

1 EXT. CHICAGO - DAY

THE CAMERA PANS SLOWLY FROM EAST TO WEST ON THE SKYLINE OF CHICAGO... THEN ZOOMS IN ON THE HOME OF LOUIE CAPELLO.

CUT TO:

2 INT. LOUIE CAPELLO'S HOME, HIGHLAND PARK, CHICAGO - DAY

LOUIE CAPELLO, age fifty-four, eccentric, and funny like Brad Garrett or Rodney Dangerfield, is asleep tilted back in his recliner with the BEARS GAME on...

His wife, BARBARA, quietly comes down the stairs with a suitcase...

BARBARA takes a family picture off of the china cabinet, walks over to LOUIE, looks at him sleeping in his chair, shakes her head, and then quietly leaves.

CUT TO:

3 EXT. / INT. LOUIE'S APPLIANCE STORE - DAY

It's a cold winter's day.

GUS, a short chubby man in his fifties, dressed in black, with a black hat comes into the store...

GUS

It sure is cold out there Louie.

LOUIE

It's cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass gorilla.

GUS chuckles... then looks around a bit, waiting for a MAN to leave the store.

The MAN leaves.

GUS

How are the TV's selling Louie?

LOUIE

(apprehensive)
I've been meaning to talk to you about that Gus. I can't sell the TV's here anymore.

GUS
(angry)
We have a deal Louie!

LOUIE
Yeah Gus, I know, but I didn't know
the TV's were stolen.

GUS
What did you think they were Louie?
Did you think they were direct from
the manufacturer. They are used
TV's Louie!

LOUIE
I thought you were picking them up
cheap at auction, but a friend told
me they're stolen.

GUS
You're joking, right Louie?

LOUIE
No Gus, I thought you were picking
them up cheap somewhere. I can't be
selling stolen TV's from the store.

TIGHT ON GUS as he walks up to LOUIE who is standing behind
the counter.

GUS rubs his HANDS together... and then looks sternly at
Louie.

GUS
I tell you what Louie. I'll get the
TV's out of here, but the don isn't
going to be happy about this. You
owe us a hundred grand for our time
and expense.

LOUIE
A hundred grand! You're kidding me,
right Gus?

GUS
No Louie, I'm not. I need to pay
the don a hundred grand for this
deal. You have a week to get me the
money. I'll have a guy pick the
TV's up later today.

GUS leaves the store.

LOUIE
 (to himself)
 A hundred grand. Yeah right buddy.
 When hogs fly.

DISSOLVE TO:

4 INT. LOUIE'S APPLIANCE STORE - DAY

Four months later...

TRISH, an attractive African American woman, late thirties, comes into Louie's store.

TIGHT ON LOUIE as he appears smitten by TRISH.

TRISH
 It sure is a beautiful day out
 there.

LOUIE
 If you say so.

TRISH stands with her hands on her hips and looks at LOUIE.

TRISH
 And what is your problem today?

LOUIE
 Nothing, I just meant it is more
 beautiful in here.

TRISH smiles.

TRISH
 I'll take that as a compliment.

LOUIE
 You've never been in here before.
 Is there something I can help you
 find?

TRISH
 I just moved into a new place and
 am looking for a good used TV.

TRISH spots a TV.

TRISH (CONT'D)
 I like this one. Can I turn it on?

LOUIE
 I can't let you have that one!

TRISH
 (looks at Louie like he's
 strange)
 What on earth is wrong with you?
 It's for sale isn't it?

LOUIE
 (panicked)
 I'm sorry. I was asleep with that
 TV on when my wife left. I should
 throw it out. I don't want to jinx
 us... I mean you.

TRISH smiles again.

LOUIE (CONT'D)
 I'd like to ask you out. Would you
 go out with me?

TIGHT ON TRISH...

TRISH
 Sure. I'd like that.

CUT TO:

MONTAGE OF SHOTS: LOUIE AND TRISH DANCING AT A NIGHTCLUB...
 LOUIE AND TRISH SHOPPING... LOUIE AND TRISH WATCHING A MOVIE
 TOGETHER...

FADE TO:

5 INT. AN UPSCALE CHICAGO RESTAURANT - NIGHT

THIS IS AN IMPROVISED SCENE WITH THE ACTORS PROVIDING THE
 DIALOGUE.

Louie takes Trish to an upscale Chicago restaurant where he
 asks her to marry him.

FADE TO:

6 INT. LOUIE'S APPLIANCE STORE - DAY

LUGI, a short, stocky man in his early sixties is looking at
 the merchandise in the store with a clip board in his hand.

LUGI
 You need to have more large flat
 screen TV's Louie.
 (MORE)

LUGI (CONT'D)

I looked at your paper work. You've been selling out of them every month.

LOUIE

You think so?

LUGI

Of course I think so. I wouldn't be saying I think so if I didn't think so. You can easily make another two thousand dollars a month selling more large flat screen TV's.

LOUIE

I'll order some more next week...
Lugi, I've got a favor to ask you.

LUGI

Sure, what is it Louie?

LOUIE

Will you be my best man at Trish's and my wedding?

LUGI

Are you frickin kidding me? Of course I will. When are you and Trish getting married?

LOUIE

Next month, in Vegas.

LUGI

(shocked)
Vegas?

LOUIE

Is something wrong with Vegas?

LUGI

Oh, it's nothing, I just have a cousin who lives there that I owe a few bucks to.

LOUIE

If you need some money Lugi I'll give it to you.

LUGI

No, no, it's not much. I'll pay him when I see him.

LUGI brightens up, smiles, and gestures with open arms...

LUGI (CONT'D)
Of course I'd love to be your best
man. So when did you...

SOUND FADES OUT as they continue talking.

FADE TO:

7 INT. LOUIE AND TRISH'S HOME - DAY

TIGHT ON LOUIE as he comes home from work, takes off his jacket, hangs it up, and walks into the living room.

LOUIE
Trish. Trish, are you here? I'm
home.

Trish is not home... LOUIE takes out his CELL PHONE and begins checking all of his voice mail messages.

LOUIE (CONT'D)
(talks to himself)
Jeez Louise. More messages than
flies on dog poop.

TRISH (V.O.)
Louie. I'm going to the store. Be
back soon. Love you.

GUS (V.O.)
Louie. The don wants his money. Get
me the hundred grand or else.

LOUIE
(to himself)
Or else what buddy?

TIGHT ON LOUIE as he deletes the voice mail message from Gus.

CUT TO:

8 INT. MCCARRAN AIRPORT - MORNING

SHOT OF AIRPLANE LANDING AT MCCARRAN AIRPORT.

LOUIE and TRISH grab their LUGGAGE from the conveyor... LOUIE insists on carrying all the luggage but keeps dropping it.

LOUIE and TRISH get in a CAB and an INDIAN MAN with a distinct Indian accent is driving.

CAB DRIVER
Where may I take you?

LOUIE
We need to go to the Bellagio.
Thanks Buddy.

The CAB DRIVER drives away from the airport.

CUT TO:

9 INT. TAXI CAB - MORNING

The CAB DRIVER heads east on Tropicana Avenue and then north on Maryland Parkway.

LOUIE AND TRISH IMPROVISE DIALOGUE IN THE BACKSEAT.

LOUIE looks around mystified as they are driving past UNLV.

LOUIE
Isn't the strip the other way?

CAB DRIVER
Yes, but Tropicana is closed today.
This is the shortest route.

The CAB DRIVER turns west on Flamingo... then drops Louie and Trish off at the BELLAGIO.

CAB DRIVER (CONT'D)
That will be forty-five dollars.

LOUIE
(happy to pay it)
Here buddy, here's fifty. Thanks a lot.

LOUIE and TRISH grab their LUGGAGE out of the trunk of the cab.

CLOSE ON LOUIE as he insists on carrying all the luggage and they go inside the Bellagio.

CUT TO:

10 INT. HOTEL ROOM / BELLAGIO - DAY

TIGHT ON TRISH as she checks out the view.

TRISH
Come look at the view Louie. It's
beautiful.

The WATER SHOW begins...

TRISH (CONT'D)
Wow, look at the water dance.

