

Masterpiece Isle

By

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FADE IN:

EXT. DOWNTOWN MIAMI /STREET -- MORNING

Strutting feet sift through the present-day sunny morning rush-hour. Stretching out before them are long shadows. The song "Staying Alive" by the Bee Gees plays in stark contrast to the modern-day, cars, buildings, signs, everything else that is seen. In the glass reflection of the buildings the feet pass, ROBERT A. GLADSTONE can be seen. He is wearing a white polyester suit with an electric blue shirt and matching sunglasses. Entirely oblivious to the passers-by making various remarks and staring at him, he moves as if on a mission. He carries a clear shopping bag filled with various colored clothing; lacy items can be seen.

The walking stops in front of a large glass door. A glass building towers vertically overhead. He fixes his black, large, "Afro" hair do and fluffs his side-burns. He has an average build, although he's clearly stuck in the 70s, and, in need of a modern-day make-over. He takes the glasses off and places them in his front coat pocket. Gazes at self.

ROBERT  
Never looked better, if I say so  
myself, which I do.  
(spins around)  
Oww!

The door now visibly reads: "Isle of Man Realty". The words encircle a bull's head. He gives one final look over himself and adjusts his clothes and fro; a large grin appears. He nods, then pulls the MASSIVE glass door open and enters. He spins again, making his iPod visible; he turns it off.

MUSIC STOPS.

INT. ISLE OF MAN'S OFFICE /ENTRYWAY -- MORNING

As he strolls along, cubicles line each side, they are made of glass and open on top. People answering phones and doing paperwork are busy within them; they stop and stare as Robert passes. They then curiously watch. After a moment or two most go back to work, except for a few on lookers.

At the end we see TESS A. BRADY seated behind a large oval desk with a 2 giant palm trees behind her and surrounding the "Isle of Man" logo. Elevated above, the upper floor is visible. It is completely open except for a walkway of photos sweeping around the entire upper level. There is a desk that can be seen directly above the reception desk behind a glass wall.

INT. ISLE OF MAN'S OFFICE /RECEPTION DESK -- MORNING

She is in her early 30s, has brunette hair, a pleasant speaking voice with a light Latin-American accent. She speaks a bit faster than most. She is wearing a very stylish suit that complements both her hair and eye color. She is naturally gorgeous, and her face is almost absent of makeup. She has her headset on, and is answering phones and entering data on her computer. She doesn't notice Robert approaching.

INT. ISLE OF MAN'S OFFICE /ENTRYWAY -- MORNING

As Robert slowly glides to the desk, he hears jeers, and slight laughter from a few people. He just points, grunts nods, "hey", and continues to grin paying no real attention to what is being said. He still walks with the beat of the music still in his head, and with a grin, apparently glued on his face. He stops at the reception desk and spins. Another woman passes him by. He now stands at the desk.

INT. ISLE OF MAN'S OFFICE /RECEPTION DESK -- MORNING

Robert says something to the woman passing.

ROBERT

Hey, groovy baby. Maybe I could show you some moves, say over din-din!

She rolls her eyes and keeps walking. He watches her then turns to Tess, she looks up at Robert.

TESS

Welcome to Isle of Man real estate, how may I assist you today?

Tess is shocked to see the clothes, hair and face of the man before her. She freezes up not knowing what to say.

ROBERT

Hey there foxy momma, I just came to return these.

He pours out the bag of clothes on the desk and various undergarments, of all styles and colors, pile on the desk and a few hit the floor. Tess is shocked. She looks around. Then says something to Robert.

TESS

Excuse me! What are you doing? Is this a joke?

ROBERT

No joke, baby, just got to return these groovelicious items to you.

Tess notices that they are hers and is now somewhat concerned. She does not find it funny.

TESS

Where did you get these?

ROBERT

From your body of course, you sexy thing.

As he bends down to pick up the fallen items, we see a very handsome BUSINESSMAN entering. Tess quickly tries to figure out what is going on. She takes the bag and swipes the garments off her desk landing them in the bag. As Robert rises, she sees a mole by his ear in the shape of a heart; she recognizes that it is Robert.

TESS

Robert!? Robert! , what the hell...  
 (lowering her voice)  
 What the hell are you doing here in  
 that--

ROBERT

(loud)  
 I sure am sorry it didn't work out  
 Tabby.

He turns and holds up a pair of panties with the initials  
 TAB on them.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Did anyone know that this foxy momma  
 puts her initials on her  
 panties...T..A..B.

Robert turns to her and sees that her blushing face is now  
 beet red. The phone rings before she can say anything. She  
 glances up to notice the Businessman almost at her desk.  
 She quickly gains her composure and takes a deep breath.  
 She answers the phone.

TESS

(into headset)  
 Isle of Man real estate, could you  
 hold please? Oh, sir, no everything  
 is fine here, why do you ask? Oh,  
 your appointments. Yes they have  
 all been verified.

She looks up to see Robert talking to the Businessman a few  
 feet from her desk, she listens half-heartedly in the phone  
 and closes her eyes. Tess intently stares at Robert and we  
 hear muffled words coming from the phone. The businessman  
 nods his head Robert heads for the exit, but stops first at  
 another woman's desk. She looks at him and he at her.

ROBERT

Looking good, baby. How about dinner  
 tonight, say, my pad?

OFFICE WOMAN

Get lost freak.

ROBERT

OUCH. Hey, maybe some other time.

Robert grins and takes the rejection in stride. He exits  
 and the Businessman stops at the reception desk. We see him  
 tower above Tess, built like a tank with a suit that could  
 be painted on. He is proud of his muscular body; he looks  
 like former football player, JOHN ELWAY. He is awaiting her  
 attention. Tess looks up at him as he smiles.

TESS

(into headset)  
 Mr. Man, someone is at my desk, did  
 you need me to do anything else for  
 you today? Okay. Have a great day.

Tess hangs up, pauses and takes a deep breath.

TESS (CONT'D)  
 (to businessman)  
 Welcome to the Isle of Man, how can  
 I help you?

BUSINESSMAN  
 Seems like I can help you.

Tess is puzzled, caught off guard.

TESS  
 Excuse me? Oh, I am so sorry. This  
 isn't the most professional--

The Businessman holds up his hand, with the intention that  
 there is no need to explain, and smiles.

BUSINESSMAN  
 Hey, it's not a problem. But, the,  
 a, brother from another planet, or  
 time, told me to give you this.

He hands her a pair of red leather lacy panties. She blushes,  
 grabs them quickly, and throws them with the others. She  
 spins her chair and puts her head in her hands. She can't  
 believe a stranger just handed her a pair of HER panties.  
 She is flabbergasted, barely able to speak. She turns back  
 around to face him.

TESS  
 Thank you.

She breathes deeply again, regaining composure.

TESS (CONT'D)  
 How about we just start over, okay?  
 Welcome to the...

BUSINESSMAN  
 It's okay, really, he told me about  
 the prank.

TESS  
 He...oh, he Did? Oh, yes, the prank,  
 right...

He looks around to see some people still staring at her;  
 most are laughing, and talking about what just happened,  
 they see him looking and go back to work. One man, JIM,  
 just shakes his head smiling with an evil "gotcha" grin on  
 his face, the Businessman looks at him. Jim smirks, nods  
 and takes a seat quickly.

The businessman turns to Tess.

BUSINESSMAN  
 You see, even an office needs a sense  
 of humor at times. It'll pass.

Tess looks around at the others and sighs giving her best effort to smile.

TESS

Ones like these put you in the gossip column forever, which is a real honor. It does NOT fade out.

The businessman laughs lightly. She tries to move forward.

TESS (CONT'D)

How can I help you, today, for the third time?

The phone rings and she just hits the redirect button.

BUSINESSMAN

You know, you have a beautiful smile.

She looks around once more to make sure that Robert has left for good, she leans back in her chair, puzzled.

BUSINESSMAN (CONT'D)

I think the blushing in your cheeks adds to it somehow.

Tess would normally be flattered; however, today, she doesn't really know what to say, so she plays it safe, businesslike.

TESS

I am truly flattered. Really. Now, how can I help you?

BUSINESSMAN

How about lunch?

INT. ROBERT'S APARTMENT /MAIN ROOM -- EVENING

Robert is asleep on the plush, burgundy, leather couch in his apartment. The apartment is very clean and modern, very minimalist; however, the items in the apartment classy, upscale and cutting edge: Onyx framed plasma TV, massive VMPS RM/X 'Elixir'speakers and Mark Levinson audio/video equipment, are among a few items. He is an audio/video-ophile most surely.

The plush leather couch faces the TV along the entry wall. The left has a view and balcony, the right leads to the kitchen. Colors of the entire apartment seem to subtly glow; very mysterious. The remainder of the furniture reflects his style: open, clean and smooth with rounded contours - very elegant. Robert is sunk deep into the couch.

Suddenly, we hear an alarm go off. Robert raises his head to see that the clock says 7:27 pm. He flips on the TV, rubs his face and gets up. His "Afro" hair is flat on one side. He rises and stretches. With no 70s lingo, he says outloud yawning.

ROBERT

Alright, three minute countdown.

(MORE)

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
I need a drink, no, maybe a  
smoke...maybe both.

He hears the thunderous boom of his front door slamming. He sits down.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
Maybe neither will be just fine right  
now.

TESS (O.S.)  
Robert!!! ROBERT!!!

ROBERT  
(to self)  
Oh shit...

He looks at the clock and it reads 7:28

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
Early, she's never early  
(to Tess)  
I'm right here honey.

TESS walks in with the bag of clothing in her hand and a brusque look on her face. She has a body that most would find attractive; it stays hidden behind a desk most of the time. Her long hair is in tangles from what appears to be the mad rush to get to Robert. She holds her shoes.

TESS  
HONEY!? Don't even call me  
honey...don't ever call me honey  
after that, that, that--

Tess turns away, throws her shoes into the foyer, stops and breathes deep holding back tears. She turns back under control, but angry.

TESS (CONT'D)  
That stunt you pulled today in front  
of not only my co-workers, but also  
a potential client. Pathetic, I  
can't believe you would sink that  
low?

Robert stands up face to face with her.

ROBERT  
C'mon hon...ba...Tess. It was just  
a prank, a little harmless joke,  
unlike the one pulled on me.

She folds her arms, smirks, and turns slowly around. She takes a few steps away before facing him again, eyeing him viciously, shaking her head in disbelief.

TESS  
What are you talking about?  
(MORE)

TESS (CONT'D)

You told a potential client that we met at a strip club and handed him my panties, Thank God they were clean.

(STERNLY)

Don't try to blame this on me...this was your doing out of--

ROBERT

What? Spite, revenge!

TESS

I told you I needed a little space!

Robert cuts her off, she stops.

ROBERT

Hey! Wait!

Tess gives him the opportunity to speak, she takes a breath.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

You didn't tell me anything!

Robert shows anticipation, expectant of a reply, there is none. She sighs and throws him a scornful look as she taps her finger on her folded arms.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Okay. Now.

(louder)

That's what you call it, space? You told me in a letter that I found where my car was supposed to be. Space!? More like the twilight zone! That's not something most people do to one another out of the blue. How much space...?

Robert moves towards her cautiously.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

This much?

Tess is upset and edgy with tears coming and going.

TESS

Now, thanks to you my co-workers think I slept with a freak!

ROBERT

Freak?! Excuse me but you're the freak in bed and don't even try to change the subject to your position.

Realizing what he just said, he smirks. Moving closer, Tess is eyeing his every move and returning each one with her own countering gestures. She holds up her finger as he gets within a foot or so. Just then the phone rings.

Robert looks at it and looks at Tess. It keeps ringing. They both stare at it. After a few more rings.

TESS  
Answer the phone!

He finally goes back to the couch, where the phone sets. It is BOB, one of the many Australians living in the building. He is the superintendent of Robert's building. Robert is amiable. He turns away from Tess.

ROBERT  
Yes, BOB, everything is alright.  
No, the wind caught the door and it  
slammed. No worries mate. Yeah,  
(surprised)  
No... You're kidding!

TESS  
You see EVERYTHING is more important  
than I am in your life.

Robert turns to her shaking his head "no". Tess heads off into the kitchen. We hear a glass break. Robert closes his eyes. Another glass breaks and Robert looks worried.

TESS (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Oops! And that was your favorite.

ROBERT  
(to Bob)  
What? No, no, that's just the TV,  
talk to you later. Cheers.

He hangs up the phone. Still shaking his head, he slowly begins to walk to the hallway leading to the kitchen.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
(to Tess)  
Excuse me? Nothing has ever been  
more...

Tess steps in the hallway stopping Robert before he enters the hall way. She has a bottle of wine in one hand and is jiggling the iPod in the other.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
Tess...?

He is interrupted by his iPod being hurled at him like a rocket. It misses his head by an inch and they both watch as it flies through the air and hits the window. Neither one breaks; Both look amazed at that. Tess lets out a scream of irritation. She walks by him glaring.

TESS  
I hope you don't mind if I helped  
myself...while you were ignoring me.

ROBERT  
What! Don't change the subject again.  
You told me to--

TESS  
I had an accident or two in the  
kitchen. Sorry.

She pouts then laughs and takes a drink from the bottle.

ROBERT  
Are you through? Listen, I am really  
sorry you... Anyway.

Robert is trying desperately to end this siege in his  
apartment. Tess is calmly taking large swigs of wine from  
the bottle, walking. Robert follows as she walks around the  
apartment looking at all the various items in his place.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
What...what are you doing?

Tess stops and turns slowly around. She stares.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
Would you like to go get something  
to eat, are you hungry? I'm starved.

Tess carries the bottle and picks up her bag of underwear.  
She takes another gulp, finds her purse and then faces Robert.  
He is following several feet behind.

TESS  
Haven't you heard a word I have said?

Her eyes begin to tear up once more. She takes a deep breath,  
closes her eyes, straightens her head into an elegant queen's  
posture. She opens her eyes and walks to Robert. She puts  
her hand on his cheek and rips off his fake side burns.  
Tears start coming out of her eyes and his.

ROBERT  
Ouch, holy shit! You're supposed  
to use warm water and soap. Shit!  
Now I'm missing my top layer of flesh.

One side of the sideburn hangs from his chin.

TESS  
Something for you to think about.

She rips the dangling piece off. Robert steps back.

ROBERT AND TESS  
GET OUT! What?

Tess realizes she is in his apartment.

TESS  
We're finished. Don't call me, and  
don't...don't...Just don't.

Robert turns, walks, and plops down in the couch, rubbing  
his cheek.

ROBERT

Fine, go, please...now, if you don't mind.

TESS

Fine? That is It?! Well, Fine.

Tess turns and walks to the door.

INT. ROBERT'S APARTMENT /FOYER & MAIN ROOM -- NIGHT

As she is almost at the door she turns to Robert trying to hold back the tears.

TESS

You are not supposed to give in so easily, Robert! Shows how much you really care.

ROBERT

No...it shows I'm hungry, have a headache, and I'm tired. So, if we're through leave the key to the door, please!?

INT. ROBERT'S APARTMENT /DOOR -- MOMENTS LATER

Tess pulls out the key on a ring and shoves it into the lock.

TESS

How's that?

ROBERT

Great! Perfect! Thank you.

Tess slams the door. After a few seconds the door opens. Tess steps slowly into the foyer. Her shadow is seen by Robert. Her hand reaches up, snaps the key off in the lock, and throws the remaining piece to him.

TESS

There! I think that is much better. Safer too.

She slams the door and rests against the outside of it before shuffling down the hall.

INT. ROBERT'S APARTMENT BUILDING /HALL -- NIGHT

Robert opens the door and steps into the hall.

ROBERT

Anything for the MAN, or you, what about me?

She keeps walking, we HEAR SOBBING; she flicks him off with her middle finger.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Hey! That was un-called for! And, what's island real-estate have to do with a bull's head anyway?

Tess enters the elevator and turns. She is exhausted mentally and physically. We see this in her eyes and her body language. Robert goes back in his apartment. The elevator and Robert's door close.

INT. ROBERT'S APARTMENT /FOYER & MAIN ROOM -- MOMENTS LATER

Robert takes off his wig and throws it on the entry table. He is actually a "clean cut" guy, black hair, average height and weight. He is not lost in time.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Shit!

He dives on the couch and just stares at towering speakers as a painter eyes a masterpiece. They are a work of art. The phone begins to ring, and Robert still lays there.

Moments later, we hear pounding on the door. He does nothing for a second. The phone stops, the pounding doesn't. He gets up and moves over to the foyer.

INT. ROBERT'S APARTMENT /FOYER & DOOR -- NIGHT

He opens the door to find Tess standing there. Tess looks like hell- somehow worse than before. She is pissed off as well as confused.

TESS

I just wanted you know why I came here.

ROBERT

What?! I think I figured it out, I'm pretty sharp.

Tess' eyes are red and swollen, her nose is running - she has a tissue and blows her nose into it.

TESS

Yes you are, but I forgot something.

ROBERT

Wh--

Tess whacks his face with her open hand and throws him back; she walks dreadfully away.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

You are EVIL. Shit!

TESS

He's from Texas! Mr. Brain! Bulls, Texas, Ranches, get it?!

He slams the door and leans back against it with his head in his hands. After a moment he goes back to the couch; however, before he gets there we hear pounding on the door again.

ROBERT

Bang all you want, I'm not opening the door.

He jumps upon the lavish couch.

INT. ROBERT'S APARTMENT BUILDING /HALL -- NIGHT

JOE is heard. Joe is an Americanized, Aborigine in his mid 50s. He speaks with a very heavy accent. He is a general purpose apartment "keeper" and acts as a gofer for residents most of the time.

He is wearing a nice blue polo shirt with the letter "A" one side and his name on the other. He has khaki shorts on and appears to be in very good shape. Robert lays quietly and does nothing; just stares at the ceiling pondering something

JOE  
Mr. G, you okay?

INT. ROBERT'S APARTMENT /FRONT DOOR -- MOMENTS LATER

Joe is still at the door and bangs several times more.

JOE  
Mr. G?

BEAT

JOE (CONT'D)  
'Kay, mate, comin' in...

ROBERT  
Joe?

JOE  
Yea, no shit, mate!

ROBERT  
Hold on Joe.

He meanders over and opens the door. He speaks depressingly.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
Hey Joe, what's up. Door was open.

JOE  
Really? I saw, Tess, leaving in a not-so-happy mood and thought I'd check on ya. I don't think the wind blew her out of your apartment... Yeah, talked to Bob.

