and makes a one-handed save. The game continues as they talk, with Shelley pump-faking and Mady making most grabs before the ball hits the wall. It's obvious they've played before.

SHELLEY

No, it's not. Pick someone real and crack your damn poon egg already.

MADY

We're a few steps removed.

SHELLEY

Step one: find Nick. Step two: tell Nick you want little Nick to meet your cooter. Tah-dah!

MADY

I think my first time should be a TAD more special than a one-night stand with a guy who humps inanimate objects.

Shelley looks out at the lobby, where Nick sweeps up.

SHELLEY

Mads, look at him. You know that under that tough crust there's a --

Shelley launches the rubber band ball. Mady, distracted, doesn't react in time, and it hits the wall. Shelley cheers.

MADY

Cheater!

SHELLEY
All's fair in sex and Band Ball,
loo-zah.

Mady throws the ball at Shelley, nailing her in the chest.

SHELLEY
Ow, my boob! You hit my boob!

MADY
You just said all's fair, NoHymen
McPlunderedcunty. Wait, was the
crappy first time why you dumped
Pete, or was it the "I like women"
thing?

SHELLEY
The real catalyst was actually one
specific incident.

FLASHBACK - THE SPECIFIC INCIDENT

Shelley wakes up, groggy. A NONDESCRIPT GUY next to her in bed makes grunting sounds, his eyes closed. She turns and sees him using her hand to masturbate.

END FLASHBACK

MADY
Gross, gross! What did you do?

SHELLEY
Pretended to sleep through it and
dumped him that afternoon.

MADY
Really?

SHELLEY
No, we got married and my hand has
had four of his babies.

MADY
See, that's what I DON'T want.

SHELLEY
So, if not the Crusty Humper, who?

MADY
Someone who doesn't make me cringe.
Someone I'd feel comfortable with.
I'm on the prowl for some quality
male tail.

INT. THEATER THREE - SUNDAY MORNING

Tired and hungover employees laze in threadbare burgundy seats. Nick naps and Joe sings "Turn On Your Heartlight" as he separates and rubs together two halves of a bagel. Mady wears a Christopher Walken tee and a Phillies hat.

MADY

Why do we have to be here butt-ass early on a Sunday for this?

SHELLEY

(eyes closed)

Shut up, Guinevere Turner's giving me a full body massage.

SIMON

Keep dreaming.

SHELLEY

I plan on it.

FINN

Who's Guinevere Turner?

SHELLEY

Read the credits at the end of that copy of American Psycho you keep in the box under the bed, Finny. Oiled-up Christian Bale is in your flog file, no?

Mr. Fish enters and the rowdy room gets quiet.

FINN

I am not gay!

The exclamation echoes and chuckles are heard in response.

MR. FISH

Alright people, today I'll be showing two videos, one on sexual harassment and one on sales techniques. We're going to have a sales contest, but I'll address that later. First, let's get to the sexual harassment.

The crowd cheers. Mr. Fish frowns and signals the projection booth. A video obviously produced in the 80's begins to play.

VIDEO ON SCREEN

VOICE

Sexual harassment is a serious allegation. Employees must not make suggestive comments, even jokingly, as these may be deemed offensive.

A woman in uniform carries a box of candy. A male employee walks up to her. The acting is terrible.

MALE EMPLOYEE

Be careful, Susie. You're so hot you might melt that chocolate.

The actors freeze and a giant red circle with a line through it appears over the scene.

IN THE THEATER

The employees burst out laughing.

NICK

(calls across aisle)

Wanna tea-bag my Whoppers, Mady?

VIDEO ON SCREEN

The scene changes to an office, where a man in a suit leans close to a female employee in uniform.

SUITED MAN

Barbara, you'd go much further here if you were less uptight. Why don't you undo a couple of those buttons?

BARBARA

But that's against the dress code!

SUITED MAN

I'm your boss, I make the rules. Here, let me help you.

The suited man pulls Barbara's top three buttons open. The scene freezes and the giant red circle and line appear.

IN THE THEATER

MADY

Sweet Jesus, this is priceless.

Nick appears behind Mady's seat. He whispers to her, his lips grazing her ear. She closes her eyes.

NICK

Mady, you'd get much further if you were less uptight. Let me help you.

He grabs Mady's hat and musses up her hair. Mr. Fish stands.

MR. FISH

The sales video is next. Pay attention because these techniques could help you win the contest.

FINN

Well, I just blew a hearty wad of motivation in my pants.

MADY

I wonder what the prize is, like, thirty bucks? Thirty-seven?

SHELLEY

In a row? Try not to suck any dick on the way to the parking lot!

MADY

You complete me. Back in a sec.

Mady scoots back to Nick's row. She tries to grab her hat but Nick tosses her into the seat next to him.

MADY

Give it back!

NICK

Fine.

He shoves it on her head backwards. The video begins.

VIDEO TWO (O.S.)

For as long as we've had products, we've needed people to sell them. The finer points of sales technique are our focus in this video.

Nick leans over and puts his arm around Mady.

NICK

So, when do I get to see the tittles, Mad Dog?

VIDEO ON SCREEN

A toothy actor smiles widely as he performs the techniques. There are unnecessary SLOW MOTION replays and CLOSE-UP shots.

VIDEO TWO

Our first technique is called the peek-a-boo. Tell the customer the difference in price and volume, then drop the small into the large.

IN THE THEATER

NICK

Hey, I'll take some bra-on action. Whatever you're comfortable with.

MADY

Why are you such a fuckwad?

VIDEO ON SCREEN

VIDEO TWO

Our second tool is the eclipse. Tell the customer the difference in price, then pull the big cup around in front of the small one. Sold!

IN THE THEATER

Mr. Fish stands and Mady pushes Nick's hand off her shoulder.

MR. FISH

The contest starts now and lasts a month. The prize is three hundred dollars. Now get to work, people!

A hush falls over the crowd, then everyone talks at once.

FINN

Three hundred bucks?!

SHELLEY

Wow. Hey, whoever wins should take the rest of us out for dinner.

MADY

You don't even work concessions.

SHELLEY

So?

MADY

So, you can't win.

SHELLEY

So? Buy me dinner, bitches.

INT. CONCESSION STAND - LATER

Mady sweeps the floor. She glances up and sees Nick staring at her. In SLOW MOTION, an EXTREMELY HOT GUY walks around in front of Nick, eclipsing him from view. Mady is completely awestruck by this Adonis in Adidas. The confident newcomer high-fives Mike, who sees Mady drooling and walks him over.

MIKE

Mady, this is my buddy Scott. He's here for an interview. Can you call them to buzz him up?

Mady snaps out of it, spilling dirt on the front of her shirt. She wipes it off, then pushes her hair back, smiling coyly at Scott. A big brown smudge ends up on her forehead.

MADY

I'm on my way up, I can walk you.

MIKE

Put in a good word for him, okay?

SCOTT

(smiles at Mady)

Oh, do you have pull here?

MIKE

(to Mady)

Ew, what is that?

He points to Mady's forehead. She hurries into the...

CINEPLEX KITCHEN

and looks in the mirror. Finn walks in and gets some ice.

FINN

You should consider wiping fully before you leave the bathroom.

MADY

You should consider fuck you.

She wipes off the dirt and goes out to the...

CINEPLEX LOBBY

where she and Scott walk together. Nick watches from afar.

MADY

You go to Council Rock with Mike?

SCOTT

Yeah. We met in first grade. He dropped his cupcake and I gave him mine. We've been bros ever since.

MADY

Adorable. Nervous?

SCOTT

I don't really get nervous. Except sometimes at matches.

MADY

Oh, what sport do you play?

She enters her pin code and opens the door. They walk up...

THE STAIRS

and Mady ogles his butt as they ascend.

SCOTT

I practice martial arts. You know, punching, kicking, breaking boards, that kind of stuff.

MADY

Like little white jumpsuits and colorful belts martial arts?

SCOTT

(chuckles)

Yeah. I do it all for the pretty accessories.

PROJECTION BOOTH - CONTINUOUS

Mady and Scott walk past clicking projectors. Joe treads by with tissue boxes on his feet, wearing a "Freddy Fancy Pants" name tag. Mady walks a step behind Scott, staring. Oblivious, she steps in a trash can, trips over a large canister of film and falls, quickly popping up just before Scott turns around.

SCOTT

Is there a bathroom up here?

MADY

Uh-huh. Right over there.

She points, he walks in to the commode and closes the door.

CINEPLEX OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Mady runs in. Leslie sits at her desk, eating cole slaw.

MADY

Oh my God, you have to hire him.

LESLIE

Who?

MADY

Scott someone. He is, no lie, the most beautiful boy I've ever seen.

LESLIE

I have to interview him first.

MADY

For the love of all things holy, I will sell you my firstborn child.

LESLIE

He's that good-looking?

Mady points to her lip.

MADY

See that? Drool. He's so hot I peed on myself a little bit.

LESLIE

Okay, okay. I'll see what I can do.

MADY

Thank you thank you thank you!

PROJECTION BOOTH - CONTINUOUS

Mady dashes out of the office, nearly running into Scott.

MADY

Good luck.

SCOTT

Thanks.

She turns, slams face-first into a projector and falls down.

INT. CINEPLEX LOBBY - LATER

Mady has a red mark on her forehead. Shelley walks up.

SHELLEY

Hey, you wanna see the new Hilary Duff movie with Mel and I tomorrow?

MADY

Yeah, no.

SHELLEY

Why not?

FLASHBACK - MOVIE THEATER - WHY NOT

Mady gets increasingly depressed as she scans the crowd. An OLD COUPLE kisses sweetly, two HIPPIES gaze deeply into each other's eyes and a GIRL leans her head on a BOY's shoulder. Mady sighs and glances at the empty chair to her right, then she looks left, where Shelley and MELISSA are going at it like sex-crazed maniacs, tongues and saliva a-flyin'.

END FLASHBACK

MADY

Hilary Duff sucks.

SHELLEY

Blasphemy! Visiting me today?

MADY

Yeah, I have a double, so I'll be barging into your box all day. That didn't come out right.

SHELLEY

Keep trying to get into my box,
slore.

MADY

Your box is very inviting.

SHELLEY

That it is.

Mady hops the counter, landing behind the concession stand.

MADY

Enough of your box. I just made Leslie hire the hottest guy ever. He's sweet, smart, gorgeous and I almost climaxed looking at him. Perfect coitus material.

SHELLEY

Nice. Well, enjoy your deflowering.
I feel like I should bake you a
cake or something.

MADY

Slow down, Duncan Hymens. See,
'cause you said cake, and you talk
about your hymen. God, I'm funny.

SHELLEY

Funny like a bus of handicapped
kids on fire.

MADY

So, really really funny? This guy
is out of my league. It's going to
take hard work and finesse to get
him interested. Possibly trickery.

SHELLEY

Yes, because what guys DON'T want
is a slice of the tunnel tiramisu.

Scott appears, says goodbye to Mike and saunters out of the building. Mady punches Shelley in the shoulder.

SHELLEY

Ow! Yes, I saw. A male. Thrilling.

FINN

(holding out the phone)
Mady, it's for you. The OB/GYN
wants to talk about your UTI.

MADY

So I enjoy the crisp tartness of a
nice cranberry juice. That doesn't
mean I have a dirty urethra.

