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THE NEIGHBORS' HOUSE

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EXT. URBAN TOWN

Bird's eye view. Zoom through a house window.

INT. DAN'S HOUSE - DAY

A messy house.

A English Bull dog sleeps next to a bowl with the word: PLOP

A calender marked in color pen. Critical is written in red at the end of the month.

Construction plans and invoices cover a table.

A computer displays a financial graph. It plummets into a red zone.

INT. DAN'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY

DAN CLARK and his wife JENNY CLARK, 30s, sleep on a mattress. Clean sheets. A cluttered room. A THUD sound. Dan nudges Jenny.

DAN

You expecting someone?

Three more THUDS. Jenny's face is in a pillow.

JENNY

No.

Dan looks at a clock and scratches his head. Jenny snaps awake.

JENNY (CONT'D)

The devil.

JENNY & DAN

Rent!

Dan jumps from bed snatches pants.

DAN

Crap! What's the idiots name?

JENNY

Ba Bob... Ummm uh... Bill!

Dan's second paint leg CATCHES. BAM! He falls head first to the floor.

JENNY (CONT'D)

Dan honey?

Dan raises a hand with a thumb up.

INT. FRONT DOOR - DAY

DAN opens the door. He holds a ice pack to his head.

A switch blade PINS a paper to the door. Paper reads: "Last chance. I'll be back soon. You better have rent!!! -Bill"

INT. DAN'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Dan drops a large bag of coffee on the counter. Jenny rounds the corner in pajamas.

JENNY

Was it him?

DAN

Mmm hmm.

JENNY

What'd he say?

Dan flips the switchblade and cuts off the top of the bag. He inspects -- the cut is even and true.

DAN

Nothing.

JENNY

Where you get that knife?

DAN

It was stuck in the door.

JENNY

He's lost it.

DAN

It's a joke.

JENNY

The nine iron was no joke and neither is that.

Jenny dials 911. Dan puts the knife in his pocket and rushes to Jenny.

DAN
Honey! Its ok, its a joke. It's
probably that time of the month.

DAN (CONT'D)
Besides Chase is finishing a-

Knock on door. Dan puts his finger to his lips.

Jenny moves away. Dan snatches a bat against the wall. Dan
opens the door a crack- nothing.

Something shoots into Dan's vision.

DAN & JENNY
Ah!

A FED-EX guy waves a envelope in Dan's face.

FED-EX
Sign.

Dan signs and opens the envelope with the knife. Fed-Ex Guy
eyes the knife.

Dan reads papers. "BANKRUPTCY FINAL". Dan looks up, Fed-Ex
Guy looks at the papers.

DAN
Mind?

Fed-Ex Guy meanders down the steps. Dan looks solemnly at
Jenny.

JENNY
What?

Dan smiles.

DAN
Ha ha! It's final!

JENNY
Already! I thought you said two
months?

DAN
I did, but- whatever! Its a fresh
start.

Dan grabs Jenny and dances, then pauses.

JENNY

Wait, we can't lose this place. We can't rent another apartment. (beat) The bankruptcy gives us a clean slate but no credit... and we have no money.

DAN

Eviction's sixty days, we'll be able to pay before then.

JENNY

If we survive satin's land lord.

DAN

Honey... he's dramatic, we have sixty days. Chase is turning over the keys this morning on the Wong house. We'll have a check soon.

JENNY

Hope he doesn't screw it up.

DAN

Oh honey come here.

Dan hugs Jenny.

DAN (CONT'D)

It'll be fine. My brother is responsible...

Jenny looks up doubtful.

EXT. STREET - SAN DIEGO - DAY

A black Lexis rolls down an urban street. License plate reads: "WONG'S"

INT. BLACK LEXUS

A proud Asian FATHER drives -- Asian MOTHER next to him.

The back seat, a hip Asian SON on a PlayStation Vita. A curious Asian DAUGHTER watches a cute boy on the street.

The Lexis parks in a driveway of a large manicured tract home. A beat-up work truck is at the curb.

EXT. WONG'S NEW HOUSE - DRIVE WAY - CONTINUOUS

The family walks up the driveway. The Father peels a paper off the door. Title: "FORECLOSURE SOLD".