ROBERT  
(innocently)  
You're right, no hurricane. It's the steam coming from her ears.  
(cynical)  
But, I'm okay.

JOE  
Good...Glad to hear it, mate.

Robert stops, turns and motions for Joe to come in. Joe shuts the door.

He starts to head for the kitchen, but then his eyes widen as he sees the one sideburn on Robert's face and the polyester suit he is wearing. He reaches out and feels the suit, choosing to ignore Robert's face. He gives the expression that he already knows not to ask. He eyes the suit excitedly.

JOE (CONT'D)

Hey, check out those threads. I used to have that exact suit in 19...74. Wow, those were some crazy times. I loved that suit, mate, yeah.

Robert turns and walks through the MAIN ROOM and pushes a full-length mirror open to reveal another room. He walks in. Joe's voice is distant as Joe goes into the kitchen.

INT. ROBERT'S APARTMENT /MIXING STUDIO -- NIGHT

To the left another plush leather couch but sparsely decorated room except for the mixing board and its glistening lights, to the right. It is surrounded by every piece of digital equipment any studio on earth would need. The lights are dim, however, the lights in the main studio stream through the glass above the mixing console.

Robert turns right, and enters the main studio with 4 premium turntables, few synthesizers, and both analog and digital devices scattered throughout.

INT. ROBERT'S APARTMENT /KITCHEN -- NIGHT

Joe is in the kitchen and speaks loud.

JOE

My wife through it out and didn't realize it until she got an invitation to a 70s costume party. It is next week, mate.

He comes out with a beer and admires the speakers.

INT. ROBERT'S APARTMENT /MAIN ROOM -- NIGHT

JOE

Damn, I looked good in that suit and I could get down...

Joe hears Robert remixing the Blondie's "Heart of Glass". He starts to dance as he approaches the room. He enters the studio, the music is louder.

INT. ROBERT'S APARTMENT /MIXING STUDIO -- MOMENTS LATER

He starts to dance in the room. A few moments later he stops and turns down the monitors. He motions to Robert to come. Robert obliges and stops the music.

JOE

I am still funky!

ROBERT

Yeah, saw you. You got moves ol' man, bet your wife likes that.

Joe smiles and eyes Robert's suit.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Suit is yours buddy.

Joe starts to speak, Robert stops him by holding up his hand before he says a word. They walk into the main room.

INT. ROBERT'S APARTMENT /MAIN ROOM -- NIGHT

They continue walking towards the foyer.

ROBERT

Joe, you're a good guy and you have taken a lot of shit from other residents that you didn't deserve. I'll leave a note to deliver it to you.

JOE

You...you are so...Hey, something happened in the there

He points towards the kitchen

JOE (CONT'D)

Wasn't me--

ROBERT

I know Joe, I was here when it happened. Listen, I really need to eat, and I really appreciate you checking on me.

He stops at the Foyer entryway and turns to Joe.

JOE

That's my job Mr. G., you don't have to thank me. I do thank you, the suit is groovy man. Mr. G., I don't know how to repay you.

ROBERT

You don't.  
(looking)  
Do you see the phone, Joe?

JOE

Only the one in the Studio.

ROBERT

Right. Good night, Joe.

INT. ROBERT'S APARTMENT /FOYER & DOOR -- NIGHT

They walk to the door when Joe stops, picks up the Afro wig and puts it on. Robert laughs. Joe looks in the mirror.

JOE  
 What you laughing at mate. I had  
 this 'do in the day, man.

Joe continues to look in the mirror.

ROBERT  
 Joe, the hair is you. You will once  
 again have your 'fro.

Joe gets lost in time; he spins, gestures and moves around  
 while making noises.

JOE  
 This is outta site, man. Groovy--

Robert stares, Joe is back mentally.

ROBERTJOE  
 Joe!?

JOE  
 Right. You let me know if you need  
 anything, okay!?

ROBERT  
 Actually, I need a new lock,  
 apparently my key broke off in this  
 one.

INT. ROBERT'S APARTMENT /DOOR

Joe stares at the lock for a minute and shakes his head he  
 gives Robert a look that he knows what happened.

JOE  
 Apparently. I will schedule it ASAP.  
 My wife is going to freak out.  
 Thanks, again, mate!

Joe locks the nob and shuts the door. Robert heads back to  
 the studio, picks up the phone, and adjusts some levels before  
 dialing a number and walking in the studio.

INT. ROBERT'S APARTMENT /MIXING STUDIO -- NIGHT

He takes his position behind the A/V gear, and we hear "Heart  
 of Glass" being remixed over what he says in the phone.

MUSIC LOUDENS.

BEGIN MONTAGE SEQUENCE OF WEEKEND -- CONTINUOUS

The remix is played throughout. Images of both Tess and  
 Robert appear dissolved from his studio. Both are staring  
 at the phone in anticipation of the others' call.

Robert lays on the couch eating pizza. A few 2 liter bottles  
 of soda lay around in between the wine and beer bottles.  
 The apartment is filled with a white haze. Tess watches  
 South Pacific and cries. Robert walks around more pizza  
 boxes piled up the main room, and in the studio.

Tess tosses and turns continuously watching the phone and cannot sleep. Her clock reads 4:30 music fades with her eyes closing to black.

INT. ISLE OF MAN'S OFFICE /RECEPTION DESK -- MORNING

Tess looks like she hasn't slept in days. She sits somberly at the reception desk doing the normal routine when we hear her boss, MR. MAN, over the intercom. His voice is BIG. He is a successful "tell-it-like-it-is" businessman. He was raised in Texas on a ranch and has a noticeable southern accent.

MR. MAN (O.S.)

Tess?

TESS

Yes, sir?

MR. MAN (O.S.)

JENNIFER called me and said she was coming back early from her trip.

TESS

She is not due back for another week, did something happen?

MR. MAN (O.S.)

Apparently her husband was bitten by a snake while they were skinny-dippin' in the lake, but he'll be fine. When she gets in, please come up and see me.

Tess looks up to see Jennifer walk in.

TESS

Sir, she is walking in the door right now.

MR. MAN (O.S.)

Great. See if she needs anything and I will see you in a few.

TESS

Yes sir.

Tess stands and gives Jennifer a hug. Jennifer is humble and timid in every way, even in her speech. She, however, looks content.

TESS (CONT'D)

Look at you, all tan and...oh...I am sorry about your husband, Mr. Man just told me. I am truly sorry, sounds like you were having fun.

Jennifer just nods, and continues to nod with her head down occasionally glancing up.

TESS (CONT'D)

Mr. Man...He wants to know if you need anything.

Jennifer shakes her head and Tess mimics her.

JENNIFER

No, I'm fine, really.

TESS

No? Okay. How is Ed?

Jennifer looks at Tess with saddened eyes.

JENNIFER

He is stable, and recovering at home. It just took a lot out of him. It wasn't deadly, it just made him sick.

How are you, you don't look so good... I mean... Was everything okay here?

TESS

For the most part it was business as usual.

JENNIFER

I'm sure you'll be glad to get back to your haven upstairs away from this madness.

Tess walks over to the glass elevator that goes to the second floor.

TESS

You have no idea.

JENNIFER

Tess,

Tess stops the doors from closing.

JENNIFER (CONT'D)

Thank you so much for covering.

Tess smiles and nods. The doors shut.

INT. ISLE OF MAN'S OFFICE /SECOND FLOOR -- DAY

As the elevator arrives on the second floor, we see a very nice u-shaped desk facing a set of mahogany double doors that read, "Mr. Man's Isle". The 4' walkway that was noticeable from above begins just outside the elevator doors, it is lined with photos of famous clients.

Tess' desk sits in front of her and it is well organized. She sits and sighs for a moment; just long enough to stare at the picture of her and Robert before she places it in her drawer.

Behind her is the main entryway; however, the noise is shielded by a wall of glass.

She walks to the doors straightening her suit and hair.

INT. ISLE OF MAN'S OFFICE /MR. MAN'S OFFICE -- DAY

She pauses for a moment, then knocks.

MR. MAN

C'mon in Tess.

The interior of the office is about as tropical as one can make an office. Besides the 500 gallon salt water fish tank, and the towering palm trees, the office is painted in an aqua tone. Covering the walls we see Mr. Man's personal framed photos of him with celebrities. The other walls have shelves and display everything from his family, to his many crystal real estate awards in various shapes. There are many awards for "most nutritious milk" shaped like Texas.

MR MAN is tall and big-boned. He is in his 50's and has no wrinkles on his face. He is behind his desk practicing putting on his putting green. He continues to practice. His jacket is off and he wears a cowboy hat.

She enters, closes the door and approaches his desk. She stands watching him.

MR. MAN (CONT'D)

Please, sit down. You know I get nervous when beautiful women stare at me.

She sits in a chair and looks around, avoiding him. He glances at her.

MR. MAN (CONT'D)

I heard about the excitement last Friday, quite interesting don't you think...at least from my point of view?

Tess starts to become uncomfortable.

TESS

Mr. Man, please, I can explain.

MR. MAN

Do you have any idea why you're here?

TESS

Yes, sir...I mean, I think I do.

MR. MAN

Let me say that I am not firing you, just case that crossed your mind.

Tess becomes a little more confused, but relieved.

MR. MAN (CONT'D)

You thought I was going to fire you for that strange, little, and rather odd, event, didn't ya? No, no, Tess, you are far to valuable to me.

Mr. Man, puts the putter in the bull's-head topped golf bag, and walks over to Tess. He sits facing her.

MR. MAN (CONT'D)

You've been with for a few years and you know I wouldn't fire you on the fly for basically nothin'. So that tells me that something is troubling you. Are you alright? You don't seem yourself today, all tight like a buffalo's ass.

TESS

A buffalo's...?

She then realizes she is talking to her boss and stops.

MR. MAN

You know what I mean. Are you alright?

TESS

I'm fine, really.

MR. MAN

Alright. Well, let me start by saying I need a big, no huge...no, actually a gigantic favor from you.

TESS

You're my boss, you don't need to ask me to do something for you.

MR. MAN

Actually, I do, trust me on this.

He pulls a cigar out of his pressed fine shirt pocket and fires it up. He leans back in the plush chair, finds a remote and presses the button. A very quiet fan noise is heard from the coffee table that sits between the chairs. The table actually is filled with very small holes that suck in the cigar smoke. This is seen when he leans forward and places the cigar in the marble ashtray shaped like an island. He politely blows the smoke up toward the ceiling where another large, silent, HEPA filter sucks the smoke out.

MR. MAN (CONT'D)

You let me know if this bothers you.

TESS

No, thank you. I mean I can't smell a thing. Very nice.

Tess is wondering what could be next while forcing a smile. He picks up the cigar and leans back.

MR. MAN

I received a phone call on my cell phone last night from a MS. MARBLY, a secretary for a Mr. Big.

(MORE)

MR. MAN (CONT'D)

I am assuming that he is just using an alias like most do at first. Or he's got an ego the size of an island, know what I mean?

Tess is getting a little more anxious because she really has no clue as to what is going on.

TESS

Sir, I would never give out your private phone number to anyone, and--

MR. MAN

I know you wouldn't. That's the odd thing, but good...I think, I hope! If he can get my cell phone number, he's gotta have the dough. Know what I mean?

TESS

Yes, Mr. Man, I--

He gets up, picks up a sheet that rests on his desk and hands it to Tess. He sits down again.

MR. MAN

There's the list of islands he wants to visit. There's five in all.

Tess now gets a glimpse into what he wants her to do. She picks up the list and looks it over. It READS "Paradise 1...2...3...4...5". She recognizes they are Mr. Man's personal islands. She looks puzzled.

TESS

Are you sure this is the right list?

Mr. Man nods his head.

MR. MAN

They're all mine. Got to let 'em go sometime.

He leans forward.

MR. MAN (CONT'D)

I've got one or two more, closer. Not as nice, but--

TESS

Okay, it sounds like you are absolutely sure on this one.

MR. MAN

I hope so.

Tess gets up, relieved in a sense, sighs, and heads towards the door.

TESS

I will get started right away on the packets and have them ready later this evening for you.

MR. MAN

It's a little more complicated than that.

Tess stops and turns.

MR. MAN (CONT'D)

Please, sit down. I said I needed a gargantuan favor.

TESS

Well, actually, you said gi--

MR. MAN

Please?

He extends his arm towards where she was sitting. She takes a seat. Curiosity now fills her already puzzled face.

MR. MAN (CONT'D)

I need to sell one of these islands so I can retire.

TESS

Retire?! But--

MR. MAN

Tess, I missed my children's early years, and I have an opportunity to spend more time with my grandchildren and my target for retiring is another \$600k. Now, in order for me to do so...

He leans forward putting his cigar in the ashtray and exhaling the smoke into the filter above once again. Tess just waits.

MR. MAN (CONT'D)

I need you to sell--

She is very surprised to hear him ask her, of all people.

TESS

Me? Sell? Sir, I don't even have a license, you know that, of course. And I have CHARLEY at home, and--

MR. MAN

Tess, I NEED you to do this, not only because I'm your boss, but because you have never let me down.

You have handled all my deals and you know how I operate and what I expect.

(MORE)

MR. MAN (CONT'D)

You are better than any other employee I have and...and, he asked for the secretary that was downstairs on Friday... That would be you.

Mr. Man rises and walks around to the other side of his desk and pulls out an envelope and a piece of paper. He hands it to her.

MR. MAN (CONT'D)

This time I have done the work for you.

Tess glances over the paperwork, like a lawyer reading a summary judgment, only getting the necessary information.

TESS

Wait. Hold on. Did you say He and asked for me?

He gets down to business, by telling her firmly.

MR. MAN

Tess, no bullshit. I really need your help on this one here. You are my only real hope. I don't mean to put you in this position, but my wife's--

TESS AND MR. MAN

Family reunion.

TESS

Oh, I'm so sorry, I forgot.

BEAT. She is overwhelmed.

TESS (CONT'D)

You have no way out on this one do you?

MR. MAN

None.

She walks over to the pictures and Mr. Man follows.

TESS

Sir, these are multimillion dollar islands and... I don't know if I can do it, it's your paradise, your island getaway. I can't even believe your selling it, or expect me to sell it so you can retire. This is just crazy, I don't know.

MR. MAN

Goin' back to my family's ranch in Texas, Tess. That's where the family is all together.

He picks up a picture of the islands and one of Texas. The island photo is marked "Paradise 1", the other "Old Ranch"; however, it is more like an estate.

MR. MAN (CONT'D)  
They are equally beautiful to me.

TESS  
Yes, they are.

They pause for a few moments staring, then he puts them back on the shelf and turns to Tess.

MR. MAN  
I promise, Charley will have the best sitter and best of all, for you anyway, I will give you 10% of any amount of sales over my \$600k target needed to retire.

He walks and sits behind his desk, Tess sits in front of his desk watching him. He figures some numbers on paper.

MR. MAN (CONT'D)  
So, you sell my island for \$20M, I make \$2M and you get \$140k.

In his mind it is a deal no one could refuse. He is very confident.

MR. MAN (CONT'D)  
Deal?

TESS  
I...I don't know if I can. What I really mean is--

MR. MAN  
Tess, the last sheet is a power of attorney, I'm sure you know what it says, so just sign it...please?

I believe you can do it, shit, I know you can do it, or I wouldn't have asked. Besides, I think you need to get away for a while, it will do you good. Just explain to Charley what the situation is.

Mr. Man leans back in his chair and watches Tess as she tries to comprehend the situation. His cell phone that is sitting on the desk rings and he picks it up, looks at it and shows it to Tess. It reads unidentifiable number.

MR. MAN (CONT'D)  
You see.

TESS  
What will happen if I don't go.

MR. MAN

Well Tess, you will have let me down for the first time in 2 years, and in my greatest time of need. And, your greatest opportunity...trust me. Hold on.

Mr. Man gestures for Tess to stay as he answers the phone.

MR. MAN (CONT'D)

(into cell phone)

Yes, You got em! We're discussin' it right now. Could you hold for me?

He puts the phone down and leans forward.

MR. MAN (CONT'D)

Okay, I will sweeten the deal with a challenge for you.

TESS

It is really not the money.

MR. MAN

You sell all 5 and this agency is yours. No bullshit. All the clients, everything. Yours. I know you love a challenge that's worthy, and this one could win you great prizes.

She stares at him; no words can describe her feelings. His face shows that he needs her on this one. She takes a deep breath. He writes PLEASE on a paper and holds it up.

MR. MAN (CONT'D)

He...she would like an answer...Tess?

Tess looks up, nods her head, takes a pen and signs the power of attorney form. Mr. Man is overjoyed and relieved.

MR. MAN (CONT'D)

Bless you, Tess.

(into phone)

All set...Fieldstrom airport at 10. I will have a car pick her up at 9. You will? Great.

As he speaks he motions for her to write something. She picks up a pad and pen off his desk. He lips silently.

MR. MAN (CONT'D)

YOUR ADDRESS.

She nods and writes it down. Then show it to him.

MR. MAN (CONT'D)

Okay. The address is 1200 N. Oak Avenue, Apt 1. Right. I'm sure Mr. Big will be nothing short of pleased. Thank you. By-bye.

Tess slumps back in the chair.

INT. ROBERT'S APARTMENT /MAIN ROOM -- DAY

A few empty pizza boxes, beer bottles, champagne bottles, and a raggedy Robert are on the couch he is watching Casablanca on the TV loudly. There is a bang on the door.

ROBERT  
 Nobody's home right now, please leave  
 a message and I will get with you  
 ASAP...BEEEEEEEEP.

JOE (O.S.)  
 Very funny Mr. G. Please open the  
 door, I have something for you.

ROBERT  
 Just let yourself in.

Moments later we hear the door shut and Joe appears. Joe looks in to see the messy apartment. Robert is on the couch and music loops play in the background. Casablanca blares from the TV. Joe speaks loud.

JOE  
 What happened, mate? And what is  
 this? Casablanca? Mr. G., you have  
 got to pull yourself together.  
 (jokingly)  
 Got-to free you, if I only knew how.

Joe looks for the remote to turn off the TV but he sees about 10 remotes on the shelf, he fumbles through a few and then he just uses his finger to turn off the TV, then goes and shuts the studio door.

