

She's High Maintenance

by

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FADE IN:

INT. NIGHT CLUB - NIGHT

JOHNNIE BAXTER, mid-20's, medium height and weight, short clean cut look, not too attractive but acceptable, very close to nerdy, is standing at the bar with his friend, SHAWN HODGES, mid-20's, medium height and weight, fuller thicker hair, totally unattractive. They both have a glass filled with alcohol in front of them on the bar.

There are people dancing on the dance floor.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
(Eying the club with a smile)

There are some beauties in here tonight.

SHAWN HODGES
(Looking at his drink)
Maybe we'll get lucky tonight.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
(Smiling with confidence)
I know I am.

SHAWN HODGES
(Laughing)
Oh. What makes you so sure?

SHAWN HODGES (CONT'D)
We've been coming here for six months now and you haven't scored.
(pause)
Tonight, probably won't be any different.

Johnnie and Shawn are watching the women and scoping the club scene. After a few minutes

JOHNNIE BAXTER
(Spots a sexy looking woman)
Look at her.
(with excited interest)

Shawn looks towards the direction that Johnnie is looking.

Not more than 3 feet away from them is JOCELYN PARKER, early 20's, long hair, model body, tall height, with an Italian flavor about her. She is talking to another WOMAN, also early 20's, model body, shorter height. Jocelyn is wearing a stylish sexy short white dress with black stiletto shoes.

CLOSE UP - Jocelyn Parker. Camera pans over her body and close shot of her beautiful face.

SHAWN HODGES
Which one?

JOHNNIE BAXTER
The one in the white dress.

SHAWN HODGES
(Looks her over)
She looks high maintenance.

Shawn does a slight whistle. Jocelyn TURNS her head and looks at them.

They both smile. Johnnie waves. Jocelyn turns back to the woman she is talking to.

CAMERA ON - Johnnie. He is just standing there with his elbow on the bar staring at Jocelyn.

SHAWN HODGES
Why don't you talk to her?

JOHNNIE BAXTER
(Turns and looks at
Shawn)
She's talking right now. I don't
want to interrupt.

SHAWN HODGES
Don't get scared now. You're the
one whose so sure of a score
tonight.

Johnnie looks at Jocelyn who is still talking to the woman.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
Okay. Here goes.

Johnnie walks over to Jocelyn.

SHAWN HODGES
Good luck.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
(To Jocelyn)
Excuse me.

Jocelyn looks at him.

JOHNNIE BAXTER (CONT'D)
My name is Johnnie and I was
wondering if you would like to
dance.

The WOMAN who Jocelyn was talking to looks Johnnie over.

WOMAN
(To Jocelyn)
I'm going to go find my girlfriend.
Maybe we can catch up another time.

JOCELYN
 (To the woman)
 Sure. Good seeing you.

The woman walks off leaving Johnnie and Jocelyn standing there.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
 Well. How about it?

JOCELYN
 (It's obvious that she is making excuses)
 I just got here a few minutes ago and I just want to take in the scene.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
 (Slight laugh)
 Is that a nice way of letting me down?

JOCELYN
 (Serious expression as she looks him over)
 Frankly, you don't look like my type.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
 (Trying to cover feeling hurt)
 What exactly is your type?

JOCELYN
 Nice talking to you, but I need to go to the ladies room.

Jocelyn walks off leaving Johnnie staring behind her.

Johnnie walks back over to the bar with Shawn.

SHAWN HODGES
 No go, Huh!

Johnnie shakes his head no.

SHAWN HODGES (CONT'D)
 At least you tried.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. NIGHT CLUB - NIGHT

A couple of hours have passed. Johnnie and Shawn are standing by a WALL now. They are watching people dance on the dance floor.

WOMEN walk by them without really looking at them.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. NIGHT CLUB - NIGHT

Jocelyn is DANCING with a GUY, tall heavy set, late 20's, sort of rough looking. The guy pulls her to him.

GUY

What do you say, we get out of here
and get to know one another a
little better.

Jocelyn tries to pull away.

JOCELYN

Look, you're a little too rough.
You should get someone else to
dance with.

The guy gets ANGRY. He holds on to her arm.

GUY

I want to dance with YOU, not
anyone else.

JOCELYN

(Angrily)

Let go of my arm. NOW.

GUY

Oh! A little spicy.

GUY(CONT'D)

I like em spicy.

He PULLS her close to him and GRABS her buttocks. He walks off the dance floor with his arm tightly around her waist - FORCING her to walk with him.

JOCELYN

Let go. Where are you taking me?

GUY

Don't worry. I'll take good care of
you.

