

Steven Gets Even
By Jack McGuire

SUPER: THE VILLAGE OF PORT JEFFERSON - L. I. SUMMER 1992

FADE IN:

INT. FASHIONABLE SPLIT LEVEL HOUSE - DAY

STEVE COBURN, 35, Handsome, Confident, carries his suitcase down the stairway and heads for the front door.

He's confronted by his wife, CATHY, 30, attractive, intensely assertive. She's holding a house plant up to the light pruning it.

CATHY

Should I assume you're leaving?

STEVE

You could do that.

CATHY

Terrific. The boring, stay at home family man is packing it in.

STEVE

Hell, you never know. Maybe if we did have a few kids we could've worked it out.

CATHY

Play that orphan boy routine on someone else. I'm not wasting my life on runny nosed brats.

STEVE

Well, sweetheart, the igloo's all yours.

Steve begins to exit the front door. Cathy slams the flower pot across the back of his head.

Steve staggers, but regains his balance and enters his CADILLAC LIMOUSINE in the driveway.

He pulls away while Cathy stands in the doorway.

CATHY

(screaming)

You bastard. I'll show you who's frigid.

EXT. ROCKY POINT INLET - DAY

Steve exits his car, doffs his clothes for his bathing suit, walks to the jetty, climbs out on the boulders and plunges into the pounding surf.

Gulls and Terns remonstrate as he swims out into Long Island Sound.

He moves swiftly, his long athletic strokes distance him from the shore.

A FISHERMAN on the beach takes his surf rod back and hurls a lure out into the ocean.

TWO SPEEDBOATS pull waterskiers along the shoreline.

Steve reaches a large BELL BUOY and climbs aboard. The Buoy rises and falls with each ground swell.

He pulls himself erect and peers out at the horizon.

A POLICE OFFICER in a Suffolk County PATROL BOAT spots him.

The Police Officer signals to his fellow OFFICER at the helm, who sends the boat speeding towards the Buoy.

The boat slows as it approaches.

OFFICER #1

Hold on fella. Let's talk it out.

STEVE

It's not like that. I'm just taking a swim.

OFFICER #2

Sure, out here in the shipping lanes with the sharks.

OFFICER #1

Look, maybe you lost your job? Or you're depressed cause your wife took off, but it'll get better if you talk it out.

STEVE

I hate to disappoint you guys, but she didn't leave me. I left her.

OFFICER #1

That's right pal. Talk it on out. You'll feel better.

STEVE

Look, what I'm saying is you don't know my wife. I escaped. I'm happy as hell about it.

OFFICER #2

He must think we come from New Jersey.

OFFICER #1

Just hold onto that buoy and we'll get you aboard.

STEVE

Look, I don't need a ride. I swim out here all the time.

OFFICER #2

Better get the net ready.

Officer #1 extends his hand. Steve winces, but steps on board when the boat maneuvers closer to the buoy.

INT. STEVE'S LIMO - DAY

Steve drives his limo along Main Street in Port Jefferson.

He passes the Yacht Club and swings into the next driveway where A MICKEY'S LIMO sign is displayed.

He pulls alongside the garage and enters the business office.

INT. LIMO OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

MICKEY WALSH, 30, sarcastic, aggressive, sits at the kitchen table sipping a beer. BASE RADIO in ADJOINING OFFICE, GARBLES in background.

MICKEY

Man, you look a helluva lot better than you did last night.

STEVE

Good thing you showed up. Those harbor cops were fitting me for a rubber room.

MICKEY

Hey Moe, give 'em a freaking break. They found you sitting on a hunk of iron in the middle of the shipping lanes.

STEVE

So, I took a long swim. I was celebrating.

MICKEY

You take Michelson over to Connecticut today?

STEVE

Yeah, I just got off the ferry. He gave me a double sawbuck tip.

MICKEY

Twenty bucks? The cheap bastard. I figured him for half a hundred.

STEVE

Give the guy a break. Could've been his last twenty.

MICKEY

The bum owns fifty five freaking apartment houses. He's got more dough than that fat kid over at Pillsbury.

STEVE

You keep a line on all your customers?

MICKEY

It's business, Moe. Gotta know who you're toting around.

STEVE

You keep a sheet on the hired help, too?

MICKEY

Not you and Ellie. Gotta trust somebody.

STEVE

There's something beating in that hairy chest after all.

Steve starts towards the door to exit.

MICKEY

Meet us at Mario's tonight and I'll show you how good the old pumper can be.

Mickey pats himself on the chest.

INT. MARIO'S PIZZA PARLOR - NIGHT

MARIO GRECO, 40, swarthy and self assured, stands by his pizza oven rolling dough.

Mickey sits at a table in the rear of the restaurant reading a newspaper.

ELLIE LEE, 30, beautiful, assertive, enters. She takes a seat next to Mickey.

ELLIE
Any winners?

MICKEY
Not since I picked you.

ELLIE
Wouldn't selected be more appropriate?

MICKEY
Keep jiggling that line and you might get me to say chosen, Golda.

ELLIE
I'm only half Jewish wise ass. My mother is Irish.

MICKEY
Sure, call me names. A good guy like me.

ELLIE
How delightful. I've offended the king of slurburbia himself.

Steve enters.

MICKEY
Ellie and I were just trading compliments.

STEVE
Who's winning?

MICKEY
She ain't got a mark on her.

STEVE
You guys ought to wear headgear when you're sparring.

ELLIE

The man's a softie. Especially in the clinches.

MICKEY

Yo, Mario, it's time to dine.

Mario takes a platter of food and hurries to the table.

MARIO

I got a special Antipasto for my best customers.

Mario places the platter on the table.

Mario slides a wicker basket full of garlic bread in front of Mickey.

MICKEY

Mario makes the best garlic bread on Long Island.

MARIO

It's a family secret. My old man got it from his old man.

ELLIE

I'd kill for the recipe, but Mario's loyal to his family.

MICKEY

Would you tell if they told you you'd be sleeping with the fishes?

Mickey runs his fingers across his neck

ELLIE

I'll never mention it again, Mario.

MARIO

Don't pay any attention to Mickey. He'd let you think all Italians are mob guys.

MICKEY

I don't wanna know how it's made, but if it gets out. I'm ratting on the little Jew.

ELLIE

My hero.

STEVE
Mickey wouldn't give you up. You
could rob a bank with the guy.

ELLIE
You know, sometimes I wonder about
him being a crook. Did you ever
see the jewelry he wears?

Steve gives Mickey a knowing glance

MICKEY
Not tonight. I'm bare back.

Mickey holds up his hands.

ELLIE
Naughty boy. Go to your room.

STEVE
We playing golf tomorrow, Mick?

MICKEY
Yeah, unless there's a freaking
tornado or something.

EXT. PINE GROVE COUNTRY CLUB, MANORVILLE, L. I. - DAY

Mickey swings his car into the parking lot and parks.

Steve pulls alongside in a golf cart.

MICKEY
You get starting time?

STEVE
Yeah, the pro said we could go out
on the back nine.

MICKEY
Fantastic. What'd you do catch him
screwing the bar maid?

STEVE
Nah, he's a good guy. Besides, I
live here Mick, Remember?

Mickey removes his clubs from the car and places them on the
cart.

He changes street shoes for golf spikes.

MICKEY

You know, I been dying to ask you.
How's it feel living here with all
these single Chiquita's?

STEVE

It's rough man. Gotta keep my door
bolted shut.

MICKEY

Cut the crap. You been a one woman
man all your life. You telling me
you haven't been lonely since you
left Cathy?

STEVE

I didn't leave, I escaped. I
swear, It was like doing a bit,
Mick. I'm still looking over my
shoulder.

TWO PRETTY YOUNG LADIES saunter by pulling their golf carts.

MICKEY

Here's a couple of prospects,
Steve. Good Morning ladies?

The Ladies smile and continue on their way.

STEVE

I got enough problems in court.
They switched the case to a new
Judge.

MICKEY

What's his name?

STEVE

Moon. Richard Moon.

MICKEY

Son a bitch. They gave you Full
Moon Dick.

STEVE

Christ, don't tell me you got a
book on him too?

MICKEY

My brother Billy tends bar at the
North Shore Yacht club in Riverton.
Someone told him Moon's wife caught
him screwing some broad in his
chambers.

They reach the tenth tee and exit the cart.

STEVE

So, the guys a swordsman. You'd be the last guy to fault him for that. You'd screw a snake.

They slide their drivers out of their golf bags and begin practice swinging.

MICKEY

Yeah, but he's one of those family values guys. A real freaking hypocrite.

Mickey Tee's up and knocks his ball down the fairway.

Steve takes a close look at Mickey's driver.

STEVE

You get another set of clubs?

MICKEY

I picked them up at a garage sale in Hampton Bays.

STEVE

Yeah, and I'm Prince Charlie.

MICKEY

How does I found them in a dumpster sound?

STEVE

I'm just wondering what happens when your Mother finds out you're a second story man!

Steve Tees up his ball and knocks it down the fairway, but it lands in the rough.

Mickey hits one close by.

They step in the cart and drive down the fairway.

MICKEY

Helen ain't gonna find out cause they can't catch what they can't see. I'm in freaking visible.

They exit the cart and approach their respective balls.

Mickey kicks his forward to improve his lie while Steve plays his from behind a bush.

INT. PINE GROVE COUNTRY CLUB - LATER

Steve and Mickey sit at a table near the bar. A GROUP plays trend music, while TWO COUPLES dance.

STEVE

Suppose the guy you burgled those clubs off walked up to you and asked where you got them?

MICKEY

So, freak him. He'd probably notice his watch and ring first.

Mickey extends his hand to show off the jewelry.

STEVE

Are you nuts? Flashing a hot Rolex and a gold ring like that.

MICKEY

How about the money clip. Ain't it a beaut? The guy left it on his dresser loaded with lettuce.

STEVE

Why not get a microphone and broadcast it!

MICKEY

Will you freaking relax. Nobody cares what's going on over here. They got their own problems.

SCOTTIE, 25, an attractive blonde waitress with a Scottish accent arrives at the table.

SCOTTIE

Can I freshen up your drinks?

MICKEY

You're just in time, Scottie. I need a Vodka on the rocks.

STEVE

Make mine a cold beer.

MICKEY

Are you single? My friend's looking for a date?

SCOTTIE
 If you'd let the poor lad speak for
 himself I'd tell him this Wee
 Lassie is spoken for.

She smiles and walks away with Mickey eyeballing her swagger.

STEVE
 Would you stop trying to fix me up.
 You're making it look that I'm hard
 up.

TWO PRETTY CHICKS wearing the latest in golf apparel enter
 and sit at the adjoining table.

Mickey gestures to them and they wave back.

MICKEY
 How about if I ask Helga and Daphne
 if they want to play hop in the hay
 all day?

STEVE
 You know them?

MICKEY
 Nah, who cares about names when
 you're invited to an orgy.

Mickey moves to the Girls table. He motions to Scottie, who
 quickly responds.

INT LIMO OFFICE - DAY

Ellie punches in a number on her base phone.

ELLIE
 It's Ellie, Steve. Can you pick up
 the Mick up at his mothers?

STEVE (O.S.)
 I'm on the way.

ELLIE
 You and the Mick have a good round
 yesterday?

STEVE (O.S.)
 Not bad. He won a couple of bucks.

ELLIE
 Did you go swimming with him?

STEVE
Swimming? Err, no, I didn't.

ELLIE
The dam fool came home smelling
like he fell into a pool of cheap
Estee Lauder perfume.

INT. STEVE'S LIMO - LATER

Steve turns into the driveway of a Cape Cod dwelling with
attached garage.

EXT. CAPE COD DWELLING - CONTINUOUS

Steve exits the Limo

TWO SHARPEI DOGS bark at him from their dog run.

Mickey and his Mother HELEN 60, short and feisty, step out
the side entrance.