LOUIE
It's gorgeous babe, just like you
are.

TIGHT ON LOUIE AND TRISH as Louie hugs Trish and they watch
the water show.

The water show ends...

LOUIE (CONT'D)
Whatcha say we go downstairs and
get us something to eat, baby doll?

TRISH
Now don't you start with your
nicknames or yours will be Tinker
Bell after I kick you.

LOUIE
You don't want to do that sweetie
pie or neither of us will be
getting any action.

TRISH pulls away and slaps LOUIE lightly upside his head...
Then gets her purse.

TRISH
I could use something to eat. Come
on lover boy, let's go downstairs.

CUT TO:

11 EXT. BELLAGIO CAFE - DAY

LOUIE and TRISH wait to be seated at the Bellagio Cafe.

LOUIE notices a man dressed in black staring at him from
across the casino... LOUIE realizes the man is GUS.

LOUIE turns his back to GUS, but keeps looking over his
shoulder and acts very nervous.

TRISH

You seem real nervous Louie. What's wrong? You aren't getting cold feet on me are you? You sure as heck better not be.

LOUIE

No, no, babe. It's nothing like that. I think I know that guy over there in the black suit.

TRISH looks but Gus is gone.

TRISH

Who are you talking about Louie?

LOUIE turns around to look for Gus.

LOUIE

He's gone. He was just there.

TRISH

What's going on with you Louie?

LOUIE

This guy who was over there, we had a business deal to sell some TV's in my store and the deal went bad. This was a few months before I met you. I told him to take his stuff and get out of my store. Well he said I owed him money for his time and investment, but I never paid him. He kept calling and leaving threatening messages. He even threatened to burn the store down.

TRISH

Are you sure it's the same guy? Come on Louie, what would he be doing in Vegas at the same casino we are standing a hundred feet away, watching us?

LOUIE

I dun no. It sure looked like him.

TRISH

I think everything is all right Louie. You're probably just mistaken.

The hostess comes to seat them.

DISSOLVE TO:

12

EXT. / INT. LOUIE AND TRISH'S HOTEL ROOM - DAY

LOUIE and TRISH return to their hotel room and find that it has been broken into...

The contents of their luggage is thrown about the room.

TRISH
Who in the hell?

LOUIE
I'm telling you it's that guy!

CLOSE ON LOUIE as he quietly starts picking their clothes up off the floor and putting them back into the suitcases.

LOUIE (CONT'D)
I should have told you about him before, but I thought he had gotten over it.

TRISH
Why would he follow us clear to Vegas?

LOUIE
He did say he was going to keep tabs on me, and make sure that I paid him.

TRISH
Louie! When someone says something like that to you they usually mean it. What's this guy's name Louie?

LOUIE
Gus.

TRISH
Gus what?

LOUIE
Bambino.

TRISH
Bambino... Italian. So you stiffed some Italian guy Louie. And where did you meet this guy Gus, Louie?

LOUIE

At Capone's.

TRISH

At Capone's... And what else did this guy Gus say to you when you told him to get his stuff out of the store?

LOUIE

Well, one day, Al the butcher came in and said the TV's were hot. I told him you bet they are, they're selling like hotcakes. And he said no Louie, they're stolen. Well after I found out they were stolen I told Gus to get them out of the store. He said his don wasn't going to be happy about it. So I told him his friend Don was just going to have to get over it.

TRISH

Louie, are you out of your mind? You stiffed the mob... How much do they want?

LOUIE

A hundred grand.

TRISH

What? You stiffed the mob for a hundred grand!

TRISH begins to have a panic attack and starts to hyperventilate... LOUIE rushes to her and helps her sit on the edge of the bed.

TRISH (CONT'D)

Louie, we have to get out of this hotel.

LOUIE

OK, I'll call around and get us into another hotel. Don't worry babe, we're going to have the best wedding and celebration ever. You'll see.

TIGHT ON LOUIE as he walks over to the table and sees a note lying on it. He picks up the NOTE...

ZOOM IN on the NOTE that reads: "Pay up Louie or you'll be a dead man, Gus."

FADE TO BLACK.

13 INT. HARRAH'S / HOTEL ROOM - DAY

LOUIE and TRISH check into a suite at Harrah's.

LOUIE
We should be safe here. We're at
the other end of the strip.

TRISH
I feel violated having someone
break into our room. I would have
never been able to fall asleep.

LOUIE
Whatcha say we go down to the
casino and play a little roulette
babe?

TRISH
Anything to get my mind off someone
going through my lingerie.

CUT TO:

14 INT. HARRAH'S HOTEL / ROULETTE TABLES - DAY

LOUIE and TRISH are at the ROULETTE TABLES... LOUIE stands
and looks at the action at one of the tables.

TRISH
The table looks pretty crowded
Louie.

LOUIE
No, there's plenty of room.

CLOSE ON LOUIE as he pushes his way into the table and throws
two one hundred dollar bills on it.

The CROUPIER, a young attractive Asian woman with her breasts
fit snugly in her blouse gives LOUIE his chips... LOUIE looks
away so he doesn't appear to be noticing her breasts.

TRISH stands behind LOUIE as he plops down chips on the
board, reaching over the other players at the table, and
bumping into the two guys next to him...

LOUIE keeps winning and adding to his pile of chips... then,

LOUIE knocks over the guy's pile of chips to his left, an older man with white hair who is dressed stylishly all in white. He looks like a human snowman.

SNOWMAN

For crying out loud! Would you watch it.

LOUIE

Sorry about that buddy.

LOUIE continues to plop down more chips on the board... The CROUPIER spins the ball, waits a few seconds, and then waves her hand over the table.

CROUPIER

(sticks out her breasts)
No more bets.

LOUIE'S EYES fall on the CROUPIER'S BREASTS. He looks at her breasts and then looks away...

TRISH sees LOUIE look at the croupier's breasts.

TRISH

You damn well better not be looking at them. That damn little whore.

LOUIE

No, no babe. Yours are much nicer.

TRISH smiles... LOUIE studies the numbers on the SPIN BOARD.

LOUIE (CONT'D)

It's going to hit black. I can feel it Trish.

LOUIE starts plopping down chips on BLACK NUMBERS and puts an eight inch high stack on TWENTY BLACK... then,

He knocks over SNOWMAN'S pile of chips again.

SNOWMAN

Will you watch it bud, for Pete's sake. I came to Vegas for a vacation, not to work my ass off picking up chips.

LOUIE pays no attention to SNOWMAN who is pissed off...

The CROUPIER spins the ball, stands up straight, and sticks out her breasts again.

The BALL circles the wheel, and circles, and circles, and falls into TWENTY BLACK.

LOUIE jumps up and down, high fives, and hip bumps TRISH... and,

He knocks over SNOWMAN'S CHIPS for a third time. TIGHT ON SNOWMAN...

SNOWMAN (CONT'D)

Son of a bitch! Cash me out. Let move to a God damn table I can play at!

The CROUPIER looks at Snowman, perks up her breasts once more, and smiles.

CUT TO:

15

INT. HARRAH'S HOTEL / CASHIER CAGE - DAY

LOUIE and TRISH cash out at the cashier cage...

TRISH

So how much did you win Louie?

LOUIE

Four grand.

TRISH

Woo Hoo! You're taking us out to a fancy restaurant tonight.

LOUIE

Anything for you babe.

After cashing out LOUIE stands looking at the casino floor deciding what to do next.

LOUIE (CONT'D)

Whatcha say we take a canoe ride at the venetian next door?

TRISH

Canoe ride?

LOUIE

Yeah, you know, those boats that newlyweds ride around in on their honeymoon in Italy, and some guy paddles them around and sings.

TRISH
You mean a Gondola ride Louie.

LOUIE
Canoe, Gondola, same thing.

CUT TO:

16 EXT. VENETIAN HOTEL - DAY

LOUIE and TRISH enjoy a romantic Gondola ride at the Venetian Hotel...

When GUS sneaks up on them in a high jacked Gondola... paddling as fast as he can and crashes into them.

The singing GONDOLIER falls head first into the water.