The guy and Jocelyn walk past Johnnie and Shawn who are standing against the wall checking the women out.

Jocelyn sees them.

JOCELYN

(Yells)

HEY JOHNNIE.

The guy NUDGES her side real hard. Jocelyn feels pain and she tries to grab her side.

GUY

Don't try it.

Johnnie heard his name called and looks at Jocelyn.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

(To Shawn)

Did she just call me?

SHAWN HODGES

Who?

JOHNNIE BAXTER

The hot chick I approached earlier.

Shawn sees the back of Jocelyn as she is being lead by Guy.

SHAWN HODGES

It looks like she is preoccupied to me. They look like they are headed to the door.

SHAWN HODGES (CONT'D)

I guess he struck gold.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

I know I heard her call me.

(pauses)

Why would she do that?

SHAWN HODGES

Maybe, she was trying to say good-bye.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

That doesn't make sense.

Johnnie starts to go after Jocelyn.

SHAWN HODGES

Where are you going?

Shawn follows behind Johnnie.

They catch up to Jocelyn and the Guy.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

(Yells out)

Did you just call me?

The Guy TURNS AROUND and looks at Johnnie. Shawn is standing behind Johnnie.

GUY

What?

JOHNNIE BAXTER

I was talking to her. She just called me.

GUY
 (Sternly and very mean)
 Nobody called you. Get lost.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
 (startled and
 questioning)
 Get lost?

JOCELYN
 I did call you.

The Guy looks very hard at Jocelyn and in a THREATENING WAY. Johnnie SEES that. He looks at Jocelyn then back at the Guy. He sees that the Guy has a TIGHT GRIP on her arm.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
 (To the Guy with a slight
 smile)
 You heard her. She did call me.

GUY
 Actually, I didn't hear her. And
 like I said, she didn't call you.

GUY(CONT'D)
 (To Jocelyn)
 C'mon. Let's go.

The Guy pulls Jocelyn to his side tighter and keeps walking.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
 (To Shawn)
 Something isn't right.

SHAWN HODGES
 What do you mean?

JOHNNIE BAXTER
 She seemed different. Not as
 confident as she was when I
 approached her.

SHAWN HODGES
 From the looks of that dude, I
 guess her confidence got buried
 somewhere.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
 They didn't look happy to me.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)
 You know. The kind of look like
 "Yeah, we're going to have some
 fun."

The Guy and Jocelyn are at the door and about to go out.

Johnnie RUNS and JUMPS on the Guy's back. The Guy lets go of Jocelyn's arm and tries to get Johnnie off his back.

Shawn looks on in shock.

SHAWN HODGES

(To Johnnie)

What are you doing?

The Guy tries to flip Johnnie off his back but they both FALL to the ground. Johnnie is trying to wrestle with the Guy.

TWO SECURITY GUYS come and grab Johnnie and the Guy. They get them off each other. The Guy tries to fight one of the security guys. The security guy holding Johnnie's arm pulls out a LASER GUN and TEASES the Guy.

Guy goes down to the ground.

JOCELYN

(To the security guys)

This man saved my life.

(pointing to Johnnie)

SHAWN HODGES

(Questioningly)

He did?

JOCELYN

(Feeling her hurting arm)

Yes. He did.

JOCELYN(CONT'D)

(Pointing to Guy on the ground)

That guy tried to take me out of here against my will.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

(Excitedly)

I knew it.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)

I knew something was wrong.

SHAWN HODGES

Man. You must have a sixth sense.

JOCELYN

(Grabbing Johnnie's arm)

Let him go.

The security guy that was holding Johnnie's arm lets it go.

Johnnie rubs his arm.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
(To Jocelyn)
Thanks.

She stands very close to him with her face in his face.

JOCELYN
No.
(then)
Thank you.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. JOCELYN'S PLACE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Pan into BED with a SHEET COVERING the bodies of Johnnie and Jocelyn. Johnnie is on top and they are under the sheet with not even their heads seen. There's the MOVEMENT of their bodies and the MOANING SOUNDS.

There's one LOUD satisfying MOAN from Jocelyn.

Johnnie PULLS the sheet from over his back and lays flat on his back next to Jocelyn.

They both are looking up at the ceiling.

JOCELYN
So, what kind of work do you do for
a living?

Johnnie looks at her and then sets his focus back on the ceiling.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
Uh. I'm a manager at a department
store.

JOCELYN
Really.

She turns to her side, looks at him, and rubs his arm.

JOCELYN(CONT'D)
How long have you been a manager?

JOHNNIE BAXTER
(Not looking at her)
About a year.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)
What about you?

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)
What do you do for a living?

