

THE COMEDIAN

Story By
ART LINSON

Screenplay By
ART LINSON & JEFF ROSS and
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LEWIS FRIEDMAN

1 EXT: 7TH AVE & 34TH ST, NYC - WINTER - DUSK 1

Snow and ice with big chill winds hit the streets but it doesn't slow down the throngs of New Yorkers heading toward the Long Island Railroad entrance of PENN STATION.

The Camera settles on ONE MAN walking alone fighting the crowds and the weather. We meet JACKIE BURKE.

2 INT: ESCALATOR - LIR - PENN STATION - DUSK 2

Jackie, carrying a small sports bag, rides the escalator down into Penn Station, stoic, oblivious to the harried commuters around him.

3 INT. LONG ISLAND RAIL ROAD TRAIN - LATER - DAY 3

Jackie sits alone on the train. He reads the NY Times, every once in a while circling an item, scribbling notes.

An MIDDLE-AGED WOMAN across from him stares. Jackie offers a brief glimpse then turns away.

OLD WOMAN

Excuse me? I know you . . . Don't
I know you?

*
*

JACKIE

No!

Jackie returns to his notes. The Old Woman, speechless, goes back to minding her own business.

4 EXT: LIR HICKSVILLE STATION SIGN - DAY 4

The train pulls into Hicksville, Long Island.

5 EXT. GOVERNOR'S COMEDY CLUB - RAINY - LATE AFTERNOON 5

A "Long Island Taxi" drives through a suburban shopping mall parking lot behind Petco, P.C. Richards, Staples, bringing us to two small, isolated buildings: A tiny drive-thru "Dairy Mart", and a red cement-block bunker with the word "COMEDY" printed across the front.

6 INT. TAXI - CONTINUOUS - NIGHT 6

Jackie glances at the Marquee through the window...

(CONTINUED)

NOSTALGIA NITE!!

Starring

BRETT BUTLER from "GRACE UNDER FIRE" *

JACKIE BURKE from "Eddie's Place" *

Hosted by

JIMMIE "DYNAMITE" WALKER *

Jackie, expressionless, wraps his scarf around his neck and reads the computer screen: cash or credit.

CABBIE

(in rear-view mirror)

I knew I knew you. "Eddie". You're "Eddie". My wife and I were just watching one of the old shows. She said you died. I says, no I think he's alive. We had a fight. *

Jackie throws the driver a \$20 and exits the cab. *

He runs through the pouring rain to the front door. *

7

INT. GOVERNOR'S COMEDY CLUB BAR - NIGHT 7*

Jackie enters carrying his sports bag to find his female agent/manager MILLER waiting for hi. *

MILLER

Are you cold? You need something to warm you up?

JACKIE

You could torch the club so I don't have to do this shit.

MILLER

Be prepared - it's not as big a house as they thought. I think the weather kept people home.

JACKIE

You sure it's not the marquee? Reads like Night of the Living Dead.

8

INT. KITCHEN AREA - GOVERNOR'S CLUB - CONTINUOUS 8

Miller leads Jackie through a busy kitchen. Jackie strips off his peacoat as they pass the kitchen help. *

(CONTINUED)

JACKIE

I should fire you for this.

MILLER

You said anything. You need money.

Jackie sets down his sports bag on a kitchen table, and Jackie starts shedding his winter garb: He takes off his hat and gives it to Miller. He unzips his sports bag and pulls out a pair of tennis shoes - kicking off his rubber snow boots, he slides on the loafers.

MILLER

Oh, CBS passed on the pilot.

JACKIE

They give a reason?

MILLER

They didn't like it.

JACKIE

You tell me this before I go on?
What you do before you fuck your
boyfriend? Watch a Holocaust
movie?

MILLER

At least I have a boyfriend. What
relationship do you have?

We can see the half-filled showroom through the kitchen door. We hear laughter from the showroom.

JACKIE

(points at audience)
I've got them . . . the audience.

MILLER

You want to say hi to JJ?

JACKIE

No.

He walks out of the kitchen toward the showroom. Miller follows.

JIMMIE "JJ" WALKER stands in the back of the half-filled room, watching Brett Butler performing on stage.

Jackie & Miller appear through the kitchen door. *

JIMMIE WALKER *

Jackie B! *

JACKIE *

JJ. *

JIMMIE WALKER *

Good to see you, man. Thanks for
coming. *

JACKIE *

Thanks for having me. *

JIMMIE WALKER *

It's a small house but they're
lively. *

JACKIE *

I only need one person to play.
Sometimes I just play with myself. *

JIMMIE WALKER *

Dy-no-mite! *

Jimmie nods, and moves toward the stage as Brett Butler
finishes her act. *

Finally, Jackie takes a small mirror out of the sports
bag and hands it to Miller, who now holds all of Jackie's
discarded cloths. She holds up the mirror so Jackie can
arrange his hair.

JIMMIE WALKER (V.O.) *

She's still "UNDER FIRE", let's
hear it once again for Brett
Butler! DY-NO-MITE!!! *

JACKIE *

You staying? *

MILLER *

I'll drive you home. *

Brett Butler exits past Jackie. They hug and shake hands. *

BRETT BUTLER *

If you ever see me at one these
again shoot me in the head.

JACKIE

I'll do us both with one bullet.

*

Brett exits.

*

ON STAGE:

JIMMIE WALKER

*

So now please welcome a guy you might remember if you fought in World War II, from the sitcom "EDDIE'S HOME"...a true black belt in bustin balls..don't adjust your set--this guy was on TV before there was color. Here he is...Mister Jackie Burke.

*

Applause. The Audience is chanting, "EDDIE! EDDIE!"

*

Jackie takes the mic from JJ Walker and puts on his show face.

*

*

JACKIE

*

Let's hear it for the great JJ Walker.

*

*

Jackie sizes up the crowd. He takes a deep breath and lets it out slowly, ending with a quick shudder. We'll come to recognize this as Jackie's tic when he's about to erupt into comedy -- a fighter coming out of his corner.

The chanting grows louder: "EDDIE! EDDIE!"

Jackie takes the stage. Grabs the mic.

JACKIE

Give it up for JJ WALKER. This guy was on TV before there was colored.

*

Jackie sizes up the crowd.

JACKIE (CONT'D)

It looks like everybody here is with someone.

He steals a quick look back to Miller in the wings.

JACKIE (CONT'D)

Lots of couples. A few singles.
(@ some young women)
What are you celebrating?

(CONTINUED)

ONE OF THE GIRLS
Bachelorette party!

JACKIE
Bachelorette party!

JACKIE IN GIRL'S VOICE
*Heather, I told you we should have
gone to Chippendales! I don't
care if they're all gay.*

JACKIE
Okay, how many first dates in the
house?

Crowd reaction.

JACKIE (CONT'D)
Quite a few.
(looks at a Table)
J-Date?
(table nods)
I thought so.
(then to WAITRESS)
Table 14 - separate checks.
(audience laughs)
How 'bout married couples?
(several shouts)
Oh, quite a few . . .

Jackie turns around so he's facing the Back Wall. He
talks into the mic sotto voce - an internal dialogue.

JACKIE TO HIMSELF
*Maybe I shouldn't do any marriage
jokes. Everyone's in a good mood.
They just saw Brett Fucking
Butler, they're happy. I can't
crush their world with bleak shit
about marriage. Keep it light,
right?*

*
*

Jackie turns around and faces the audience.

JACKIE
(growling into Mic)
Marriage will suck every speck of
life from your soul until there's
nothing left but one giant
festering sore! No, really. I'm a
big fan of marriage, Hicksville.
I must be; I've been married four
times.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

JACKIE (CONT'D)

I don't think it's just me. I don't think human beings were meant to be together. Want a relationship? Get a canary. Get a fish. Don't get a cat -- that's too sad. But get a hamster. Get a dog. A dog's always happy to see you. A dog don't judge. Like when You're late?

JACKIE AS DOG

Hey, Jackie, no big deal. WOOF.

JACKIE

You forget to feed them.

JACKIE AS DOG

It's okay, Jackie, I'll manage. WOOF.

JACKIE

You can even come home smelling like pussy, and they'll love you even more.

JACKIE AS DOG

(sniff, sniff)

Jackie, my man! WOOF WOOF...

(sniff)

...Dawg, you smell great! You been into some cool shit. WOOF. WOOF.

JACKIE

You can even bring another dog home. Sure, your steady dog might get a little jealous, but the worst he's gonna do is pee on your carpet, shit on the floor, maybe chew up a shoe or two. My third wife did all those things. But then she went and did what all wives do -- she got a lawyer. A dog will never do that. A dog will never go out and get a lawyer. And here's another thing a dog will never do. When a dog dies, it will not be resurrected 25 years later on "Nostalgia Night." Now I'm not suggesting anything, but if you get the right kind of dog--

Jackie is interrupted by a HECKLER seated in front with his BLONDE GIRLFRIEND.

HECKLER

(shouting)

Enough of this dog shit! Come on, do Eddie!

JACKIE

Not now pal, I'm working out some new stuff here.

HECKLER

Yeah, no, I didn't pay to hear new material. I paid to see "Eddie".

As before, Jackie turns his back to the audience, and speaks into the mic sotto voce - Internal dialogue:

JACKIE TO HIMSELF

Oh Christ, a heckler. This must be the infamous Hicksville Heckler I've been warned about. Big, loud, stupid ...I could destroy him, but I might lose the audience. They're on my side now. I'm on a roll. I'll kill him with kindness, go on with the bit, see where it leads.

(turns back to

Audience & Heckler)

My friend, this is a place of peace where brothers and sisters gather together to nourish their souls with comedy and refreshments. You've come into this, and--

Now YELLING AT THE TOP OF HIS LUNGS

JACKIE (CONT'D)

DESTROYED IT ALL YOU SNIVELING,
FUCKING PIECE OF SHIT CUNT, YOU
SCUM SUCKING HIDEOUS FOUL
DETESTABLE POOR EXCUSE FOR A LIFE
FORM. YOU UNEVOLVED, LOATHSOME,
VULGAR REPUGNANT ZIT ON THE ASS OF
MANKIND.

Jackie abruptly turns around again to his "Internal Dialogue" position.

JACKIE TO HIMSELF
 I think it's working; I'm getting
 through to him. That's what we
 comedians do, fix it all with a
 joke . . . with our wit.

HECKLER
 (yells from Audience)
 Hey. I'm the audience. You're here
 to entertain me! You work for me.

JACKIE
 (to the audience)
 You hear that, I work for him.

He turns back to the Heckler.

JACKIE
 (yelling)
 YOU SCROFULOUS, PUSTULAR, DISEASED
 DICK OF A CUM CHUGGING, MOTHER
 FUCKING, SCAT MUNCHING, ASS
 LICKING PILE OF RANCID SHIT.
 (then)
 Please enjoy the rest of the show.

Jackie hears the Heckler speak triumphantly to his
 girlfriend. *

HECKLER
 You getting this all, Amy?

Jackie peers past the lights and sees a woman adjusting a
 GoPro Camera on a professional GoPro Steadi-Stick.

AMY
 I don't want all that in our show.

JACKIE (CONT'D)
 Are you recording this?

HECKLER
 Welcome to:
 (into Go Pro)
 "STANDUP TAKEDOWN".

AMY
 (from behind camera)
 Webisode 19.

Jackie gets off the stage and walks towards to the
 Heckler's Table,

JACKIE (CONT'D)
(walking)
Webisode? You're making your own
show?

HECKLER
(into the camera)
THIS IS STAND-UP TAKE-DOWN; JACKIE
BURKE EDITION! *

JACKIE
Really? You're recording my show?

HECKLER
This is my show! I did Carrot Top
last week. Brought-him-down!

Jackie gets off the stage and walks to Heckler's table.

JACKIE
You went down on Carrot Top?

Heckler grabs Jackie's mic and faces Go-Pro.

HECKLER
Blow job jokes? A sign of
weakness.

Jackie tries to pull his mic out of Heckler's hands.

JACKIE
Don't touch the mic.

HECKLER
(into the camera)
This is Archie Severin challenging
Jackie Burke to a comic-face-off.

JACKIE
(pulling at mic)
Let go of my mic.

HECKLER
(holds onto mic)
Bet they'd rather hear my act than
yours. I challenge you to a comic-
face-off.

JACKIE
(overlap)
Not with my mic.

HECKLER

(overlap)

What? You too chicken-shit to
throw down with me?

JACKIE

OK, you want the mic - here.

Jackie uses the Heckler's own force to bang the mic
against the Heckler's head and face...

HECKLER

OW...STOP

JACKIE

HERE! YOU WANT THE MIC ... YOU
WANT THE FUCKING MIC...EAT IT!!!

JACKIE POUNDS THE HECKLER WITH THE MIC -

Blood spurts from the Heckler's nose, Jackie rips the mic
out of the Hecklers hands and pushes him over the table
onto his girlfriend, who screams.

Jackie grabs the Go Pro and speaks into it in the cadence
of his stand-up:

JACKIE

And if you *do* get a dog, don't
take it to a comedy club.

(turns to audience)

I see my time is up. Thank you
everyone. Don't forget to tip
your waitresses, and be careful
not to step in the puddles of
blood on your way out. GOOD NIGHT!

The audience is in shock, but a few shout their approval.
Jackie crosses to Miller and rushes out with her.

CUT TO:

We see the shaky image of Jackie from the Go-Pro's POV,
hitting the Heckler (MR. SEVERIN) with the mic.

JACKIE (ON GO-PRO)

*You want the mic..you want the
fucking mic..Eat it!!!*

The video stops.

INT. COURTROOM - DAY

Jackie's Attorney stands before the JUDGE, Judith Mansfield, showing her the video on the I-Pad. The Prosecutor stands beside him also watching.

JACKIE'S ATTORNEY

Your Honor, as you can clearly see, Mr. Severin grabbed Mr. Burkowitz first. Mr. Burkowitz warned Mr. Severin several times to desist, and he refused.

Jackie sits at the defense table. Miller sits behind him. The "victim" (Severin) with a bandage over his nose and bruised eye, sits behind the Prosecutor's table.

JUDGE MANSFIELD

Any objection to probation?

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

With a strong Public Apology and substantial Community Service.

Nods to her Clerk. Attorneys return to their clients. Jackie's attorney gives him a "we won" thumbs up.

COURT CLERK

Will the defendant please rise.

Jackie stands.

JUDGE MANSFIELD

Jonathan Burkowitz, the court understands there are mitigating circumstances, but nothing excuses your retaliation. It is in the judgement of the court that you will serve 100 hours of community service, attend 10 anger management sessions and make an allocution and apology. Do you understand, Mr. Burkowitz?

JACKIE

Yes, Your Honor.

JUDGE MANSFIELD

And in accordance with the agreement, are you prepared to change your plea from 'not guilty' to 'guilty.'

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Jackie looks at his Attorney who nods. *

JACKIE *

Yes, Your Honor. *

The Attorney hands Jackie a sheet of paper. Jackie reads; *

JACKIE (CONT'D) *

I admit to assault and battery on
Mr. Severin. I recognize that I
acted in a weak and violent
manner, and I will aggressively
take steps to ensure that it will
never happen again. *

Jackie glances over at the Heckler who smiles smugly. *

JACKIE (CONT'D) *

I also apologize to the court and
to my fans. *

JUDGE MANSFIELD *

Do you have something to say to
Mr. Severin? *

JACKIE *

(reluctantly) *

I'm sorry. *

Severin leans across the railing and whispers to the DA,
as if to say "that's not good enough". The DA turns and
addresses the judge. *

DISTRICT ATTORNEY *

Excuse me, your Honor, but I think
the defendant can do a little
better than that. Mr. Severin
could have suffered brain damage. *

JUDGE MANSFIELD *

Mr. Burkowitz, you want to try
that again? *

Jackie looks over to Severin - who has a shit-eating
grin, as if to say "I win, asshole". *

Jackie takes a deep breath and lets it out slowly. *

JACKIE *

No. *

DISTRICT ATTORNEY/JUDGE MANSFIELD *

No? *

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Miller covers her face. She knows what's coming. *

JACKIE *

No. You see, your Honor, there's
no way Mr. Severin could have
suffered brain damage because,
according to the law as I
understand it, it has not been
proven in this courtroom that Mr.
Severin in fact *has* a brain. *

Shock and laughter from COURTROOM SPECTATORS. *

JUDGE MANSFIELD *

Careful, Mr. Burkowitz. *

Too late. Miller covers her face. *

JACKIE *

I mean, as soon as the guy opened
his mouth, it was like Gorillas in
the Mist - Look at him - You could
tell by his face. You know, Judge,
the look like Donald Trump fucked
Alfred E Newman after a night of
snorting thalidomide. *

More laughter. The Judge pounds her gavel for order. *

SEVERIN *

(to DA) *

Can he say that to me? *

JACKIE *

Look at him right now, struggling
to understand what I'm saying. *

JUDGE MANSFIELD *

Stop right now. I'm warning you-- *

JACKIE *

This is more than just about me,
Judge. I think humanity's fate is
in your hands. Remember, he was
with a female that night. What if
they breed? *

Spectators laugh and cheer "You tell'em Jackie!". The
Judge pounds her gavel. Prosecutor starts shouting.
Severin is on his feet shouting. *

(CONTINUED)

JUDGE MANSFIELD
 YOU'RE IN CONTEMPT, MR. BERKOWITZ.
 30 DAYS in the Nassau County
 Correctional Center-TAKE HIM AWAY.