JOE (CONT'D)  
 C'mon. Sit up. Listen, um, Robert.  
 I think you should get away for a  
 few days, y'know, like a vacation  
 out of the city. Away, just for a  
 few days. Somewhere nice and  
 peaceful.

ROBERT  
 You know, you're right. Tomorrow I  
 will pack my things and disappear.

JOE  
 (sternly)  
 I don't mean for you to do anything  
 stupid, mate. Okay. I want to see  
 my mate alive again. Which reminds  
 me, the wife just called and said a  
 groovy suit just arrived. You are  
 out there man. Yeah.

He holds his hand out and Robert gives him a wimpy "hi-5".

ROBERT

You're welcome. I told you not to bring me anything.

Joe snaps back into reality and the reason he came over.

JOE

It's your key to your new lock. The locksmith said he thought you were dead until he saw you move a little. Had him sort of freaked out.

ROBERT

I don't remember anyone fixing the lock.

JOE

I'm sure you don't mate, I'm sure you don't. Listen, I will send your maid up and have her take care of this mess.

Robert rolls over seeing the photo of him and Tess at the beach. The photo is on the shelf next to the A/V equipment.

ROBERT

Could you have her do it tomorrow instead...after I'm gone.

(pauses)

Shit! I think I fired her.

JOE

Yeah, well, she thinks she knocked you out.

There is silence as Robert tries to remember.

ROBERT

I think she did...with her purse, and she seems so passive.

JOE

Yeah, then she said you got up after a little bit and said you were kidding. No, problems. No worries. She said...

(falsetto)

I'm a mother and he needed it.

Joe resumes in his normal tone. Robert just rubs his jaw. He pulls out a photo of him with his fro and suit, show it to Robert. Robert just nods and shakes his head.

JOE (CONT'D)

1974, dig it. Go take a shower, get in your bed, or pack, and I will leave your key on the foyer table.

Joe heads into the foyer after getting a beer from the kitchen.

INT. ROBERT'S APARTMENT /FOYER & DOOR -- MOMENTS LATER

Joe stands at the door.

ROBERT (O.S.)  
Thanks, Joe, you're a good guy.

JOE  
Mr. G, have a good time. Oh, by the way, if someone comes looking for you, where should I tell them you went?

ROBERT (O.S.)  
China.

JOE  
Okay... Not where I would go... Why China???

ROBERT (O.S.)  
Never been.

Joe hears Robert hit the wall with a thud.

JOE  
Okay?

ROBERT (O.S.)  
Good day, Joe.

Joe smiles, exits and shuts the door behind him.

INT. TESS' APARTMENT /KITCHEN -- NIGHT

Tess is in her apartment sitting at the kitchen table drinking a cup of Tea looking over the island packet. We see another cup sitting beside her full of coffee.

The kitchen looks like it popped out of an IKEA Sweden Catalog. Nicely furnished in light colored wood; an eclectic mix of styles exist in a very cohesive, clean look. The house was an old mansion and converted to a duplex. It is in a nice part of Coral Gables with large trees.

Tess lives on the second story. There is a main entrance, but she has labeled the side door as the main because the stairs lead directly down to the driveway and is easily accessible for anyone. Tess hears her older sister AMY's voice. She speaks with a heavier Latin-American accent.

AMY (O.S.)  
I can't believe that you said yes, that easily, you don't even know this guy. That's dangerous, sis!

Amy walks into kitchen with Charley, Tess' black and white 6 year old cat, and sets him down in front of his food dish. Amy looks so different, one would not believe they were sisters.

AMY (CONT'D)

I can't even believe that he would ask you to just drop everything on a whim and do such a thing for him.

TESS

I don't have much of anything right now, and certainly not everything.

AMY

Oh, what is with the 3 garbage bags piled beside the side door?

TESS

Nevermind that. For your information, it wasn't that easy. But he offered to give me 10% of whatever I sell out of his pocket AND--

AMY

Sure, he has been so generous in the past, what? What does that amount to a few thousand dollars. I mean his Christmas bonus to you was what \$1k. Come on.

Tess continues to look over the packet.

TESS

Don't start, he is very kind, and lenient.

She looks up at her sister who is now seated across from her sipping her drink. Her sister rolls her eyes, but listens.

TESS (CONT'D)

Listen to this. If I am able to sell just one island, the least expensive one, this one here  
(shows picture)  
There's \$150k dollars in my pocket.

Amy almost chokes on her drink. She's impressed, but shocked.

AMY

I'm sorry I thought you say \$150k? Don't kid me sis. So, you, a person that has never sold a piece of real estate in your life is supposed to sell multimillion dollar islands in 10 days?

Tess is a little perturbed at the connotation being made.

TESS

You don't think I can do it, do you? You think you are the only one that--

Amy stands and walks over to Tess and wraps her arms around her from behind.

AMY

Tess, I have always been your confidante and supporter; but what I can't understand is why you used your trust money to go to law school only to be a receptionist?

TESS

Amy, the laws are not just; there is very little justice in our legal system. I have told you that before. We have had debates and you don't even believe in--

AMY

I don't believe in your not being happy and I don't see you as being truly happy with your job, that's all. The gleam I saw in your eyes was when you and Robert were...

TESS

Don't mention that name, please!

Amy shakes her head, slightly smiles with understanding. She then kisses Tess on the cheek and picks up her things. Tess gets up and walks over to the door with Amy.

AMY

It's really getting late and you and I both have big days tomorrow.

TESS

What's on your agenda, Dr.?

AMY

Well, I have a Quarterback with a blown knee; a lineman with a blown knee, and a pitcher with a shattered elbow.

They stop outside the door, Amy goes down the steps.

INT./EXT. TESS' APARTMENT /DOOR -- MOMENTS LATER

Tess watches amy leave.

TESS

Sounds painful...and expensive.

AMY

It is, for them anyway. I truly hope it works out for you, Tess. Would you like me to take care of Charley while you are gone?

She reaches the bottom of the steps and turns.

TESS

Mr. Man said he would send the best sitter over, but I really would  
(MORE)

TESS (CONT'D)

appreciate it if you, someone he knows and loves could stop by at least once a day.

AMY

You got it. Hey, I love you and I do believe in you. If Mr. Man thinks you can do it...you can. Just follow your heart, Tess.

\$150k...now that is using your head, and that never hurts...sometimes. Besides, you need a break, just enjoy yourself, regardless.

TESS

Love you too, sis.

Amy gets in her Porsche 911 and speeds away. Tess just watches her. She then re-enters and shuts the door.

INT. TESS' APARTMENT /KITCHEN -- MORNING

It is Tuesday morning and Tess' bags are packed and are sitting by the door. Tess hears banging at the door.

TESS (O.S.)

Coming!

Tess reaches the door to see the TAXI DRIVER. He is a skinny, hair slicked back, tall, and speaks with a NYC accent, he is never the less polite in his manner. He is dressed in shorts and matching polo shirt. Typical for the Tropical weather.

INT./EXT. TESS' APARTMENT /DOOR -- MORNING

Looks him over inquisitively, as a lawyer does to a suspect.

TAXI DRIVER

Good morning mam. I was sent over by a Mr. Man??

TESS

Yes, I've been expecting you. If you could take my bags down, I will be there in a minute or two.

He grabs the bags and starts to head down. Tess comes out, he stops.

TESS (CONT'D)

You don't think we'll miss the flight do you? I mean, you are 14 minutes late.

TAXI DRIVER

Yes, mam. I mean, no mam. What I am trying to say is that traffic was really bad due to a chemical spill, so they rerouted all traffic.

(MORE)

TAXI DRIVER (CONT'D)

So, yes, we may be a little late,  
but I don't think the jet will leave  
without you. It is--

TESS

Oh, nevermind. Let's just get moving;  
I don't make too bad of a first  
impression.

TAXI DRIVER

Oh, I did it again. Am I gonna cause  
you to be late on your first meeting?  
Ah, jeez. Mam, it's my fault. I, I  
won't charge you fare, and I will  
make sure Mr. Man knows it was my  
fault--

TESS

It's okay, just get my bags to the  
car and I will be right down.

TAXI DRIVER

Yes, mam. I'll get you there.

He picks up the bags and heads to the awaiting car. Tess  
peeks her head around the corner again. In a loud tone to  
catch him.

TESS

Sir?

TAXI DRIVER

Yes, mam?

He starts to walk back towards the door.

TAXI DRIVER (CONT'D)

Did I forget something? I am always  
forgetting something, I mean one  
time I forgot my son - left him at  
Burger King...I couldn't be--

She holds up her hand and gestures for him to stop.

TESS

I just wanted to tell you to go ahead  
and start the meter when you get  
down...Thank you.

Tess shuts the door, leans down and picks up Charley. She  
gently strokes his fur while cuddling him. He purrs.

TESS (CONT'D)

(to Charley)

I am going to miss you sweetie, but  
Aunt Amy will come and visit everyday,  
okay? It will only be for a few  
days. Now, no peeing on the carpet  
and no pooping in the shower...agreed?

Charley, looks at her and meows.

TESS (CONT'D)

I love you too.

Charley runs off into another room and Tess picks up her purse, portfolio and island brochure packets. She closes the door behind her. The door opens again and she sticks her head back in.

TESS (CONT'D)

Charley, be nice to the sitter that is going to come over and feed you, okay... love you.! Maybe I'll finally meet Prince Charming.

Tess exits and emerges on the lower level with the taxi driver holding the door open to a new Lincoln taxi. She then he gets in.

INT./EXT. MIAMI /TAXI -- MORNING

The taxi is nice, plush and new - luxurious.

TAXI DRIVER

Mam, you need anything else, or would you like me to stop anywhere along the way?

TESS

No, thank you, straight to the airport, please.

TAXI DRIVER

Yes mam. I figured out a way around. Ya know with this new GPS, you can't get lost. I think we will make it right on time.

TESS

Whatever, you think is best. Oh, if you don't mind, I really need to read this, so--

TAXI DRIVER

So, you need quiet? Check this out, sit back...

A glass divider begins to rise and we hear his voice fade out.

TAXI DRIVER (CONT'D)

And relax.

TESS

Thank you.

She smiles and waves, he waves back and smiles, he picks up a cell phone, inserts his earpiece. Just as the taxi leaves, she studies the information carefully, like a detective.

EXT. TESS' ADDRESS -- CONTINUOUS

A Mercedes with blackened windows pull up and stop where the taxi had been. The car pauses then takes off fast in the direction of taxi.

We follow both the taxi and Mercedes through winding roads and beautiful scenery. She studies the island info intensely while not paying any attention to the ride. The Taxi Driver turns on some music, looks at his watch and takes off.

INT./EXT. TAXI /AIRPORT -- MORNING

As the taxi arrives at the airport and pulls up to a medium-sized corporate jet. The driver gets out and opens the door for Tess; his cell phone rings after he opens the door. Tess remains focused on her paperwork and forgets her purse. The driver, still on the phone, sees it, grabs it. He speaks into his headset.

TAXI DRIVER

Yeah, hold on will ya.

EXT. AIRPORT -- MORNING

The driver runs up behind her before she boards.

TAXI DRIVER (CONT'D)

You almost forgot this.

TESS

Oh, my God. Thank you so much.  
Hold on.

She begins looking for a tip/fare. The taxi driver, now walking away talking, turns to Tess.

TAXI DRIVER

It's been paid. Enjoy your vacation,  
mam.

He goes back to talking on the phone.

TESS

Thank you. It's not really...

Tess turns and enters the plane, where the CAPTAIN greets her. Her name is Janet, but likes to be Captain. She resembles an add for female pilots; neat, polite, and intelligent. She is in her 40s.

The Mercedes pulls up next to the plane's steps; a window rolls down. We see Mr. Man's face, he gets out and hurries into the plane. Tess, turns to see him.

INT. PLANE -- MORNING

The captain goes to cockpit.

TESS

Mr. Man, what are you doing here? I  
mean, did your wife--

MR. MAN

Heaven's no Tess. The only way out, as you know is death. I'm not ready for that. When you get to the island, I need you to give this to Mel... Marcello, the attendant on the island, please.

TESS

Marcello, Sure. Is there anything else?

MR. MAN

Yes, have a great time, please!

Mr. Man returns to his car. Tess watches him. She yells to him.

TESS

I won't let you down!

MR. MAN

Yes, I know!

Mr. Man gets into his Mercedes and picks up his phone.

MR. MAN (CONT'D)

If only you knew how much you've done for me already.

He sees tess waving and she comes over to the passenger window he puts the phone down as the window rolls down.

INT./EXT. AIRPORT /MERCEDES -- MORNING

Tess is inquisitive.

TESS

Why couldn't you just e-mail or fax this to him?

MR. MAN

Seems communications are temporarily down. Probably just weather. You have my sat phone in case of emergencies, right?

Tess nods cautiously, her eyes show concern and caution. Mr. Man's phone begins to ring.

MR. MAN (CONT'D)

Gotta go, Tess. You have a great time, ya hear?

He smiles and drives off. Tess walks back and boards the plane. The logo on the tail READS "G-Inc". The Captain awaits her inside the luxurious plane.

INT. G-INC PLANE -- MORNING

The captain smiles and speaks cheerfully with a French accent.

CAPTAIN

Good morning Ms. Brady. I am sorry for the rush but we are already a little off schedule and Robert said we should leave immediately.

TESS

Robert??? Mr. Big's name is Robert?

CAPTAIN

We usually call him Robert. Is there a problem Ms. Brady?

TESS

No, it is just a name I suppose.

CAPTAIN

Just a moment. Please sit anywhere.

The captain goes through a door at the rear of the plane, opens it and leans in. Tess doesn't hear anything and doesn't know what she is doing. She returns a moment later.

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)

Robert says you can call him Bob if you like.

Tess writes down "Bob" on the folder she has open on her lap.

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)

Please fasten your belt as we are about to taxi down the runway.

TESS

What about Bob?

The captain giggles, thinking she is talking about a movie.

CAPTAIN

That's a funny one, non.

She continues to the cockpit and shuts the door.

TESS

I mean, is he going to come out.

CAPTAIN

Of course. As soon as we are airborne. He likes to lay in the bed while we take off.

TESS

Oh, okay  
(to herself)  
Bed???

We hear the engines whirl and whine into action. The plane moves slowly. Suddenly a burst of speed jettisons the plane forward ascending into the sky in no time. Tess stares out the window watching the ground disappear. Moments later the captain speaks on the intercom.

CAPTAIN

We are level and you may unfasten  
your belt Ms. Brady.

Tess takes her belt off and places the brochures out on the table. We hear the rear door open. She straightens herself a bit before getting up to greet Mr. Big. She turns to see Robert Gladstone standing in front of her. She is stupefied.

TESS

Robert? ROBERT! What in the hell  
are you doing here? Here, on a  
private plane. Oh, my God, oh my  
God...you have got to get out NOW.

ROBERT

I'm sorry, I seem to have forgotten  
my parachute.

TESS

You think this is funny? A joke?  
Where is Bob? Mr. Big?

Tess walks frantically back and forth, up and down the main corridor, then checks the rear.

TESS (CONT'D)

NO! You? You low down, dirty. Do  
you have any idea what kind of trouble  
this little stunt is going to cost  
me? What is going on?

Tess goes to the cabin door and bangs on it.

TESS (CONT'D)

Captain...Captain!

CAPTAIN (O.S.)

(on intercom)  
Yes, Ms. Brady?

TESS

I need to get back to Miami,  
immediately.

CAPTAIN

Robert, is that the new course?

ROBERT

Just a minute.  
(to Tess)  
Would you like to inform Mr. Man, or  
would you like me to call him so he  
can personally pick you up?

Tess walks over to Robert and slugs him with her fist: all the confusion and frustration comes out. On his way down he reaches for anything, then just falls on his back and rests there. She literally knocks him out for a few seconds.

TESS

Damn you, Robert.

She begins to gather her things and put them in her portfolio again. She then walk over to see Robert laying still on the plane floor. Her look turns to concern.

TESS (CONT'D)  
Shit... Robert? Robert, you--

ROBERT  
Tess???

Tess lifts his head gently as she continues to call his name. He finally comes around.

TESS  
...Robert? Are you okay? Does anything feel broken?

ROBERT  
Maybe... I see two of you and one is actually becoming too much.

TESS  
I see...only two?

She drops his head and it bangs on the floor. She sits and stares out the window. Robert raises.

TESS (CONT'D)  
How many do you see know! ?

ROBERT  
You just physically abused me? I can't believe it.

He rubs the back of his head and stands up. He heads to a small galley with a freezer.

TESS  
It is called battery.

ROBERT  
You would know, being a lawyer--

TESS  
What? I never told you that I was...  
Oh, I see how it is. Just another power game for you. You know more about everyone else th--

CAPTAIN (O.S.)  
(on intercom)  
Robert, sir, what heading?

Robert returns with a bag of ice and looks at Tess. She shoots him a terrifying look then turns her head away.

ROBERT  
The current one is fine.

CAPTAIN (O.S.)  
Excellent. ETA in 40 minutes.

ROBERT

Thank you.

TESS

40 minutes? The islands are all at least 3 hours from here.

Robert sits across from her chair, places the ice in a towel and rests his head on it.

ROBERT

Well, you were late and there is a weather disturbance in our path, so we are taking a detour for the night.

TESS

You are amazing! I wasn't late according to my watch. Are you even interested in an island or was this just to get me fired?

ROBERT

Listen, it's not so bad. You still have a job, a better one at that, and you still have all your teeth, no headache and--

TESS

You deserved it. Being a prankster, and now, as I find out, a liar of the highest order.

She walks over to him glaring down; he cowers. She then takes her seat again. Robert is relieved, he tries to yell, but his head hurts.

ROBERT

Me? A liar? Why, because I didn't fill you in on my entire biography on our first kiss?

He sits forward to speak but winces when she speaks loudly.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

And what about you, Ms. Honesty. You didn't tell me you had a law degree.

TESS

Who are you anyway? Who's plane is this? Do I even know you!?

ROBERT

You do know me. You just don't know everything about me... That is supposed to be revealed through time.

TESS

Time? You have 40 minutes.

ROBERT

Or what?

TESS

Or, or--

ROBERT

That's what I thought.

They sit staring at one another. He looks puzzled, she is angry. After a few moments.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Okay, first this is my sister's plane.

TESS

So, your sister is super wealthy!  
I didn't even know you had a sister,  
and now we are in her plane.

ROBERT

Actually, she is not SUPER wealthy,  
just wealthy. She runs one of my  
companies and I bought this plane  
for her on her 40th birthday.