GUS
Pay up Louie or you'll be floating like a dead carp. The don wants his hundred grand tonight. Bring it to the Paris at 11:00 and wait by the valet. If you don't show up it's curtains for you Louie.

GUS races away.

TIGHT ON TRISH... She is horrified.

TRISH
Louie, these guys are serious.

The GONDOLIER grabs a rope that is tied to the boat and begins swimming, pulling the Gondola back to the start of the ride.

LOUIE
I can't pay them. I don't have the money Trish. All I have is forty grand in the bank, and I was planning on spending half of it for us to get married here in Vegas.

TRISH
Louie, you have to give them that money or they will kill you. I know what we'll do. We'll cancel the wedding and borrow the rest.

LOUIE

It's too late to cancel the wedding
Trish. Our friends will be here
tomorrow and Friday.

TRISH

We'll ask our friends for it.
They'll help us out.

LOUIE

That'll go over real well. "Dearly
beloved, we are gathered here today
to ask you for thousands of
dollars. No gifts please, cash
only."

TRISH

Louie! They will kill you.

LOUIE

I know Trish, but there's nothing I
can do. Gus got all of his stuff
back, and they still want a hundred
grand.

TRISH

You need to go to the cops Louie.

LOUIE

I dun no. If I do that I will be
dead for sure.

The GONDOLIER reaches the start of the ride, stands up, and
begins to sing Ave Maria.

TRISH

(yelling over the
Gondolier)

We're going back to the room Louie
and calling the police.

LOUIE

(yelling)
OK, OK.

FADE OUT.

17

INT. HARRAH'S / HOTEL ROOM - DAY

TIGHT ON LOUIE as he calls 911.

911 OPERATOR

What's your emergency?

LOUIE

A guy is going to kill me if I don't pay him a hundred grand.

911 OPERATOR

Sir, is the man trying to kill you now.

LOUIE

Well, no.

911 OPERATOR

I'm sorry sir, there's nothing we can do to help you. If he tries to harm you call us back and we will be able to assist you then.

LOUIE

What do you mean there is nothing you can do to help me. He wants a hundred grand by 11:00 tonight and says I'll be floating like a dead carp if I don't pay him.

911 OPERATOR

I'm sorry sir, but there is nothing the police can do.

LOUIE

You're kidding me, right?

911 OPERATOR

Sir, where are you calling from?

LOUIE

Harrah's Hotel.

911 OPERATOR

Sir, you can ask Harrah's security to protect you until you are able to leave town.

LOUIE

I'd be better off hiring a body guard.

911 OPERATOR

You could do that also sir. If the man tries to harm you call us back then. Have a good day sir.

LOUIE ends the call, grabs his hair, and starts pulling himself by his hair across the room.

LOUIE
 What do I do now Trish? The police
 won't help.

TRISH
 (disgusted)
 Yeah, I heard.

TIGHT ON LOUIE as he paces around the room.

LOUIE
 I know, let's go downtown where Gus
 can't find us. We'll change the
 location of the wedding, and as
 soon as it is over we'll head back
 to Chicago.

TRISH
 Louie, they would have killed you
 in Chicago if they thought they
 could have gotten away with it. The
 only reason you're still alive is
 they figured the police would have
 found out about you selling stolen
 TV's from the store and traced it
 back to them.

LOUIE
 Jeez, you make it sound like I'm a
 criminal.

TRISH
 I didn't mean it that way Louie. I
 think we should stay where we are.
 We're amongst a lot of people. I
 don't think they'll do anything if
 they know they'll be seen.

LOUIE thinks about it a while and realizes Trish is right.

LOUIE
 You're so smart babe. I always tell
 everyone you're my better 1/3rd.

TRISH
 That's better half Louie.

LOUIE
 Lugi is my better 1/3rd also. He
 keeps an eye on me at the store.

TRISH
 Oh really, so Lugi is your better
 1/3rd also.
 (MORE)

TRISH (CONT'D)

And he didn't think there was a damn thing wrong with you selling stolen TV's out of the store?

LOUIE

He was on vacation at the time, and I didn't run it by him.

TRISH

Well from now on you better start running everything by me since I'm going to be your wife.

LOUIE

I will, I will.

CLOSE ON LOUIE as he realizes he has hurt TRISH'S feelings...

LOUIE walks over to TRISH and gives her a big hug.

LOUIE (CONT'D)

I'm sorry Trish. I should have never gotten you into this mess. I figured that Gus had let it drop so I never told you.

TRISH

Look Louie, you can count on me. We'll get through this. We'll get the one hundred grand and pay the mob so they'll leave you alone. Maybe you can win it at roulette. You seem to be real good at it.

LOUIE

Roulette is a lot of luck babe. If the croupier sees you betting heavy in one area of the board they spin the ball faster so it doesn't land there.

TRISH

But you know the game Louie. I've never seen anyone walk up to the table and win four grand like you did.

LOUIE

If I can find a good table maybe I have a chance.

There is a rhythmic KNOCK on the door... LOUIE rushes over and peeks through the peep hole to see who it is.

TIGHT ON LUGI making funny faces on the other side of the door.

 LOUIE (CONT'D)
It's Lugi.

 TRISH
Your better third.

 LOUIE
You're my better 2/3rds now.

TRISH smiles... LOUIE opens the door.

 LOUIE (CONT'D)
 (faking excitement)
Lugi!

 LUGI
 (excited)
Louie!

They fist bump.

 LUGI (CONT'D)
Trish. It's great to see you.

 TRISH
Hi Lugi.

 LOUIE
Come on in Lugi and have a seat. I
have something to tell you.

 LUGI
 (concerned)
Tell me what? What's going on? You
two aren't calling off the wedding
are you?

 LOUIE
No, it's not that. You know those
TV's that guy named Gus wanted me
to sell at the store while you were
in Italy.

 LUGI
Yeah, you said you told him to get
them out of the store because he
wanted too much money for them and
they would never sell.

 LOUIE
Well, not exactly.

LUGI

What do you mean not exactly?

LOUIE

Al the butcher came in and told me they were stolen so I told Gus to get them out of the store.

LUGI

What?

LOUIE

Yeah, and that's not the worse part. Gus is in the mob and his friend don wants a hundred grand by 11:00 tonight for his time and expense.

LUGI

You've got to be frickin kidding me Louie? You stiffed the mob!

LOUIE

Jeez, would you two stop saying that. I told him to get his stuff out of the store, and then he wanted a hundred grand and I didn't pay it.

LUGI

(walks around the room,
very animated)

You stiffed the mob Louie! Let me explain something to you. Don is not his friend. A don is the mob boss. When the mob wants a hundred grand and you don't pay it they do all sorts of horrible things to you, like cut off your fingers one by one, and then they kill you. You have to pay them the money Louie or you're going to be floating like a dead walrus.

LOUIE

Carp.

LUGI

What?

LOUIE

Carp. Gus said I'd be floating like a dead carp.

LUGI

That too.

LOUIE

What am I going to do Lugi? I don't have that kind of money.

TIGHT ON LUGI as he whistles and it slowly fades out.

LUGI

You know I don't have a hundred grand to loan you Louie or I would, but if you don't pay these guys they are going to kill you. You need to get out of Vegas or you're a dead duck.

LOUIE

(looks depressed)
I'll be a dead fish Lugi.

TIGHT ON LOUIE as he sits on the edge of the bed and puts his face in his hands...

TRISH sees how upset LOUIE is and sits down beside him, and puts her arm around him.

TRISH

It will be all right Louie, we'll figure this out.

LOUIE

Thanks babe, you're the best.

LUGI

Let's go get something to eat. My treat. We'll sort this mess out over some good linguine and bloody Marys.

LOUIE

I could use a drink, but I don't want anything bloody right now, and certainly not my clothes while I'm in them.

LUGI

Let's walk over to Caesars. My cousin Franco owns a restaurant there. They make the best linguine.

LOUIE

Is this the cousin you told me you owe a few bucks to.

LUGI
 Yeah, I'll tell him I'll have his
 money soon. He'll be happy to see
 me.