The Father steps inside. The family follows.

A newly remodeled home with all the fixings. To the right a large room. A man snores in a sleeping bag on a large rustic wood table. This is CHASE CLARK, 30s.

Under the table are Mardi Gras necklaces and empty beer bottles.

MOTHER

Oh!

Asian Father snatches a broom against the wall. Chase rolls over groggy.

CHASE

(to family)

Oh..

(to Daughter)

Hi.

The Father snaps the broom handle and rushes like a samurai.

FATHER

Ahhhhhhh!

CHASE

Not again.

Chase struggles to unzip the bag but it jams. He rolls off the table. SMASH -- the broom hits the table top.

Chase BURSTS free. He's in He-Man boxers. The Daughter's jaw DROPS.

The Mother covers the Daughters eyes. The Daughter deflects the hand.

Chase SNATCHES his clothes below the table. The table is between Chase and Father.

SON

Finish him!

The Father leaps on top the table - swings - Chase ducks - broomstick SMASHES the wall. Chase BOLTS through the front door.

INT. DAN'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Dan and Jenny are in street cloths.

DAN
 (to phone)
 Yes I know- Bill I- Yes but- Thank
 yo-

Busy tone. Jenny stairs at Dan.

DAN (CONT'D)
 I think that went well.

JENNY
 So?

DAN
 Hour, he'll be here in an hour.
 Chase should have the check cashed
 by then.

JENNY
 Why is he so persistent? We're
 only a week late. We always take
 care of it.

Dan's phone rings.

DAN
 Just in time.
 (to the phone)
 Hello, Mr.Pong- Wong! Sorry, good
 morning-

EXT. DAN'S HOUSE - STREET

Chase abruptly parks his truck. Chase clumsily dressed hurries towards the house. He carries bags of fast food.

INT. DAN'S HOUSE - KITCHEN

DAN
 Sorry, sir. Say again. (beat) No
 we secure the house after
 remodeling. (beat) Ha, no sir we
 never use a property for personal
 use. (beat) A man? (beat) Yes,
 call the police. Chase our
 representative wasn't there to meet
 you?

INT. WONG HOUSE - KITCHEN

Mr.Wong on his cell phone. Holds up Chase's drivers licence.

INT. DAN'S HOUSE - KITCHEN

Dan's eyes widen. Chase bursts through the door out of breath.

CHASE

Hey guys.

DAN

(to phone)

No. No. Sir, the police aren't-

Busy signal on the phone.

DAN (CONT'D)

(to chase)

Where's the check for the Wong job?

CHASE

Hey... Umm, it's all good. I think you should pick it up?

Chase holds up the fast food bags.

DAN

Breakfast?

PLOP barks and looks at his empty dog bowl.

INT. DAN'S HOUSE - SHORT TIME LATER

At a table Chase finishes his breakfast. Dan has half left. Jenny's is untouched. A open empty wrapper is in Plops bowl.

DAN

We're screwed you know.

Chase licks his fingers.

CHASE

Aw somebody needs a hug.

Come to papa. Chase's hands beckon like hungry birds.

DAN

Giving my brother the keys was a accident.

Chase HITS his head repeatedly on the table.

CHASE
I repent. I repent.

Chase stops to see if Dan cares.

JENNY
Now what?

DAN
Plan B. The eviction process takes
at least sixty days...

A BMW convertible pulls up outside BILL struts out like a wannabe white collar bad ass. Dan and Chase pull open the curtain.

DAN (CONT'D)
Its Bill.

Bill looks down the street for traffic.

CHASE
What's that?

EXT. DAN'S HOUSE - STREET

Bill removes a golf club from his trunk. No golf bag in the trunk. He looks over his roof. A line of police cars turn the corner a few blocks away. He tosses the golf club in the trunk and peals out.

INT. DAN'S HOUSE

Dan and Chase look at each other and shrug.

A moment later three police cars pull to the curb.

JENNY
Dan?

DAN
They're probably going somewhere
else.

The SCREECH of a chair moving. Jenny and Dan turn, Chase tip toes toward a back exit.

