

THE FORTUNETELLER

by

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FADE IN:

INT. FORTUNETELLER'S TENT - EVENING

A 20-something WOMAN sits across from an aging fortuneteller named DELPHINA. Delphina is wearing a headwrap and is wearing a jewelry store.

On the table are some Tarot cards and a crystal ball for show.

Delphina holds the Woman's palm in her hand, tracing the lines with her finger.

DELPHINA

I see a king and two pawns in your future...

WOMAN

What does that mean?

Delphina closes her eyes.

DELPHINA

Difficult to see...

WOMAN

(brightening)

Maybe a husband and two children!?
I do have a boyf--

Delphina shakes her head.

DELPHINA

Perhaps, but I see pain and suffering.

She traces her finger along another line.

DELPHINA

I see another woman....hmmm.

WOMAN

Don't like the sound of that.

She starts to pull her hand back.

DELPHINA

Wait!

Delphina grips her hand tighter, but the Woman wants it back.

DELPHINA

Oh, this is not good, not good at all.

The Woman struggles to get her hand back.

WOMAN
Stop it! Stop it now!

She wrests her hands free and Delphina's eyes flash open.

She seems almost trancelike as she speaks.

DELPHINA
I see...I see the pawns divided.
You play a part.

The woman looks squeamishly uncomfortable, but can't help but listen.

Delphina's eyes close again, as if she is seeing all this in her mind.

DELPHINA
Balloons.

WOMAN
Balloons?

DELPHINA
Aye, balloons.

WOMAN
That doesn't make any sense.

DELPHINA
Shhhh. I see mud...everywhere.

WOMAN
Okay, I'm leaving. You're a freak!

The Woman turns to go.

DELPHINA
Wait, there's one more thing...

WOMAN
I want my money back.

DELPHINA
No.

WOMAN
No?!

DELPHINA
No, I see...I see a speeding car and
someone is--

The Woman exits the tent.

Delphina falters and sits back down, holding her head as if this were the most monumental task she has ever undertaken.

She reaches under the table and pulls out a flask. She takes a swig, and then another.

She removes her headwrap and lets her hair down.

She takes out a worn picture of her son and touches it. She kisses her hand and then touches the picture.

Two men walk in. We'll call them THUG 1 and THUG 2. They're both young and wearing smart suits and mob style hats.

DELPHINA

(tired)

Sorry, I'm closed.

A third man walks through the tent door. We'll call him KINGPIN. He's more weathered and has a scar on the right side of his face.

KINGPIN

I say you're open.

DELPHINA

(deflated)

I don't have the money.

KINGPIN

That's too bad. Maybe we can work something out.

Kingpin takes a gun out with a silencer attached and sets it on the table.

KINGPIN

You're a hard woman to track down.

Delphina takes a swig of her flask and offers it to Kingpin.

KINGPIN

No thanks.

DELPHINA

And you're a persistent bastard.

Kingpin and his Thugs find amusement in the comment.

KINGPIN

So, I'd say we've got quite a chess match going. How's about you tell me my fortune.

Delphina smiles.

DELPHINA
I don't know, it's--

Kingpin reaches across the table, grabs Delphina's hand and lays a finger out on the table. Delphina's completely caught off guard.

He uses the gun like a hammer and slams it down on her finger.
BANG!

Delphina writhes in pain.

DELPHINA
You sick fuck! I need that finger.

KINGPIN
Well, you still got nine left.

The Thugs laugh.

KINGPIN
Now, how's about that fortune?

She's a little gun shy, but she takes his hand.

DELPHINA
(closing her eyes)
Hmmm...I see....

Kingpin leans forward.

DELPHINA
I see...two pigs...

Kingpin is perplexed.

DELPHINA
And...a giant ass.

She opens one eye. Kingpin's smile turns to anger and he grabs another finger and smashes it with the gun. BANG!

Delphina grabs her hand in sheer agony, but she starts laughing.

Kingpin stands.

KINGPIN
You think this is funny!?

Kingpin pulls the slide on the gun and points it at Delphina.

The Woman walks back into the tent.

WOMAN

I think I left my pur--

She realizes what she's just walked into and that she's seen too much, and races out of the tent.

KINGPIN

Get her!

The two Thugs race out of the tent after the Woman.

OUTSIDE THE TENT

The thinning crowds from the CARNIVAL reveal the Woman running away, and the two Thugs chase after her.

INSIDE THE TENT

Kingpin turns his attention back to Delphina, but she throws a handful of Tarot cards in Kingpin's face to distract him and races out of the back of the tent.

Kingpin fires two shots into the tent.

KINGPIN

Son of a--

OUTSIDE THE TENT

SEQUENCE OF SHOTS

-The Thugs appear to have lost the Woman, but spot her running toward the petting zoo. They give chase.

-Kingpin sticks his head out and sees Delphina running through the crowd. He gives chase.

-The Woman runs past a donkey.

-Delphina runs past a cotton candy stand.

-The Thugs run past the donkey.

-Kingpin runs past the cotton candy stand.

-The Woman looks behind her to see the Thugs gaining ground. She runs toward the pigpen.

-Delphina runs toward a CLOWN holding balloons. She grabs the balloons.

CLOWN

HEY!!

-Kingpin knocks over the clown and shoots into the balloons, bursting a couple of the balloons.

-A MAN WITH A HOSE is watering the dirt in the pigpen.

-The Woman opens the gate to the pigpen, releasing two of the pigs.

-She runs into the pigpen, sidestepping the mud.

-The Thugs run after her. They trip on the pigs and fall into the mud.

-The Woman gets away.

-Kingpin continues to give chase, following the balloons, but watches as the balloons release into the air.

-Delphina crosses the main road.

-Kingpin chases her across the road, but a speeding car comes from out of nowhere and slams into Kingpin, knocking him into the windshield glass.

-Delphina hears the crash and turns.

Pan in on Delphina. Off her smile...

CUT TO CREDITS...

THE END