CUT TO:

18 EXT. SIDEWALK OUTSIDE HARRAH'S - DAY

LOUIE, TRISH, and LUGI walk from Harrah's to Caesars...

LOUIE
 When was the last time you were
 here Lugi? About six months ago
 wasn't it?

LUGI
 Yeah, back in February.

TRISH
 I thought he was your better third.
 And you don't know?

LUGI
 What?

LOUIE
 I told her you're my better 1/3rd
 because you're always watching out
 for me at the store, and she's my
 other better 1/3rd.

TRISH
 (looks at Lugi)
 Hmm hmm.

LUGI
 (shakes his head)
 You sure know how to get yourself
 in hot water Louie.

CUT TO:

19 INT. CAESAR'S PALACE / FRANCO'S - DAY

SERGIO, the manager, a large Italian man, sees LUGI and
 greets him warmly...

SERGIO
 (puts his hands on Lugi's
 shoulders)
 (MORE)

SERGIO (CONT'D)

Lugi, good to see you, how have you been? You look good.

LUGI

I've been good Sergio. These are my friends, Louie and Trish. They're getting married this weekend.

SERGIO turns to LOUIE and TRISH and greets them warmly...

SERGIO

Congratulations. I'll have the chef prepare something special for the reception.

TIGHT ON SERGIO as he turns back to Lugi...

SERGIO (CONT'D)

Lugi, Franco said to tell you the next time I saw you in here that you need to settle up. It's been too long.

TIGHT ON LUGI.

LUGI

Tell Franco I'm workin on it. I ran into a little bit of a dry spell but I'll have it soon.

SERGIO

Franco has lost his patience Lugi.

LUGI

What's he gonna do, shoot me? Tell him I'm workin on it.

SERGIO

You should tell Franco yourself Lugi.

SERGIO lightens up, gestures warmly, and leads them to a table...

SERGIO (CONT'D)

Come on in. We have a table all ready for you.

SERGIO seats them at a table.

They pick up the menus and start looking at them... TIGHT ON LOUIE.

LOUIE

It sounds like you owe Franco more than a few bucks?

LUGI

The last time I was here he covered my gambling debts.

LOUIE

How much do you owe him?

LUGI

Twenty grand.

TRISH

(shakes her head)

You two are a couple of fools. What am I getting myself into?

The WAITER comes to the table.

WAITER

Good evening, may I take your order.

TRISH

I'll have the fettuccine.

LUGI

(surprised)

You're not having the linguine? I thought we came here for the linguine.

TRISH

I'm not having anything you're having Lugi.

LUGI

I'll have the linguine. Wait until you see it. It's bravissimo.

LOUIE

I'll have the fettuccine also.

TRISH

(smiles at Louie, nods her head yes)

Hmm hmm.

LUGI

You two don't know what you're missing.

TRISH
 I'll take your word for it Lugi.
 Even if your word doesn't have much
 value.

LUGI gives TRISH a cold stare. The WAITER giggles, and
 leaves.

LUGI
 So how was the plane ride?

LOUIE
 A lot better than the canoe ride.

LUGI
 What?

TRISH
 Gondola ride.

LOUIE
 Yeah, Gus rammed into our gondola
 with another gondola when we were
 going for a ride.

LUGI
 You've got to be kidding me?

LOUIE
 You should have seen the gondolier
 go flying into the water like a
 shot goose. He went from F flat to
 A sharp in an instant.

The WAITER brings a basket of bread sticks and water to the
 table. Inside the basket is a NOTE that LUGI quickly removes
 and reads...

TIGHT ON THE NOTE... "Pay up Lugi. I want my money. I did you
 a favor and this is how you treat me? You come back to Vegas
 without my money?"

LOUIE (CONT'D)
 What's the note say?

LUGI
 Oh, it's from Franco. He says
 welcome back to Vegas. I hope you
 and your friends have a great time
 while you're here.

TRISH
 (rolls her eyes)
 Hmm hmm.

LUGI gives TRISH another cold stare.

The WAITER returns with two platters of food. He sets them on the table in front of LOUIE and TRISH, and removes the silver lid.

The WAITER leaves and LOUIE and TRISH look at their food.

LUGI
Go ahead and eat. The waiter will
bring mine in a minute.

Louie and Trish eat while LUGI sits and looks around. LUGI sees the WAITER at another table and motions him over...

LUGI (CONT'D)
(gesturing for the waiter
to come over)
Psst... Psst.

The WAITER comes to the table.

LUGI (CONT'D)
Where's my linguine?

WAITER
I'll go check on it sir. It's being
specially prepared by the head
chef.

TIGHT ON LUGI as he leans closer to LOUIE and TRISH.

LUGI
Did you hear that, the head chef is
making mine personally. That's
Franco for you.

The WAITER returns with a covered silver platter and sits it on the table in front of LUGI, then hastily leaves...

TIGHT ON LUGI as he lifts the lid expecting to find a beautiful dish of linguine and instead is surprised when he sees the cut off head of a baby pig.

TRISH screams... LOUIE pushes away from the table.

LOUIE
I thought you said Franco was your
cousin!

LUGI
Second cousin.

LOUIE

He sure doesn't seem to care that you share the same blood.

LUGI

Well, we don't really. He was adopted.

LOUIE

So you're really not related to him at all?

LUGI

Not really.

LOUIE

And you owe him twenty grand?

LUGI

Closer to twenty-five.

TRISH

I would hate to be you.

LUGI gives TRISH another cold hard stare...

SERGIO returns to the table with a smile on his face.

SERGIO

Lugi, I see you're enjoying the dinner Franco had specially prepared for you.

LUGI

Yeah Sergio, it's a real treat. Tell Franco I'll have his money for him soon. Remind him that he and I are cousins would you?

SERGIO

Lugi, Franco no longer cares that he and you are cousins. He did you a favor the last time you were here, and you disrespected him. That doesn't look good to the don.

LUGI

Tell him I'll make it up to him.

SERGIO

And how are you going to do that Lugi? By throwing him a party? Franco wants his money in twenty-four hours.

(MORE)

SERGIO (CONT'D)

He gave you that money out of the till, not out of his pocket. He needs to save face with the don. You understand.

SERGIO leaves the table... CLOSE ON LUGI who has a dour look on his face.

LOUIE

Lugi, you stiffed the mob?

TRISH

You stiffed the mob?

CUT TO:

20

EXT. SIDEWALK / OUTSIDE CAESARS - NIGHT

CLOSE ON LOUIE who is panicked.

LOUIE

What do we do?

LUGI

How do I know. What do I look like, a soothsayer?

Lugi paces around in circles on the sidewalk.

LUGI (CONT'D)

OK, everybody remain calm. There has to be a way to get the money.

TRISH

You guys should gamble for it.

LUGI

Are you nuts? I dropped fifteen grand in an hour and a half the last time I was here.

TRISH

Louie won four grand in less than an hour at roulette.

LUGI grabs a hold of LOUIE...

LUGI

Are you frickin kidding me? You won four grand at roulette? The worse game in the house.

LOUIE
Yeah, but that was a lot of luck.

LUGI
Luck, schmuck. If you can win four grand at roulette maybe we have a chance.

LOUIE
I dun no.

LUGI
What other option is there? You're going to be floating like a dead walrus if you don't pay up.

LOUIE
Carp.

LUGI
That too. And I'm going to look like that pig with its head cut off.

LOUIE
They wouldn't do that to you.

LUGI
Oh, you want to bet? You have no idea what the mob does to guys like us, and you don't want to know.

TRISH
Louie, listen to me. You should play roulette for it.

LUGI
Listen to your better 1/3rd.

LOUIE
Half. She's my better half. If I had only met Trish a few months earlier I wouldn't be in this mess right now.

LOUIE looks at his watch.

LOUIE (CONT'D)
It's already 8:00 O' Clock and I'm supposed to meet Gus at Paris at 11:00 with the money. There's no way we can win that kind of money in three hours.

LUGI

Here's what you do. You go to Paris and meet Gus and tell him you'll have the money for him in two days. Say you're having it sent from a relative overseas, but it takes forty-eight hours to be cleared in your account.

LOUIE

I don't know if he'll go for that.