Outside the police put on built proof vests and remove a door ram from the trunk.

JENNY
What are you doing?!

CHASE
The garbage.

Chase tosses his garbage in the can. Jenny and Dan turn back to the window.

JENNY
Some neighbor is in big trouble.

The police walk towards Dan's house.

DAN & JENNY
Oh boy.

A door SLAMS. Dan and Jenny turn. Chase is gone. Knocks on the front door. Dan opens. A OFFICER and SUPPORT POLICE stand ready.

DAN
Good morning.

OFFICER
Bill Wiggly?

DAN
No. Dan Clark.

OFFICER
Mr.Clark do you know this man?

The Officer holds up a picture of Bill in a mug shot.

DAN
Yeah. He's our... Oh no...

OFFICER
He's wanted for real estate fraud.

JENNY
What?

OFFICER
This house foreclosed last week and the grace period is over.

Dan and Jenny look at each other in confusion.

DAN
Officer we have a rental contract.

OFFICER
Yeah... he didn't own this
property.

JENNY
He didn't?

Sergeant checks his papers.

OFFICER
There's a record, four notice were
taped to this door for months
notifying renters and owners.

Dan looks at the door. Four pieces of tape cling to bits of
torn paper. Dan turns back to the Sergeant.

DAN
Huh... Sir I don't know how to say
this. We got screwed.

OFFICER
Yeah...

DAN
Honestly we didn't know anything
till right now...

OFFICER
Yeah...

Chase sneaks across the front lawn. Plop barks from the
front door. The police turn. Chase freezes.

DAN
Don't mind him.

Officer takes a breath.

OFFICER
Ok. You seem like a unlucky sort
of guy. Here's what I can do.
I'll put you at the end of the
list. You got three days. Here's
the new owners number -- work
something out.

Police file from the house pass Chase and leave.

INT. DAN'S HOUSE - SHORT TIME LATER

Dan is on a cell phone. Chase and Jenny soart through
papers.

DAN
Thank you sir.

Dan hangs up. Chase's phone RINGS.

DAN (CONT'D)
We have thirty days but the new
owner wants-

Chase's phone RINGS again.

DAN (CONT'D)
Are you going to pick that up?

CHASE
Nope. I don't have minutes.

DAN
The new owner wants rent this week.

JENNY
What about Bill.

DAN
Nothing, we call the police if he
shows again.

CHASE
(to Jenny quietly)
Can I use your phone? I got a
voice mail.

DAN
Chase.

CHASE
I'm low on minutes. I got a prepay.

Dan grabs his keys off the table.

JENNY
Where you going?

DAN
To kiss Mister Wong's ass.

A knock at the door - Dan opens. Something flies into his
field of view.

DAN (CONT'D)
Ahhhh!

Fed-Ex again - another envelope.

DAN (CONT'D)
Can you stop doing that!?

Dan signs.

DAN (CONT'D)
I thought you guys only came once a
day?

Dan takes out the switch blade. Fed-Ex scurries off. Dan
closes the door and opens the envelope.

JENNY
What?

Jenny continue her work. Chase tosses a paper airplane.

DAN
Not sure... legal stuff.

Dan reads a line: "Notice of death." Dan reads down: "Vermin
leaves his inheritance to: Jenny Clark, Frank Clark, Nancy
Clark, Elsa Clark and spouses.

DAN (CONT'D)
Vermin's dead.

CHASE
Good.

JENNY
That's nice.

DAN
Gee, he stole all we had but still-
I mean... the guy is dead.

CHASE
Because of Vermin, I'm now like
Jesus, no place to lay my head.

DAN
You're nothing like Jesus.

CHASE
Yes god.

JENNY
What's it say?

DAN
He's left his inheritance to...
ummm... pretty much the family.

JENNY

Really?

DAN

Hard to believe...

CHASE

Bro, that rat was pharaoh, he'd take his riches to the grave.

JENNY

Maybe he had a change of heart.

Dan reads to himself.

DAN

Minimum three family members have to appear before his lawyer and hear the conditions of the will.

JENNY

Conditions?