MICKEY
Gotta take the mutts for a bath.

HELEN
That's right. If he's gonna come
home smelling like a whore house.
No reason the dogs can't.

MICKEY
Helen don't believe some smart ass
kids threw perfume all over me.

STEVE
Hello Mrs. Walsh, is the Mick
treating you alright?

HELEN
He better, or I'll whack him one.
It's poor Ellie I'm worried about.

MICKEY
Ellie hates me. Helen hates me, but
Raisin and Prunella love their
Daddy.

HELEN
Get them in the car, Sonny. I got
shopping to do.

STEVE
I didn't know your Mother called
you Sonny.

MICKEY
I kind of keep it to myself.

STEVE
Don't worry Mick. My lips are
sealed.

Mickey enters the dog run.

MICKEY
C'mon Prunella. Come to Daddy
Raisin. Daddies little babies are
good little girls.

The dogs run to him and lick his face. He attaches their
leashes.

The dogs pull him along until they all enter the car.

INT. STEVE'S LIMO - CONTINUOUS

Steve pulls out of the driveway, with Mickey, his Mother and
the dogs in the back.

Steve turns the limo into local traffic driving slowly.

MICKEY
The Pooch Palace is on Main Street.
About four blocks from my place.

HELEN
Did Mickey tell you his sister
Karen is having another baby?

STEVE
No, he didn't.

MICKEY
Helen wants me to get married and
have a couple of brats so she can
spoil them.

HELEN
Just the way you spoil those mutts.
Your little girls, indeed.

MICKEY
They're Daddy's little girls. My
sweethearts.

Mickey plays with the dogs and they happily respond.

HELEN

Dam fool dogs. He treats them better than people.

MICKEY

Dogs won't ever give you up. Right Steve?

STEVE

Yours won't, that's for sure.

Steve drives into a large shopping center. He stops in front of the Pooch Palace and parks.

EXT. SHOPPING MALL - CONTINUOUS

Helen takes the dogs inside.

Steve and Mickey exit the Limo to stroll along the promenade leading to a series of small shops.

MICKEY

My Limo will be out of the shop tomorrow. You won't have to drag me around anymore.

Steve fusses with his watch.

STEVE

I need another watch. This one stopped running.

MICKEY

There's a jewelry store up the street. Let's see what they got.

They saunter along the strip and enter THE APEX jewelry store.

INT. APEX JEWELRY STORE - CONTINUOUS

A well dressed SALESGIRL, 30, with angular features moves to their assistance.

MICKEY

I didn't know you were having a beauty contest in here.

SALESGIRL

Flattery will get you everywhere. How can I help you gentlemen?

STEVE

I'm looking for a wristwatch.

SALESGIRL
Any particular style or price
range?

MICKEY
I wish I had a camera.

Mickey pretends he's taking her picture.

STEVE
How about those?

Steve points to a tray of inexpensive watches.

MICKEY
Let's see the ones in that other
case.

She rushes to retrieve the more expensive watches.

SALESGIRL
Here's one you could wear with
distinction.

She dangles her selection. Mickey takes her hand in his.

MICKEY
You have the softest, prettiest
hands I've ever seen.

She's distracted by the attention.

STEVE
What's the price?

SALESGIRL
Yes, it is nice.

Mickey releases her hand. She reluctantly lets go.

STEVE
I know, but how much?

She fumbles with the watch searching for the price tag.

SALESGIRL
It's, err, two hundred fifty
dollars. A real nice buy.

MICKEY
How about the ones over there?

She anxiously places his selection on the counter top.

Mickey picks through them looking at the price tags.

STEVE
How much are they?

MICKEY
Not bad. Three, four hundred
bucks.

STEVE
That's more than I wanted to spend.

MICKEY
The guy's going through a divorce.
Lawyers got all the money.

SALESGIRL
Oh, isn't that a shame.

MICKEY
Mind if I come back later? Say
about four?

She drops the watches on the floor trying to put them away.

SALESGIRL
No, err, not really, but I don't
even know your name.

MICKEY
My friends call me Steve.

SALESGIRL
Okay, Steve. Let's say about four.

They exit the store, proceed up the street and enter the
Limo.

INT STEVE'S LIMO - CONTINUOUS

STEVE
My friends call me Steve. What a
Casanova, you don't even use your
own name.

MICKEY
Which one of these do you like
best?

Mickey dangles two watches with the price tags swinging.

STEVE
You crazy bastard. You'll get us
arrested.

INT MARIO'S PIZZA PARLOR - NIGHT

Steve enters and sits at a table in the rear.

JOANNA RICCI, 26, a stunningly beautiful brunette, steps out of the kitchen. She saunters over to Steve's table.

STEVE

Wow, you are definitely not who I expected to come waltzing out of that kitchen!

JOANNA

Uncle Mario had to go somewhere. I'm helping out for a while.

STEVE

I was supposed to meet a friend here. Right now, I'm hoping he has car trouble.

JOANNA

Oh, you're just making that up to be nice.

STEVE

You make that kind of easy.

INT. JUDGE MARK BENTON'S MANSION, HAMPTON BAYS - NIGHT

Mickey and Mario are gathering valuables in the darkened downstairs living room.

Mickey shines his flashlight on a painting of JUDGE BENTON, 60, in his robes.

The beam flickers on family photos showing the judge with his wife and two grown daughters.

MICKEY

There must be a wall safe in one of these freaking rooms.

Mickey checks behind a wall painting.

MARIO

Let's get the hell out of here. We got enough.

MICKEY

I'm gonna try the bedrooms.

Mickey locates a stairway and goes upstairs.

EXT. JUDGE BENTON'S MANSION - CONTINUOUS

A Black Mercedes pauses at the remote controlled gate.

The car passes through the gate and comes to a stop in the driveway.

Mario gathers his loot and exits the mansion by the pool door.

Attorney, CHRISTINA GREBS, 40, an attractive, petite blonde, exits the vehicle and enters the house by the side door.

Judge Benton, follows closely behind.

INT. JUDGE BENTON'S MANSION - CONTINUOUS

Judge Benton stumbles after her as she proceeds upstairs.

BENTON

Christina, I wanted to take a dip.

CHRISTINA

No darling, you've been swimming in Bourbon all night. Besides, I'm tired.

They enter the bedroom. Christina sits at a huge mirrored dresser.

Judge Benton flops on the bed, kicks off his shoes, takes off his pants and shirt and tosses them on the floor.

Mickey observes from the adjoining room.

BENTON

I remember the first time you stood by my bench. What a feisty little bitch I thought.

CHRISTINA

That's funny. I was thinking about what fun it would be to sleep with a sitting judge.

BENTON

You won that case my dear because you out lawyered a good man.

Christina removes her clothing down to panties and bra.

CHRISTINA

And all the others because you were screwing me. Is that what you're saying?

Judge Benton slips out of bed and begins kissing her.

BENTON

Pure unadulterated bribery and you're the payoff.

They fall into bed kissing.

Christina flips off the lights.

Mickey edges into the bedroom, takes Judge Benton's wallet out of his pants, removes the money and slides it back.

Mickey crawls out of the room, but returns to remove Christina's jewelry from the dresser.

Mickey takes Christina Grebs lipstick and scrawls THE PHANTOM WAS HERE, on the mirror.

He exits the room, slips down the stairway and leaves by the pool door.

EXT. JUDGE BENTON'S MANSION - CONTINUOUS

Mickey rushes to the fence. He scales it and moves through some heavy underbrush. A DARK FIGURE, awaits him.

As he's about to enter the clearing, the Figure clasps him in a headlock.

MARIO

You whacky bastard. I thought you got nabbed.

MICKEY

So scare my freaking ass to death.

MARIO

Why take chances? You act like you wanna get caught.

INT. MARIO'S PIZZA PARLOR - LATER

Steve watches as Joanna prepares to close.

JOANNA

Look's like your friends not going to make it.

STEVE

Yeah, I guess he got stuck somewhere.

JOANNA

It's been real nice Steve, but I really have to close up.

STEVE

Could I drive you home?

JOANNA

It's late and I don't know what happened to Mario, so I could use a ride.

INT. STEVE'S LIMO - CONTINUING

Joanna's in the rear passenger seat admiring the upholstery.

Steve wheels the limo through darkened suburban streets.

JOANNA

I never expected to be chauffeured home. Literally I mean.

STEVE

And I never expected to be driving a great looking lady anywhere.

JOANNA

You say exactly what a woman wants to hear. You must have lots of girls to practice on?

STEVE

Nope, not a one. Wasn't interested in anyone till tonight.

JOANNA

There must have been someone?

STEVE

Sure, only if you want to count disasters.

JOANNA

Seems like everyone has experienced a few of those.

STEVE

If you're looking to field a new team. I'd be interested in a tryout for boyfriend.

JOANNA

You better slow down or you'll be passing my house. It's over there on the right.

Joanna points to a RANCH STYLE one family house. Steve swings into the driveway.

JOANNA

Thanks for the ride and for being so nice of course.

STEVE

Hey, it's been a pleasure. I don't get to spend too many nights in Venus.

Steve steps out of the limo, opens the passenger door and assists her to the sidewalk.

EXT. RANCH STYLE HOME - CONTINUOUS

JOANNA

You have a way of caressing a woman's ego.

STEVE

Haven't said a word I don't mean.

He escorts Joanna to the doorway. She takes out her keys and partially opens the door.

JOANNA

Thanks again.

She kisses him on the cheek before opening the door.

STEVE

You didn't say if the boyfriend position is open?

She mouths the word YES as the door closes.

INT. LIMOUSINE BUSINESS OFFICE - DAY

Ellie is at her desk monitoring calls.

Mickey's sprawled on the couch as Steve enters.

ELLIE

Your lawyer called. He wants you to call him back.

Steve's unsure what phone to use.

MICKEY

Use the one in the other room.

Steve proceeds to the adjoining room.

MICKEY

Every time he hears from that guy he loses something else.

ELLIE

He signed over the house. What else is there?

MICKEY

There's always something else.

Steve returns to the room.

MICKEY

What's it look like, Moe?

STEVE

Well, she got it all. Even those stocks and annuities I had before we were married. She even got that coin collection I had since I was a kid.

ELLIE

That really stinks, Steve. It's hard to believe.

MICKEY

I can. That's Full Moon Dick's style. The bum's been paid off. They got to the bastard.

STEVE

Gotta be something else, Mick. I don't think you can get to a Superior Court Judge.

Mickey removes a newspaper from the desk drawer. He opens it and points to a photograph.

MICKEY

Yeah, this was in the Port Jeff Sentinel two weeks ago. I didn't have the balls to show it to you.

Steve takes the newspaper. It shows a photograph of his wife Cathy and Judge Moon's wife JANE, 38, slim, with short hair.

STEVE

(reading caption)

Jane Moon and Cathy Coburn are crowned Co-Queens of the Chelsea floral dance.

ELLIE

Don't jump to conclusions. There could be a simple explanation.

MICKEY

You two make one hell of a pair. You both believe in fairy tales.

ELLIE

And you're the number one cynic in charge of conspiracies.

MICKEY

Look, All I'm getting at is the Chelsea's are connected. Those Right Wing biddies put the screws to Steve or I got shit for brains.

ELLIE

C'mon Steve, help me out with this male chauvinist pal of yours.

STEVE

I don't know, Mickey, might have a point. There's a helluva lot of coincidence here.

MICKEY

My Brother Billy said judge Moon's wife practically runs the yacht club. Can't get any freaking cozier than that.

ELLIE

Did you ever meet Moon's wife?

MICKEY

She ain't my type. I like em hot and sassy.

ELLIE

So tell me smart ass? How do we know for sure the woman in the picture is Judge Moon's wife?

MICKEY

Because I know it. That's the way the cute bastards do business.

(MORE)

MICKEY (cont'd)

The law my freaking ass. They do as they dam please.