TESS

Enough! Just stop. I don't know  
that I can believe anything that  
comes out of your mouth right now so  
keep it shut.

She gets up and walks to the galley.

INT. G-INT PLANE /GALLEY -- MOMENTS LATER

The galley is top of the line, even has a wine rack. Tess grabs a bottle and opens it; it is same wine she had at Robert's house.

TESS

So, Robert... Mr. Big. Since this  
is a business trip, you will refer  
to me as Ms. Brady, and you are Mr.  
BIG. Remember, I am NOT doing this  
for you, but for my employer.

She returns with the bottle in hand. Robert looks alarmed.

ROBERT

This is a plane, you cannot break  
anything in here...understand?

Tess smirks and Robert walks towards the rear compartment. He searches for the right word but can't find it in him to call her any names he may regret.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Whatever...be a cold...cold. Cold  
person! Must be a new side of you  
that I have yet to see. After we  
land, I am going to dinner and stay  
at Hotel Royale.

Tess sits in her chair and swirls it around to see Robert.

TESS

What! I am not getting off this plane with you period until we reach our destination.

ROBERT

That is our destination. Only 1 island without a runway, and that is where I want to start. I've already made arrangements for a seaplane to take us there in the morning.

But you can spend the next 10 days in Venezuela with the Captain, or you can go see an anger management counselor. Somehow, I don't think your boss would like that would prefer either. Do you?

Robert slams the door. Tess is angry, upset, confused and totally out of sorts. But she just sits there soaking in what he said to her and drinking her wine.

ROBERT (O.S.) (CONT'D)

(over intercom)

I am having a taxi meet us at the airport immediately. They will deliver the luggage to the hotel as soon as the plane...

The plane lands on Grand Caymanos Island and the taxi, which is waiting, swoops them to the hotel.

EXT./INT. HOTEL ROYALE -- DAY

Robert stays outside for a moment talking to the driver about something while Tess rushes in to the front desk.

INT. HOTEL ROYALE /FRONT DESK -- DAY

Tess appears before the concierge. He is a Rastafarian and speaks with a HEAVY Jamaican /Island accent.

CONSIERGE

Welcome to the Grand Royale, how may I help you?

TESS

I need a room please.

CONSIERGE

Sorry Ms., the only room we have is a single overlooking... well, it is our only room without a good view.

TESS

I will take it, please.

(smiles)

You see that man out there.

(pointing)

He will take care of the paperwork.

The concierge looks over to Robert and Robert nods his head of approval.

CONSIERGE

Yes, Ms. Room 122, right around this corner on your right. Do you need--

TESS

No thank you, just the key, quickly, please. I really need to get to my room quick! It's a woman thing.

CONSIERGE

Ah, yes, I understand. Good night.

He hands her the key and waits for Robert.

TESS

He is also not to have a key to my room. We are not a couple, we are just traveling together.

Tess heads off down the corridor towards her room.

CONSIERGE

But Ms. It is the only room available, I have nothing left and--

Tess reappears and breaks out her most desperate smile, and reason for her request.

TESS

Please. My husband wouldn't understand and would divorce me. You don't want that on your conscience do you?

CONSIERGE

Well, now, of course not. Please, let me know if you need anything.

Tess smiles, nods, and hurries down the hallway. Robert walks to the front desk and only catches a glimpse of her.

INT. HOTEL ROYALE /TESS' ROOM -- NIGHT

Tess throws her portfolio on the desk, dives on the bed, and flips on the TV. Casablanca is on, she leaves it on and turns it up a bit. She starts looking around, then frantically searching.

TESS

My purse. Shit! No wonder I'm not. Damn you Rob...Mr...Big-time trouble.

She picks up the phone and dials the concierge.

TESS (CONT'D)

Hi, yes it is. Did any of my bags come yet?

(MORE)

TESS (CONT'D)

Sure... I don't suppose I left my handbag? I didn't think so.

She lays back on the bed and begins to pound it.

TESS (CONT'D)

Excuse me? Yes, I am. Could you hold please? Thank you.

She stops and takes several deep breaths.

TESS (CONT'D)

No I don't think it was stolen. At least not on this island. Okay, when my luggage arrives, if it does, just bring it to my room, please. It is alright, you can wake me. Thank you. Oh, wait, Could you forward me to room service, please?

EXT. HOTEL ROYALE STREET /CAFE -- NIGHT

Robert is walking down the quaint, bustling street and stops at a nearby bar. He takes the only table left outside and just stares at the bright moonlight. He sees a shooting star and smiles. The waiter appears dressed like a 1930's Maitre D' in Paris. Slicked-back hair, b/w tux, and white towel over his wrist.

ROBERT

One hurricane, please.

The waiter nods, and leaves quickly. Moments later he returns and places the drink and bill in front of Robert who has had barely enough time to take in the scenery.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Is this fresh?

The waiter takes the comment as an insult, but nods.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Wow, that was amazingly fast, I'm impressed.

The waiter smiles and nods again.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Charge it to my room at the Royale?

The waiter smiles and nods. Robert signs his name and room number, the waiter nods and leaves. Robert takes a large drink and stares at the waiter going to other tables.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Ah, Perfect.

He sees several shooting stars; 4 in a row.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Wow... Incredible.

He gazes up at the bright moon and stars, fixing his eyes one more slow moving "falling" star.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
Okay, Let's see if you really make wishes come true.

INT. HOTEL ROYALE /TESS' ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

Tess hears a knock at the door.

SERVER (O.S.)  
Room service for Ms. Brady.

TESS  
Just a minute.

She strolls wearily over to the door. When the door opens we see a platter on a tray with a pitcher of raspberry margarita. The waiter uncovers it and sees a juicy steak and a potato covered with trimmings. With wide-eyes, she nods her approval. The waiter covers the food and rolls the tray through the door where Tess takes it quickly. The server is native and speaks fluent English.

TESS (CONT'D)  
I am truly sorry, I don't have any cash. Could you put your tip on the bill?

SERVER  
Yes, Ms. That would be fine. How much please?

TESS  
Make it \$100 even.

SERVER  
Excuse me? You're not joking me? You did say \$100, correct? Okay, just sign here please. Thank you very much. You let me know of anything you need. I will be here until 11 pm.

TESS  
I don't think I'll need anything. This looks fine. Good night

SERVER  
ANYTHING!

Tess waves and closes the door then goes over to her bed, picks up the tray and sets it on the end of the bed. She stares at the food for a moment - it brings a smile.

She goes into the bathroom. She re-emerges with only a robe on. She places her folded clothes in the side table and her shoes on the floor. She gets in bed and pours herself a margarita, then sets the pitcher on the side table.

TESS

Thank you, Mr. Big, this tastes wonderful.

(harshly)

Have a nice night wherever you are.

She eats and drinks until we fade out with her near the end of the movie.

INT. HOTEL ROYALE /TESS' ROOM -- MORNING

Tess awakes to see that one of the pillows knocked over her pitcher of margarita and all of her clothes are horrifically stained. She screams into one of pillows then, after taking in more breaths, picks up the phone and calls the front desk.

INT. HOTEL ROYALE /FRONT DESK -- MORNING

The concierge #2 answers the phone. It is a woman with a heavy Russian accent; she is short and cheerful.

CONSIERGE #2

Good morning, how may I help you Ms. Brady?

INT. HOTEL ROYALE /TESS' ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

Tess listens, then speaks into phone.

TESS

Did my luggage arrive?... Really, I see. No, I'll take care of it. Could you send me a toothbrush and toothpaste please? Thank you.

Tess hangs up the phone and looks over her stained clothes.

TESS (CONT'D)

No clothes, no handbag, and no... Oh, Robert, you are going to get it this time.

She closes her eyes and takes one long breath.

INT. TESS' ROOM /BATHROOM -- MORNING

Tess walks into bathroom and is surprised to see some luggage beside the door. The initials, read "RG". She hears rustling in the shower and peeks her head through the glass doors to see Robert asleep in the shower. She has a very scornful look and her face.

TESS

Speak of the devil!

She reaches in and flips on the cold water, then steps back. Robert screams and scrambles to turn off the water. He opens the door soaking wet to see Tess standing there smirking.

ROBERT

What's your problem!?

TESS

My problem?

ROBERT

Yes, YOUR, problem. A simple shake would have been sufficient.

Tess leaves and comes back with her clothes wrinkled and stained.

TESS

This is my problem, and somehow, my suitcase didn't arrive, but I see yours did.

Robert just stares for a moment, then points at the clothes and says sharply.

ROBERT

So, you think the I told the captain to send mine only. And you blame me for that as well, I suppose!?

TESS

Who, else is there?

ROBERT

Well, I have some news for ya... there's you. You see there your luggage was not on the plane. Apparently, you left it in the taxi.

She remembers the driver telling her how forgetful he is.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

And my iPod is missing! Don't suppose you know anything about that?

TESS

Shit!

(to Robert)

What? No, of course not! Maybe it you threw it away. Anyway, I can't wear these, so, you will just have to buy me some, Mr. Big!

She walks out and then comes back in to find Robert seated on the toilet tying his shoes. She scowls over him from the doorway.

TESS (CONT'D)

You are unbelievable. Is there anything you can't buy? I told them not to give you a key--

ROBERT

Well, your pathetic story wasn--

TESS

How much? How much did it cost you to bribe the consierge?!

ROBERT

\$500.

TESS

\$500!?

ROBERT

It wasn't a bribe, he needed some cash! The room only cost \$300, you ungrateful!!...

Robert stops, shakes his head, pauses a moment, then grabs a courtesy laundry bag off the sink.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Okay, listen, put your clothes in here, with mine. I will have them sent to the cleaners and then have them sent back to your apartment.

TESS

Fine. Now, get out, so I can take a shower. Now!  
(deep sigh)  
Please?

He finishes putting on his shirt, grabs the suitcase and bag of clothes then leaves the room. The door shuts behind him. Tess Peeks and hears the main door shut.

TESS (CONT'D)

Damn.

INT. HOTEL ROYALE /FRONT DESK -- MOMENTS LATER

Robert is talking to the concierge and then the concierge points to a little shop in across the lobby. There is everything from fine Italian suits to string-bikinis. He goes to the counter and says something to the girl in the store. She rushes through the store gathering items, and piles them neatly in front of Robert. He motions for more. She brings more.

A little later, robert emerges with several large bags. He saunters over to the concierge, hands him all the large bags and a \$100 bill. He then takes one small bag out of the larger bags and heads to Tess' room. He whistles..."Itsy Bitsy Teenie Weenie Yellow Polka-Dot Bikini" by Brian Hyland.

INT. HOTEL ROYALE /TESS' ROOM -- LATER

Tess is on the bed in her robe waiting when she hears a knock.

TESS

Yes, who is it?

ROBERT (O.S.)

It's me.

TESS

I am sorry, who.

ROBERT (O.S.)

Mr. Big!

The door opens and Tess grabs the bag then slams the door shut.

ROBERT (O.S.) (CONT'D)

You're welcome. I'll be at the front desk waiting.

INT. HOTEL ROYALE /CORRIDOR -- CONTINUOUS

As Robert walks down the corridor, we hear Tess scream.

TESS (O.S.)

ROBERT!!!

Robert grins largely and continues walking.

INT. HOTEL ROYALE /FRONT DESK /LOBBY -- MORNING

Moments later Tess emerges in a string bikini with matching sunglasses that just manages to cover her private areas. She walks right past Robert, but gives him a glance, Robert follows her.

ROBERT

(to concierge #2)

Thanks, again.

(to Tess)

The cart outside is ours.

Tess comes back towards the desk and passes Robert without looking at him. He goes out and sits in the cart. The concierge ducks behind the desk.

TESS

(to concierge #2)

You can come out, I am not mad at you. I promise.

The concierge peeks her head up then cautiously stands completely. We see that she isn't much taller than the counter. Tess does a double take.

CONSIERGE #2

Yes, Ms. Brady, good morning, how may I help you?

TESS

You probably can't, so, please, just tell last night's concierge that he could have gotten a few grand out of Mr. Big.

CONSIERGE #2

Yes, Ms. Is that all.

TESS

Well, I believe so.

CONSIERGE #2

(smiles)

May I say that the outfit you have is extremely flattering, and quite, quite...

TESS

Revealing?

CONSIERGE #2

Well, that is not the word I was going to use.

TESS

Thank you.

CONSIERGE #2

We hope you come back and stay with us again.

Tess smiles and walks out to see Robert sitting the waiting hotel's golf cart. She sits in the back facing away from Robert. The cart takes off.

INT./EXT. HOTEL ROYALE STREET /CART -- MORNING

As they continue down the road Tess notices that they are going in the opposite direction of the airport. The CART DRIVER is a large man; he is a native and speaks with a large voice.

TESS

Where are we going? The airport is back that way.

ROBERT

We are going--

TESS

I wasn't speaking to you.

DRIVER

Pardon me, Ms?

TESS

Where are we going?

DRIVER

Mr. Big has reservations for breakfast at the Ol' Sugar Plantation - Cafe Cubano. Finest dining on the island.

Shortly, they arrive at the restaurant. It is representative of an estate house on a plantation around 1790. Very authentic in design and the only noticeable difference is the interior.

INT. OL' SUGAR PLANTATION RESTAURANT -- MORNING

The interior is open in order to give guests more space, but is a fine replica. They are greeted by a hostess and seated at a table on the second floor balcony overlooking the ocean.

EXT. OL' SUGAR PLANTATION RESTAURANT /BALCONY -- DAY

A WAITER soon appears with menus. His name is MIGUEL. He and his wife NAYA were theatrical performers/stars in Cuba before they were able to buy their way out.

He is Puerto Rican, and has a very strong accent. She is from Cuba with a stronger accent. Both speak in broken English, and neither of them has lost their flamboyancy, extravagance, and drama. They are reminiscent of a modern day Desi Arnaz and Carmen Miranda. Both she and Miguel look to be in their early 50's. Miguel is very animated.

MIGUEL

Good morning, good morning, good morning. Ah, what a beautiful morning it is. And what will you two lovebirds like this morning.

ROBERT

The usual will be fine, Miguel.

Miguel gets positively hysterical with joy. Robert raises his glasses.

MIGUEL

Mr. Robert! I did not know it was you here. No one told me nothing about you coming today. So, so, so...good to see you my friend.

Robert stands and they greet one another properly. Robert sits.

ROBERT

It's good to see you Miguel. How have things been?

MIGUEL

Busy, busy, busy...the way is good.

ROBERT

That's great! Could you bring me the usual breakfast, and--

MIGUEL

Most certainly. But first  
(to Tess)  
You, my heavenly beauty, must be Ms. Tess?

Miguel glides over to Tess and kisses her hand.

MIGUEL (CONT'D)

Welcome, welcome! Robert did not tell just how beautiful you were...are. Sorry, my English is not so good. I have heard many good things about you, it is a such my pleasure to meet you.

Tess is completely caught off guard by Miguel's and Robert's knowing one another like old friends, and by Miguel's charm.

TESS

Why, thank you...Miguel, is it?

MIGUEL

Yes, Ms. Tess. What will you have?

TESS

Just Tess, please. I am not really hungry, Miguel. I seem to have lost my entire appetite.

She glares at Robert then smiles at Miguel.

MIGUEL

No, no... please. You must have some. Favor for me? Please?

ROBERT

Miguel, bring two of my specials in case Ms. Brady changes her mind.

MIGUEL

Very good choice today! Just off the boat only 1 hour.

Miguel leaves the table after he picks up the menus. He enters the restaurant and a few seconds later we hear a booming woman's voice coming from the restaurant. It is mumbled in Spanish, however. We then see NAYA rushing towards Robert.

She is large boned and full of zest, attractive. She complements Miguel perfectly (two Spanish, dramatic, comedians).

NAYA

Roberto!! What you doing here without calling first? You know I love to see you all the time. Shame on you!  
(jokingly)  
I should smack your face.

She pulls him up and gives him great big kiss. She then sits between Tess and Robert. Tess has a look of disbelief and a hint of jealousy that is not noticed by the others.

NAYA (CONT'D)

(to Robert)

I cannot believe you did not phone me. And for that...

She kisses him again. Before Robert can get any words out Naya turns to Tess.

NAYA (CONT'D)

Hello, my love! You must be Tess.

(to Robert)

She is more beautiful than you said.  
Oh...

She stands up and goes over and kisses her on the cheek.  
She puts her hand on her face and gives her a good look over.

NAYA (CONT'D)

We have heard so much good about  
you.

TESS

So it seems. I appear to be the one  
in the dark.

NAYA

(to Robert)

Did you never tell her our story?

She sits, and Tess settles in her seat and looks at Robert,  
in amazement that he did not tell her the story that is about  
to come rushing out of Naya's mouth.

ROBERT

Well, actually, Naya, it never came  
up and...

Tess smirks at Robert. He gives it no reaction and  
nonchalantly looks away, then at Naya. Tess is very curious.

TESS

Naya, please, do tell me. I am really  
interested in hearing more about  
Robert's adventures.

Naya begins to tell Tess a story in the grandest fashion-  
large hand gestures, very dramatic.

NAYA

Well, three years ago, we had huge,  
terrible storm, almost hurricane, so  
terrible, so horrific. I think was  
a hurricane.

Well, this whole land here was  
whooshed away. My little restaurant,  
a shack to this, the plantation and  
hotels all gone!

She smacks her hands together, then rubs them together. She  
then opens them to the air.

NAYA (CONT'D)

Nothing. All is gone. So sad.

Tess leans forward intrigued to find out where this is going.

NAYA (CONT'D)

Well, my wonderful, husband, Miguel  
and me found Robert capsized face  
down near our home with huge cut on  
his head...

Naya pushes Robert's hair back to reveal a 1" long, thick,  
scar parallel to his eyes in the middle of his head.

NAYA (CONT'D)

You see. Well, we took him in and he was better, he loan us money to build this restaurante magnífico.

ROBERT

Gave.

NAYA

Loan.

ROBERT

Gave! You saved my life--

Tess coughs interrupting the discussion.

TESS

Wow, that is an incredible story.

But,

(to Naya)

Maybe you should have just left him face down.

Naya pauses for a moment, looks at Robert, then Tess, then back to Robert. She then laughs.

NAYA

You did not tell me she so funny.

ROBERT

(forcing a laugh)

Ha, yeah, well, who really knew?