INT. LAWYER'S OFFICE BUILDING - A FEW DAYS LATER - DAY

Dan, Jenny and Chase walk down an office hall. Chases phone RINGS. They stop at a door titled: "Wagner Law". Dan looks at Chase.

CHASE

Oh, sorry.

Chase silents his phone.

CHASE (CONT'D)

Anyone hungry, that breakfast didn't last.

DAN

I guess this is it.

They enter a unusually clean office - no magazines, plane walls. A attractive SECRETARY greets them.

SECRETARY

Welcome to Wagner Law?

DAN

Where here to see about the will of Vermin Clark.

SECRETARY

Your name?

DAN

Dan.

SECRETARY

One moment.

The Secretary walks down a hall, sexy. Chase watches. He then walks to the desk and uses the desk phone.

DAN

Chase! What are you doing?

CHASE

Bro, I gotta call my voice mail.

Chase puts the phone to his ear.

SECRETARY (O.S.)

May I help you?

The secretary returns bewildered. Chase looks around, that was fast. Chase abruptly puts the phone down, smiles, returns to his seat.

SECRETARY (CONT'D)

Mr.Chaffer will see you now.
Second door on the right.

The Secretary and Chase lock suspicious eyes on each other. Chase follows Dan and Jenny.

INT. LAWYER'S OFFICE - WAGNER'S DESK

Dan, Jenny and Chase sit in front of MR.CHAFFER. He seems nervous and too sweet for a lawyer.

DAN

Cat fish in Panama?

MR.WAGNER

Yes, eight feet long, more feared than sharks. They suck you in whole apparently. None of Vermin's remains were found. (beat) I am sorry.

Dan, Jenny and Chase could care less.

DAN

No disrespect but he wasn't well liked by our family. He stole quite a bit from us.

MR.CHAFFER
Any more questions?

Everyone shakes no.

MR.CHAFFER (CONT'D)
On to business. It took everyone
by surprise-

DAN
-everyone?

MR.CHAFFER
This isn't my usual job. The firm
is large. I'm local to San Diego so
they entrusted me with me to look
after this task-

JENNY
Task?

DAN
Umm, well... yes. Perhaps is
easier if I read it.

Mr.Chaffer's is nervous.

MR.CHAFFER
(reading the will)
I am sorry for what I took-

DAN
-stole.

Mr.Wagner smiles nervously, nods and reads on.

MR.CHAFFER
-took from you years ago. Though
not my fault.

FLASH BACK TO:

EXT. LUXURY HOUSE - YEARS AGO - DAY

Dan, Jenny, Chase, FRANK, NANCY, GIUSEPPE, ELSA, Plop and
other family mingle at a family reunion.

We see VERMIN smiling making a grand proposal. A MAN in a
suit pats Vermin on the shoulder.

INT. LUXURY HOUSE - NIGHT

Vermin collects checks from the family. Giuseppe refuses to hand over a check. Elsa takes the checkbook from Giuseppe and writes the check.

INT. VARIOUS HOUSES - DAY

Some time later we see shots of the family frustrated, making phone calls, arguing, leaving.

EXT. YACHT - SAME

Vermin talks on a cell. His toes are being manicured like a spoiled child. A woman fans him. Another shades him with an umbrella.

Frustrated Vermin drops the phone in a cocktail glass and relaxes.

END FLASH BACK

MR. CHAFFER
 (reading the will)
 -sorry. There was nothing I could
 have done.

The family rolls their eyes.

MR. CHAFFER (CONT'D)
 (reading the will)
 Nevertheless, you managed your life
 poorly and are a conundrum of a
 family, disorganized in every way.
 Therefore, I entrust my liquid
 assets, approximately four hundred
 million to my dear family members
 listed below but with the following
 stipulation. I give you my first
 restate investment along with
 remodel funds, adjusted annually at
 three percent for inflation to
 restore my beloved home to its
 original luster. Manage this
 project well, deliver on time on
 budget and you will be worthy of my
 inheritance.
 (to the group)
 Questions?

CHASE
What type of liquid?

DAN
(to Mr.Wagner)
How do we know if we succeed, who judges?

