

The Money Shot

by
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FADE IN:

INT. BALLET THEATER - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

A packed theater with all eyes on a ballerina (MARIA, 19) as she executes a stunning, final ballet move. The audience erupts in applause, and she is showered in roses. She soaks up the magical moment.

The curtain lowers in front of her, and she turns to exit as a fuming CHOREOGRAPHER approaches her.

CHOREOGRAPHER
You completely spoiled the arabesque! A twelve-year-old can do an arabesque!

MARIA
(jolted)
I know. I'm sorry. I...

CHOREOGRAPHER
Why have I wasted my time? I can get another dancer by... Tuesday if need be. You've ruined my ballet!

MARIA
(tearing up)
I'm sorry. I, I did my best.

CHOREOGRAPHER
Well your best isn't even close!

The choreographer storms off. A voice is heard as Maria weeps.

CLOE (V.O.)
Maria? Maria!?

INT. GARAGE - DAY - PRESENT DAY

MARIA, (now in her mid-fifties) snaps out of her daydream and sees CLOE (early thirties), a hopeless ballet student. The garage is clean, but still a garage.

CLOE
Maria?

MARIA
Oh, I'm sorry. Where were we?

CLOE
The arabesque.

MARIA
Ah, yes.

CLOE
I'm doing my best. I just can't do
it like you.

MARIA
Don't worry, dear. I'll help you
make your best even better. Let's
try again, shall we?

They dance. Maria is graceful and beautiful. Cloe, a klutz,
tries to copy, but as she extends her leg... she farts.

CLOE
Sorry.

Maria closes her eyes and prays for patience.

EXT/INT. MARIA'S CAR - DAY

Maria drives while listening to classical music. She passes
a sign that reads: New Harmony, A town with music in its
heart, population 8,000.

Residents wave as Maria drives by. She pulls into the town
grocery. As she approaches a spot near the entrance, another
car pulls in. When the driver notices Maria, she backs out
and gives Maria the spot. Maria takes the spot and waves.

INT. GROCERY STORE - DAY

Maria pushes a cart through the produce aisle, inspecting
each item closely. A woman, TRUDIE, in a cheesy golf outfit
comes up.

TRUDIE
Hi, Maria.

MARIA
Hello, dear.

They air-kiss.

MARIA (CONT'D)
Trudie, you don't need to give me
your parking space. I'm not the
mayor.

TRUDIE
You might as well be.

MARIA
Oh you're sweet.

TRUDIE
Besides, your boyfriend is.

MARIA
(whispering)
We try not to let that get around.

Trudie locks her lip and throws away the key.

MARIA (CONT'D)
How's the golf?

TRUDIE
Look at these great shoes!

MARIA
You look super! How are the
lessons?

TRUDIE
Max is very patient. To tell you
the truth, I just like to watch him
swing the club. (whispering) Great
buns.

MARIA
Oh you are terrible.

TRUDIE
I know, I'm awful. Well, I'll let
you get on your way. I'm sure you
have a lot to do. How are we fixed
for ducks?

MARIA
Oh we've got ducks. More ducks
than ever.

INT. FIRE STATION - DAY

Maria chats with the FIRE CHIEF.

MARIA
Did you get the extras I had sent?

FIRE CHIEF

(indicating a big box)
Oh I got them. Do you really think
we're going to sell that many
tickets?

MARIA

I think you're going to be
surprised how big the fundraiser is
this year. We've advertised in
three counties.

FIRE CHIEF

I must say, Maria, last year's duck
race was bigger than the year
before so whatever you are doing,
keep doing it.

MARIA

Great. Do you want help putting
these away?

FIRE CHIEF

I might be able to find a few
strong men around here to help me,
but thanks.

MARIA

Okay. See you at the parade.

Maria walks toward her car. The chief takes a nice, long
look at her backside while she leaves. He whistles to
himself.

INT. MARIA'S CAR - DAY

Maria drives. She glances quickly at a vacant storefront.

MARIA

(to self)
Almost. Almost.

EXT. APPLICATION OFFICE - DAY

Maria soon pulls up to an office with a sign that reads New
Harmony Application Office. A woman, JUDY (mid-fifties),
leans against the door smoking. She makes her jeans and
tight t-shirt work the way a twenty-year-old would. Maria
gets out of her car and approaches cautiously.

MARIA

Can I help you?

JUDY
You Maria?

MARIA
Yes.

JUDY
I'm Judy Wolcraft. We talked a
couple of days ago.

MARIA
Ah yes, Judith.

JUDY
Judy.

MARIA
Judy, yes. I'm Maria.

JUDY
I know.

Awkward moment. Maria takes out the key.

MARIA
Shall we go inside?

JUDY
I thought we were going to see the
house.

MARIA
We will. I've got some brochures
in the office and I'd love to make
some coffee.

JUDY
Sure.

MARIA
Oh, there's no smoking inside.

JUDY
No problem.

Maria turns to open the door. Judy takes a last drag and flicks the cigarette, which hits the windshield of Maria's car.

INT. VICTORIAN HOUSE - DAY

Maria shows Judy a lovely two-bedroom house.

MARIA

This house has been on the market for a while. I think because it's a bit out of town and most of the residents of New Harmony like to be able to walk to each other's houses for, you know, afternoon tea and such.

JUDY

I like where it's at. I'll take it.

MARIA

(flustered)

Don't you want to see the backyard?

JUDY

I can see it from here. It's nice. I'll take it. Let's go back to the office, unless you've got the application with you.

MARIA

You are more than welcome to make an application, but then it needs to be approved by the Covenant Committee.

JUDY

What's that?

MARIA

The town agreement.

JUDY

Covenant? You mean like in the Bible?

MARIA

Not exactly. Let's go back to the office and I'll get a copy for you.

JUDY

Listen, I'm semi-retired, and I need a place to stay when I'm not in the city. This place is cute as shit. I want to pay cash, so I'll sign this covenant thing and move in soon. When can we do it?

MARIA

Well, the Covenant Committee will have to approve the application.

JUDY
How long will that take?

MARIA
The committee meets two weeks from
tomorrow.

Pause.

JUDY
So who's the head of the committee?

MARIA
Well, I am.

JUDY
(smiling)
So, you are the realtor AND the
head of the Covenant Committee.
Nicely done. Okay, how much?

MARIA
Excuse me?

Judy takes out her checkbook.

JUDY
No one is here, just say the
number.

MARIA
Let's go back to the office.

JUDY
Cool.

EXT. APPLICATION OFFICE - DAY

Judy leans up against her 1970's hot rod. She smokes a
cigarette. Maria stands nearby holding the application.

MARIA
I'm sorry for the misunderstanding.
It's just that the committee takes
this very seriously.

JUDY
Sounds like it. So how would you
describe your average resident?

MARIA
Well, here comes one now.

Trudie, in a cheesy tennis outfit, walks up.

TRUDIE
Hi, Maria.

MARIA
Hi, Trudie.

They air-kiss.

MARIA (CONT'D)
How's the tennis coming?

TRUDIE
Not so well, but that instructor is
a hunk!

They fake laugh.

MARIA
Trudie, this is Judy. She's
thinking of buying the Victorian on
Bay Way.

Trudie looks Judy up and down.

JUDY
So, Trudie, would you consider
yourself an average New Harmony
resident?

TRUDIE
I'd say so. We're a fun bunch,
enjoy each other's company, have
the same values.

JUDY
Are you on the Covenant Committee?

TRUDIE
Oh no. Maria usually takes care of
that. So if you've impressed
Maria, you are a shoo-in.

Beat.

JUDY
Well, ladies, it's been a blast.
Maria, I'll be in touch.

MARIA
I look forward to it.

Judy gets into her car and revs the engine.

TRUDIE

You are not going to approve-

MARIA

Don't be ridiculous.

Judy peels out and races down the street.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

Judy's hot rod speeds down the street past quaint shops and tidy little restaurants. Finally, she passes a bar with an elderly man, BILLY, sweeping out the doorway. Judy screeches to a halt, backs up, parks and hops out of the car.

BILLY

We don't open 'til noon.

Judy stuffs a fifty-dollar-bill into his shirt pocket as she walks by.

JUDY

I'll fix your clock for you.

INT. BILLY'S BAR - DAY

Judy sits at the bar reading the town covenant while Billy pours another shot.

JUDY

Billy-boy, you are a breath of fresh air in this town.

BILLY

So are you. And it'll be nice to see someone in the old Jensen place. That's a nice house you're looking at. I hope your friends are hot tamales like you.

JUDY

That is the understatement of the millennium. Hey, what's this committee all about?

BILLY

Started a few years ago. I hear that a lot of towns have 'em. They say it keeps the town nice and pleasant and all.

JUDY

There's some pretty stupid shit in here, Billy. Approved colors for paint, no working on your own car in your own driveway. Is this legal?

BILLY

If you sign it, I guess so. Live and let live is what I say, but I'm not in charge. I can't be open on Sundays anymore.

JUDY

You're kidding! What about watching the game?

BILLY

You're preaching to the choir, Beautiful.

JUDY

Well, I don't think I'm gonna get past the Committee of "Uptight Women in Tennis Outfits."

BILLY

It's just Maria.

JUDY

What do you mean?

BILLY

She's the only woman on the committee. Got six other guys on it. But she's a pretty tough cookie.

JUDY

(intrigued)
Oh really?

Beat.

BILLY

Okay, Hot Stuff, I got work to do.

JUDY

(raising her glass)
William, you are the best thing going in this town. I'll see you around.

BILLY
You stay out of trouble.

JUDY
Trouble is how I make my living.

Judy walks toward the door. She spots a poster on the wall advertising a charity rubber ducky race.

JUDY (CONT'D)
(shouting)
Billy! What's this?!

BILLY
Huh?!

JUDY
The thing with the ducks!

BILLY
Raises money for the fire
department! You should come, bring
some friends!

JUDY
(to self)
Billy, you are a genius.

INT. VACANT STOREFRONT - DAY

Maria slowly walks around a large, empty store. She stops and executes a perfect pirouette. She smiles.

The voices of three friends, PEGGY, SANDY AND JOAN (all in their seventies), are heard from the back.

PEGGY (O.C.)
Helloooooo?

SANDY (O.C.)
Anyone home?

JOAN (O.C.)
Hey, where is she?

They enter the main room.

SANDY
Oh, you were right. It's perfect.

JOAN
This was that really lousy
restaurant once. What was it
called?

PEGGY
Dusty's.

JOAN
That's it. What a dump. I hope
you can do something with this
place.

MARIA
I will. And with your help, we'll
have a place where young girls will
not only learn ballet, but self-
esteem.

SANDY
We are so lucky to have you here.

JOAN
You want the money now? May as
well get this thing going.

MARIA
No. We're still working on the
zoning. Gavin says it will take a
little longer.

PEGGY
I think what you're doing is
wonderful. You and Gavin are quite
a team.

MARIA
Teamwork is essential.

A loud crash is heard from the back room along with Cloe's
scream. She comes running out and collides with a stack of
boxes. The four women stare.

CLOE
Sorry! It was a mouse. It was
like the size of porcupine or, or a
raccoon or...

MARIA
Cloe?

CLOE
Oh. Hi, everyone.

MARIA
Ladies, you know Cloe, my
assistant.

The ladies smile politely.

CLOE
Maria, the space for the office has
a leak. Do you want me to go on
the roof and patch it? My brother
has some leftover tar that we can
heat up in a sauce pan or something
and then...

MARIA
Cloe?

CLOE
Yes?

MARIA
Why don't you wait in the car. We
are almost done here.

CLOE
Okay. Bye everyone.

Cloe leaves, almost tripping again.

SANDY
So, what are you going to call this
place?

MARIA
Amazing Grace.

The ladies watch Cloe fumble out the back door.

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - DAY

GAVIN sits at his desk, casually watching the computer
screen. The tawdry sounds of a porno are heard as he chomps
on peanuts. RICKY, (late twenties, bookish) comes in.

RICKY
Mr. Mayor?

GAVIN
Yeah.

RICKY
They are on their way. We should
get going.

GAVIN
Yeah, alright.

RICKY
But Maria is here. She wants to
talk to you.

GAVIN
Sure. Hold on a sec.