ELLIE

Oh sure, great, he makes all these accusations without a shred of evidence and then he blames the establishment for everything.

MICKEY

Ellie always sticks up for the other guy. Like we need another Kosher lawyer on Long Island.

ELLIE

That's right. The Jew in me always looks for truth and justice.

STEVE

Ellie's got a point. You gotta be fair about this.

MICKEY

Okay, you two wanna be fair, let's go down to the yacht club and ask Billy. He know's who the hell is who.

ELLIE

So go already.

EXT. MOUNT SINAI YACHT CLUB - LATER

Steve and Mickey exit the Limo and proceed through the parking lot.

Numerous boats line the walkways. Larger yachts strain at their moorings.

STEVE

This place just smells of dough.

MICKEY

They don't spend it on beer and pizza like we do.

They reach the boardwalk and enter the yacht club.

INT. MOUNT SINAI YACHT CLUB - CONTINUOUS

Nautical items are featured throughout the interior.

They walk through the empty dining room to a long L shaped bar.

BILLY WALSH, 40, a roly poly, good natured guy, stands behind the bar cleaning glasses.

BILLY

Don't tell me you guys wanna go fishing?

MICKEY

Yeah, we figured you could cut us some bait. Like the names of the broads in this picture.

Mickey hands Billy the newspaper and points to the photo.

BILLY

Sure, that's Jane Moon, the Judge's wife and I know I've seen that other broad around a few times.

MICKEY

That other broad s Steve's ex wife Cathy Coburn.

BILLY

No kidding? She's in there with an elite bunch of well kept broads.

STEVE

It's a long way from those East Side projects where she grew up. She always did know how to move.

BILLY

Can't hate her for trying to get a leg up.

STEVE

Nope, not a bit. Just thinking out loud.

MICKEY

Old Full Moon Dick gives his ex every freaking thing they owned. Nothing to get pissed at he says.

BILLY

Got screwed by the system is what happened. The ladies went sailing with his honor and made a deal.

STEVE

Are you saying they can buy a Superior Court Judge?

BILLY

Yep, I sure am. They do it for a friend, or for a cup of coffee. Sometime's it's for real big bucks. You got the right hook, you get the favor. Simple as that.

MICKEY

Steve thinks everything's on the square. He doesn't even cheat on his freaking taxes.

STEVE

So, what is that a bad habit?

BILLY

Let me show you what the big guys around here do with their loot.

Billy proceeds to a large picture window. He points to a nearby YACHT with the name MOONBEAM on its stern.

BILLY

That's Full Moon Dick's barge.

MICKEY

Some freaking scow. What's a boat like that cost?

BILLY

Chicken feed. No more than half a million.

STEVE

I guess the law pays pretty good.

MICKEY

C'mon, let's get out of here before I barf.

Mickey proceeds towards the exit. Steve checks the table settings and the club's decor before following.

BILLY

Maybe next time you come down we can go out and wet a line.

INT. STEVE'S LIMO - LATER

MICKEY

I don't know how you can keep your cool, man. I'd be a raving freaking loon by now.

STEVE

Don't worry, I'll get my turn at bat before this is over.

Steve hands him an elaborate ash tray.

MICKEY

Stolen from the Mount Sinai Yacht Club. You burgled the freaking thing.

EXT. MOUNT SINAI YACHT CLUB - NIGHT

A FIGURE dives into the water from the dock adjoining the yacht club.

The Figure glides effortlessly into the yacht club area.

The Figure treads water looking at the various ship names until a dim light displays "THE MOONBEAM".

The Figure shimmies up a hawser and climbs aboard.

A light reveals the figure is Steve.

Steve moves about the yacht trying to open the cabin door.

Steve retrieves a screwdriver from the pouch he's carrying and removes the hinges.

Steve walks into a bedroom and begins rifling through the night stand drawers.

Sorting out the items, he places some inside the pouch.

Steve moves to a wall mounted Television set and removes the back panel.

Steve installs a device inside the TV.

Moving to the next bedroom he continues to open drawers to sift through their contents.

Steve peers at a folder of snapshots and inserts them in his pouch with other documents.

Steve moves to the wheelhouse, reaches under the equipment panels and snips all the wires.

Steve rips out whole sections of wire from the radio equipment and navigation controls to disable the operating systems.

Returning to the deck he tosses the wires overboard.

Steve carefully replaces the hinges before slipping into the water.

INT LIMOUSINE BUSINESS OFFICE - DAY

Ellie's at her desk. Steve enters from the next room.

ELLIE

Mickey wants you to drive the Sauer's daughter to the South Shore Country Club tonight.

STEVE

You mean the banker's kid? Doesn't Mickey usually haul her around?

ELLIE

You know she's harmless if he turned her down.

Mickey enters the room chuckling.

ELLIE

What's so funny? Someone kick the bucket?

MICKEY

It's better than that. Judge Moon's boat got burgled the other night. Trashed it real bad Billy said. Ain't that a bitch?

ELLIE

I hope it wasn't anything trivial.

STEVE

A man's really gotta be careful where he parks his yacht these days.

MICKEY

Yeah, it ain't easy picking the right ocean.

INT. STEVE'S LIMO - NIGHT

Steve wheels the limo along a Hampton Bays area waterfront road. JESSICA SAUER, 17, beautiful, well endowed, and her girl friend, plain looking ANN, 17, sit in the rear passenger seats.

STEVE

How did you ladies enjoy the dance?

JESSICA

I really can't stand these high school affairs. They bore me too much.

ANN

Oh, It wasn't all that bad.

JESSICA

I suppose you like that Lawrence Welk music, too?

ANN

No, but the band leader was kind of cute.

JESSICA

Yes, if you prefer large ears and green crooked teeth.

Steve turns unto a long driveway leading to a FASHIONABLE house.

The DRIVEWAY and HOUSE LIGHTS flicker on.

A MAN, steps out a side door and walks to the gate.

ANN

Don't forget to call me tomorrow.

Ann exits the car. The gate opens allowing her to enter.

Steve swings out of the driveway and proceeds to the main road.

Signs indicate BEACHES and EAST HAMPTON.

JESSICA

I don't believe I know your name.

STEVE

It's Steve, Steve Coburn.

JESSICA

Drive to the beach Steve. It's up ahead a bit.

He turns at the next intersection, proceeds to the beach and parks.

JESSICA

C'mon, let's go looking for shells.

She kicks off her shoes, exits the car and heads towards the water.

EXT. HAMPTON BAYS BEACH - CONTINUOUS

Steve follows at a distance.

She strolls into the surf as Steve moves closer.

JESSICA
Want to go swimming?

STEVE
Sorry, I forgot my swimming suit.

Jessica runs from the water to disrobe.

JESSICA
Who needs one?

She wiggles out of her dress, pants and bra, tosses them on the sand before plunging into the surf.

STEVE
(looking skyward)
Never did thank you for these eyes.

JESSICA
C'mon in, the water will cool you off.

Jessica frolics in the surf.

STEVE
It's late young lady. You better get on out so I can take you home.

JESSICA
Be more fun to get spanked right here. You want to give it a try?

She gets into ankle deep water to extend her butt.

STEVE
It's not exactly what I had in mind.

JESSICA
Your friend Mickey knows how to get my rocks off. See this pretty mark he left. I just love the way he pulls down my jeans and paddles my ass.

Jessica points to her hip.

STEVE
I guess he's left his mark on a few
other well bred fillies.

Steve turns and heads towards the car.

JESSICA
I'll tell my father if you leave me
here.

He continues walking.

JESSICA
Come back. Come back. You, you,
chicken shit.

Steve keeps walking.

JESSICA
I'm warning you. You better get
back here.

She runs to the beach, grabs her clothes and runs after him.

Halfway to the car she catches up.

JESSICA
C'mon, if you catch me you can
screw me.

She circles him.

STEVE
I don't think, any one, not even
the law could blame a guy.

Jessica reaches the car, flings her clothes inside and kneels
on the back seat naked.

INT. STEVE'S LIMO - CONTINUOUS

Steve pulls out and returns to the ocean front highway.

Jessica yanks a pair of handcuffs from her bag and dangles
them.

JESSICA
Want to try giving me a real good
spanking?

STEVE
Would you please get your clothes
on and stop this nonsense.

She snaps the cuffs on and leans forward.

Steve loses control of the wheel for a moment.

A POLICEMAN in a PATROL CAR notices the incident. He follows, SIRENS BLARING.

STEVE
Oh, God, a cop's car. Jessica, lay
down and hide. Christ, don't let
that cop see you like that.

Steve pulls over.

The patrol car pulls directly behind.

The Cop picks up his microphone and CLICKS on the
loudspeaker,

COP
Get out of the car.

STEVE
Remember, stay out of sight.

Steve exits the car.

EXT, STEVE'S LIMO - CONTINUOUS

COP
Lay down with your palms on the
ground.

STEVE
You gotta be kidding?

COP
On the ground.

Steve obeys.

The Cop exits the car. He approaches slowly and stands at
Steve's side.

COP
Show me some I D. Take your
billfold out with two fingers.

Jessica peeks out trying hard to suppress a giggle.

Steve follows instructions. The Cop removes the wallet from Steve's hand.

He flicks on his flashlight looks at the drivers license, flashes the light on Steve's face, looks at the wallet again and steps back.

COP

Okay, Mister Coburn you can stand up.

STEVE

Is there something wrong, officer?

COP

Your car swerved. I thought you might have had too much to drink.

Jessica pops up her head and the cop spots her.

The Cop yanks his weapon from its holster and steps back.

COP

Okay Coburn, put your hands on the back of your neck and walk towards your vehicle.

STEVE

I know this looks funny officer, but I swear, I can explain everything.

COP

You in the car. Get out.

Jessica steps out.

COP

Where's your clothes? Did this pervert put those cuffs on you?

STEVE

Believe me Officer this is not what it appears to be.

COP

Yeah, I'll bet it's not. Put your hands behind your back.

When Steve complies, the cop snaps the cuffs on.

COP

Are your clothes in the car, Miss?

Jessica nods yes.

COP

It would help matters young lady if you'd get back in the car and put your clothes on.

Jessica wiggles into the Limo.

The Cop places Steve in the back seat of the patrol car.

He returns to assist Jessica and slides in the limo.

INT. STEVE'S LIMO - CONTINUOUS

COP

Forgive me, ma'am, I should have known. I'll call for a female officer to remove those cuffs.

JESSICA

If it's no bother I'd much rather you did it.

The Cop fumbles with the keys while attempting to remove the cuffs.

JESSICA

Sit down here, you'll be more comfortable.

The anxious Cop complies.

JESSICA

You look so handsome in your uniform and I love your badge.

A STATE TROOPER on a MOTORCYCLE approaches. He surveys the scene and draws his weapon.

The Trooper approaches the Patrol Car. Steve points to the Limo.

Jessica leans against the Cop while he's trying to remove the cuffs.

The Trooper moves cautiously toward the Limo steadying his pistol with both hands.

COP

Now, ma'am, you hadn't ought to do that.

JESSICA

Oh, why don't you just lie back and enjoy it.

Jessica suddenly slips out of the cuffs, throws her arms around the Cop and begins tearing at his clothes.

The Trooper looks in the window and flicks on his flashlight.

TROOPER

Whoops, sorry, I thought you needed some help.

The cop pushes Jessica away and stumbles out of the Limo.

EXT. STEVE'S LIMO - CONTINUOUS

COP

She had cuffs on. I was helping her get them off.

Jessica leans out the window and shouts.

JESSICA

Tell your friend I'll do him next.

The cop walks hurriedly back to the Police Car, opens the back door and motions for Steve to step out. When Steve complies, the Cop unlocks the handcuffs.

COP

I don't care how you do it, but get that nympho back in your car and get the hell out of here, now.