*
 *
 *
 *

The BAILIFFS roughly grab Jackie and lead him away.

*

As Jackie passes Miller, he WINKS at her.

*

JACKIE
 (continuing)
 One day there could be thousands
 of these one-eyed brainless
 idiots. It's up to you, Your
 Honor; the fate of the world is in
 your hands. Finish what I started.
 Save the world. Lock *him* up!

*
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 *
 *

CUT TO

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11 EXT. NASSAU COUNTY CORRECTIONAL CENTER - DAY

11

Rolls of Razor Wire glisten in the sunlight.

12 INT. CELL BLOCK - DAY

12

Jackie, in an orange uniform, is escorted by a prison
 guard into a double-tiered cell bloc.

*
 *

Two naked, totally tattooed Latino inmates take showers
 in an open shower stall. They eye Jackie - "New Meat".

GUARD
 (shouts to inmates)
 OK gentlemen, let's give a warm
 welcome to our newest resident.

Jackie hears from all the cells, inmates voices singing:

GUARDS & INMATES
*"When your head gets in that
 cranky place...watch EDDIE'S
 HOME...EDDIE'S HOME...EDDIE'S
 HOME..."*

*
 *
 *

Jackie walks into his temporary home:

DISSOLVE TO:

13 EXT. NASSAU COUNTY CORRECTIONAL CENTER - DUSK 13

30-Days-Later: Jackie, in same clothes he wore in court, walks down a long ramp. He holds a clear plastic bag filled with his possessions. Miller waits by her car.

14 EXT: QUEENS-SIDE ENTRANCE TO 59TH ST BRIDGE - DUSK 14

JACKIE (V.O.)
I wrote new material on the
inside. Good stuff.

15 INT. MILLER'S CAR - BRIDGE - DAY 15

Miller drives as Jackie looks out the window;

JACKIE
I'd try it on you but you have no
sense of humor.

MILLER
No, I don't.

JACKIE
I have never seen you laugh.

MILLER
No you haven't.

JACKIE
How can that be? You represent
comics.

MILLER
You just answered your own
question. Can you imagine how
fucking painful my life would be
if I had to act like an audience
with all my comics? "You laughed
more at his joke, than ya did at
mine" "You think he's funny, he's
not funny". So I don't react to
anyone and everyone feels equal.

JACKIE
And you call that personal
management? Your father had
affection for his clients.

MILLER

Which his clients didn't have. He got you that TV show and you fired him.

JACKIE

It was a William Morris package deal. Your father understood.

MILLER

Just don't talk to me about affection.

JACKIE

I don't need your affection. You know what I need? I need to work. I want a New York club.

*

MILLER

(rolls her eyes)

Yeah, that'll get you out of the hole you're in - \$30 a show at the Comedy Cellar ... You do that 540 times you might have the money to pay your attorney fees.

*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*

JACKIE

I'm hot now. I'm viral. Your father knew how to take advantage of opportunities like this...
(with affection)
"Millah the Killah" I used to call him.

*

MILLER

He loved when you called him that.
(beat)
It killed him when you stopped.

Jackie looks out the window at NYC approaching.

16 EXT: 59TH STREET BRIDGE - DAY

16

Cars on bridge stream into the heart of Manhattan.

17 EXT. INDUSTRIAL BUSHWICK NEIGHBORHOOD - MORNING

17*

HARMONY exits an old red brick building, dressed for the cold.

*
*

MAC (O.S.)

HEY!

Harmony stops, sees: MAC SCHUTZ, sitting in the back seat of a limo at the curb. Mac is in his late 60's with a jaw cut like a Marine, drenched in a Florida tan.

HARMONY

(surprised)

What are you doing here?

MAC

Happy Thanksgiving.

HARMONY

I thought you weren't coming?

MAC

I flew in last night. Get in the car. I'll drive you to work.

HARMONY

No.

MAC

It's freezing! Get in the fucking car!

HARMONY

I'm not driving to a soup kitchen in a limo. Forget it.

Harmony walks away down the sidewalk.

MAC

Goddamn it.

(to driver)

I'm getting out. Follow me.

Mac gets out and catches up to Harmony, who is walking towards the elevated "F" train on Broadway.

MAC

Jesus. It's 80 in Boca.

HARMONY

Then go home.

MAC

Let me make this simple for you. I need you to come back. Is that what you want to hear?

HARMONY

I don't want to hear anything.

MAC

The place doesn't work the same without you. Those old people aren't happy unless you're there to take care of them. We finally found something you're good at. Why walk away from that?

HARMONY

See! That's what I mean. You say things like that...

MAC

I meant it as a compliment.

HARMONY

It's not! I appreciate it but it's not. You make me sound like I'm this problem you have to solve.

HARMONY

Like I can't do anything without you. I can't take care of myself. Love? This is love?

MAC

You are my problem. You'll always be my problem. Because I love you.

HARMONY

DAD! Please, let's not do this on the street. I've got to GO.

MAC

Oh, and I got my lawyer to work out an arrangement with the court so you can finish your community service in Florida.

HARMONY

(angry)

Without asking me?!

MAC

Honey. I think it's a good idea. What do you want from me? Shoot me. Can I borrow your gun? What's in NY for you? You got cheated on. You got dumped. You got arrested. These are not signs of success in this city.

Harmony faces Mac, trying to contain her rage:

HARMONY

Go home, Dad.

She turns and walks down Broadway to catch the El.

MAC

A week from Monday's my birthday
and you're having dinner with me.
No ifs, ands or buts...

Mac smiles and sings to her like she was a little girl.

MAC

*"YOU ARE THE SUNSHINE OF MY
LIFE...THAT'S WHY I'LL ALWAYS BE
AROUND...YOU ARE THE APPLE OF MY
EYE"....*

HARMONY

(over her shoulder)
OK! Dinner. Just don't sing!

MAC

(teasing her)
And having dinner with me is not a
gift. I want a gift too.

HARMONY

Fucking hell.

Leslie runs across Broadway to catch the "F" Train.

MAC

*"YOU ARE THE SUNSHINE OF MY
LIFE...FOREVER YOU'LL STAY IN MY
HEART..."*

Mac watches her run up the stairs to the "EL". And then
gets back inside his Escalade.

EXT. BEN'S BEST DELI - LOWER EASE SIDE, NYC - DAY

Busy traffic jams the intersection of Norfolk Ave &
Houston - even on Thanksgiving Day.

Jackie leans against an icy wind as he ducks into a deli.

19 INT. BEN'S BEST DELI - CONTINUOUS - THANKSGIVING DAY 19

Jackie enters. On the back wall are several 8 x 10's of minor celebrities who have frequented the store, including a signed Jackie Burke photo in the center.

JAMES BERKOWITZ - Jackie's younger brother - is working behind the counter. He sees Jackie and removes his apron.

JAMES

Here he is. The prick who came in from the cold.

JACKIE

Place looks good. It smells more Jewish than I remembered. *

James turns to his few customers.

JAMES

My famous brother, ladies and gentlemen. Probably needs money.

JACKIE

Can I talk to you?

JAMES

(surprised)
I'm right? Jesus, I was kidding.

James leads Jackie to a tiny office in the back.

20 INT. JAMES' KITCHEN/OFFICE - BERKOWITZ DELI - CONTINUOUS 20

James sits behind his desk. Jackie takes a seat.

JAMES

So, you need money?

JACKIE

No, no it's fine. I'm fine. I'm doing my community service at the Bowery Mission, so I'm in the neighborhood - Figured I come in and say hello. *

JAMES

Community service? Oh yeah, saw the video. How could you let a heckler get to you like that? *

(CONTINUED)

JACKIE

It wasn't the heckling. It was the goddamn camera. These fuckers were making their own show out of my show. It was nuts.

*
*
*

JAMES

You looked nuts.

JACKIE

So how are you?

JAMES

Good. You?

JACKIE

Good.

Awkward Beat. James waits. Jackie hesitates. Then:

JACKIE

Look, the thing is, I lost a lot of gigs in the last four weeks cause of what happened, and I'm tapped out. Miller's re-booking them so I need, ya know, walking-around money, just to--

*
*
*

They both start talking simultaneous, overlapping each other.

JAMES

(overlapping)

You got some fucking nerve. I don't see you. I don't hear from you. Nothing. I gotta read in Google News that you were arrested. Like I'm nothing to you. Like my family is nothing to you.

JACKIE

(overlapping)

No listen, it's nothing. Look, it happened so fast. They take your cell phone away in prison. It was like OZ. Lotta naked men. I was very occupied staying single.

FLO, James' wife enters and the two brothers immediately stop talking. Flo commands the space.

FLO

Jackie. How nice you're here.

JACKIE

Hello Flo.

(CONTINUED)

JAMES

BEFORE THAT!

FLO

He's doesn't have to come if he's too busy. If it's too much trouble, don't come...

JACKIE

I didn't say it was too much trouble....

Jimmy starts to realize that Flo didn't send Jackine an invitation.

*
*

FLO

(overlapping)
No, if it's too much trouble, don't come. I don't need the extra aggravation if it's gonna mean trouble for you. I don't need it to become a thing.

JACKIE

(overlapping)
I never said it's...It's not a thing.

JAMES

(overlapping)
I don't think it's a thing.

FLO

(overlapping)
If it's gonna be a thing, then don't bother.

JACKIE

(surrenders)
IT'S NO TROUBLE! It's not a thing!
I'd love to come. I'll be there.

JAMES

It's a week from Sunday.

*
*

FLO

(forcing herself)
You want to stay and have Thanksgiving dinner with us after we close?

*
*
*
*

Jackie knows she's forcing the invite;

*

(CONTINUED)

JACKIE

Not really. And I'll give ya a good excuse. I'm working the mission. I get double the hours taken off my sentence for working Thanksgiving.

*
*
*
*
*
*

FLO

God forbid you do it 'cause it's a nice thing..

(to James)

I need to speak to you when you two are finished.

She exits. The two brothers look to each other.

JACKIE

She hates me.

JAMES

She doesn't hate you.

JACKIE

She doesn't?

JAMES

Nah, I was just fucking with you. *Of course* she hates you. You only show up when you need something.

JACKIE

That's it? Sensitive bitch. None of *my* wives hated you.

JAMES

You weren't married to any of the them long enough to *meet* me.

(then)

So how much do you need?

JACKIE

I don't even remember now. I'm exhausted.

Walks over and looks up to his father's portrait.

*

JACKIE

Pop liked me best.

JAMES

No he didn't.

JACKIE

No, he didn't.

(then)

Five thousand. No big deal. You know I'll get it back to you.

James writes out a check.

JAMES

My daughter idolizes you. Her famous uncle.

(hands him the check)

You better show up.

JACKIE

Thanks.

JAMES

And bring a gift.

Jackie hands back the check to James.

JACKIE

Okay, but that'll cost you extra.

CUT TO:

20-A INT. BURKOWITZ DELI - CASH REGISTER - DAY

20-A*

Flo is speaking with KAROLA, a STATUESQUE German BLOND - beautiful, but tough as nails.

FLO

We paid a \$30,000 deposit.

KAROLA

Yes, and the second \$30,000 is due today.

FLO

(digging in her heels)

We'll pay the balance on the day of the ceremony.

KAROLA

(shaking her head)

No.

James is walking Jackie out and recognizes Karola and turns on the charm.

JIMMY
 Whoa, look who's here ...
 (kisses her hand)
 Karola, meet my famous brother,
 Jackie Burke
 (turns to Jackie)
 Jackie, this beautiful fraulein
 runs Da Mikele Illagio, where
 Brittany is getting hitched.
 Jackie - Karola Muller.

KAROLA
 (a seductive smile)
 Oh, we already know each other.

Jackie looks at her quizzically

KAROLA (CONT'D)
 You don't remember?

JACKIE
 (baffled)
 Sorry ...

KAROLA
 You & me .. after one of your
 shows at Caroline's . . .

JACKIE
 I haven't played Caroline's in ten
 years.
 (shaking his head)
 Sorry, I was drinking a lot in
 those days.

KAROLA
 (knowingly)
 Yes you were . . .

JACKIE
 (ducking past her)
 Sorry, gotta run -- big lunch date
 at the Bowery Mission.
 (stage whisper)
 The food is *much* better there.
 (then)
Auf wiedersehen

Jackie runs out of the Deli. Karola is miffed, but Jimmy
 tries to smooth things over.

JIMMY *
 (turning to Karola) *
 Can I get you anything? *
 (seductively) *
 Latka? *

FLO *
 Cool it, Don Juan, the "Enforcer"
 is here to collect another 30 *
 grand. *

KAROLA *
 It's in the contract. *

FLO *
 You think I read all 70 pages of *
 that ferkakta contract. *

KAROLA *
 (standing her ground) *
 Yes, I expect your to. *

JIMMY *
 (cuts her off) *
 Florie, their check is in the *
 register. Just give it to Karola. *

Flo takes a CHECK our of the Cash Register. *

FLO *
 (feigning surprise) *
 Oh, here it is. At least you *
 saved me a stamp. *

Karola leans down and hugs Jimmy. He can't help looking *
 into her ample cleavage. She stands back up and says: *

KAROLA *
 Now, I'd like a bowl of your Matza *
 Ball Soup. *

FLO *
 Sure a big bowl. It costs \$30 *
 Grand. *

CUT TO: *

A sign above the door: "*He that cometh to me shall never
 hunger*". Camera tracks down a long line of HOMELESS
 PEOPLE, mostly men, stretching down the sidewalk.

21 CONTINUED:

21

JACKIE (V.O.)

Growing up, my family observed all the Thanksgiving traditions. My favorite was my Uncle Moshit telling the Thanksgiving Story.

22 INT. THE BOWERY MISSION - CONTINUOUS - DAY

22

The cramped space is filled with hungry vets, hookers, trannies, etc...some still shivering from the cold.

Jackie, wearing a black hair net underneath a sanitary hat, is dishing out food. While dishing out food, he speaks into a microphone on a stand;

JACKIE

Uncle Moshit told me that before the first Thanksgiving, Pilgrims thought turkeys were sex objects. They couldn't fly and "gobble gobble" was Puritan for "blowjob". When the Indians showed up - right after the Macy's Parade - they brought turkeys all trussed up. The Pilgrims were pissed. They were like "They're eating our fuck birds". But being Puritans, they didn't want to be rude. And it turned out, turkeys tasted better than going down on their wives.

Beyond the line of homeless, Jackie can't help notice -

HARMONY, refilling ice tea and cups of coffee - laughs at Jackie's routine along with the crowd.

JACKIE

So the Puritans stopped fucking the turkeys and started fucking the Indians instead. And that's how we stole their country and made the turkey our national bird.

Scattered applause and laughs. Jackie's eye follows Harmony across the room, filling the coffee cups of two vets as she talks to them. She's full of energy. Everyone seems to like her. Including Jackie.