MR.CHAFFER
Only two requirements. The property must resemble this photo--

Mr.Wagner hands Dan a old Polaroid with a newly built house.

MR.CHAFFER (CONT'D)
--and pass all current building code inspections.

The family looks at the photo. They look at each other - easy job.

DAN
Where is it?

MR.CHAFFER
I don't know somewhere in San Diego. The address is on the back.

DAN
How much time?

MR.CHAFFER
Thirty days from today. Time and money are the only constraints. Sub it out or do it yourself.

Mr.Wagner hands Dan a folder. Dan flips through the papers.

DAN
The death certificate?

MR.WAGNER
Yes, sorry, right here.

Mr.Wagner hands Dan the death certificate.

CHASE
What about the money for construction?

MR.CHAFFER
Instructions are in the envelope. If you will excuse me I have another appointment.

Mr. Chaffer stands up shakes Dan's hand.

DAN
Any advice.

MR. CHAFFER
Think like Vermin but don't become
him.

EXT. GOLDEN HILLS - SAN DIEGO

Views of Golden Hills.

INT. SURF BANK - GOLDEN HILLS - DAY

A short distance from Uncle Vermin's house. CHIP, a home loan manager looks down at a loan titled- IN DEFAULT.

A second paper reads - REFINANCE REQUEST.

Two large stamps are seen - DENIED in RED and APPROVED in GREEN.

Across the table JIMMY and RICKY sit motionless, rough looking guys you don't want to mess with.

Chip looks up - softens - reaches for the APPROVED stamp. JIMMY and RICKY are relieved.

We see an office with engraved glass PRESIDENT.

PRESIDENT (O.S.)
Chip!

Chip puts down the SAVE stamp. Chip smiles and motions to be excused for a moment and walks off. Jimmy nudges Ricky and smiles.

We see Chip arguing with the President. Jimmy looks at the office and pokes Rickey.

JIMMY
Bankers.

Chip leaves the office agitated. He returns to his desk. He QUICKLY grabs the DENIED stamp. He stamps hard. BAM! Jimmy and Rickey kneel to the ground as if to pray.

JIMMY & RICKEY
Noooo!

INT. SURF BANK - GOLDEN HILLS - SAME

Dan, Chase, Jenny turn there heads at the sound of someone yelling Noooo!

They turn back to a young SEXY BANKER with librarian glasses. She has a yellow pencil spiked though her hair.

SEXY BANKER
Oh my! Like, somebodies not happy-

Chase keeps distracting the Banker with devious expressions. She's a little impressed.

SEXY BANKER (CONT'D)
(to Dan)
-and here's your-

Chase makes a dirty smile and motions to write a number. Dan and Jenny look at Chase. Chase sits like a innocent child.

SEXY BANKER (CONT'D)
-your prepaid credit card for one hundred seventy three thousand. Mmmmm, a master card. Don't play around without it.

JENNY
It's pay and that's American Express.

The Banker looks at Chase. Jenny takes the card.

DAN
Thank you.

SEXY BANKER
Oh! No cash withdrawals. (beat)
It's like the account rules, ya know.

Chase, Dan and Jenny stand to depart, turn. Chase lags.

The banker using a yellow pencil scribbles a number on paper and hands it to Chase. Chase grins - she bites the pencil. Dan and Jenny watch.

DAN
I don't get it.

JENNY
Oh honey, easy come easy go.

EXT. UNCLE'S HOUSE - GOLDEN HILLS

Dan, Chase, Jenny stand in front of Uncle Vermin's dilapidated house. Each hold a clipboard and camera.

It's a modest house on the corner of a cul-du-sac. There are four more identical houses going counter clockwise around the cul-du-sac.

Dan lowers the Polaroid of the house from view - the house is far from its glory days.

A condemned banner seals the entry.

JENNY

Looks older then thirty years, what happened?

DAN

Vermin.

Dan takes a picture of the house.

DAN (CONT'D)

Lets do this.

INT. IN-N-OUT BURGER - NIGHT

Dan, Chase and Jenny's look like they crawled though a disaster.

CASHIER

Anything else?

