

I HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS

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The Player to be Named Later

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FADE IN

INT. SAM'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Sam (32), male, thinning hair, slim and fit, sits in a recliner. He drinks a beer and watches a baseball game.

His phone RINGS. He answers it.

SAM

Yello.

ANDY (V.O.)

Sam. I have a job for you. I need you to go to Dotti Karn's house. She's having trouble with her router. I need you to set her up with a new one.

SAM

Can't you get someone else? It's my birthday. Sandy says she has a nice evening planned for me.

ANDY (V.O.)

You're the only ship in the quadrant.

SAM

What does that mean?

ANDY (V.O.)

She's only a couple of towns over from you. Duck and Bill are both more than an hour and a half away.

SAM

What about Junior? He's practically on top of her.

ANDY (V.O.)

He has no router experience. Her company is our biggest customer. I know it's inconvenient for you but we need to do this favor for her and look good doing it.

SAM

What about you?

ANDY (V.O.)

My car is in the shop. I'll tell you what.

(MORE)

ANDY (V.O.) (cont'd)
Since you need to drop by my place
anyway to pick up the router, you can
pick me up too. I'll go with you.
What do you say? It's important.

SAM
Okay, fine... but you owe me.

ANDY (V.O.)
Great. I'll take you out after we're
done.

SAM
I'll take a rain check on that. I'd
rather spend my birthday with Sandy.
Anyway, I'll see you in a bit.

Sam hangs up. He shouts out to Sandy.

SAM
Sandy?

SANDY (O.S.)
Yeah?

SAM
That was Andy on the phone. I have to
go out on a call.

SANDY (31) enters. She wears a long overcoat, a broad-rim
rain hat and rubber boots.

SANDY
It's just as well. Kim just texted
me. She had Edgar put down and she'd
devastated. I'm going to help her
cry. We'll get together when the mood
is better.

SAM
Edgar? I liked that cat. Poor thing.
Okay, then. See you later.

EXT. ANDY'S DRIVEWAY - NIGHT

There is a light sprinkle of rain. Gusts of wind blow.

Sam arrives and parks his pickup truck in the driveway. He
waits for Andy. Lightning flashes. Soft THUNDER follows.

ANDY (40), tall, slightly overweight, steps out the front
door and locks it. He carries a gray canvas tool bag as he
jogs to Andy's truck. He steps in and closes the door.

INT. SAM'S TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

Andy fastens his safety belt. Sam backs his truck out of the driveway, onto the street. He shifts into drive and proceeds ahead. Another flash of lightning is followed by THUNDER.

SAM

Sandy went out. If you still want to do something after this, I'm available.

ANDY

Okay. I think I have the perfect place to take you.

SAM

Teasers?

ANDY

Am I that transparent?

Sam groans.

SAM

I'm glad you're coming with me. I'm not comfortable around Dotti.

ANDY

Why?

SAM

She's always coming on to me.

ANDY

Me too. So?

SAM

Well, I'm not into the whole cougar thing.

ANDY

Why not?

SAM

I'm just not. And besides, I'm living with Sandy. Also, it's kinda awkward seeing that she's one of Sandy's clients.

The light rain becomes a deluge. A flash of lightning is followed by an immediate, loud crash of THUNDER.

ANDY

Wow. It's like a car wash out there.

SAM

It was in the forecast. Strong winds, thunderstorms, then quiet and fog. So far they're right. Pretty scary.

ANDY

They're never right.

The lights around them go dark.

SAM

Great. How are we supposed to set up a router without power?

ANDY

This could change some plans. She has a generator so I think we'll be okay.

Sam groans.

INT. SAM'S TRUCK - LATER

The rain has stopped. Sam drives his truck slowly on a dark, winding wooded road, blanketed with heavy fog.

SAM

See any houses with lights on?

ANDY

I don't see any houses, period.

SAM

Are we even on her street?

ANDY

Not yet.

SAM

This is spooky. We're in the middle of nowhere. It's Dark. Thick fog. Nobody around.

ANDY

Just drive. You watch too many horror flicks.

SAM

I don't like this. Couldn't you have called someone else?

ANDY

We've already been through this. Besides, she likes you.

SAM

We've already been through this. I told you. She creeps me out. I was in her office after hours one night, setting up workstations, and she kept following me around and tickling me. On another night, I heard something, turned around and she was standing right behind me with this huge knife and a huge, weird smile. I thought I was dead, right there.

ANDY

Then what happened?

SAM

She just laughed and asked me if I wanted some cake.