(takes phone)
Hello?

LESLIE (O.S.)

Wow.

MADY

I know. Well?

LESLIE (O.S.)

He starts Saturday.

MADY

Yes! Thank you, Leslie. You're the best-est-est-est.

LESLIE (O.S.)

I know. You also get to train the new girl. Her name's Tia.

MADY

Swell. She better not be retarded.

CUT TO:

INT. CINEPLEX LOBBY - DAY

An attractive blonde model-type slams into the front door.

MADY

Faaan-tastic.

Mady walks over and opens the door. The girl rubs her head.

MADY

Hi. They stay locked until we open. And... it's a pull door. It's safer to just knock. Let me guess, Tia?

TIA

Yeah, how'd you know?

MADY

I'm psychic.

TIA

Really?

INT. CONCESSION STAND - LATER

Mady and Tia walk to the popper, both bored. Nick walks by, blatantly checking out Tia.

NICK

Hey, Mad Dog.

(slowly, to Tia)

Well hello.

TIA

(giggles)

Hi.

Nick walks into a pole as he stares. Mady looks irritated.

MADY

This is the popper. You flip this switch, toss the kernels and salt in and push the button for oil.

TIA

Who is that?

Tia points at Scott. Mady pauses, staring.

MADY

Scott. He's new.

TIA

He's gorgeous.

MADY

Let's go to the kitchen.

INT. CINEPLEX KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Mady quickly drags Tia inside.

MADY

There's the ice, soda syrups. Oh, I almost forgot!

Mady opens the fridge and pulls out a large plastic container, opening it to reveal some gross hot dogs.

TIA

What is that smell?

MADY

That's the smell of commerce, Tia. These are the dogs. No one buys them and we're not allowed to throw them out. I call this one Steve.

She holds up a slimy dark brown withered moldy hot dog.

TIA

Ew!

INT. CONCESSION STAND - CONTINUOUS

Mady and Tia walk up to Simon, who's doing Sudoku.

MADY

(to Tia)

Oh yeah, just a head's up - Simon's allergic to the coconut oil we use here, so sometimes he needs help with spills or the popper. We have EpiPens in all the supply closets.

SIMON

I'm fine with the popcorn, but if I'm in contact with too much, uh...

MADY

He has immediate, uncontrollable diarrhea and vomiting. Then his throat closes up.

SIMON

Thanks for sharing.

(to Tia)

I was diagnosed about a year ago after I shat all over my grandma at Myrtle Beach.

TIA

Ew! Why do you still work here?

SIMON

It's really not a big deal. I'd have to be coated with oil or drink it straight or something to have an actual allergic reaction.

(to Mady)

Did you warn her about the prank?

MADY

No, I totally forgot.

(to Tia)

Every time a new usher is hired, he does a prank as his initiation.

SIMON

Sometimes the prank is on us. And by us, I mean Finn.

TIA

What kind of prank?

FLASHBACK - THE PRANKS

-- Finn opens a closet in front of a crowd of customers and a giant pile of gay porn, KY jelly and dildos spill out.

-- Mike puts his privates in front of the projector. The giant shadow of his penis and balls appears on the screen.

-- Finn opens the kitchen door and is startled by a naked female blow-up doll with a hot dog sticking out of it's butt.

-- Finn duct-taped to a light pole in only his tightie-whities, a popcorn bucket on his head. Customers walk by.

END FLASHBACK

TIA

Wow.

MADY

The ushers are sick bastards.
You're not single, are you?

TIA

Yeah. Why?

MADY

God help you.

CUT TO:

INT. CONCESSION STAND - LATER

Tia is cornered by a large crowd of ushers. Mady watches the melee from a distance. Mike walks up with Scott trailing.

MIKE

So, what's the deal with the new
girl, Mads?

MADY

She's got big tits and she's
breathing, isn't that all you
hyenas need to know?

SCOTT

You don't even know me!

MADY

Oh, so a chick like that asks for a
ride and you're gonna say no?

SCOTT

Depends.

MIKE

She has to be slutty and dumb, too.

MADY

Ha ha.

SCOTT

Actually, I prefer a girl with some brains. Someone who challenges me.

MADY

Riiight.

SCOTT

What's that supposed to mean?

MADY

A, you're a liar, and B, you're too attractive to be smart.

SCOTT

That's a nice compliment. You're pretty honest, huh?

MADY

That's a nice response. You're pretty conceited, huh? Besides, I implied you're an idiot.

She looks over to Tia. Scott looks at Mady, sizing her up.

MADY

If you can overlook a slew of mental deficiencies, then you'd be an idiot not to try to bang her.

MIKE

And I am no idiot. Thanks, Mads.

Mike and Scott walk away.

SCOTT

Is she always like that?

MIKE

Like what?

SCOTT

I don't know, like an episode of Deadwood?

INT. CINEPLEX OFFICE - NIGHT

Mady sits on the counter, Leslie eats guacamole at a desk.

MADY

I did that thing where I act tough
and say dirty stuff and curse.

LESLIE

So, you were yourself.

MADY

(nodding)

It was bad. He's probably going to
go after Tia anyway, with her big
boobs and Pantene commercial hair.

LESLIE

You can't give up already.

MADY

I'm not! This guy is smart and
incredibly attractive. He's going
to be my first, even if I have to
roofie and rape him. Wish me luck.

LESLIE

I think state law prohibits me.

Mady exits the office purposefully and goes into...

THE CINEPLEX BATHROOM

where she holds up a box with a picture of a tiny-waisted cow and the name "UDDER CONTROL" on it. "Eye of the Tiger" starts. She opens the box and pulls out a tiny piece of brown fabric. She looks skeptical. She tries to pull it on, but it's a formidable opponent. She struggles, falling and slamming into walls. Every time she flails past the electronic towel dispenser, it spits out another towel.

INT. PROJECTION BOOTH - CONTINUOUS

Finn walks to the bathroom door, where he hears a loud series of grunts and panting. He looks disgusted and backs away.

INT. BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

Mady finally has the stomach-cinching undergarment in place. There is a large pile of paper towels on the floor. She pulls a tank top out of her bag and puts it on, then changes into some tight jeans. She looks very uncomfortable.

INT. LOBBY - LATER

Mike and Scott hang out by the ticket podium. Mady sucks it in and walks past, trying to be nonchalant.

MADY
Night, boys.

SCOTT
Good night.

They stare as she hobbles away.

MIKE
Wow. She's kind of got a hot little bod. For a dude.

Nick, on the other podium, sees her and whistles.

INT. MADY'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Mady dives into the driver's seat. "Eye of the Tiger" ends abruptly as she gasps for breath. She tries to pull off the belly-cincher, but it won't budge. She frantically rummages in her bag, pulls out a pocket knife, cuts off the device and takes a deep breath, then pulls on a baggy sweatshirt.

INT. MADY'S ROOM - NIGHT

Mady awakens from a dream, sweaty and breathing heavily. She looks around, realizing where she is, and sighs.

INT. CINEPLEX - NIGHT

Mady exits the bathroom and sees Scott on the ticket podium. She steels herself and walks over.

MADY
Hey Scott, how are you doing?

SCOTT
Fine, you?

MADY
Good.

Crickets. Nick watches them from the other podium.

MADY

Uh, I didn't mean it when I called
you a conceited lying idiot, by the
way. I was just kidding.

SCOTT

Yeah, I figured it was a joke.

MADY

I am kind of a jokester.

Tia saunters up to them, swinging her hips.

TIA

Hey, what's up, guys?

She nudges Mady aside and smiles at Scott.

MADY

(turns to Tia, surprised)
Not much, we were just talking.

TIA

Cool. Scott, did Mike tell you I
know your brother? I went to --

As Tia blabs on, Mady looks defeated and walks into the...

CINEPLEX KITCHEN

where she puts her forehead against the fridge. Simon and Finn enter. Finn opens the freezer. Mady doesn't budge.

SIMON

Are you alright?

MADY

Who the fuck says "jokester"?

SIMON

No one, as far as I know.

MADY

Jokester. JOKESTER.

FINN

I think she's broken.

SIMON

Snap out of it, Mads. It's time for
the first rush.

She checks her watch. The minute hand clicks to six-thirty.

MADY
Let's do this shit.

MONTAGE - THE RUSH

-- Staccato CLOSE-UPS of each person crisply putting on their visor, fastening their name tag and tying up their apron.

-- SLOW MOTION: Mady and the boys stride like badasses to their registers. Finn slips on oil and lands flat on his back as the front doors open and people rush to the stand.

-- Simon is sweaty and frantic. He glances down to Mady, who easily does three things at once. She smirks at him.

-- Mady does the "eclipse" with dramatic flourish, smiling. Finn tries to copy, using a full cup, but he fumbles it, flinging fruit punch into a LITTLE GIRL's face. She starts to cry and the girl's FATHER grabs Finn by the shirt.

-- Mady slides by Finn - who now has a bandage on his head - and glances down to Tia's station where a very long line of men smile at Tia, nodding at her. Mady stops, shocked.

END MONTAGE

Mady, Simon and Finn stand around, recovering. Nick walks up.

NICK
Hey Mad Dog, you gonna let the
airhead beat you at this thing?

He indicates Tia's station where a long line of men waits.

MADY
(shouts to customers)
I can help someone down here!

The men look at her, but stay put in Tia's line.

NICK
Ouch.

MADY
Goddamn it! Like her tits are the
fucking Messiah or something. Fuck!

Mady turns to find two shocked NUNS, one with a LITTLE BOY.

MADY
(laughs uncomfortably)
Can I help you?

LITTLE BOY
(cute toddler voice)
Fuck.

INT. CINEPLEX LOBBY - LATER

Mady exits the bathroom, sees Tia talking to Scott and heads toward them. Nick breaks from a nearby pack of ushers and intercepts her. His hands are behind his back.

NICK
For what it's worth, I think you're sexier than Blondie, Mad Dog. You looked smokin' the other night.

MADY
(distracted)
Thanks.

NICK
You should wear stuff like that more often. Like, say, when we have our night of Mickey D's and sex?

MADY
Ha ha. Go away, Nick.

NICK
Don't be scared of your sexual attraction. Girls just can't resist my mojo. My natural heat.

He puts his arm around her shoulder but she shrugs him off.

MADY
Seriously, now's not a good time.

NICK
Don't fight the lust. Let it out.

MADY
(irritated and loud)
Nick, please. Go away.

The interaction draws the attention of the ushers. Simon and Finn turn to watch from behind the stand. Mady tries to walk away, but Nick gets in front of her.

NICK
Just one flash of bra. C'mon.

MADY
Nick! I don't want to go to dinner with you, I'm not gonna show you my boobs and I sure as hell am not going to fuck you, so just leave me the fuck alone! Please!

Nick's face colors. He pulls a can of macadamia nuts out from behind his back, tosses it on the floor and leaves. Mady picks it up and looks after him. A DUMB WOMAN approaches her.

DUMB WOMAN
Excuse me, do you work here?

Mady peers slowly down at her uniform, then looks up.

MADY
No.

DUMB WOMAN
Oh, sorry.

The woman heads off. Mady sighs and walks up to Tia.

MADY
Tia, you can go on break now.

TIA
Oh, cool. See you later, Scotty!

Tia strolls off, Scott watches her go. Mady hops the counter, tossing the nuts under her register as Mr. Fish appears.