CHASE

(to Dan)

You know that phone didn't work.

DAN

(to cashier)

No that's all.

CASHIER

Twenty six sixty six.

Dan holds out the special Mastercard.

JENNY

(to Chase)

What phone?

CHASE

The one in the lawyers office.

DAN

So.

CASHIER

I'm sorry the card is declined.

DAN

That's impossible. Please try again?

CASHIER

Sorry, declined. You can use another form of payment.

DAN

I don't have another form of payment.

The cashier swipes again.

CASHIER

Declined.

Dan opens his wallet, twenty-dollars. Dan turns to the CASHIER.

DAN

Cancel the fries.

Jenny and Chase GASP.

INT. DAN'S VAN - MOMENTS LATER

Jenny on a cell phone. Chase shakes his head and stairs into the In-N-Out bag.

CHASE

So wrong.

TRILL - Chase gets a text - "Naughty Banker: Hi ;)"

JENNY

(to phone)

Yes for the project... its a business meal... oh... Yes, I'll take another look. Thank you, bye.

Jenny takes papers from a envelope and reads.

JENNY (CONT'D)

We can't use the card for food purchases.

Jenny reads a paper titled - RULES.

JENNY (CONT'D)
Time limit. Definitions. Family,
oh...

TRILL - Chase gets a text and writes back.

DAN & CHASE
What?

JENNY
Nothing.

DAN
Yeah right, what is it?

JENNY
Nothing. Look here it is: Funds
are used only for construction
materials and labor. All receipts
are to be submitted to the Law
Office of Wagner and Associates.

Jenny pauses to think. TRILL - Chase gets a text.

JENNY (CONT'D)
We could buy gift cards at
construction stores.

DAN
Vermin would have thought of that.
Besides, we're a honest family.
We're not like him.

TRILL - Chase gets a text and looks at his phone.

CHASE
It's a hook up!

DAN
I said no!

CHASE
You'd make a bad politician.

Chase types a text.

JENNY
Maybe we're not qualified to take
care of his money.

DAN
Wooo! No. Hold on.

CHASE
Wooo! We got this Bro.

Chase holds out his knuckles. Dan double takes then knuckles.

JENNY (CONT'D)
You guys. Money divides people.

DAN
(to Chase)
We got this, right?

TRILL - a text - "Naughty Banker: I'm open for deposits, 10pm?"

CHASE
Yeah buddy!

Jenny isn't convinced.

DAN
Oh honey, it will all work out.

INT. DAN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Dan organizes business papers spread across a table.

DAN
Here's the contractors.

Jenny studies a sheet of paper.

DAN (CONT'D)
Jenny?

JENNY
Sorry, what?

Chase in superman pajamas enters with a black eye.

DAN
Morning, what happened to you?

Jenny snickers.

JENNY
(to Dan)
Easy come easy go.

Chase touches his eye.

CHASE
Ahh, such a psycho.
(muttering to himself)
Stupid pencil!

Chase walks towards the kitchen.

JENNY
 (to Dan)
 Remember yesterday. I said oh it's
 nothing.

DAN
 Yeah.

Jenny points to a paper. Dan read's.

DAN (CONT'D)
 Oh my.

Chase returns with coffee. Dan and Jenny stair at him.
 Chase touches his eye.

CHASE
 That noticeable?

DAN
 The family in the will has to be
 present when the lawyer inspects.

CHASE
 Ha ha. Ha ha ha. Ha ha ha ha!

Chase walks away. Jenny stairs at Dan.

DAN
 Me!?

JENNY
 Mom hates Dad, Dad hates Giuseppe
 and I can't lie. Your neutral.

Jenny firmly holds out the paper to Dan. Dan gives in and
 takes the paper.

DAN
 Fine I'll call your parents. One
 condition. You tell your sister
 and Giuseppe no dog.

JENNY
 Dan.

DAN
 No dog.

Montage of construction work, phone calls, office work. Shots of Dan, Jenny and Chase with every conceivable expression. Laughs, good times, bad times. Day night day night.

EXT. NEIGHBOR'S HOUSE NEXT TO UNCLE VERMIN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Uncle Vermin's house is almost complete. The exterior is mint. Dan's white work van is parked curb side.

