

10 ITEMS OR LESS

INT. CAR - DRIVING - DAY

HIM

Sorry, what was your name again?

PACKY

Packy.

HIM

Are we lost, Packy?

PACKY

Damnit, Damnit! I had this nailed before. I swear. We'll find it... don't worry about it.

HIM

So... you're driving for the picture?

PACKY

No, uh... Donnie's my cousin. You know Donnie?

HIM

(Overlapping) A... yeah

PACKY

I'm kinda like the all-purpose... kinda guy.

HIM

Your cousin?

PACKY

Yeah.

HIM

And this is his first picture?

PACKY

Yeah, yeah... you know... like a, I guess that thing we did in Bartolli's backyard doesn't count. Yeah, this is like his first... film.

HIM

Is he good with actors? Does he like actors?

PACKY

Uh... uh... you know... you're kinda like the first... actor I've ever met. So, uh... (pause) But I know he's so psyched that you're doing this! You're playing the store manager!

HIM

Well now, I haven't committed yet. This is just research, you know. Just take a look at the location... you know, research... get a feel for the character.

PACKY

He says... Donnie says, you haven't worked in like four years, or something like that.

HIM

Well... not four!

PACKY

That's a long fucking time, right? I mean...

HIM

Naw, uh, uh... hmm, I, I had, uh... I mean it's not like I haven't had offers.

PACKY

So you're back! You're back in business! How does it feel?

HIM

Well, I wouldn't exactly call this... back. I mean, not back, back. Not like comeback, back. It's just a little independent thing.

PACKY

Oh.

HIM

Nicely under the radar, you know. I mean, if it flies... fine. If it doesn't... won't even count.

PACKY

Kinda like a blowjob?

HIM

Yeah... like a cinematic blowjob... right.

PACKY

No shit.

HIM

Yeah.

PACKY

Alright!! This is... this is so fucking un-cool. Hell, I'm driving... so fuck it, uh... (*Grabs a tape, holds it up*) Hey, would you mind just doing a little bit for me? Any part... any part, is fine.

HIM

I have no idea what you're talking about.

PACKY

The thing... the book on tape! You did it so well. (*puts the tape in*) Come on... any part... (*the tapes plays music first*) Anything... really

HIM

(*overlapping*) Uh, no man... I...

PACKY

(*overlapping*) Wait... wait...

HIM

(*overlapping*) I never did a book on tape.

PACKY

(*overlapping*) Wait... here you go.

Narrator on tape:

"The door swung open with the hush of luxury. And there as she gazed, her eyes filled with the glory, the spectacle, that was Titanic"

Music continues to play.

HIM

It's not me.

PACKY

(Hit's him on the shoulder) Modest motherfucker! Modest!

HIM

(overlapping) It's not me.

PACKY

Of course it's you! What else you been doin' for the past four years?

HIM

That's not me, man! *(pause)* Alright... first of all, I would... I would never go that way. I would never choose those rhythms... you know what I'm saying? You get a scene like that; you don't drop into those rhythms. You don't play the obvious... those go under. *(pause)* Run it by me, again.

PACKY

(anxious) Play it again? *(Packy starts the tape again)*

HIM

(overlapping) Yeah.

(Replay. The Narrator, then music.)

HIM

See? He's all caught up in his reading... he's totally disconnected. I would... whew... I would never... *(listens, then begins the narration)* 'And there, as she gazed; her eyes filled... with the glory... the spectacle the was... Titanic'.

PACKY

(Loving the recitation) Oh My God! Word! *(Slaps high five)*

(THEY ARRIVE AT THE MARKET)

HIM

This is... ?

PACKY

Ground zero.

HIM

You gonna remember how we got here?

PACKY

Yeah... I'm down with the map and shit.

HIM

So... how you want to handle this? (*Packy, confused*) Sneak me in through the back... maybe?

PACKY

For what?

HIM

Uh... this is fine.

PACKY

So, how long you need?

HIM

You don't stay?

PACKY

Naw, I run. Freakin' Port-A-Potties in Brea... wherever the heck that is. (*pause*) You remember which way we came? (*Off his shock*) Nawww (*laughs*) I'm just fuckin' with you, man. I'm just... it's a joke.

HIM

Alright, alright... an hour or so should do it. (*He gets out of the car, looks back in through window.*) And you will be coming back?

PACKY

Yeah, yeah! Good field trip, alright! And a man... (*holds up tape with gratitude*) Man... seriously!

(*Drives off*)