MR. FISH
(to Scott)
What the hell is this?

Mr. Fish grabs a cup of popcorn off Scott's ticket podium.

MR. FISH
What do you think this is, your own personal restaurant?

He throws the popcorn at Scott.

SCOTT
I, uh, I --

MADY

Oh, sorry, Mr. Fish, I left that
there a while ago. I was just so
hungry from all the up-selling.

MR. FISH

This is yours, Mady? You know
better than that. Come on!

MADY

It'll never happen again, I swear.

Mr. Fish gives her a look and wiggles off.

SCOTT

Thanks. What a toolbox.

MADY

(teasing)

You're welcome, Scotty.

SCOTT

What?

MADY

Could you be more obvious? You just
about burned a hole in her butt.

SCOTT

No I didn't.

MADY

(imitating him)

Oh, I'm into brains, I'm so smart,
I don't care about looks.

He chuckles.

MADY

So predictable. And I thought you
might be different than these other
Cro-Magnons.

SCOTT

I am!

MADY

(playfully)

Yeah, I'm sure. Oh, hey, I have an
ass. Want to watch me walk away?

She walks away with an exaggerated hip swivel. He laughs.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

Mady and Rob sit next to each other at a well-worn table. Mady looks depressed as Rob works on equations.

MADY
I even dressed slutty once.

ROB
You did?

MADY
I know. And nothing. I guess I'm just too ugly. Or too fat. Or --

ROB
He could be gay. Or he could have elephantitis of the genitals and he doesn't want you anywhere near his grotesquely-swelled testicles.

MADY
You're a good friend, Rob. Weird, but good.

Mady opens her anatomy textbook. The page features a detailed diagram of male genitalia, with a former student's "embellishments" drawn on it. She slams the book shut.

INT. CONCESSION STAND - NIGHT

Mady leans on the counter, staring at Scott. Tia takes note.

INT. CINEPLEX KITCHEN - LATER

Mady straightens up the shelves. Tia enters and helps her.

TIA
I have to say something here. Don't be offended. I like you, you're a nice girl, but you should back off.

MADY
Off of what?

TIA
Scott, honey. If you go after him, you're gonna get your heart broken. He's a player. And he wants me.

MADY

How can you possibly know that?

TIA

Be honest with yourself, Mady. If you were a guy, who would you choose? The beautiful airhead or the plain Jane bibliophile?

Mady opens her mouth to respond, then stops, dazed. Tia nods.

MADY

You're not an idiot.

TIA

Everyone loves a bimbo. You should try it sometime. You can get away with anything you want.

MADY

You're truly an inspiration. If he's such a jerk, why don't you whore it up on someone else?

TIA

I can handle guys like him. You should go for one of the other nerds here. They all love you. It'll save you the embarrassment.

Mady stares at Tia, shakes her head and walks out.

INT. CINEPLEX LOBBY - NIGHT

Mady counts candy in the back stand, next to the ticket podium where Mike loiters with a crowd of ushers.

USHER 1

(to Mike)

You should probably get tested.

MIKE

Mike's Pike is clean. Yo, Mady!

MADY

What?

MIKE

How many cuts of meat have you simmered in your bearded clam?

MADY

What?

He makes a variety of lewd gestures to clarify his meaning.

MADY

Like I'd tell you.

MIKE

C'mon. How many guys? Two? Thirty?

Mady doesn't respond and Mike grabs her count sheets.

MADY

Give those back! That's like an hour's work!

MIKE

Sure. Just tell me a number.

Mike holds up the papers and pretends to start ripping them.

MADY

Okay, okay, it's zero. I'm the big V. Happy now, you fucking prick?!

The ushers go silent and turn to look at her, shocked.

USHER 2

Are you serious?

MADY

A lot of people my age haven't yet.

MIKE

No. I'm pretty sure it's just you.

USHER 1

Are you a religious zealot or something?

MADY

No! It just hasn't come up with the right person yet.

MIKE

Ha ha. Come up.

Mike starts to hand the sheets back to Mady, but then pulls them away when she reaches for them.

MIKE

So, how far have you gone? I find
this intriguing.

Mady lunges across the counter. Mike backs away just in time.

MIKE

Feisty! Mad 'cause you're secretly
a dirty slut, sucking every dick
you can get a hand on?

MADY

You're confusing me with you, Mike.

The ushers laugh. Mike is pissed.

MIKE

You don't want these back, do you?

Nick walks by, surveying the situation.

MADY

Nick, help me out here.

Mike looks at Nick expectantly, lowering the papers.

NICK

I have shit to do.

Mady watches him walk away, surprised. He stops and leans against the wall nearby, clearly not having "shit" to do. Mike smiles, holding up the papers once again.

MIKE

I swear on my cock and balls I'll
give it back this time. Just tell
me how many dongs you've touched.

Mady fixes Mike with a fiery glare. He holds up the sheets. She looks at the boxes, then at Mike. He pulls out a lighter, flicks it on and puts it up to the papers.

MADY

I've never seen a penis in person!

The ushers gasp. Nick and Mike are stunned. Mady grabs the papers, then Mike's hair, slamming his head into the counter.

MIKE

Ow! No fucking way.

USHER 1
I'll volunteer. Mine's tiny, not
threatening or scary at all.

Mady hops the stand and goes up to Mike, who flinches. She tenderly touches his head where a bump is beginning to form.

MADY
I'm sorry I got so mad, Mike.
(she leans in close)
I just... wanted to do THIS.

Mady knees him in the nuts and he falls down. She walks off.

MIKE
(high-pitched)
It. Was. Totally. Worth. It.

Scott struts up, eating popcorn, and looks down at Mike.

SCOTT
What the hell happened to you?

MIKE
The Virgin Mady took out her sexual
frustration on my nads.

SCOTT
What?

INT. CINEPLEX LOBBY - LATER

Shelley and Mady enter to see Tia flirting with Scott. Shelley leans over to Mady, riling her up.

SHELLEY
She's disrespecting you, Mads! This
is your house. You gonna let her
take your man, in your house?

Mady balls her fists.

MADY
I'm so sick of this bitch.
(toward Tia)
You're going down, Barbie.

Shelley smiles as Mady charges over to the stand.

INT. CONCESSION STAND - CONTINUOUS

Mady enters, standing behind Tia, who leans close to Scott.

TIA

I know how to deal with naughty
boys like you. You need a spanking.

SCOTT

I think I do.

MADY

Tia, so sorry to interrupt, but
this gentleman is waiting for you.

She indicates a PATIENT CUSTOMER standing at the counter.

TIA

Could you handle it?

Tia turns back to Scott. Mady pauses, taken aback, then
raises her voice.

MADY

Actually, you'll handle it. Now.

Tia throws Mady a blistering look and heads over to the man.

MADY

(leans over to Scott)

Can you please stop distracting my
employees with your sexual charms?

SCOTT

I can't help that I'm so charming.

He smiles and arches an eyebrow. She laughs at him and
returns the smile. Tia fumbles with the register. The
formerly patient customer looks pissed. Mady walks over.

MADY

What's the problem?

TIA

I gave him the wrong change. Can
you call Leslie to open this?

PATIENT CUSTOMER

How long is this going to take?

MADY
 Don't worry, sir, I'll handle this.
 (to Tia)
 Turn around, please.

Tia stays put and Mady does her complicated register-opening move, then gives the customer his change. He walks off.

SCOTT
 How did you do that?

MADY
 It's a secret.
 (pats Tia on the back)
 I know it's hard to understand all
 of this, but you'll get the hang of
 numbers eventually, Tia. Toodles.

She walks away, leaving Tia seething. Scott is amused.

INT. PARKING LOT - LATER

Mady rummages around in her car. Amidst the mess is a huge bag of popcorn and a life-sized cut-out of "Air Bud". She grabs a book and turns to find Tia standing behind her.

MADY
 (jumps)
 Shit! Stalk me much?

TIA
 Calling me stupid backfired on your
 ass, bitch. We're going on a date.

MADY
 Really? What should I wear?

TIA
 Hilarious. Maybe if you weren't
 such a bitch, he'd have wanted you.
 (looks her up and down)
 Then again, probably not.

She marches off.

INT. CONCESSION STAND - NIGHT

Mady looks tired and disheveled as she chats with Finn and Simon. She stops mid-thought when she sees Scott exit the bathroom, looking quite suave in his civilian clothes. He sits on a bench and looks toward the door.

Moments later, Tia prances in, looking so hot that even Finn stares. Scott stands and Tia grabs his hand as they exit.

MADY
Well, that sucks.

INT. CINEPLEX LOBBY - DAY

Mady cleans the outside of the stand, sitting on an upside-down bucket. Mike and Nick sweep nearby. PATRONS exit a theater into the lobby. Tia walks up.

TIA
Last night was so great. Don't
Scotty and I make a cute couple?
He's such a great kisser.

Mady stands and grabs some paper towels, not looking at Tia.

MADY
I hope he likes crabs.

Scott approaches and Mady turns to look at him. Tia tosses something from her pocket on the bucket. Scott waves to Mady, and she waves back half-heartedly as she plops down on the bucket. Tia smiles.

SCOTT
Hey Mady. How's it going?

MADY
Awesome. I just love menial labor.
How was the big date, smart guy?

Scott opens his mouth to speak, but Tia quickly knocks over Mady's bottle of cleaning solution, spilling it everywhere.

TIA
Oops.

Mady jumps up and bends over, righting the bottle. Tia slides to her left, using her body to hide the bucket, and the ketchup packets she has tossed on it, from Scott's view.

TIA
(shouting)
Ew! Mady bled through her pants!

Mady whips around, horrified, to see a giant red spot on her pants. Scott looks disgusted and turns away. The patrons milling about make grossed out noises, some chuckle.

TIA
Use a tampon, freak!
(to Scott)
Let's get out of here.

Everyone stares at Mady, who looks utterly mortified. Tia smiles and grabs Scott, dragging him away. Mady looks at the bucket. She holds up a ketchup packet.

MADY
It's ketchup! It's ketchup!

But Scott is long gone. Nick throws his jacket to Mady.

NICK
Here, Big Red.

MADY
Thanks.

Mady ties it around her waist and hurries to the kitchen.

INT. CONCESSION STAND - CONTINUOUS

Finn and Simon stand silently for a few moments.

FINN
She seems pretty upset.

SIMON
I know.

FINN
She's probably seeing red right now, huh?

SIMON
You're an idiot.

Simon turns and walks away.

FINN
So we shouldn't rent Red Eye?
Moulin Rouge? Crimson Tide?

Simon disappears into the kitchen.

INT. BOX OFFICE - LATER

Mady and Shelley sit in wheeled desk chairs. Mady, in fresh pants, repeatedly wheels herself into the wall.

MADY
I'm the Scary Girl Who Bleeds.

SHELLEY
It's not over, Mads.

MADY
I'm pretty sure it is, actually.

SHELLEY
He wants a bimbo and you want him,
so why don't you just bimbo it up?

MADY
Please tell me you're joking.

SHELLEY
Just a little bit, to get his
attention. Then you can go back to
being your quick-witted awesome
self, and he'll realize that you're
what he's wanted all along.

MADY
I don't think so, Shell. Even
dressed slutty I'm a beast. Where
would I even start?