23 INT. THE BOWERY MISSION - LATER THAT DAY 23

Wide Shot; Volunteers are cleaning up. Jackie is holding his paperwork. We see him ask one of the VOLUNTEERS where the supervisor is. The Volunteer points upstairs. *

Jackie walks up a flight of stairs to the chapel office in the balcony, featuring a stained glass window.

24 INT. CHAPEL OFFICE - CONTINUOUS 24

The office's door is ajar. Jackie pauses when he hears an one sided argument from inside the office:

HARMONY (O.S.)
 YOU REALLY ARE A PIECE OF SHIT,
 GEORGE, YOU KNOW THAT...OH
 REALLY?...HOW IS THIS ALL MY FAULT
 NOW! TELL ME!.....

Jackie inches the door open to see Harmony pacing behind a desk while on the phone.

HARMONY
 OH PLEASE, I DIDN'T IT THROW AT
 HER, I WAS THROWING IT AT YOU AND
 SHE WALKED IN FRONT OF IT. THAT'S
 ON HER, THAT'S NOT ON ME. WHO DOES
 THAT!??...ARE YOU STILL SEEING
 HER? SO SHE'S NOT THERE! OH
 REALLY? I FOLLOW YOU ON INSTAGRAM,
 YOU MORON!...GRATEFUL?! GRATEFUL
 FOR WHAT, GEORGE! FUCK YOU. FUCK
 YOU WITH YOUR STUPID HAIR...NO *I'M*
 TAKING THE HIGH ROAD!!...**So you**
want to get together or is this
over?

Slamming the phone down, she is startled by Jackie.

HARMONY
 What the fuck are you doing,
 standing there listening to a
 private conversation?

JACKIE
 Sorry, they told me I need you to
 sign the paperwork for my hours.

HARMONY
 I'm not the supervisor. You want
 Bobbi. She's at the store.

(CONTINUED)

JACKIE

Oh sorry, I just assumed--

HARMONY

I'm allowed to use the office! We don't get cell service in here.

JACKIE

OK.

HARMONY

But don't say anything.

JACKIE

Nope. I won't say anything. I'm not messing with you, lady. I'm just glad I'm not George.

*

HARMONY

What do you know about George?

JACKIE

(protecting himself)
He's a piece of shit!

HARMONY

You got that right.

Jackie smirks, disarming Harmony a bit. She softens.

*

HARMONY

I know you.

JACKIE

Oh yeah?

HARMONY

You're Jackie Burke. My Dad loved your show. I've seen every episode.

JACKIE

Always nice to meet a fan.

*

HARMONY

Not really. We only had one TV.

This deflects Jackie for a moment.

JACKIE

What's your name?

HARMONY

Harmony Schutz.

JACKIE

Harmony Schutz? Were your parents
in a Nazi Barbershop Quartet?

HARMONY

That's so funny. *

JACKIE

(flirty)

Well, you know, they say once you
make a woman laugh, you can make
her do anything.

Harmony stops laughing, more fascinated than insulted.

HARMONY

Is that an old saying?

JACKIE

Well--

As Harmony exits... *

HARMONY

(interrupting)

As in *very, very* old?

End on Jackie - he's intrigues. *

25-A

CLOSE-UP: A HIGH FIDELITY NEEDLE IS LOWERED ONTO AN LP

25-A*

25

INT. JACKIE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

25

A nice, but cluttered two-bedroom apartment that hasn't
been redecorated in decades. Lots of books, notebooks,
videos. Through the window e can see the brick building
next door. *

Jackie stands in his boxer shorts and a tee shirt,
ironing a pair of pants. As he listens to Art Blakey's -
"Meet You At The Jazz Corner Of The World Vol. 2" As the
famous midget, Pee Wee Marquette introduces the band,
Jackie mouths the words perfectly: *

(CONTINUED)

JACKIE (PLACE-HOLDER)

I have a question? If you're all "the homeless" then where are all "the bums"? I mean, I get you're all having a hard time, but where are the guys who just don't want to fucking work? Where do they eat? A bum asked me, "Give me ten dollars til payday" I said "When's payday?", Bum says, "I don't know - you're the one working"...

The Homeless crowd laughs - they like him, and so does Harmony who was watching unseen in the doorway.

Harmony walks past Jackie and the homeless men into the Store Room, Jackie excuses himself and follows her.

INT. STORAGE ROOM - THE BOWERY MISSION - SIMULTANEOUS

Jackie enters this large storage area, crammed with donated can good. Harmony is taking inventory.

JACKIE

How ya doin?

*

*

Harmony is startled.

*

HARMONY

I

*

JACKIE

Force of habit. An Emcee usually does an intro.

*

*

*

HARMONY

(re: The Homeless)

They like you out there.

(off Jackie's nod)

I saw that You Tube video - for what it's worth, I thought you were right for knocking the guy out, but my dad's an ex-con so I may not be the best judge.

*

JACKIE

Thanks.

HARMONY

How many hours did they give you?

JACKIE

100. You?

HARMONY

250. What charge?

JACKIE

Assault.

HARMONY

Me too. How come I got 150 more
hours? That's not fair. You
could've caused brain damage. What
did you get, a celebrity discount?
I mean, not that I mind helping
out but it's the principal. Why
should a woman get more than a
man?

*
*
*
*
*
*
*

JACKIE

Well, I was provoked.

*
*

HARMONY

I was provoked too.

*
*

JACKIE

What, you caught him in bed with
someone?

HARMONY

How did you know?

JACKIE

I've been there. I recognized the
key you were screaming in. What
did you do?

*

HARMONY

I dislocated his jaw.

JACKIE

Woah. And the woman?

HARMONY

I threw a lamp at her.

(Jackie's impressed)

It wasn't a big lamp. And it
wouldn't have broken her wrist if
she didn't try to block it.

*

(Jackie laughs)

Look, I'm sorry if I overreacted
the other day--

*

(CONTINUED)

JACKIE

No, no, I hope you don't think I was comin' on too strong or anything. I just figure, we're gonna be doing time together, we cons should stick together.

*

Harmony drops a jar of olives. She loses it.

*

HARMONY

GODDAMN IT!...CHRIST!

*

*

Jackie can see Harmony's between crying & laughing, at her lowest point...

*

*

HARMONY

I can't catch a fucking break.
(tries to clean it)

*

*

*

JACKIE

Here, wait...

*

*

HARMONY

(touches glass)

*

*

Ow.

*

Jackie grabs a roll of paper towels and kneels beside her and helps.

*

*

JACKIE

Watch the glass.

*

*

As they clean mess.

*

HARMONY

Sorry. You must think I'm such a mess.

*

*

*

JACKIE

Forget it. Are you free tonight?

*

*

HARMONY

(beat)

Unbelievable. Jackie, look, it's nothing personally but I'm not having sex with you.

*

*

*

*

*

JACKIE

Who asked? I have a better idea.

*

*

30

INT: COMEDY CELLAR STAGE - NIGHT

30

JESSICA KIRSON is on the tiny stage doing her outrageous comedy routine - She's very funny.

Jackie escorts Harmony along the back aisle toward a table, but then Jessica's eye catches sight of Jackie.

JESSICA KIRSON

Wait a minute, I see a fellow
Jerseyite. Is that Jackie Burke?
Give it up everybody for Jackie
Burke.

People's head turn. People start applauding.

JESSICA KIRSON

It's so nice when the big stars
come and bring their hookers with
them, isn't it? Look at her.

(to Harmony)

Have you swallowed anything beside
protein this year, darling?

Though the butt of the joke, Harmony is having fun being part of the scene.

JESSICA KIRSON

Jackie, would you fuck a woman
with more real estate, like me?

JACKIE

Jesus, I did fuck you. You didn't
even notice. I fucked you up the
ass, all I got was a burp.

Jessica and the audience laughs.

JACKIE

Remember? I went down on you, took
me four days to find my way out.

JESSICA KIRSON

Get up here!

Jackie rises and goes to the stage with Jessica, grabbing a second mic. Everyone cheers and applauds. Harmony is having a great time, forgetting her troubles, being in Jackie's company.

(NOTE: WORK WITH JESSICA TO CREATE JACKIE AND JESSICA
IMPROV BIT WITH HARMONY HAVING A PUNCH LINE)

31 EXT. WEST VILLAGE ST. - NIGHT

31

Jackie and Harmony are walking from the Comedy Cellar.
Harmony is hyped up;

HARMONY

That's was amazing! I feel like
I'm high, ya know. Getting laughs
makes you feel high, doesn't it?

(Jackie smiles)

You're so much funnier than
"Eddie". And so fast. Did you come
up all that on the spot?

Jackie likes her even more for that.

JACKIE

(flattered)

Some of it...Hey, uh...you free
Saturday?

HARMONY

(taking it wrong)

Aw, Jackie, look, I ---

JACKIE

No,no,no...I got this wedding. My
niece's wedding. I gotta go, but I
don't want to go alone. I just
thought...you'd be a great wing-
man, we could have a few laughs...

Harmony stops and looks at Jackie for a beat.

HARMONY

OK.

JACKIE

Really? You're free Saturday?
What, you got no life?

Harmony ignores the insult, knowing Jackie better;

HARMONY

But you've gotta do something for
me. My dad's birthday is Monday.
Come to dinner with us. He asked
me for a gift, and you're it.

JACKIE

Deal.

CUT TO:

32 A SPECTACULAR VIEW OF LOWER MANHATTAN FROM THE WINDOW OF: 32*

33 INT. RAW TV NETWORK LOBBY - DAY 33*

Jackie, wearing a cool, pork-pie hat stands with Miller *
in the ultra hip lobby of RAW TV - All cement and glass. *
An ultra-hip/ultra-young "Development Exec" arrives and *
shakes Jackie's hand. She ignores Miller. *

ASHLEY *

Hello, I'm Ashley Nathan, Carol *
Bock's associate. It's an honor *
to meet you, Mr.Burke. 'Eddie's *
Home' was a television milestone. *

JACKIE *

Thanks for reading my Wikipedia *
page. *

He looks at all the austere hippness. *

JACKIE (CONT' (CONT'D) *

You sure this is a TV network? *
Looks more like the waiting room *
for a Hipster Hospice. *

ASHLEY *

(proudly) *
We like to think RAW TV is the *
progressive alternative to *
Networks. *

JACKIE *

Sorry, you lost me on "we like to *
think." *

MILLER *

Jackie. *

ASHLEY *

(unfazed) *
Maybe you should watch RAW. "Naked *
Boot Camp" is the most watched new *
show on Basic Cable. *

She puts two bottles of water on the conference table. *

ASHLEY (CONT'D) *

(exiting) *
Carol Bock will be right with you. *

After Ashley leaves and Jackie looks after her. *

(CONTINUED)

33 CONTINUED: 33

JACKIE *

'Raw' as in half baked? *

MILLER *

'Raw' as in 'rough.' For them, *

going viral cause you beat the *

shit out of someone is a plus. *

CUT TO: *

34 CLOSE UP: A PAIR OF STYLISH COMBAT BOOTS ON THE CONFERENCE TABLE. 34

JACKIE (V.O.)

. . . in his third year of a 15-
year sentence for manslaughter for
beating a heckler to death.

35 INT: RAW TV CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY 35

The combat boots belong to: CAROL BOCK, President of
Comedy for Raw TV. To compliment her combat boots, Carol
wears a hip, designer "Day Of The Dead" shirt. Six people
in their late 20's-early 30's are strategically placed
around their leader at the table listening to Jackie's
pitch. Miller sits next to Jackie.

CAROL

(smiles)

Where did *that* idea come from?

JACKIE *

I don't know. Things just come *

outta me...

CAROL

(laughs)

Of course. Go on.

JACKIE *

He becomes like the convict king
of the prison, runs everything
from drugs to women to revenge.
The jailhouse gangs report to him -
- the Crips, Aryan Nation, Mexican
Mafia, all of them. He's funny --
and ruthless. It's like "Breaking
Bad" on acid. Only funnier.

MILLER *

And pure Jackie Burke.

(CONTINUED)

CAROL

You'll write?

JACKIE

I'll write the pilot and punch up
all the scripts. *

CAROL

Our channel's target audience is
18-24.

MILLER

He plays to that demo all the
time. They will eat this up. *

CAROL

You've got a title?

JACKIE

"Burke on the Block." No, you
know your audience. I'm open to
anything.

CAROL

"Burke on the Block." Funny.

All the execs look at each other with nodding smiles.

CAROL

OK. Great...I've just got to say,
Eddie...God, sorry, I mean Jackie.
Can't believe I said that.

JACKIE

No worries.

CAROL

It's a delicious idea. And your
You Tube video has gotten a lot of
views. Let me posse with my group
here. There's a lot of stuff here
to consider. *

MILLER

How much time do you need?

Carol ignores Miller.

CAROL

I have to tell you, Jackie - you
are the reason I'm in television.
In television comedy.

(MORE)

CAROL (CONT'D)

When I was a kid, I remember laughing so hard at you, I couldn't wait to grow up. It is so great to meet you.

JACKIE

Thanks. Thank you.

CAROL

But, listen the idea is terrific and we'll--

JACKIE

But? Did I hear a "but"? I heard a "but". Is that the same as "I need some time"?

(looking at group)

I know there are a lot of "buts" sitting here, but...

*
*
*
*

The execs are laughing with a slight tension in the room.

CAROL

Jackie, "but" is part of my job description.

JACKIE

Well, then I don't need you to go past "but"...it's not necessary. Time is not on anyone's side here. ESPECIALLY MINE.

MILLER

Carol just explaining the process of trying to get something--

*

JACKIE

(overlaps)

You don't need to explain any process "but". What am I, seventeen? No, let's not play more nonsense.

*
*
*
*

CAROL

(nods, unintimidated)

Understood. Thanks for coming-in.

*

As Jackie stands abruptly to storm out of the room:

ASHLEY

You forgot your hat.

(CONTINUED)

35 CONTINUED: (3)

35

Jackie grabs his hat and exits. Miller follows. Carol & her posse shake their heads in hipper-than-thou style.

36 INT. CENTRAL STAIRWAY/RAW TV LOBBY - CONTINUOUS

36

Jackie bounds down the stairs in anger. Miller races to catch up.

JACKIE

What am I a Rent-A-Comic?

MILLER

She's a fan who runs a cable network.

JACKIE

There was a neon sign on her forehead that said "NO. You didn't see it?

MILLER

There are new executives out there. You have to cultivate them. They say no this time, you come back with another idea.

JACKIE

I come back and tap dance some more for these fucking jerks without an ounce of talent between them. They're gonna tell me what's funny and what's not?

MILLER

Being funny isn't enough anymore.

This sacrilegious remark stops Jackie cold.

JACKIE

(dead serious)
Now you're fired.

Jackie turns and walks away, leaving Miller standing.

37 EXT. DA MIKELE ILLAGIO - QUEENS - DAY

37*

A catering/reception venue. A sleety winter day. Taxi pulls up. Jackie and Harmony, dressed in overcoats, battle the sleet from the cab to the front door.