Gavin closes the porno program to reveal a screen saver of he
and Maria hugging romantically.

GAVIN (CONT'D)
Okay. Send her in.

Ricky exits. Maria enters.

GAVIN (CONT'D)
Hi, Honey.

MARIA
Hi.

She pecks him on the cheek.

MARIA (CONT'D)
Gavie, I still don't understand why
I can't come. Don't they want to
meet the person who will be giving
the dance lessons? The person
running the place?

GAVIN
I told you. These are old
fraternity guys. We want to do a
guy thing first. Listen, if I'm
going to be asking for their money,
I've got to do it my way.

Maria pouts.

MARIA
Okay. Are we staying at my place
tonight?

GAVIN
I wouldn't miss it.

Smooch.

GAVIN (CONT'D)
I better go. Ricky! Fire up the
limo!

RICKY (O.C.)
We don't have a limo!

GAVIN
Oh right. Bye, Sweetheart.

Gavin exits. Maria looks at the screen saver.

INT. VACANT STOREFRONT - DAY

Gavin, Ricky and three INVESTORS stand in the same storefront Maria wants.

GAVIN
Gentlemen, as you can see, there is plenty of room for the slots, and the bar will be back there.

INVESTOR 1
I thought you said it would be the only bar in town. I passed one on the way in.

GAVIN
No, we're going to be shutting that place down. How much longer on that, Ricky?

RICKY
Just about when we're ready to open. We've got a Health Department angle on it.

INVESTOR 2
Well, Mr. Mayor, it seems like you've got this little town right where you want it.

GAVIN
The first term is for setting up the game. The second term will be for cashing in.

INVESTOR 3
Sounds good.

GAVIN
Come upstairs. I'll show you where the dancers will be.

INT. PEGGY'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Maria sits with some of the town's ladies. They drink tea on lace doilies and such.

PEGGY

Sandy said she saw her going into Billy's Bar and said that she looked like, well, like a streetwalker.

The women all feign horror.

MARIA

Well, that's why I like to have these little get-togethers. Your husbands are great members of the New Harmony Application committee, but sometimes they need a woman's perspective. Women just have better insight on things like this.

They all agree.

JOAN

My husband will do any damn thing I tell him to. He's that afraid of me.

The ladies of New Harmony all roll their eyes at their bawdy friend.

MARIA

Well, I think gentle reminders should be enough for our men. After all, they want New Harmony to remain a respectable town too.

PEGGY

Maria's dance studio will be opening in a few months.

Oohs and Ahhs.

MARIA

Yes, Gavin, I mean the mayor, has been very helpful with that.

JOAN

Now he's a class-act!

PEGGY

Thank goodness there are still a few gentlemen in the world.

SANDY
 Don't worry, Maria, we'll make sure
 this person doesn't ruin what we've
 built in this town.

EXT. APPLICATION OFFICE - DAY

Judy, smoking, sits on the hood of her hot rod. Two women,
 SUSAN and VANESSA, stroll by, walking their little dogs.

SUSAN
 Good morning.

JUDY
 'Morning.

SUSAN
 Can I help you?

JUDY
 I'm waiting for Maria.

VANESSA
 Oh, you must be the new applicant.

JUDY
 Yep.

SUSAN
 I'm sure she'll be here soon. By
 the way, there is no smoking.

JUDY
 Yeah, she told me. Gotta keep the
 workplace happy and healthy.

SUSAN
 No, there's no smoking in New
 Harmony.

JUDY
 Anywhere? Even in the great
 outdoors?

VANESSA
 I'm afraid so.

JUDY
 (chuckling)
 That's the stupidest shit I've ever
 heard.

VANESSA

Well, that's the way we like it here in New Harmony.

JUDY

Tell me something; isn't there a law about picking up your dog's crap?

The ladies notice that one of the dogs, SEBASTIAN, is pooping on the sidewalk.

SUSAN

Sebastian! Bad doggie! That's naughty naughty!

JUDY

Aren't you required to scoop that up?

SUSAN

Oh don't worry. We follow the rules here in New Harmony.

Susan takes out a plastic bag, plastic scooper and matching gloves. She scoops and then looks for a trash can.

SUSAN (CONT'D)

Vanessa can you hold Sebastian?

VANESSA

Sure.

Susan goes to the trash can and Sebastian wastes no time getting behind the other dog, PRINCESS, and starts humping away.

JUDY

Boy, this just gets better and better.

VANESSA

Princess, stop that!

SUSAN

Sebastian! Get off of her!

JUDY

Come on, Princess. Make him earn it. Get yours first.

SUSAN

Will you please be quiet!?

JUDY

Take it easy, Sebastian. Did she tell you she likes it that rough?

VANESSA

Oh my! Oh my!

While Susan and Vanessa try to "uncouple" the dogs, Maria pulls up and gets out of her car.

MARIA

What's going on?

JUDY

(excited)

Hey, Maria! Great to see you! Your friends were just explaining to me what a respectable town this is!

MARIA

(noticing the dogs)

Oh, dear. Maybe we should go inside.

JUDY

What? And miss the money shot?

MARIA

The what?

JUDY

Skip it. Let's go.

They head inside and Judy flicks her cigarette, which hits the windshield of Maria's car again. The ladies continue to wrestle with the dogs.

SUSAN

Get her away!

VANESSA

He started it!

SUSAN

She was provoking him!

VANESSA

He's assaulting her!

INT. APPLICATION OFFICE - DAY

Maria goes behind the desk, while Judy sits down.

JUDY
Well, here you go.

Judy tosses the application on the desk.

MARIA
So, you want to be a part of our
little community?

JUDY
Yeah, those two downstairs look
like they know how to party.

MARIA
Susan and Vanessa?

JUDY
No, the dogs. But yeah, them too.

MARIA
May I ask you something?

JUDY
Sure.

MARIA
Why here?

JUDY
What do you mean?

MARIA
Why New Harmony? You can retire
anywhere.

Judy thinks for a moment.

JUDY
This town needs me.

MARIA
Oh, is that right?

JUDY
Sure, I bring a certain sense of
adventure to a place like this.

Maria raises an eyebrow.

JUDY (CONT'D)
I mean, this town is wound pretty
tight.

MARIA
Maybe the town likes it that way.

JUDY
Maybe you like it that way.

Beat.

MARIA
Well, the committee will review
your application.

JUDY
Can I meet them?

MARIA
That's not the custom.

JUDY
So I just wait?

MARIA
We'll be in touch.

Judy starts to get up.

MARIA (CONT'D)
We're not all sticks-in-the-mud,
you know. In fact, we've got our
annual firefighters fundraiser next
weekend. It's a real hoot.

JUDY
That's the duck thing?

MARIA
Oh, you've heard of it?

JUDY
Billy told me about it.

MARIA
Billy?

JUDY
At the bar.

MARIA
Oh, him. Anyway, we know how to
cut loose if need be.

JUDY
Can't wait. I'll bring friends.

MARIA
You're coming? I mean, sure the
more the merrier.

JUDY
(smiling)
Much merrier.

Judy leaves. Maria doesn't quite know what to make of it
all.

INT. MARIA'S DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Maria and Gavin sit at a romantically set table.

MARIA
I braised the asparagus.

GAVIN
Yeah, it's good.

MARIA
Can you taste the lemon?

GAVIN
Huh?

MARIA
The lemon.

GAVIN
Yeah, it's good.

Beat.

MARIA
So, who do you think will win the
duck race?

GAVIN
One of the Gatlin boys.

MARIA
Why do you say that?

GAVIN
Because they cheat.

MARIA
Don't be silly. How can you cheat
at something like that?

GAVIN
Use a weight.

MARIA
I haven't the slightest idea what
you're talking about.

GAVIN
(a bit impatient)
You put a little weight under the
duckie and it moves faster with the
current.

MARIA
Really?

GAVIN
Sure. They won last year.

MARIA
I just figured there were six
Gatlin kids so the odds were
better.

GAVIN
Well, now you know.

MARIA
Son of a gun.

GAVIN
What's up with the new applicant?

MARIA
Oh I've got that handled.

GAVIN
(impressed)
How so?

MARIA
You're not the only one who
understands politics, Buster Brown.

GAVIN
Well, I just hope this race doesn't
take as long as last year.

MARIA
It's fun. You know for the mayor of
the town, you don't have much civic
pride.

GAVIN
Well, this was delicious.

MARIA
Thank you.

GAVIN
I've got to get going.

MARIA
What? Where?

GAVIN
I told you, I've got to meet those
guys about the park permits.

MARIA
Now?

GAVIN
Beats me. It's when they said they
were available.

MARIA
Gavin, no one does business at nine
o'clock on a Tuesday.

GAVIN
I guess they do.

MARIA
Are you coming back?

GAVIN
If it's not too late.

Tense silence.

GAVIN (CONT'D)
This was great. Delicious.

Maria pouts.

INT. STRIP CLUB - NIGHT

Gavin and friends, STU and JIMBO, enter a club called THE JUICE FACTORY. They are clearly regulars. The owner, CONNIE, greets the group as they come in.

CONNIE
I don't know what my Tuesdays would
be like without you guys.

Gavin puts his arm around her and pecks her on the cheek.

GAVIN

My Dear, there is no one I'd rather
be with on a Tuesday night.

He slips a hundred dollar bill into her shirt.

GAVIN (CONT'D)

We're going to be needing the back
room tonight.

CONNIE

Surprise, surprise.

Connie nods to some of the strippers and they dutifully head
to the "back room."

GAVIN

You are my dream girl.

CONNIE

I do my best.

GAVIN

Your best is awesome. Boys?

The group heads into the "back room."

EXT. TOWN SQUARE - DAY

The town folk gather for the festive event. People compare
their custom-painted ducks. Maria goes around, queen bee-
like, making sure everyone is happy and peppy. She comes
upon Sandy, Peggy and Joan all looking around for chances at
gossip.

ANNOUNCER

Oookay New Harmony. Ten minutes
until the big moment. We still
have ducks for sale. Come over and
support our firefighters.
Remember, teeeeeeeeeeen minutes.

MARIA

Well, I think this is going to be
our most successful fundraiser yet.

SANDY

We've already raised over two
thousand dollars.

PEGGY
That's a record.

MARIA
Yep. Nothing will get in the way
of a great event. It's what New
Harmony is all about.

JOAN
Cheese and crackers! Look at that!

Strutting up the middle of the main road comes a dozen of the
hottest young vixens ever seen. Judy leads the pack, and
they head to the duckie sales table.

JUDY
Hey there, chief. How many ducks
you got left?

All the old geezers are speechless.

JUDY (CONT'D)
Come on, fellas. What's a girl
gotta do to get a duck around here?

The geezers suddenly fight for a box of duckies, which gets
spilled out onto the table.

JUDY (CONT'D)
We'll take em.

All the young hotties proceed to paint their ducks with nail
polish. Maria and her friends watch suspiciously.

PEGGY
Well, I never.

SANDY
What are we going to do, Maria?

MARIA
Let's just enjoy the event. Come
on, ladies.

They walk toward the starting area.

ANNOUNCER
Okay folks, with the addition of,
uh, our new friends, we're clean
out of duckies. Let's all head to
the drop zone.

At the drop zone is a hunky looking firefighter holding a
garbage can. The participants place their ducks in the can.

When Judy's girls bring their ducks up, each gives the embarrassed firefighter a kiss on the cheek. The last girl drops her duck in the can and pinches the firefighter's butt.

PEGGY

Well, I never.

JOAN

Yeah, you said that already.

SANDY

Isn't that cheating?

ANNOUNCER

On your mark, get set, go!

The fireman dumps the ducks into the creek. The crowd races along the shore as the ducks float downstream. Judy's girls jump up and down like kids. None of the town's men watch the ducks, only the girls.

MARIA

Who's winning?!

JOAN

That blue one and the one with the pink stripes.

MARIA

What blue one?

JOAN

There!

MARIA

That's Gavin's duck! Come on, Gavie!

All the ducks float under a bridge. Everyone runs onto the bridge to watch the big finish. None of the men watch the ducks... only the hot girls.

ANNOUNCER

And... and... that's it! We have the winners! Everyone head to the main stage for the awards ceremony!