INT. CINEPLEX BATHROOM - LATER

Shelley leans against the stall door.

MADY (O.S.)
You're such a lipstick.
(shuffling sounds)
Oh dear God. This is so wrong.

SHELLEY
Let me see.

MADY (O.S.)
I look like an idiot.

Mady comes out in a uniform two sizes too small. Her hair is straight and she has a thick layer of makeup on. She looks hot, in a very skanky way. Shelley unbuttons Mady's shirt.

SHELLEY
No, you look like a whore. It's
perfect! Can you smush those up
further? Almost to your chin?

Mady readjusts her bra, pushing her boobs even higher.

SHELLEY

Nice. Turn around.

Mady turns away from Shelley, who checks out her butt.

SHELLEY

Look at that. It's like two little cantaloupes. Ripe, sweet, succu --

MADY

I get it, thanks.

SHELLEY

Let's get you out there. Remember, make him feel smart. You're just a little vapid silly cuddly bunny.

MADY

I'm going to punch you in the vag.

INT. CINEPLEX LOBBY - LATER

Mady saunters past the concession counter. Simon sees her and bobbles, then drops, a stack of cups. Finn laughs.

FINN

What are you supposed to be?
Streetwalker Barbie?

MADY

What are you supposed to be?
Sexually Confused Ken?

Mady ambles up to the ticket podium. Scott gives her the up and down, confused.

MADY

Hey, Scott. You look cute today.

SCOTT

Uh, thanks. What's going on?

MADY

I wanted to talk to you and stuff.

SCOTT

Why are you dressed like that?

MADY

I'm sick of being so uptight. I just wanna have some fun, you know? Before I leave for school. Like earlier, when I pranked you with the blood. Funny, right?

SCOTT

Uh, I guess. What'd you want to talk about?

MADY

Um, I'm sorta having problems with calculus. Math is just too hard.
(turns away, makes pained face, turns back)
And since you're smart, I thought maybe you could give me private lessons. Privately. In private.

Tia walks up, sees Mady and narrows her eyes. She puts her arm around Scott.

TIA

Hey, baby. Whatcha talking about?

SCOTT

Mady needs a math tutor.

Tia looks at Mady, surprised, then ramps up her bimbo-sity.

TIA

Me too. Math hurts my head.

MADY

I'm totally lost. What's a limit?

TIA

(rubs Scott's hair)
I've never even heard of limits!

SCOTT

Maybe I should start a business.

TIA

(laughs way too loud)
You're so funny!

Mady laughs too, and touches Scott's arm.

MADY

You are. It's so fucking sexy!

Scott and Tia both go quiet and look at Mady. Mady removes her hand slowly and turns to leave.

MADY
Uh, I'm gonna go. Scott, lemme know if you can help me, kay?
(locks eyes with him)
I'll totally... owe you one.

Scott watches her walk off. Tia rubs his shoulders.

TIA
If you do tutor her, you better put a plastic tarp on all your stuff.
So, when are we going out again?

INT. CINEPLEX LOBBY - LATER

Finn stacks cups and Mady reclines on the counter. Simon walks by, staring at her chest.

MADY
Simon!

SIMON
You're sticking them out!

A SWEaty MAN in spandex comes up to the counter.

SWEaty GUY
Hey baby, gimme a large popcorn, extra butter, nachos, two hot dogs, Goobers, two pounds of bulk candy and let's see... a small Diet Coke.

He watches Mady lecherously as the employees all set about getting his food. Mady walks to the hot dog warmer. Only two hot dogs are left. One looks unpalatable.

MADY
Steve!

She sadly puts him in a bun and hands him to the sweaty guy, who stares at her chest.

SIMON
That'll be sixty-two dollars and three cents, please.

The sweaty man pays and collects his mound of food, all the while checking out Mady. He tosses a five at her boobs.

SWEATY MAN

That's for you, sweet cheeks. I
like the way you wiggle.

Mady looks appalled.

FINN

Take good care of him, man.

The sweaty guy looks at him oddly and walks off with his pile of food. They all watch Steve go.

SIMON

He was a good dog.

FINN

That he was.

MADY

Hello? Did you not see that?

FINN

Hmm. He treated you like a whore. I
wonder why.

Mady tosses the five on the counter and heads into the...

CINEPLEX KITCHEN

where she angrily stacks some boxes on shelves.

DEEP VOICE (O.S.)

Mady.

Mady jumps and looks around.

MADY

What the hell?

DEEP VOICE (O.S.)

It's God.

MADY

Nick?

DEEP VOICE (O.S.)

I said I'm God. Mady, my child, I
command you to stop acting like a
dirty slut.

Mady puts her hands on her hips.

MADY
Who is this?

DEEP VOICE (O.S.)
Goddamn it, do I have to draw you a
fucking picture? It's God!
Reminding you to be yourself.
(ghost voice)
Be yourself.

MADY
So you're a ghost now, God?

Joe stands up from behind a pile of boxes. He wears a trash bag and carries a broom.

JOE
I guess two years at ventriloquist school wasn't enough.

MADY
When it comes to ventriloquist school, is it ever enough?

JOE
People look up to you, Mads. Don't lower yourself for some guy. It's beneath you.
(they share a long look)
I'm gonna catch the evil hobgoblin that lives in theater one now.

MADY
Of course you are.

He brandishes the broom like a sword and marches out. Mady pauses, then walks to the mirror, staring at herself. She slowly wipes off her makeup with a towel, then exits.

INT. CONCESSION STAND - CONTINUOUS

Mady sees Tia hanging all over Scott. She picks up her bag, tosses the can of nuts in it and heads to the bathroom, distractedly unbuttoning her top shirt button as she goes. Simon, entranced, pushes his cup up to what he thinks is the soda machine. He takes a deep gulp, then looks into the cup. It's filled with oil.

INT. CINEPLEX BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

Mady starts to change when she hears shouting. She runs out.

INT. CONCESSION STAND - CONTINUOUS

Mady runs up. Simon lays on the floor, not breathing, white foam in the corner of his mouth. Tia looks irritated by the whole scene. Finn holds an EpiPen needle.

MADY

Shit! Finn, give him the shot!

FINN

Tia! Where's that little medical book that came with the pen?

TIA

What book? Don't yell at me!

FINN

Call 911! Get me a marker!

MADY

What the hell do you need a marker for? Give him the fucking shot!

FINN

You give him the shot! I don't know what the fuck to do!

MADY

You have to get it deep into his thigh muscle. Stab it in there really hard, then push the plunger. Do it! On three. One, two --

CU of the needle point. CU of Simon's leg.

MADY (CONT'D)

Three!

Finn holds Simon's leg steady and raises the needle. He slams it down. Into his own leg.

FINN

Uh...

Mady hops the counter, grabs another EpiPen out of the supply closet and stabs it into Simon's thigh.

MADY

Finn, don't push that plunger down!

FINN

Okay...

He looks down at the needle in his leg, turns white and passes out. Mady holds Simon against her chest.

MADY
Come on, Simon. Come on.

Simon takes a gasping breath, opens his eyes and sees Mady's boobs against his face. He smiles woozily.

EXT. BEHIND THE CINEPLEX - LATER

Joe stands on top of a wall, wearing a trash bag. He flips into a dumpster full of trash, then stands, arms raised. A crowd of ushers cheer. Mady slumps by, headphones on, sipping a milkshake, dressed like herself again. She sits on the curb, dejected. Scott walks up behind her.

SCOTT
Hey.

Mady is startled at his sudden appearance and coughs.

MADY
Hi.

He sits down next to her.

SCOTT
Heard about Simon. You okay?

MADY
Little shaken up, but yeah.

SCOTT
What are you listening to?

MADY
It's a mix. Ben Folds, The Decemberists. Who do you like?

SCOTT
I listen to a lot of Fergie.

MADY
Ew.

SCOTT
So, I know what Tia did. With the ketchup.

MADY

Oh. Yeah, no offense, but your girlfriend's a total twat.

SCOTT

She's not my girlfriend. She wants to be. Picked up on that when she tried to tongue my appendix out.

MADY

(dubious)

Why were you on a date, then?

SCOTT

She said she was going to set me up with one of her friends, then they all miraculously bailed at the last second. She's crafty for a bimbo.

MADY

You're telling me. So why not just get an easy piece?

SCOTT

Do you have any idea where that girl's mouth has been? Oh, what are you doing on Friday?

MADY

Quality segue, supposedly smart guy. I don't know yet. Why?

SCOTT

I'm free for tutoring.

MADY

Oh... good.

SCOTT

You don't need tutoring, do you?

MADY

No, no I don't.

SCOTT

Didn't think so. Wanna come see a movie with me instead?

MADY

Uh, okay. Sure. Me?

He takes a sip of her milkshake and stands up.

SCOTT

You. I told you, I like a girl with
some brains.

He smiles and walks off.

INT. BOX OFFICE - LATER

Mady is on the floor, bubbling over.

MADY

Oh my God oh my God oh my God.

SHELLEY

You must chill! You must chill!

An IDIOT CUSTOMER comes to the window.

IDIOT CUSTOMER

Two for "Viscosity", please.

SHELLEY

Pardon me?

IDIOT CUSTOMER

"Viscosity". Nine-thirty.

Shelley prints out tickets for "Velocity" while Mady pulls a giant ledger titled "Stupid Customer Quotes" out of a drawer.

SHELLEY

Oh, add "Vasectomy", too.

MADY

Someone actually called it that?

SHELLEY

Yeah, they're having real problems
with this one. So, where ya going
on your big date?

MADY

Here.

SHELLEY

What? Why? MegaCinema has stadium
seating! And Slushies!

MADY

If we go Dutch, I can't afford
MegaCinema. Besides, this way I get
to shove Tia's face in it.

SHELLEY

Ooh, turning the tables. I like it.

MADY

Did I mention that I'm one step
closer to sharing my precious
flower with the hottest guy ever?!

SHELLEY

Can you leave? Your estrogen is
bugging me. And try not to dress
like my Mom, Prudie McTightTwat.

MADY

I don't dress like a Mom.

SHELLEY

Yeah, actually you do.

CUT TO:

MONTAGE - MADY'S ROOM - MADY GETS READY

-- Mady in front of the mirror, wearing a cardigan and pleated pants, looking very much like a mom. She sighs.

-- Mady uses a curling iron while applying mascara. She sniffs, turns, and sees the iron smoking. She opens it and a piece of charred hair falls out. She yelps and turns back to the mirror. Mascara is smeared all over her face.

-- Mady applies "Stinger Lip Plump". Nothing happens. She tosses the box, disappointed. Suddenly her eyes go wide. She screams and claws at her mouth, running in circles. Her lips are now comically huge. She runs to a window and presses her lips against the glass, whimpering.

END MONTAGE

INT. CINEPLEX LOBBY - LATER

The swelling has gone down, but Mady's lips are still red and puffy. She wears a tight top and her hair is tamed nicely. Finn and Simon interrogate her as she holds ice on her lips.

FINN

Who are you seeing it with?

SIMON

You're going to a movie alone?

MADY
Not exactly.

Finn tries to make eye contact with Mady, but she avoids it.

FINN
Oh my God. You have a date!

MADY
Shut up, Finn.

Finn shouts to MIKE, who mans the ticket podium.

FINN
Mady's got a date!

MIKE
Dude or chick, Mady?