*
*
*

INT. DA MIKELE ILLAGIO LOBBY/STAIRCASE - CONTINUOUS - DAY *

Karola is pacing back and forth, on the telephone. *

KAROLA *

(officious) *

I need 12 more cases of Champagne
delivered to the Versailles Room.
No the Spanish stuff, they're
Pureto Rican. *

Jackie and Harmony run in, shedding their over coats. *

KAROLA (CONT'D) *

(enunciating every
syllable) *

Mr. Jackie Berk-o-witz.
(appraising Harmony) *

And Friend. *

(turns to her
assistant) *

Take their things.
(they hand off their
things) *

You're late. It's already
started. *

Karola leads Jackie & Harmony up a grand staircase. *

HARMONY *

They haven't done the glass
breaking yet, have they? *

ADALGISA *

The Ceremony was an hour ago.
We're about to present the Brides. *

Jackie, follows the women up the stairs, eyeing Harmony's
stylish, form-fitting cocktail dress that leaves nothing
to the imagination. She's got a great body. *

JACKIE *

Nice dress. Too bad they didn't
have it in your size? How do you
get in and out of it? *

HARMONY *

(over shoulder) *

You'll never find out. *

(Looking back reproachful) *

Ah ... we missed the ceremony ...
the glass breaking is my favorite
part. *

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JACKIE *
 When my sister-in-law sees you in *
 that dress, she's libel to break *
 something else. *

39 INT. DA MIKELE ILLAGIO RECEPTION HALL - DAY 39*

A dazzling, Over-The-Top ballroom featuring tracer LED *
 lights in the ceiling. A 5-piece wedding band strikes up *
 the familiar intro of Journey's "Don't Stop Belivin'", as *
 Brittany & her new bride, Frankie dance together in the *
 middle of a circle of tables. The audience applauds. *

KAROLA *
 (at the mic) *
 Ladies & Gentlemen: The Newly Weds *
 - Brittany Burkowitz & Franke *
 Nelson -Spouses for Life. *

WEDDING BAND *
"Just a small town girl, *
Livin' in a lonely world *
She took the midnight train *
Goin' Anywhere. *

In the rear of the hall, Harmony offers enthusiastic *
 applause while Jackie is motionless. *

Karola interrupts James, who is accepting congrats from *
 family, and points to Jackie & Harmony. He rushes over. *

JAMES *
 You're here. *

JACKIE *
 Harmony this is my brother Jimmy. *

HARMONY *
 Pleasure. Congratulations. *

James is knocked out by Harmony's body as well. *

JAMES *
 Thank you...uh... *
 (calls OS) *
 Florie, look who's here! *

Flo approaches, sees Jackie and frowns. *

JACKIE *
 Hello Flo. *

(CONTINUED)

She ignores him. *

JAMES *

Florie, this is Jackie's friend,
Harmony. This is my wife,
Florence. *

HARMONY *

Congratulations. *

FLO *

Thank you. *
(looks at her *
nipples) *
Cold out there, huh? *

Brittany and her wife, Frankie, rush over. *

BRITTANY *

Uncle Jackie!! Oh my God! I'm so *
glad you came. *
(They embrace) *
This is my wife, Frankie. Frankie, *
this is my famous uncle Jackie. *

JACKIE *

(kisses Brittany) *
Congratulations kid... *

Jackie shakes Frankie's hand, feigning surprise. *

JACKIE (CONT'D) *

You're a lesbian! *

FRANKIE *

(defiant) *
Is there a problem with that? *

JACKIE *

Actually, yeah, we always hoped *
Brittany would marry a straight *
woman. *

Frankie can't help herself. She smiles. Jackie hugs *
her. *

JACKIE (CONT'D) *

Congratulations, Frankie, you got *
yourself a helluva fella. *

FRANKIE *

Thanks, Uncle Jackie. *
(then) *

(MORE) *

(CONTINUED)

FRANKIE (CONT'D)

Come meet our friends.

(shouts to friends)

Guys!

Frankie and Brittany's FRIENDS enter the scene and crowd around Jackie.

FRANKIE (CONT'D)

Mr. Burke, this is Nathan, this is
Cat, Lissa, ..(Continues O.S.)

James, Flo and Harmony get shoved to the side on their own, watching by the sidelines.

HARMONY

She looks beautiful. I love the dress.

FLO

Kleinfelds.

HARMONY

And Frankie has a different one.

FLO

They're partners, not twins.

Have you known Jackie long?

JAMES

Flo...

HARMONY

We're just friends.

FLO

Where did you meet?

HARMONY

I picked him up at a homeless shelter.

FLO

Oh, I'm so sorry. A pretty girl like you on the streets ...

HARMONY

No, no. I work there.

FLO

Oh how nice. What a nice thing.

(to James)

Ya hear what she does?

39

CONTINUED: (3)

39

James tries not to stare at her body. *

JAMES *

A nice thing. *

BRITTANY *

Uncle Jackie, you're gonna get up
a say a few words, right? Please. *

JACKIE *

No, no, I'm just a guest today. *

JAMES

(panicked)

No, no baby. He's a guest.
Leave him alone.

FLO

(panicked)

Yeah, Brittany no...we
don't wanna have a whole
thing.

BRITTANY *

(ignoring them) *

Aw, come on, Uncle Jackie. Ya
gotta. For me. Come on ... please! *

Jackie eyes James and Flo who clearly do not want him to
"say a few words". He looks to Harmony, who beams him a
smile, fully aware of the discomfort he's in. Then to
Brittany, expectant, hopeful. He smiles. *

JACKIE *

Sure kid. *

TIME CUT TO: *

40

THE WEDDING BAND STRIKES UP THE 'HORA'.

40*

41

INT. DANCE FLOOR - DA MIKELE ILLAGIO - LATER - DAY

41*

Everybody holds hands and dances around the Bride and
Groom. Jackie is in misery but Harmony loves it. *

HARMONY *

Come-on. *

JACKIE *

(shakes his head) *

You go ahead. Physical comedy's
not my thing. *

(CONTINUED)

Harmony jumps in between Jimmy & his aged uncle, Seymour. *
Harmony' having a ball and Uncle Seymour & Jimmy dig her. *

As Jackie stands outside the circle watching, Karola *
comes up beside him. *

KAROLA *

You really don't remember me? *

JACKIE *

(brushing her off) *

No I honestly don't. *

KAROLE *

(turns cold) *

Well, they say that the memory is *
the first thing to go with *
age. *

JACKIE *

(right back at her) *

I only remember the good ones. *

(steps toward the *
circle) *

Excuse me. *

As the bride and groom exit the circle, UNCLE SEYMOUR *
jumps in the middle and dances the old Russian steps; *
legs kicks with arms over his chest. The crowd loves it. *

Suddenly, Uncle Seymour goes over and pulls Harmony onto *
the dance floor. *

Jackie and James and Flo watch with respective interest *
and judgement. *

Although Harmony's steps have nothing to do with the *
Uncle's steps, the crowd gets bigger and the claps get *
louder. The Uncle is spurred on by the excitement of *
Harmony dancing with him, starts to go faster and faster, *
until he leaps backwards and crashes to the floor. *

The crowd gasps and applauds simultaneously. Harmony *
immediately moves to help the old man to his feet, but *
Karola slices in, not wanting a liability suit. *

KAROLE *

(attentive) *

Are you all right! *

41 CONTINUED: (2)

41

The Uncle Seymour realizes that he's got two beautiful women catering to him, so he goes limp, pressing against their bodies, trying to touch them as much as he can as they help him up; his hand finding Karola's breast.

KAROLE (CONT'D)
(slaps his hand away)
It's not my heart we're worried
about.

Harmony looks at Karola and laughs out loud.

Jackie can't take his eyes off of Harmony...

CUT TO:

42 WEDDING BAND PLAYS BILLY JOEL'S "JUST THE WAY YOU ARE" 42*

43 INT. JACKIE & HARMONY'S TABLE - A FEW MINUTES LATER 43*

Karola escorts Harmony back to the table where Jackie awaits. Karola smiles at him as she says:

KAROLA
(to Harmony)
How long have you been dating?

HARMONY
This isn't a date.

KAROLA
Don't expect too much from him.

Karola looks right at Jackie and makes a sign with her thumb & index finger - an inch apart.

KAROLA
Kleine Schwanz . . .

She turns and walks away.

HARMONY
(to Jackie)
I don't speak German, but I think
that means--

JACKIE
(interrupting)
I know what it means!

(CONTINUED)

Before Harmony can sit down, two little boys run by shouting at the top of their lungs, almost knowking her down. *

HARMONY *

Little Shits. *

JACKIE *

No maternal instinct? *

HARMONY *

No, my maternal instinct starts when they're 25. *

JACKIE *

Ever been married? *

HARMONY *

No. *

JACKIE *

How can a girl like you be unattached? I don't get it. *

HARMONY *

Oh I've been attached plenty of times. Just never stuck. *

We hear the clink-clink of champagne glasses. Brittany, the bride, is on the bandstand talking into the mic. *

BRITTANY *

Can I have your attention everybody? *

The guests quiet down. *

BRITTANY (CONT'D) *

You can't imagine how happy I am that you all came to share this incredible day with us. *

Harmony leans into Jackie. *

HARMONY *

She seems like a nice kid. *

JACKIE *

I don't know her that well. *

BRITTANY

You may have noticed that my uncle
Jackie Burke is here..

Harmony checks Jackie's reaction. Some people applaud.

BRITTANY (CONT'D)

Some of you may recognize him as
Eddie from "Home With Eddie". But
I've known him all my life. I
still remember him teaching me
dirty jokes when I was a kid.
Before I could say "da da", I
could say "ca ca". He taught me
the "B" word...the "S" word...the
"F" word...all of them.

People laugh. Jackie leans back to Harmony.

JACKIE

I didn't need to teach her the "C"
word -- she picked that up all by
herself.

BRITTANY

And it means so much to me that
he's here today after way too many
years. So please - give a welcome -
to my uncle Jackie whose gonna
come up and say a few words.
Jackie Burke!

The Crowd Applauds. Florie & James - immediately on edge.

HARMONY

Careful up there. We're
outnumbered.

He steps up to the bandstand, gives Brittany a big showy
hug, then takes the mic and lifts his glass. We see him
gird himself with a shudder shake of his head.

JACKIE

I'm so honored to be here to
celebrate Brittany and Frankie's
wedding.

Jackie slips into his persona with great ease. He loves a
good crowd.

(CONTINUED)

JACKIE (CONT'D)

Flo, thank you and Jimmy for
inviting me to this beautiful
occasion. And all the other family
members - many of whom I thought
were dead. Most of whom hoped I
was dead.

Big laughs. Harmony is enjoying him. So is James.

FLO

You better not be laughing.

JAMES

(caught)

No!

JACKIE

Family...family...

He pauses. You can see him thinking. Is he going
sentimental on us. James knows he's not, murmuring;

JAMES

Oh shit.

JACKIE

No one can fuck you up like
family.

Audience laughs. James winces. Flo fumes. Harmony loves
it.

JACKIE (CONT'D)

I had a tragic childhood. My
father molested my little brother
and the bastard never touched me.
I mean, look at Jimmy and look at
me - his growth stunted, but I
woulda changed places anytime. Do
you know what it's like growing up
feeling unwanted? Knowing your
father doesn't find you attractive
enough to fondle? Would it have
been so terrible for him to play
with my dick a little?...I don't
know Frankie very well, but I hope
she's a better parent than ours
and violates all their children.
Not just the cute ones. Meeskites
need love too.

Many of the guests are shocked. James covers his face. Flo wants to kill, but Brittany, Frankie, and their friends love it.

JACKIE (CONT'D)

I know we're supposed to pretend that there's nothing unusual about this event -- just another middle class Jewish wedding.

(sarcastic)

Right.

(then)

So let me address the eight hundred pound gorilla in the room.

(beat)

That would be Flo.

JACKIE (CONT'D)

Flo, it's okay. It is just another middle class Jewish wedding. And just like all Jewish marriages, once the ceremony is over, there will be no blow jobs. Ever. But somehow I don't think that's going to be a problem here.

Let me be serious for just one moment . . . If we're honest, we all have to admit that Frankie isn't what we wanted as a mate for our Brittany.

Gasp from the Crowd.

JACKIE (CONT'D)

It's an abomination. Really, Brittany . . . a *shiksa*?

Laughter and relief.

JACKIE (CONT'D)

Now before the couple cuts the giant vagina cake --

(aside)

Save me some vulva.

(then)

-- they've asked me to announce that they're registered at Sak's Bridal Registry, Marty's House of Flannel, and Papa Jess's Sperm Bank. Now don't get carried away and swallow.

(MORE)

JACKIE (CONT'D)

And I want to thank my own father
for dying before he could sue me
for slander. Love you, pop!
(raises glass)

L'chaim!

Jackie puts down the mic and walks off the bandstand.
Brittany, Frankie, and their young friends give him a
standing ovation. Guests are either appalled or howling.

Jackie grabs an applauding, laughing Harmony and pulls
her out the door.

The crowd's now evenly split between the lovers & haters.

JACKIE

I want to thank my own father for
dying before he could sue me for
slander. Love you, pop!
(raises glass)

L'chaim!

Jackie puts down the mic and walks off the bandstand.
Brittany, Alan and their young friends give him a
standing ovation. Guests are either appalled or howling.

Jackie grabs an applauding, laughing Harmony and pulls
her out the door.

INT. UPSTAIRS STAIRWAY LANDING - CONTINUOUS

Before Jackie & Harmony can descend the stairs, James and
Flo intercept them.

JAMES

You just couldn't stop yourself,
could ya?

FLO

This low life motherfucking
brother of yours takes a dump at
our kid's wedding and that's all
you're gonna say?

JAMES

What do you want me to say? This
was clean compared to Mom's
funeral.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HARMONY

Wait a minute. What are you
yelling at him for? Brittany
wanted Jackie Burke and she loved
it. He did it for her.

Flo and Harmony overlap and get aggressive with each
other;

FLO

(overlaps)

Who the fuck are you to
talk to me like that? Who
invited you, with the no
underwear dress...
...(CONTINUES...)

HARMONY

(overlaps)

HEY! Lady. Don't start with
me... (CONTINUES...)

Suddenly, Karola appears, trying to restore order.

KAROLA

It's time to cut the cake.

No response. She clears her throat loudly.

KAROLE

It's time to CUT THE CAKE!

James and Jackie each take their woman and try to prevent
them from fighting.

JAMES

Flo, let's go cut the cake.

FLO

(to Jackie)

You're lucky I don't have my
brothers cut your nut sack off
before you get to the tunnel.

JACKIE

(to them all)

I don't see the problem. I killed.

Flo goes at Jackie, but James and Adalgisa grab her.

KAROLA

(loud whisper)

Please, Mrs Berkowitz, remember,
you're the mother of the bride.

FLO

Shut the fuck up, Heidi, I'm
paying for this circus!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

James and Karola pull Flo back into the party. *

As Jackie & Harmony start down the stairs, Harmony breaks out laughing. *

HARMONY *

Wow. Flo's a scary bitch. *

(imitates Flo) *

"YOU'RE LUCKY MY BROTHERS DON'T
CUT YOUR NUTSACK OFF BEFORE YOU
GET TO THE TUNNEL". *

JACKIE *

(Impressed, smiles) *

Hey that's good. *

HARMONY *

Are her brothers in the mob? *

JACKIE *

No, they own a dry cleaners. Same
thing. *

(NOTE; JACKIE AND HARMONY IMPROV, MAKING EACH OTHER LAUGH
AS THEY EXIT). *

HARMONY *

(laughs) *

Dry cleaners are mobsters? *

JACKIE *

Yeah, that's where the expression,
"I'm gonna hang ya out to dry"
comes from. *

HARMONY *

(laughs, pushing him) *

It does not... *

They continues down the stairs, laughing and teasing each other. *

CUT TO: *

45

EXT. SPARKS STEAK HOUSE - EAST 46TH ST - NIGHT

45*

A cab pulls up in front of the restaurant. Jackie and
Harmony get out.

HARMONY

Thanks for doing this.

(CONTINUED)

45

CONTINUED:

45

Harmony suddenly takes a deep breath ... fighting nerves.

JACKIE

Hey, take it easy.

HARMONY

Easy for you to say.

JACKIE

(totally sincere)

You look beautiful.

She appreciates that.

46

INT. SPARKS HOUSE STEAK HOUSE - NIGHT

46

Mac, dressed in an expensive suit, sits in a back booth with a too young Puerto Rican girl. Mac sees them enter and can't believe his eyes. He abruptly rises, pecks Rosie on the lips, smacks her ass out of the booth. Rosie passes Jackie and Harmony as they arrive.

Mac does a double take when he sees Jackie.

MAC

Whoa. Oh my God, are you kidding
me? Is this who I think it is? Is
it Eddie? My God, it's Eddie. Boy
you did it this time, baby...

(kisses/hugs Harmony)

What a birthday surprise.

"ARLEEEENE!"...

Before anyone can react, Mac rises, hugs Jackie, gives
him an aggressive welcoming while continuing:

MAC

Thank you. Thank you for all the
countless laughs Eddie. Countless.

JACKIE

Happy Birthday. It's Jackie by the
way.

MAC

(overlapping)

Can't count'em. Man o'man I've
enjoyed you. In fact, so much - I
can do you. I can! Did she tell
you?

(CONTINUED)

HARMONY

He can do you.

MAC

I've been doing you in the
bathroom and at parties for
decades.