NAYA

You too are still so funny. You make me laugh, that is why I love you.

(to Tess)

Tess, may you talk sense into him.

TESS

What do you mean?

Tess is very interested, and finds it exciting, getting as much information on Robert as possible, since she feels like she has been left in the dark.

NAYA

Well, every check I send to him, he sends back..

(she motions)

...back and forth, back and forth.

People now start to come in the restaurant and it is filling up fast. It starts to fill all around them.

TESS

Well, I will make no promises. I don't think anyone can talk sense to him.

NAYA

And you, Robert, next time you come with no call I slap your cheeks 'til they are very red!

He glares at Tess and rubs his jaw.

ROBERT

I can already feel it. You don't have to worry. This was just an unexpected visit.

NAYA

Ah, here is Miguel with your food. Please excuse me...

She kisses them both on the cheeks.

NAYA (CONT'D)

I have now to get ready for the lunch hour. It was so very nice to have met you Tess. He is a very good catch of the day.

TESS

Perhaps, to someone anyway.

Naya laughs, turns and winks at Robert, then she stops Miguel.

NAYA

(in Spanish)

Have all the employees arrived, my Love.

MIGUEL

Yes, my Love!

Miguel places the food down and gives Tess a beautiful flower that matches her bikini. She stares at Robert. Miguel gives him a bear hug and then kisses Tess' hand again.

The food is scrambled eggs with fresh Tuna decorated with fine herbs and spices. Miguel then places 2 waters, 2 wine glasses and an accompanying bottle of wine.

MIGUEL

(to Tess)

So very pleased to see an angel here.

(to both)

Adios, my farewell friends.

TESS AND ROBERT

Thank you.

MIGUEL

Pleasure is always mine.

He bows and exits. He stops at another table and starts speaking Spanish with them. Tess and Robert pick up where they left off, with sharp words and looks of death.

TESS

So, Mr. Big, what else have you been telling everyone to make them think that we are together?

ROBERT

I'm sorry Ms. Brady. I don't discuss my personal affairs with strictly business associates, such as is the case here and now. You should eat that while it is still warm.

TESS

Fine.

In between bites, both she and he drink both water and wine, and manage to get a few words in.

ROBERT

Listen. I can't keep this up the whole time. Could we just drop this hostility? Just stop playing this completely ridiculous game?

TESS

I am trying to eat!

Robert intently says.

ROBERT

We were together, not too long ago, remember?

TESS

Do you mind!?

ROBERT

Appetite is back I see. It is delicious, you can admit that.

TESS

Yes, it is very good.

(edgy)

I don't know what game you are playing, but I am not playing ANY game with you.

They both pause and look around. Only a few people are staring. They both lower their voices.

ROBERT

What happened to you? What do you expect from me? Nothing seems to be good enough--

TESS

I thought we weren't talking about personal issues.

ROBERT

You know, you're probably right.

(MORE)

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Just tell me about the first island  
we are going to.

TESS

Okay. Sir. Let's.

He shakes his head. She pauses and begins her descent into what she is really good at doing...selling. Mr. Man knows that she closed most of the deals; she is very capable. Tess begins to describe the island and its features.

TESS (CONT'D)

The island is owned by my boss, Mr. Man, as are the others. This one, the first one, has one main house...

INT. SEAPLANE /MAIN CABIN -- DAY

They are now in the seaplane seeing what she is describing. It is a rough and loud ride due to the powerful, prop driven seaplane. In stark contrast to the corporate jet, this seaplane is not meant for passengers. It has only 4 rows of seating. The rear cargo is filled with bins and nets tied to the wall. Spread throughout the rear compartment, but well organized, are surfboards, pieces of surfboards, including one that has been almost bitten in half by some large voracious creature.

Its engines have been upgraded for greater lift capabilities and they produce a noisy rat-tat-tatting that echoes inside the seaplane. Tess is speaking loudly over the noise.

TESS (V.O.)

...and a main caretakers' house. It has four small cabanas located close to the water, which is deep blue, even in the shallow parts.

There is one other small home which is inhabited by the island caretaker. His name is Marcello. The island is powered by both wind and solar power, located on the north mountainside.

Tess continues as the seaplane, named "no-name" begins to descend into the lagoon. As the island comes into focus, it is like uncovering the "jewel of the Nile". Lush green foliage with exotic flowers dot the mountainside that is covered in a variety of trees. A waterfall is seen, then the brilliant white beach appears in the perfect shape of a crescent moon protruding out from an almost perfectly round island.

TESS (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Communications are via radio, although, the island has a line of sight, cutting edge laser, that is more capable than broadband and can reach the nearest large island of...

The seaplane lands. Tess stops abruptly giving way to the whoosh of water under the plane. It pulls up to the dock and the engines slowly wind down. They all speak louder than usual.

TESS (CONT'D)

Well, now that we are here, I suggest you take a while and look around...by yourself.

She tosses him the extra packet in her portfolio. After the seaplane's engines stop completely, Tess and Robert both get out of their seats. The Captain of seaplane, a CAPTAIN CREST, no sooner opens the door than Tess exits. Crest has long hair, wears only shorts and is in good shape. He is definitely from the surfing scene. MARCELLO is on the dock waiting, and waving. Crest waves.

CREST

(to Marcello)

Brought some visitors, Mello-man.

Robert hands the pilot an envelope and looks out the open door. Crest looks in the envelope.

CREST (CONT'D)

(to Robert)

All right, all right. We made it safe and sound. Too cool, as usual if I say so myself!

(to Tess, louder)

Enjoy!!! Looks like you're ready for some action. Wow!

He watches Tess for a moment and turns to see Robert looking at him.

CREST (CONT'D)

You know what I meant, right, man...sir--

Robert shakes his hand and smiles and emulates Crest's manners, but from the heart; it's truly part of him.

ROBERT

Yeah, I know what you mean, man. I'll see you in 2 days, Bro.

CREST

Very cool, Bro. That'll be 'round noon...hold on.

He grabs a clipboard from the slot on the door.

CREST (CONT'D)

Where's your home?

ROBERT

Miami.

CREST

Miami. Beautiful.

ROBERT

Yours?

Crest looks at the clipboard.

CREST

Let's see...Friday...

(glances up)

Lagoon Beach.

(glances down)

Ah, no problemo, that's the normal drop off for Mello's supplies.

Robert takes a few steps down the dock before turning towards Crest. Crest speaks outloud to himself.

CREST (CONT'D)

So, that'll give me a few hours here to hit high tide. Awesome.

He places the clipboard in its holder.

ROBERT

(to Crest)

And, Mello is???

CREST

Marcello. He's the only other person on the island and he's right behind you, man!

EXT. ISLAND /DOCK -- DAY

He turns to see Tess in the front of the cart, seated, and Marcello on the other side of the cart picking up a box. Crest goes inside and starts the plane, the engines make a pattering sound, then roar as they come alive. Robert gets in the back seat and sprawls out.

After Crest puts the luggage on the back, Marcello hands him the box with a radio in it. MARCELLO is in his 50s and in very good shape. He only wears a tank-top and shorts with floppy beach sandals. He speaks English almost perfectly but with a charming, romantic Hispanic accent; his tone, is very welcoming. They speak loudly over the engines.

MARCELLO

Could you find a replacement for this, please, my friend?

CREST

Sure, thing Mello. You need it back today?

MARCELLO

Of course not. I believe a few days will be just fine.

CREST

Sure???

Marcello nods his head.

CREST (CONT'D)

Okay, later Mello.

MARCELLO

Fly safe my friend.

They hug, Crest shuts the door and begins to take off. The high-powered engines' sounds are deafening for a moment, then it fades off as the plane leaves and they head up the dock in the cart.

He is Spanish through and through. He is handsome, friendly, charming, and very likeable in general - a dead give-away of a proper well-rounded upbringing. His demeanor is one of an Intellect from the "Royal" Spanish Court; however, he doesn't flaunt any part of him. His persona is mysterious adding a subtle ambiance to the island that only he can add.

The cart gently rolls to a stop near the edge of the lagoon beach's sand; nothing but the wind, and gentle waves hitting the lagoon's white sandy beach is heard for a few seconds. Marcello gets out and introduces himself properly.

MARCELLO (CONT'D)

I am Marcello del la Toro, the island caretaker at your service.

He shakes Robert's hand and Robert, in return, smiles ear to ear and bows.

ROBERT

I'm Robert. Very pleased to meet you.

MARCELLO

Mr. Big? No?

Robert nods, Marcello nods and smiles, then walks to Tess and kisses her hand. She blushes and smiles, then glances at Robert. He's dreamily looking around the island tapping some rhythm on his leg, and paying no attention to her, it seems. Tess smiles and says firstly, in a sarcastic manner

TESS

No. I am not Mrs. Big! You may call me Tess--

MARCELLO

Well, Ms. Tess, the pleasure is all mine.

He returns to drive the cart forward slowly. Marcello points to the right where the smaller cabanas are located.

MARCELLO (CONT'D)

Over there are the smaller cabanas, just around the bend, there.

ROBERT

Wow, I already like this place. A solar driven golf cart, beach cabanas, and beauty everywhere.

TESS

(sharply)

Right. Like you can survive without music.

ROBERT

This is inspirational, besides my mind is never without a beat.

EXT. LAGOON BEACH -- DAY

Marcello nods and continues.

MARCELLO

You will find the jet skis, boat and other toys in the storage cabana. It is marked, storage cabana. Just next to cabana 4. Ms. Tess, I see that you are dressed for the beach, would you like to stay?

TESS

No, thank you, it has already been a horrifically long day.

MARCELLO

Okay, here we go.

EXT. MAIN ROAD /CART -- DAY

The cart starts up the main path and as it does, Robert leans his head back into the sun. He looks up the blue sky and sees a giant parrot look down at him. He jumps and yells.

ROBERT

Go, go, go...

MARCELLO

Roberto, what happened?

Marcello stops the cart and turns to Robert.

ROBERT

Freakin' giant bird almost attacked me.

He peeks back up to see the bird still there. It is a 2' tall yellow, blue, red and green, giant Amazonian Parrot.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

It's still there! Hurry, Go, go...

Marcello laughs then whistles. The parrot flies around to the front and land and a little bar in front of the cart.

TESS

Oh, what a beautiful, large bird.

PARROT

Thank you, thank you...

Tess smiles, stunned. She, turns, laughs lightly and sarcastically to robert.

MARCELLO

Is this the giant bird that almost ate you, Roberto?

Robert just stares at the parrot. Tess and Marcello laugh.

ROBERT

Well, it looks a lot bigger when his beak is right in front of your face.

They begin to move forward once more. Glancing at the Parrot, Marcello continues.

MARCELLO

This is ESMERELDA. SHE is my companion and friend.

TESS

Esmerelda. What a pretty name?

MARCELLO

Thank you. It was my dear wife's name. She passed away suddenly several years ago, before Mr. Man allowed me to stay here on the island.

TESS

(to Esmerelda)

What a good girl. Yes, you are. You can scare Mr. BIG, anytime you like.

ESMERELDA

Thank you.

ROBERT

(to Tess)

Yes, thank you Ms. Brady.

(to Marcello)

I am sorry to hear about your wife, truly.

He places his hand on Marcello's shoulder.

TESS

Yes, I too am sorry for your loss.

Tess begins to pet Esmerelda, there is sadness in both her and Robert's eyes. It contrasts the pure beauty surrounding them.

MARCELLO

It is an unfortunate happening when someone you love gets taken away so early in life. But, such is life. We must allow ourselves to love and recognize every moment as special.

Marcello stops the cart once more and turns to them both.  
He speaks from the heart.

MARCELLO (CONT'D)  
It must have been her time. But  
thank you both for your kind words.

In his eyes they both sense the love he had for his wife.  
With all the eloquence he can employ he says to them in  
SPANISH.

MARCELLO (CONT'D)  
Remember me in celebration, not  
through tears.

There is silence for a moment. Tess repeats it to herself  
outloud in English, and Robert hears.

MARCELLO (CONT'D)  
That is what she always said, long  
before her accident. So, please my  
friends, smile... for her, smile.

They oblige agreeing.

MARCELLO (CONT'D)  
(to Robert)  
Don't worry Roberto, Esmerelda loves  
people. You are safe. So, you have  
something extra to smile about, yes?

Marcello begins to drive Robert nods his head "yes".

MARCELLO (CONT'D)  
You both have so much to smile about.

There is silence again as they continue to drive upon the  
"road" that has been carved out through dense forest. Shafts  
of light from the sun peaking through the luscious foliage  
canopied above them, gently swaying, luminesces them in a  
dancing kaleidoscope of all colors. Robert sigh's taking in  
the surroundings.

ROBERT  
Marcello, is this the only vehicle?

MARCELLO  
No, Roberto, we have one gas powered  
jeep, and 3 four wheelers. One is  
especially equipped to carry items  
up and down the mountain to the  
communication and power stations.

They are in the main garage next to  
the main house if you wish to use  
them.

ROBERT  
Wow.

Meandering amongst the palm trees and groves of large trees a large, marvelous, classical yellow Mediterranean house becomes visible.

INT./EXT. MAIN HOUSE /CART -- DAY

They drive to the front door and stop.

MARCELLO

This is the main house. If you would like, I could show you around.

ROBERT

That won't be necessary, Marcello. Perhaps, tomorrow you could give us both a tour of the island.

MARCELLO

Anytime, preferably daylight hours, if you please. However, it is just as beautiful at night.

(to Tess)

Tess, are you not feeling well? You have not said much.

TESS

It is nothing. Probably air sickness. Would you happen to know if you have any woman's clothing in the house my size?

MARCELLO

Well...

He glances back at Robert and rubs his chin thinking.

MARCELLO (CONT'D)

I believe you will find some in the second master bedroom which is located upstairs in the left wing. I cannot guarantee they will fit, for I do not know your size.

TESS

(excited)

Really!?

ROBERT

How do we contact you?

MARCELLO

The house has an internal communication system connected to mine...my house...which is located a little more down the main road.

He points to the main road and then in the direction to the right.

MARCELLO (CONT'D)

You will also find some hand radios, one in each room, that can reach across the entire island. There is only one channel.

(to Robert)

Roberto, the master suite is upstairs on the right.

ROBERT

Excellent.

Marcello nods his head in agreement. Robert pulls off his luggage and begins to go in. Tess is already ahead of him and shuts the door in Robert's face as he is about to enter. Marcello sees this.

MARCELLO

(driving away)

Good luck, Roberto.

EXT./INT. MAIN HOUSE /ENTRY -- DAY

Marcello waves his hand. Robert shakes his head and watches him as he drives away. He enters the house just in time to hear the upstairs door to Tess' room slam shut.

ROBERT

China, may have been a better choice after all.

INT. MAIN HOUSE /ENTRY -- DAY

The interior of the house is very clean and open. To the left-front of the foyer is the staircase. To the right we see an arched doorway into the kitchen and to the left another arched doorway to a family room. Looking through, past the staircase we see a fresh-waterfall that empties into a naturally made swimming pool.

The house is full of pictures of famous people that have apparently rented the island in the past from previous owners; however, Mr. Man is in most of them. Robert just stands for a minute absorbing them. He spots a picture of Marcello, Mr. Man, and another, younger man with long braided hair; looks fairly recent. He then continues upstairs, passing a picture of Jesse James, from Monster Garage, standing in front of a large "monster-truck", Mr. Man stands next to him.

ROBERT

That is SWEET. Mr. Man must be "THE MAN" after all.

He arrives atop the stairs and pauses. He looks left at Tess' shut door, shakes his head and goes into his bedroom.

INT. MAIN HOUSE /TESS' BEDROOM -- DAY

Tess peaks through the door to see Robert enter his room. She looks around and beside the bed we see the packages Robert bought at the hotel.

She places them on the bed and begins to open them. A note attached reads: "I'm sorry about your clothes. Hope these work for you."

She begins pulling out designer clothing, similar to the style she wears. Among them are shoes and beach/lounge-wear.

INT. MAIN HOUSE /KITCHEN -- DAY

Robert is downstairs getting a beer out of the fridge. He is wearing a swimming trunks, and he has a towel around his neck. As he opens the door to the back area he hears Tess.

TESS

Hey!?

Robert looks up to see Tess on the balcony overlooking the room below. She is dressed the same bikini as earlier; however, she now has a sarong around her waist. Robert answers by emulating the Russian hotel concierge.

ROBERT

Yes, Ms. Brady, how may I help you this wonderful day.

Robert smiles, Tess turns for a moment and cracks a smile, then it fades. She turns back calmly.

TESS

I just wanted to say thank you for the clothes and that I will pay you back as soon as I get the money.

Robert shakes his head and starts to say something, but stops himself by shaking his head. He looks up and says what his words can't: "That is the most ridiculous thing I have heard come out of your mouth". He finds it totally ridiculous. She catches the meaning of his glance and closes her eyes.

ROBERT

It's a gift...remember Naya!?  
(emulates Naya)  
You can talk no sense to me...back and forth, back and forth...

Tess almost laughs again, but catches herself and reminds herself that its just business. Robert stops emulating.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

I'm going out to the pool, would you like to join me?

TESS

No, actually, I was going to walk down by the lagoon.

He glances up at her, she is looking out at the pool. The light reflects off her face in an ever-changing pattern.

ROBERT

Okay, whatever.  
(MORE)

ROBERT (CONT'D)

The fridge is stocked full of imported booze, beer and frozen foods. Help yourself. These...

He holds up a blue beer bottle and takes a drink.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

These are sort of strange...tingly.

Robert closes the door stands by the pool. She stands for a moment watching him as he jumps in the pool, then jumps back out making noises and wrapping himself in his towel.

INT. MAIN HOUSE /STEPS -- DAY

She turns and heads down the stairs reciting her self-propaganda.

TESS

This is just business. He lied, he embarrassed me, and I don't even like him, or love him. I don't. He is neither funny...nor fun.

INT. MAIN HOUSE /ENTRY -- DAY

She pauses at the front door and looks out back where she can see him swinging his beer in the air singing some song she cannot hear.

TESS

Well, somewhat, funny and one of a kind...I hope, for everyone's sake.

Tess exits the front door.

EXT. MAIN HOUSE /GARAGE -- DAY

Tess looks and sees 3 large doors and one enormous door. She enters the garage through a "normal" door next to the first small garage door. The first large door opens, the sound of a 4 wheeler starting up echoes out. She pulls out and leisurely drives down the road towards the lagoon.