TRISH

Louie, it's your only option. If you don't show up they'll kill you.

LOUIE

All right, all right. What are you going to do Lugi?

LUGI

I'm going to go back to the Cosmo and get some shut eye. We have a big day ahead of us tomorrow.

TRISH

You owe the mob twenty-five grand and you can sleep? Hmm hmm. Just remember what happens in Vegas doesn't always stay in Vegas.

LUGI gives TRISH a cold hard stare, puts his hands to ears and wiggles his fingers and sticks out his tongue.

LOUIE

You don't want to come with me to meet Gus?

LUGI

You can handle it. They're not going to kill you out in the open. If the don wants you dead they're going to kill you in a private room where people can't hear you scream, and torture you first. Then they'll shoot you. You and Trish go back to Harrah's, and at 11:00 you meet Gus and tell him what I told you to say.

CUT TO:

21

INT. HARRAH'S / HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

LOUIE and TRISH are watching TV... LOUIE looks at his WATCH and stands up.

LOUIE
It's 10:30. I'm going to go meet
Gus.

TRISH gets up and hugs LOUIE.

TRISH
Be careful Louie. I love you.

LOUIE
I love you too babe.

LOUIE leaves... TRISH sits down and watches TV.

Shortly after, there is a KNOCK on the hotel room door.

KIDNAPPER
Room service.

TIGHT ON TRISH as she walks to the door.

TRISH
I didn't order room service.

KIDNAPPER
Someone in the room did. It says
room ten 045 (10045). You need to
pay for this ma'am.

TRISH
(getting angry)
I said, I didn't order room
service.

TRISH opens the door and the KIDNAPPER, dressed all in black, points a gun at her head and forces her back into the room and shuts the door.

KIDNAPPER
Now here's what we're going to do
pretty lady. You and I are going on
a date. We're walking out of here
arm in arm, and if we're not out of
the casino and in my car by 11:00
you will never see Louie again.

CUT TO:

22

EXT. HARRAH'S HOTEL / PARKING GARAGE - NIGHT

The KIDNAPPER forces TRISH to get into his black luxury automobile...

KIDNAPPER

Right on time pretty lady. You're going to be my guest until Louie pays what he owes us.

TRISH

And if he doesn't?

KIDNAPPER

You don't want to know.

The KIDNAPPER takes out his cell phone and calls GUS.

SHOT OF GUS ANSWERING HIS CELL PHONE... THEN BACK TO THE KIDNAPPER AND TRISH.

KIDNAPPER (CONT'D)

I have her.

CUT TO:

23

EXT. PARIS HOTEL / VALET ENTRANCE - NIGHT

GUS puts his phone in his coat pocket, gets out of the black limo, and walks to where LOUIE is waiting by the valet entrance.

GUS

Louie, you did show. Me and the don have a little bet going. He didn't think you'd show. I bet you would, but wouldn't have the money. I don't see no briefcase so it looks like I won the bet.

LOUIE

I'll have your one hundred grand in forty-eight hours Gus. It's been transferred to my bank account, but it takes two days for the transfer to clear.

GUS

(looks irritated)

Really? Two days. You couldn't have it wired?

LOUIE

This was the only way I could get it. I'll have it for you in two days. I promise.

GUS

Really, you promise. And if you break your promise we break both of your legs before we kill you.

LOUIE

You really know how to make a guy feel welcome Gus.

GUS

It's nice to see you being so cooperative Louie, but the don decided to take out insurance anyway.

LOUIE

What do you mean?

GUS

We've got Trish, Louie. She's fine, for now. Go back to Harrah's and see for yourself.

CAMERA TRACKS as LOUIE runs back to Harrah's...

CLOSE ON GUS as he smirks.

CUT TO:

24

EXT. / INT. HARRAH'S / HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

LOUIE runs down the hallway, fumbles for the room key, finds it, opens the door, and rushes inside...

LOUIE

Trish!

LOUIE sees that Trish is gone.

LOUIE (CONT'D)

Damn it!

LOUIE takes out his cell phone and calls Lugi.

LOUIE (CONT'D)

Lugi, it's Louie.

SHOT OF LUGI ANSWERING HIS PHONE... HE HAS A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN SITTING ON HIS LAP IN HIS HOTEL ROOM.

LUGI
How did it go with Gus?

TIGHT ON LOUIE.

LOUIE
They've got Trish.

TIGHT ON LUGI... HE PUSHES THE ESCORT OFF HIS LAP AND STANDS UP.

LUGI
(can't believe it)
What?

TIGHT ON LOUIE.

LOUIE
They kidnapped Trish while I was meeting Gus.

TIGHT ON LUGI.

LUGI
You've got to be frickin kidding me! What did Gus say?

TIGHT ON LOUIE.

LOUIE
Gus said she'll be fine as long as I give them the money.

CLOSE ON THE ESCORT... THE ESCORT LOOKS AT HER WATCH AND HOLDS HER HAND OUT FOR MONEY... LUGI TAKES OUT HIS WALLET AND GIVES HER TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS... SHE GETS UPSET AND LEAVES.

TIGHT ON LUGI.

LUGI
They'd rather have the money than a body they have to get rid of... No we shouldn't go to the cops. Do you want to start a war with the mob? If you do that we'll all be dead...
(MORE)

LUGI (CONT'D)

I know, I know. Just try to relax
Louie. Get some sleep. I'll meet
you at your room at 8:00.

TIGHT ON LOUIE.

LOUIE

OK Lugi, 8:00 AM.

FADE OUT.

25

EXT. LOUIE'S HOTEL ROOM - MORNING

LUGI knocks on the door... LOUIE opens it dressed and ready
to go.

The CAMERA TRACKS as LOUIE and LUGI walk down the hall to the
elevator.

LOUIE

I should never have gotten Trish
involved in this. If anything
happens to her I'll never forgive
myself.

LUGI

Everything is going to be fine
Louie. We'll give them the money,
and they'll let Trish go.

LOUIE

I hope you're right.

CUT TO:

26

INT. HARRAH'S/ ROULETTE TABLES - MORNING

LOUIE studies the numbers on the SPIN BOARDS.

LOUIE

(exasperated)
The numbers aren't repeating.

LUGI

What?

LOUIE

The numbers aren't repeating.

LUGI

I heard you. What does that mean?

LOUIE
If it's a good table at least two
of the numbers should have
repeated.

LUGI
Let's go get some coffee and come
back, and see if the numbers look
better.

The CAMERA TRACKS as LOUIE and LUGI walk to Starbucks inside
the casino.

CUT TO:

27 INT. HARRAH'S / STARBUCKS - MORNING

LOUIE walks up to the counter.

CASHIER
May I take your order?

LOUIE
I'll take a six shot espresso.

LUGI
Whoa, go easy on the caffeine. I
don't wanna have to call 9-1-1 for
you.

LOUIE
I need to be fully awake.

LUGI
That's enough caffeine to wake an
elephant.

CASHIER
That will be \$24.50

LUGI
Holy moly, that's the most
expensive cup of coffee in the
world.

CASHIER
And what would you like sir?

LUGI
I'll have a tall, whatever your
breakfast roast is.

LOUIE and LUGI get their coffee and sit at a table.

TIGHT ON LOUIE... He carefully takes the lid off his coffee and sticks his pinky finger in it, then

LOUIE begins to blow on the coffee to cool it, holding it with both hands.

LUGI (CONT'D)
 (bewildered)
 What the hell are you doing? Just
 drink the damn thing!

TIGHT ON LOUIE as he continues to blow on his coffee, and sticks his little finger in it.

LUGI watches LOUIE, making a funny face as he does so, and begins to sip his coffee.

TIGHT ON LOUIE as he puts the coffee to his mouth... and then, drinks the entire cup at once.

LUGI (CONT'D)
 (about falls out of his
 chair)
 Are you frickin crazy?

LOUIE
 (puts the empty cup on the
 table and stands up)
 Nope. Let's go play roulette.

CUT TO:

28

INT. HARRAH'S / ROULETTE TABLES - MORNING

LOUIE studies the numbers on the SPIN BOARDS again... The numbers are repeating.