JACKIE

You got a better manager than I
do.

Mac finally lets go, encouraging everyone to sit down as
he signals the waiter for more drinks.

MAC

Sit. Sit. Jesus, I don't believe
this! What a birthday present!

(calls)

Gino! Ring the register. Eddie's
here!

(to Jackie)

What are you drinking?

JACKIE

Chivas on the rocks.

MAC

(kisses her cheek)

My baby drinks martinis...

MAC

(to Jackie)

Hey, how about giving us a big
ARLEENE...WHERE ARE YOU...Do it,
come on.

HARMONY

Dad, don't.

MAC

Hey, I don't expect anybody to
work for free.

Mac places a WAD OF CASH on the table.

HARMONY

(shoves back money)

Will you stop.

(to Jackie)

I'm sorry.

(CONTINUED)

MAC

No, for what? No, you misunderstand. I don't want to embarrass you Eddie. I'll tell you what, let me do it. Let me do you. I got you down.

Jackie pulls out a wad of cash and puts it on the table.

JACKIE

I'll pay ya not to.

MAC

That's funny, but you don't want to get into a pissing contest with me about money.

Harmony glances at Jackie, grateful for his indulgence.

MAC

Come on, let's have some fun. This is me being respectful. You're my favorite.

Mac slightly rises from the banquette and begins shaping his face like "Eddie", then attempts "Eddie"'s voice:

MAC

**"ARLEEENE..WHOSE VIBRATOR IS THIS?
DID YOU TAKE THE BATTERIES OUTTA
THE SMOKE ALARM AGAIN?"**

*
*
*

ALTERNATE LINES FOR HARVEY TO QUOTE "EDDIE'S HOME":

MAC

**ARLEEENE! Don't serve me any
foreign food ... only Hamburgers,
Hot Dogs and Egg Rolls.**

*
*
*
*

MAC

**AREEEENE! If God wanted us to eat
Potato pancakes, he would have
made Jesus a Jew.**

*
*
*
*

As drinks arrive, Harmony grabs hers and drinks it down.

HARMONY

OK. Show's over. Lets order.

MAC

How about the timing? Give me some input.

*

(CONTINUED)

JACKIE

I thought you were me for a second. Try it again while you're drinking a glass of water.

MAC

I got more... 'ARLEENE... Eddie junior here is wearing a tutu! A tutu! Hahahaha. God you were great...

*
*

Jackie gives Harmony a look as if to say "this is fucking hell".

*
*

HARMONY

Have another drink. It helps.

Mac sees Harmony slide her drink to Jackie.

*

MAC

So how did you two meet?

HARMONY

We do community service at the Mission.

MAC

Oh right. Yeah well, that's all over, baby. I got 'em to transfer your hours to Florida.

Harmony reacts angrily. Jackie clocks her reaction.

HARMONY

We talked about that. What if I don't want to go to Florida?

*
*
*

MAC

You don't know what you want.
(to Jackie)
She's always been a troubled girl.

*
*
*
*

HARMONY

I'm still at the table!

*
*

MAC

(to Harmony)
Look, it's done. I chartered a plane. We leave tomorrow.

*
*
*

Jackie watches Harmony, upset, down her drink. Jackie slides his scotch over to her. She drinks that.

*
*

(CONTINUED)

Jackie sees an opportunity to back her up and irritate Mac, so he sets Mac up:

JACKIE

What's in Florida?

MAC

I own this retirement community in
Del Re b
ny Beach. We help the elderly live
out their lives with some dignity.

*
*
*
*

HARMONY

Be nice to get through dinner with
some dignity.

*

MAC

She's so good with the old people.
She's got a magic touch.

*
*

Jackie takes her hand, much to Mac's distress:

JACKIE

Well, she's a wonderful person.

(to Harmony)

It's OK Honey. We'll wait til your
back from Florida before we find a
place.

HARMONY/MAC

What?

Jackie now gets revenge by irking Mac.

JACKIE

We're moving in together. Is it OK
if I call you Dad?

MAC

You're a funny man. But this is my
daughter.

JACKIE

Every woman's somebody's daughter.
I pretty sure that Puerto Rican
girl was somebody's granddaughter.

MAC

Harmony's my daughter. She's not
somebody's punch line. She's
special.

Harmony lets out an sarcastic laugh.

HARMONY

I want another drink.

*

Jackie rubs Harmony's hand comfortingly.

JACKIE

Whatever you want baby.

He gestures the Waiter. Mac is seething.

MAC

I don't like what I'm seeing here.

JACKIE

Maybe you should wear glasses.

MAC

No offense but you look much older than I pictured you.

JACKIE

That's funny, cause you look much older but I never pictured you.

MAC

When I see you looking at my daughter and the way she's looking at you...

HARMONY

How am I looking at him?

MAC

I want to know what are your expectations here?

JACKIE

(overlap)
My expectations?

MAC

(overlap)
Expectations. Yeah. With my daughter?

Harmony knows where Jackie's going with this.

HARMONY

(under her breath)
Oh shit.

(CONTINUED)

JACKIE

To fuck her brains out. After that, we'll see.

A new martini arrives. Harmony downs it.

MAC

You know, I'm a sucker for a clown.

*
*

JACKIE

And I'm a sucker for a girl with daddy issues.

Harmony's had enough.

*

HARMONY

Jackie? Would you wait at the bar for me?

*
*
*

Jackie rises, looking at Mac.

*

JACKIE

Sure. You've been a terrific crowd. See ya Pop.

*
*
*

Jackie exits OK. Mac turns to Harmony.

*

MAC

Don't tell me you're interested in that schmuck?

*
*
*

HARMONY

No. And if you would have shut the fuck up for a second, you would've known that. But you never stop talking.

*
*
*
*
*

MAC

Oh. OK. So my driver'll pick you up at 9, we leave at noon.

*
*
*

HARMONY

Unbelievable.

*
*

Harmony rises. IMPROV OVERLAP HARMONY/MAC:

*

MAC

Where are you going? He's an asshole. Let him go. I do this because I love you. I'm always the bad guy. I don't get it.

HARMONY

I'm leaving. You're the asshole. He has nothing to do with it. How could talk about me like that. I've had it with you...

*
*
*
*
*
*

(CONTINUED)

46 CONTINUED: (7) 46
 Harmony stops Mac... *

HARMONY *
 Stop. I'm not doing this in a *
 steak house. *
 (kisses him) *
 Happy Birthday. *

Harmony exits. Mac pulls out his cell phone. *

MAC *
 Rosa? Come back. *

47 EXT: THE ELEVATED TRAIN PASSES THROUGH BUSHWICK - NIGHT 47

48 INT. HARMONY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT 48

Jackie and Harmony come off the stairs into the hall. *

HARMONY *
 You should have seen the look on *
 your face when Mack yelled -- *
 (imitating Mack *
 imitating Jackie *
 doing Eddie) *
 ARLEEEEN!!! *

Jackie shakes his head. Winces. *

They walk into the living room. *

JACKIE *
 Hey, this is nice. It's worth *
 risking your life every time you *
 step outside. Are you sure you *
 want to leave? *

HARMONY *
 I have to. My community service *
 has been officially moved to the *
 Sunshine State. All I have is *
 bourbon. *

Harmony points to a BOTTLE OF BOURBON on a tray with two *
 glasses, and begins rummaging through a HALF PACKED *
 SUITCASE. *

HARMONY (CONT'D) *
 I'll be up all night packing. *

(CONTINUED)

JACKIE

Don't pack now. Relax.

HARMONY

I'm not packing; I'm looking for my weed.

You know, Florida's actually not so bad for me. I do enjoy working with the old people. And I'm good at it. And Florida has a lot to offer.

JACKIE

Like what besides skin cancer?

Harmony laughs.

HARMONY

You know what I loved. I loved how you pissed off Mack.

JACKIE

Why do let him talk to you like that?

HARMONY

He always has. That's Mack.

JACKIE

What about your mother?

HARMONY

She left when I was four. Mack never told me why.

JACKIE

Because she was married to him. I met the guy for fifteen minutes and I was ready to leave.

Harmony laughs.

HARMONY

I can't leave. He controls everything I do.

JACKIE

Mack can be a dick, but at least he's there.

(she nods)

I wasn't for my kid.

(CONTINUED)

HARMONY (1ST VERSION)

After we met, I googled you ... I
read about your son passing away.
I'm so sorry.

HARMONY (VERSION 2) (CONT'D)

You have children?

JACKIE

I had a son ... He passed away.

HARMONY

Oh God, I'm so sorry.

JACKIE

I wasn't any kind of father. And
I have to live with that.

HARMONY

How do you get through something
like that?

JACKIE

I'm a comedian. I did jokes about
his horrible mother.

HARMONY

Come on. Do one now!

She stands and takes the Bourbon Bottle and holds it like
a microphone.

HARMONY (CONT'D)

Ladies and gentlemen, Jackie
Burke!

JACKIE

Naa.

HARMONY

Come on.

JACKIE

Will it get me laid?

HARMONY

Depends how funny it is.

Jackie takes the "microphone."

JACKIE

Hello everybody. Looks like a
good crowd tonight.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

JACKIE (CONT'D)

[PLACE HOLDER JOKE] I was never
religious until I met my third
wife. Then I prayed every day for
her to get hit by a fuckin' bus.
(Jackie Improv)

HARMONY

Eh . . .

JACKIE

Okay, try this: Did you hear
about the daddy's girl who fucked
the 67-year-old comedian?

HARMONY

You're only 67? I thought you
were 70.

Jackie Shugs, or adlibs.

HARMONY (CONT'D)

You killed. Come here.

Jackie sits down beside on the couch.

Suddenly, Harmony rolls over atop of Jackie, straddling
him. She starts to unbutton her dress.

HARMONY (CONT'D)

This doesn't mean anything.

JACKIE

OK.

HARMONY

It's just something I feel like
doing right now.

JACKIE

Be gentle. It's my first time

Harmony pulls her dress down to her waiste, revealing
here lovely Perla bra.

HARMONY

And you're not staying the night.

JACKIE

Why don't I just leave my dick
here and pick it up in the
morning.

(CONTINUED)

48 CONTINUED: (4) 48

HARMONY

HA! If only. *

She kisses him and pulls Jackie down OFF SCREEN. *

She laughs. *

FADE TO BLACK *

49 INT. HARMONY'S APARTMENT -- MORNING 49

Morning light easing through the blinds, Jackie stirs. He swings his arm around and realizes no one is there. He walks from the bedroom to the living room, making a quick recon, Harmony and her suitcases are gone.

Jackie is disappointed. He sees her note:

"Dear Jackie.
Thanks for the laugh. *
Love, HARMONY." *

Jackie feels good. It was a great night. But he knows it's over. Never to happen again. He gets dressed.

50 EXT. FRIAR'S CLUB - DAYS LATER. 50

Jackie's got on a casual coat and boots - a bit bohemian. He walks up to the ornate Friars Club entrance.

51 INT. FRIAR'S CLUB - MILTON BERLE BAR - CONTINUOUS - DAY 51

Stain Glass Windows set a classy tone. Tables are filled with comics and Broadway types playing cards & kibitzing. Portraits of great entertainers line the walls.

Miller sits at the bar alone, going over notes.

BARTENDER
(hand her a phone)
FRIAR MILLER?

Miller listens;

MILLER
Yeah, it's fine. Send him up.

52 INT. FRIAR'S CLUB - LOBBY - CONTINUOUS - DAY 52*

Jackie stands waiting for the elevator in the Friar's Club Vaulted Lobby - the place reeks of old world class. *

A Chinese waiter walks up carrying a covered dish on a tray. Jackie leans down and takes a wiff. *

JACKIE

Chow mein?

The waiter lifts the metal top, revealing a hamburger. *

CHINESE WAITER

Fuck you.

JACKIE

I guess so. *

The elevator opens and Jackie and the Waiter enter, but before the door closes, BILLY CRYSTAL slips into the elevator and presses the button for the 3rd floor. *

CHINESE WAITER

Good afternoon, Friar Crystal. *

BILLY CRYSTAL

Hello Teddy. Hi ya, Jackie. *

JACKIE

Hey Billy. How's life? *

BILLY CRYSTAL

Not bad. Gonna grab a haircut before I do Fallon tonight. *

How bout you? *

JACKIE

(deadpan)

Chow mein. *

Billy nods. The Waiter laughs. The elevator opens. *

BILLY CRYSTAL

Be good. *

JACKIE

See ya, Billy. *

Jackie exits onto the 2nd Floor where we see the ornately carved oak staircase. *

*

53

INT. FRIAR'S CLUB - MILTON BERLE BAR - CONTINUOUS - DAY

53

Jackie spots Miller - who waves him over, but suddenly, he hears a familiar voice

D'ANGELO

Hey, look who's here?

Jackie turns and sees a table of comics playing cards in the corner, including his rival DICK D'ANGELO.

FREDDY ROMAN

Look who it is - Jackie boy!

*

Jackie has to stop and be pleasant.

D'ANGELO

Still funny?

JACKIE

No, I'm doing your jokes now.

They all laugh. D'Angelo grabs Jackie's arm.

D'ANGELO

Sit for a second.

JACKIE

I'm in a rush.

D'Angelo rises, playing to the guys at the table.

*

D'ANGELO

Heard you've been having a rough time. If you need anything, we're here.

*

*

JACKIE

Sure, if I ever catch syphilas I'll get in touch.

*

*

D'ANGELO

You hear that Freddy, why isn't there more love in the world.

*

*

*

FREDDY ROMAN

There's too much ... Syphilas!

*

*

JACKIE

Why aren't there more great comedians in the world.

*

*

*

(CONTINUED)

D'ANGELO

Are we still holding a grudge?

JACKIE

Are you still doin' my act, Dick?

D'ANGELO

Only the good bits.

The guys at the table laugh ... knowing Jackie's right. *

Jackie walks over to Miller at the bar. *

JACKIE

I fired you.

MILLER

(nods to bartender) *

Chivas on the rocks for Mr. Burke. *

A drop a water. *

Jackie sits. *

MILLER

I've got a possible gig.

JACKIE

What? I dress up as "Eddie" for a children's birthday party? *

MILLER

You want a job or you want to be asshole?

JACKIE

I have to choose? *

MILLER

I'm the Treasurer here. We had a meeting last night. We're doing a big tribute to May Connor February 1. Big event. TV special. Network thinks they'll pull 7 million viewers.

He looks up to a portrait of MAY CONNOR - legendary entertainer. The portrait was painted during her heyday. *

JACKIE

May Conner ... Love her. *

(CONTINUED)

MILLER

D'Angelo is responsible for the program. He's calling the shots. And as of now, it's overbooked.

JACKIE

Great. Is Billy doing it? *

MILLER

As of now, he's not available but we're hoping that changes.

JACKIE

And if that changes, it's not overbooked for him.

MILLER

Billy Crystal is royalty. You're not even a member anymore. You can't show up once in a blue moon and expect to be on the dais. You gotta rejoin. *

(nods at D'Angelo) *

Kiss the ring. Just this once.

Jackie swallows - he doesn't say 'No", so Miller seizes the opportunity, calling out to D'Angelo. *

MILLER *

Dick, you got a minute. *

D'Angelo rises nonchalantly and walks over. Jackie knowing he's been set-up, whispers to Miller. *

JACKIE *

What a shit fucking world this is. (dead serious)

Listen - I want a good spot in the rotation *

(D'Angelo approaches) *

and I don't want to go after this fuck, because he'll have already destroyed my best jokes. *

D'ANGELO *

(arriving)

You want a spot on May's tribute? *

JACKIE *

Miller mentioned it. Actually, I'd be honored to do it. *

He looks up at the photo of May Conner on the wall. *

(CONTINUED)

JACKIE

She's a barely living legend.

D'Angelo clocks Jackie's line.

D'ANGELO

(deadpan)

Funny.

(puts hand on
Jackie's shoulder)

Well, I'm not saying for sure -
it's overbooked now - but anything
is possible.

Jackie unexpectedly takes D'Angelo's hand and kisses it.
They are both amused. D'Angelo leans in.

D'ANGELO

Miller told me you're thinking
about rejoining. If you did, that
would go a long way. But, since
I'm also head of the membership
committee, I need to ask you a
serious question.