EXT. MAIN HOUSE /POOL AREA -- CONTINUOUS

Robert looks intensely towards the area of the garage. He finishes off the beer and leans back into the Jacuzzi.

EXT. LAGOON BEACH -- EVENING

Tess sits on the sand watching the start to set. She takes a deep sigh. She draws a heart in the sand, then a crack through it. The water erases half, and she finishes it. She strolls on the beach lost in its beauty; however, she can't escape her troubles completely; this occupies her face.

EXT. MAIN HOUSE /POOL AREA -- EVENING

Three empty blue beer bottles are piled up beside Robert, and he seems in good spirits.

We see Esmerelda fly and land behind him. Robert sings.

ROBERT  
32 bottles of beer, take one down  
pass it around, 31 bottles of...

ESMERELDA (O.S.)  
(from behind)  
Beer!

Robert jumps - startled, he falls back down on the other side facing her.

ROBERT  
Esmerelda, shit!

He pauses and takes a deep breath.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
You have got to stop doing that!  
No sneaking up on people. Bad...  
I'm sorry, you're not bad. Listen,  
while you are here, I would like to  
say that I am sorry for earlier today.  
No hurt feelings, 'kay.

ESMERELDA  
Thank you...Beer, beer.

ROBERT  
Oh, sure you can have a sip...only a  
sip as a toast to forgiveness.

Robert pours a little beer in an indentation located on the jacuzzi.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
After that why don't I walk you home.  
Hey, you could sit on my shoulder  
like a pirate. Wouldn't that be  
cool?

Esmerelda nods her head.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
Damn, you one smart bird.

ESMERELDA  
Parrot... Parrot.

ROBERT  
Parrot, right.

Robert gets out and dries off. He throws his shirt on and pats his shoulder. Esmerelda flies and lands on his shoulder. They walk out the side gate to a path that leads to Marcello's house and continue down the path.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
You let me know if I start to get  
lost.

ESMERELDA

Follow the yellow brick road... follow  
the yellow brick road.

ROBERT

I'll take that to mean the green  
path this time, unless you have a  
secret to tell. Well? NO.

The stroll is heavily covered, but lit by ground lights.  
Evening turns to night. Soon they arrive at Marcello's house.  
It is a small quaint house nestled among the groves of trees.

EXT. MARCELLO'S HOUSE /FRONT DOOR -- NIGHT

It is very dark and not many distinguishing features can be  
seen; however, it appears to be in the style of the main  
house. As they approach the front door, stars send streams  
of light through thinned-out trees emulating fire-flies.  
Robert knocks on the front door. Esmerelda rocks back and  
forth on his shoulder.

INT. MARCELLO'S HOUSE /MAIN ROOM -- NIGHT

Brilliant white light pours out from double doors and  
Marcello, only a dark image, appears through them. He closes  
them carefully behind him and then answers the door. He is  
shocked to see Esmerelda on Robert's shoulder.

INT./EXT. MARCELLO'S HOUSE /DOOR -- NIGHT

Marcello is puzzled to find Robert at his door. He look  
suspiciously around before speaking.

MARCELLO

Good evening, Roberto...Esmerelda.  
Are you alone?

Robert nods and Esmerelda flies to her giant perch in the  
open cage.

MARCELLO (CONT'D)

I see she talked you into some beer,  
blue beer?!

Their eyes shift to Esmerelda. She is sleeping awkwardly.  
Robert is apologetic.

ROBERT

I'm sorry, she just had a little  
bitty sip and--

Marcello nonchalantly shrugs his shoulders.

MARCELLO

Eh, She does it to everyone. Call  
it her vice. Yes, even parrots have  
them... well, at least this one  
does... and for that blue beer. It  
must be the special ingredient.

With a hint of concern in his eyes Robert wonders.

ROBERT  
Special good, or special bad?

MARCELLO  
If it were poison, I would kill you  
for killing esmerelda.  
(smiles)  
I'm kidding, it is good for you.

He points to Esmerelda soundly asleep again.

MARCELLO (CONT'D)  
That will be you shortly, so, what  
can I do for you, this night?

ROBERT  
Oh, I don't know. I was really just  
bringing her home.

MARCELLO  
Roberto, please?? She can find  
her own way home, now  
(motion's him in)  
Come inside, please. Be my guest.

ROBERT  
If you are busy, I can...

MARCELLO  
If I were too busy, I would not have  
invited you in. What could I have  
going on that is better than speaking  
with you?

ROBERT  
Oh, I don't know...

Robert walks into the main room. Marcello shuts the door.

INT. MARCELLO'S HOUSE /MAIN ROOM -- NIGHT

As Robert enters, Marcello raises the lights and very vibrant palette of bold colors adorn the entire room. There are sculptures of bust forms, photos on the yellow walls accented with blue trim, including the same photo he saw earlier with Marcello, Mr. Man, and the longhaired man. One wall has a magnificent mural on the wall. It is a beautiful landscape of a Scandinavian countryside.

The furniture is sparse, yet luxurious. The soft leather sofa and love seat, the mahogany tables, Tiffany lamps, fine china in a cabinet. The house is much more quaint than the main house. Robert stares at the mural.

ROBERT  
Wow, that is incredible! Did you  
paint that?

MARCELLO  
Yes, a long time ago. May I offer  
you some tea? Coffee?

Marcello heads off to the kitchen, which is visible through an arched pass-through.

ROBERT

No, thank you. I feel fine...I mean I'm fine.

MARCELLO (O.S.)

Please sit down.

Robert sinks into the plush red leather couch.

ROBERT

Ahhhh. This is... This is soooo soft.

Marcello re-enters the room and sits down in the matching love-seat facing Robert.

MARCELLO

Yes, they are magnificent, no? They were a gift from Karl Lagerfeld.

ROBERT

Sweet. THE Karl Lagerfeld.

MARCELLO

Are there more than one?

They look at one another for a moment and laugh lightly. Robert starts to slur words.

ROBERT

Alright. You got me on that one.

They settle into the plush couches.

MARCELLO

So, how is Tess liking the island?

ROBERT

I couldn't imagine her not liking it.

MARCELLO

But, you don't know? Why is that?

Marcello occasionally drinks his tea so perfectly almost like an art, emulating royal manners and etiquette.

ROBERT

No. She really, oh, I don't know... Do you have a beer?

MARCELLO

Roberto, why don't you just go get some nice rest and we can talk in the morning.

As he stares at Marcello, the effects of the beer start to kick in, and he is dazed, suddenly he gets double vision, his words start to slur slightly more; however, he shakes it

off for a moment to see a Spanish guitar sitting in the corner. His excitement overcomes the acting brew.

ROBERT

You play?!

MARCELLO

I used to--

ROBERT

Play something, I love the Spanish guitar.

MARCELLO

Well, I don't know if--

Plays up the manners ideals.

ROBERT

I can't possibly believe you would refuse a guest a--

MARCELLO

Sir, I would not refuse a guest. If you insist, I will play.

He approaches the guitar that sits in a corner. It is beautifully carved, a classic work of art. He picks it up with love and care.

ROBERT

No, really, I don't insist that you do anything...ever. I was just--

Marcello has the look on his face like he's waited for this moment a long time. His fingers and nails are manicured.

MARCELLO

Please, it is okay. Do you have a preference?

He looks at Robert and he has fallen asleep. Marcello wakes him by gently shaking him.

ROBERT

Tess?

MARCELLO

No, it's Marcello. But, now, I can see what troubles you, my friend. But this moment, you have no troubles.

ROBERT

I'm sorry. What was I saying...No you were playing...please continue.

Marcello plays a Spanish lullaby and hums the words. He watches Robert fade in and out several times. Finally he stays awake.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

That's beautiful, man... I'm sorry,  
what were you saying?

MARCELLO

I was saying, "yes, I will give you  
a ride home". Now, please.

He lays the guitar lovingly back in its corner; he stands there for a moment looking at it smiling, like welcoming an old friend back. He goes to Robert and helps him.

MARCELLO (CONT'D)

Come on. Let's go.

EXT. MARCELLO'S HOUSE /FRONT DOOR /CART -- NIGHT

Marcello places Robert in the cart, then drives him to the front door of the main house.

EXT. MAIN HOUSE /FRONT DOOR -- NIGHT

Robert gets out clumsily.

ROBERT

Thanks, for playing, and listening.  
Oh, and the ride--

MARCELLO

Anytime my friend, anytime. Roberto,  
next time you drink a blue beer from  
the fridge, only drink one. Those  
are specialty brews, a gift from a  
friend, and are quite potent, in a  
good way.

ROBERT

Thanks, for the warning. Although,  
those are supposed to come before  
the event takes place.

Marcello drives off smiling.

MARCELLO

Sleep well. You really have no choice  
now, my friend.

INT. MAIN HOUSE /BALCONY -- NIGHT

Robert makes a great effort to be silent, and does so amazingly well. He fumbles on all fours going up the steps. He reaches the top and crawls to Tess' door, stands up and gently opens the door.

INT. MAIN HOUSE /TESS' BEDROOM -- NIGHT

Robert peaks through the door to see Tess sleeping soundly. He shuts the door, in what seems to take an eternity because he is being extra quiet and cautious.

INT. MAIN HOUSE -- MORNING

All is peaceful in the house. The morning sun streams through the window in the upper part of the house. Suddenly, a thunderous roar is heard. Tess wakes, and opens her eyes not yet knowing if she was dreaming. Then another one; this one rattles the window a bit. Tess jumps out of bed, throws on a pair of shorts and a top and clogs.

INT. MAIN HOUSE /BALCONY -- MOMENTS LATER

Tess opens her door and walks rapidly to Robert's room.

INT. ROBERT'S BEDROOM -- CONTINUOUS

Robert is sound asleep in his bed when he is awakened by pounding at his door.

ROBERT

What!!?? What do you want!

TESS (O.S.)

Get up!! There is something going on.

ROBERT

What!? That's a BAD thing?

Tess opens his door looking very worried.

TESS

You didn't hear or feel anything?

ROBERT

Yes, and it was quite enjoyable until you woke me!

Robert puts a pillow on his head. The sound is heard again only louder. It is the roaring of large propellers and engines on a seaplane. It shakes the house and temporarily casts a shadow through the windows as it flies overhead.

TESS

Meet me downstairs.

He pulls the pillow off his face and looks at Tess. Her words are edgy and provoking.

ROBERT

Why? It's just a seaplane!

TESS

No, it was either 3 planes, or one going round and round the island. Why do you think that is?

ROBERT

Who knows. Who cares.

TESS

Fine, I will go by myself if you are not the least bit interested. Or, is it that you think it is another giant bird coming to eat you.

Robert finally gives in since he is already awake.

ROBERT

Okay, okay! Parrot, she's a parrot. Give me a minute. Where's Marcello?

TESS

Who knows? Asleep maybe.

Robert eyes the clock with slits for eyelids. It's 8 am.

ROBERT

Lucky man.

TESS

Meet me at the door, I will get the ride.

ROBERT

Ride? Huh.

EXT. MAIN HOUSE /FRONT DOOR -- MORNING

Robert appears wearing a silk button down shirt with shorts, sunglasses. Everyone wears sunglasses outdoors and when necessary, the sun is bright. Tess awaits with the one 4 wheeler that has a trailer attached. He climbs on the back and puts his hands around her waist.

TESS

Watch where you put your hands, Robert.

She revs up the motor.

TESS (CONT'D)

Mr. Big!

ROBERT

Look, why don't I just walk, or go get another ride, or get in the trailer?

He begins to dismount.

TESS

No time, just hang on.

He once again places his hands on her waist and they hurry down the road.

EXT. LAGOON BEACH -- MORNING

As they reach the dock, she stops and they rush on foot. Near the end of the dock they see the seaplane SKUNKMAGAZINE docked at the end.

SKUNKMAGAZINE is in Bold on the side, with a skunks head logo on the tail.

EXT. DOCK /SKUNK SEAPLANE -- MORNING

There doesn't seem to be anyone on board, no activity. They both stop near the middle and watch as the two larger seaplanes seem to be racing each other to the beach.

TESS  
God, the island is being invaded!

ROBERT  
What do you think is going on?

TESS  
(edgy)  
Like I would know. Let's wait and find out.

They stare as the two planes shut off the engines and glide onto the shore almost in harmony. The rear of the planes are in shallow water. They hear a thumping rhythm coming from the planes. Robert sees the logos; one has a giant mushroom on the tail the other a giant marijuana leaf. All three are green with their logos in black, red and white.

ROBERT  
Titanseed.com and Mushroomtroll.com, along with Skunkmagazine. Hmm. This looks promising...sounds interesting anyway.

His head moves up and down to the beat.

TESS  
Why are they here and who are they?

ROBERT  
Like you said, wait and see!

Suddenly the back of the Titanseed seaplane slams down into the water. The music blares, it is progressive trance. Then a shiny stainless steel ramp slides down extending out a few feet from the back of the seaplane and three jet skis come flying out. The riders are yelling as they thrash through the smooth lagoon. They watch them head for the entrance/exit of the lagoon.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
Wonder where they're going?

DR. YOSTER (O.S.)  
To the ocean.

EXT. ISLAND /DOCK -- CONTINUOUS

Turning, both Robert and Tess are startled. DR. YOSTER appears before them. In his mid 40's with long-braided hair. He is a big 6' man and speaks with a soft Norwegian accent.

DR. YOSTER

Whoa. Easy now, I am not armed and I come in peace.

(smiles)

I have always wanted to say that. I am Dr. Yoster.

TESS

Excuse me, Dr., but this is a private island and Mr. Big, is considering purchasing it.

DR. YOSTER

Mr. Big? I know Mr. Man. Who is Mr. Big?

TESS AND ROBERT

He is, I am.

Robert extends his hand out and shakes Dr. Yoster's.

ROBERT

It's okay, Tess. I've seen his picture with Mr. Man and Marcello.

Tess looks at Robert and rolls her eyes.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Welcome, Dr, what brings you here?

TESS

Wait. You said you know Mr. Man? How?

DR. YOSTER

(kissing her hand)

And you are?

TESS

Tess. Ms. Brady.

DR. YOSTER

(jokingly)

Well, which is it, Tess or--

TESS

You can call me Tess.

Tess smiles-relaxed. No one looks vicious at this point.

DR. YOSTER

Well, Tess, let's say the Man and I go way back. Way, way, back. Let me apologize for the intrusion, I tried to radio but nothing. Just want to see if he's okay, okay?

ROBERT

The radio is out for repair and I--

TESS

He may be sleeping, but I can assure  
you he is healthy.

Dr. Yoster nods his head in agreement. Another man appears carrying several black nylon bags. His name is JACK. He stops and studies Robert for a moment. Jack is American but speaks at times with an "English" accent and vocabulary. He has the look and demeanor of a swindler on the prowl.

DR. YOSTER

This is our Jack, the photographer  
for this part of the tour.

Jack just nods his head and continues to look over the island, Tess, and Robert. He is smoking a cigarette and looks anxious.

DR. YOSTER (CONT'D)

He is going to be taking some nude  
shots of my wife for our 20th  
anniversary. For my eyes only!

A large grin appears across his face.

TESS

On tour? What is the name of your  
band?

DR. YOSTER

No, noooooo. I create organic  
nutrients for plants and fungi.  
Deep Blue Water is our newest product.

In the background we see Jack snapping pictures of the island. He keeps looking back at Robert.

ROBERT

Do you always tour uninhabited  
islands?

DR. YOSTER

You are kidding me, no?

ROBERT

Yes. But...

DR. YOSTER

Ah, you don't know. I'm sorry to  
tell you. There is a very large  
storm that is passing 30 miles West  
of this island. Lots of heavy wind  
and rain. We could not make it to  
any other place, then I think I will  
visit my friend, Mello. We are sorry  
to have interrupted you.

ROBERT

No interruption at all, please, the  
cabanas are open to you for as long  
as you like.

(MORE)

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Besides, you just said you couldn't make it to any other island.

DR. YOSTER

Thank you, Robert. You sound like my good friend Mr. Man. Ah, here is my wife now.

(to Jack, pointing)

Jack, please take your things to cabana 4. The last one just there.

A beautiful tanned woman with long blonde hair emerges from the seaplane and walks over to them. She has "star-quality" all over her, but her behavior is completely down to earth. She is American. She is Casually dressed; she approaches as Jack leaves.

DR. YOSTER (CONT'D)

This is Pussy, my wife. Robert, and Tess.

His wife KITTY elbows him in the ribs causing him to become breathless. She speaks in a pleasant voice and shakes hands.

KITTY

Actually, call me Kitty. You know Scandinavians? Turning everything sexual, not that I mind, you know.

She winks at them and smiles. Dr. Yoster regains his breath and begins to hurry away. However, he has a slight limp which makes him slow.

KITTY (CONT'D)

Anyway.

DR. YOSTER

It was my pleasure to meet you both. Join us later for a cookout on the shore or anytime.

Kitty sees him slowly moving away from them down the dock towards the shore. He whistles and motions to some of his crew by pointing to the shore and giving a thumbs up. Kitty yells at him.

KITTY

Don't think you will get away! You're not that fast baby!

(to Robert and Tess)

Sorry. You are okay with us staying until the storm passes?

ROBERT

Most definitely.

KITTY

Cool. See you both around, then. It'll be fun.

Kitty sprints off and catches Dr. Yoster midway down the dock and jumps on his back. Yelling. The words fade and they both fall into the water, but no one really pays any attention to it.

KITTY (CONT'D)

I told you never call me that in front of strangers...

ROBERT

Wow.

Tess steps on his barefoot with her hard bottomed clogs.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Oww. Damn. That hurt.

TESS

I am truly sorry. I didn't see your foot there.

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)

(raspy, and seductive)

Hey, gorgeous, wanna have some fun?

Tess and Robert look over the edge of the dock to see GLORIA, a world champion jet-ski wave jumper. Morning is already giving way to a high, bright afternoon sun-as normal.

EXT. DOCK /LAGOON -- DAY

Robert and Tess look down to see Gloria.

ROBERT

Actually, I would...

GLORIA

I was talking to her, handsome.  
But, if your up for it.

She throw him a life jacket. While he begins to put it on, Tess shoves him head over heels into the water.

TESS

Have fun, handsome.

Robert mounts the jet-ski and hugs Gloria's body.

GLORIA

Is that your wife?