JOCELYN
I work in sales for a
telecommunications company.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
What exactly do you sell?

JOCELYN
Ad space in a telephone directory.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
Do you like it?

JOCELYN
It's okay. It pays the bills.

JOCELYN(CONT'D)
What about you? Do you like your job?

JOHNNIE BAXTER
Sure. It's great being a manager.

JOCELYN
(Smiling)
So, how many people work under you?

JOHNNIE BAXTER
(Like he is thinking
about it)
Around five people.

Jocelyn snuggles up closer to him and puts her hand on his chest.

JOCELYN
I love a powerful man.

CLOSE UP - Worried expression on Johnnie's face.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. FAST FOOD RESTAURANT - DAY

Johnnie is wearing a UNIFORM and a CAP with a small INFLATED HAMBURGER on it, standing behind the cash register taking the order of a CUSTOMER, early 20's, male.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
May I help you?

CUSTOMER
Yes. I would like a cheeseburger,
fries, and a shake.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
Is that small or large fries?

CUSTOMER
Small fries.

Johnnie picks up a mike and CALLS the order into it.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
One burger with cheese, fries, and
a shake.

JOHNNIE BAXTER (CONT'D)
(To the customer)
That will be \$5.45.

The customer hands him the money. Johnnie puts it into the cash register and closes it.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE FAST FOOD RESTAURANT - DAY

Johnnie is standing in front of the restaurant. A car (old run down model) pulls up. Shawn is driving. Johnnie gets in the car.

SHAWN HODGES
What's up.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
What's up.

JOHNNIE BAXTER (CONT'D)
What do you have planned tonight?

SHAWN HODGES
I thought I would check out this
movie I've been wanting to see.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
Which one is that?

SHAWN HODGES
It's a sci-fi flick about some
paranormal stones that give powers.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
Sounds interesting.

SHAWN HODGES
You want to check it out?

JOHNNIE BAXTER
No. I've got some plans with
Jocelyn.

SHAWN HODGES
You've been seeing her for a few
weeks now. How are things going?

JOHNNIE BAXTER
(Big smile)
Swell. She's the girl of my dreams.
I can't believe it's all happening.
Me and her. She's the best thing
that has happened to me in a while.

SHAWN HODGES

(Smiling)

Good sex, huh.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

(Smiling)

You bet. The best.

SHAWN HODGES

So, what do y'all have planned for tonight.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

We are going to meet at that fine restaurant downtown.

SHAWN HODGES

(With surprise)

Do you know how much a plate cost there?

SHAWN HODGES(CONT'D)

Dinner for two will be your week's paycheck.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

I know. But I'll just have to swing it. Jocelyn wants to eat there and I aim to please to her.

SHAWN HODGES

I said she looked high maintenance at the club.

SHAWN HODGES(CONT'D)

I knew it.

SHAWN HODGES(CONT'D)

First, the fine restaurants, and then she'll have you buying all kinds of expensive clothing, shoes, and jewelry.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

(Hesitating)

We went shopping at the Martinique Shopping Village last week. I bought her a pair of sunglasses that cost \$300.

SHAWN HODGES

What!

JOHNNIE BAXTER

Yeah. They were pretty expensive.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)

Some kind of name brand.

SHAWN HODGES

How do you plan to keep up these appearances, Johnnie?

SHAWN HODGES(CONT'D)

It's just a matter of time when she finds out the truth.

SHAWN HODGES(CONT'D)

That you don't have a car of your own. That you live with your mother and that you work at a burger joint.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

I'll cross that bridge when I get there. But for now, I'm just going to enjoy the ride.

Shawn starts up the ignition. He looks at Johnnie.

SHAWN HODGES

That ride you're on is headed downhill.

SHAWN HODGES(CONT'D)

You better jump out now while you can.

Shawn puts his foot on the gas pedal and the car moves.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. JOHNNIE'S MOTHER'S HOUSE - HIS BEDROOM - NIGHT

Johnnie is in his bedroom with door closed at his mother's house, modest small one story house in suburban area. He is standing in front of the closet looking at his clothes. Most of his clothes are casual wear. There are some club type wear like slacks, dress shirts. All the shoes are piled on top of each other on the floor.

He reaches for a white shirt on a hanger. He takes it off the hanger and throws it on the bed. He starts moving the hangers looking for a pair of slacks and a suit jacket.

He goes to the bedroom door and OPENS it.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

(Yelling)

Hey Mom. I can't find my suit jacket and pants that I wore to a job interview I had a couple of months ago.

From the kitchen, we hear the voice of

JOHNNIE'S MOTHER(O.S.)
 Maybe you left it at Shawn's house.
 I don't know.