Judy's girls jump with delight as she gives Maria a sly smile. Judy then starts introducing herself to the town's men.

EXT. MAIN STAGE - DAY

The fire chief stands on the stage with Gavin, Judy and CANDY, one of Judy's hot girls.

FIRE CHIEF

Well, folks, this has been our most successful fundraiser yet. And now, it's time to reward our winners.

The town applauds politely. Judy's girls scream wildly.

CHIEF

Okay, in third place we have um, what was your name?

CANDY

I'm Candy.

CHIEF

Candy!

The town's men burst into hoots and shouts that are quickly cut off by dirty looks from fuming wives.

CHIEF (CONT'D)

And in second place, we have Judy!

The town's men politely applaud. Judy takes her trophy.

CHIEF (CONT'D)

(recovering)

Okay, and our final winner. In first place with duck number 265, the winner of the 2010 New Harmony Rubber Duck Race is... our very own Mayor Gavin Nestrom!

Judy and Candy hug and kiss Gavin. As he is being smothered in kisses, he tries to take the weight out of the duck and slips it into his pocket.

ANNOUNCER

And now, we inDUCK your duckies into the Duckie Hall of Fame!

Judy, Gavin and Candy hand their ducks to the announcer, who locks them in a glass case.

ANNOUNCER (CONT'D)

And that wraps it up for this year's duck race!

Judy's girls go crazy and rush to the stage. Champagne is popped, thus creating an unintended wet t-shirt contest.

Judy looks out into the crowd and sees Connie, the owner of the strip club. They nod to each other.

Maria glares at Judy.

PEGGY
Well, I never.

MARIA
Shut up, Peggy.

INT. APPLICATION OFFICE - DAY

Maria stands, disgusted, at the head of a conference table. Eight men sit with their hands raised in the air.

MARIA
(indignant)
Fine.

She puts a huge "APPROVED" stamp on an application and snaps the folder shut to reveal a photo of Judy clipped to the outside.

INT. CONVERTED GARAGE - NIGHT

Maria, in full ballet regalia, dances gracefully. As she take the position, she closes her eyes.

INT. DANCE STUDIO - DAY - FLASHBACK

The young Maria stands with other dancers in the corner. They shoot daggers at DONNA, the new hotshot ballerina.

DANCER 1
She's from New York.

DANCER 2
He gave her a spot in the show just based on her work in California. She didn't even audition.

DANCER 3
Jesus, look at her. Do you think one of us will get fired?

CHOREOGRAPHER

No! Wait! That's not how you do a fouette.

Donna tries again.

CHOREOGRAPHER (CONT'D)

Maria! Come over here and show us a fouette.

Donna glares at Maria.

CHOREOGRAPHER (CONT'D)

Now watch her legs. Maria, how many of these do you think you can do?

MARIA

A million.

CHOREOGRAPHER

(smiling)

Well, that might be what I need. Ready... and!

Maria dances. Donna folds her arms.

CHOREOGRAPHER (CONT'D)

Yes! Look at that! Are you watching? Again! Again!

Maria spins and spins.

INT. CONVERTED GARAGE - DAY

The mid-fifties Maria continues the fouette, lost in her reminiscence.

Cloe enters the garage, fumbling with two full grocery bags.

CLOE

Hiiiiiii. They didn't have the fabric softener, but, uh oh.

One bag rips and a bottle of olive oil breaks on the floor. Maria slips on the oil and tumbles into the corner. In the rafters, a set of golf clubs is jumbled loose and spills down onto Maria.

EXT. DRIVING RANGE - DAY

Gavin hits a perfect golf shot. Maria sits in a chair near him with a cast on her foot.

GAVIN

Why would you get rid of a perfect set of clubs?

MARIA

I was angry, Gavin. Besides, I only had them because you wanted to be in the couples club.

GAVIN

If you didn't like it, why did you do it?

MARIA

I thought you wanted...

GAVIN

What are you going to do now? She'll be moving in soon.

MARIA

Well, I doubt she even read the covenant. And by the looks of some of her friends, I'm sure she'll break some of the bylaws soon.

GAVIN

What? Now you are going to drive her out of town?

MARIA

Just look at her, Gavin!

GAVIN

I did.

MARIA

Oh you're a pig. A P.I.G. pig. This is a waste of time.

Maria tries to get up and fumbles with the crutches. Gavin tries to help.

MARIA (CONT'D)

Stop that! I don't need your help.

GAVIN

I just don't understand why you are so threatened by her.

MARIA

You are supposed to be the mayor.
Don't you want this town to be
respectable? Cultured?

GAVIN

What I want is for you to relax.
Okay, we'll wait for her to break
the covenant and then we'll make
our move to get her out.

MARIA

Promise you will be on my side?

GAVIN

Anything for you, Pooh Bear.

MARIA

Promise?

GAVIN

I promise, I promise, I promise.
Come on, Pooh Bear. Give us a
kiss.

Maria pouts, but smooches him.

MARIA

Pig.

EXT. JUDY'S HOUSE - DAY

Movers take Judy's belongings out of a van and into her new
house. With binoculars, Maria and Cloe spy on Judy.

CLOE

Do you think she has guns? I could
find out if she has unregistered
weapons and then plan a sting at
whatever warehouse she keeps them.

MARIA

What are you talking about?

CLOE

I just think we should consider all
the angles - run down all the
leads.

MARIA

Leads? What leads? What are you,
a detective now? Some sort of
1930's gumshoe?

CLOE
I'm gonna need some N.O.G.S.

MARIA
What?

CLOE
N.O.G.S.

MARIA
What, pray tell, are N.O.G.S?

CLOE
Night vision goggles. You want
this done right, don't you?

MARIA
Let's just stick with what we've
got for now, okay?

CLOE
Roger. We'll reconnoiter at O-
Seven Hundred, full magazine of mo-
jo.

MARIA
What?

CLOE
I'll bring you coffee at seven,
okay?

MARIA
Can't wait.

INT. JUDY'S KITCHEN - DAY

Judy, DESIREE and Candy move things around the kitchen while
three HUNKY GUYS move boxes into the house.

HUNK
Ms. Wolcraft?

JUDY
Yeah?

HUNK
Where does this go?

JUDY
Well, considering that it says
"bedroom" on the side and we are in
the kitchen, we can eliminate this
room.

The hunk looks embarrassed and leaves.

DESIREE
Judy! Where did you get this bowl?
It's beautiful!

JUDY
Guatemala.

CINDY
When were you in Guatemala?

JUDY
After Mike and I split up.

CINDY
I can't picture you married.

JUDY
Funny thing is, I can't either. It
was only eight years, and it was a
long time ago. Whatever, put those
over there.

DESIREE
Judy, why so far? I mean, who
moves out of New York?

JUDY
I hate to break this to you, but
I'm not twenty-two. I'm going to
be wrapping up in a few years.
I've told you this.

CINDY
Yeah right. Judy Wolcraft retires.
I'll believe it when I see it.

The phone rings. Desiree picks it up.

DESIREE
Hello? May I ask who's calling?

Desiree holds the phone away from her ear.

DESIREE (CONT'D)
Listen, I don't think she wants-

Judy comes over and takes the phone.

JUDY
 How did you get this number?
 Listen, you know the rules. Clean
 up and then we'll talk. That's not
 true. Everyone takes the test.

Judy hangs up and goes back to unpacking.

DESIREE
 Judy, she-

JUDY
 Those go in the dining room. Let
 me make sure those idiots haven't
 scratched the cabinet.

Judy leaves. Desiree and Cindy exchange glances.

INT. SUPERMARKET - DAY

Judy pushes a cart down the aisle. Cloe, wearing sunglasses
 and a cap, follows from a distance. She speaks into a
 Dictaphone.

CLOE
 (softly)
 Double-stuff Oreos. Cinnamon
 Cheerios. Whole milk. No
 vegetables yet.

Cloe follows Judy to the beverage aisle.

CLOE (CONT'D)
 Light beer. Merlot. Perrier.

She looks closer.

CLOE (CONT'D)
 No vegetables.

She follows Judy to the cleaning supplies.

CLOE (CONT'D)
 Bleach. Laundry detergent. Gavin.
 Huh?

Gavin approaches Judy.

CLOE (CONT'D)
 No vegetables.

INT. SUPER MARKET - CLEANING SUPPLIES - DAY

Judy notices Gavin.

GAVIN
Well, hello.

JUDY
(uninterested)
Hi, how are ya?

GAVIN
Better now. Welcome to our fair
little town.

JUDY
Thanks.

GAVIN
Is there anything I can do for you?

JUDY
Like what?

GAVIN
How's the house? Do you have
everything you need?

JUDY
Is this your job or are you trying
to earn a scout patch or something?

GAVIN
(smiling)
No, I'm the mayor.

JUDY
Oh. Well, hi. I'm Judy.

GAVIN
I'm Gavin.

They shake hands.

GAVIN (CONT'D)
You and your friends really stirred
things up at the festival.

JUDY
Seems to me this town could use a
little stirring up.

GAVIN
That's the truth.

JUDY

Okay. Gavin, is it? Nice to meet you. See you around.

Gavin takes out a business card.

GAVIN

Not everyone in the town is an old fogey. Call me if you'd like proof.

Judy puts the card in her bra.

JUDY

I'll keep that in mind. I might find some use for you.

Gavin smirks. Judy pushes her cart to the vegetable aisle. Cloe follows.

INT. SUPER MARKET - VEGETABLES - DAY

CLOE

(into the Dictaphone)

Tomatoes. Lettuce. Hasn't noticed the sale on cucumbers yet.

GAVIN

Cloe?

Cloe spins around, startled by Gavin, and knocks down a pyramid of oranges. She nervously tries to pick them up and still talks into the Dictaphone.

CLOE

(into Dictaphone)

Oh, hi, Gavin. I'm just doing some shopping for Maria. Wow, you look great. Is that a new suit?

GAVIN

You look a little strange. Is everything okay?

CLOE

(into Dictaphone)

I, well, I've just got a lot of things to do for Maria, that's all. You know, the studio will be opening and..

GAVIN
And so you have to record yourself
talking?

Cloe, embarrassed, puts the Dictaphone into her pocket.

GAVIN (CONT'D)
Listen, tell Maria to be ready at
seven tomorrow. I don't want to be
late for the ball.

CLOE
(suddenly annoyed)
Why don't you tell her yourself?

GAVIN
I've got donors who are going to be
there. I need to be on time. You
know what, you're right. Tell
Maria to call me.

Gavin strolls away and watches Judy shopping while he does.
Cloe puts the Dictaphone to her mouth.

CLOE
(into Dictataphone)
You're an asshole.

She switches it off contemptuously.

The store intercom announces a "clean up in produce." Cloe
runs.

INT. COUNTRY CLUB BALLROOM - NIGHT

Gavin and Maria enter in formal attire. They look stunning,
and heads turn as they work the room. They make their way to
a table, where they chat with BRUCE and EDNA.

GAVIN
Well, I think that New Harmony is
well represented here tonight.

BRUCE
Here, here.

EDNA
Maria, you look stunning as usual.

MARIA
Thank you. So do you. I love that
necklace. Well, I've got to powder
my nose.

EDNA
I'll go with you.

Maria and Edna stand up to leave. Bruce, acting the gentleman stands up. Gavin eats.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

Maria and Edna approach the sink and touch-up their makeup.

EDNA
He's gorgeous.

MARIA
Well, he gets ruder at every turn.
He used to be so dashing and now, I
just don't know.

EDNA
How much do you think he'll raise
tonight? Not everyone is from New
Harmony.

MARIA
I don't care. Is this lipstick too
light?

EDNA
You look great. Dark lipstick
looks trashy.

MARIA
You are sweet. Okay, let's try to
have a good time.

EDNA
Maria, you are a pro at this.
Nothing could get in the way of a
great evening.

A toilet flushes. Out of the stall comes Judy, dressed in a gown looking surprisingly glamorous.

JUDY
Ladies. How we doing tonight?
Damn, Maria, you look great. Is
that a Chanel?

MARIA
What are you doing here?

JUDY
(sniggering)
Nice to see you too. Hi, I'm Judy.

EDNA
Edna. You two know each other?