ROBERT

No, she is more like an escort, you know a personal tour guide.

Tess hears the conversation and takes off one of her sandals.

TESS

Escort, my ass!

She flings one shoe and just misses Robert's head.

TESS (CONT'D)  
Shit! Oh well...

She takes off the other sandal and throws it, but they are out of range. Robert smiles and waves. Gloria and Robert ride out towards the inlet. Tess walks back to the shore where she intersects Dr. Yoster. Kitty is walking towards the Mushroomtroll seaplane.

EXT. LAGOON BEACH -- DAY

Tess stops and sees Dr. Yoster approaching and signaling for her to stop. She sees beyond him as Robert and Gloria ride towards the inlet, almost out of sight. Dr. Yoster stops next to her.

DR. YOSTER  
Tess. Tess, you look upset.

Dr. Yoster follows her look to see the very distant jet-ski. He turns to Tess.

DR. YOSTER (CONT'D)  
Tess, do not be jealous, you see, she just likes to have fun.

TESS  
Jealous!? Why would I be jealous of what he does? I mean why would I even care...

Tess pauses and takes some deep breaths.

TESS (CONT'D)  
As I said, or did I...anyway, we are here on business.

They begin to walk towards the road leading to the houses. They stop at the 4 wheeler. Tess is inquisitive.

TESS (CONT'D)  
What do you mean, fun?

DR. YOSTER  
I hope you don't mind, I told Jack he could use this cart with the trailer, it is okay, no?

Tess shoots a look of resignation to the entire day, already. She takes another deep breath and pauses.

TESS  
Sure.

DR. YOSTER  
I mean it is such a short walk and as long as you have shoes  
(looks at her feet)  
Oh. Damn.

TESS  
It's fine, I grew up on a rocky beach.

She motions and continues forward, albeit slow, without the road affecting her feet. He watches her walk with no problem.

DR. YOSTER  
Impressive. Very rough feet.

He catches up to her.

DR. YOSTER (CONT'D)  
Now, I continue... Even if you are not married, lovers get jealous, its normal.

TESS  
Are you speaking from experience?

DR. YOSTER  
That all depends.

EXT. MAIN ROAD -- DAY

They near the houses. Sun pours through the trees in a continual pattern of change due to the winds steady breeze. She turns to him.

TESS  
What do you mean lovers? Puh, ridiculous. I mean--

DR. YOSTER  
I see things. There is something more. Why don't you just say so.

TESS  
I am not going to be rude, but it is really none of your business, and this is just business. I am acting as Mr. Man's personal agent on this occasion.

DR. YOSTER  
You could just say--

Tess glares at him as they continue to walk.

DR. YOSTER (CONT'D)  
Okay, but your actions do speak loudly. And your words do also.

TESS  
What do you mean by that?

DR. YOSTER  
Emotions, but, like you said, it is none of my business.

He stares at her bare feet, she notices.

DR. YOSTER (CONT'D)  
Did you not have shoes on earlier?

They stop for a moment and look at one another. Tess begins to speak, then catches herself, takes a slow and deep breath. She does not want to be rude to him because of her problems.

TESS  
Your final point, Dr!

DR. YOSTER  
But, I just don't see business associates throwing their sandals at clients too much, that's all.

He stares at her intently as she cannot come up with anything to say. She is puzzled. In the distance Marcello approaches.

DR. YOSTER (CONT'D)  
Ah, Look who's coming to save me, now! I hope you didn't find me rude?

TESS  
No, no. I should be saying sorry.

DR. YOSTER  
I promise no more examination, No more.

She nods and smiles, he smiles and hugs her. They turn as Marcello arrives in the cart and jumps out to embrace Dr. Yoster. They speak in Spanish to one another.

SUBTITLES BEGIN

DR. YOSTER (CONT'D)  
Uncle!

MARCELLO  
Pascal! You should have told me you were coming, you, you--

DR. YOSTER  
Yes, yes...

MARCELLO  
Where is your beautiful wife?

DR. YOSTER  
Getting some more sun before she takes photos. Or, I should say, before photos are taken of her.

MARCELLO  
I see you have met our lovely Ms. Tess, and Roberto.

DR. YOSTER  
Indeed.  
(to Tess in English)  
My wife, her mother lives in Spain.  
I only speak a little.

TESS  
That, explains it, then.

END SUBTITLES.

Dr., Marcello and Tess smile then laugh lightly realizing that she is Spanish, yet in excitement abandoned her.

DR. YOSTER  
We were just on our way up to the houses.

MARCELLO  
Perfecto, jump in!

They all gather in the cart. Esmerelda sits on her stool. Dr. Yoster pets her. As they drive Marcello questions Tess.

MARCELLO (CONT'D)  
And how is your day?

TESS  
Over for the moment, I just need a little more rest.

MARCELLO  
Rest?

DR. YOSTER  
Oh, Yes. She seems to have expended quite a bit of energy at the beach.

He smiles at her and she grins back. They soon reach the main house and drop Tess off.

EXT. MAIN HOUSE /FRONT DOOR -- DAY

Tess is getting out when the Dr. invites her to the party.

DR. YOSTER  
Tonight at 8 at the beach, yes.

TESS  
Sure, why not.

DR. YOSTER  
Very good.

They drive away and then circle back around.

DR. YOSTER (CONT'D)  
Tess.

TESS  
Is it time already? I don't think I slept a wink.

They all laugh and Tess' humorous side is revealed momentarily. Even tess seems surprised that she laughed. The Dr. gets out and goes up to Tess.

DR. YOSTER  
Even if he wanted to cheat on you.  
(MORE)

DR. YOSTER (CONT'D)  
 (sternly)  
 Pleats, it has nothing to do with  
 our agreement.

TESS  
 Okay, go ahead.

DR. YOSTER  
 Well, You will see.

Tess was expecting to hear something and gets nothing.

TESS  
 But--

DR. YOSTER  
 Wait and see, just wait and see.

He smiles, then shakes his head. They both laugh and drive  
 of speaking. Tess laughs with them but doesn't know why.

DR. YOSTER (CONT'D)  
 Poor Roberto.

Tess watches as they drive off.

EXT. OCEAN WITH LARGE WAVES -- CONTINUOUS

Gloria is full throttle on the jet ski heading towards and  
 incoming 8' wave.

GLORIA  
 Hold on tight.

ROBERT & GLORIA  
 Nooooooo! Yahoooooooooo!

They go up the wave and we see them airborne. Robert's face  
 is one of exhaustion, pain and fright. Gloria's muscular  
 body is built for this and, it seems, she never tires.

EXT. ISLAND /SECLUDED ROCKY PLATEAU -- DAY

Jack and Kitty are finishing up the photo shoot. Tess is  
 tying her string bikini top and has a sarong around her waist.  
 It is covered in a marijuana motif.

KITTY  
 Are we through?

JACK  
 Well, I am out of space on this card,  
 which means we took about 100 shots.  
 I think your husband will a very  
 happy man. I'm quite sure he is  
 already a happy man.

KITTY  
 Thank you for the compliment, Jack.

JACK  
Anytime. All the time.

KITTY  
Speaking of him. I'd better see  
what he is up to now.

Jack packs up the rest of his equipment and they mount the 4 wheeler with the trailer. The trailer is full of miscellaneous photographic equipment and items.

KITTY (CONT'D)  
Could you return this to the main  
house after dropping me off?

JACK  
Of course.

Jack and Kitty ride across the beach.

EXT. LAGOON BEACH /JACK'S CABANA -- DAY

They stop for a moment while Jack drops most of his many camera bags and other various equipment off at his cabana.

INT. JACK'S CABANA -- MOMENTS LATER

The interior of the cabana is nicely decorated in a Tahitian style, slightly different than the Mediterranean houses. These have their own solar panels that provide enough power to run an A/C if need be, and fan along with a refrigerator.

There are several camera lenses on the bed with a pile of digital memory cards - some labeled, and an older black and white photo of what appears to be Marcello. He picks up the photo and stares at it for a moment, then places it down. Digging through another bag, he finds a satellite phone. He pulls it out. A big smile is on his face. As he opens it and starts to dial a "no-signal" message appears. His is pissed off, but he has to be quiet.

JACK  
What!!? Come on! Come on!

Jack moves from place to place in the cabana but has no luck. A horn is heard from outside.

JACK (CONT'D)  
Coming!  
(to self)  
Shit! You piece of shit.

He tosses it back into the bag next to the picture that rests on the bed. He fumbles through another bag and finds a very small digital camera, places it in his pocket.

EXT. JACK'S CABANA /LAGOON BEACH -- DAY

Jack rushes out the door looking flustered.

JACK  
Sorry, I...Had to use the bathroom.

KITTY

You okay? It's not life or death  
you know. You can stay here if--

JACK

No, really. Everything is fine. I  
mean it wasn't an emergency.

Kitty nods quizzically as he acts nervous. He jumps on the  
back and Kitty takes off across the beach, and down the road.  
They reach Marcello's house. She jumps off, Jack drives  
away. She yells to Jack, he stops.

KITTY

Jack, make sure you tell Ariana, to  
fire up the pit around 6 or so.

JACK

Sure thing.

KITTY

Listen, if you don't feel good--

JACK

I'll be there. I'm fine. Perfect.

Jack waves and drives off.

EXT. MAIN HOUSE /FRONT DOOR -- DAY

Jack knocks on the door and when no one answers he opens it.

JACK

Hello??? I brought the 4 wheeler  
back. Hello??

Jack enters the foyer where he sees the picture of Dr. Yoster,  
Marcello, and Mr. Man. He pulls out his camera and takes a  
photo. Tess appears above on the balcony - curious.

TESS

Jack. What are you doing?

Jack is surprised, then starts snapping photos of Tess.

JACK

Taking pictures...that is what I do  
best. You weren't around, so.

TESS

Could you please stop.

Jack stops taking pictures, he smiles at her.

TESS (CONT'D)

So, you took pictures of a wall  
instead? Of a wall? Thanks.

Jack thinks quickly and begins to ramble.

JACK

Well, you see, in the 1930s, Ron Von Faustenberg invented, or should I say, revealed to the world, the compositional layout of what is called the Faustenberg...

TESS

Okay. Okay. I'm sorry, I have no clue as to what you are talking about, at least not at this moment, anyway.

JACK

You mean you don't want to hear the rest?

Tess descends down the stairs.

TESS

Why, is it important that I know?

JACK

Well, it's not exciting if that is what you mean. Just more bullshit.

TESS

More bullshit! I see...well...No.

JACK

Anyway, I came to return the 4 wheeler. So, got to run, if you will excuse me.

TESS

What is your hurry?

INT. MAIN HOUSE /ENTRY -- MOMENTS LATER

Tess now stands in front of him at the bottom of the stairs wearing a robe with her bikini underneath. Jack doesn't move, he really has no where to go.

JACK

No hurry, I just wouldn't want your husband to get angry, I don't really know him--

TESS

I DON'T HAVE A... I am not married. Mr. Big is not my husband. We are here as business associates!

Jack pauses for a moment, his expressions turn to one of a shrewd, nature.

JACK

Well, then, I guess it doesn't matter does it? Do you mind if I take some pictures of the most beautiful woman on the island?

Tess starts to walk towards the door to the pool area.

TESS  
Why would I care?

JACK  
Because it is you!

Tess opens the door slowly, facing Jack, grinning.

TESS  
Oh, I see. You are a photographer,  
and a charmer. Sure, why not. I  
was just about to go for a swim.  
Would you like to join me by the  
pool?

JACK  
How could I resist? It will make a  
wonderful backdrop, the water  
cascading...

They exit and the voices fade out. A few hours pass and  
Robert enters through the front door.

INT. MAIN HOUSE /ENTRY -- EVENING

Robert walks as if he had ridden a horse for the first time  
on a long journey. He hobbles upstairs, reminiscent of the  
last night, occasionally on all fours.

INT. MAIN HOUSE /BALCONY -- DAY

He reaches the top he hears laughter. He looks out to see  
Tess and Jack. He watches them for a few moments, the focus  
mainly being Tess, then Jack catches Robert's eyes. He leads  
Tess to the jacuzzi with his hand on her back. His body  
close to hers. Robert speaks in a high-pitched raspy tone.

ROBERT  
I see you, you, sleazy lookin'

Jack glances up again.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
Asshole. Maybe you should go to  
China.

He shakes his head and wearily heads into his room.

EXT. MAIN HOUSE /POOL AREA -- DAY

Jack and Tess are sitting in the Jacuzzi.

JACK  
So, you really don't mind?

TESS  
No, he is a prankster himself, and,  
he doesn't--

Jack raises up the bottle of beer that is in his hand cutting  
her off. He is grinning, excitement fills his eyes. Tess,  
on the other hand, seems far less excited.

She forces a smile.

JACK

To you and to getting even. Cheers!

TESS

Cheers.

They toast with the bottles they have clinging together.

INT. MAIN HOUSE /ROBERT'S BEDROOM -- DAY

Robert is laying on the bed staring at the ceiling fan, lost in thoughts. He is uncovered and a pack of ice, wrapped in a towel, sits between his legs. A knock is heard at the door. Robert answers with great effort.

ROBERT

What is it now?

Tess opens the door and sees him. She looks concerned at first then it turns into a smirk.

TESS

What is the matter? Is Mr. Big feeling a little small.

ROBERT

Very fun...

(clears throat)

Very funny. What do you want?

TESS

I take it you are not going to the cookout?

ROBERT

No, I'm sorry, I can't. You go without me.

TESS

We were planning on it.

ROBERT

We?

TESS

Yes. Jack and I.

ROBERT

Jack!?

TESS

Yes, you heard me...Jack.

ROBERT

He didn't take any nude photos of you did he?

Tess steps back and Jack steps forward with his camera.

JACK  
Big smile, Robby 'ol pal.

He takes several photos in rapid succession. Robert can't even move fast enough to cover himself up. He actually knocks his only covering off. Jack scurries off, Tess re-appears.

TESS  
Little something to remember the trip by. Have a good night.

Tess shuts the door and props herself up against it.

INT. MAIN HOUSE /HALLWAY -- NIGHT

She hears Robert strain.

ROBERT (O.S.)  
Well...Did he? !!

Tess looks guilty and ashamed. She speaks softly to self.

TESS  
No, he didn't.

Tess leaves. Robert hears the 4 wheeler leave and puts a pillow over his face.

INT. MAIN HOUSE /ROBERT'S BEDROOM -- LATER

Several hours later, Robert is awakened by a tapping on the window. It gets increasingly louder. In the distance he hears the party, listens to the beat, seems to recognize it, and smiles. There are voices and jet skis barely heard. Robert sees the outline of Esmerelda in the window banging.

ROBERT  
What!

ESMERELDA  
Okay? Okay?

ROBERT  
Yes, I'm fine.

ESMERELDA  
Okay? Beer?

ROBERT  
I'm OK! No, no beer! Thank you.

ESMERELDA  
Thank you.

Esmerelda flies off. He finds the Parrot amazing.

ROBERT  
No. Thank you.

He continues to lay there. The moonlight crosses his eyes he listens to the party. His eyes, even though enjoying the beat, have a look of sadness; he falls asleep.

INT. MAIN HOUSE /ROBERT'S BEDROOM -- MORNING

Robert is awakened by someone shaking him gently.

ROBERT  
Tess?? Just go without me!

DR. YOSTER  
I knew it.

Robert is shocked to find Dr. Yoster standing above him grinning and excited.

ROBERT  
Oh, hey. I'm sorry about--

DR. YOSTER  
Get up Robert and meet me out front,  
I have something for you to see.

ROBERT  
Do I have to?

DR. YOSTER  
No, but it is pretty awesome, man.  
And you missed the party last night.

A look of disappointment and guilt spreads through Robert's face. Dr. Yoster is not serious, and his demeanor shows this; his smile, excitedness, gently waking Robert.

ROBERT  
Well, I had--

DR. YOSTER  
Coconut balls? Me too the first  
time, and the last, I rode with  
Gloria. You okay now?

Robert takes a few seconds to feel under the blanket.

ROBERT  
They, I feel normal, thank God.  
Alright, give me a minute.

DR. YOSTER  
Cool. I will go wake Tess.

ROBERT  
Why?

DR. YOSTER  
So she can see as well.

Dr. Yoster exits and Robert gets dressed.

EXT. MAIN HOUSE /FRONT DOOR -- MORNING

Robert is sitting on the steps and Tess emerges from the door.

TESS

If this is one of your schemes!

Robert is offended that the first words out of her mouth are still cutting. He shakes his head, frustrated.

ROBERT

Did I wake you? I don't think so.  
I have nothing to do with this, nor  
do I have any idea what he wants to  
show us, Ms. Brady. Scheme??

They hear an enormous roar from the garage area, on the side of the house, just out of view. Then comes Dr. Yoster in the "MONSTER TRUCK".

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Holy--

TESS

Shit--

ROBERT

Wow! It's the MONSTER Hummer from  
the picture! Kick Ass!

TESS

What picture?

The Hummer pulls around. It is enormous. Dr. Yoster is behind the wheel. He stops and dismounts to help Tess get in the back. There are fold-down steps visible, but they are locked in place. Robert goes over and climbs in the passenger seat; he notices Jack in the back seat. He is edgy.

ROBERT

Jack.

Robert stares for just a moment, enough to send a look of "death" towards Jack. Jack just grins slyly.

JACK

She made me do it, you know.

Robert sits down, puts his seat belt on; Jack helps Tess in.

TESS

What?! You know--

Jack eyes and winks at her. She just sits back in her seat. Dr. Yoster jumps in and off they go.

EXT./INT. MAIN ROAD /HUMMER -- MORNING

The Hummer darts down the main road reverberating through the scenery. Robert turns to the Dr.

ROBERT

Where's Kitty?

DR. YOSTER

She knows already. She is running some tests in the lab on the MT seaplane.

They come to a point in the main road before they reach the lagoon it is the secondary road leading to the top and other side, of the island where larger solar panels and wind propellers are located; they drive for a moment then stop at an overgrown, rarely used trail. Tess yells to the Dr.

TESS

Is that a road? I don't think that is a road, Dr. Yoster.

DR. YOSTER

This is no ordinary Truck. You are right, the roads left. Buckle up!  
(to Robert)  
Open the box, please, and hand me a stick.

Robert opens the box to see several large blunts that are marked every 1/2 inch with a different color. Tess and Jack stare up at another overgrown trail that has a 40 degree incline. It leads straight up through an apparent jungle.