LOUIE
 I like this table.

TIGHT ON LOUIE as he takes two thousand dollars from his wallet.

LUGI
 Are you sure you want to start with
 that much?

LOUIE
 Yep, it's go big or go home.

LUGI

Just remember, if we go bust you're
going home in a box, that is if
they find your body.

LOUIE walks up to the table and gets twenty one hundred
dollar chips...

LOUIE

(to the croupier)
All hundred dollar chips please.

CROUPIER

(gives louie the chips)
Good luck.

LOUIE looks at the SPIN BOARD.

LUGI

What do you see?

LOUIE

It's been hitting the first row and
the last, and it's been landing on
red. Three and thirty-four have
repeated.

LUGI

What the hell does all that mean?

LOUIE

It's going to hit zero or double
zero soon.

The CROUPIER spins the ball.

LUGI

Well do something.

LOUIE takes all of his chips and places them on the 17:1 line
between zero and double zero.

LUGI (CONT'D)

(grabs the top of his head
and grimaces)
Holy shit! I didn't say bet
everything.

CROUPIER

(waves his hand over the
board)
No more bets.

The BALL spins around the wheel three more times and drops into the DOUBLE ZERO slot.

CROUPIER (CONT'D)
Double zero.

LUGI
Yes! Woohoo!

LOUIE
That one's for Trish!

LOUIE AND LUGI begin high fiving... The PIT BOSS comes over and looks at the bet.

PIT BOSS
Pay him \$34,000

The CROUPIER pays LOUIE \$34,000

PIT BOSS (CONT'D)
Now get out of the casino. I don't know how you did it, but I know you cheated.

LUGI
Hey, wait just a minute there bud.

PIT BOSS
Maybe you need a little help leaving the casino.

The PIT BOSS motions for two security guards to come to the table.

The SECURITY GUARDS start walking towards the table...

LUGI
Let's cash out Louie and go elsewhere. They won't let anyone win honestly here.

LOUIE
(to the pit boss)
Yeah, I beat you fair and square.

The CAMERA TRACKS as LOUIE and LUGI walk to the cashier cage to cash out.

CUT TO:

29

EXT. HARRAH'S / SIDEWALK - DAY

CLOSE ON LOUIE and LUGI as they stand on the sidewalk out side HARRAH'S.

LUGI

How much money do you have now
Louie?

LOUIE

I have thirty-eight thousand on me
and forty in the bank.

LUGI

We're not that far away. You need a
hundred grand and I need twenty-
five.

LOUIE

Yeah, but I still have to pay for
the wedding and the hotel.

LUGI

We'll make that too. Let's walk to
the Mirage and see how the tables
look there.

They walk across the street to the MIRAGE...

CUT TO:

30

INT. THE MIRAGE / ROULETTE TABLES - DAY

LOUIE and LUGI walk up to the roulette tables and look at the
SPIN BOARDS.

The PIT BOSS walks over...

PIT BOSS

You can't play here guys.

LUGI

What? Us?

PIT BOSS

We got a call about you. I can't
let you play roulette here.

LUGI

You're kidding right?

PIT BOSS

Nope. They said there were a couple of great whites walking around.

LUGI

Do I look like a shark? Does he look like a shark?

PIT BOSS

Go look for chum somewhere else. I can't let you play here.

The CAMERA FOLLOWS LOUIE and LUGI as they walk away from the tables.

CUT TO:

31 EXT. THE MIRAGE / FRONT ENTRANCE - DAY

TIGHT ON LUGI as he leans over the railing.

LUGI

Son of a bitch.

LOUIE

(panicked)

What are we going to do? They'll kill Trish if I don't pay them the money.

LUGI

We'll get the money. Everything will be OK. We just have to figure out where we can play.

CUT TO:

32 INT. WHERE TRISH IS BEING KEPT - DAY

TIGHT ON TRISH... She is tied to a chair.

The KIDNAPPER comes into the room.

TRISH

You've got this rope too tight.

The KIDNAPPER walks over and loosens the rope. Then stands in front of TRISH.

KIDNAPPER

Is that better toots?

TIGHT ON TRISH... She's mad.

Then TRISH kicks the kidnapper hard in the shins.

KIDNAPPER (CONT'D)
 (grabbing his leg)
 Ouch! You...

The KIDNAPPER raise his hand to hit TRISH.

TRISH
 Go ahead, hit me, and I bet your
 boss opens up a can of whoop ass on
 you. I bet he even has cameras in
 this room.

The KIDNAPPER lowers his hand and walks away.

TRISH (CONT'D)
 Uh huh, I'm right aren't I. You no
 good limp dick pecker head.

The KIDNAPPER walks back to TRISH and stands in front of her,
 but out of kicking range.

KIDNAPPER
 If that future husband of yours
 doesn't pay up I'll be the one who
 gets to shoot you. And I'll be sure
 to use plenty of bullets.

FADE TO:

33

EXT. THE MIRAGE - DAY

LOUIE and LUGI are still standing outside of the Mirage...

LOUIE
 Where are we going to play?

LUGI puts his hand on his forehead... then gestures.

LUGI
 Let's go to New York, New York. And
 see if we can play there.

They try to get a cab, but no cab will stop for them and they
 begin walking...

LUGI (CONT'D)
 It sure is humid.

LOUIE

Yeah, it looks like it's going to rain.

LOUIE and LUGI walk about a hundred feet when a black four door LIMO pulls up beside them...

Two large men dressed in black get out and grab LUGI, and start pulling him into the LIMO...

LOUIE grabs a hold of LUGI and pulls on him the other way...

LUGI breaks free and he and LOUIE start running down the street...

LOUIE and LUGI run to the next corner, where a white van painted "Louie's Noodle" on the side is waiting at the light...

LOUIE and LUGI jump into the van and the DRIVER, a Chinese man, begins yelling at them...

The DRIVER tries to force LOUIE and LUGI out of the van, but sees the two men running towards the van through the back window and takes off...

The DRIVER does a U TURN on the strip and heads north towards Spring Mountain Avenue...

LUGI

Drive faster.

CHINESE DRIVER

You Caucasian pain in the ass.

The LIMO speeds up and is right behind them...

The front passenger in the LIMO shoots out a back window of the van...

CHINESE DRIVER (CONT'D)

You mother fucker!

The VAN turns recklessly left onto Spring Mountain Road...

CHINESE FOOD goes flying on the floor...

TIGHT ON LOUIE AND LUGI lying on the floor of the van with boxes of CHINESE FOOD around them...

The other BACK WINDOW gets shot out and three bullets hit the back doors of the van...

LOUIE
 (hysterical)
 We're gonna die! We're gonna die!
 I'm not going to live to be in my
 wedding.

LUGI
 (opens a box of egg rolls
 and starts eating)
 Would you calm down. Chinese
 drivers are the worst drivers in
 the world, and in this case that's
 a good thing. Here, have an egg
 roll.

The LOUIE'S NOODLE VAN races through the streets of China
 Town and eludes the LIMO in an alley...

IMPROVISED BY THE ACTORS -- The DRIVER begins yelling at
 LOUIE and LUGI and kicks them out of the van.

CUT TO:

34 EXT. CHINA TOWN / ALLEY - DAY

The CAMERA TRACKS as LOUIE and LUGI walk in the alley back
 towards the strip.

LOUIE
 I thought you had twenty-four
 hours?

LUGI
 So did I.

LUGI looks at his watch.

LUGI (CONT'D)
 I still have seven hours left and
 Franco tries to have me killed.

LOUIE
 What are we going to do?

LUGI
 How the hell do I know what we're
 going to do? I almost ended up
 looking like a dead fucking possum.
 Have you ever seen a dead possum?

TIGHT ON LUGI as he sticks his upper teeth out and tilts his
 head back.

LUGI (CONT'D)
That's what I almost ended up
looking like.

The CAMERA TRACKS as they continue walking back to Spring
Mountain Road.

LUGI (CONT'D)
Just fucking great. We have the mob
after us. Trish has been kidnapped,
and we're walking down a fucking
alley in the middle of China Town
in Vegas. What else could go wrong.

It begins to RAIN...

