AUSTRALIAN NATURE GUY

by

Steve Nazarian

stevenaz226@comcast.net

WGA Registered

Copyright 2008

FADE IN:

INT. OFFICE BUILDING - DAY

A group of people stand in line in front of

A VENDING MACHINE

A businesswoman, PATTY, 37, presses her nose up against the plexi-glass window. She steps back, unsure of what to get.

BOB (O.S.) Tough decision?

Patty turns to BOB, 42, a businessman standing behind her.

PATTY

Sorry, Bob.

Patty turns back to the vending machine and puts a dollar in it. The machine spits it out. She tries again. It spits it out again.

Bob turns and gives a pained look at the person standing behind him. He is startled to see

AUSTRALIAN NATURE GUY

Australian Nature Guy wears a safari outfit and speaks with an Australian accent. Think guy from Animal Planet.

> AUSTRALIAN NATURE GUY G'day, mate! Glory day for a candy bar, eh?

A confused look from Bob.

BACK TO THE VENDING MACHINE

Patty finally gets the vending machine to take her dollar. She hits B-7. A bag of chips slowly pushes forward in the tray... then gets stuck... and doesn't fall.

PATTY

Sonuva!

Patty shakes the vending machine, then kicks it, but the bag of chips won't budge.

PATTY

Motherfucker!

Australian Nature Guy brushes past Bob.

BOB

Hey, I'm next buddy--

Australian Nature Guy holds his index finger to his lips...

AUSTRALIAN NATURE GUY Shhhhhhhh...

... and then tips his hat to Patty, who smiles.

AUSTRALIAN NATURE GUY (whispering) All right there, Lassie... Be very quiet and don't make any sudden movements...

BOB I'm sorry do you even work here?

Australian Nature Guy SHUSHES him again.

AUSTRALIAN NATURE GUY (whispering) Careful friend... It looks like a croc has got inside your big shiny box of treats... This one's got a sweet tooth on her, do right!

Bob and Patty are both fucking speechless.

Australian Nature Guy inspects the vending machine, cocking his head sideways as he runs his hands over the plexi-glass window.

AUSTRALIAN NATURE GUY (whispering) Oh gory! This croc's gotten herself inside a fat onion now hasn't she! I don't think she can wiggle herself out of there on her own!

BOB Now see here buddy--

Patty SHUSHES Bob this time.

BOB What you're shushing me now? Patty, you don't actually think this lunatic can fix the machine-- PATTY I don't know, Bob. There's something about him...

BOB Yes... He's a retarded person.

PATTY

Maybe it's because I'm a city girl and he's lived his whole life in The Bush...

BOB More like an actual bush I'd say.

PATTY Or maybe it's because he looks good in a safari outfit...

BOB He looks completely ridiculous. Especially in this office setting.

PATTY Maybe something about him tells me he can teach us all a valuable lesson not only about our lives... but about this great big planet we call Earth...

BOB Maybe you need to get your head examined. Wait-- isn't that the plot from Crocodile Dundee?

PATTY I don't care if it is. I trust him. I trust him with my life!

BOB You really need to get out of the office more, Patty.

BACK TO THE VENDING MACHINE

Patty taps Australian Nature Guy on the shoulder.

PATTY (whispering) How's it look? Can you fix it?

Australian Nature Guy gives her a wink and confident grin.

AUSTRALIAN NATURE GUY (rhetorical) Do wallabies shimmy gandashanks?

PATTY (whispering) I... I have no idea... I just really want my bag of chips... and if you can get them for me... I'm probably going to sleep with you.

Australian Nature Guy smiles, tips his hat, and turns back to the vending machine.

He takes a GIGANTIC HUNTING KNIFE out of a sheath on his leg and uses it to pry open the vending machine's NUMERIC KEYPAD.

Bob, seeing the giant knife, turns and yells out loud to no one in particular:

BOB

Security!

Australian Nature Guy is now using two hands on the knife, wiggling it back in forth into the keypad.

AUSTRALIAN NATURE GUY Yeah this croc is a tricky bitch! She does not like this one bit! But I'm going to keep doing it because candy isn't good for her!

Australian Nature Guy puts his right foot on the plexi-glass to gain additional leverage and jams the knife in deeper.

SPARKS START SHOOTING OUT OF THE VENDING MACHINE.

AUSTRALIAN NATURE GUY Just a little bit deeper and I can pry her out!

ANOTHER BURST OF SPARKS.

PATTY Be careful!

AUSTRALIAN NATURE GUY IS ELECTROCUTED AND COLLAPSES TO THE FLOOR.

The LIGHTS in the building flicker on and off, then slowly come back up.

Damn... And I really thought that was going to work.

Patty bends down and takes a pulse off of Australian Nature Guy's smoking body. She looks up at Bob.

PATTY

He's dead.

Beat.

BOB

I'm glad.

THE VENDING MACHINE BEEPS.

Patty's bag of chips moves forward and falls into the receptacle below.

PATTY

He did it...

Patty approaches the vending machine. Touches the plexiglass. A solemn look back at Australian Nature Guy's body.

> PATTY He gave his life for this bag of chips.

> BOB Yeah and he also taught us a valuable lesson, which is: never stick a giant knife inside a fucking vending machine. Thanks Australian Nature Guy.

PATTY You think this is funny?

BOB I really don't see how it could not be.

PATTY You're a bastard, Bob.

BOB Yeah, but I'm alive, which is more than you can say for Dingo Ate My Baby over there.

PATTY I can't believe I slept with you.

BOB Really? Because you offered to sleep with that guy for a bag of chips. So it's actually quite believable. Patty shakes her head in disgust. She turns back to the vending machine. Opens the receptacle drawer and retrieves the bag of chips. Stares at it like it's the HOLY GRAIL. TEARS stream from her face. Her hands SHAKE as she opens the bag. BOB Can we wrap this up, Patty? I've got a meeting in 10 minutes and really need some sugar in me. Patty takes a few chips out of the bag and eats them. CRUNCH... CRUNCH... CRUNCH... PATTY (wiping tears away) Oh my God... these chips are so qood. BOB So go eat them away from the machine. Patty bends down and kisses Australian Nature Guy on the forehead. PATTY Thank you... CRUNCH... CRUNCH... CRUNCH... PATTY ... Australian Nature Guy. I will always remember you. Patty stands, shoves another handful of chips in her mouth, and leaves. CRUNCH... CRUNCH... CRUNCH... BOB Finally! Bob steps up to the vending machine. Presses his nose against the plexi-glass, unsure of what to get...

... and as he decides we PAN AROUND THE MACHINE and see a GIANT CROCODILE TAIL poking out the back...

FADE OUT.