JACKIE

OK Dick. Shoot.

D'ANGELO

Is your parole officer joining the
club with you? Because I can get
you a couples membership.

D'Angelo smiles coldly. Jackie forces a smile.

D'ANGELO

(to Miller)

Tell Lydia to give him an
application on the way out.

D'Angelo returns to his table. Miller looks at Jackie.

MILLER

You did good. Didn't so hurt so
much, did it?

JACKIE

I need a power wash.

MILLER

Can I tell you something I bet you
don't know?

(MORE)

53 CONTINUED: (4)

53

MILLER (CONT'D)

About ten years after "Home With Eddie", Dad said to me "I'm sorry I ever got Jackie that sitcom. It ruined him. He could've been so much more".

*
*

Jackie didn't expect this.

CUT TO:

54 INT. JACKIE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

54

Jackie preparing for the May Connor roast event. Grooming. Practising lines. He pours himself a Jamison's Harmony. He checks his CELL TEXT FILES.

ON JACKIE' CELL: We see THREE OR FOUR TEXTS TO HARMONY sent over the past two months that have been delivered but never answered by her.

Jackie goes to his laptop. Brings up GOLDEN VISTA VILLAGE - Mac's Empire is very impressive. He dials the number into his cell...waits gets Harmony's answering machine:

*

JACKIE

Hey Harmony... how you doin'.
I've left a couple of messages -
you OK? I'm doin' a big TV thing
tonight ... it could be good ...
Tell Mac to go "fuck-off".

*
*
*
*

Jackie hangs up and continues to dress.

55 INT. EDISON BALLROOM HOTEL BALCONY - NIGHT

55

Jackie walks into an Art-Deco Balcony where VIPS are gathered for a Pre-Show Reception. Photographers are shooting various combos of comics who take turns standing beside the guest of honor:

MAY CONNOR - 93 - dressed to the nines. Sitting with an Attendant standing by her.

MAY

Can we take a break with the pictures? I need a martini.

Jackie enters. He greets the other comics as he makes his way to May. He kneels over and gives her a kiss.

(CONTINUED)

MAY

Hey kid!

JACKIE

May, what an honor to be ripping
you a new one in the name of such
a worthy cause.

May lights up a Camel cigarette.

MAY

Mind if I smoke?

JACKIE

I don't care if you burn.

MAY

(laughs hard)
I always loved that line.

JACKIE

I loved Gleason.

MAY

Gleason loved my tits.

ASSISTANT

I don't think you can smoke
inside.

MAY

I'm 95. If I want to smoke, piss
on the sidewalk and say the N
word, I'll fucking do it.
(to Jackie)
The world today! So goddamn
serious about everything.

JACKIE

I'm going to the bar. Martini? One
olive?

MAY

God bless you.

Jackie crosses to the bar, meeting up with Miller,
D'Angelo and RICHARD BELZER.

RICHARD BELZER

Oh my God, the comic from
Alcatraz.

(CONTINUED)

They all laugh. Throughout the scene, D'Angelo is eating from a small bowl of nuts.

RICHARD BELZER

Good to have you back, Jackie.

JACKIE

Thanks Rich.

MILLER

You look nice. How you holdin up?

JACKIE

Better than D'Angelo's act. So what's the order tonight?

MILLER

Well, Richie has to make a late flight. Dick has to get up for an early call...

*

D'ANGELO

I got a day on a Spielberg movie.

*

JACKIE

You playing a dick or a corpse? Either way you don't have to act.

D'Angelo chuckles, knowing he set himself up.

MILLER

So you get to close out the show.

JACKIE

What? I thought I told you--

MILLER

There was nothing I could do.

JACKIE

You know, this is why I stopped being a member. I get fucked every time with you guys. You invite me to one of these things, you put me on last and I lose.

D'ANGELO

It's a tribute, not a competition. We're all in this together.

JACKIE

Fuck you. Then you go on last. By the time Belzer introduces me, every joke about this old broad will have been told fifteen times.

D'ANGELO

That's why we need you to close. You're at your best when you're working without a net.

JACKIE

Again, Fuck you!

D'ANGELO

That's not nice.

A YOUNGER COMIC passes by, reaches over and grabs some nuts out of D'Angelo's bowl. D'Angelo loses his calm.

D'ANGELO

Who told you you could eat my nuts? These are my nuts! You don't touch them.

The young comic looks at D'Angelo like he's old dirt. Then he purposely drops the nuts back into the bowl;

YOUNGER COMIC

(cold & cynical)

Sorry MR. D'Angelo.

He exits.

JACKIE

Why don't you put him on last?

D'ANGELO

He pulls in the Comedy Central crowd.

D'Angelo walks over to get a new bowl of nuts.

MILLER

Jackie, this is still good. You're getting tremendous visibility. Just knock'em all outta the game.

JACKIE

Miller, please. Don't play pep talk guy - it doesn't suit you.

(CONTINUED)

55 CONTINUED: (4)

55

MILLER

(signs)

Ok, Jackie. You got notes you
want me put on the teleprompter.

JACKIE

No.

Jackie turns to Haitian Bartender as Miller exits O.S.

JACKIE

Gimme a martini, one olive and a
double chivas on the rocks.

BARTENDER

My man, "Eddie". Wow. What's up
"Eddie"?

JACKIE

Everything's up. My blood
pressure. My dick. Your work visa.

BARTENDER

(cracks up)

I still love watching your show,
Eddie. I eat my dinner and watch
it late at night after work.

JACKIE

Yeah, well, sorry you don't have
more of a life. And just for the
record, my name is Jackie - so
fuck off and die in whatever
country you swam here.

BARTENDER

(eating it up)

You always sooo crazy.

CUT TO;

56 A LARGE DISC HANGS FROM THE CEILING WITH MAY'S PHOTO IN
THE MIDDLE - AROUND THE OUTSIDE: "MAY CONNER TRIBUTE"

56

57 INT. EDISON BALLROOM - NIGHT

57

The event is in full swing. The dais is filled with
recognizable talents. Jackie is seated at the far end,
looking over his notes. You can tell his blood is up.
Richard Belzer is Master of Ceremonies, seated to the
right of the podium. May is seated to the right.

(CONTINUED)

May is drinking another martini. There is a microphone in front of her.

Dick D'Angelo is at the podium finishing his spot.

D'ANGELO

May, listen to me okay? I'm your friend, okay? It's over. You're finished. Finito! Your movies are on the History Channel.

Mild audience laughter. May nods, rolling her eyes - she's heard that one many times before. She leans into her microphone.

MAY

And your movies -- oh wait, you don't have any movies.

Big laughs from the audience.

D'ANGELO

All joking aside...

MAY

What jokes?

D'ANGELO

You truly are one of the greatest talents in this business. What can I say? You're barely a living legend.

Laughs. Jackie recognizes his own joke. His impulses take over...Before D'Angelo can say another word Jackie appears and pushes him hard out of the way -- essentially highjacking the podium and the fourth spot...

JACKIE

That's enough Dick...
(to audience)

Wake up people. The "Whatever-Happened-To" portion of the evening is officially over.

The audience applauds. They think it's planned.

D'ANGELO

Go to hell Jackie. Or do you need your parole officer's permission to get there?

Big laughs. D'Angelo sits down. Belzer leans into mic:

RICHARD BELZER

Folks, please welcome back to the Friars Jackie Burkie, also known as "Eddie", also known as prisoner 942828.

Applause. Jackie takes control at the podium. No notes.

JACKIE

Yeah, I did a little time. But my thirty days seems short compared to your having to listen to D'Angelo for five minutes.

Laughs. He turns to May.

JACKIE

May. Oh May. We've heard a lot about your many accomplishments tonight, but no one's really talked about how tough it was for you starting out. Today you can get the part just by blowing the director. God, when I think of the things you had to do...

May breaks up.

JACKIE

Whatever you did worked because you played some of the most iconic roles in the history of film. And me, Jackie Burke, was with you all the way ... When you played the title role in "The Battleship Potemkin". I was one of the sailors you took on. You remember me - I came in the porthole.

Big laughs. May included.

JACKIE

Then we were re-united in "Wizard of Oz". Does this sound familiar?
(sings high pitched Munchkin voice)
Ding dong the witch is dead...And even though we are inbred...You gave a hundred munchkins head!

Laughs are building. May coughs laughing. Drinks water.

(CONTINUED)

JACKIE

And then who could ever forget when we were together in the original "Poseidon Adventure". You as the Poseidon. Me as a cabin boy. Remember my audition?

Jackie puts his hand on the front top of his head simulating hair and flicks his tongue rapidly...

MAY

(through laughter)
Yes! And you got the part!

Applause and laughter. Audience is loving Jackie.

JACKIE

And I learned how to make the Poseidon capsize.

The Audience is eating it up. May is convulsed.

JACKIE

Yes, May O'Connor, you chewed a lot of scenery in your time...and apparently swallowed.

MAY

Swallowed!

JACKIE

In all seriousness, May Connor is not only the greatest actress of our generation - and, okay, the several generations preceding this one -- she's a great sport. Thanks to May, we're raising a ton of money tonight for Meals on Wheels.

(Jackie leads

Applause.)

Wait: "May"... "a ton"... "meals on wheels"... Add in an Oscar and fucking more young boys than the entire Los Angeles Archdiocese and you've got May's whole biography.

May laughing hard and wheezing now.

MAY

Jackie! Stop!

Jackie puts an affectionate hand on May's shoulder. The crowd applauds wildly.

(CONTINUED)

57 CONTINUED: (4)

57

May looks like she's laughing out of control - but is also writhing in her chair, as if something might be wrong. Jackie just goes with it.

JACKIE

Seriously May? An orgasm? Now?

Her body trembles. She motions for him to stop. Suddenly, May slumps over. Her head hits the table hard, right in front of her mic. Everyone gasps, leaping to their feet.

Richard Belzer and others hurry to help her. No one is paying attention to Jackie. The dais guests gather around May. Jackie is dazed, still in his comic high mode:

JACKIE

Its OK, May, don't worry.
D'Angelo's not coming back.

Richard Belzer pulls the mic away from Jackie to yell:

RICHARD BELZER

Is there a doctor in the house?

But May is gone. Her body surrounded by crying people.

As EMT workers move onto the dais Jackie is pushed back and bumps into D'Angelo.

D'ANGELO

Wow. You killed.

JACKIE

I didn't even get to my best stuff.

58 INT. JACKIE'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

58

Jackie sits on his bed, still dressed in his dinner jacket, eating Chinese out of a paper container. He flips on the TV.

NEW YORK ONE ANCHOR

Doctors confirmed Miss Connor's heart attack was preceded by a serious of illnesses including diabetes and two strokes.."

The screen cuts to Dick D'Angelo being interviewed:

(CONTINUED)

D'ANGELO ON TV

We lost a great one tonight ...
I'm devastated ... May and I were
more than just friends - we were

Jackie sits there watching D'Angelo steal his moment. He
flips the channel and there's D'Angelo again.

D'ANGELO ON TV

"Fans all over the world will be
mourning her death. She was truly
America's Queen of Comedy..."

Jackie Flips again:

D'ANGELO ON TV

"...Family members requested that
the Friars cancel the broadcast,
and of course, we agreed.

Jackie shuts off the TV. He just stares at the black
screen for a moment, then he reaches over and grabs a VHS
tape off the shelf. He inserts the cassette into an old
video player and presses play. He watches a clip of:

"HOME WITH EDDIE": *EDDIE, A WORKING CLASS EVERYMAN, TALKS
TO HIS TV WIFE, ARLENE, AS SHE CARVES OUT A PUMPKIN FOR
HALLOWEEN.* *

"EDDIE"

*Arlene, when you son decides to
dress up as a ballerina, it's no
longer about trick or treating.*

CANNED LAUGHTER.

"ARLENE"

*Oh Eddie, he's only nine. Give him
a chance to find himself. He needs
to explore.*

"EDDIE"

*Explore what Arlene? His friends'
rectum...*

CANNED LAUGHTER. *EDDIE JUNIOR* enters, dressed in a pink
tutu with purple tights. Jackie watches from his bed with
the concentration of a masochist receiving his beating.

"EDDIE JUNIOR"

Hi Mom. Hi Dad.

58 CONTINUED: (2)

58

"EDDIE"

Hey son. How was you day?

"EDDIE JUNIOR"

*(effeminate)**Fabulous*

CANNED LAUGHTER. Eddie grabs a football and tosses it to Eddie Junior. It whizzes by the kid who makes no attempt to catch it.

"EDDIE"

ARLEEEENE...

Jackie shuts off the TV. He sits in darkness. Silence.

59

59

INT. BERKOWITZ DELI - DAY

Jackie meets with Miller over lunch.

MILLER

Not in NY. No club work.

James brings Miller a sandwich, Jackie a cup of coffee.

JAMES

(to Jackie)

Nothing for you?

Jackie shakes his head. James exits.

MILLER

I've gotten three offers for appearances. In Wisconsin, there's a Democratic fund raiser.

*

JACKIE

An hour of bashing Republicans - a Comedian's dream. What else.

*

*

*

MILLER

There's a three day master comedy class seminar at SOAS College. It's in London. And the third - you're not going to like but it pays the most - it's a television classics autograph convention in West Palm Beach - doing "Eddie".

*

*

(CONTINUED)

JACKIE

How much they pay in Wisconsin?

MILLER

\$3000, plus expenses. *

JACKIE

London?

MILLER

\$5000, but you've got to pay for your own ticket. *

JACKIE

Florida?

MILLER

\$25,000 plus expenses.

Her cell rings. She checks screen.

MILLER

I've got to take this.

She rises and exits O.S. Jackie sits alone contemplating the shit turn his life is taking. James appears.

JAMES

She finished with this?

JACKIE

No, she's coming back.

James sits opposite Jackie as Florie enters. James's eyes go wide. Flo crosses and stops when she sees Jackie.

JACKIE

Flo. You look nice.

Flo stares at him a beat, then turns to James;

FLO

Please tell your brother if I ever see him in here again, I'll cut off his dick and pickle it like a herring.

She walks off. James and Jackie take a beat, then:

JAMES

You got thirty days, I got life.

JACKIE

Does she know? Cause, now with what happened, you gotta tell her it's going to be a little longer before I can pay you back.

JAMES

She knows. And we both agree, we don't want you to pay us back. *

JACKIE

No, come on. Don't be like that. It's gonna be a issue...

JAMES

No, no, it's not. I want you to keep that money 'cause then I'm free and clear.

JACKIE

What does that mean?

James says the following louder so Flo can hear him:

JAMES

It means I'm done with this. You don't show up again out of the blue asking for anything again. OK? *

JACKIE

What are you mad about now? *

JAMES

(quiet) I'm not mad. *

(louder) Nobody's wrong here. People don't change... *

JACKIE

Oh please, ya singing the same fucking song ya always sing.

JAMES

People are who they are, my brother. And that's that. *

Beat. James leans in, speaking in a quieter tone;

JAMES

OK. The truth is you see how it is with her. You've become a thing.

(CONTINUED)

JACKIE
(overlap)
I'm a thing now...?

JAMES
Yeah. You're a thing. And I can't
do it. I can't take the
aggravation. So please. Let it be.
(beat)
I thought you killed at the
wedding. Brittany loved it. If
you're ever performing, you let me
know...we'll have a beer.

Miller returns.

MILLER
So what's it going to be?
Wisconsin, London or Florida?

60	EXT. GOLDEN VISTA VILLAGE - WEST PALM BEACH - DAY	60*
	Jackie drives a convertible along the Intercoastal waterway - Palm trees and dense tropical foliage everywhere.	* * *
	PRE-LAP:	*
	MAC (V.O.) We have a really special treat for everyone today here at Golden Vista!	* * * *
61	INT. GOLDEN VISTA VILLAGE - DINING ROOM - DAY	61*
	Mac is speaking on a mic in front of the residents who are spread out round the tables. A little stage with an electronic piano with a mic is set up behind Mac.	* * *
	MAC A wonderful entertainer who's playing the lead in the musical "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" over at the Mitzi Gaynor Theater in Coral Gables. Let's give a hand to Devin O'Donnor.	* * * * * * *
	DEVIN O'DONNOLL appears - 40's, every inch the performer who never made it past regional theater. His enthusiasm is phony. His attitude patronizing. And he is clueless about his transparent ego. He thinks he's a star.	* * * *

(CONTINUED)

61

CONTINUED:

61

DEVON

Thank you so, so much, Mac. What a beautiful audience. I want to tell you, even though we're performing to packed houses at "The Mitzie", I was looking forward to this performance more than any other...