SIMON
What smells like burnt hair?

MADY
I hate you guys.

Scott enters and looks around. He spots her and walks over.

FINN
No. Way.

SCOTT
Hey guys. Mady, you ready?

MADY
I just have to hit the ladies room.

SCOTT
Okay, I'll meet you in the theater.

He walks off. Finn gives her a thumbs-up and a huge smirk. She makes a face at him as she hurries into the bathroom.

LATER

Mady comes out and walks to the ticket podium. A CONFUSED MAN cuts in front of her and Nick rips his ticket.

NICK
That's to your right, sir.

The man walks by, looks both ways, and goes to the left. Nick rips Mady's ticket and hands it back without looking at her.

MADY

I'm sorry I was such a bitch the other day. Forgive me?

Nick plasters on a fake smile.

NICK

That'll be to your left, ma'am.
Enjoy your movie.

She looks at him for a long moment, but he refuses to return her stare. She finally sighs and walks off, looking wounded.

INT. VELOCITY THEATER - CONTINUOUS

Mady spots Scott and sits next to him.

SCOTT

Do you want anything?

MADY

No, I'm good. Thanks.

SCOTT

I like your lipstick.

MADY

(touches lips)

Oh, thanks.

The lights dim.

LATER

Loud fighting sounds come from the screen. Scott turns to Mady, leans in close and whispers to her.

SCOTT

This fight is insane, right? I think the guy in black does kempo.

MADY

I'm just waiting for someone to get impaled on that -

There is a wet ripping sound on screen and they both flinch.

SCOTT

Good call.

He smiles at her and puts his hand on her leg, then turns back to the screen. She looks down at his hand and takes a deep breath, trying to relax.

INT. CINEPLEX LOBBY - LATER

Mady and Scott walk by the concession stand where a tired-looking Tia is standing. Mady leans behind Scott as they pass and gives Tia a huge smile and the finger.

EXT. CINEPLEX PARKING LOT - LATER

Scott walks Mady to her car.

SCOTT

Those wrap-up paragraphs during the credits were lame.

MADY

I know, I hate those things.
(indicates her car)
This is me.

SCOTT

Sweet ride.

MADY

Yeah, I'm thinking of getting rims,
maybe a giant eagle on the hood.

SCOTT

Funny.
(touches her hair)
You look really great tonight.

MADY

(nervous)
Thanks, you too. I like the shirt.

He takes a step toward her.

SCOTT

Want to go out again sometime?

MADY

Okay. Sure.

He backs her against the car and they share a long, intense kiss. A car goes by, beeping.

SOMEONE IN THE CAR
Woo! Put your cock in her, Scotty!

They separate, embarrassed.

SCOTT
That's nice.

MADY
Yeah.

SCOTT
Well, good night.

MADY
Good night.

He kisses her again and strides away. She gets in her car and punches her seat, squealing, as Scott drives off. She turns the ignition key, but the engine doesn't start. The bungee cord is coiled on the passenger seat.

LATER

Nick has the hood of Mady's car open and jumper cables are attached to his Suburban's battery.

MADY
I forgot the brake lights.

NICK
Brake lights?

MADY
My brake pedal doesn't stay up on its own. I have to attach a cord from the pedal to the steering wheel or the lights stay on.

NICK
You really need a new car.

MADY
Shitmobile's all I can afford. Oh, I washed your jacket. Thanks for that, by the way.

She reaches into the car and hands it to him.

NICK
Whatever. How was your big date?

MADY

How do you know it was a date?

NICK

Look at you, you look like a whore.

MADY

No I don't! I look good. Right?

NICK

Try the engine.

She starts the car and he detaches the cables.

MADY

Thanks, Nick. You're a really decent guy sometimes.

He tosses the cables into his car and walks off.

MADY (CONT'D)

You're still mad at me? I said I'm sorry. Jesus, how long are you going to be pissy about this?

Nick shakes his head and turns around.

NICK

You really don't get it. You've treated me like garbage from the second that little shit showed up. And now that you need me for something, we're best buddies again? I'm not your bitch, Mady.

He storms off, leaving Mady shocked.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM - DAY

Emily and Mady are in gym class, passing a basketball back and forth. Emily is terrible at it.

MADY

I thought it was just an idiom, but I literally got weak in the knees.

Emily throws the ball underhanded and it goes straight up, bouncing right next to her. Mady grabs it and passes it back.

EMILY

So, when do we get to meet the perfect man?

MADY

I don't want to freak him out, but
soon. He's just so... amazing.

Emily chucks the ball and it rolls to a stop at Mady's feet.

EMILY

When's the next date?

MADY

We're going to dinner Wednesday.

EMILY

Oh, nice. Just don't eat garlic. Or
onions. Or peppers. Or --

Emily throws the ball harder and it hits Karen in the back of
the head, knocking her down. Emily cringes.

EMILY

Sorry, Karen!

KAREN (O.S.)

My soft spot!

EMILY

I suck at this. I just wasn't meant
to play with balls, I guess.

Mady opens her mouth to speak.

EMILY

Oh, shut up.

INT. ITALIAN CHAIN RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Mady picks at a salad, avoiding the onions. Scott eats pasta.

MADY

The test said I should be a
zoologist, a clergyman or a lawyer.
Thanks a lot, test. A clergyman?

SCOTT

Are you sure you don't want
anything else to eat?

MADY

I'm not really that hungry, but
thanks. So, Princeton, huh?

SCOTT

Yeah. My Dad's alumni, so I think I got some preferential treatment.

MADY

Don't say that, I'm sure you would've gotten in regardless.

SCOTT

You're sweet. Where are you headed?

MADY

I got into U. Penn, but I'm going to State. They gave me a bigger scholarship. My parents are making me pay for tuition on my own.

SCOTT

Harsh. You must be excited for all the parties and the football, huh?

Mady takes a sip of her drink and looks at him.

MADY

Actually...

SCOTT

What?

MADY

Forget it. How's your ziti?

SCOTT

Nice try. What were you gonna say?

MADY

Well... I'm not really that psyched about leaving. I keep telling everyone I am, but I'm not.

SCOTT

Why not?

MADY

I sort of have a good thing going here, you know? At school, I'll be all alone in this huge foreign place and I'll have to try to carve a niche for myself all over again. It's scary. I know, I'm lame.

SCOTT

No, I feel like that a little, too.

MADY

You do?

A WAITRESS appears and picks up their plates.

WAITRESS

Can I get you anything else?

SCOTT

Just the check, thanks.

(to Mady)

So, what now?

MADY

It's pretty late. I should go home.

SCOTT

Want to see my place? I'll get you home early. Or you can sleep over.

MADY

Yeah, right.

SCOTT

We'll watch a movie. It'll be fun.

He shoots her a charming, sexy smile.

MADY

I can't be out too late.

SCOTT

No problem. We'll watch a movie and then I'll drive you straight home.

INT. SCOTT'S BEDROOM - LATER

It's dark, there are no windows. Scott turns a dimmer switch.

SCOTT

Come on in.

MADY

Nice room.

He shuts the door behind them, revealing a Bruce Lee poster.

SCOTT

So, what should we watch?

MADY

Anything, you pick.

Scott picks up a Jackie Chan DVD and puts it in. Before the movie even starts, he kisses Mady and pulls her onto the bed. He fumbles with her shirt, trying to pull it off.

MADY
You move pretty fast, slick.

SCOTT
You make me pretty hot, gorgeous.

He kisses her, she leans back.

MADY
What about the movie?

SCOTT
Just relax.

He kisses her again. She obviously enjoys it.

MADY
Oh, what the hell.

She pulls off her shirt, covering her stomach with it. He pulls off his shirt and they make out some more.

MADY
Wait, what about your parents?

SCOTT
Not home.

They continue kissing. He slowly moves his hands down to her pants and unbuttons.

SCOTT
You don't match your bra and your underwear?

She looks at him incredulously.

MADY
I didn't exactly think you'd be seeing my underthings tonight.

He tries to pull down her pants.

MADY
Wait, wait. I'm not going this far on a second date.

He rolls over onto his back with a frustrated sound.

SCOTT

Then why did you let me undo your pants, Mady?

MADY

Don't be mad. This is just moving a little fast for me. I'm not as... experienced as you are.

SCOTT

Crap, I was just a total dick, wasn't I? Sorry. It's just hard for me to get so into it and then stop, you know? I really like you, Mady. If you need to go slower, we can.

He puts his arm around her, pulling her head onto his chest. She looks relieved and smiles, stroking his arm.

INT. CINEPLEX LOBBY - NIGHT

Emily and Rob sit on a bench. Scott appears on the far side of the lobby, talking with a group of ushers. He does a series of fast-paced karate moves and kicks. Nick walks by, sees the display and shakes his head.

EMILY

What the fuck is that?

Mady comes out of a theater and walks up to her friends.

MADY

Hey guys! Oh, he's out here.

Emily and Rob share a look as Mady motions Scott over.

MADY

Scott, these are my friends, Emily and Rob. They just saw Velocity.

SCOTT

Hey. Did you like it?

ROB

A few too many explosions, but it's Bruckheimer, so it's to be expected. The cinematogra--

SCOTT

Well, this is fun and all, but I have to go haul some trash.

He walks off. Everyone looks after him, surprised.

EMILY

What the hell? That's the guy you went out with?

MADY

He's usually really sweet. Maybe he's in a bad mood or something.

INT. CONCESSION STAND - LATER

Mady cleans the counter. Scott walks up, whistling.

SCOTT

Your friends are major dorks, huh?

MADY

No they're not!

SCOTT

Yeah they are. You probably can't see it because you guys are close.

MADY

Then that makes me a dork, too.

SCOTT

Uh-huh.

MADY

(punches his shoulder)

Hey!

SCOTT

(laughs)

But you're a hot dork. Don't sulk. I actually came over here to ask you something.

MADY

Oh?

SCOTT

My school has this thing called "the prom" and I was wondering if you might want to go with me?

MADY

Really?

(studies his face, unsure)

You hardly know me.

SCOTT

I know we'll have fun. And that
you'll look beautiful.

He moves close to her, smiling his charming smile.

MADY

Uh... okay, I guess.

SCOTT

I love these things, getting all
dressed up and everything.

MADY

Well, then, do you want to come to
mine, too?

SCOTT

Are you kidding? Definitely.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

Mady bounces up to Emily at her locker.

EMILY

Hey, Mads. How's the contest going?

MADY

Okay. Hopefully I win because - I'm
going to the prom with Scott! Aahh!

EMILY

Oh, that's great... for you.

MADY

So I guess I have to get a dress
and deal with all the girly crap --

EMILY

Wait a second, what about our anti-
prom? You're gonna ditch me and
Rob? The whole thing was your idea.

MADY

Well, you guy can probably get a
date to the real prom, too.

EMILY

Probably? I can't believe this. The
second you get a chance you choose
some jerk over your friends?

MADY

He's not a jerk! Why are you acting like this? Are you jealous?

Emily's eyes get wide. She looks ready to explode.

EMILY

You should really go. Away. Now.

INT. BOX OFFICE - NIGHT

Mady yaps and Shelley listens with a bored expression.

MADY

I finally have what I want, and they can't even be happy for me?

SHELLEY

Yeah, yeah. You let Scott swim up your fish hallway yet?