JOHNNIE'S MOTHER(O.S.)
 Remember. He did pick you up after
 your interview and you hung out
 with him. You didn't come home til
 late that night.

Johnnie stands at the door of his room with his hand on the doorknob with an expression like he is trying to recall.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
 You're right. I think I left it at
 Shawn's.

He SHUTS the door. He RUMMAGES through his clothes hanging in the closet FRANTICALLY.

He PLUMPS on the bed. Picks up a CELL PHONE from the nightstand. He calls Shawn.

Shawn is standing in front of a movie theater. He answers.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
 Hey Shawn. Did I leave a black suit jacket and some black pants at your place after I came from that job interview I had a couple of months ago?

SHAWN HODGES
 I don't know. I'm at the theater and I can't look around for it right now.

Shawn is eying TWO WOMEN who walk by.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
 Shit. I need to fit into the landscape at this restaurant tonight.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)
 I can't find anything to wear.

SHAWN HODGES
 (Eyes on the two women)
 Can't help you. I've got to go. I think I'm going to see whatever these two are seeing.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
 Who are you talking about?

Shawn hangs up.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)

Hello.

Johnnie puts his cell phone down on the bed. He goes back to the closet RUMMAGING through it.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. FINE RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Johnnie and Jocelyn are SEATED at a table decorated with a white tablecloth. There is a decorative centerpiece on the table. Johnnie is wearing a pair of casual beige pants and a sky blue button up shirt with casual shoes. He looks uncomfortable. Jocelyn is wearing a classy expensive short dress with designer shoes. On the chair next to her, is her expensive handbag. She looks very comfortable sitting there.

They are both LOOKING at MENUS. There are TWO WATER GLASSES in place in front of them.

JOCELYN

(Pointing to an item on
the menu)

I think I will have the veal with a
glass of Chardonnay.

Johnnie has a nervous-like expression on his face as he sits and examines the menu.

JOCELYN(CONT'D)

(Looks at Johnnie)

What's wrong?

JOHNNIE BAXTER

(Keeps eyes on the menu)

Nothing. I'm just trying to make up
my mind.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)

These prices are so steep.

JOCELYN

This is nothing. I've eaten at
restaurants where the minimum price
was \$50.00.

Johnnie gulps as he looks at Jocelyn.

JOCELYN(CONT'D)

But you shouldn't have to worry
about the prices. You have a good
job.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

(A look of deceit)

True. But I like to spend my money
wisely.

JOCELYN

(Little offended)

Isn't spending money on me a wise thing to do?

JOHNNIE BAXTER

(Hesitating)

Sure it is.

(pauses)

But...

(then)

You know I like you a lot.

JOCELYN

(Smiles)

Yes. And I like you a lot.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

I really think we make a good pair.

JOCELYN

I thought you were going to wear a suit tonight.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

I was going to wear a suit jacket.

(pauses)

But after I put one on, my dog jumped up on me and his paws got it dirty.

JOCELYN

(Questioningly)

You only have one suit jacket.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

No...

(then)

All of my others are either in the cleaners or my friend, Shawn, has them.

JOCELYN

Don't you just hate it when people don't return your things?

JOHNNIE BAXTER

(Fake type of smile)

Yeah.

JOCELYN

So, I didn't know you had a dog.

JOCELYN (CONT'D)

What kind of dog is it?

JOHNNIE BAXTER

(Looks at the menu)

A boxer.

JOCELYN

Really.

(then)

I don't want to seem pushy,
Johnnie. But when are you going to
have me over to your place.

JOCELYN(CONT'D)

We're always doing it at my place.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

(Eyes still on the menu)

The landlord is having some work
done on my apartment. I don't want
you getting hurt.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)

(Sets the menu down)

I don't really feel like eating
anything. I'm just only going to
drink some water.

He picks up his water glass and takes a SIP.

JOCELYN

I'd feel kind of funny, Johnnie.
Sitting here and eating and you're
not.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

That's so sweet. Let's go then.

He PARTIALLY STANDS up.

JOCELYN

(Placing her hand on his
arm)

BUT! I'll just make believe that
you are eating.

JOCELYN(CONT'D)

I'm real good at imagining things.

JOCELYN(CONT'D)

Besides. I need a full stomach for
later tonight.

She rubs his hand.

JOCELYN(CONT'D)

We're going to do a new position.

Johnnie sits fully down.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

A new position?

Jocelyn WHISPERS in his ear. Afterwards, she LICKS his ear.