JUDY
I just moved to New Harmony and also just joined the club here. I think it's a bit overpriced, but what the hell. I like getting swanky sometimes. Maria forwarded my application to the committee. She was soooooo helpful.

MARIA
Seems you've made quite an impression already.

JUDY
What are the chances that you and I have anything in common?

MARIA
I really doubt that.

JUDY
You always this pleasant, Maria?

MARIA
(snapping)
You don't belong here.

EDNA
Come on, Maria. Let's go.

JUDY
Okay, Prom Queen. I'll stay out of your way if you stay out of mine. Deal?

MARIA
Our town has standards.

Judy goes to the mirror and applies the darkest lipstick ever seen.

JUDY
I have a feeling I know your town better than you do.

Judy presses her lips over a napkin, leaving dark red marks, and hands it to Edna.

JUDY (CONT'D)
 Sometimes trashy can come in handy.
 Good night, ladies.

Judy leaves.

INT. BALLROOM BAR - NIGHT

Gavin and Bruce stand at the bar, laughing. Judy walks up.

JUDY
 Well I'll be damned. The mayor of
 New Harmony.

Judy leans in and kisses him on the cheek, leaving a mark.

JUDY (CONT'D)
 And who is this?

GAVIN
 This is Bruce Conner, big campaign
 contributor.

JUDY
 Well, nice to meet you, Bruce, but
 I've got to get going. Seems I've
 done what I do best, which is piss
 someone off.

Judy walks away. Maria and Edna watch her leave and then
 walk up to the bar.

GAVIN
 Well girls, shall we hit the dance
 floor?

Maria sees the lipstick on Gavin's cheek.

MARIA
 I'm leaving. Get my coat.

Maria walks away.

GAVIN
 What the hell's gotten into her?
 She's too old for it to be that
 time of the month.

Edna punches Gavin in the shoulder and goes after Maria.

GAVIN (CONT'D)
 Guess I won't be getting laid
 tonight.

BRUCE

You may never get laid again.

GAVIN

Come on, let's do a shot before we go.

BRUCE

I'm game.

INT. CLOE'S CAR - MORNING

Cloe once again has her binoculars on and watches Judy's house, which is a beehive of activity. Scantily-clad girls move up and down ladders as buckets of paint are being passed around. They are painting the house bright orange.

The same two pickup trucks keep driving by with men in them, trying to catch glances of the sexy girls in shorts.

Cloe takes out a ridiculously large camera and starts snapping photos.

CLOE

(to self)

Section Seven, sub paragraph three.
Only approved colors for painting
the house.

The two pickups crash into each other due to excessive gawking.

INT. APPLICATION OFFICE - DAY

Maria is at the head of the table as the committee sits.

MARIA

We're here today because one of our residents has already painted her house a color that was not approved by this committee. She has subsequently applied for the color and has filled out the application. I'm sure it won't take long for you to vote to have the house repainted an approved color. So, let's just take a quick vote and -

MEMBER

What color is it?

MARIA
Um, Cloe?

Cloe passes around the photos she took, which include all the sexy girls and the water fight. The men take their time investigating the photos.

MARIA (CONT'D)
So, you can see it is a hideous color and was not approved in advance. So, let's get this over with. After all, who in the world would approve of this?

All the men raise their hands. Maria and Cloe look shocked.
The paint application is stamped "APPROVED."

INT. BILLY'S BAR - DAY

Billy sits behind the bar reading a book. A newspaper conceals another reader at the end of the bar.

Gavin enters.

GAVIN
Hey Billy. You open?

Billy shrugs.

GAVIN (CONT'D)
Got a Bud?

Billy opens and slides a bottle down the bar and goes back to his book. Gavin drinks.

GAVIN (CONT'D)
Bill, you seen that woman?

Billy lifts his eyes from the book.

GAVIN (CONT'D)
You know, the broad with the rack and ass. Moved into the Jensen place.

The newspaper is lowered to reveal Judy.

JUDY
Billy, could I get another cup of coffee? Mr. Mayor, come into my office.

Gavin slides over.

GAVIN
What a coincidence.

JUDY
Not if you were actually looking
for me.

GAVIN
What makes you say that?

JUDY
Well it didn't sound like a
description of your girlfriend.

GAVIN
I don't have a girlfriend.

JUDY
Sorry, my mistake. I thought you
and Maria were not only the New
Harmony power brokers, but steamy
hot lovers too.

GAVIN
On occasion.

JUDY
Which one?

GAVIN
Both. What about you?

JUDY
My heart belongs to Billy.

Billy pours the coffee.

JUDY (CONT'D)
He's the only real man I've ever
met. I will die in his arms.
Isn't that right Lover?

Billy spits tobacco.

BILLY
Judy this guy bothering you?

JUDY
See? He's real jealous, so you
better make this good.

Billy snorts and leaves.

JUDY (CONT'D)
So, what's on your mind?

GAVIN
I just thought I'd get to know one
of my constituents. What do you do
for a living?

JUDY
I'm a talent agent among other
things.

GAVIN
That's interesting. Like
Hollywood?

JUDY
Kind of. Aren't you supposed to
ask me what my zodiac sign is?

GAVIN
I'm just being friendly.

Gavin's cell phone rings.

GAVIN (CONT'D)
Excuse me.

He answers the phone.

GAVIN (CONT'D)
(into phone)
Yeah, keep your pants on I'll be
there soon. Then take the noon
slot. Tell them it's me. That's
fine, we'll play without him.

Gavin hangs up.

JUDY
You late?

GAVIN
I just moved the tee time to stay
here a little longer.

JUDY
You playing at the club?

GAVIN
Yeah.

JUDY
Watch out for the dog-leg on
fourteen.

GAVIN
You play? I don't believe it. Are
you good?

JUDY
I tend to excel in games with
balls. Come on.

Judy walks out. Gavin follows. Billy shakes his head.

EXT. GOLF COURSE- DAY

Gavin gets ready to drive his tee-shot. Judy, in a tasteful, yet tight, golf outfit, watches. Stu and Tommy, in ridiculous golf outfits, try to watch both Gavin and Judy at the same time.

Gavin swings and his ball goes into the trees.

STU
That's a mulligan.

GAVIN
No. I'll take the drop out there.

JUDY
Take the mulligan, Gavin. We're
all friends here.

GAVIN
(testy)
No. I'll take the drop at the 150
mark. Tommy, you're up.

Tommy knocks one about two hundred yards. Stu does the same. Judy lines up her shot and the men watch her from behind. She crushes her drive about two hundred and fifty yards. The men look at each other.

JUDY
Let's go, gentlemen. You've got
plenty of holes to show me what
you're made of.

CUT TO:

SERIES OF SHOTS - GOLF GAME

The gang plays a rousing game of golf. Judy is quite the competitor, but it is very congenial. She is one of the boys. That is, when the boys are not trying to sneak peaks down her shirt and up her skirt. They all high-five, pump fists and cheer each other on.

EXT. 18TH HOLE - LATER

Tommy is lined up for his final putt.

GAVIN

No pressure, Tommy. Miss this and she will have killed us all. No pressure.

TOMMY

Will you shut up?

JUDY

Leave him be. It's just a game.

Tommy sinks the putt. Everyone cheers as Judy gets ready for her putt.

STU

Let's just resign ourselves to a playoff. Who misses a three-foot putt?

JUDY

It's just a game, fellas.

Judy lines up. About to putt, she looks up at Gavin and smiles. He smiles back. She putts and just misses. Tommy and Stu jump up and down cheering. Gavin watches Judy, who picks up her ball and then gives him a wink.

JUDY (CONT'D)

Hey! We owe Tommy some drinks!
Let's go!

Tommy and Stu head to the bar. Gavin and Judy follow behind.

GAVIN

What was that for?

JUDY

Did you think golf was the only game being played today?

She walks ahead. He shakes his head in amazement.

INT. CLOE'S CAR - DAY

Cloe watches Judy come out of her house, get in her car and drive down the street. Cloe follows at a safe distance.

CLOE
 (into Dictaphone)
 Nine a.m. South on Route 7. Ten
 miles over the speed limit.

EXT/INT. CLOE'S CAR - DAY

Cloe's car follows Judy into the Lincoln Tunnel.

CLOE
 (to self)
 Oh God. Not in the city. I hate
 driving in the city.

Cloe follows Judy through the tunnel and down city streets. Judy pulls to a curb, gets out of the car and goes into a nondescript brick building.

Now parked, Cloe pulls out binoculars.

CLOE (CONT'D)
 (into Dictaphone)
 Ten fifteen. Um, somewhere in New
 York. Will try to get an address.

Cloe gets out and walks across the street. She sees the address and street name and writes it down.

From around the corner come two scantily-clad WOMEN chatting. Cloe ducks into the alley and watches them go into the building.

INT. JUDY'S OFFICE - DAY

Judy sits at a desk as the two women come in.

WOMAN 1
 Hi, Judy.

JUDY
 (without looking up)
 They're waiting for you in makeup,
 girls.

WOMAN 2
 Judy, the traffic-

Judy holds up a hand. The women exit.

EXT. ALLEY - DAY

Cloe goes down the alley and sees a back door and window. She climbs onto an open dumpster to peek inside.

INT. JUDY'S PORN STUDIO - DAY

Cloe watches as Judy walks onto the set with a small crew. She sits next to SAM in a bathrobe.

JUDY
Hey, Sam. Thanks for being here.

SAM
My pleasure.

JUDY
Sorry it was short notice, but Dee is still getting used to scheduling things.

SAM
It's not a problem. We've been at this a long time.

JUDY
You ready?

SAM
I need a minute. Where can I..?

JUDY
Right back there.

SAM
Thanks.

EXT. ALLEY

A look of horror comes over Cloe's face. She slips and falls into the dumpster.

INT. VACANT STOREFRONT - DAY

Maria moves sheets of newspaper around the floor as a way to measure furniture. Cloe rushes in with bits of garbage on her and looks a little greasy.

MARIA
What in the world happened to you?

CLOE
(panting)
Porno!

MARIA
Excuse me?

CLOE
They're making pornos!

MARIA
What in God's name are you talking
about?

CLOE
(trying to catch breath)
Judy... cameras... penises... you
know, porno!

MARIA
How do you know this?

CLOE
I followed her. She works in New
York. I peeked through the window.

MARIA
What's that smell?

CLOE
I fell.

MARIA
You fell?

CLOE
Into a dumpster.

MARIA
Cloe, have you been drinking?

CLOE
I don't drink. But this is what
we've been waiting for.

MARIA
You lost me.

CLOE

There is no way the committee will stand for a porno maker in the town. Even those guys aren't that bad.

MARIA

Slow down. Let's think about this. Start over from the beginning.

CLOE

(catching her breath)

Okay, I was staked-out at 0700. I had planned to surveil her leaving the house and reconnoiter with you by 1100.

MARIA

Surveil?

CLOE

As in surveillance.

MARIA

Reconnoiter?

CLOE

You know, to, *noiter*.

MARIA

Just tell me what happened.

CLOE

(taking a breath)

Okay. I followed her in my car...

INT. MARIA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Cloe and Maria sit at a computer.

MARIA

What do I do?

CLOE

Google her?

MARIA

What does that mean?

CLOE

Are you kidding me?

MARIA
Listen, you little whipper-
snapper...

CLOE
Okay. You've heard of Google,
right?

MARIA
Yes.

CLOE
Okay, just type Judy's name in and
we'll see what comes up. Here, let
me do it.

Maria Googles Judy.

MARIA
Nothing.

CLOE
That can't be. What name did you
put?

MARIA
Judy Wolcraft. That's her name.

CLOE
Wait!

Cloe takes out her notepad.

CLOE (CONT'D)
Try *Slippery Slope Productions*.

Maria Googles. Their faces look horrified.

MARIA
I... I... think I'm going to need a
glass of wine. Would you like a
glass of wine? I'll be right back.

Maria leaves.

CLOE
Maria, none of these pictures are
of Judy, you know. These are just
the films she's directed.

MARIA (O.C.)
Oh, that's fine. I'll be out soon.
You keep looking! Do you like
Chardonnay?

CLOE
 Maria, you should see this stuff.
 These chicks are limber!

MARIA (O.C.)
 No, that's okay. You can tell me
 about it later.