EXT. MONTAUK POINT, L. I. - DAY

Wearing bathing suits, Steve and Joanna walk in ankle deep surf. Their small tent sits back in the sand dunes.

JOANNA

How did you ever find a deserted beach on Long Island?

STEVE

I stumbled onto this place a few years ago. I come out here to get my antennae straightened out.

JOANNA

It's remote. It's really beautiful with the sand, the sea, the gulls and it's so peaceful.

STEVE

Yep, like you could step right off the planet.

JOANNA

You're right, as though it was lands end.

STEVE

Want to swim out to the edge?

JOANNA

Sure, I'd love it.

STEVE

Go ahead I'll catch up.

She heads for the waves and dives in.

Steve runs to the tent to retrieve his spear gun.

He sprints back and plunges into the surf.

Joanna swims out beyond the breakers.

Steve knifes through the water until he pulls alongside.

STEVE

Hey, where did you ever learn to swim like that?

JOANNA

My Dad. He had us swimming soon as we could walk.

STEVE

Think you can make it out to that buoy?

Steve points to a large RED BUOY.

JOANNA

Lead the way.

Steve swims ahead maintaining a steady pace.

Joanna slices through the waves in pursuit.

The swimmers are intermittently out of sight among the swells.

Steve reaches the buoy and pulls himself on board.

As Joanna comes abreast Steve swings her aboard.

The buoy's bells CLANG INCESSANTLY.

JOANNA

Oh, my God, Steve, is this what you meant by the edge?

STEVE

Yep, after this it drops off to God knows where.

JOANNA

How comforting.

STEVE

I'll be right back.

Steve loosens his spear gun and dives overboard.

JOANNA

How does he stand those bells?

UNDERWATER

Steve swims underwater for a short distance. He spots a number of fish, but swims through the school.

A larger fish attracts his attention. Steve aims his spear gun, fires it and impales the fish.

Steve harvests the critter and makes his way back to the buoy with his catch.

Steve spots Joanna who is sitting topless, her legs swinging over the side.

The Bells are neatly tied off with her swim suit bra.

STEVE

Sure does improve the scenery.

EXT. MONTAUK POINT L. I. - NIGHT FALL

Steve simmers the fish on a small grill.

STEVE

Striper's about done. Would you like a glass of white wine?

He removes a bottle from the cooler.

JOANNA

The occasion almost demands it.

He fills two stemmed glasses and hands her one.

STEVE

A toast to our remote island.

JOANNA

Here's to you island.

They touch glasses and sip their wine.

STEVE

And now we'll retire to the dining area.

Steve removes the foil from the fish, cuts it into portions, places them on plates and arranges them on a cooler.

JOANNA

Striper with a rice stuffing. You really amaze me Steve.

STEVE

A guy needs to catch the coach's eye when he's trying to make the team.

JOANNA

I'd say you've clinched it.

INT. LIMOUSINE BUSINESS OFFICE - DAY

Ellie's at her desk. Mickey's on a sofa reading the racing form. Steve enters carrying a document.

MICKEY

What's going on, Moe?

STEVE

I got this court order. I have to give up that coin collection.

He hands the document to Mickey.

MICKEY

Old Full Moon Dick went and stuck you with his harpoon again.

STEVE

What annoys me is I been doing this coin collecting since before we met. It shouldn't be part of a divorce.

ELLIE

Couldn't you make some kind of deal?

STEVE

My lawyer contacted Cathy, but she wouldn't go for it.

MICKEY

You could always say it got robbed. I'll swear I seen the guy swipe it.

STEVE

Nah, I can't do that, but I'll need you to witness that I turned it over, okay?

MICKEY

Yeah sure. Maybe I could find out where she hides her broom.

INT STEVE'S LIMO - LATER

Steve drives along a rural highway. Mickey's in the passenger seat.

MICKEY

You think Moon could be making it with Cathy. They say he'd hump a freaking doggy bag.

STEVE

That's a stretch, but who knows? What bothers me is how easy they got the guy. He's supposed to be the law.

MICKEY

Are you kidding? It's done all the time.

STEVE

You know, I try to live like you're supposed to. Don't cheat on your lady. No stealing. Deal from the top. Do right by the boss, shit like that. Am I an idiot or what?

MICKEY

I never figured you as religious.

STEVE

It's not religion cause I was raised in a home. So it's not family either. I just thought a guy ought to live by a set of rules.

MICKEY

I been a crook since I was freaking nine, but don't tell Helen. She thinks I'm an angel.

STEVE

Yeah, and by the way, you better keep your hands off the bankers daughter. She nearly got me arrested.

MICKEY

I know, but she pesters me every time she wants her ass paddled.

Steve pulls into his former driveway.

EXT, FASHIONABLE SPLIT LEVEL HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

They exit the car, walk to the front door and RING the bell.

Cathy opens the door.

CATHY

How nice. You brought your pet chimp along.

MICKEY

I could have been worse off. I could have looked like you.

They enter the residence.

INT. FASHIONABLE SPLIT LEVEL HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

STEVE

C'mon, let's at least try and be sociable.

CATHY

With the Thing? I'd rather eat worms.

MICKEY

Bite my ass, Girlie.

CATHY

Mark the spot. You're all ass.

STEVE

Look, all I need is a receipt for the coin collection and we're out of here.

CATHY

When I'm positive it's the complete set you'll get your receipt. Not before.

STEVE

Of course. I'm awful glad I thought of that.

CATHY

Yes. Still the joker I see.

Steve hands her the coin folders.

CATHY

(shouting)

Joseph, Joseph, would you come down and look at these.

A door CLOSES. JOSEPH, 40, studious, genteel, walks down the stairs and enters.

CATHY

Can you tell if these are genuine?

She hands Joseph the coin folders.

Joseph takes them under a light to scan them.

MICKEY

How's it hanging Joey baby?

JOSEPH

Yes, I'm sure.

CATHY

Joseph is an auctioneer with a rather prestigious firm.

STEVE

Is that a fact?

Joseph returns the coins to Cathy.

CATHY

Well?

JOSEPH

Yes, it's a very interesting set. Rather valuable I'd say.

MICKEY

Would you now?

STEVE

Look, I'm sort of attached to those coins. I'd be willing to buy them if it can be arraigned.

CATHY

No its not. Joseph will dispose of your precious coins.

Cathy throws the coins on a nearby sofa.

She picks up a pad, scribbles a receipt and hands it to Steve.

CATHY

There's your receipt. You and bottle ass can leave now.

MICKEY

Bye now. Hope you can find your grave before sun up.

Mickey follows Steve out the door.

INT PINE GROVE COUNTRY CLUB - LATER

Steve and Mickey are at the bar sipping their drinks.

Scottie is tending bar.

MICKEY

Do it again, will ya Scottie.

She fixes their drinks.

SCOTTIE

This is your fifth drink Laddies. What ever in the world is it you're celebrating?

MICKEY

Yeah, Steve, what the hell are we celebrating anyway?

STEVE

It's called getting your butt kicked.

MICKEY

Oh, yeah, we got the living shit beat out of us today. I'm talking a big time ass whipping.

SCOTTIE

I'd like to know what the hell you
do when you win?

INT MOUNT SINAI YACHT CLUB - NIGHT

An intimate dinner of the CHELSEA'S is in progress.

A SMALL BAND plays background music.

Judge RICHARD MOON 45, detached, sinister, sits at a table
next to his wife Jane.

Town Supervisor VINCE MALZONI, 55, well groomed, slick, and
his wife SANDRA, 40, dark complexioned, beautiful, sits next
to him.

Political paraphernalia is displayed throughout the hall.

VINCE

Your boat ever get back in the
water?

RICHARD

Yes, the company you recommended
did an excellent job with the
repairs

VINCE

The Insurance Industry has a matter
before the court. You might move
it along.

RICHARD

Of course. I'd be happy to.

JANE

Sandra and I have a matter of our
own to attend to.

SANDRA

Yes, a money matter. Something I
just love to talk about.

The ladies move to a small podium. They shuffle papers while
writing in a notebook.

VINCE

By the way, there's a young lady I
know who'd love a cruise on the
Moonbeam.

RICHARD

Young you say. Any other special endowments?

VINCE

Lovely set of headlights and a great rear end.

Vince demonstrates with his hands.

RICHARD

I'll say it again. I won't ever forget these favors you deliver

Jane TAPS the gavel bringing the assemblage to attention.

She TAPS the microphone with her finger before mounting the podium.

JANE

Hello, ladies and I see there's a few gentlemen or two in the audience. You all know the next speaker so let's give her a hand.

Sandra mounts the podium to a round of applause.

VINCE

A man gets a box of chocolates he's supposed to share the cherries with his friends.

RICHARD

A Black Virgin? Now that really would be extremely interesting.

VINCE

No, no, I was trying to make an, anyway, the lady's white.

RICHARD

Young and white won't be a problem for this court.

Sandra TAPS the microphone for attention.

SANDRA

First of all I'd like to thank everyone on board. We Chelsea's can be especially proud tonight. We've raised over a hundred thousand dollars for our rainy day fund. That's money we can use for causes close to our hearts.

(MORE)

SANDRA (cont'd)

Soft money to use a political term.
Money we can use to assist our
ladies in distress.

Sandra searches the tables before making eye contact with Cathy. She winks. Cathy looks at Joseph who nods.

SANDRA

Yes, ladies, we Chelsea's take care
of our friends. We help causes
that further our agenda and we
support candidates with those
values. Thanks again Chelsea's.

She steps down to a round of applause.

INT. MOUNT SINAI YACHT CLUB - CONTINUOUS

Billy opens the storage area doorway. Steve, Mickey and Mario enter.

Billy hands Mario a waiters uniform which he immediately begins to don.

BILLY

I'm convinced you guys are crazy
and I'm a freaking psycho for
helping you out.

STEVE

You think it was easy finding a
crew that could handle a setup like
this?

MICKEY

Yeah, like we should have known
Honest Abe's the new crook in town.

Mario completes his change.

MARIO

How's this?

STEVE

Good, but remember, this gotta be
done quick. You grab the bag, put
it in the cart and hustle back
here.

BILLY

I don't wanna hear it. I'm going
back to the bar.

Billy walks away while the others proceed to the doorway leading to the dining area.

Mario positions a cart by the door.

Steve inches the door open to observe the crowd.

STEVE

See the lady in the Pink Dress?
The money's in a bag under her
table. It's table number one. You
got it?

Steve points to the lady and Mario nods yes.

MICKEY

Yeah, and see if you can slip those
pearls off her neck.

STEVE

Sure, take a knife and get her
rings, too.

MICKEY

Okay, move it out. They're
finished eating.

Mario pushes the cart into the dining room, heading directly for the main table.

He picks up plates from other tables along the way.

Sandra stands up and waves to a rather LARGE LADY at another table who smiles and waves back.

Mario begins clearing Sandra's table. He drops a plate on the floor.

He bends to pick it up, grabs Sandra's bag and places it on the cart's bottom shelf.

Mario swings the cart and heads back to the kitchen.

A HEAVY SET WAITRESS positions her cart to block him.

WAITRESS

Look, Chauncey, you gotta bring the
cart back full. That's the rules.
Get some of these tables over here.

Mario follows instructions. He begins clearing other tables as the waitress moves away.

Sandra reaches for her bag, but can't find it.

She looks under the table.

STEVE
Uh, oh, I think that broad's onto something.

MICKEY
C'mon Mario, haul ass.

Mario heads towards the kitchen.

Sandra searches for her bag.

VINCE
What's the matter? They got mice?

SANDRA
I can't find the bag.

Mario approaches the kitchen and Steve swings the door open.

MARIO
Got held up in traffic

Mario takes the bag from the cart and flips it to Mickey.

MICKEY
Good old family values money.

STEVE
Yeah, and tax free.

Everyone at Sandra's table is on their feet moving chairs and peering under the table.