Johnnie smiles and calls out to a waiter.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

WAITER.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. FAST FOOD RESTAURANT - DAY

Johnnie and Shawn are standing by a booth engrossed in a conversation. Johnnie is on his break. Shawn is dressed casually. Johnnie is wearing his UNIFORM and a WATCH on his wrist. Johnnie looks ANXIOUS.

SHAWN HODGES

Calm down. Just tell her that you don't have the money.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

(Nervously)

I can't do that.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)

She'll dump me if I don't buy it for her.

SHAWN HODGES

Why does she need another handbag anyways?

SHAWN HODGES(CONT'D)

She probably has several already. How many handbags does a woman need?

JOHNNIE BAXTER

I don't know. But she REALLY REALLY wants the one she showed me in a catalog.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)

She even said that if I don't get it for her, she will get very upset and...

SHAWN HODGES

And what?

JOHNNIE BAXTER

And never do the toot-toot with me.

SHAWN HODGES

What the hell is the toot-toot?

JOHNNIE BAXTER

It's a move we do in bed.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)
(Smiling)
It's just awesome.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)
(Dreamy-like)
Absolutely awesome.

Johnnie gets scared.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)
Shawn. I can't loose this girl.
I've never had the kind of sex we
have.
(slight pause)
Never.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)
I've got to get the money to get
her the handbag.

SHAWN HODGES
Sorry man. I just don't have it. I
don't get paid until the end of
next week.

SHAWN HODGES(CONT'D)
Why don't you ask your mother for
it?

JOHNNIE BAXTER
I can't. Since I've met Jocelyn,
I've had to borrow a thousand
dollars already from my mother.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)
She's not going to lend me anymore
money and I'm out of excuses in
getting the money from her.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)
The last time I asked her for \$100
to buy Jocelyn a pair of shoes, I
told her that I needed it to help
you pay for a speeding ticket that
you got as a result of trying to
get me to Jocelyn's place in time
to have dinner with her.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)
I hate lying to my mother, Shawn.

SHAWN HODGES
Now, all that lying you've been
doing to your mother should tell
you that getting involved with high
maintenance women leads to a life
filled with misery.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
(With a desperate look)
I don't care.

JOHNNIE BAXTER (CONT'D)
The sex is good. That's all I care
about.

JOHNNIE BAXTER (CONT'D)
That's all I want right now.

At that moment, Johnnie's MANAGER, late 40's, stocky guy,
interrupt them.

MANAGER
(Harsh and stern voice)
Johnnie. Get back to work.

Johnnie looks at his WATCH on his wrist.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
But, I've got three minutes more.

MANAGER
Well, by the time you go and wash
your hands and get your slow butt
behind the counter, those three
minutes will have passed.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
Okay. I'm coming.

SHAWN HODGES
Is your mother picking you up
tonight?

JOHNNIE BAXTER
Yeah. She's got to work late and
she's going to swing by here and
get me.

SHAWN HODGES
So, what are you going to do about
Jocelyn?

JOHNNIE BAXTER
I'll figure something out.

MANAGER
NOW! Johnnie.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
See ya.

Johnnie heads towards the restroom and Shawn heads out the
restaurant.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. FAST FOOD RESTAURANT - NIGHT

It's closing time and Johnnie is about to get off. He is at the CASH REGISTER counting the CASH in his DRAWER.

The Manager approaches him.

MANAGER

Johnnie. I want you to take the receipts and deposit it at a box at the bank when you get off.

Johnnie stops counting the cash. He has some cash in his hand. He looks at the Manager.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

Me.

MANAGER

Yes you. I couldn't take my son to his football game this evening and he had to catch a ride with a another guy on the team but they left him behind.

MANAGER (CONT'D)

The game has been over now for an hour. My son is just sitting there and I need to swing by and get him.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

What do I do? Just drop it in a box.

MANAGER

Yes. There is a deposit box near the drive thru window. All you have to do is use this key I'm going to give you to unlock it and drop the bag with the deposits in it.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

(Slight smile)

Doesn't sound hard. I can do it.

MANAGER

Great.

MANAGER (CONT'D)

Are you done with your drawer?

JOHNNIE BAXTER

Almost.

Johnnie starts counting the cash again.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. JOHNNIE'S MOTHER'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Johnnie is at the front door of his mother's house. He OPENS IT to GREET Shawn who is standing on the outside. They are both dressed casually.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

Hey.

SHAWN HODGES

What's up, man?

Shawn ENTERS the house.

SHAWN HODGES

What is so important that you called me over here for?

Johnnie goes into the living room and Shawn follows him.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

(plumps down on the couch)

I know how I'm going to get the money to buy Jocelyn the things she wants.

Shawn sits down on a love seat.

SHAWN HODGES

How?