CLOE
 Maria, if you need a reason to get
 her kicked out of town, you are
 going to have to look at the
 evidence. Whoa! She must have
 taken ballet!

Maria peeks like a frightened child from around the corner.

MARIA
 Do I have to?

CLOE
 I guess we could rent one of the
 videos.

INT. MARIA'S HOUSE - LATER

Cloe and Maria hide under a blanket as if watching a scary
 movie.

CLOE & MARIA
 OH-MY-GOD.

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Maria and Cloe sit in front of Gavin's desk. Gavin is trying
 not to laugh.

MARIA
 You think this is funny? Funny?!

GAVIN
 No. Yes. I mean what is it you
 want? She's not in any of the
 movies.

MARIA
 She directs porno, Gavin! I want
 her out!

GAVIN
 On what grounds?

MARIA

On the grounds that she's a
pervert!

GAVIN

Then take it to the committee and
see how they vote.

MARIA

Oh they've been really helpful
lately.

GAVIN

At this point, you are going to
have to catch her doing something
illegal.

CLOE

It's porno. Aren't they all drug
addicts and stuff?

MARIA

That's right! I'm sure they all do
drugs before they, you know. I
mean, one would have to.

GAVIN

Now you're thinking. Catch her
doing or distributing drugs, then
even the committee would have to
agree.

MARIA

How?

GAVIN

Hire a detective. I don't know.
Find someone to go undercover. Do
what you have to do.

MARIA

I can't afford a detective.

GAVIN

Then take some binoculars and peer
in her windows until you see girls
shooting up.

MARIA

You are just not going to take this
seriously, are you?

CLOE

Okay.

GAVIN
(ignoring Cloe)
I am so. I'm just brainstorming.

CLOE
Okay. You are right.

MARIA
(ignoring Cloe)
You are such a jerk sometimes.
This is important.

CLOE
Okay. I'm in.

GAVIN
Cloe, be quiet. Maria, I don't
have a problem with this woman.
You do.

CLOE
I said I'd do it.

MARIA
Cloe, stay out of this. Listen to
me, buster. You are darn right I've
got a problem...

CLOE
Okay! I'll do it!

Maria and Gavin look at Cloe.

MARIA
Do what?

CLOE
I'll go undercover. I'll be a
porno girl.

Pause. Gavin bursts out laughing.

MARIA
Don't be ridiculous. Cloe, what in
the world are you talking about?

CLOE
Maria, I've never been good at
anything in my life. You've been
really good to me, but let's face
it; I'm kind of a failure at
everything. I'm certainly not
going to be a dancer.

GAVIN
I think it's a great idea.

MARIA
Shut up, Gavin.

CLOE
I can do this. And if it means
taking my clothes off and, well,
then so be it.

Cloe starts getting excited.

CLOE (CONT'D)
Yes! I'll go undercover and get the
goods on her. Let's do this!
Let's go porno! Come on, let's get
our hump on!

Maria stares. Gavin tries not to laugh.

INT. CLOE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

A stack of porno movies sits on the table. Maria and Cloe
hold legal pads, and watch intently as horrid sounds emit
from the t.v.

CLOE
There! Pause it!

Maria pauses the video.

CLOE (CONT'D)
It's all in the expression. Look
at her face. You really got to
look like you're in pain.

MARIA
I think she is.

CLOE
No, no. It's all an act. Here,
watch.

Cloe takes the remote and presses play. They watch. She
pauses again.

CLOE (CONT'D)
See? Okay. Get on top of me.

MARIA
Excuse me?

CLOE
This is research right? Get on top
of me and act like you are... you
know.

MARIA
I really don't want to be a part of
this.

CLOE
You said you would help me.

MARIA
I'm wearing silk. (pause) Okay,
okay. I can't believe this.

Cloe lays down on her back on the couch. Maria gets on top
of her.

CLOE
Okay, on the count of three, you
start, you know. And I'll act as
if I'm simultaneously in pain but
enjoying myself.

MARIA
Okay. I don't plan on doing this
very long.

CLOE
Just give me a good humping and
tell me if I'm making the right
sound.

MARIA
Fine.

CLOE
Okay. One... two...

Maria's cell phone rings on her belt.

MARIA
(without getting off)
Hold on.

Maria takes the cell phone off of her belt.

MARIA (CONT'D)
(into the phone)
Hello? I told you I'd be home
later. Yes I'll make dinner.
Gavin, stop being a baby and have a
snack.

(MORE)

MARIA (CONT'D)
There are crackers and cheese. Not
yet, I'm just about to hump her.
I'll be home in about a...

Maria looks at Cloe.

MARIA (CONT'D)
About a half an hour?

Cloe nods.

MARIA (CONT'D)
(into phone)
Okay. I love you.

Maria hangs up.

MARIA (CONT'D)
Sorry. Where were we?

CLOE
I'm going to count to three and
then you give it to me. But watch
my face okay?

MARIA
Let's go.

CLOE
One... two... three!

Maria starts moving up and down while Cloe screeches
horribly.

MARIA
Hold it. Hold it. What are you
doing?

CLOE
I'm in ecstasy.

MARIA
You sound like you're being
murdered.

CLOE
That's what they sound like.

MARIA
No, it's not.

With neither of them moving, Cloe picks up the remote and
presses play. They watch and listen and Cloe clicks off the
remote.

CLOE
 Okay, maybe less. Should I moan?
 You know, like, uuuuuuuuh.

MARIA
 I think that would be a nice touch.

CLOE
 Let's try again. You okay up
 there?

MARIA
 I'm good. You okay?

CLOE
 Good. Ready? One... two... three!

They start again. Cloe alternates between screeching like a pig and moaning like a walrus.

MARIA
 Alright, alright. What is this
 Animal Planet?

CLOE
 (defensive)
 Well, what do you sound like?

MARIA
 That's none of your business!
 (beat) Why? Is that what you sound
 like?

CLOE
 Well it's been so long that I don't
 really remember.

MARIA
 (irritated)
 Can we just try again?

CLOE
 Fine. One... two... wait!

MARIA
 What?!!

CLOE
 Do you want to switch?

MARIA
 Good idea.

Cloe gets on top of Maria.

CLOE
This is good. I'm in a much more
dominant position this way.

MARIA
Whatever. Let's just do this.

CLOE
Oh, I suppose you're not in the
mood now.

MARIA
Cloe, come on! You are heavier
than you think!

CLOE
Okay. One... two...

Maria's phone rings again.

MARIA
(into phone)
Hello? Gavin, you know perfectly
well where the corkscrew is!

CLOE
I need a cigarette.

Cloe gets up and walks away.

INT. VACANT STOREFRONT - NIGHT

Gavin paces impatiently in the empty space.

Judy's voice is heard in the back.

JUDY (O.C.)
Hello?

GAVIN
In here!

Judy comes in.

JUDY
I thought you wanted to talk
business. I don't like having my
time wasted, Mr. Mayor.

GAVIN
Thanks for coming.

JUDY
What's this about?

GAVIN
This will be my new business.

JUDY
(sarcastically)
Oh, I can see the whole thing now.
Can I give you the number of a
decorator?

GAVIN
We're opening up in a few months.

JUDY
I hate to be redundant, but why am
I here?

GAVIN
I was thinking of bringing you in
as a partner.

JUDY
Uh, okay. This is a bit random.

GAVIN
I think you have connections and a
good business sense.

JUDY
What makes you say that?

GAVIN
(smiling)
A few titles I'm familiar with:
Bodacious Bandits, Passion
Carnivores, She-vamps and my
personal favorite... The Girls of
Cellblock 69.

JUDY
So? You've seen my movies. Big
deal.

GAVIN
I'm offering you a piece of this.
We're going to have dancers
upstairs. You know talented people
and I could use your expertise.

JUDY

I don't know anything about ballet.
As you have deduced, I make adult
films.

GAVIN

This is not going to be a ballet
school. It's going to be a
gentleman's club.

JUDY

What does Maria say about all this?

GAVIN

She'll get over it. This will be
you and me.

JUDY

Why in the world do you think I
would want to go into business with
you?

GAVIN

It's easy money.

JUDY

See ya around, Slick.

Judy walks away.

GAVIN

I had other investors, but it will
be you and me. There is a lot of
money to be made here.

Judy turns back.

GAVIN (CONT'D)

Just think about it.

Judy thinks for a moment and then exits.

GAVIN (CONT'D)

(dials phone)

Ricky? Get in touch with the
investors. Tell them there is a
delay. I think I just hooked an
all-star.

INT. JUDY'S STUDY - NIGHT

Judy sits at a desk wearing reading glasses, tapping on an
adding machine. Desiree sits impatiently.

DESIREE

You know they have computers for that now.

JUDY

When I was your age, a computer filled a whole room.

DESIREE

Why don't you think about it. Maybe he can make you some money.

JUDY

He's a prick. Why would he do that to his own girlfriend? If I wanted to open a strip club, I'd go to Connie for advice. Let's stick to what we do best.

DESIREE

How are we looking?

JUDY

Not bad. Sales of Punch Drunk doubled after the Vegas show. We may have to talk about a sequel sooner than we think.

DESIREE

Let's not rush it. Remember the business DG did on Pirates Revenge.

JUDY

I know all about Pirates. I've got more immediate goals.

DESIREE

I'm just saying. It set records in adult...

JUDY

Listen, I've made a shitload of money, but I'm not going to make a Pirates-like investment at this point in my career. Let me worry about the future, you're twenty-seven years old for crying out loud.

DESIREE

But...

Judy puts up a hand.

JUDY
Auditions?

DESIREE
Week from tomorrow. All tested.
All clean. I've got one late-
comer, Cloe something. I'll check
her out in time.

JUDY
You ready to run numbers for the
shoot?

Desiree looks nervous.

JUDY (CONT'D)
Hello? Ms. Line Producer? What?

DESIREE
Andrea called my cell. I don't
know how she got the number. Maybe
if you...

JUDY
Is she clean?

DESIREE
She just needs a little...

JUDY
I'll decide what she needs. Now
are we running numbers or what?

DESIREE
Yes.

Desiree pulls out a notepad.

JUDY
Camera?

DESIREE
Two grand.

JUDY
Is it Phil? He's reliable.

DESIREE
Yes.

JUDY
Catering?

DESIREE

Jose's.

JUDY

Oh God. How much?

DESIREE

Three fifty. The girls like it.

JUDY

Are you kidding? Forget it. I'll cook instead.

DESIREE

They like that even better.

JUDY

Costumes?

DESIREE

Another two grand.

JUDY

What?! Dee, you're killing me here!

DESIREE

Hey, the leprechaun thing was your idea, not mine. Do you know how much midgets cost, by the way?

JUDY

Next!

DESIREE

Flying monkeys.

JUDY

Oh Lord! I need a drink.

Judy walks out.

DESIREE

(shouting)

That means stunt-midgets, you know!

INT. BILLY'S BAR - MORNING

Judy and Billy read the paper in silence. Moments pass, then...

JUDY

William.

Billy grunts.

JUDY (CONT'D)

What's up with that storefront on
Ashford Street?

BILLY

Gonna be a dance studio.

JUDY

Studio?

BILLY

Maria used to be a big-shot ballet
dancer and now she's gonna teach
little girls. Should be real nice.
At least, that's the talk.

JUDY

You sure it's not going to be a
strip club?

BILLY

Not as far as I know. There's one
in Porterville about ten miles from
here.

JUDY

The Juice Factory?

BILLY

Yeah. You know it?

JUDY

Yeah, I know the owner.

BILLY

You know something around here I
don't?

Pause.

JUDY

How could I?

Billy goes back to reading. Judy stares out the window.

EXT. ASHFORD STREET - DAY

Judy drives up to the curb across the street from the vacant
storefront. She looks for a moment and then dials her phone.

JUDY

(into phone)

Robert? It's Judy Wolcraft...
Fine, fine. Listen, I need you to
find out who owns a building for
me. 1395 Ashford Street, New
Harmony, New York... Well, I'm not
sure yet. Possible business
opportunity.

Trudie walks up in her cheesy tennis outfit with the hunky
tennis instructor. They sip coffee.

JUDY (CONT'D)

(into phone)

I gotta go. Ciao.

Judy smiles and peels out as loud as she can. Trudie spills
her coffee on her outfit.