Jane searches under the table.

Mickey and Mario run out the back door.

Steve runs to the electric panel and pulls the switch.

EXT. MOUNT SINAI YACHT CLUB - CONTINUOUS

Steve joins his cohorts in the parking lot.

Women SCREAMING and the sounds of men CURSING LOUDLY emanate from the yacht club.

STEVE
Those Chelsea's throw some wild parties.

MICKEY
Yeah, there goes the neighborhood.

They proceed to their car to sounds of SHATTERING GLASS and STUMBLING FEET.

EXT. PINE GROVE COUNTRY CLUB - DAY

Steve and Joanna exit the Limo. They saunter along the pathway leading to Steve's Chalet Apartment and enter.

INT. STEVE'S CHALET APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Joanna surveys the apartment before racing up the Circular Iron Staircase to the bedroom.

She peers through the railing and falls backwards on the bed.

STEVE

Easy now. Don't jump.

JOANNA

But it's so quaint. It has that silly stairway and only this tiny window to look out of.

She puts her head into the narrow cubicle opening to peer out the window.

STEVE

Yeah, but it's real quiet. A great place to sleep.

JOANNA

It's divine. You have your own galaxy up here.

Joanna peers down at Steve lounging on the couch.

STEVE

I like the king size bed. Lots of room to stretch.

JOANNA

You lured me here you devil, knowing I'd love the place. You knew I'd succumb to your wishes.

STEVE

Yeah, I wish is right.

JOANNA

Come up to the playpen and we'll work on it.

Steve hastily obeys.

STEVE
You rang, Madam?

JOANNA
You've placed a spell over me. I
feel absolutely wicked up here.

STEVE
And what's the bad news?

JOANNA
This.

Joanna leaps on him dragging him onto the bed as their lips
become locked together.

STEVE
That's bad alright.

JOANNA
I'll have you know I'm not leaving
this bed. I'm going to stay up
here and feel the earth whiz by
that window. That teenie, weenie,
little window.

STEVE
I should be so lucky.

They embrace and kiss passionately. She tosses off her
clothes and flings them over the side.

Steve kicks off his pants as she yanks off his shirt.

They roll the length of the bed making passionate love.

EXT. STEVE'S APARTMENT - LATER

Steve eases the front door closed entering the apartment.

INT. STEVE'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

He goes to the refrigerator, selects a bottle of wine, a tray
of snacks and moves upstairs.

Joanna sits up in bed wearing a T shirt.

STEVE
I thought I'd offer my guest some
refreshments.

JOANNA

You'll have to excuse the way I look. I never thought of bringing a nightie.

STEVE

Excuse you? That T shirt couldn't look better if it was bronzed.

JOANNA

Does it feel funny to come home and have someone in your bed?

STEVE

Not someone with your drivers license.

She hops out of bed, moves into the bathroom and begins taking a shower.

JOANNA

Would you mind washing my back?

STEVE

Does a bear like honey?

EXT. THE MOONBEAM, LONG ISLAND SOUND - DAY

Richard maneuvers his yacht into a deserted cove.

He presses a lever allowing the anchor do drop, bringing the boat about until the anchor line is taut.

Vince steps out of the cabin with his arms around BARBARA, 20, a tall blonde and NANCY 20, a petite brunette.

VINCE

Take a swim girls. Richard and I want to swap lies.

BARBARA

Can't we have a drink first?

NANCY

I'd settle for a hamburger and some curly fries.

Richard joins them.

RICHARD

Do I sense a mutiny in progress?

VINCE

The girls were just going for a swim. Right girls?

Vince taps them on the butt.

They walk to the stern platform and dive into the ocean.

RICHARD

The girls seem upset.

VINCE

What else. One wants to drink. The other wants to eat.

RICHARD

Well, they'll have to sing for their supper. I'll try Barbara's case first.

VINCE

It's your call. They know what they're here for.

The girls swim to a partially submerged boulder and climb on.

EXT. ROCK CONTINUOUS

NANCY

Real big spenders. Not even a freaking can of coke.

BARBARA

Citizens against gun control picked up their tab. These two perv's don't go for spit.

NANCY

I hope their wives get the same dose I'm giving them.

EXT. MOONBEAM - CONTINUOUS

VINCE

By the way, Sandra said one of the Chelsea's has a divorce matter she'd like to discuss.

RICHARD

Is she aware there's certain expenses involved?

VINCE

Yes, I told her how the game is played.

They move to the stern.

RICHARD

Not a bad catch. Shall we reel them in?

VINCE

Okay girls, get your fannies on board. Richard wants to show Barbara his cabin and Nancy's gonna learn how to drive.

EXT. ROCK - CONTINUOUS

BARBARA

I'd sooner screw a freaking Iguana.

NANCY

Don't complain. At least yours is alive.

The girls swim to the Moonbeam and climb aboard.

EXT. MOONBEAM - CONTINUOUS

Vince leads Nancy to the wheelhouse while Richard steps aside to escort Barbara to the cabin.

INT. SAINT ANTHONY'S ORPHANAGE, QUEENS N. Y. - DAY

Steve enters the chapel. He proceeds down the center aisle.

He selects a pew, kneels, gives the sign of the cross while mumbling a prayer.

Two TEENAGE GIRLS walk down the left aisle and kneel at the altar rail. They bow their heads in prayer.

A NUN enters the altar from a side door. She replaces a rack of votive candles and leaves by the same door.

Three TEENAGE BOYS, two white, one black, move down the right aisle, enter a pew, kneel and offer a prayer.

Steve exits the chapel, walks to the corridor and enters the main building.

CHILDREN, mostly teenagers, move in every direction.

Steve stops at a doorway marked DIRECTOR'S OFFICE and enters.

INT DIRECTOR'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

LUCILLE, 60ish, looks up from her desk.

LUCILLE
Can I help you, sir?

STEVE
It wasn't sir you called me when
you chased me down the hallway.

LUCILLE
If I could remember your name I'll
tell you what I was calling you.

STEVE
It's Stephen Coburn, Mr's Brehmer,
from way back when.

LUCILLE
Oh, God yes. How good to see you.
What brings you back here?

STEVE
I was wondering if I could see
Father Keane for a minute.

LUCILLE
He'd be delighted. He loves it
when one of his boys pops in on
him.

Lucille beckons for Steve to join her. She walks to an adjoining office door and opens it.

FATHER JOHN KEANE, 65, sits in his chair while looking outside at the children playing in the courtyard.

LUCILLE
Someone to see you, Father.

Lucille exits as the Priest turns from the window.

FATHER
Oh, yes, it's, it's, Steven, right?
Steven Coburn. What a nice
surprise.

STEVE
I was in the neighborhood so I
thought I'd see how you were doing.

FATHER

Nothing changes, Steven. Too many kids. Not enough homes. You remember how it was.

STEVE

Oh, yeah, and it's harder to place a kid when he gets older.

FATHER

You seemed to have weathered it all pretty good.

STEVE

Thanks to good old Saint Anthony's training.

FATHER

I remember how you always stood up for others. If it wasn't fair you let us know it. We used to call you Steven Gets Even.

STEVE

There was a priest I know who made fair and square a habit. No pun intended.

FATHER

I'm surprised anyone noticed.

Lucille bursts into the office.

LUCILLE

Sister Ann Marie asked if you could come to the chapel. She says it's urgent.

FATHER

Well, if it's urgent. Will you excuse me for a moment, Steven?

STEVE

I have to leave anyway, Father, I'll drop in again sometime.

FATHER

Please do and say a prayer for an old priest.

EXT. SAINT ANTHONY'S ORPHANAGE - CONTINUOUS

Steve walks through the outside gate and proceeds to his Limo.

He watches the children playing in the courtyard for a moment before getting in his limo and driving away.

INT. SAINT ANTHONY'S ORPHANAGE - LATER

Father Keane enters the chapel where SISTER ANN MARIE, 50, awaits him.

SISTER
This envelope was in the poor box,
so I opened it.

Sister hands the Priest a large brown envelope.

He reaches inside and removes a wad of greenbacks.

FATHER
It's full of money. There must be
thousands in there.

SISTER
It's a miracle.

FATHER
No, Sister, but it is fortunate for
Saint Anthony's.

SISTER
Can we keep it if it wasn't put
there by divine providence?

FATHER
One way or another it was Divine
Providence, Sister, but you must
promise me. This is our secret.

Sister nods her head and kneels at the altar.

INT LIMOUSINE BUSINESS OFFICE - DAY

Ellie's at her desk. Steve Enters with Mickey close behind.
The phone RINGS and Ellie answers.

ELLIE
Hello, Mickey's Limo. (beat)
Yes, Mister Michelson we'd be
delighted.

She hangs up.

MICKEY
What does money bags want?

ELLIE

He needs a Limo for that
Southampton clambake.

MICKEY

You tote him Steve. I don't like
those political shindigs. The
bastards got more money than God.

ELLIE

That's something you'll never have
to worry about.

STEVE

What makes you say it's a Political
Clambake?

MICKEY

Read all about it. Your favorite
people are gonna be there.

Mickey flips Steve the newspaper. He begins scanning it.

STEVE

I won't mind taking that guy after
all.

EXT. SOUTHAMPTON BEACH CLUB - NIGHT

Mickey, holding his dogs on a leash walks the perimeter of
the Club with Steve nearby.

MICKEY

What's in the bag, dynamite?

STEVE

Nah, just a teeny bit of appetizer.

MICKEY

Couldn't happen to a finer bunch of
bastards.

STEVE

Yeah, pay backs are a bitch.

MICKEY

You go in here. The guard shack's
over there.

Steve scales the fence carrying two large bags. He moves
towards a group of banquet tents.

Mickey continues along the path with his dogs.

Steve maneuvers through the shrubbery. He reaches the first tent and steps inside.

Steve moves through the aisle of tables emptying the contents of the sauce jars into a bag he's carrying and refilling them with his own concoction.

Mickey unleashes his dogs.

MICKEY
Go get em, girls.

The Sharpei's scamper through the shrubbery towards the guard shack.

TWO GUARDS are playing cards inside.

The dogs begin BARKING.

Steve hears the dogs and moves to the next tent.

He moves from table to table emptying and refilling the array of sauce jars.

GUARD NUMBER ONE steps outside.

EXT. GUARD SHACK - CONTINUOUS

GUARD #1
Shoo, shoo, get out of here mutts.

The dogs growl and move closer.

Guard Number One retreats inside.

INT. GUARD SHACK - CONTINUOUS

GUARD #2
Shoulda showed em your badge.

Steve moves to the kitchen. He empties jars and refills them with his own mixture.

Mickey saunters close to the guard shack.

MICKEY
What are my little girls shouting about?

GUARD #1
I'd like to tell him what to do with his little girls.

GUARD #2
 Don't, we'll never get out of this
 freaking shack.

Guard Number One steps outside.

MICKEY
 Sorry about the dogs. They must
 have seen a rabbit.

GUARD #2
 Yeah, and his name ain't bugs.

GUARD #1
 They'd be safer with a leash on.

GUARD #2
 So would we.

The dogs run to Mickey. He snaps on their leashes.

MICKEY
 C'mon, Daddies little babies gotta
 go home now.

Steve scales the fence and returns to the limo.

INT STEVE'S LIMO - DAY

Steve drives his Limo into the Southampton Beach Club.

SID MICHELSON, 55, loud, flashy, sits in the rear.

SID
 I'll be here till about four. Wait
 around and I'll get you a dozen
 little necks.

STEVE
 I'm not much for seafood, but I'll
 be around.

Steve stops by the exit and Sid slides out of the Limo.

Steve parks among a variety of other Limo's.

EXT SOUTHAMPTON BEACH CLUB - CONTINUOUS

Steve lounges against his limo watching the crowd disperse
 toward their tents.

A BAND plays popular music.