Devon cues a PIANIST at an electronic piano, who underscores;

DEVON (CONT'D)

...Because being here with you, makes me feel...alive.

DEVON STARTS TO SING SONDHEIM'S "BEING ALIVE":

DEVON (CONT'D)

"SOMEBODY HOLD ME TO
CLOSE...SOMEBODY HURT ME TOO DEEP"

Various Cut-aways to elderly characters, some we will come to know as MIRIAM, ADELE, HERMAN and BERNIE. Some are paying attention. Others are falling asleep.

Harmony moves between the tables - obviously well liked.

62

INT. GOLDEN VISTA ATRIUM - DAY

62*

Jackie approaches the RECEPTIONIST.

JACKIE

Where can I find Harmony Schutz?

Jackie looks into the lobby and out through the windows at a beautiful swimming pool right on the Intercoastal. Mac's spread is very impressive.

RECEPTIONIST

Oh, you're here for the dinner?

JACKIE

Dinner? Yeah. When does it start?

RECEPTIONIST

It's over. They're having their entertainment now - Out at the Beach Club.

Jackie heads back out the door..

CUT TO:

EXT: OCEAN FRONT - DAY *

Jackie walks along a pathway next to a beautiful beach,
feature surf and azure water. *

63 INT. GOLDEN VISTA CLUB HOUSE - DINING ROOM - DAY 63*

Devon is still singing "Being Alive". *

Jackie enters the room, behind the residents who are all
facing Devon. *

Harmony sees Jackie from across the room. He smiles and
waves her over. Harmony is shocked to see him. As she
crosses to him, Mac appears at his side first; *

MAC *

Look whose here. The laugh a
minute. What the fuck are you
doing here? *

JACKIE *

Calm down. I was in the
neighborhood and I-... *

Harmony appears: *

JACKIE (CONT'D) *

(to Harmony) *

Hi...I was just saying... *

Jackie leans in to kiss her hello but Harmony leans away,
abruptly asking; *

HARMONY *

Why are you here? What are you
doing here? Why are you here? *

JACKIE *

(surprised) *

Is Alzheimer's contagious? I was
just saying I was--- *

BACK TO: Devon hitting his final big notes on: *

DEVON *

"BEEEEEEIING...ALIIIIIIIVE!!" *

Appreciative applause from the audience. Devon starts a
condescending patter with the elderly, while Jackie, Mac
and Harmony continue talking *

(CONTINUED)

DEVON (CONT'D)

Thank you. Thank you so much. You know we often don't take the time to hear the stories and wisdom of our elders and it's a shame. So I'd like to take this time to get to know some of you wonderful people.

A woman, returning to her seat, notices Jackie at the back of the room.

JACKIE

(to Harmony)

I'm in town for a convention. I thought we could have dinner.

HARMONY

(curt)

I can't. I'm really busy. I'm sorry. You should have called.

JACKIE

(clocks her unease)

What's wrong?

HARMONY

Nothing.

The woman who recognized Jackie is pointing him out to her friends who turn around and looking at Jackie.

BACK TO DEVON:

DEVON

And what's your name sweetheart?

ADELE

Adele.

DEVON

Tell us a little about yourself.

ADELE

I was a gym teacher for 42 years.

DEVON

Wow. An educator. Such an important job and so undervalued in our society. Thank you Adele.

There's a buzz in the back of the room as word travels of a celebrity in their midst. Someone yells out:

(CONTINUED)

WOMAN

Hey, it's Eddie!

Mac looks around and starts to realize that there's an "Eddie Buzz" starting to happen among his residents.

MAC

(nudges Harmony)

Will you look at that. They want Eddie. Who'd a thought?

Harmony & Jackie look around as the crowd buzzes: "Hey, Eddie's here!" "Eddie, tell some jokes!"

MAC (CONT'D)

Go out there, Jackie, they want you.

JACKIE

Not my audience, Mac.

MAC

Come-on Give 'em what they want.
(turns to Harmony)
Give him a goose, baby.

HARMONY

(wants Jackie to go)
No, this is definitely not his kind of crowd.

Mac takes off, making a bee-line toward Devon.

BACK TO DEVON:

He's a little annoyed that he's losing the crowd to the Eddie buzz.

MIRIAM

I'm Miriam.

DEVON

Miriam. Tell us about yourself.

MIRIAM

Well, I was a dancer. I was on Broadway once.

DEVON

Wow. A Broadway star in our midst.
Can I have your autograph?

Mack approaches Devon and takes the Mic from him.

(CONTINUED)

MAC

Hey Folks, I've got a real
surprise for ya! Just in from New
York. Television star & personal
friend, Eddie from "EDDIE'S HOME".

Applause for the surprise celebrity guest.

Jackie is caught off guard. He looks at Harmony, who
shrugs:

HARMONY

(deadpan)

Better beat it out of here as fast
as you can.

Jackie checks her out ... she's not kidding. Somehow he
accepts her challenge, and walks out to Mac, who hands
him the mic. Then Mac escorts a confused Devon out.

JACKIE

Hello everyone, I'm Jackie Burke.

Applause and anticipation from the crowd.

JACKIE (CONT'D)

(to Miriam)

So you're a dancer? I always
wanted to ask, when you're hanging
upside down on those poles, how do
you stop your tits from smacking
you in the face?

A *GASP* from the Audience. A couple of nervous laughs. A
little growling.

Harmony and Mac go wide eyed - not knowing what the
reaction will be.

Meriam isn't phased ... a tough broad.

MIRIAM

I wasn't that kind of dancer. I
was a chorus girl.

JACKIE

Miriam, it was my boyhood fantasy
to fuck a chorus girl. Maybe if
you're free after your ennema.

More rumbling from the audience over:

(CONTINUED)

MIRIAM

Is that supposed to be funny?

Harmony watches Jackie slowly die.

JACKIE

You're a good sport Meriam, I'll meet you in your room after I get some condoms fro Adele. Gym teachers always have condoms, right Adele?

Adele goes crimson red. Jackie is bombing.

Jackie escapes to a group of men including, Herman and Bernie.

JACKIE (CONT'D)

What's the deal with these three? Look at this. What's your name?

HERMAN

Herman.

JACKIE

Herman, nobody's called that anymore?

(Herman smiles, nods)

You three all hang out together?

HERMAN

Mostly.

JACKIE

Oh, I get it. The last one left alive keeps the porn collection. Whose got the best pussy shots?

Points to a balding man at the table.

HERMAN

Bernie.

Everybody breaks out laughing at Herman's admission.

JACKIE

What's your name, sir?

BERNIE

Bernie! I'm curious. Are you a breast man? A leg man? What?

(CONTINUED)

BERNIE (CONT'D)

I like tucheses.

JACKIE

Tuckeses? Bernie, they haven't been called tuckeses since Dachau closed down. You won't get any ass like that. It's booty, badunkadonk. Come on!

Bernie doesn't like the Dachau reference. The Audience is turning hostile.

JACKIE (CONT'D)

Have you met Adele the gym teacher? She used to be able to climb up a rope with just her ass.

(to Adele)

Adele, I got a live one for ya. Wait, let me check.

Jackie feels Bernie's pulse.

JACKIE (CONT'D)

Yep, still ticking.

Crickets. A few people edge towards the exit.

A YOUNG AIDE takes out his cell phone and video records Jackie.

Jackie notices a OLD GUY walking out.

JACKIE (CONT'D)

(to Old Guy)

Hey don't leave -- I hear there's seconds on rice pudding.

JACOB

No, no. I've got to go to the bathroom!

JACKIE

What's your name, sir?

JACOB

Jacob.

JACKIE

Jacob. Number 1 or number 2, Jacob?

(CONTINUED)

JACOB
 (thinks for a beat)
 Number 3.

*
 *
 *

Laughs. Finally.

*

JACKIE
 Number 3! The Mac Schultz
 Special!

*
 *
 *

More laughs. Jackie's flop sweat is taking a break.

*

JACKIE (CONT'D)
 God speed, Jacob.

*
 *

Ladies and gentlemen, give it up
 for Jacob!

*
 *

Jacob laughs, enjoying the attention. Audience laughs
 and applauds.

*
 *

JACKIE (CONT'D)
 Okay, I see what you like . . .

*
 *

You know, Golden Vista Village is
 so much more than just a place for
 waiting to die. It's also a place
 for waiting to go to the bathroom.
 So when the opportunity comes, you
 gotta go for it. Like Jacob.

*
 *
 *
 *
 *
 *

Jackie has a thought.

*

JACKIE (CONT'D)
 Hey, do you all know the song
 "Makin Whoopee"?

*
 *
 *

The audience shouts out "yes", "of course", "sure".

*

Jackie cues the piano player, who nods.

*

JACKIE (CONT'D)
 OK, let's try it, all together,
 except when I point to you for the
 chorus, you all sing "Not Makin
 Poopy". Can you do that?

*
 *
 *
 *
 *

Enthusiastic response.

*

JACKIE (CONT'D)
 (to piano player)
 OK, Maestro - let's try it.

*
 *
 *

JACKIE & AUDIENCE

(singing)

"NOT MAKIN POOPY".

Jackie sings the song haltingly, as he makes up the lyrics as he goes along.

JACKIE

Great. Okay, here goes:

(singing)

Another fear,

Another year,

Another enema in your rear;

Elimination . . .

Constipation . . .

JACKIE AND AUDIENCE

Not makin' poopy.

Harmony and Mack are joining in on the chorus now.

Jackie leaves the small stage and continues singing as he walks through the Audience.

JACKIE

Pee-pee is fine,

Except it leaks;

What'd you except

From wrinkled deeks?"

It's so abusive;

Stools are elusive . . .

Jackie hold the Mic in the face of the one of the Oldsters.

OLDSTER AND AUDIENCE

Not makin poopy.

JACKIE

Prune juice, Mira-Lax and Ex --

Loosin' you up and how.

Dumping is better than sex,

Which bring us up to now . . .

You're on the toilet,

From nine to five --

Holy Shit, it's good to be alive!

It's all a breeze now,

But please don't sneeze now . . .

Oops!

You're makin poopy!

(big finish)

Not being loopy;

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

63

CONTINUED: (8)

63

JACKIE (CONT'D)

Better than "whoopie,"
 (everybody sings)
 I'm makin' poopy!

*
*
*

Mad laughter and applause. Jackie takes his bow.

*

Harmony applauds as well. Mac appears beside her.

*

MAC

I want to hire him.

*
*

HARMONY

What?

*
*

64

EXT. MAC'S 55' LUXURY YACHT - DAY

64*

Mac sits with Jackie on the back of his luxury yacht
 which is moored next to Golden Vista Village.

*
*

MAC

We got this benefit coming up.
 It's a big PR thing. I'll pay a
 nice figure. And maybe, we can
 work out an arrangement where you
 make regular appearances. You can
 still do your own gigs. They're
 all asleep by 8.

*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*

JACKIE

I don't know. When's the benefit
 ?

*
*
*

MAC

Saturday night. When's your
 convention?

*
*
*

JACKIE

Tomorrow. I leave tomorrow night.

*
*

MAC

I'll make it worth your while to
 stay a few more days - all
 expenses paid - I'll put you up in
 a nice condo with a view of the
 Intercoastal.

*
*
*
*
*
*

JACKIE

OK. \$10,000.

*
*

MAC

\$7500.

*
*

(CONTINUED)

JACKIE

Deal.

As Jackie steps onto the dock, Mac flags down a young staff member passing by.

MAC

Jerry, tell the front desk to put Mr. Jackie Burke in Suite 535 ... until next Sunday.

JERRY

Yes, MR. Shiltz

Jackie waves to Mac.

JACKIE

I'm gonna check out of the West Palm Hilton ... be be back in a couple of hours.

Jackie walks to the end of the dock where he sees Harmony sitting by the pool with Meriam.

EXT: POOLSIDE - DAY

Several of the seniors swim in the pool. Harmon & Meriam kitbitz.

MERIAM

A breath of fresh air.

HARMONY

More like a hurricane.

MERIAM

How do you know him.

HARMONY

We used to work together ... in New York ... community service.

MERIAM

(laughs)
Yeah, he's a real "community service" type.

JACKIE

(interrupting)
Watch it, Meriam. I may cancel our date.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JACKIE (CONT'D)

(to Harmony)

You got a moment?

Harmony excuses herself and talks with Jackie to the edge of the patio.

JACKIE (CONT'D)

Maybe we can get a cup of coffee --

HARMONY

(overlaps)

Look, Jackie, it's nice to see you but I don't know what you're doing here. What happened with us - it's not going to ever happen again. Ever.

JACKIE

Hey, all I did was invite you to dinner...

HARMONY

I know, but--

JACKIE

It's just a dinner.

HARMONY

I'm sorry, I ...

JACKIE

And maybe a hand job.

HARMONY

SEE!

JACKIE

I'm kidding! Jesus! What's going on with you?

HARMONY

Nothing.

JACKIE

I just wanted to stop to say hello. Is that so wrong?

Harmony calms down a bit. Jackie's being genuine.

HARMONY

No. It's just ... I haven't been feeling that great.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

JACKIE

What's wrong?

HARMONY

Nothing, just tired. Look, don't feel obligated to do this thing for Mac. I can tell him you've got work going on in NY.

JACKIE

Eh, it might be fun. Tell you the truth, I could use a break. This May Connor thing was a bust. I'm like the John Wilkes Booth of comedy.

HARMONY

OK. Maybe we can have dinner tomorrow.

JACKIE

You sure? 'Cause I don't want to give you any impression that I'm available. Me, Adele and Miriam are gonna have a three-way. But you can always join us.

HARMONY

(WALKS AWAY)

Oh shut-up.

65 EXT. WEST PALM BEACH CONVENTION CENTER - DAY 65

BANNER; TELEVISION CLASSICS.COM. Convention attendees arrive in all many of dress, looking like their favorite TV characters from the past.

66 INT. CONVENTION HALL - DAY 66

The convention hall is filled with fans dressed as their favorite characters. There are stands with logos from past television shows where actors who are no longer working sign autographs and merch. from their shows.

Jackie, dressed as "EDDIE", sits with a MIDDLE AGED FAN also dressed as "EDDIE".

JACKIE

It's like looking in a mirror.

(CONTINUED)

FAN

Are you still friends with the other actors? Arlene and your son?

JACKIE

Uh, no, we haven't kept in touch. Let me ask you something, doesn't it get old? I mean, how can it be funny if you know all the jokes? Does it still make you laugh?

FAN

Sometimes. Not like it did but-- It's like when you're little and you want someone to read you the same story every night the same way. It's like...I don't know ...comforting.

Jackie doesn't know how to respond. The Fan is clearly a lonely guy. Guileless and genuine.

JACKIE

Well thanks very much for coming.

FAN

Thanks for being "Eddie".

Jackie nods. The Fan rises and exits. Jackie can't wait for this to be over.

Jackie is dressed for dinner. He appears on the patio entrance and knocks on the glass patio doors. *

The doors slide open to reveal Harmony - dressed in sweats and a T-Shirt. She looks worn out. *

JACKIE *

(enters) *

Hey, Ready? *

HARMONY *

Oh, no. I'm sorry, Jackie. I should have called you. I'm really tired. I think I'm just gonna stay in tonight. *

JACKIE *

(suspicious) *

OK. *

HARMONY

You look nice.

JACKIE

Thanks.

Awkward beat. Harmony doesn't invite him in.

JACKIE (CONT'D)

Are you sure everything's all right?

HARMONY

Yeah. Why?

JACKIE

I don't know. We had a nice time and now, something feels off. Are you seeing somebody?

HARMONY

No.

JACKIE

Did I do something wrong?

HARMONY

No...Not really.

JACKIE

Not really? What?