INT. LINGERIE SHOP - DAY

Maria and Cloe shop for "porno clothes." Maria holds up a
short dress.

MARIA

How about this?

CLOE

I think I should have hot pants.
Look at these.

Cloe picks out a pair of ridiculously short shorts.

MARIA

Doesn't leave much to the
imagination, does it?

CLOE

I think that is the point.

A SALESPERSON appears.

SALESPERSON

Hi. Can I help you?

CLOE

(rapid)

Yes. Hi. Do you have something that
someone might wear to an audition
for a porno? I mean it needs to
look sexy, but let's face it; it's
not going to stay on very long...

(MORE)

CLOE (CONT'D)

or wait... do you have something that I could wear while I audition? With, like a hole in it? They have that right?

MARIA

What are you asking me for?

CLOE

Anyway, we're trying to get this porn director kicked out of our community on account of Maria trying to run a classy city and this person probably uses drugs. So I'm going undercover to get the goods. Do you have something for me?

The salesperson just stares. Maria walks out, embarrassed. Cloe watches her go and then snaps back to the salesperson.

CLOE (CONT'D)

Okay. Let's talk push-up bras.

EXT. JUDY'S PORN STUDIO - DAY

Maria and Cloe sit in the car across the street from Judy's studio.

MARIA

I just don't see the point.

CLOE

I told you. I need one more peek before the audition. I need to see the vibe on the set. I need to, you know, get the vibe.

MARIA

And I'm here because...?

CLOE

(nervous)

Because I'm... nevermind.

MARIA

Cloe, you don't have to do this.

CLOE

No, I'm good. I just need another peek. Let's go.

They get out of the car and cross the street.

EXT. ALLEY - DAY

Cloe and Maria hide behind the dumpster under the window.

CLOE
Okay. If we stand on the top of
this thing, we can see right into
the studio.

MARIA
Are you actually suggesting I stand
on the edge of a trash dumpster?

CLOE
Yeah.

MARIA
How did I get into this?

Suddenly, the door to the studio opens and a woman walks out
and down the alley. Cloe rushes to catch the door before it
closes.

CLOE
(whispering)
Come on.

MARIA
(whispering)
Are you insane?

Cloe goes inside. Maria follows.

INT. JUDY'S PORN STUDIO - CONTINUOUS

Maria and Cloe find themselves on an empty film set made to
look like an office.

MARIA
Let's get out of here.

CLOE
Wow. They must be doing another
Execu-romp film.

MARIA
What? How do you know that?
Forget it. Let's go.

Voices are heard.

CLOE
Hide!

MARIA
Hide? How about leave?

Cloe jumps behind a curtain. Maria follows.

Judy, Desiree and the cast come onto the set.

DESIREE
He's probably looking for parking.

JUDY
He's an hour late. This is on you,
by the way.

DESIREE
How do you figure that?

JUDY
Dee, you talked me into this guy.
I've got an A-list of guys we use
and you wanted to use this new guy
with three creds.

DESIREE
He's got talent.

JUDY
He's rude and a prima donna. I
took a chance even after I
interviewed him because you wanted
him.

DESIREE
He'll be here.

JUDY
Well, he's fired when he shows.
I've lost enough money today.

DESIREE
This is bad business.

JUDY
This is not what we stand for.
This is-

Judy's walkie-talkie squawks.

WALKIE-TALKIE
Judy he's here.

Everyone waits.

INT. BEHIND THE CURTAIN

MARIA

I really don't want to see this.

CLOE

We can't leave now. Close your eyes then.

INT. JUDY'S PORNO STUDIO

JOHNNY, the actor, comes through the back door. He's a bit wobbly.

JOHNNY

Okay, I'm here. Who am I doing?

JUDY

(calmly)

You aren't doing anyone. You're late and you look to be a bit high.

JOHNNY

What are you talking about? I'm here. Let's go.

JUDY

We don't deal with egos. Find your way out.

JOHNNY

I'm not leaving without getting paid.

JUDY

Paid? For what?

JOHNNY

Hey! Do you know who I am? I'm Johnny Long Shot! Without me, you don't have a movie!

JUDY

You are the object of the object.

JOHNNY

Huh? What's that supposed to mean?

JUDY

You are a prop, nothing more. You are also fired. (into the walkie-talkie) Calvin?

An enormous bodyguard, CALVIN, arrives on the set.

JOHNNY
This is bullshit. I didn't even
want to do this crap. I don't care
if you are the famous Judy
Wolcraft.

JUDY
Then everyone is happy. Goodbye.

Calvin takes Johnny by the arm and leads him to the back door, past the curtain where Cloe and Maria hide.

JOHNNY
You won't get away with this! Let
go of me!

Calvin puts Johnny over his shoulder like a sack of potatoes.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
Put me down!

Johnny grabs the curtain, which rips off the rod as he is taken out of the back door. Cloe and Maria stand exposed holding onto each other.

The crew all stare silently at Maria and Cloe. A very large smile comes across Judy's face.

JUDY
Well, I guess that's lunch.

All the girls squeal and race upstairs. Judy and Desiree walk slowly up to Maria and Cloe. Calvin comes back in and blocks the doorway.

JUDY (CONT'D)
(calmly)
Do you two like lasagna?

Maria and Cloe nod like children.

JUDY (CONT'D)
Good. Come on up.

Judy and Desiree walk away and up the stairs. Calvin indicates that he will escort them.

INT. JUDY'S STUDIO KITCHEN - DAY

Cloe and Maria sit nervously at a huge dining table while the commotion of a family-style Italian meal swirls around them.

Judy, in an apron, gives orders from the stove, and lunch is served.

JUDY

A toast. Here's to the film that almost happened and for not putting up with assholes like Johnny Long Shot.

Everyone cheers.

ACTRESS

What are you going to do, Judy?

JUDY

We'll reschedule. But everyone gets paid for today. And here is to our new friends!

Everyone toasts Maria and Cloe and begins to eat. Desiree leans close to Judy.

DESIREE

Judy, I'm sorry.

JUDY

Don't worry about it. You'll get the hang of it.

DESIREE

I'm never going to be as good as you.

JUDY

You'll be fine. Eat your lunch.

CLOE

(boasting)

Yeah, I've always believed I could bring something to the industry. You know, I study ballet which I'm sure will come in handy in this kind of work.

MARIA

(whispering)

Shut up, Cloe.

CLOE

Judy, have you seen DG's Pirate series? Really great quality.

Judy smiles and glances at Desiree.

MARIA
I don't believe this.

CLOE
You know, I've some ideas that you
might want to hear. Really edgy.

JUDY
(smiling)
Sure. We'll set up a meeting... do
lunch.

Cloe raises her glass.

ACTRESS
Judy, when can I get a primary
role?

JUDY
I told you; finish one semester at
State and then we'll talk.

ACTRESS
But...

JUDY
You know the rules.

ACTRESS 2
Judy, I got my grades.

JUDY
And?

ACTRESS 2
2.75.

Judy raises an eyebrow.

ACTRESS 2 (CONT'D)
That economics professor hates me!

CLOE
The key to everything is economics.
You know, after the tech-bubble
burst... ouch!

MARIA
Will you shut up? I think I
finally understand all this.

CLOE
Um, is there more lasagna?

INT. JUDY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

With a fireplace roaring and bottles of wine, Judy watches Maria slowly dance.

JUDY
What in the world is that?

MARIA
It's the pas de deux adagio from
Sleeping Beauty, but the guy I was
with had a broken arm.

Maria tries to execute the final ballet move but falls down laughing.

JUDY
Whoa! You okay?

MARIA
Well, that move and drinking this
much are things I don't do much
anymore. The point is that I've
tortured my body in ways most
people will never know.

JUDY
Are you kidding? Watch this.

Judy lies on her back with her legs and arms in the air, rocking back and forth.

JUDY (CONT'D)
Well?

MARIA
What are you doing?

JUDY
Double-tug, Duel-pen.

MARIA
Tugging on what?

JUDY
What do you think?

MARIA
Oh. Um, Pen?

JUDY
Penetration.

Maria chokes on her wine.

MARIA
Okay. You win.

Judy sits up and pours more wine.

MARIA (CONT'D)
Can I ask you something?

JUDY
Sure.

MARIA
Why did you fire that guy?
Johnny...

JUDY
Long Shot. Johnny is... (with
flourish) *lost in a garden of
gender irony.*

Maria looks baffled.

JUDY (CONT'D)
Sorry. Not my line. Susan Faludi.

MARIA
The feminist?!

JUDY
Yeah. Have you read her?

MARIA
(shaking her head)
I must say, I've never met anyone
like you. How did you do all this?

JUDY
I just got tired of playing by
men's rules. Women have the power
in this business, but most of them
are young and stupid. I'm neither.
Guys like Johnny are a dime a dozen
and my employees needed to see
that.

MARIA
I've spent most of my life putting
up with men.

JUDY
Well, sometimes you have to let
them think they've written the
rules. It's just easier that way.

There is a sudden knock at the door.

MARIA

Hey, maybe it's Johnny Long Shot!
I can show him the Sleeping Beauty
adagio!

JUDY

I'll be right back. Maybe you
should take it easy on the wine.

Maria pours another glass while Judy leaves. A moment later, she hears angry voices. She peeks around the corner to see Judy arguing with a woman, ANDREA, in her early twenties.

INT. FRONT DOOR

ANDREA

Why are you being so unfair?

JUDY

Fair? You know the rules. You
want to pee in a cup right now? I
can tell you're hopped up.

ANDREA

I've already done six films.

JUDY

You will never work for me. I
don't want you to do this.

ANDREA

You owe me!

JUDY

Oh, is that right? Listen, we had
a deal and you broke it.

ANDREA

This is bullshit!

Maria nervously collects her purse, puts her shoes on and makes for the door.

MARIA

Judy, thanks for the drinks. I
better go.

ANDREA

Who the hell is this? You doing
MILF now?

JUDY
Shut up, Andrea. (to Maria) You
okay to drive?

MARIA
Yes. I, I'll talk to you soon.

JUDY
Sorry about this. I'll call you.

MARIA
Okay. Good night.

Maria squeezes out and the door closes behind her.

EXT. JUDY'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

As Maria walks away, she hears the continuation of the
argument.

ANDREA (O.C.)
You have always treated me like a
baby!

JUDY (O.C.)
I'm calling the cops.

ANDREA (O.C.)
No! Mom, wait! Just let me
explain!

MARIA
(to self)
Mom?

Maria scurries away.

EXT. GROCERY STORE - DAY

Maria chats with Vanessa and Susan who are have Princess and
Sebastian on leashes.

VANESSA
I'm not saying it's cheating. But
don't you think it's a little
unusual that she has won the last
three years?

SUSAN
We're not trying to complain. It's
a great event, but come on...

MARIA

Maybe she is just really creative.

Judy pulls up in her hot rod and walks up to the three ladies.

JUDY

Hi, everyone. Maria, I wanted to apologize for the other night. We were having such a nice time and...

MARIA

Oh, don't worry about it. You've met Vanessa and Susan.

Sebastian and Princess sniff Judy's legs.

JUDY

Of course. Oops. Sorry.

Judy puts out her cigarette.

JUDY (CONT'D)

And if it isn't my favorite party animals.

Judy pets the dogs.

MARIA

It's the dogs we've been talking about.

JUDY

Yeah?

VANESSA

It's not that big of a deal, but Trudie McIntyre has won the Halloween Dog costume contest every year and we can't figure out how to beat her.

SUSAN

Last year, she had Spendie, her poodle, dressed as Marilyn Monroe. She even rigged a little fan to blow the dog's dress up like in that movie.

VANESSA

You know, whooooosh!

Vanessa strikes the iconic Marilyn Monroe pose.

JUDY
That's pretty tough competition.

MARIA
Trudie's got this thing about movies. Anyway, she always wins.

JUDY
So, what's the movie everyone in New Harmony would know?

VANESSA
I don't know. Gone with the Wind? Titanic?

JUDY
So build yourself a ship.

SUSAN
Just like that?

JUDY
Yeah, you can't let this broad win every year, can you? Hey, I've got to get shopping. I've got a new creation brewing. You all should come over for lunch on Saturday.