Cathy and Joseph arrive. They proceed up the pathway past Steve.

CATHY
Look, Joseph, it's Steve. I wonder
what he's begging for today?

Steve takes a rag to clean a spot on him Limo.

CATHY
I hope you're not mad over those
silly coins, darling?

JOSEPH
No need to rub it in, Cathy.

They continue up the path.

Steve ignores them.

Richard enters with his wife Jane.

They proceed to the main table where Sandra and Vince await them.

VINCE
I've located some unusually colored
Koi. Do you have any room for a
few more fish?

RICHARD
For unusually colored Koi I'll make
room.

JANE
Richard just adores his fish.
They're his favorite pastime.

SANDRA
Vince would rather eat them than
care for them.

VINCE
Stripers honey. Not goldfish.

Cathy and Joseph move up the aisle. They sit at an adjoining table.

Judge Benton arrives and sits at the main table.

Christina saunters by. She sits at an adjoining table while looking enviously at Judge Benton.

Steve proceeds to the kitchen. He watches the cooks flavoring the food from the jars.

The cooks place little neck clams, blue claw crabs and lobster on platters.

They pour sauce in bowls and place them on platters.

The cooks ladle sauce on the barbecued Beef.

Waiters begin distributing platters to tables.

Steve ambles by a serving table. The cook hands him a plate of clams.

COOK

Eat up, they're good for the pecker.

Steve takes the plate, but pushes the sauce back.

STEVE

I like them straight up.

COOK

You're missing a real treat.

Steve strolls along the row of tents. He stops occasionally to bend down and undo a tent rope.

A waiter places a platter of barbecued beef and steak on the main table.

VINCE

Anyone want a piece of this beef?
I hear its been marinating all night.

RICHARD

I believe I shall.

JANE

Yes, I'll have a sliver myself.

A waiter arrives with a platter of seafood.

SANDRA

Well that makes up my mind. I'm having surf today.

Vince places portions of beef on plates. He hands them to Richard and Jane.

Sandra helps herself to the seafood.

People at the surrounding tables begin standing up. They're sputtering food in all directions.

Some guzzle water from pitchers.

Steve moves down the row of tents pulling at the ropes.

Tents begin to sag as people back out of their seats.

The tents buckle as people hit the sides while retching and reacting to the food.

Steve reaches the parking lot as people stream from their tents.

A general panic ensues.

Some tents fall in, but don't fully collapse.

Richard pulls Jane out from under their tent. They reach a water spigot and drink ravenously.

Vince crawls out with Sandra. They begin fighting with the others for the water spigot.

Cathy slashes her bag across Joseph's face as they fight for the spigot.

The cook tent partially collapses. Food trays are scattered about.

Tables are overturned by people desperate to escape.

The band disperses as their grandstand slips to the ground.

They join with a whole mass of people trying to exit the Beach Club.

Sid Michelson scurries up the path, enters Steve Limo and gestures for Steve to get moving.

Steve drives out the entrance as an ambulance enters.

INT. MARIO'S PIZZA PARLOR - NIGHT

Mickey sits with Ellie at their favorite table.

Mario carries a pizza from the kitchen and places it on the table.

MARIO

Monj, a special pizza pie for my friends.

MICKEY

Let Ellie try it first. Just in case the mushrooms are funny.

MARIO

Would you stop with that stuff. Somebody's gonna think you're serious.

ELLIE

That's okay, Mario. I have to taste the wine too. My hero is nuts.

MICKEY

A guy's gotta be careful. It's a freaking jungle out there.

Steve and Joanna enter.

MICKEY

Talking about hero's. Here's a guy I'd go to war with any freaking day.

MARIO

Oh, yeah, he takes no prisoners, that's for sure.

STEVE

C'mon, ease up you guys.

MICKEY

Somebody said a tornado hit that clam bake.

ELLIE

Yeah, someone just huffed and puffed that place in is what I heard.

JOANNA

Is there something I'm missing here?

STEVE

I should have told you about it.

MARIO

C'mon, don't get serious on us.

MICKEY

Yeah, later with that personal stuff.

INT. STEVE'S APARTMENT - LATER

Steve and Joanna are in bed.

JOANNA

I can't believe the havoc you caused. Getting even with one man has turned you into a criminal.

STEVE

Richard Moon stands for nothing. He's a depraved immoral deviate who uses his robes for personal gain.

JOANNA

Just cause he gave you a bad deal doesn't mean the whole system is bad.

STEVE

The man's for sale. You pay up and you get the ruling you want. That's how it works.

JOANNA

You can't believe that, Steve. You're just being cynical.

STEVE

Not a little bit. I seen them in action. I got a right to defend myself against a crooked judge.

JOANNA

Okay, you got beat up, but it's over now. Promise me you'll stop.

STEVE

It's not that simple. I started a fire that won't burn out.

JOANNA

But we've had such good times together. Don't let some crazy feud ruin our relationship.

STEVE

Joanna, they don't know their tails are being twitched yet. I want to give them a real good yank.

JOANNA

Oh, sure, go rob some more money.
Go to jail. Make that Priest proud
of you.

STEVE

You and Father Keane are the one's
who matter to me. I'd like to
think both of you understand.

JOANNA

You won't stop?

STEVE

I will eventually, but it's not
that easy.

JOANNA

You're everything a girl wants
Steve, yet so, so puzzling.
(beat) Can we take one more ride
on your space ship?

STEVE

I should be so lucky.

They embrace.

INT VINCE'S CAR - AFTERNOON

Vince drives his vehicle on a suburban road. He turns into
the driveway of JUDGE MOON'S ESTATE HOME and parks.

He exits the vehicle carrying a carton.

EXT. JUDGE MOON'S ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Richard steps out the door. He waves as Vince proceeds to
the FISH POND.

VINCE

Here's those Koi I promised you.

Vince places the carton on a lawn table.

RICHARD

I have a holding tank for new fish,
just in case they're carrying
something.

Richard opens the carton.

RICHARD
They are fine looking specimens
Vince and just like you mentioned,
beautifully colored.

He immerses the carton in the tank releasing the fish.

VINCE
A gift from Louise De Lay. A
little appreciation for your
splendid decision in her divorce
action.

RICHARD
Ah, yes, Louise. That woman should
really be committed, but then again
her husband is a bit demented, too.

VINCE
How's Jane been feeling after that
Southampton mess?

Richard sprinkles food over the larger pond. A variety of
colored Koi come to the surface to feed.

RICHARD
Not good. She says she'll never
eat a jalapeno again. She's been
drinking iced tea by the gallon.

Richard kneels to caress a large Koi.

VINCE
Wouldn't surprise me if one of
those Left Wing wacko groups was
responsible for this. Too much
coincidence for me.

RICHARD
It does look suspicious. What do
the police think?

VINCE
I had a sit down with Inspector
Ames. He's assigned a team of
detectives to check it out.

RICHARD
The trouble with law enforcement is
once you call them in they're apt
to go anywhere.

VINCE

Ames is our man. He wont allow any fishing expeditions.

RICHARD

God forbid. Poor little fishes need to be protected. They're so helpless.

The fish swarm as Richard immerses his hands in the pond.

VINCE

You'd think those things knew what you were saying.

RICHARD

Of course they do. They're my little Koi's.

INT STEVE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Steve shuts the door behind him. He pulls a ring box from his pocket and views it.

He moves softly upstairs, peeks into the room, but realizes it's empty.

He sits on the bed momentarily. Noticing an envelope on the dresser he retrieves it.

JOANNA (V.O.)

Dear Steve, I decided to return to earth. We've had some great times soaring the stratosphere, but in all fairness I can't enjoy our relationship knowing you're breaking the law. And I can't bear the thought of you being arrested. It's been great fun, but I feel there's no alternative.

STEVE

Can't say that I blame you. Maybe I'm a dam fool, but I gotta see it through.

He places the ring and letter in a dresser drawer.

EXT. RAMSHACKLE GREENHOUSE - DAY

Steve exits the limo outside a fenced compound. He proceeds to a gate, swings it open and is surrounded by BARKING DOGS.

PIGS, SHEEP and LLAMA'S roam the compound.

Goats and larger pigs are tethered about.

EILEEN, 60. A wizened older lady steps from a doorway.

EILEEN
The animals won't hurt you as long
as you're friendly to me.

An exceptionally LARGE DOBERMAN herds Steve about.

STEVE
Good boy, good, good, boy.

Steve appears a bit intimidated by the size of the Doberman.

EILEEN
That's Sugar. She's in season, but
I think you're safe.

STEVE
Good, good, girl.

EILEEN
You can't have her, but I'll sell
you Esther. She's a potbelly.

She points to a porker.

STEVE
No thanks. I heard you have other
types of critters?

EILEEN
I got lot's of different things,
but how's a person to know you're
not one of those Government critter
cops?

Steve offers her his wallet.

SUGAR GROWLS.

STEVE
Here, take the wallet. It'll tell
you who I am.

Eileen thumbs through it. She hands it back.

EILEEN
I guess you're alright. Let me
show you what I have.

Steve follows her into the Greenhouse.

She shuts the door on the other animals, But Sugar remains close to Steve's side.

INT. GREENHOUSE - CONTINUING

Eileen proceeds along the narrow aisle. Monkeys and birds SCREECH from their cages.

She reaches into a tank to pet a PYTHON.

A BOA CONSTRICTOR stretches out in a narrow glass enclosure.

Tanks of tropical fish line the walls. Lizards and Iguana's pose from separate enclosures

EILEEN

You want exotic. I got it.

STEVE

That's for sure.

EILEEN

Is this pet for you?

STEVE

No, It's a surprise for someone.

Steve reads the labels on the tanks.

EILEEN

You look around. I have some work to do.

She leaves, But Sugar remains glued to Steve.

EXT. GREENHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Steve heads for the gate carrying a carton. Sugar remains at his side. Eileen swings the gate open.

STEVE

That dog hasn't left my side.

EILEEN

That's my girl. She'll let you in alright, but you don't get out unless I open the gate.

EXT JUDGE MOON'S ESTATE - NIGHT

Steve slips over the fence with his carton.

He moves slowly through the shrubbery towards the fish pond.

A GROUP OF LIGHTS FLASH ON, forcing him to retreat.

Richard steps out onto the patio peering at the pond.

JANE (O.S.)
I'm hardly able to talk and you're
worrying about those dumb fish.

RICHARD
It must be those cats again. If
people would only leash their
animals.

JANE (O.S.)
You don't get back in here there'll
be more than cats bothering you.

Richard steps inside.

The lights click off.

Steve carries the carton to the pond. He empties the
contents in the water.

He backs away just as the LIGHTS FLASH ON.

The pond is suddenly frantic with activity.

The water churns as Steve swings over the fence

INT. RIVERHEAD, LONG ISLAND COURTHOUSE COMPLEX - DAY

Wearing a TELEPHONE COMPANY LINEMAN'S uniform, Steve enters
the building. He carries a large toolbox.

He stops at the information desk to read the signs.

Steve proceeds down a hallway, descends a flight of stairs,
turns down a corridor and proceeds towards the far end.

A MAINTENANCE MAN pushing a cart moves towards him.

MAINTENANCE MAN
The phones on the fritz, again?

STEVE
Yeah, what else is new?

Steve enters the Telephone Equipment Room.

MONTAGE:

A. Steve takes wire cutters and severs a large trunk of
wires.

- B. Workers in a large office turn to each other with dead phones.
- C. Judge Benton sits in his chambers waving the phone at his clerk.
- D. A group of computer operators watch their screens go blank.
- E. TWO Security Cops run through the corridor.
- F. Steve saunters into a rest room, enters a booth and changes into street clothes.
- G. Wires are arcing when the Security Guards enter the telephone room.
- H. Steve exits the Courthouse.

EXT JUDGE MOON'S ESTATE - DAY

Richard steps out onto the patio. He saunters over to his pond.