MADY

He wanted to, but I chickened out. It just didn't feel right.

SHELLEY

OH MY GOD. All you've been talking about is finding a guy to bang and you just said he's the one! Fucking copulate or stop whining already!

MADY

I know, I know, you're right. I was thinking, it's cliche and all, but why not the prom? It could be semi-special, tux, dress and all that.

SHELLEY

Yes! She's gonna captain the beef boat to the tuna waters, ladies and gentlemen! Halle-freakin'-lujah!

INT. CONCESSION STAND - NIGHT

Customers line up at the registers. Tia has turned up her sales pitch, actually calling people over from other lines. The four buttons of her shirt are open, revealing lots of cleavage. She gives Mady an angry, bordering on crazy, smirk.

INT. CINEPLEX OFFICE - LATER

Leslie eats kippers at her desk. Mady sits on a chair.

MADY

She looked at me like she's going
to boil my rabbit.

LESLIE

Well, get it in gear. You only have
two days to catch up.

MADY

She's winning?!

LESLIE

Yeah, but if you up your numbers
ten percent, you should be able to
take over the top spot.

MADY

Fuck! I can't believe this.

INT. MADY'S ROOM - DAY

Mady peers in the mirror, studying herself from different angles. She tries to calm her hair and put on some makeup, but ends up making a disgusted face at her appearance.

INT. MADY'S CAR - LATER

Mady drives on a busy road. Suddenly, her engine makes a loud noise, cuts out and smoke pours out from under the hood. She climbs out of the car, checks her watch, then looks around. A gas station is visible far off in the distance.

INT. CINEPLEX LOBBY - DAY

Scott and Mike stand at the ticket podium.

MIKE

So have you thought about your
prank? I was thinking, you could
put cum and smegma in the popcorn
oil. I mean, we've done it before,
but it would fulfill your duty.

SCOTT

Yeah, then I could fuck a pie. No,
my prank is happening later today.

Courtesy Cup Man approaches. Mike rips his ticket.

MIKE

That'll be to your right. Enjoy.

Courtesy Cup Man walks to his theater.

SCOTT

Isn't he like an hour early?

MIKE

Oh, yeah, that's Courtesy Cup Man.

SCOTT

Who?

MIKE

He comes in, calls a 900 number and
then jerks it in a theater.

SCOTT

Are you serious? How do you know,
he... you know?

MIKE

He leaves a cup full of evidence.

SCOTT

Nasty.

Suddenly, Mady bursts through the front doors, looking at the lines of customers. She is covered in soot.

INT. CINEPLEX KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

Mady pulls her uniform shirt over her T-shirt. Scott enters.

SCOTT

What the hell happened to you?

MADY

Don't look at me, I look like crap.
I had to walk three miles to get a
tow truck just to get here.

SCOTT

You don't look bad. You just don't
look... good.

MADY

Thanks.

SCOTT

Why didn't you call me?

MADY

I don't have a cell. Can't afford one. I have to go. Tia's probably wiping the floor with me now.

Scott gives her a peck as she hurries out. She beams.

INT. CONCESSION STAND - LATER

Mady cleans as Mr. Fish calls Tia over and they confer.

LATER

Mr. Fish calls Finn over and discusses something with him. Finn returns and Mady walks up to him.

MADY

What was that all about? Did Tia win the contest already?

FINN

No. Uh, I better help that guy.

He walks off.

INT. CINEPLEX LOBBY - LATER

Mr. Fish looks around his lobby with pride. A couple of PUNK KIDS walk by, laughing at him.

PUNK KID

Nice headlights, buddy.

Mr. Fish instinctively covers his nipples, but when he looks down, there's nothing wrong with his shirt. Confused, he looks around and notices most patrons are smiling or stifling giggles in his direction. He notices a LAUGHING COUPLE looking back toward the screen in theater three as they exit.

INT. THEATER THREE - CONTINUOUS

Mr. Fish bursts in, looking around. ON THE SCREEN, in the same format as the typical pre-preview drivel...

A header reading "A Week With Claude Fish". Below, a large picture of Mr. Fish, at a hobby shop, deciding between a model kit of a plane or a "Paint Your Own Orc" kit. Underneath it reads "He's got big plans for Saturday night."

It snaps to the next slide, a photo of Mr. Fish in the food court, taking a giant bite of a foot-long hot dog. Underneath it reads "He just loves big, long meat in his mouth".

IN THE THEATER

Mr. Fish turns red. Patrons turn around and look at him.

ON THE SCREEN

Another slide. This one's a giant photo of a pasty, shirtless Mr. Fish changing in the cineplex office. His nipples are huge. It reads "His nipples are the size of plates."

INT. CINEPLEX LOBBY - CONTINUOUS

Mr. Fish runs, red-faced and making angry grunting sounds, to the door upstairs. The second the door closes behind him, the ushers crack up hysterically and high-five Scott.

INT. CINEPLEX OFFICE - LATER

Mr. Fish rants at his desk. Leslie eats a gyro.

MR. FISH

He had it in for me. Projectionists are always assholes. He wanted my job, but this is my kingdom. My kingdom! And I sent him packing, didn't I? Yeah, I did.

LESLIE

(not listening)

Uh-huh.

Mady enters and plops in a chair.

MADY

You rang?

MR. FISH

And now I have to deal with this.

Breathe it out, Claude.

(MORE)

MR. FISH (CONT'D)
(long, successful calming
breath)
So, Mady, is there anything you
want to tell me?

MADY
About what?

MR. FISH
You're a valuable asset to our team
here, so I can overlook this if you
just come clean.

MADY
Come clean about what?

Mady looks at Leslie, who shrugs.

MR. FISH
Last night your drawer was three
hundred dollars short.

MADY
What?

MR. FISH
If you give the money back today,
I'll let you keep your job.

MADY
You think I stole it?!

MR. FISH
You were going to lose the contest,
you needed the money, I understand.
But we could have worked something
out. You didn't have to do this.

MADY
I didn't, I swear! I'm not stupid!

MR. FISH
I know. I'm told you were so smart
as to figure out a way to open the
registers without a key.

Mady's jaw drops.

MR. FISH
If you don't return it, Mady, I'm
going to have to fire you.

MADY
I didn't take it. I swear!

Mr. Fish considers.

MR. FISH

Okay. Go home. You can return the uniform at your leisure.

MADY

Mr. Fish!

MR. FISH

Sorry, Mady.

Mady wanders out, stunned.

CINEPLEX LOBBY - LATER

Mady walks up to the stand. Nick talks to Simon and Finn.

MADY

I just got fired.

NICK

What?

MADY

They think I stole three hundred bucks from my register.

Finn and Simon look at each other, silent for a long moment.

FINN

You know, it wouldn't be that big of a deal to us if you did do it.

MADY

(shocked, blinking)

You think I did it?

FINN

You have been talking about the money thing a lot, Mads, and --

MADY

You know what? Fuck you guys.

She storms out. Nick turns to Finn and Simon.

NICK

Are you kidding? The day she steals something is the day Mike stops sucking cock.

MIKE (O.S.)
Your Mom taught me how!

INT. HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

Emily walks by Mady's locker.

MADY
Hey, Ems, do you have an extra T-shirt? I forgot again.

EMILY
No, I don't. You can't count on me for everything, Mady.

She keeps walking.

MADY
Em, wait!

Emily turns around from a distance.

MADY
I'm sorry about the prom. Scott --

EMILY
I don't fucking care! Enjoy your prom, Mady. I hope it's worth it.

She storms off.

INT. MALL FOOD COURT - DAY

Mady dunks waffle fries in a pool of ketchup, depressed. Shelley wears her uniform and drinks coffee.

SHELLEY
She'll get over it. Give it time.

MADY
I've never seen her like that.

SHELLEY
Let's change the subject. I don't have a dress for Melissa's prom.

MADY
I don't think I even own a dress.

SHELLEY
I know. Guess where we're going.

MADY

Oh no.

MONTAGE: DRESS STORE - MADY & SHELLEY GO SHOPPING

-- Mady looks unhappy as Shelley drags her inside.

-- Mady and Shelley go through the racks, pulling items.

-- Shelley wears a skimpy dress, Mady wears what appears to be Victorian-era garb. They look at each other.

-- Shelley and Mady go through the racks again. This time they hand each other the dresses they've picked out.

-- Shelley wears an ugly long-sleeve gown. Mady comes out in a tiny, trashy dress, trying to cover herself up. Shelley gives her the thumbs up. Mady shakes her head.

-- Mady comes out of the dressing room in a red gown. A very old woman is in front of the mirror in an extremely slutty dress and stripper heels. Mady is surprised and appalled.

END MONTAGE

Shelley wears a beautiful strapless black gown.

SHELLEY

That's the one, Mads.

MADY (O.C.)

Eh. It's kind of uncomfortable. I feel like everyone can see my kibbles n' bits.

SHELLEY

You don't know anyone at his school, anyway, do you?

Mady looks great in a low-cut, form-fitting silver gown.

MADY

Just Mike, who's not going. He's probably spending the money on hookers instead. And Joe, who I can't imagine attending any prom.

SHELLEY

So get it.

Mady looks at the price tag, staggered.

MADY
Harry Belafonte! No, I can't.

Shelley pulls out her wallet.

SHELLEY
Then I'm getting it for you.

MADY
I'm not letting you buy me a dress.

SHELLEY
I know you're good for the money.
Besides, you have no choice. I'm
buying it, and if you don't wear
it, then you've wasted my money and
you're a shitty friend.

MADY
Well, when you put it that way.

The two look at their reflection in the mirror. Mady grins despite herself. The old lady appears next to them in her underwear, squealing. Mady and Shelley back away slowly.

EXT. MADY'S HOUSE - DAY

Scott knocks at the front door.

MADY (O.S.)
Hey, go wait in front of the
garage, okay? I'm going to do a
dramatic reveal.

He walks around and stands in the middle of the driveway. The garage door hums to life and ascends. Manicured toes in silver heels appear, then the bottom of a silky silver dress... then the garage door makes a giant squealing noise and grinds very slowly and loudly to a halt. Scott cracks up.

MADY (O.S.)
Fuck!

The pretty foot kicks the door violently. After some banging and cursing, Mady emerges from the side door. She looks amazing in her dress with beautifully done hair and makeup.

SCOTT
Wow.

MADY

Fucking door. It was supposed to be more "She's All That" and less "Sanford and Son".

MADY'S DAD emerges from the house, wearing no socks or shoes.

MADY'S DAD

Hey, not so fast. Your mother wants to get some pictures.

Mady's Mom bursts out of the house, holding two tiny chihuahuas. She squishes the dogs under one arm and starts taking way too many photos. Mady mouths "Sorry" to Scott.

MADY'S DAD

And who is this lucky young man?

SCOTT

Hello, sir. I'm Scott.

Scott extends his hand and they shake. The camera flash goes off non-stop. The dogs bark and it's clear that they're the ones who have been making all the noise.

MADY'S DAD

Nice to meet you. Wow. My girl is going to prom. It seems like just yesterday she was in diapers!

(to Scott)

Cloth diapers, too, during our eco-friendly phase. And wow, could she leave you a big ol' stink bomb --

MADY

Dad!

MADY'S DAD

(whisper, to Mady)

What? Everybody poops.

(takes a good look at her)

You look really beautiful, kiddo.