LOUIE
Now we're getting pissed on in the
desert.

LOUIE'S PHONE RINGS... It's Gus.

LOUIE (CONT'D)
How's Trish?

SHOT OF GUS TALKING ON HIS PHONE.

GUS
She's fine, for now. You have until
Saturday at midnight. That gives
you two days for the money to
clear. Bring it to the Paris. Room
2023. No funny business.

SHOT OF GUS HANGING UP.

CLOSE ON LOUIE and LUGI walking in the alley...

LOUIE
I have until Saturday at midnight
to get Gus the money.

LUGI
Let's get out of these wet fucking
clothes and figure out where we can
play roulette.

LOUIE
What are you going to do about
Franco?

LUGI

We're going to get his money and walk right into his restaurant at Caesars and give it to him personally.

MONTAGE OF SHOTS: LOUIE AND LUGI TRY TO CATCH A CAB ON SPRING MOUNTAIN ROAD, BUT NONE OF THE CAB DRIVERS WILL STOP... THEY CALL UBER, BUT THE UBER DRIVER WON'T TAKE THEM... THEY GET ON A BUS AND THE BUS DRIVER LOOKS QUESTIONINGLY AT THEM, BUT LETS THEM ON...

CUT TO:

35 EXT. / INT. THE MONTE CARLO - DAY

LOUIE and LUGI go into the MONTE CARLO and walk up to the roulette tables...

The PIT BOSS walks over...

PIT BOSS

So you two are the roulette sharks. You're not playing roulette or any table games here.

LUGI

Who? Us? You must have us confused with someone else.

PIT BOSS

No, you're the guys. I was told one looks like giraffe and the other looks like a small hippo.

LUGI

Do I look like a hippo? Maybe a pig, but not a hippo.

PIT BOSS

Sorry guys, take a hike.

CUT TO:

36 EXT. THE MONTE CARLO - DAY

CLOSE ON LOUIE and LUGI as they stand outside the Monte Carlo.

LOUIE

Oh my God! None of the casinos will let us play. They'll kill Trish if I don't give them the money Saturday night.

LUGI

Calm down, will you. I have an idea.

LOUIE

Your ideas are starting to scare me.

LUGI

When have I had a bad idea?

LOUIE

You wanting linguine almost cost me my life. We wouldn't have been shot at and almost killed if you didn't want linguine.

LUGI

What?

LOUIE

If you didn't want linguine Franco would have never known you were in Vegas.

LUGI

Enough all ready. Listen to me.

DISSOLVE TO:

37

INT. COSTUME STORE - DAY

LOUIE and LUGI go to a costume store to buy a disguise for LOUIE...

LOUIE

Maybe I should dress as little red riding hood.

LUGI

They'll still know it's you.

LUGI walks around the store taking costumes off the shelves and throwing them on the floor...

TIGHT ON LUGI as he finds a 1970's Men's Disco Wig...

LUGI (CONT'D)
Here. Try this on.

LOUIE puts on the wig.

LUGI (CONT'D)
You look like an oversized Barry
Gibb.

LOUIE starts singing "Staying Alive" and dancing...

LOUIE
Well, you can tell by the way I use
my walk, I'm a woman's man, no time
to talk. Music loud and women warm,
I've been kicked around since I was
born.

LUGI
Perfect. They'll never know it's
you. Now all we need to do is find
clothes that fit a giraffe.

CUT TO:

38 EXT. / INT. NEW YORK NEW YORK - DAY

PUSHING IN on LOUIE and LUGI standing outside of New York New
York near the dining tables...

The CAMERA PANS UP ON LOUIE who is dressed in a 1970's Disco
Costume...

LUGI
They will never suspect it's you.
You go into New York New York and
I'll wait out here. Just start off
with small bets so they don't think
you're a shark, and then act like
it's beginners luck when you win.
Stop when you've won twenty-five or
thirty grand and we'll go
elsewhere. If you win too big
they'll suspect you're a shark and
won't cash you out.

The CAMERA TRACKS as LOUIE walks into the New York New
York...

"STAYING ALIVE" by the Bee Gees is playing.

CUT TO:

39

INT. NEW YORK NEW YORK / ROULETTE TABLES - DAY

LOUIE looks at the SPIN BOARDS and walks up to a table...

LOUIE puts two \$100 bills down on the table.

CROUPIER
(a female)
What would you like?

LOUIE
Give me a hundred in singles and
the other hundred in five dollar
chips.

The PIT BOSS walks by the table but doesn't suspect a
thing...

One of the players checks Louie out...

ROULETTE PLAYER
You sure have it going on man. I
like the threads.

LOUIE
(fist bumping the guy)
Thanks dude. Waz up.

IMPROVISED ACTING BY THE ACTORS THAT INCLUDES: LOUIE WINS
STEADILY ADDING TO HIS PILE OF CHIPS... TIGHT ON LOUIE AS HE
SAYS "BEGINNERS LUCK I TELL YOU"... THE NUMBER BOARD TURNS
RED AND THE LAST TWO NUMBERS ARE TWENTY-FIVE AND TWENTY-
SEVEN.

LOUIE takes out a thousand dollars and puts it on the
table...

CROUPIER
What would you like?

LOUIE
Give me ten one hundred dollar
chips. Puh-leeze.
(gestures like a hip dude)

The PLAYERS at the table look at LOUIE.

ROULETTE PLAYER
Go big or pack your suitcase and go
home.

CROUPIER
(pushes chips to louie)
A thousand out.

TIGHT ON LOUIE as he puts \$500 on the number thirty and \$500 on the number thirty-two...

The CROUPIER spins the ball and waves her HAND over the table.

CROUPIER (CONT'D)
No more bets.

TIGHT ON THE BALL landing on 32 RED...

CROUPIER (CONT'D)
Thirty-two red.

The PLAYERS at the table start congratulating LOUIE...

LOUIE
Beginners luck I tell you!
Beginners luck.

The PIT BOSS comes over and looks at the bet and then at Louie.

PIT BOSS
Congratulations. Pay him.

The CROUPIER begins to pay LOUIE seventeen thousand five hundred dollars in CHIPS...

LOUIE looks at his winnings and decides he had better cash out.

LOUIE
Cash me out.

LOUIE starts to push all of his chips to the CROUPIER...

The PIT BOSS sees it and walks back over.

PIT BOSS
What's your hurry?

LOUIE
I've got to meet up with the wife.
She'll be pissed if I'm late, but
she'll be happy if I've kept what I
won and I'll get a little action
tonight.

Everyone at the table laughs except the PIT BOSS who gets mad.

PIT BOSS
Cash him out.

LOUIE takes his chips and walks quickly to the CASHIERS CAGE.

CUT TO:

40

EXT. NEW YORK NEW YORK - DAY

LUGI is sitting at a table drinking coffee...

LOUIE runs ecstatically to LUGI.

LOUIE
It worked! It worked!

LUGI
See, I told you it would. How much did you win?

LOUIE
Twenty-five thousand.

LUGI
Now we have a hundred grand. You have enough money to give Gus to get Trish back. All we need to do is win another twenty-five thousand so I can pay Franco, so I don't end up like a dead possum lying in the desert getting gnawed on by coyotes.

LOUIE
Where should we go now?

LUGI
You walk across the street to the MGM and I'll sit here.

CUT TO:

41

INT. MGM GRAND / ROULETTE TABLES - DAY

SILENT MONTAGE OF SHOTS: LOUIE KEEPS WINNING... THE SPIN BOARD TURNS MOSTLY BLACK... LOUIE BETS \$500 ON SEVENTEEN AND \$500 ON TWENTY... THE CROUPIER SPINS THE BALL AND IT LANDS ON SEVENTEEN.

Return to SOUND mode...

Everyone at the table cheers...

LOUIE
Beginners luck I tell you!
Beginners luck!

The PIT BOSS comes over and looks at THE BET and then looks questioningly at LOUIE...

TIGHT ON THE PIT BOSS as he quickly grabs LOUIE'S WIG and yanks it off.

LOUIE (CONT'D)
Hey, give that back!

PIT BOSS
You're the guy everyone's talking about.