Harmony takes a beat, looks at Jackie, sighs and turns. She crosses him to sit on her patio chair.

HARMONY

Oh man. This would have been so much easier if you didn't show up.

JACKIE

What?

HARMONY

(Beat)
I'm pregnant.

JACKIE

(surprised)
What! -

He stops. Harmony is staring at him. Jackie starts to calculate. His mind races.

(CONTINUED)

HARMONY *
Yeah. *

JACKIE *
Me? *

HARMONY *
Yeah. *

JACKIE *
Your sure? *

HARMONY *
Yeah. The timing's right. I *
haven't been with anybody since. *

Jackie is momentarily speechless. *

HARMONY (CONT'D) *
Listen, I wasn't going to tell *
you... *

JACKIE *
You're sure it's mine? *

HARMONY *
Yes, I am. Believe me, I'm as *
surprised as you are. *

JACKIE *
No, I don't think you are. *

HARMONY *
I wasn't going to at first. I had *
the appointment at the clinic all *
set. Drove myself down there. But *
I couldn't get out of the car...I *
kept thinking about that night *
with you...and talking about my *
Mom...and, all of a sudden, I just *
couldn't do it. I couldn't let *
this baby feel unwanted the way I *
did. And, for like the first time, *
I felt really clear about *
something, ya know? Weird, huh? *
And it's probably my last chance *
so... I'm scared, but I want to *
give it a shot. *

JACKIE *
And what about me? *

(CONTINUED)

HARMONY

What about you?

JACKIE

Don't I have any say in this?

HARMONY

What do you want to say?

JACKIE

Maybe I don't want to be a father again.

HARMONY

Nobody's asking you to be.

JACKIE

You're having my kid, that makes me a father ... an older father of a little Baby ... The well-being of this kid, I cannot guarantee, cause I may not be here.

HARMONY

Yes, that's true, but what I'm doing isn't a whim - It's me coming to a decision about my life.

JACKIE

You're having my kid without my permission and I'm not supposed to get upset?

HARMONY

Your permission? This isn't about you!

HIS CELL RINGS. The phone screen reads: MILLER. Jackie presses IGNORE.

JACKIE

You can't just decide this on your own like it doesn't affect me.

HARMONY

I didn't ask you come to here. And I didn't have to tell you. But I liked you. So, ya know what, just forget it. This baby is my choice, for my life.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

HARMONY (CONT'D)

If you don't want to have anything
to do with it, then don't.

JACKIE'S CELL RINGS AGAIN. AGAIN IT'S MILLER.

HARMONY (CONT'D)

You should take that.

Harmony closes the sliding doors, locking it.

Jackie's left locked outside. He takes a beat. Then walks
out toward the Intercoastal and answers his cell.

JACKIE

Yeah?

MILLER (ON PHONE)

You're viral again.
(looking at her
computer)
You're singing some "Poopie" song
to a bunch of senior citizens.

INT. MILLER'S OFFICE - DAY

Miller sits at a table in front of her laptop, with a
coffee, watching a YOU TUBE VIDEO of his singing "Making
Poopy" with the residents. It's been overdubbed with A
HIP HOP BEAT.

MILLER

Over three million views in eight
hours and it keeps climbing.
You're on Kimmel. You're on Conan.
Carol from RAW TV called me. She
needs a host for a reality show
pilot. They shoot on Monday in NY?

INTERCUT JACKIE:

JACKIE

Monday? Why so fast?

MILLER

They had D'Angelo signed but he
had to drop out last minute.

JACKIE

Why? He got a better deal?

MILLER

He's got pancreatic cancer.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JACKIE *
 Finally, I catch a fuckin' break *
 in this business. *

68 INT. FRIAR'S CLUB - DAY 68

Miller sits at a table in front of her laptop, with a coffee, watching a YOU TUBE VIDEO of his singing "Making Poopy" with the residents. It's been overdubbed with A HIP HOP BEAT.

MILLER *
 Over three million views in eight
 hours and it keeps climbing.
 You're on Kimmel. You're on Conan.
 Carol from RAW TV called me. She
 needs a host for a reality show
 pilot. They shoot on Monday in NY?

INTERCUT JACKIE:

JACKIE
 Monday? Why so fast?

MILLER
 They had D'Angelo signed but he
 had to drop out last minute.

JACKIE
 Why? He got a better deal?

MILLER
 He's got pancreatic cancer.

JACKIE
 Finally, I catch a fuckin' break
 in this business.

69 EXT. GOLDEN VISTA VILLAGE - POOL/GOLF COURSE - DAY 69*

Mac sits on the deck of his Yacht talking with Larry, *
 when he sees Jackie walking with his bags to the Condo *
 Office. *

MAC *
 (calls out) *
 What have we here? The Comedian *
 Slithering out. *

(CONTINUED)

JACKIE

Yeah. Sorry. I left you a message.
I got a gig in NY.

MAC

Welching on our deal - I'm not
surprised - Fool me once, It's on
you ... Fool me twice, I'm the
schmuck.

JACKIE

This is an important gig ... a TV
pilot.

MAC

Let me tell you something, Back in
the day, when I was makin' book, I
knew who was gonna lose and who
was gonna win. I had an instinct.
The losers - I'd deposit their
money before the race ran. Now get
the fuck outta here.

Mac's implication that Jackie is a loser pisses Jackie
off. Jackie stops.

JACKIE

I hear you're gonna be a grandpa.

MAC

(annoye)
Yeah.

JACKIE

Well, congratulations. Only,
don't be surprised if your grand
kid's doing one liners, holding
his dick like a microphone. See ya
at the bris.

Mac stands-up from his deck chair, momentarily stunned.
Jackie walks back toward the office.

JACKIE (CONT'D)

ARRLEEEENE!!!!

Mac doesn't know how to respond.

Harmony is sitting in a chair reading a Magazine. Mac,
red-faced, charges in.

(CONTINUED)

MAC

You're having Eddie's baby!?! *

Harmony, completely unruffled gazes up at Mac who notices the change. *

HARMONY

No, I'm having *my* baby. *

MAC

You told me it was a sperm donor! *

HARMONY

Well, in a way, it was. *

MAC

That's not funny! Jackie Eddie Burke! What did I do? Wasn't I always there for you? Didn't I do everything for you? *

HARMONY

You did the best you could in your way. And I appreciate it. Now it's my turn. *

MAC

What does *that* mean!?! *

HARMONY

You know what it means. Making my own decisions and living with them, without you. *

MAC

Without me? You're going over a cliff again sweetheart. *

HARMONY

Do you hear yourself? It's like you want me to fail. Why? *

MAC

How can you say that? I've always been there for you. I had to be a mother and a father. I did the best I could. I don't deserve this. *

HARMONY

Why did my mother leave? *

Pause. Mac sees in Harmony's expression that this time she wants an answer. *

MAC *

I don't know...Maybe I wasn't the best husband. Maybe I pushed her into things she didn't really want. *

HARMONY *

Like being a mother? *

Mac sits *

MAC *

I don't know. She left. I stayed.... Don't go, kid. *

Harmony senses a vulnerability in him she's never seen. *

HARMONY *

It can't be the way it's been, Mac. Not anymore. *

MAC *

All right. *

HARMONY *

I'm having my baby. And you don't have a Goddamn thing to say about it. *

Mac nods. Harmony stands. Mac, quietly; *

MAC *

All right. Let it be. Whatever you want... Only don't leave me. *

His head bowed, he takes her hand. Harmony feels compassion. She strokes his head. *

The television taping is underway. Jackie is addressing a studio audience. He wears an expensive suit.

JACKIE

Hello everybody. I'm Uncle Jackie Burke and welcome to "SAY UNCLE", the new reality show where we actually torture people until they say, "Uncle". Our first contestant is Mark Chapel from Brookline, Massachusetts. How you doing today, Mark?

MARK

Great.

Reveal MARK - a middle aged dad wearing only goggles and a bathing suit. TWO SEXY, SCANTILY-CLAD MODELS are painting his body with molasses.

His wife and kids watch from the front row.

Miller stands with Carol and two of her RIOT TV execs behind the monitor.

JACKIE

Right now our two anthropology majors from Camel Toe U are basting you with molasses. When they're done, all you have to do is lay down in this geese pen and we'll release these hungry birds.

Reveal a GEESE PEN full of squawking geese. Mark lays down. A small picket fence separates him from the birds.

JACKIE

Don't forget Mark. If you last two minutes with the geese, you'll win this new hybrid car and a Carribbean vacation for you and your entire family.

Mark's family jumps up and down. Jackie takes notice. One kid - around three - has no idea what's happening.

JACKIE

You're sure you're ready?

MARK

Yes, Uncle Jackie.

JACKIE

Are you wearing a protective cup?

MARK

No.

JACKIE

Okay then Mark, you better hold on tight to those butter balls as I release the angry birds.

Jackie pulls a lever and a wall in the pen lifts up. The audience cheers as the geese begin pecking at Mark's skin. At first it tickles. The audience is laughing.

JACKIE

Hang in there Mark! You're halfway home.

Mark begins rolling around frantically as the birds become more aggressive. The contestant is clearly bleeding from numerous cuts. He squeals in pain.

In the front row, his children are scared. Jackie sees Mark's three old starts to cry. Jackie see

MARK

Ahhh! Ahhh!

JACKIE

You can do it, Mark. This time next week, you'll be in the Bahamas with your beautiful family.

His family winces, upset and scared. Jackie fights off the disgust he feels. He looks over to Miller. Everyone around her is cheering, but she knows Jackie so well.

MARK

AHHH!AHHH! UNCLE! UNCLE!

The cheering suddenly stops as Mark leaps out of the pen. He is covered in hay, brown sugar and splotches of blood. His family is horrified. Jackie puts his arms around Mark, along with a towel and robe, and looks into camera.

JACKIE

"Say Uncle" will be right back. But as for me, I'd rather have Stevie Wonder shave my testicles with a butcher knife than be part of a this reality shit. So this is Jackie Burke saying "Uncle", and Riot TV can go fuck itself!!!!

71 CONTINUED: (3) 71

Jackie steps off the set. The crew and audience stare in disbelief. As he crosses Carol, Jackie says:

JACKIE
And I'm keeping the suit.

Miller looks to Carol, then exits after Jackie. *

71-A EXT. RAW-TV STUDIO - 54TH ST - DAY 71-A*

Jackie walks out onto the sidewalk. He's not bummed - in fact, he's exhilarated. He smiles as he walks away. *

CLOSE UP: Jackie's shoes - There's a spring in his step. *

MATCH CUT TO: *

CLOSE-UP: JACKIE'S LEATHER TENNIS SHOES WITH THE SAME SPRING IN HIS STEP WALKING THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION - *

72 EXT. MACDOUGAL STREET - THE VILLAGE - NIGHT 72

Jackie walks through the rush of Village hipsters. He turns and descends down the familiar stairs. *

73 INT. UPSTAIRS AT COMEDY CELLAR - NIGHT 73

Jackie enters. He feels at home here. A safe haven. Miller sits at the 'comics table' kibitzing with several clients before they go on..

ESTEE, The COMEDY CELLAR Booker leans over. *

ESTEE
Jackie, sit. You going on tonight? *

Jackie senses a change. They're all smiling. *

ESTEE
Any spot you want. Let me know. *

JACKIE
What gives? *

COMEDIAN
That video went viral like crazy. *

JACKIE
What video? *

(CONTINUED)

73 CONTINUED: 73

Miller takes out her phone, hits Safari and plays:
JACKIE'S FULL WALK-OUT FROM THE REALITY SHOW. *

MILLER
Six million views and counting. *

JACKIE
How'd you get the tape?

Miller, just bobs her eyebrows. He kisses her.

74 INT. COMEDY CELLAR - STAGE - CONTINUOUS - NIGHT 74

HOST takes the mic;

HOST
We have a surprise guest with us
tonight. The man of the hour who
told Raw TV to go fuck itself.
Let's give it up for Jackie Burke.

The crowd goes wild. Applause. Some stand. Some hold out
their phones with the video playing. Cheers. But no one
is more surprised that Jackie. He takes the mic;

JACKIE
I'm a hit. Who the fuck knew?

CUT TO:

75 EXT. POOL/GOLDEN VISTA VILLAGE - DAY 75*

Harmony sits with Meriam talking about the community. *

Harmony - a few months pregnant now, starting to show *

Jackie appears carrying a box towards Harmony. When
Harmony sees Jackie she is surprised. Jackie is equally
surprised by Harmony's condition. *

JACKIE
Wow. You look you. How are ya? *

HARMONY
I'm fine.... *

Harmony is about to ask "what are you doing here?"... *

JACKIE
Look, I...I don't want to cause a
thing. I... *

(MORE) *

(CONTINUED)

JACKIE (CONT'D)

I wanted to call and find out how you were but it felt strange to just call after the way we left things...and I wanted to give you something anyway so I flew in. You look great.

HARMONY

Thanks. What's that?

Jackie takes out some photos from the box.

JACKIE

I leave this to your decision. But I thought - whether I'm in the kid's life or not,

Jackie hands her the box ... an old wooden wine box.

JACKIE (CONT'D)

Just photos of me and my family ... he or she may want to know some things about me.

HARMONY

Wow ... Thanks.

Beat.

JACKIE

I just want to say, I'd like to be a part of the kid's life in any way you're comfortable with. You make the rules. Whatever you decide. Think about it. Don't say anything now, OK?

HARMONY

OK.

Jackie and Harmony have a silent beat.

JACKIE

Take care of yourself.

HARMONY

You too.

Without another word Jackie walks away. Harmony watches him leave. Then she looks down into the box:

75 CONTINUED: (2) 75

We see a whole treasure trove of photos of Jackie's family life ... not his career ... his family. Jackie as a young boy, Jimmy and Britany when she was a little girl, etc. The only momento of his career is one of his albums: "Inside Jackie Burke". *

Harmony looks after Jackie who has disappeared. *

CUT TO: *

EIGHT-TEN YEARS LATER. *

76 EXT. FLORIDA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AUDITORIUM - DAY 76*

A parking lot of cars. A CAB OR TOWN CAR drives up to the entrance and stops (carrying Jackie from the airport - we may or may not see him exit)

77 INT. FLORIDA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AUDITORIUM - DAY 77*

A BANNER READS: TALENT SHOW. The audiences is filled with parents with video cameras or phones, recording their kids. A LITTLE GIRL is on stage singing, off key.

Harmony is sitting with the new man in her life. We'll call him GARY - age appropriate. Working class style. Nice, down to earth guy. They holds hands. AN EMPTY SEAT waits beside Harmony.

From the back of the auditorium, Jackie enters with a carry-on bag. He spots Harmony and sits in the empty seat. They whisper as the kid on stage sings:

(NOTE: THE GENDER OF JACKIE AND HARMONY'S KID WILL BE SUBJECT TO CASTING. FOR THE SCRIPT, IT WILL READ HE/SHE or HER/HIM).

HARMONY

Oh good you made it.

JACKIE

My flight got delayed. Hi Gary.

GARY

Hey Jackie.

JACKIE

Did I miss her/him?

HARMONY

She/he's next.

(CONTINUED)

The kid on stage finishes on a sour note but everyone applauds and cheers. Over the Loud Speaker, we hear:

TALENT SHOW VOICE
OUR NEXT TALENTED YOUNGSTER IS...
(NAME PENDING CASTING).

Jackie, Harmony and Gary applaud with the audience.

Jackie and Harmony's 8 year old crosses to center stage, stands before a microphone to do a stand-up routine.

JACKIE/HARMONY'S KID
So what's the deal with chores and allowances? I turn eight and my mom says "I'll give you ten dollars a week to make your room, wash the dishes and clean the cat's litter box". Ten dollars? That's slave labor. I go to our neighbor's house and I say, "What'll you give me if I make your room, wash your dishes and clean your cat's litter box?" Neighbor says I don't have a cat. So I piss in her hallway and say, "You go to 15 a week and I'll supply the pussy".

Various shots of stunned parents, appalled and shocked.

ON JACKIE and HARMONY - laughs, beaming with pride.

BACK ON THE KID. Not getting a response, he/she taps the microphone.

JACKIE/HARMONY'S KID
This fucking thing on?

Jackie and Harmony smile proudly.

THE END