JOHNNIE BAXTER

I'm going to rob a bank.

SHAWN HODGES

(Shockingly)

What! Are you crazy?

Shawn turns his head looking around the room.

SHAWN HODGES (CONT'D)

Where's your mother?

JOHNNIE BAXTER

She isn't here. She had to go check on my Aunt Suzie. She wasn't feeling well tonight.

SHAWN HODGES

YOU ARE CRAZY. That's all I've got to say.

SHAWN HODGES (CONT'D)

How did that get in your mind?

JOHNNIE BAXTER

My manager had me take a deposit to the bank last night and while I was there it dawned on me that I should do it.

SHAWN HODGES

(Laughing)

Well, did it dawn you that you could do 20 years.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

I'm not worried about getting caught because I won't.

SHAWN HODGES

Just think about that for a second.

(then)

How stupid it sounds.

SHAWN HODGES(CONT'D)

What are you now? The Invisible Man who can elude the police.

SHAWN HODGES(CONT'D)

And what's your bright idea on how you're going to do it?

Johnnie puts his hand under his shirt and acts like he is holding a gun.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

I'm just going to act like I'm making a deposit and demand all the money in the teller's drawer.

SHAWN HODGES

Oh. It's that simple, huh?

SHAWN HODGES(CONT'D)

You're crazy.

SHAWN HODGES(CONT'D)

Absolutely crazy.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. JOCELYN'S PLACE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Johnnie and Jocelyn are KISSING while sitting on the couch in the living room area. Jocelyn pulls back and smiles at Johnnie.

JOCELYN

So, where's the cooluchi handbag that you promised to get me?

JOHNNIE BAXTER

(Strained smile)

I'll have it next week sometime.
I've been so busy with work and all
that I haven't had time to get it
yet.

JOCELYN

(Pecks him with kisses on
his face)

You are still going to get it,
RIGHT.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

Yes. I said I would, right.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

Don't worry about it. You will have
that fancy handbag soon.

JOCELYN

(Smiles)

I know you won't let me down.

Jocelyn STANDS UP and TAKES Johnnie's hand to lead him into
the bedroom.

JOCELYN(CONT'D)

Let's do that special move we did
before.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE A BANK - DAY

Johnnie and Shawn are sitting inside Shawn's CAR.

SHAWN HODGES

This is crazy.

SHAWN HODGES(CONT'D)

I don't know why I let you talk me
into driving you here.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

Because we're friends.

SHAWN HODGES

Shit. Friends don't get each other
in trouble.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

Just stay here. I'll be right back.

Johnnie OPENS the car door and goes into the bank.

INT. INSIDE BANK - DAY

There is a LINE with SEVERAL PEOPLE waiting to get up to the teller counter. At the END of the line is a MAN, late 40's, medium built and height, with TWO SMALL CHILDREN, age 4 and 5, a girl and boy.

Johnnie walks to the end of the line and stands behind the man and his children. The children are very UNRULY, can't stand still, and are trying to play.

The BOY KICKS Johnnie in the leg.

Johnnie GRABS his leg.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

OUCH.

MAN WITH CHILDREN

I'm sorry. They can get out of hand sometime.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

You need to control them better.

The GIRL is trying to get the Man to pick her up by pulling on his pants leg.

MAN WITH CHILDREN

(To Johnnie)

I try. But I don't get a lot of help from my wife.

(then to the girl)

Honey. I'm tired. I can't pick you up right now. Let's just stand and wait. It won't be long.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

Where is your wife?

MAN WITH CHILDREN

My wife went out of town. She went to Las Vegas to attend one of the biggest interior home decorator shows.

Johnnie RUBS his leg.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

You have a business in interior home decoration?

MAN WITH CHILDREN

No. She wants to redo the entire house.

The BOY is running around the Man in a circle.

The Man grabs the boy and makes him stand still next to him.

MAN WITH CHILDREN(CONT'D)

We've been married for 15 years and this is the third time she wants to do this.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

Wow! That must cost pretty good.

MAN WITH CHILDREN

(Shaking his head yes)

It does. Along with all the other things she likes to do, buy, or change up.

MAN WITH CHILDREN(CONT'D)

Since we've been married, I have spent a fortune.

The GIRL sits on the floor.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

You must be a rich man with a fortune to spend.

MAN WITH CHILDREN

I am. My father left me a pretty good size inheritance. I married my wife right after my father died.

The MAN gets the girl to stand up as the line moves some.

MAN WITH CHILDREN

But, I've gone through most of it. Mostly because of my wife.

MAN WITH CHILDREN(CONT'D)

She doesn't know yet that we are broke. I figure I'd wait and tell her after I take the little we have left out the bank.