Two men in black run into the cul-du-sac as if they finished a marathon.

One man lugs a duffle bag. They stop. One man points at the Neighbor's House.

Moments later they enter it from a side garage door.

INT. FORECLOSED HOUSE - GARAGE

The side door opens. RICKY, the brains holds the duffle bag. JIMMY, the brawn, feels along a wall.

RICKY
Jimmy, over there.

A stack of electrical conduit clatters to the floor.

RICKY (CONT'D)
Careful.

Jimmy flips the light switch. We see a empty three car garage. A white storage freezer is against a wall.

Left over building supplies lay around. Jimmy opens the freezer. It's filled with ice bags.

JIMMY
Maybe they're having a party.

Ricky leans in the freezer and moves ice bags.

RICKY
It's foreclosed. No party.

Ricky places the duffle bag in the freezer and covers it with ice bags.

RICKY (CONT'D)
Besides, the holiday is close.
People are busy. No ones coming
here.

Ricky shuts the freezer.

JIMMY
Holiday... Wish mama could be with
us.

RICKY
She will be soon. That's why we're
doing this.

Ricky pats Jimmy on the shoulder.

RICKY (CONT'D)
Come on lets get out of here before
someone notices.

INT. UNCLE VIRMIN'S HOUSE - CLOSET - SAME

With a flashlight in his teeth Dan quickly attaches wires in
a circuit breaker. Two thuds resonate through the ceiling.

DAN
I know I know.

INT. UNCLE VIRMIN'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Chase pounds on the floor twice.

Chase stairs at a old shut off valve illuminated by his head
lamp. He turns the valve with a screw driver. A little
water drips.

BOOM! All lights come on in the house.

CHASE
Finally.

INT. UNCLE VIRMIN'S HOUSE - GARAGE

Dan inspects a main breaker switch.

Chase enters the garage from a shared door with the house.

Dan hits the garage door opener. As the door rises Jimmy and
Rickey run by empty handed. Dan and Chase stair at each
other.

DAN
You don't see that every day.

CHASE
Neighbors?

The street is quite, no one is home. Dan shrugs.

CHASE (CONT'D)
I need more time. That safety
valve it broken. I have to shut
the main off.

DAN
No messing around.

Dan hands Chase a key.

DAN (CONT'D)
Lock everything, double check.
What ever you do shut off the main
electrical breaker when your done.

Chase walks back inside and presses a button. The garage
door lowers.

CHASE
Good night daddy!

DAN
Remember the breaker, the main-

The garage door shuts.

EXT. UNCLE VIRMIN'S HOUSE - SIDE - SHORT TIME LATER

Chase turns on the main water valve.

INT. UNCLE VIRMIN'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Chase tests a new sink faucet -- it works. The safety valve
from earlier drips a drop. Chase pushes a bucket under it.

He waits, the faucet doesn't drip. Chase exits. It drips
more drops.

INT. UNCLE VIRMIN'S HOUSE - GARAGE - MOMENTS LATER

Chase flips off the lights and exits. We see the main
breaker in the ON position. The main breaker HUMS.

EXT. SAIL BOAT, COST OF BAJA - AFTERNOON

A twenty foot sail boat. To small for the ocean. Wind howls.

A man packs a weathered Pelican Case with hunting traps. This is FRANK a failed general contractor with a heart for adventure.

A BOAT MAN steers the boat.

BOAT MAN
Looks like the storm is worsening.
You should've taken the bus.

FRANK
Naha! I couldn't sell my baby.

Frank slaps the boat.

FRANK (CONT'D)
She's all I got.

BOAT MAN
Not for long. You'll be a rich man soon. (beat) You miss him...? Your brother.

FRANK
Vermin! Ha!

Boat Man looks at Frank in disbelief.

Frank smiles - they laugh.

FRANK (CONT'D)
I miss him as much as my wife.

Frank's hands slip a trap SNAPS SHUT.

BOAT MAN
Careful!

EXT. DAN'S HOUSE

Dan's WHITE van pulls to the curb. Dan and Jenny load the moving van. Chase carries coffee and bagels to the house.