The PIT BOSS throws Louie's WIG at him.

PIT BOSS (CONT'D)
Now get out of here. Don't pay him his winnings.

LOUIE
I won it honestly. It's mine.

Two SECURITY GUARDS walk up to the table.

PIT BOSS
We're only paying you what you started with, and that's it.

LOUIE collects the five hundred dollars he started with and leaves.

CUT TO:

42

EXT. NEW YORK NEW YORK - DAY

LUGI is sitting at the same table outside of New York New York...

43 LOUIE walks up to LUGI looking depressed and carrying his wig...

TIGHT ON LUGI as he puts his elbow on the table and his forehead in his hand.

LUGI
Oh jeez.

LOUIE
They shut me down. The pit bull
didn't let me keep anything I won.

LUGI sits back in his chair and taps his FINGERS rhythmically on the table... then,

An ELVIS IMPERSONATOR on a three wheel scooter drives by on the sidewalk and waves...

LUGI waves back...

LUGI
Hey, I have an idea! Come with me.

LUGI and LOUIE chase after the ELVIS IMPERSONATOR...

IMPROVISED BY THE ACTORS WITH DIALOGUE --

Louie and Lugi buy the Elvis Impersonator's costume from him for \$1,500. Louie exchanges clothes with Elvis in the rest room of New York New York.

CUT TO:

44 EXT. NEW YORK NEW YORK - DAY

LUGI checks out LOUIE who stands like a statue of Elvis...

LUGI
Now that's what I'm talking about!
They can't tell it's you, and
they're not going shut down Elvis
while he's winning. Just be sure to
act like Elvis.

LOUIE
(acting like Elvis)
Thank you, thank you very much.
(dancing)
One for the money, two for the
show, three to get ready, and four
to go.

LUGI

I tell you man you're a real
frickin Elvis. Nobody will know
it's you.

LOUIE

So where are we gonna play?

LUGI

Let's go to Caesars. You go in and
win the twenty-five grand, and I'll
wait for you in front of the
Bellagio and watch the water show.

The CAMERA TRACKS as they start walking to Caesars.

CUT TO:

45

INT. WHERE TRISH IS BEING KEPT - DAY

GUS walks into the room where TRISH is tied to a chair...

GUS folds his arms, looks at TRISH, and is SILENT... then,

GUS

I talked to your future husband. He
asked about you. I told him you
were fine, for now.

TRISH

He gave you all your stuff back. He
doesn't owe you anything.

GUS

Really. He doesn't owe us a thing.

GUS walks up close to TRISH and stares at her...

GUS (CONT'D)

He owes us for our time and
expense. He wasted our time and
that was expensive. We figure it
cost us about a hundred grand.

TRISH

You charge more per hour than an
attorney, and you're a lot dirtier.

GUS

Now you're starting to understand
our business. But I have something
to fill you in on baby cakes.

(MORE)

GUS (CONT'D)

If your hubby to be doesn't come
through with the hundred grand,
you'll learn where we dispose of
dead bodies in Vegas, right before
we kill you.

CUT TO:

46 INT. CAESAR'S PALACE / ROULETTE TABLES - DAY

AN IMPROVISED SCENE BY THE ACTORS THAT MUST INCLUDE THE
FOLLOWING ELEMENTS IN SEQUENCE --

Louie walks up to the roulette tables and looks at the spin
boards...

Louie keeps winning, the spin board turns mostly red, and
hits number twenty-three...

Louie bets a thousand on number seven and wins \$35,000

CUT TO:

47 EXT. BELLAGIO HOTEL - SUNSET

LUGI is standing in front of the BELLAGIO leaning on the
railing, waiting for the water show to begin...

LOUIE walks up to LUGI and gives him \$25,000.

LUGI

Thanks Louie, this means the world
to me.

LOUIE

I told you Lugi, you're my better
1/3rd. Trish may be my better half
after this weekend, but you will
always be my better 1/3rd.

The WATER SHOW begins...

LOUIE AND LUGI LEAN ON THE RAILING AND WATCH THE WATER SHOW
TOGETHER...

LOUIE (CONT'D)

Shall we go pay Franco?

LUGI

Let's.

CUT TO:

48

INT. CAESARS PALACE / FRANCO'S - NIGHT

LUGI and LOUIE walk into FRANCO'S restaurant...

They walk past the hostess who tries to stop them. The restaurant is filled with dinner patrons. The hostess runs in the back to get Sergio.

LUGI

(speaking loudly)

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. I hope you are enjoying the mobster calamari. It will cost you twenty-five thousand dollars or your life. That's the way Franco does business here.

The PATRONS laugh...

FRANCO and SERGIO come running out into the dining area...

LUGI (CONT'D)

This is my second cousin folks, Franco, who tried to have me killed because I was late paying him the twenty-five thousand I owe him.

FRANCO

(quietly to Lugi)

You son of a bitch. I'll get you for this.

LUGI

No, you won't Franco. I have a room of witnesses who can testify I am paying you the twenty-five thousand I owe you.

LUGI hands FRANCO the twenty-five thousand dollars and smiles...

The CAMERA TRACKS as LUGI and LOUIE walk away.

FADE TO:

49

EXT. PARIS HOTEL / VALET ENTRANCE - NIGHT

GUS is holding TRISH captive in a LIMO parked near the valet entrance. She is handcuffed to the backseat.

LOUIE shows up with the money...

GUS

Well there he is. What do you know about that, and with a briefcase too. It best be filled with a hundred grand or you and I are going for a longer ride.

GUS gets out of the LIMO and walks to LOUIE...

LOUIE hands the briefcase to GUS.

LOUIE

It's all there, a hundred grand. Now would you please let Trish go?

GUS

I'll go count it, and if it is all there she is free to go.

GUS walks back to the LIMO...

TRISH sits anxiously as GUS counts the MONEY...

GUS (CONT'D)

Lucky you, pretty lady. It's all here.

TIGHT ON TRISH who looks relieved...

GUS unlocks the HANDCUFFS...

TRISH gets out of the limo and runs to LOUIE...

LOUIE

(hugging and kissing
Trish)

Thank God, you're all right.

SHOT OF: THE LIMO AS IT DRIVES AWAY.

CUT TO:

50 INT. THE WEDDING CHAPEL AT ARIA - DAY

The CAMERA ZOOMS IN on LOUIE and TRISH saying their wedding VOWS...

They are being married by a FAMOUS CELEBRITY...

LOUIE is dressed as Elvis.

CELEBRITY

Do you Louie take Trish to be your lawful wedded wife, in sickness and in health, for richer or for poorer, for better or for worse, as long as you both shall live?

LOUIE

I do.

CELEBRITY

Do you Trish take Louie to be your lawful wedded husband, in sickness and in health, for richer or for poorer, for better or for worse, as long as you both shall live?

TRISH

I do.

CELEBRITY

I now pronounce you man and wife. You may kiss the bride.

TIGHT ON LOUIE AND TRISH KISSING...

DISSOLVE TO:

51 INT. ARIA / RECEPTION HALL - DAY

The WEDDING PARTY gathers in the reception hall at Aria...

LUGI gets up and walks to the microphone...

LUGI

I'd like to make a toast. To my beautiful friends, Louie and Trish. I feel like the luckiest man in the world having you two as my best friends.

The CROWD chants "speech, speech, speech."

TRISH makes LOUIE get up and give a speech...

LOUIE

The day Trish walked into the store
I knew she was the one for me. She
pulled this man who had resigned
himself to growing old out of his
shell. She refused to let me allow
myself to feel old. With Trish, I
feel like a kid in a candy store
everyday of my life. I wake up
every day looking forward to
spending my life with her. I love
you Trish.

Someone in the crowd yells "sing"...

The CROWD chants "sing, sing, sing"...

TIGHT ON LOUIE as he begins to sing...

LOUIE (CONT'D)

Love me tender
Love me sweet
Never let me go

LOUIE walks up to TRISH and sings to her...

LOUIE (CONT'D)

You have made my life complete
And I love you so.
Love me tender
Love me true
All my dreams fulfilled
For my darlin I love you
And I always will.

THE END.