Johnnie has PERSPIRATION on his forehead. He looks like he is getting sick listening to the man.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

Is it getting hot in here?

MAN WITH CHILDREN

(Looking clueless)

No. Not to me.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

Excuse me for one second.

Johnnie steps out of the line. He walks over to a counter where deposit and withdrawal slips are located.

He wipes the sweat from his forehead with his hand. He takes a deep breathe.

As he walks back to get in line, his AUNT SUZIE, elderly lady in late 70's, strange and funny-looking, comes into the bank and sees him. She is dressed casually and is carrying a HANDBAG with an envelope with CASH inside and a GUN.

AUNT SUZIE
(With surprise)
Johnnie.

Johnnie looks at his aunt with an expression of FEAR.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
Aunt Suzie.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)
What are you doing here?

AUNT SUZIE
(Looking around)
This IS a bank.

AUNT SUZIE(CONT'D)
I need to make a deposit.

CAMERA ON - She goes into her HANDBAG. Pan into the GUN inside the handbag. Then pan into the ENVELOPE. She takes the envelope out and closes her handbag. She opens it and starts counting the CASH inside of it.

AUNT SUZIE(CONT'D)
I sold your uncle Larry's old chevy
and I need to deposit the money.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
That's great Aunt Suzie.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)
Why don't you get in front of me?
(Motioning with his hand)

AUNT SUZIE
No son. That's okay. How long have
you been here?

JOHNNIE BAXTER
Not long.

AUNT SUZIE
(Looking him over)
Are you making a deposit or a
withdrawal?

JOHNNIE BAXTER
(Strained smile)
A withdrawal.

AUNT SUZIE

I need to call your mother soon and tell her about George Mansen. His funeral was last week and I attended. I saw Sam Gue there and he told me that he is very sick.

AUNT SUZIE(CONT'D)

He said that he is going for surgery next week.

AUNT SUZIE(CONT'D)

Your mother knew him ever since she was a little girl.

Johnnie is PERSPIRING again. He looks nervous. He starts wiping his forehead.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

Aunt Suzie. I don't mean to cut you off, but I'm beginning to feel a little sick.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)

It feels kind of hot in here to me.

AUNT SUZIE

(Looks at him very hard)
Yeah... You don't look so good.

AUNT SUZIE(CONT'D)

Maybe you should go home and come back tomorrow.

AUNT SUZIE(CONT'D)

How did you get here?

JOHNNIE BAXTER

My friend Shawn bought me. You know Shawn.

AUNT SUZIE

Yes. He is pretty much your only friend, isn't he?

JOHNNIE BAXTER

No Aunt Suzie. I do have other friends, but we don't hang out as much as Shawn and I do.

AUNT SUZIE

(Looking around the bank)
So, where is Shawn?

JOHNNIE BAXTER

He's waiting in his car outside.

AUNT SUZIE

Okay. Well, it was nice running into you here. Make sure you tell your mother about Sam.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

(Tries to smile)

I will.

Johnnie walks away and out of the bank.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. FAST FOOD RESTAURANT - DAY

Johnnie is at work and dressed in UNIFORM. There are THREE PEOPLE standing in line. Johnnie is helping the first person in line, a CUSTOMER, heavy set male. The customer orders and Johnnie turns his back to the counter to fix part of the order. He turns back and HANDS the customer a bag.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

Here you go. Thanks and come again.

That customer walks away and there is Jocelyn standing there. They both look at each other STARTLED.

JOCELYN

Johnnie?

JOCELYN(CONT'D)

(Facial expression with disdain)

What are you doing here?

(then)

Dressed like that.

(Hand movement)

JOCELYN(CONT'D)

Where have you been? I haven't seen you lately and you haven't answered my calls.

JOHNNIE BAXTER

I work here Jocelyn.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)

What would you like to order?

JOCELYN

(Showing shock)

You work here!

JOCELYN(CONT'D)

What do you mean you work here?

JOHNNIE BAXTER

This is my job. And a darn pretty good one at that.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)

The guy sitting in an office in the back is my manager. If you don't order something right away and stop holding up the line, he is going to come out here and probably fire me.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)

So again. What would you like to order?

JOCELYN

You liar.

(then)

You lied to me the whole entire time.

She pauses.

JOCELYN(CONT'D)

I just want to know how you bought all those things.

JOCELYN(CONT'D)

The designer shoes, the perfumes, the dresses. I knew something was wrong.

JOCELYN(CONT'D)

You always had to get a ride from your friend, Shawn. A manager would own his own car.