He picks up a container and sprinkles it over the water.

Richard stirs the water with his hands.

Suddenly he removes his hands.

RICHARD

(screaming)

Jane, There's something wrong. My fish, the Koi, they're gone.

JANE (O.S.)

Oh, are the little fishes hiding because of those big bad kitties?

RICHARD

It's not that they're hiding. Something's happened.

Jane steps outside.

JANE

Of course they're hiding. Where else could they be?

Richard uses a small net to scoop something from the pool.

RICHARD

Oh, my God, they've wasted away.

He drops the net exposing the skeletal remains.

JANE

Don't be so ridiculous. They're not wasted away. Something's having them for dinner.

EXT JUDGE MOON'S ESTATE - LATER

Vince stands by Richard at the pond while TWO SUFFOLK COUNTY L. I. SPCA WOMEN scoop out fish carcasses.

A County police car with TWO UNIFORMED POLICEMEN exits the driveway as an UNMARKED POLICE CAR enters.

DETECTIVES JOE FITZPATRICK 40, and TOM PETITO, 35, step from their vehicle and join the others by the pond.

VINCE

You guys satisfied that this is more than a little coincidence?

JOE

We don't know what this is yet.

VINCE

Show Detective Fitzpatrick what you've been taking out of the pond.

SPCA WOMAN #1 displays a plastic bag of fish skeletons.

WOMAN #1

We scooped out two of the little devils responsible for this.

SPCA WOMAN #2 displays a plastic pail full of water with two live fish darting about.

JOE

What the hell are they?

WOMAN #2

They're Caribes. What most people call Piranhas.

JOE

Oh, yeah, I seen them on a TV show. They eat goats and pigs.

WOMAN #2

Those cannibals eat anything. There's a few more hiding in the pond.

JOE

The Judge will love to know that.

VINCE

What Judge Moon and I are concerned about are the personal attacks we've been subjected to. We need some assurances from the police that we're being protected.

JOE

Who ever's responsible for this isn't after anyone's hide. They've been close enough to do that kind of mischief if they wanted to.

VINCE

So what do you think it is?

JOE

Who knows. We'll find out when we nail the perpetrators/

INT. PINE GROVE COUNTRY CLUB - NIGHT

Steve, Mickey and Mario are at a table sipping their drinks.

MICKEY

I got some news for you guys. Ellie and me are getting hitched.

STEVE

The lady must love pain.

MICKEY

We figured you and Joanna would stand up for us.

STEVE

I don't know where she is, Mick. I been looking everywhere.

MICKEY

I thought you two were an entry?

MARIO

Yeah, me too. You want me to ask around the family a bit?

STEVE

Thanks, Mario, but this is one of those things that has to work its way out.

MICKEY

How about teaming up for another score? We got a beauty lined up.

STEVE

Nah, I got some solo stuff I'm working on.

MICKEY

Mario wants you in. He thinks You're good luck.

STEVE

You know that gig we pulled was a freaking blast, but it's not in my gut anymore.

MARIO

Hey, you know what you gotta do. Just wanted to give you a shot.

INT. SID MICHELSON'S ESTATE - DAY

GRETA, 30, an attractive Blonde Maid is vacuuming the living room floor.

The DOORBELL RINGS incessantly before she finally hears it.

She shuts the vacuum off and opens the door.

GRETA

Sure, now, when it's already too late you come over.

Mickey steps inside.

MICKEY

Don't say that, Greta. For people like us it's never too late.

GRETA

Sure, sure, go home to your wife as if I zon't know.

MICKEY

Look, just cause I got married don't mean we can't be friends.

GRETA

Okay, be friend and go vay.

Mickey moves to a window. He fools with the latch.

MICKEY

I didn't want to tell you this, but she's a very sick girl.

GRETA

Und that's vy you got married?

Mickey runs his fingers along the molding.

MICKEY

I wanted to be sure she had hospitalization. You know, medical insurance. It's the least I could do.

He maneuvers his way to the patio doorway, probing the molding with his fingers.

GRETA

My poor shatzy, and I vas mad at you.

Greta envelops Mickey in her arms as he's inspecting the molding.

MICKEY

Don't be carrying on now.

GRETA

You don't want Greta to kiss you?

MICKEY

I'll give you a half hour to cut that out.

They tear at each others clothes.

INT. GRETA'S BEDROOM - A MATINEE LATER

Mickey and Greta are lying in bed.

GRETA

Your wife, she's what you Americans say not so good in the bed?

MICKEY

It's all that medicine I guess.

GRETA

And you don't complain. Such a fine man.

MICKEY

Guy's gotta do what he's gotta do.

Greta checks her watch and hurtles out of bed.

GRETA

Oh, mine got. You must get out of here. Mister Michelson will be home in a few minutes.

Mickey vaults out of bed and hurriedly gets dressed.

He pulls an envelope out of his pocket and hands it to Greta.

MICKEY

Here's a ticket for tonight's show at the Bavarian Inn. You'll love it.

GRETA

Oh, you want Greta in bed, but you want her to go to fancy place alone?

MICKEY

It's not that. I got a job. I mean a customer. I gotta drive him to the city.

GRETA

So drive him. I will not sit by mine self and that's all.

MICKEY

Alright, alright. I'll be running late, but I'll be there, okay?

GRETA

That's good, but go now or mine goose is cooking.

Mickey rushes down the stairway.

He leaves by the rear door as a car pulls up in the driveway.

EXT. SID MICHELSON'S ESTATE - NIGHT

Mickey leads Mario through the shrubbery to the rear patio.

Mario attempts to pick the door lock, but Mickey slides open a nearby window.

MARIO

You sure this guy ain't got a silent alarm?

MICKEY

Believe me, I checked it out.

They climb through the window.

INT. SID MICHELSON'S ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

They enter the dining room. Mario removes the silverware from the cabinets.

Mario places them on the table and clicks on his flashlight.

Mickey slips paintings off the wall. He stacks them next to the opened window.

MARIO

You can't get a dime for paintings anymore.

MICKEY

I know, but this bum's got a safe somewhere. I ain't gonna put them back if they're already down.

MARIO

Might get a few bucks for these goblets. C'mon, let's have a drink.

Mario holds them up to the light.

He pours two drinks from a decanter.

MICKEY

Why not. It's on the house.

They down their drinks.

Mickey locates the safe. He takes sandpaper from a bag and runs it across his fingers.

He spins the cylinders searching for the combination.

Getting closer to the cylinders on the safe, he places his ear next to the locking mechanism.

MARIO

What's with the sandpaper? And what the hell do you think you're gonna hear?

MICKEY

I saw it in the movies.

MARIO

Use the drill. I saw that in the movies.

Mario hands Mickey a drill.

Mickey selects a drill bit, plugs the drill into a nearby socket and begins drilling into the lock.

Steel splinters begin flying off the drill.

MICKEY

I forgot my goggles.

Mickey holds his hands over his eyes.

MARIO

Christ, don't tell me you're afraid to get something in your eyes?

MICKEY

No, I'm afraid you'll use a ball peen hammer and chisel to dig it out.

MARIO

You play with the safe. I'm gonna look upstairs.

Mario hustles upstairs.

He enters a large bedroom and rifles through the jewelry boxes.

Mario selects two gold watches and a number of rings.

Mario scatters the inexpensive stuff on the bed.

Mario dumps the contents of the night tables on the rug.

Mickey changes to a larger drill bit while continuing to shade his eyes from the flying fragments.

Mario locates some figurines. He places them in a sack along with some collectible urns.

Sorting through a dresser drawer he locates snapshots of Helga and Sid in compromising poses.

Mario opens a cabinet and finds a brace of dueling pistols.

He slides the weapons in his belt and saunters in front of a large mirror.

MARIO

Anyone here wanna give it a try?
C'mon, draw.

Mickey leans hard on the drill until it pushes through.

Mario snarls as he draws both pistols.

Mickey pulls at the safe door, opening it.

He takes a jewelry box from the safe, sliding it open to reveal a variety of pearl necklaces.

Locating a folder, he finds it's full of hundred dollar bills.

He stuffs the greenbacks in his pocket.

Mario approaches from behind.

MARIO

Find anything worth talking about?

MICKEY

Nah, nothing exciting. How did you do?

Mario's shirt is draped over the pistols.

MARIO

Just the usual jewelry and shit.

MICKEY

Let's get out of here.

MARIO

Get a load of these.

Mario shows the nude photo's of Greta with Sid.

MICKEY

That cheating bitch. She's screwing the boss. Can't trust those German broads.

MARIO

You know her?

MICKEY

Never mind, it's a long story.

They move to the window and place their loot outside.

Mickey follows Mario, closing the window as he leaves.

EXT. SID MICHELSON'S ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

The area is suddenly illuminated by SPOTLIGHTS.

Detectives Fitzpatrick and Petito emerge from the darkness.

JOE

You guys moving men?

MICKEY

How does gardener sound?

INT. SUFFOLK COUNTY POLICE HQ - CONTINUOUS

Mickey and Mario are in a squad room handcuffed to a rail.

MICKEY

I know, you took the guns cause you wanted to play hit man.

MARIO

No, I was after the freaking cash you stashed in your pockets.

MICKEY

I'd have split it if we didn't get bagged. Right hand to God.

Mickey tries to raise his left hand.

Detectives Fitzpatrick and Petito enter,

JOE

Look, we've got a chart on you guys. You've been close to some bad shit. You wanna talk about it?

MICKEY

Nah. I'd sooner talk about broads.

Tom edges menacingly close.

JOE

We got witnesses that place you in the yacht club when it was robbed.

MICKEY

How much you paying them liars?

Tom moves closer.

JOE

We place one of your Limo's at the Clambake. You know about that?

MICKEY

You got some freaking imagination.

Tom slams his fist into an open palm.

JOE

Where'd you get those Piranha's you put in that pond?

MICKEY

What the hell's a Piranha?

Tom slams his fist.

MICKEY

You better tell Gabby it ain't nice to spread DNA around. Especially mine.

TOM

I hit you Buster, they'll be scraping horse shit off the walls.

JOE

Detective Petito has this theory on persuasion. Wanna try it his way?

MICKEY

Nah, I think I'm gonna make that phone call.

JOE

Sure, use any phone. Dial nine, they'll buzz you out.

Mickey attempts to move, but is restrained by the cuffs.

Joe nods to Tom who unhooks Mickey's handcuffs.

MICKEY

I'm gonna call Billy. He'll know who to get. That okay by you?

Mario nods. Mickey picks up the phone and dials.

MICKEY

It's Mick, Bill. I'm in a jam. Yeah, I need a lawyer. (beat)

I know, I know, yeah, yeah, but don't tell Helen, okay?

INT. STEVE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Steve's watching a sporting event on TV. There's a tap on the screen door.

Steve unlatches the door and Billy enters.

BILLY

Mickey and Mario got bagged robbing Sid Michelson's estate. I didn't want to use the phone, but I figured you'd wanna know.

STEVE

Yeah, of course. He get a lawyer, yet?

BILLY

It'll cost a bundle, but I'm gonna call Christina Grebs. She's got connections and she's the best.

STEVE

You think your Macho Man Brother will buy a lady lawyer?

BILLY

Freak him, he thinks he's Billy the Kid. He don't need the dough. The Dumb bastard gives it all away.

STEVE

Yeah, he loves it on the edge. The man's got elephantitus of the balls.

BILLY

But no common sense. I just gave him the film I shot of his wedding and he gets locked up.

STEVE

That hobby of yours might pay off yet.

BILLY

It sure don't look that way.

INT SUFFOLK COUNTY POLICE HQ - DAY

Vince and Richard enter a large office. INSPECTOR PAUL AMES, 55, sits at his desk.

VINCE

Damned good work, Paul. We're not going to forget it, eh, Richard?

RICHARD

No we won't. I'd give blood to try those murdering scoundrels before my bench.