Vanessa and Susan look skeptical.

MARIA
Actually, she is quite the cook.

VANESSA
Not as good as you.

JUDY
Ooooh, now that would be a good competition. Anyway, come over on Saturday. I'll see what I can dream up for your dog thing.

Judy goes into the grocery. The three women watch her as she leaves.

VANESSA
When did she cook for you?

SUSAN
Yeah?

MARIA
That is a long story.

EXT. JUDY'S HOUSE - DAY

A car parks by the house. Susan, Vanessa and Maria listen to the sounds of hammering and circuit saws. They warily get out of the car.

The three women ease their way to the side of the house to the backyard and then stop, stunned.

VANESSA, MARIA AND SUSAN
Oh my God.

MARIA
Judy! Judy!

Judy looks up and manages a smile through her sawdust-covered face. She walks over wearing a tool belt.

JUDY
Hello, girls. Trudie McIntyre can
kiss our butts, right?

The three women stare at the unseen structure. Judy lights a cigarette.

JUDY (CONT'D)
Come on in. Lunch is ready to go.

Maria absentmindedly hands Judy a pack of Nicorette. Judy smiles, flicks the cigarette away and pops the gum in her mouth.

JUDY (CONT'D)
Come on.

Judy exits. The three women stare.

EXT. MAIN STREET - DAY

An excited New Harmony crowd watches the Halloween dog parade, filled with little dogs dressed as fairies, leprechauns and so forth. Suddenly, the crowd erupts as Trudie turns the corner with Spendie dressed as Batman riding a black bicycle decorated with a sign that reads, "Bat Dog." The crowd applauds enthusiastically.

ANNOUNCER
What a great finish! Yep, another
great year for the dog parade.
Let's all go to...

JOAN
Cheese and crackers! Look at that!

From around the corner comes Susan and Vanessa in sailor outfits pulling a huge float. It is a kiddie pool filled with water and a 15-foot, half-sunk replica of the Titanic. Celine Dion's "My Heart Will Go On" blasts from attached speakers. Princess, wearing a kiddie floatie, swims beneath the ship. Sebastian stands at the bow of the upended Titanic, barking.

As the float passes the judges' stand, Sebastian jumps into the water to save Princess. The crowd goes wild.

Vanessa and Susan beam with pride. From the audience, Judy and Maria clap wildly. Maria plucks a cigarette out of Judy's mouth and hands her a piece of Nicorette.

SUPER: TWO MONTHS LATER

INT. MARIA'S KITCHEN - DAY

Maria prepares an elaborate dish while in a festive mood. The doorbell rings.

MARIA

It's open!

Cloe comes in carrying a small grocery bag.

CLOE

They didn't have shiitake mushrooms so I got Portobello.

MARIA

Hmm. Well, let's see how that works out.

CLOE

What is it this time?

MARIA

Frittata.

CLOE

Who's winning the competition?

MARIA

Judy won last week with the blueberry pancakes, but I think I've got her in a corner this time.

CLOE

Who is the judge?

MARIA

Desiree comes over at ten and she declares the winner.

CLOE

Isn't that a little biased?

MARIA

No. She declared my Benedict the winner two weeks ago.

Beat.

CLOE

Maria, I don't know what to do.

MARIA

What do you mean?

CLOE

We're not trying to run Judy out of town anymore because you guys are like best friends now. I've given up on ballet because I'm terrible at it. I don't really have anything to do and I don't have any friends because you are the only person who has ever been nice to me.

Maria is touched.

MARIA

Don't worry, Cloe. When the studio opens, you will be the manager. I will have my hands full giving lessons.

CLOE

Really?

MARIA

Of course you'll be the manager. I thought you knew that?

CLOE

Wow. Studio manager. I like the sound of that. Can I wear one of those phone headset things?

MARIA

I don't see why not.

CLOE
How about Microsoft Outlook for our
contacts database?

MARIA
Sure.

CLOE
Expense account?

MARIA
Easy now.

CLOE
Okay. I better get to the mall.

MARIA
What for?

CLOE
Hello? Pin-stripes. I need a
suit.

MARIA
I really don't think that will be
necessary.

Cloe starts to leave.

CLOE
I think I'll go into the city to
get a couple of those knockoff
purses.

MARIA
Sure. Why not?

CLOE
Coach or Louis Vuitton?

MARIA
Will you get out of here?!

Cloe leaves. Maria looks in the bag.

MARIA (CONT'D)
Portobello? This is squash.

INT. GROCERY STORE - DAY

Maria shops in the produce section. She sees Trudie chatting
with Peggy across the store.

They spot Maria and she waves enthusiastically. They whisper to each other and then walk away. Maria, shrugs and takes out her cell phone and dials.

MARIA

(into phone)

Gavie? Where aaaaarree you?
Listen, give me a call. I'm in the grocery and was wondering if you'd like some of those truffles. It's one of the few treats I have in mind for you tonight if you are not busy.

She hangs up and heads to the checkout. She sees Trudie and Peggy again and gives them a big raspberry.

INT. MARIA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Maria wakes up and looks at her cell phone which reads, "No Messages." She gives a raspberry to the phone and gets out of bed.

EXT. MARIA'S HOUSE - DAY

Maria comes out of her house carrying the fritatta and gets into the car.

She drives through town in a cheery mood and turns the corner to Judy's house. Suddenly, she stops in the middle of the street. In a rush, she pulls over and rifles the glove box for Cloe's binoculars.

Through the lens, she sees Judy in her doorway wearing a skimpy robe, talking to Gavin, who is in a rather ruffled suit. He walks away scratching his head, and Judy watches him get into his car. As he drives by, Maria ducks.

Moments later, Maria's car speeds down the street and a fritatta comes flying out of the window, smashing into a mailbox.

INT. BILLY'S BAR - DAY

Billy wipes down the bar. Maria comes bursting in and sits at the bar.

BILLY

Well, hello, Maria. Long time.
What can I do for you?

MARIA
Hi, Billy. Can you make me
something strong?

BILLY
You are aware that it is ten a.m.,
right?

MARIA
I don't care.

BILLY
Okay. I hear you've got quite the
cooking competition goin' on with
Judy. She was worried about the
next round.

MARIA
Well she's a little busy this week.

BILLY
She keeps a lot of balls in the
air. She's been spending a lot of
time on Ashford Street. She going
to work for you?

MARIA
What are you talking about?

BILLY
Your dance studio.

MARIA
We don't open for months. What's
this all about?

BILLY
Oh, what do I know? I'm just an
old codger with only half a brain.
How about a gin fizz?

Maria rushes out.

EXT. VACANT STOREFRONT - DAY

Maria pulls up to the store and jumps out of the car. She
pulls out a key and notices that the lock has been changed.

MARIA
What's going on here?

Maria dials her cell.

MARIA (CONT'D)
 Ricky? It's Maria. I'm here on
 Ashford Street. What the hell's
 going on?

RICKY (O.S.)
 It wasn't my idea Maria. I had
 nothing to do with this.

MARIA
 Where's Gavin?

RICKY (O.S.)
 I don't know.

MARIA
 I want to get into my studio.

RICKY (O.S.)
 You need to talk to Gavin. I'm
 going to stay out of this.

Trudie walks by.

TRUDIE
 Hi Maria. How are the ballet
 lessons coming?

MARIA
 (into phone)
 Oh stop being a pussy and tell me
 what's going on before I come down
 there and kick your scrawny ass,
 you whiny little shit.

Shocked, Joan rushes off.

MARIA (CONT'D)
 Hello? Hello? Arrrgh!

Maria storms off.

EXT. CITY HALL - DAY

Maria gets out of her, and sees Ricky walking quickly toward
 his. She runs toward him as he tries to make it into his
 car. Ricky shields himself with his briefcase as Maria
 starts pounding him.

MARIA
 Where's Gavin?! Who has my
 studio?! Why are you doing this to
 me?!

RICKY

One: I don't know where he is!
Two: Judy Wolcraft bought the studio!
Three: I personally didn't do anything to you!
Four: Please don't hit me! I bruise like a grape!

Maria stops.

MARIA

(stunned)
Judy?

RICKY

Yeah, so I think this fit of violence is better directed at her.

MARIA

She bought the building?

RICKY

Maria, will you let me go? I'm taking my mom to the chiropractor. She gets testy if I'm late.

MARIA

(distracted)
Yeah. Sure. Tell her I said hi.

Ricky sheepishly gets in his car.

MARIA (CONT'D)

(to self)
So, you play by your own rules, huh? Well, I've got some new ones.

EXT. JUDY'S BACKYARD - NIGHT

Maria, dressed head to toe in black, watches for movement in Judy's house. She reaches down and picks up a box labeled "N.O.G.S." She puts on the elaborate goggles. She tries to adjust them but they remain fuzzy. She heads toward the house, tripping a few times on the way. When she gets to the back door, she slides a credit card to pop the lock. It opens.

MARIA

(to self)
That actually works?

INT. JUDY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Inside, she tries again to adjust the N.O.G.S. only to bump into a cabinet with a crash.

MARIA

Shit.

She whips off the goggles and sees Judy standing across the room holding a gun.

JUDY

What in God's name are you doing?

Maria picks up a jostled china plate and throws it at Judy, who ducks.

JUDY (CONT'D)

What are you doing?!

Maria continues to throw more plates.

JUDY (CONT'D)

Hello, that's Balik!

Maria throws another plate.

JUDY (CONT'D)

Hey, that shit cost me a fortune!

MARIA

That's okay. You can afford it!

JUDY

What's wrong with you!?

MARIA

I hate you! You've ruined my life!

JUDY

Hey, in case you haven't noticed, I'm the one holding the gun!

MARIA

I hate you!

More plates fly.

Judy finally shoots the gun into the ceiling. Maria stops.

JUDY

Okay. Now that I have a hole in my own damn ceiling, why don't you tell me what's gotten into you?

MARIA
I saw you.

JUDY
Huh?

MARIA
I saw you and Gavin yesterday morning. Not only that, I know that you bought the Ashford Street building. Why don't you two just run the whole town? You'll make a great team.

JUDY
(rolling her eyes)
Sit down.

MARIA
I'm leaving.

JUDY
(waving the gun)
Sit doooooown.

Maria sits. Judy goes to the cabinet, finds two unbroken glasses and pours two drinks. She sits next to Maria.

MARIA
I can't believe you did this to me.
I thought we were friends.

JUDY
Shut up and listen.

MARIA
You two have fun the other night?
I can't believe I thought you were more than, than...

JUDY
What? A whore?

MARIA
You said it, not me.

JUDY
Careful, Maria. You're already in over your head. Besides, in two minutes, you're going to understand.

MARIA
How?

Judy takes out a small piece of paper with a number on it.

MARIA (CONT'D)
What in the world is that?

JOAN
(taking a breath)
So I'm sitting at home when your
boyfriend knocks at my door. And
he was wasted.

EXT. JUDY'S HOUSE - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

A drunken Gavin teeters at Judy's front door.

JUDY (V.O.)
He comes in looking to get laid,
figuring the porno director is an
easy catch. He was wrong.

INT. JUDY'S HOUSE - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Judy sits a drunken Gavin down in a chair.

JUDY (V.O.)
Well, in his effort to impress me,
he starts bragging about all of his
plans for the city; how he has
decided to forgo investors in his
new strip club because he wants to
go into business with me. This, by
the way, is something he approached
me about before. Anyway, I figured
this info was too good to pass up
so I helped him to tell me more.

Judy gives Gavin more drinks.

JUDY (V.O.)
Here's the kicker. He's been
funneling money from city taxes to
an offshore account. He's been
robbing the city for three and a
half years. Including taking a
slice from events like the duck
race and dog parade. And then, he
did what all men do after the big
moment.

Gavin falls asleep in the chair.

JUDY (V.O.)
So I go snooping for more info.

Judy rifles through Gavin's clothes and takes out his wallet.
She finds a slip of paper.

JUDY (V.O.)
And genius that he is, he has his
friggin' off shore account number
written on a piece of paper. And
that's when it hit me.

BACK TO SCENE

MARIA
What?

JUDY
He's up for re-election.

MARIA
So.

JUDY
He's a thief and we can prove it.

MARIA
And?

JUDY
And someone needs to run against
him.