Like... a young woman. I can't believe you're growing up so fast.

He tries to shush the dogs, which are quite annoying.

MADY'S DAD (CONT'D)

I know we don't say this enough --

(tries to shush the dogs)

but your Mom and I are very proud --

The dogs turn it up as Scott attempts to pet one of them.

MADY'S DAD (CONT'D)
of you and we love you very --

The barking is unbearable. Mady's Dad snaps, putting his face up to the tiny dogs' faces.

MADY'S DAD
(filled with rage)
SHUT UP! I will drown you in your water dish, you ugly little rats!

MADY'S MOM
Don't you yell at them!

MADY'S DAD
Don't get me started, Louise!

MADY
Yeah, we're gonna go.

Mady's Dad smiles at them.

MADY'S DAD
Okay, guys. Have fun! Be careful!

Mady drags Scott to his car.

MADY
I'm so sorry. When other people are around, they try to act like parents of the year. Crackheads.

He smiles and holds open the car door.

SCOTT
No problem. You look beautiful.
Ready for the big night?

INT. HOTEL BALLROOM - LATER

Mady and Scott enter, scanning the room. Joe appears in a floor-length silver gown. He and Mady look at each other and then down at their dresses. Joe storms off in a huff. They find their table and sit.

SCOTT
Want something to drink?

MADY
Sure. Sprite?

SCOTT
(heads off)
You got it.

LATER

Prom is in full swing, students get their pictures taken, dance, make out, etc. Joe sneaks up and spikes the punch with O'Doul's. Mady and Scott dance close. Scott's jacket is off.

SCOTT
You ready to get out of here?

MADY
Let's go.

He smiles and grabs his jacket, escorting her out.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - LATER

Mady looks toward the king-sized bed.

SCOTT
Like it?

MADY
It's a really nice room. Good idea.

She kicks off her shoes and lays down on the bed, smiling at Scott seductively. He is shocked.

SCOTT
What's gotten into you?

MADY
Nothing yet.

She laughs at his expression and pulls him onto her. They make out, disrobing. Mady's underwear matches. She takes a deep breath and lets him take off her panties, which he promptly throws across the room. He looks at her body.

SCOTT
You're beautiful, Madeline.

He leans in, kissing her. After a long period of making out, he grabs his wallet and pulls out a condom.

SCOTT
You ready for this?

He kisses her neck, working his way down her chest. She opens her eyes, looking around. As he works back up, she looks at his hair for a long moment. He gets on top of her and puts on the condom. For a long moment, she looks anxious and conflicted. He tries to kiss her again, but she pulls back.

MADY

No, I'm not.

SCOTT

What?!

MADY

I thought I was ready, but I'm not.
If you care about me, you can wait
for me to be okay with this.

SCOTT

Jesus. Do you think I'm not good
enough to be your first or
something?

MADY

Wait, how do you know about that?

SCOTT

Guys talk, Mady. Don't be naïve.

MADY

Is that why you're dating me?

SCOTT

Can we please just try again? I'll
go slow, I promise.

MADY

I just can't tonight. I'm sorry.

SCOTT

(turns away)

You're gonna stay a virgin forever,
aren't you? You get off on giving
guys blue balls or something?

She gets up and wraps herself in the sheet, trying to find her underwear. He stays on the bed, confidently naked.

MADY

Okay, I'm glad I didn't do this.

She's most of the way dressed.

SCOTT

Me too. I was doing you a favor, you know. You're never gonna get a guy like me again, you're not that pretty. Chicks like Tia, who I plan on fucking as soon as possible, by the way, they get us hot guys. All you can get is your loser friends.

MADY

You mean I'll never find another karate loser with no redeeming qualities...

(she looks at his crotch)
...and a miniscule dick? Oh no!

SCOTT

How would you even know it's small, Puritan? Get the fuck out.

MADY

With pleasure. Hey, have fun being that guy who's forty, fat, bald and alone, wondering why no one loves him and why he's crawling with painful, itchy venereal diseases.

She slams the door on her way out.

EXT. MADY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Mady walks to the door. A paper taped to it reads:

"IT'S AFTER TWO. DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT COMING IN. - M & D"

She tries the door, groans and stomps back to her car, taking a detour to trample some innocent flowers near the driveway into colorful mush. She climbs back into...

HER CAR

and punches the dashboard. She shakes her hand, making a loud angry sound. Tears fall as she stares through the windshield, jaw clenching. Finally she exhales and leans her head back.

INT. MADY'S CAR - DAY

Mady wakes up in her dress, makeup smeared, hair everywhere. Her Dad knocks on the window.

MADY'S DAD
You can come in now.

INT. MADY'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Mady walks in to the usual barking. Mady's Dad cooks and her Mom reads "O" magazine, clipping out every article.

MADY'S DAD
Want some breakfast? I'm making
banana pancakes.

MADY
Banana pancakes?! You made me sleep
in my freakin' car!

MADY'S MOM
Don't be so melodramatic, it's not
like we live in the ghetto. And you
knew the punishment for being late.

MADY
It was my prom, Mom! And I HAVE to
come in late all the time. How else
do you think I pay for things?

MADY'S MOM
We've talked about this. Struggles
like this build character.

MADY
I don't have character? I don't do
drugs, smoke, I get good grades.
You're lucky to have a kid like me
and you treat me like a nuisance!

MADY'S MOM
Well, you are a nuisance sometimes.

MADY
Oh my God! Here's an idea- why not
show some "character" and handle
YOUR responsibility as a parent?

She storms out and up the stairs.

MADY'S MOM
Madeline, get back in here! Now!

MADY'S DAD
Damn it, Louise! Let her be!

Mady's Mom is taken aback and shuts her mouth, blinking.

INT. MADY'S ROOM - LATER

Mady lays on her bed, black mascara tears running down her face. There's a soft knock at the door. Her dad peeks in.

MADY'S DAD
You okay?

MADY
No.

He walks over and sits on the bed.

MADY'S DAD
You're right, Mady. You are a good kid. But we're tough on you because we love you. We're trying to prepare you for the world. It can be a hard place sometimes.

She laughs, then starts sobbing. He puts his arm around her.

MADY'S DAD
What's wrong, kiddo?

MADY
I got fired, dumped, my friends hate me. Oh, and I deserve it all. Forget it. Can you just please go?

He looks at her, then kisses her forehead, rises and exits.

LATER

Mady is still in bed. Another gentle knock on the door.

MADY
I just want to be alone, okay?

The door opens. Emily and Rob enter wearing outrageously bad 80's prom dresses and carrying movies, candy and magazines.

EMILY
Too bad.

MADY
(sits up)
What the hell?

EMILY

Your dad called and said you were really upset. I figured it must be bad if he was calling me.

ROB

It's anti-prom time, bitch.

EMILY

Now, before you tell us what happened...

She pulls out a teal dress and tosses it to Mady.

LATER

Mady wears her hideous teal taffeta dress. Emily and Rob sit with her on the bed.

EMILY

That stupid little shit.

She hugs Mady, then Rob joins in the hug. After a moment, Mady sniffs and leans her head on Emily's shoulder.

MADY

I don't deserve this... I know we don't do the mushy shit, but I love you guys. Really.

(long, long silence)

Uh, I don't know about you, but I'm starting to get uncomfortable here.

They break the hug quickly, avoiding eye contact and clearing their throats.

EMILY

I think it's candy time. Whopper?

MADY

Malt ball me. I'm sorry you had to deal with the spazzitude, guys.

He's probably out screwing some girl, not thinking about it at all.

INT. BREAK ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Scott, Mike and Usher 1 sit at the table, eating.

SCOTT

I was on the verge of busting V-chip number eight, but she had to fuck it up. Frozen tundra snatch.

MIKE

You passed lucky seven? Shit, I have some catching up to do, bro.

Nick enters, going to his locker behind Scott.

SCOTT

She actually said she was afraid to go to college because she didn't think she'd make friends. Loser!

MIKE

So, what, you just dumped her?

SCOTT

It was kind of funny, actually. She was laying there, naked in the bed, and I told her to put out or get her fugly ass out of the room.

Nick walks by, glaring at Scott.

SCOTT

You got a problem, musclehead?

NICK

You're a little prick, that's all.

SCOTT

Excuse me?

NICK

Mady's a good chick, and you're a worthless piece of shit. So yeah, I guess I do have a problem.

SCOTT

You want to fight, tough guy? I'll take this outside right now.

NICK

Why walk?

USHER 1

Guys, chill. Let's all just relax.

Scott gets up and goes into a karate stance.

MIKE
This is awesome.

Scott quickly elbows Nick in the face, then tries to do a roundhouse kick. Nick grabs his leg, wrenches it with a loud CRACK, and punches him. Scott goes down, whimpering.

INT. MADY'S ROOM - LATER

Anti-prom remnants are strewn about. Mady pulls her uniform out of her bag and the can of macadamia nuts falls out. She picks it up, staring at it for a long moment.

INT. CINEPLEX LOBBY - LATER

Mady enters purposefully, carrying her neatly folded uniform and the can of nuts. Mike is at the podium. When she plops the uniform in front of him, he quickly shuffles his "Marie Claire" under some papers. She looks at him, surprised.

MADY
Um, could you send this up to Leslie when you get a chance?

MIKE
Sure. That's not mine, by the way.

MADY
Uh-huh. Do you know where Nick is?

MIKE
I think he's in the supply room.
You here to reward your little knight in shining armor?

MADY
Knight in shining armor?

MIKE
No one told you? Your boy beat the crap out of Scott today.

MADY
What? Why?

MIKE
Scott was talking shit about you and Nick beat his ass.

Mady pauses, surprised, before walking down the hall.

INT. SUPPLY CLOSET - CONTINUOUS

The door swings open and Mady is visible in the doorway.

MADY

Nick, I want to apologize --

Her mouth drops when she sees him making out with someone in the corner. Nick steps back, revealing the girl - Tia! - who shoots Mady a haughty smile. Mady turns and hurries out.

NICK

Mady, wait!

INT. CINEPLEX HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

NICK

(chasing after her)

It's not what you think. I was just trying to get inside her --

MADY

I don't want to know about it!

NICK

Head! I need to feel her up. I mean, feel her out.

MADY

I don't need the details, Nick!

Mady pushes out the exit door. Nick looks after her.

EXT. PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

Mady hurls the can as hard as she can and gets into her car. The nuts hit an OLD MAN in the face. His WIFE looks around.

WIFE

What was that?

OLD MAN

(peers at the can)

Punk threw his nuts on my face!

INT. MADY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Mady is engrossed in a Ryan Reynolds movie when someone knocks. Mady gets up and opens the door to find Shelley, who enters, looking around at the needlepoint rooster pictures.

SHELLEY

Wow. That's a lotta cock. I came to see how you're doing.

MADY

I'm alright, I guess. Have a seat.

Shelley plops on the couch.

SHELLEY

Work just isn't the same without you. My box feels so empty.

MADY

I'm sure Melissa can help with that. They ever find the money?

SHELLEY

No. No money's disappeared since, so they're convinced you did it.

They stare at the TV. Mady looks irked.

SHELLEY

Tia's really revelling in your absence, by the way. She's been acting like she's Popcorn Master or something, bossing Simon and Finn around and not doing shit.

Mady shakes her head.