ANDY

Did you?

SAM

No. Come on. I'm being serious. I didn't want any cake and I told her, "No."

ANDY

What did she do then?

SAM

She just gave me another weird smile and insisted until I gave in. I followed her to the lunchroom where she gave me a slice of cake. I insisted that she have a slice with me. I was sure that it was poisoned. I was also sure that with either the cake or the knife... or both... that I was a goner.

ANDY

So then what happened?

SAM

She insisted that we feed each other, which we did.

ANDY

Then what?

SAM

I told her that I needed something out of my truck and I bolted out of there.

ANDY

How was the cake?

SAM

The cake was good. Still, I'm not comfortable around her.

ANDY

I think you should give in a little bit. I have to tell you, if you think that cake was good, well... she's a lot better. Sandy doesn't have to know and I bet Dotti gives us a bigger service contract if you play along. Come on. Take one for the team. I'll throw you a bonus.

SAM

Not gonna happen.

ANDY

Just think about it. All I ask is that you keep an open mind. This is her street. She's the third driveway on the right.

SAM

I don't even see one driveway.

ANDY

I do. Slow down. It's coming up.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Sam's truck passes a barely visible black mailbox marked with a reflective numeral SIX on it. It backs up, then turns into the driveway.

EXT. DOTTI'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - CONTINUOUS

The long winding driveway terminates beside a large Victorian dwelling with a mansard roof and a widow's tower.

Like everything else, it is bathed in darkness and thick fog.

There is an old airport shuttle bus parked in the driveway.

Sam's pickup appears from the fog and parks in front of a three-bay detached garage. The truck's engine shuts off. Both doors open. Sam and Andy step out.

SAM
What's with the bus?

ANDY
Dunno. It's not hers.

Andy pulls two flashlights from his canvas bag. He hands one to Sam. They turn them on.

Sam observes that the front door is open.

SAM
Something's up. I thought she had a generator... and why is the front door open?

Andy shrugs.

ANDY
Let's go check it out.

EXT. DOTTI'S HOUSE - FRONT STOOP - CONTINUOUS

Sam and Andy climb a short flight of steps and approach the front door.

SAM
I have a bad feeling about this.

ANDY
Who died and made you Harrison Ford?

Andy knocks on the door.

ANDY (cont'd)
Hello... Hello?

They shine their flashlights into and around the doorway.

SAM
Shall we go in?

ANDY
Hold on.
(shouting)
Hello?

SAM
I think we should call the police.

They step into the --

INT. FOYER

They hear the sound of footsteps climbing a flight of stairs inside. They shine their flashlights into the house and down a long hallway. A side door in the hallway creaks open.

DOTTI (O.S.)
Hold on. I'm coming.

DOTTI KARNES (54) steps out from behind the opening door. She wears a shiny red halter top, matching shiny spandex pants and platform high-heeled shoes.

She closes the door and approaches the two men.

DOTTI
I'm glad you're here. The generator didn't kick in when the lights went out. You think either of you can get it started?

ANDY
I got it. I know where it is.

Andy leaves and disappears into the dark house.

Sam shines his flashlight about the foyer and into the adjacent rooms on either side. The beam flashes past a foot sticking out from behind a living room couch.

SAM
What was that?

DOTTI
What was what?

Andy enters the --

LIVING ROOM

She backs away to remain in front of him.

He flashes the light around the room.

SAM
I thought I saw a foot.

She steps forward into him. He steps back. She grabs the flashlight.

DOTTI
 There's nobody here. It's just you
 and me.

He backs into the wall beside the room's entrance. She pins him against the wall and caresses his chest.

DOTTI (cont'd)
 Just you... and me.

She plants a heavy kiss on his lips. He resists.

An engine is heard roaring to life outside.

DOTTI (cont'd)
 Just relax and enjoy the moment.

She resumes her affection. He resumes his resistance.

ANDY (O.S.)
 Generator's running. We got lights
 now.

Dotti steps back from Sam.

They hear Andy enter the room.

Sam feels around behind him, flips a switch.

The lights come on. A GROUP of five men and four women arise from behind the living room furniture.

Sandy is among them.

GROUP
 Surprise!

SAM
 (smiling)
 Well, you got me.

Sandy steps forward.

SANDY
 I'm glad you were surprised, dear. We
 all worked very hard to pull this
 off. In fact, some of us worked just
 a little too hard.

She glares at Dotti. Dotti blushes uncomfortably.

FADE OUT

THE END