MARIA
Now, I've heard everything! Judy
Wolcraft, porno director AND mayor
of New Harmony, New York! You are
crazy, you know that?

JUDY
Not me you idiot. You.

MARIA
What?

JUDY
You are going to run for mayor.
And I'm going to help you win.

MARIA
Why should I trust you?

JUDY
Why wouldn't you?

MARIA

You took my studio.

JUDY

Gavin was trying to screw you out of your studio, not me. So, well, I looked into it and figured it was a good investment.

MARIA

What are you going to do with it?

JUDY

I'm trying to find someone who will run a ballet school out of it.

MARIA

(stunned)

You would do that for me?

JUDY

First we have an election to win.

MARIA

This is crazy. We don't know anything about running political campaigns. It takes organization, a team of people and lots of money.

JUDY

(sarcastically)

Hmmm. I wonder who we know who has those things?

MONTAGE:

A gang of sexy women burst into Billy's bar and transform it into a campaign headquarters. Desiree hosts a wet t-shirt contest as money fills the "Maria-for-Mayor" barrel.

Maria gives speeches to New Harmony's upper crust. Judy watches from a distance.

Cloe and Judy's girls run nighttime commando operations to take down Gavin's campaign signs and replace them with Maria's.

Gavin yells at Ricky at a half-empty rally.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM - NIGHT

Backstage, Maria paces back and forth glancing at two podiums on the stage. Cloe wanders around wearing a pin-stripped suit and talking on a headset.

Cloe stops a student walking by.

CLOE

Excuse me. Hi, I'm Cloe Sanford with the Maria for Mayor campaign. I need you to change that light up there. Do you have a rose-colored gel? It will bring out Maria's tones much better.

The kid shrugs and walks away.

CLOE (CONT'D)

Doing a great job. Maria doesn't forget her friends! (back to the headset) Listen, you moron, how hard is it to make a few buttons?

Desiree enters and approaches Maria.

DESIREE

The Power Point is ready. After Gavin answers the question about appropriations, you announce his offshore slush fund. Then the slide will come up showing the account number.

MARIA

Are the reporters here?

DESIREE

Yeah. They aren't too happy as this is pretty small news for them.

MARIA

They'll get what they want. Where's Judy?

DESIREE

She said she'll be late.

MARIA

What? This is the only debate.

DESIREE
She sounded really distracted. I
don't know why, but I've learned
not to question her.

The SCHOOL PRINCIPAL approaches.

PRINCIPAL
You ready?

MARIA
Yes.

Gavin appears.

GAVIN
Hello, Maria.

MARIA
Gavin.

GAVIN
Nervous?

MARIA
I'm not the one who should be
nervous.

GAVIN
Oh really?

MARIA
Get away from me.

GAVIN
Did you really think you were going
to burn me on that bank account?

MARIA
What?

GAVIN
Why don't you just forget about
this campaign, and we'll get back
to normal.

MARIA
Normal? There is nothing normal
about you.

GAVIN
Suit yourself. Where's Judy? You
two break up?

MARIA
Leave me alone.

PRINCIPAL
You two ready?

Maria marches onto the stage.

GAVIN
Looks like she's ready.

INT. SCHOOL AUDITORIUM - LATER

The debate winds down.

GAVIN
So, with the new fire truck our
citizens can rest assured that New
Harmony will never have to face a
catastrophe like the fire of '73.

The crowd oohs and ahhs in agreement. Polite applause.

MARIA
Well, Mr. Mayor, I'm glad that
you've brought up city expenses.

Cloe smiles. Desiree readies the slide show.

MARIA (CONT'D)
I've got a few questions about your
spending habits.

Maria's cell phone buzzes with a text. She takes a quick
glance and it reads: "Don't do it. He's moved the account.
Judy."

MARIA (CONT'D)
Shit.

The crowd laughs.

MARIA (CONT'D)
Oh, um sorry. Well I think that
the city can make better use of the
taxes.

Pause.

PRINCIPAL
Any suggestions?

MARIA
I think that the mayor has not used
his best judgement.

Pause.

PRINCIPAL
In what way?

MARIA
Like the, the fire truck. I mean,
we have one right? And the last
fire was in, well, 1973.

Pause.

PRINCIPAL
Okay. I'd like to thank both of
the candidates for their time and
the fighting New Harmony Tigers for
letting us use the auditorium. See
you next Tuesday at the polls.
Good night, everyone.

Maria rushes off the stage and bumps into a REPORTER.

REPORTER
So why did we come all the way out
here for this podunk little
election?

MARIA
Excuse me.

Maria leaves out of a side door while dialing her phone.

EXT. SCHOOL AUDITORIUM - DAY

MARIA
(into phone)
Judy? Where the hell are you?
What's going on?

Loud music is heard over the phone.

JUDY (O.S.)
Maria. Listen, Gavin moved the
money and somehow the city books
are square, but I've got a hunch
about something.

MARIA

I just got my ass handed to me at this debate. You better come through.

JUDY (O.S.)

I can't promise anything, but I need some time.

MARIA

We don't have time!

Maria hangs up. Cloe and Desiree come out.

CLOE

Maria, you okay? Do you need me to call in some backup?

MARIA

Shut up, Cloe.

Maria stomps off. Cloe starts to follow, but Desiree holds her back.

INT. BILLY'S BAR - NIGHT

Maria, Cloe and Desiree sit at the bar nursing drinks.

DESIREE

Listen, I've worked for her for three years. If she's out of touch, it's for a good reason.

MARIA

I think I'm going to just move. Maybe somewhere in New Hampshire. That's nice and quiet.

CLOE

We're not out of this yet.

MARIA

This whole thing was a crazy idea. Billy! One more!

Billy brings another round.

BILLY

Well, win or lose, there has finally been some excitement around here.

DESIREE

The funny thing is that I kind of like this little town... not that I'd ever live here.

CLOE

I think I might go into politics myself. I think I'm cut out for it.

MARIA

Good Lord.

Maria takes her drink and sits at a table. Her cell phone buzzes. A text from Gavin says, "I'm out front. Come talk to me." Maria thinks a moment and then goes out. Desiree and Cloe watch her go.

CLOE

Hey, was that you in that movie with the midgets? How did you get them to fly like that?

DESIREE

(calling)

Billy! What do I owe you?

CLOE

What's it's like with a midget? Or do they like to be called Little People?

DESIREE

You know, we can get you help. There's medicine.

CLOE

What do you mean?

EXT. BILLY'S BAR - DAY

Maria sees Gavin holding his car door open. She reluctantly gets in. They drive.

GAVIN

You know there's still a week before the election. You could drop out and we could forget all this nonsense.

MARIA

I may as well. I've had enough of New Harmony.

GAVIN
What? You leaving?

MARIA
Why would I possibly stay?

GAVIN
All your plans.

MARIA
Plans you ruined, you jerk.

GAVIN
What are you talking about?

MARIA
Judy told me what you've been up to.

GAVIN
You're going to trust a porno queen over me? Maria, I'm the one who understands you.

MARIA
I don't know who to trust anymore. What I do know is that you are a scumbag and I don't know why I got into this car with you.

GAVIN
Why don't we go to your place and talk?

MARIA
What? You think you are getting lucky tonight? Now I've heard everything! Pull over! Let me out!

GAVIN
You know, you always were kind of a drama queen.

MARIA
Pull over!

GAVIN
Oh be quiet. I'll take you home.

MARIA
I said pull.....OVER!

Maria punches Gavin in the jaw. The car careens off the road and barrels toward the town firehouse. Maria and Gavin fight for the wheel as they smash into the parked fire truck.

From a storage space above the fire truck, falls a cardboard box which explodes on the hood of Gavin's car sending rubber ducks in every direction. Maria gets out of the car and walks away.

As Maria reaches the street, Judy's hot rod comes to a screeching stop.

JUDY

Get in!

MARIA

What's going on?

JUDY

Who's your best friend?

MARIA

I'm having a really bad night,
Judy.

JUDY

Not anymore!

Maria gets in. Judy peels out with the radio blasting QUEEN.

JUDY (CONT'D)

(singing)

We are the champions my friend!
Bum, bum, bum.

MARIA

Are you drunk?

JUDY

(singing)

And we'll keep on fighting 'til the
end! Bum, bum, bum. Come on,
sing!

MARIA

Why?

Judy hands Maria a manila envelope. Maria takes out the contents and her eyes widen.

MARIA & JUDY

We are the champions! WE ARE THE
CHAMPIONS... OF THE WORLD!

INT. LION'S CLUB - DAY

Gavin speaks to a group of elderly men and women, while showing slides of various models of fire trucks.

Cloe, dressed in a trench coat and dark glasses, sneaks up to the laptop on the table and plugs in a USB drive and then quickly leaves.

As Gavin talks, his slides of fire trucks suddenly change to a slide show of himself, Tommy and Stu in various states of undress with strippers from the Juice Factory. As the slides continue showing Gavin and his friends in a drunken stupor, the people start to leave.

Outside the Lion's Club, Maria, Judy, Desiree, Cloe and Connie (owner of the Juice Factory) hand out flyers endorsing Maria for mayor.

Gavin comes rushing out.

GAVIN
Connie! I'll kill you!

He runs for the women but is cold-cocked by Calvin, Judy's bodyguard.

An old lady walks up to Gavin, who is on the ground in pain.

OLD LADY
You should be ashamed of yourself.
This is a respectable town.

GAVIN
But, but they...

OLD LADY
Oh don't be a baby.

GAVIN
This is a disaster. This can't get
any worse!

Sebastian, the dog, walks up and pees on him. Vanessa appears.

VANESSA
Sebastian! Bad dog! Bad... oh.
Hi, Gavin.

She walks off.

The women finish handing out their flyers and pile into Judy's car and peel out. Gavin whimpers on the ground.

SUPER: SIX MONTHS LATER

EXT. OPEN ROAD - DAY

Judy speeds down the road and then pulls onto a private drive with a sign that reads: "New Hope Rehabilitation."

She stops at the front door, and Andrea comes out and gets in the car. She and Judy hug.

JUDY
You ready?

Andrea nods. Judy drives.

INT. CITY HALL - DAY

Cloe sits at a huge desk in a suit with a headset on.

CLOE
I told you the mayor is not in at the moment. She is very busy making sure your tax dollars are working as hard as she does.

Maria comes out of her office.

CLOE (CONT'D)
Hold on a minute.

MARIA
I'll be back in a couple of hours. It's Thursday.

CLOE
I know. I'm the one who runs your schedule.

MARIA
See you later.

Cloe clicks back into her call.

CLOE
So yeah, well, you've got to go through me to get to her. That's just the way it works.

Cloe puts her feet up on the desk and tips the back of her chair over.

CLOE (CONT'D)
Hello? Hello?

EXT. MARIA'S DANCE STUDIO - DAY

Judy parks. Andrea gets out of the car. Judy watches her enter the studio. Judy's phone buzzes.

JUDY
Yeah.

DESIREE
(through the phone)
Hey, who's the lighting guy we used on Slam Time?

JUDY
Sandy Zipman. His number is in the database.

DESIREE (O.S.)
Judy, we're going on location in Bermuda next week. You sure you don't want to go?

JUDY
Naw. I'm done. Retirement is better than I hoped. But we'll get together next week and run numbers if you like.

DESIREE (O.S.)
I'd like that.

JUDY
Okay. I'll call you.

DESIREE (O.S.)
Take care.

JUDY
Dee?

DESIREE (O.S.)
Yeah?

JUDY
You'll be fine. Call me if you need anything.

DESIREE (O.S.)
Thanks.

Judy hangs up and gets out of the car. Before she enters the studio, she pops a Nicorette into her mouth. She takes the empty box and tosses it over her shoulder. It lands on Maria's windshield. Judy enters the building.

INT. DANCE STUDIO - DAY

Judy enters a ballet class that is in progress. Maria moves Andrea's arms and then steps back to watch.

MARIA
Good! You've been practicing.

ANDREA
I can't get my feet right.

MARIA
You're doing fine.

ANDREA
How's that?

MARIA
Perfect.

ANDREA
I'll never be as good as you.

MARIA
Just do your best. That's all I
ever want.

Maria sees Judy. They smile.

FADE OUT.