AMES

Look, the men in custody are only part of this. We need time to track it all down, but we'll connect it up, that's for sure.

VINCE

It wouldn't surprise me if they weren't part of some Left Wing splinter group.

RICHARD

Yes, I agree. The choice of their targets suggests some sort of plot.

VINCE

It's a god damned conspiracy, Paul. No telling where they got their orders from.

AMES

I can't discount anything at this time, but they just look like ordinary small time crooks to me.

VINCE

Watergate began with a petty break in and we know where that went.

RICHARD

That's right. It's our turn to get those Left Wing bastards.

INT STEVE'S APARTMENT - AFTERNOON

Steve opens the door for Billy to enter.

STEVE

How'd it go?

BILLY

Christina said there's big time interest in this case. All the politicians are involved. Never seen anything like it she said.

STEVE

They set bail yet?

BILLY

Not a chance she said. They're being charged with every crime in the county. They even got 'em for killing fish.

STEVE

Can you arrange a sit down with what's her name, Christina?

BILLY

Sure, I'll make it for tomorrow?

STEVE

I'll take it from here. I gotta do this one alone.

BILLY

Hey, if that's how it is. Go for it.

INT. CHRISTINA GREB'S LAW OFFICE - DAY

Steve enters Christina's office.

CHRISTINA

Mister Coburn, I gather?

STEVE

That's right. I'm Mickey Walsh's partner.

CHRISTINA

In crime? Or just the limousine business?

STEVE

Both, why should he get all the credit?

CHRISTINA

You're so right, but according to the police you two have been rather busy on Long Island.

STEVE

I went solo on a few of those.

CHRISTINA

Don't tell me you came here to confess?

STEVE

I guess you could say that.

CHRISTINA
I'll get my recorder.

Christina reaches into her drawer.

STEVE
Look, you want to take notes,
alright, but I don't want anybody
else to hear this. That's the deal.

CHRISTINA
Go ahead. We'll see how it goes.

She reaches for a pad and pencil.

STEVE
You know Judge Moon pretty good?

CHRISTINA
Well enough to have tried a hundred
or so cases before his bench, why?

STEVE
I did his fish and I did that
barbecue alone. All by myself.

CHRISTINA
I was at that barbecue you bastard.
Whatever did you put in that sauce?

STEVE
A bit of this and that.

CHRISTINA
Alright, so tell me, what are you
getting at and what's this about
Judge Moon?

STEVE
The guys for sale. He's bought and
paid for.

CHRISTINA
Can you prove that? Because if you
can. I'd love to go after him.

STEVE
Don't tell me Full Moon Dick gave
you one of his favorite son
ruling's?

CHRISTINA
That's a good analogy, but it's not
easy to challenge a sitting judge.

STEVE
I have something that might change
all that.

Steve removes a packet from his shirt.

He places it on her desk.

CHRISTINA
What exactly are you offering?

STEVE
A chance to get even. You got a TV
VCR hookup around here?

CHRISTINA
In the next office. In my law
library.

STEVE
Do you mind looking at hard core
porn?

CHRISTINA
No, actually I rather love it, but
never on the first date.

INT CHRISTINA'S LAW LIBRARY - CONTINUOUS

The TV flickers on nude figures in compromising situations.

It flickers off.

CHRISTINA
That was unbelievable Mister
Coburn. If I hadn't seen them with
my own eyes I'd doubt their
authenticity. Are there others?

STEVE
A few and there's some I'd rather
not use.

CHRISTINA
I assume you want me to have these?

STEVE
Must have read my mind.

CHRISTINA
And what do I do with this
confession?

STEVE
That'll have to be your call.

INT. LIMOUSINE BUSINESS OFFICE - DUSK

Ellie's at her desk.

Steve enters.

ELLIE
Could have stayed home today and
watched the soaps.

STEVE
It'll pick up when the Mick gets
rolling again.

ELLIE
I'm afraid not, the Mick's did it
this time. He'll be upstate making
license plates for the next few
years.

STEVE
He's bobbed and weaved his way out
of trouble before.

Detectives Fitzpatrick and Petito enter.

ELLIE
How many times do you have to
search this place?

JOE
Just doing our job, Ma'am.

ELLIE
Do you realize you're interfering
with mine?

JOE
We wanted to have a chat with
Mister Coburn

STEVE
Didn't know we met.

JOE
Your mug shot's on file with the
taxi and limo board.

Joe flips him a photo.

STEVE
So what can I do for you?

JOE
Mind stepping outside?

STEVE
Glad to.

EXT LIMOUSINE BUSINESS OFFICE - CONTINUOUS
Steve is flanked by the Detectives.

JOE
We figure you're hip deep in your
sidekick's shit. That right?

STEVE
This multiple choice?

JOE
Look, we'll run it all down. Take
book on that.

STEVE
I thought taking book's against the
law.

JOE
A little cooperation could help a
man with the law.

STEVE
Wouldn't surprise me a bit.

Tom slams his fist into his palm.

JOE
Detective Petito used to box. He
believes in solving problems with
his hands.

STEVE
Tell him he ought to learn how to
eat with them paws before he
threatens people. I use to box
myself.

Tom edges closer with a threatening gesture.

JOE
It's a nervous habit of his.

STEVE

Look, you guys want entertainment,
I'll be happy to oblige.

Steve unbuttons his shirt, tosses it away and assumes a combative stance.

JOE

The guy's a pistol Tom. Can't
reason with him.

They get in their car and drive away.

INT SUFFOLK COUNTY POLICE - DAY

Christina steps into Inspector Ames office.

AMES

Good to see you Counselor. How can
I help you?

CHRISTINA

You're holding one of my clients.
A Mister Walsh.

AMES

Walsh, oh, yeah, the Limo guy. Now
there's one helluva innovative
crook.

CHRISTINA

I understand he hasn't been charged
yet?

AMES

The man was caught in the act. In
fact he's been connected to a whole
rash of burglaries and some other
trashy crime. We'll have it all
together by tomorrow.

CHRISTINA

The sooner the better. His family
would like him out on bail.

AMES

This is a high profile crime. Bail
is out of the question.

CHRISTINA

Since when do the Suffolk County
Police consider killing goldfish a
high profile crime?

AMES

Oh, so you know about the fish?
Well, there's more to it than that.
The yacht club for example.

CHRISTINA

Can you definitely place them in
the yacht club at the time of the
robbery?

AMES

Not yet, but one of his limo's was
at the clambake. You know what
happened there.

CHRISTINA

Yes, Inspector Ames, but what
you're talking about are pranks.
There's something wrong with this
picture.

AMES

Look counsellor, some very
important people, friends of yours
and mine have been hurt by these
clients of yours. They're shouting
for justice.

CHRISTINA

These friends of yours and mine.
Do they have names?

AMES

Supervisor Malzoni and Judge Moon.

CHRISTINA

I have some film I'd like you to
watch Inspector Ames that have a
connection to this case.

AMES

Of course. If it's relevant.

INT. LIEUTENANT AMES OFFICE - CONTINUING

The TV flashes nude figures before flickering off.

AMES

I suppose these are for sale?

CHRISTINA

Not one red cent.

AMES

Okay, I'll rephrase the question.
Would the word barter be more
appropriate?

CHRISTINA

You realize I'll have to speak with
my client?

AMES

Yes, but I'd like Malzoni to see
this film.

CHRISTINA

Again, that's up to my client.

AMES

I'll expect to hear from you.

INT CHRISTINA'S LAW LIBRARY - DAY

Steve arranges the TV set. He drops a film into the VCR
while Christina writes in her notebook.

CHRISTINA

You make for a fierce adversary
Mister Coburn.

STEVE

It's an Irish curse. We have this
need to get even. Look how long
we've been fighting the British.

CHRISTINA

I'll remember that next time I'm
selecting a jury.

Lieutenant Ames and Vince enter.

VINCE

The beautiful Christina. If I was
ten years younger the chase would
be on.

CHRISTINA

Promises, all I get is promises.

VINCE

I'd back it up, but I hear you have
some film you want me to see?

CHRISTINA

My client Mister Coburn does. He's
agreed to show a video tape.

AMES

Mister Coburn is a business partner
of that Walsh fellow we have in
custody.

VINCE

Okay Mister Coburn. Let's see
what you have.

Steve taps a remote and the TV flickers on. Seconds later
figures are visible.

Barbara is seen removing her clothes.

Richard moves into view to embrace her.

He kicks off his clothes as they fall into bed.

VINCE

How much of this do you have?

STEVE

About an hour.

Steve fast forwards the tape.

Nancy dances across the scene and hops into bed.

The threesome cavorts in a series of poses.

VINCE

Okay, okay, I seen enough. How
much will you take for that junk?

Steve taps the remote. The screen goes blank.

STEVE

It's not for sale.

VINCE

What kind of bull shit is that?
Everything's for sale.

AMES

I think Mister Coburn is suggesting
some sort of trade.

VINCE

That right Coburn? You got a deal
in mind?

STEVE

Mickey and Mario get off clean.
Like it was all a mistake.

VINCE
Can we do that Paul?

AMES
Something could be worked out.
They haven't been arraigned yet.

VINCE
Okay Coburn, supposing we let them off? How do I know some other guy won't walk in here with a gripe and hold us up again?

STEVE
You don't, but I got the original and all the copies. They're yours when we wrap this up.

VINCE
It's wrapped up. You got yourself a deal.

STEVE
Not yet, you have to get rid of Judge Moon. He's out as a judge. He steps down or there's no deal.

VINCE
Are you nuts? Over some girlie pictures? People don't give a dam who you sleep with.

STEVE
They don't. Well you might change your opinion if you looked at some other film I have.

VINCE
Go ahead. I might as well see it all.

Steve replaces one tape with another. He flicks on the TV

A Slender YOUNG TEENAGE GIRL in a bathing suit cavorts with Richard.

They strike a variety of poses before Richard removes her bathing suit.

A Young LAD in a bathing suit enters. The threesome hops into bed.

VINCE

Shut it off. Shut that dam thing off.

Steve clicks it off.

STEVE

Sorry, I was trying to avoid showing that one.

VINCE

Okay, you get what you want, but I want a copy of that tape. That cradle robbing perverted bastard has to see why he's losing his robe.

STEVE

Take this one. I think you'll do the right thing

EXT. LIMOUSINE BUSINESS OFFICE - DAY

Steve wheels his Limo into the driveway and parks.

He steps out to open the rear passenger door for Mickey and Mario.

MICKEY

Gotta thank you Moe. You banged it out of the park. I'm talking grand freaking salami.

MARIO

And pizza's on the house at Mario's. I'm talking forever.

Ellie runs out the doorway followed by the dogs.

Mickey and Ellie embrace while the animals romp.

ELLIE

And you Mister Walsh and I mean not ever, will not even think of breaking the law.

MICKEY

Never again, my right hand to God, but you gotta do me a favor Steve. Give this back to Detective Petito.

Mickey raises his left arm.

He hands Steve a watch.

STEVE
The man's incorrigible.

Steve steps into his limo and drives away.

EXT MONTAUK POINT, L. I. - DAY

Steve walks in the surf carrying his spear gun. He stops to peer at an unusual shell.

In the distance an indiscernible figure moves towards him from across the sand dunes.

He walks into the surf preparing to dive, but turns back to watch the figure draw closer.

The figure disappears behind a mound, but reappears on the other side.

He moves towards the figure, slowly at first, suddenly he breaks into a run and discards his spear gun.

The distance closes until they're almost together.

JOANNA
I was out here with this guy once.
He looked just like you.

STEVE
Same facial disfigurements, heh?

JOANNA
Real good looking guy. I loved him
a lot.

STEVE
You can take odds he loves you too.

JOANNA
You think he'd give me a tryout for
girlfriend?

Steve mouths the words YES as they embrace.

FADE OUT.