DAN
We can't afford this!

Jenny points at the side of the moving truck, it reads - Construction Rental.

JENNY
Construction expense.

DAN
It's only thirty minutes away.

JENNY
Dan its only a rental! It's justified. Anyway, how have you and Chase been paying for all these bagles and coffe?

DAN
Ok, ok.

JENNY
Well?

DAN
One of the contractors bought them... Their going to bill us.

Jenny gasps.

JENNY
Dan Clark.

DAN
Ok we bent the rules a little, no more. We only got one week left.

Jenny softens.

DAN (CONT'D)
I'm sorry baby.

Dan hugs Jenny.

JENNY
Mmmm, I'm sorry to.

EXT. COFFEE SHOP - GOLDEN HILLS - DAY

A large banner across the street reads - Golden Hills.

Dan parallel parks his van. The back wheel is one inch into the red. Chase parks the moving truck down the street.

DAN
(to Jenny)
Want anything?

JENNY

No.

FRED a middle age police deputy rids a bike pass on the opposite side walk.

INT. DAN'S VAN - MOMENTS LATER

Jenny stairs into the passenger side mirror. Fred, measures the distance from the tire to the red curb. Jenny sits up sharply.

EXT. COFFEE SHOP - SAME

Chip, the banker from earlier strolls down the street sporting a pin stripe suit. Dan and Chase are in conversation. As they exit Dan collides with Chip.

CHIP

Ahhhhhhhh!

DAN

Oh! Sorry-

CHIP

Coffee zombie!

CHASE

Hey!

DAN

I'm very sorry.

Dan hands Chip a napkin. Chip snatches it and walks away with the Golden Hill banner array overhead.

CHASE

Rich people.

DAN

What because he has a suit on?

Dan spots Fred next to the van writing a ticket.

DAN (CONT'D)

Hey! Hey!

Fred stands up. He sports a badge, it reads: Fred Sheriff of Golden Hills

FRED
Good morning gentlemen.

DAN
Come on I'm barely in the red.

Fred ignores him and keeps writing.

FRED
One inch to be exact.

CHASE
That's not fare.

FRED
Most things aren't.

Jenny leans out the window. Dan signals her to wait. Fred hands Dan a paper and walks away. Chase leans close.

CHASE
Try sorry next time.

INT. DAN'S VAN

Dan drives down a suburb street. Jenny is in the passenger seat.

Two blocks ahead a fire truck is parked on the right hand side.

INT. MOVING TRUCK

Plop is in the passenger seat. Chase sings Kiss Me Through the Phone to Plop. Plop is not impressed.

Chase looks past the fire truck and sees wisps of smoke rise from Uncle Vermin's house.

CHASE
Hmmm.

EXT. SUNSET COURT

Dan's truck passes the fire engine and makes a right into the cul-de-sac. Another fire truck is parked in the cul-de-sac.

Fire men lounge around, talk, drink. No one is in a hurry.

Dan parks a little past the house. Chase follows.

They exit the vehicle. Chase leaves the truck door open.

Dan, Chase, Jenny walk to the curb.

In the background a Subaru WRX parks across the street.

An attractive young women wearing a white Fit-and-flare mid thigh dress steps out. She opens the trunk, bends over, extracts a portfolio and enters the house.

CHASE

I don't see the problem here...

Two fire man DRAG a charred refrigerator out the front door using red axes.

They push it off the front porch -- CRASH. The lounging firemen aren't phased.

Dan, Chase and Jenny mouths drop -- they walk toward a fireman standing on the sidewalk. He looks important, this is DUKE, lead fireman.

EXT. MOVING TRUCK

Plop Jumps from the driver side door and trots down the street unnoticed.

EXT. UNCLE VIRMIN'S HOUSE - FRONT LAWN

DUKE puts his hand up.

DUKE

Hey fellas... Hey the street.

Chase sniffs the air.

DAN

What?

DUKE

Please stay on the street.

CHASE

Is that pot?

DAN

That's my house!

DUKE

Oh! Hey bro sorry man. Wasn't sure who you were. I'm Duke.