SHELLEY

And she and Nick are eating each other's faces all over the place. So gross.

Mady is more irritated.

SHELLEY

Finn says she talks shit about you all the time, too. She said you --

MADY

(stands, furious)

Goddamn it!

(MORE)

MADY (CONT'D)
I'm so sick of people fucking with
me! It's like I'm wearing a sign
that says "Shit on me". What the
hell? I'm a good person. Why don't
I get respect?

SHELLEY
Your fly is down.

MADY
(zips up)
Thanks. I think it's time I got
some shit off my chest.

SHELLEY
Ooh, hot lunch. Can I watch?

MADY
Let's go.

INT. CINEPLEX LOBBY - LATER

Mady and Shelley enter. Simon and Finn are behind the stand.

SIMON
Mady!

She walks over to the stand.

MADY
I didn't steal the money, you guys
are asses for thinking I did, you
hurt my feelings, and I deserve a
fucking apology.

SIMON
I've been feeling terrible all
week. I'm really sorry, Mads.

FINN
I'm sorry, too. Forgive-sies?

MADY
A, forgive-sies? B, it's fine. I
can see how you jumped to your
errant and hurtful assumption.

Finn and Simon look at her, uncomfortable.

MADY
Yeah, you're going to get crap
about this for a while.
(MORE)

MADY (CONT'D)
And now I can pick your pockets and
there's no way you'll accuse me of
it.

She grins and walks off with Shelley. They reach the door upstairs and Tia bursts out, slamming into Mady's shoulder.

MADY
Watch where you're going.

TIA
What did you say?

SHELLEY
(loudly)
I said you're a dirty WHORE.

TIA
Just because you can't pay a guy to
fuck you doesn't mean I'm a whore.

SHELLEY
I'm gay, you moron.

TIA
(gets in Mady's face)
Had to send a spy, huh? Didn't have
the guts to confront me yourself?

MADY
What are you talking about?

TIA
You're a jealous bitch. Oh, and,
according to Scott, you're flat and
your ass is covered in cellulite.

Mady steps forward, straightening up and looming over Tia.

MADY
You know I can beat the shit out of
you, right? Best run along.

TIA
(backs off, surprised)
Whatever. Have fun spending your
money on vibrators and Ho-Ho's.

She walks away.

MADY
(shouts after her)
Buy some mints, Tia! Your breath
reeks of splooge and herpes!

Mady and Shelley enter the...

STAIRWELL

where Mady breathes out deeply. Shelley beams.

SHELLEY

Since when are you such a badass?
I'm not gonna lie, I'm a little
turned on right now.

MADY

There's more where that came from.

INT. CINEPLEX OFFICE - LATER

Shelley and Mady enter. Leslie smiles as Mr. Fish stands.

MADY

Don't call the cops. I want to say
something, and then I'll go. I've
been working here for two years, I
have a spotless record, you have no
reason to think I'd steal, no proof
that I did, and you're an idiot for
firing me. Have a nice day.

MR. FISH

I know.

MADY

Wait, what?

MR. FISH

Tia was the one who stole the
money. She lied and told me she saw
you do it. I was about to call to
hire you back.

MADY

Really?

MR. FISH

Yes. Though I'm not a fan of your
tone, I am sorry about the error.
Hopefully this'll ease the pain.

He hands her an envelope.

MR. FISH

A check for the time you missed and
the cash for winning the contest.

MADY

Holy crap. Thanks.

MR. FISH

Yeah, yeah. Get out of here before
I change my mind.

MADY

Wait, how'd you get her to confess?

LESLIE

A trap. Wanna see?

MADY

Sure.

LESLIE

(checks her watch)

Follow me.

INT. THEATER THREE - LATER

Mady, Shelley and Leslie enter. Nick sits in the back with his feet up while the other ushers clean. One uses the noisy trash blower. Leslie points to Nick.

LESLIE

There it is.

(to Shelley)

We should go.

They leave and Mady looks confused. She walks over to Nick. They have to shout back and forth to hear each other.

NICK

What's up?

MADY

Leslie said they set a trap for Tia
and it's in here somewhere?

NICK

That would be me.

MADY

What? How? And why would you want
your girlfriend fired?

NICK

She's not my girlfriend, dumbass. I hooked up with her to find out who stole the money. I knew you were too goody two-shoes to do it.

Mady plops down in the chair next to him.

NICK

When she finally confessed, I told the Fish. Then washed my mouth out with Clorox.

MADY

Wow. Thank you.

NICK

No problem. Missed having you around, I guess.

MADY

Well, I owe you a doubly huge apology now.

NICK

Yup.

MADY

Sorry I was such a twat. Under the deviant exterior you're a good guy. I should have treated you like it. Oh, and I missed you a little, too.

NICK

You want me so bad.

MADY

Oh, and thanks for the nuts.

NICK

I really want to make a joke about my balls, but I won't.

MADY

Thanks for that. So, can we go back to the way things were?

NICK

I don't know.

The usher turns off the blower.

MADY
(still shouting)
Come on, please?

NICK
No Mady, I will not let you blow me
in the break room again!

The ushers stare. Mady punches him.

NICK
Fine. Just do one thing for me.

MADY
What?

NICK
You know.

Mady looks confused, then rolls her eyes.

MADY
Dick.

She stands up and flashes him her bra. The other ushers applaud. She pulls down her shirt, embarrassed.

NICK
Spank you very much.

The ushers pack up and head to the door.

NICK
I better go. Theater two is up.

He rises and pulls Mady up. They stand face to face.

MADY
Thanks, Nick. Really.

NICK
You're welcome, Mad Dog.

She hugs him and they linger in the embrace. When they separate, they stare into each other's eyes. Mady leans in, closing hers, romantic music swells, and... Nick turns and exits. Mady stands, dazed, then marches out.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Mady storms up and grabs Nick by the shoulder.

MADY
WHAT... THE... FUCK?

NICK
What?

MADY
What just happened?

NICK
Uh, I swept up a candy wrapper?

MADY
No, idiot. Why didn't you kiss me?

NICK
Why would I do that?!

MADY
I leaned in! I fucking leaned in!
What the hell do you think is wrong
with me? It's gotta be big for a
nondiscriminatory pig like you to
not want a piece.

He is shocked into silence.

MADY
All the times we flirted, what were
you doing, screwing with me? You
know what? I don't even care. I'm
great, Nick. If you can't see it,
someone else will.

She storms off, he grabs her arm.

MADY
What are you doing?

He pulls her toward a theater.

NICK
I want to answer your question.

MADY
I really don't care. Get off of me!

He drags her into...

THEATER THREE

and turns to her.

NICK

You're a nerd, and you can be mean and selfish and you make crappy choices about guys and you use big words even when you're mad.

MADY

Gee, thanks. Can I go now?

NICK

Shut up! You talk too much, too.

Steam practically shoots out of her ears.

NICK

Obviously I want you. Doesn't mean it should happen.

MADY

Wait, what?

NICK

I said I want you, retard. But you're smart and funny and awesome, and I'm an idiot and a jerk.

MADY

You're not an idiot.

He lets go of her arm.

NICK

You and I have nothing in common, Mady. You're books and PBS, I'm drive shafts and movies with things that blow up.

MADY

I like things that blow up.

NICK

Come on. How are you gonna feel when you realize the guy you lost it to is going to community college and'll probably end up working at a gas station like his Dad? You'll feel gypped and I'll feel like a stupid fucking loser, which is how I feel around you sometimes already. You should find someone more on your level. I --

She grabs him and kisses him. He leans away.

NICK

Didn't you listen to anything I
just said, woman?

MADY

That's why I kissed you.

NICK

(confused)

Oh-kay.

MADY

I decide who's on my level,
jackass.

She smacks him in the back of the head, then kisses him again. This time he kisses back tentatively.

NICK

And you're sure?

MADY

Oh yeah.

NICK

Good.

He grabs her and pushes her against the wall, kissing her passionately. They fumble into a seat and she straddles him, still kissing. She leans away.

MADY

PBS?

NICK

I couldn't think of anything else
snotty and dorky.

MADY

You're an asshole.

She kisses him again and pulls off his uniform shirt.

Courtesy Cup Man turns around in his seat at the front of the theater and watches. He eventually rises, buckles his belt, plops two cups on the armrest and exits. Mady and Nick don't even notice.

LATER

Mady and Nick lie on the floor next to one another, sweaty, out of breath and half-clothed.

NICK

Whoa.

MADY

Holy crap.

NICK

Oh yeah, I'm awesome.

MADY

You're a dork.

(stretches her legs)

Should've done that a while ago.

NICK

Like I said, I'm awesome.

MADY

So, was the big speech all a ploy
to get a piece?

NICK

I meant it, but yeah, pretty much.

MADY

I figured. So, how do I rate?

NICK

Rate?

MADY

Compared to your others.

NICK

Others?

MADY

(wide-eyed)

Oh. Really?

NICK

(clears his throat)

We better get out of here.

They get dressed and walk out to...

THE LOBBY

where Nick's demeanor suddenly turns serious.

NICK

I'm not gonna lie, Mady.

(sighs)

(MORE)

NICK (CONT'D)
I'm a little disappointed you
weren't wearing the giant panties.

MADY
(laughs)
Maybe I'll let you view them in
their royal enormity another time.

They stand in silence for an awkward moment.

NICK
So...

MADY
So... when do you get off work?

NICK
Same time as always. Why?

MADY
Well, I no longer have a curfew.
Maybe we could go for a ride in
your Suburban?

Mady looks at him suggestively and turns toward the stand.
Nick watches her sashay off, then does a grandiose fist pump.

NICK
I am the fucking man!

He continues down the hallway, arms raised and humming the
"Rocky" theme. Mady, her back still to him, laughs.

END CREDITS:

Clips of film are accompanied by summary paragraphs.

-- Emily, pregnant, in front of a mansion with a handsome
MAN, holding a cat.

INSERT: Emily married a kind and wealthy man who adores her
cats. He has extremely smooth elbows.

-- Rob drinks chocolate milk in the kitchen of a huge loft. A
GIRL IN THICK GLASSES waves him to the bedroom.

INSERT: Rob is the head stud of his school's math department.

-- Finn marries a pretty girl in a Vegas wedding chapel. His
head turns ever-so-slightly toward the hot male organ player.

INSERT: Finn turned out to be straight. We think.

-- Shelley and Melissa, in uniforms, coach a softball team.

INSERT: Shelley and Melissa are both gym teachers in Florida.

-- Joe, in a suit, sits at a desk using a computer.

INSERT: Joe is an accountant for the IRS.

-- Simon, in the cineplex lobby, wearing a suit.

INSERT: Simon is the manager of the Movieville cineplex.

-- Scott escorts a hot model into his convertible. As he gets to his side of the car, he scratches his crotch violently.

INSERT: Scott is successful, rich, and is currently battling a particularly sizable infestation of pubic lice.

-- Nick and Mady make out in his car.

INSERT: Nick and Mady spent the rest of the summer together. He fixed her brake lights before she left for school.

-- Mady sits with her laptop in a Starbucks. She looks up and an attractive guy at another table smiles at her.

INSERT: Mady is currently single. Her first novel "Love in the Time Before Stadium Seating" was a modest success. She hopes to have a prosperous writing career... and possibly make out with that guy in the Starbucks bathroom.