JOCELYN(CONT'D)

But NO..... I kept making excuses for you. I thought maybe you were saving up some money to buy a house or something.

JOCELYN(CONT'D)

How were you able to pay for the restaurants?

JOHNNIE BAXTER

It doesn't matter now.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)

I'm done.

JOCELYN

Done!

JOHNNIE BAXTER

Yes, I'm DONE trying to please you and buy you everything you want.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)

I'm done with the entire relationship.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)
 (Building up anger)
 I can't stand it anymore - your
 highfalutin ways.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)
 There's no amount of great sex
 that's going to keep me strung out
 on you. I was even planning to rob
 a bank in order to buy you that
 stupid handbag you so badly wanted.

JOCELYN
 (With surprise)
 You were going to rob a bank..
 For me.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
 Yes. How stupid is that?

JOCELYN
 I don't know what to say, Johnnie.

The CUSTOMER, who is the SAME MAN who was in the bank,
 behind Jocelyn is getting frustrated waiting and he looks a
 little different so Johnnie does not recognize him at first.

CUSTOMER BEHIND JOCELYN
 Just give him your order, already.

Jocelyn and Johnnie look at the customer.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
 (To the customer)
 Can you be patient for just a few
 minutes?
 (then)
 We're breaking up here.

CUSTOMER BEHIND JOCELYN
 Whatever!

JOCELYN
 Johnnie. I guess the only thing I
 can say is that it was nice knowing
 you.

JOCELYN(CONT'D)
 I can't be with someone who is not
 able to afford the nice things I
 like.

She leans over the counter and pecks a KISS on Johnnie's
 cheek.

JOCELYN
 See you around.

Jocelyn walks away from the counter and out of the restaurant. Johnnie is standing there looking at her back with SADNESS.

CUSTOMER BEHIND JOCELYN
Trust me. You won't regret it.

Johnnie looks harder at the Man.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
Hey, I know you.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)
You were in the bank with the two kids.

CUSTOMER BEHIND JOCELYN
Oh. I thought I've seen you before.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
(Pained laugh)
That was the girl of my dreams who just walked out of here.

CUSTOMER BEHIND JOCELYN
I don't think so. She just left because she found out that although you were making a honest living, in order to please her high maintenance butt, you did God knows what to buy her things she wanted.

CUSTOMER BEHIND JOCELYN(CONT'D)
I wouldn't call someone like that "the girl of my dreams."

JOHNNIE BAXTER
So, how did your wife take the news?

CUSTOMER BEHIND JOCELYN
Not too well.

CUSTOMER BEHIND JOCELYN(CONT'D)
She left me for a guy she met at the interior home decorator show.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
Sorry about that.

CUSTOMER BEHIND JOCELYN
I'm not.

CUSTOMER BEHIND JOCELYN(CONT'D)
She's just going to bleed him dry like she did me.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
Can I take your order?

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE FAST FOOD RESTAURANT - DAY

In front of the restaurant there is parked a nice CONVERTIBLE SPORTS CAR. Sitting behind the steering wheel is Aunt Suzie. She is BLOWING THE HORN.

SOUND:HORN BLOWING.

Johnnie and the Manager come out.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
(With surprise)
Aunt Suzie.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)
What are you doing?

Aunt Suzie FEELS around the steering wheel. She has a WIDE SMILE.

AUNT SUZIE
Do you like it?

JOHNNIE BAXTER
Whose car is that?

AUNT SUZIE
(To the Manager)
Can you excuse us? I would like to speak with my nephew.

MANAGER
(Eying the car in awe)
Nice car.

The Manager goes back into the restaurant.

AUNT SUZIE
(To Johnnie)
Johnnie. I bought this car for you.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
(Disbelief)
Me.

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)
How can you afford that Aunt Suzie?

JOHNNIE BAXTER(CONT'D)
You only get social security.

AUNT SUZIE
Don't worry about how I could afford it. Just enjoy it.

AUNT SUZIE(CONT'D)
You needed a car.

She bumps the HORN on the car.

AUNT SUZIE(CONT'D)
And this is the one for you. It
rides real nice too, Johnnie.

AUNT SUZIE(CONT'D)
Now, you go back in there and
finish the few minutes you have
left on your shift. I'll be right
here when you get out.

JOHNNIE BAXTER
You're the best Aunt Suzie.

Johnnie goes back into the restaurant.

Aunt Suzie turns on the radio. Coming from the radio is a
NEWS BULLETIN.

SOUND FROM RADIO: There are no leads yet on the Carver
Street Bank robbery. Witnesses say that it was an elderly
lady. Anyone with information about it should call the
police station.

THE END