ROBERT

I don't see any sticks, just blunts. Funky smelling--

DR. YOSTER

Those are my sticks.

Robert hands one to him and Dr. Yoster fires it up. The first color is pink. He revs the engine. Now that the engine is hot, it shakes and rubles while just idling. It has every off-road piece of equipment anyone would ever need, including the 4' tires, but minus a satellite phone.

DR. YOSTER (CONT'D)

Mmmmm. Bubblegum.

He takes a few tokes and offers it to the others by holding it up. They all decline.

DR. YOSTER (CONT'D)

Okay, Hold on!

The Hummer is revved up again and again, shaking from side to side-quaking; then he pops it into gear and takes a sharp turn. They head up the mountain going over bumps and holes, logs and debris. Everyone is getting rattled. Some smaller items shift about in the rear cargo area. One of Jack's tripods flies out. Dr. yoster shouts to Jack.

DR. YOSTER (CONT'D)

Don't worry Jack, we'll get it.

Jack starts to say something, then is almost thrown out himself. He tightens his belt and hold onto his gear. The engine roars with power overcoming any obstacle.

TESS  
Where are we going?

DR. YOSTER  
To mushroom kingdom, fantasy land,  
whatever.

ROBERT  
You brought us out here to see  
mushrooms? We've all seen mushrooms  
before.

They continue to be jostled about in the Hummer as it bounces  
along. Voices turn louder. Everyone is holding on tightly  
to anything they can.

DR. YOSTER  
Not like this.

TESS  
I do not understand? Are...are we  
in a hurry?

DR. YOSTER  
Well, yes, actually. If you think  
this is fast, just push this little  
button here on the shifter.  
(points; to Tess)  
Some years ago, I found a normal  
mushroom patch up here. There should  
not be mushrooms up here. So I  
selected 15 different strains.

TESS  
Strains of mushrooms?

DR. YOSTER  
Yes. Many...all varieties I had  
You follow?

Tess thinks she knows and nods her head. Dr. Yoster sees it  
in the mirror and continues.

DR. YOSTER (CONT'D)  
So, I transplanted them to the same  
area... dumped them, left them.

They hit a large whole and Robert let's out a gasping-gulp.  
They continue up the steep incline. Dr. looks at Robert.

DR. YOSTER (CONT'D)  
Sorry! Not much further.  
(to all)  
Anyway, nothing should happen. Year  
after year I return to find nothing.  
This year I find something amazing!  
...Ah, enough, you will see!

He pauses to take another toke.

DR. YOSTER (CONT'D)

The cave opens to the sea below, big hole to the ocean from inside the cave.

ROBERT

Okay, the moist air comes out of the cave keeping the area moist.

DR. YOSTER

Yes, but something more amazing. Evolution has happened. You will see.

They come to a clearing that appears to be an older path, well worn, much more rocky, yet smooth, leading further up the mountain.

INT./EXT. ISLAND PLATEAU /HUMMER -- MORNING

The Hummer comes to a rest on a high plateau.

DR. YOSTER

It should be smooth now. You can let go of your coconuts Robert.

(takes another hit)

Ah, Blueberry.

(to all)

Is everyone okay...still back there?

He turns, smiles and takes another hit off his cigar-like blunt. Robert smells the Blunt.

ROBERT

Blueberry! Could I see that... please?

He hands it to Robert and Jack takes a snapshot. They continue at a good pace. Robert takes another toke and Dr. Yoster slams on the break, grabs Robert with the blunt in his mouth and turns their faces to Jack.

DR. YOSTER

Make it good for the wall!

Before Robert can do anything Jack takes 4 consecutive photos.

ROBERT

Sure, okay, whatever. Mmmmm. Tuti-Fruity.

The Hummer moves again rapidly up the slight incline, around curves, but mostly a straight shot; no trees, holes, or crevices to overcome. Tess says to Robert, curiously.

TESS

Did you say Tuti-Fruity? ...Robert!

ROBERT

I'm sorry, are you talking to me?

TESS

Don't be a smart ass!

Robert realizes that she did not call him Mr. Big. He passes it to her. He lightens his tone a bit.

ROBERT

Sure. Enjoy.

The Hummer stops on a precipice overlooking the sun climbing high into the sky. To the left there is a heavily covered forest-like area. To the right lay the Deep Blue Water of the ocean that surrounds the island. Dr. Yoster turns off the engine and gets out.

DR. YOSTER

Come, Jack. Everyone.

(to Jack)

Leave your cameras, I brought mine for this.

He pulls a compact digital camera out from his pocket.

DR. YOSTER (CONT'D)

I think this should remain in this camera for now...I mean no offense--

Jack doesn't have anything unloaded yet, and doesn't seem to mind. He shows disinterest in Dr. Yoster's find.

JACK

You're the boss.

DR. YOSTER

Tess, Robert?

ROBERT

In a minute, I just want to enjoy this view.

DR. YOSTER

Okay. Just through there.

Dr. Yoster points down a small heavily covered path, then heads off with Jack.

DR. YOSTER (CONT'D)

(to Tess and Robert)

Take your time. Yet, if you please, not too long. The weather has cleared in the West and only some heavy rain is there. So, we must leave today, soon.

Jack and Dr. Yoster diminish into the woods, leaving Tess and Robert on the precipice. Robert walks to the edge and looks around.

EXT. ISLAND PRECIPICE -- DAY

Tess stares out over the ocean still sitting in the Hummer, Robert stops and watches the Seaplanes preparing for takeoff,

in the lagoon. The TITANSEED seaplane fires up its engines and begins to taxi out of the lagoon, the sound echoes below.

Soon it is airborne and flies right over the precipice. Robert holds up his hand waving good-bye. Tess appears behind Robert.

TESS

I think we should visit the other islands tomorrow. Now that the weather is clear Crack, or Cracker???

ROBERT

Crest!? Like the toothpaste.

TESS

Whatever, he should bring the new radio and pick us up.

ROBERT

How do you know he will be here tomorrow?

TESS

Well nothing is definite, of course. But... let's just see what happens.

Tess hurries to change the subject.

TESS (CONT'D)

It is a beautiful view from up here.

Robert looks at the views then turns and stares at Tess still trying to figure her out; "why has she become so mysterious?" Emanates from his expression.

ROBERT

Yes. One of the most beautiful I have ever seen.

Tess looks at Robert, then looks away. He smiles and shakes his head. She, trying to be stealthy about breathing deep, amuses Robert. He just keeps smiling.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

I think I'll go see what the Dr. finds so amazing. Are you coming?

TESS

No. Well, in a minute. I think I will finish this. It is quite tasty.

ROBERT

Can't argue with that.

Robert turns and walks into the woods leaving Tess out there with the blunt, she takes another hit and puts it out.

TESS

And powerful.

ROBERT  
Can't argue with that either.

Tess rolls her eyes. Whispering to herself.

TESS  
I forgot, Mr. Big Ears!  
(mimics Robert)  
If it's there and you can't hear it  
or feel it, your missing something.

EXT./INT. COVERED FOREST -- DAY

As Robert enters he is looking on the ground and doesn't see anything. It is very damp and moist. The sun peeks through occasionally. Robert says in a loud tone.

ROBERT  
Amazing! ? I don't see anything,  
much less--

DR. YOSTER  
(from above)  
Up here Robert.

As his vision shifts upward we see vines wrapped around the trees and sporadically coming from the tree trunks. On the vines are 2" tall pink and blue mushrooms with 2" caps: they come from any opening on the vine. They drape down from the canopy to stay out of the light and stretch off towards the cave opening which is visible. Dr. Yoster takes a few shots.

ROBERT  
Wow! Incredible! I think!?

Dr. Yoster reaches out and grabs a vine.

DR. YOSTER  
Yes, very. This should not be. Do  
you realize that each one of these  
contains more nutrients than one  
bottle of vitamins?

Dr. Yoster pinches one off and tosses it down to Robert. Jack heads back towards the Hummer. Dr. Yoster comes down. Robert smells it, then nibbles it.

ROBERT  
It smells fruity and it tastes like  
Papaya.

Dr. Yoster now stands in front of him.

DR. YOSTER  
Yes it does. Is not life amazing!??  
Come, let me show you the more  
exciting part.

ROBERT  
More?

They walk off to the cave.

EXT. ISLAND PRECIPICE -- CONTINUOUS

Jack hurries to the Hummer and goes through his bags. He pulls out his satellite phone. He is ecstatic.

JACK  
Holy shit! Finally, a signal!

Tess hears him, turns and looks at him.

EXT. ISLAND PRECIPICE /HUMMER -- MOMENTS LATER

Jack hold up the phone for her to see then dials numbers. BUDDY, his associate is on the other end of the line.

JACK  
Buddy, Jack, who else. Listen, I found him. Who do you think! Yes, I have definite proof and will have an extra special surprise for you. You WOULD have if I had a decent phone that accepts SIM Cards, now--

Jack listens to garbling on the phone. Pauses.

JACK (CONT'D)  
You will have to wait. Give me cheap ass equipment...that's the problem--

Jack once again pauses to listen. Jack is frustrated and in a hurry.

JACK (CONT'D)  
I need a seaplane this evening at these coordinates.

He pulls out a global navigation device

JACK (CONT'D)  
This I bought on my own but it is saving your ass.

He starts giving the coordinates. Tess looks back and sees no one. Jack is hidden behind the Hummer. Tess begins to walk back towards the Hummer.

JACK (CONT'D)  
Make sure he lands on the North side of the island. A lagoon? Yes, but that is the Southern side. Okay. South Beach, whatever...quietly. Hey! Listen, do not enter the lagoon. Right! I will use a flashlight or something. Midnight??... I can't hear--

There is LOUD static, he holds phone away from his ear. He peaks over the Hummer.

JACK (CONT'D)  
Piece of shit.

Tess nearing the front of the Hummer. He puts the phone to his head.

JACK (CONT'D)  
 Whatever, but the price is double!  
 Deal!

Jack hangs up the phone as Tess arrives and stands in front of him. He smiles and acts like he is still speaking.

JACK (CONT'D)  
 Okay, great. Tomorrow morning in the lagoon at sunrise. That's about 7 am, so we'll be ready about 9. Great.  
 (to Tess)  
 It's all set for the morning. Have you mentioned to Robert that you will be leaving?

Jack leans forward near her face. She pulls back a little.

TESS  
 No. It doesn't seem like a good idea right now.

JACK  
 You're probably right. I knew you were sharp. Say nothing to *anyone* until the morning before we leave, and then, only if you have to.

Tess nods her head and doesn't say a thing. Her expression shows concern, but even she doesn't know why.

INT. CAVE -- CONTINUOUS

As Robert and Dr. Yoster enter the cave there is a luminescent blue glow that leads far into the cave. A gusty, humid breeze flows through it brushing their face with air and moisture.

DR. YOSTER  
 Notice anything?

ROBERT  
 My God!

The vines cover the walls and ceiling. The light is not constant but rather pulsates like a cluster of stars seen through the earth's atmosphere. Robert is amazed. The Dr. is extremely excited.

DR. YOSTER  
 You SEE! You See. THIS is why I live for. Look at it Man! It lives.

ROBERT  
 Unbelievable!

DR. YOSTER  
 Robert. Do you think you can--

ROBERT

Keep it a secret? Of course, my friend. This part of the island is yours.

DR. YOSTER

Then you will buy the island?

ROBERT

You could say that. I also invest in what I believe in.

DR. YOSTER

And...

ROBERT

And, I believe in you.

Dr. Yoster gives Robert a giant bear hug squeezing the breath out of him. He gives one in return. Dr. Yoster takes a few more photos and they leave, stopping at the entrance for one last look into the glowing cave. Dr. yells, it echoes.

DR. YOSTER

AWESOME!

EXT. ISLAND PRECIPICE /HUMMER -- DAY

As they return, they see Tess and Jack sitting in the Hummer.

DR. YOSTER

Tess, you did not see.

ROBERT

It is amazing. You should check it out.

TESS

I don't really feel all that well, I would just rather get going. Later, perhaps.

DR. YOSTER

Yes, I am afraid we are out of time, and must get going.

As they pile into the Hummer the MUSHROOMTROLL seaplane flies overhead. Dr. Yoster goes wild: waving his arms and blowing the horn that sounds like an ocean-liner's fog horn--intense and loud. They head back down the mountainside.

EXT. LAGOON BEACH /DOCK -- DAY

As they emerge in the Hummer, Kitty is waiting patiently with her feet hanging over the dock.

EXT. DOCK /SKUNKMAGAZINE SEAPLANE -- DAY

The SKUNKMAGAZINE seaplane CAPTAIN comes out and stands near her.

KITTY

Here they come. Is everything set?

CAPTAIN OF SKUNK SEAPLANE

Ready to Rock and Roll...Rather fly smooth, like a bird riding on a gust of--

Kitty interrupts him in agreement; however, that turns to concern about the storm

KITTY

Yes, that sounds much better; looks nasty where we're headed though.

CAPTAIN OF SKUNK SEAPLANE

The radar shows some spotty, heavy rain. Not related to the system that passed. Just summer in the Caribbean. I'll do a final check and then fire up the engines.

Kitty stands and waits for the others to arrive. All four of them are walking down the runway. Jack pulls Dr. Yoster aside and tells him something, Tess and Robert continue towards Kitty. Kitty hugs them both.

KITTY

I truly hope to see you, both again. It was nice to have met you both.

(to Robert)

Next time, Gloria won't be with us, so....

ROBERT

So, my coconuts are safe.

They all laugh and Tess even cracks a smile.

TESS

If either of you come to Miami, please look me up.

The Dr. arrives at the seaplane and both Kitty and he give Tess a hug. Jack heads back towards his cabana.

DR. YOSTER

Count on it.

KITTY

Where is Jack going.

DR. YOSTER

He said he has a family emergency and must return back to England. He will wait for another seaplane arriving tomorrow. And, his equipment is still in the room. So--

ROBERT

Oh, really? Gee, that was sudden. How did he find out?

TESS

I saw him use a sat-phone.

ROBERT

Wonder why he didn't tell us he had one?

KITTY

I can tell you it is a piece of crap and rarely has worked in the last 2 weeks, at least not that I've seen.

DR. YOSTER

Yes. Perhaps it is best, though. Family is first. Our normal photographer will rejoin us for the final weeks. She is in Jamaica waiting for us now.

(to Kitty)

Ready honey?

The engines fire up.

KITTY

Honey's ready.

DR. YOSTER

I like that!

TESS

What about Marcello? Did you--

DR. YOSTER

We said goodbye already. He doesn't like seeing us, people, well... friends, leave.

They enter the seaplane, Tess and Robert walk away. Then Dr. Yoster emerges with a large garbage bag. He whistles, they turn. Robert heads back.

DR. YOSTER (CONT'D)

A parting gift for you. Tuti-fruity, Buble gum, and, well, who knows? Adios, farewell, and hyvästi friends.

Dr. Yoster closes the door and the plane roars forward and into the air. Tess and Robert stand apart and watch as the seaplane leaves. Robert picks up the huge, and heavy sack and scuttles up the dock yelling to Tess.

ROBERT

What a cool group of people don't you think? Well, I enjoyed them.

Robert reaches the Hummer only to have it speed away. Robert stops and drops the bag.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Shit! Come on! Shit. China may still be a good place after all.

He pauses for a moment looking around the at island. Then at the Hummer zipping away, then he looks at the bag.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Naaaa.

He throws the bag over his shoulder and starts to walk up the road.

EXT. MAIN ROAD -- DAY

Day is now fading into a darkness, as some dark clouds approach masking the sun. Robert walks alone.

ROBERT

Sticks. How about Rainbow sticks, or maybe Titan Sticks.

He motions a marquee sign with his free hand, suddenly Esmerelda appears on his shoulder, he takes it in stride.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Yeah, Titan Sticks, I like it  
(to Esmerelda)  
What do you think?

ESMERELDA

Okay, okay.

EXT./INT. MAIN HOUSE /FOYER -- EVENING

The Hummer is parked outside the front door Robert pauses and Esmerelda flies off knowingly. He enters the house after a long trek and sits the bag down. He heads into the kitchen. He returns with some blue beers. He climbs the staircase, exhausted.

INT. MAIN HOUSE /HALLWAY -- EVENING

He bangs on Tess' door.

ROBERT

You in there?

TESS (O.S.)

What!

INT. MAIN HOUSE /TESS' BEDROOM -- EVENING

Tess has clothes laid out on the bed. The bags that the clothes Robert bought also sit on the bed. She is taking things in and out.

ROBERT (O.S.)

Thanks for the lift home, I enjoyed carrying 25 kilos of weed on my back.

Tess pauses for a moment then walks over to the door.

INT. MAIN HOUSE /HALLWAY -- EVENING

Tess opens her door to see Robert about to shut his.

TESS

Robert.

ROBERT

What?

TESS

I am sorry. I should not have left you. That was wrong.

ROBERT

(turns to her)  
Accepted, thanks.

Robert goes into his room and shuts the door. Tess closes hers.

INT. MAIN HOUSE /ROBERT'S BEDROOM -- EVENING

Robert walks over to his bed and sits down. Pops a beer and lays back. He sees the hand radio and decides to give Marcello a call. Tess also hears this. Her radio is quiet.

ROBERT

Robert calling Marcello, Come in Marcello. Robert-O to Marcell-O? Marc--

MARCELLO (O.S.)

Roberto? You must allow me time to get to the radio, I am no longer young.

ROBERT

Sorry, I was just wanting to know if you need anything?

MARCELLO (O.S.)

Isn't that my job. That is to ask if you need anything?

ROBERT

Works both ways my friend.

MARCELLO (O.S.)

Thank you, Roberto. Did everyone get off the island okay?

ROBERT

As far as I know. Do you know when captain Crest will arrive with the new radio and, perhaps, pick us up?

MARCELLO (O.S.)

More than likely he will show up tomorrow evening. If the storm made big waves somewhere, that is where he is. Surfing! Do you need to leave sooner?

ROBERT

Actually, no. Why is there another way?

MARCELLO (O.S.)

No.

Robert laughs.

ROBERT

Okay, then good night.

MARCELLO (O.S.)

Good night, Roberto. What did you mean, perhaps? Roberto??..

INT. MARCELLO'S HOUSE /MAIN ROOM -- NIGHT

As soon as Marcello realizes Robert is not there, he places the radio back on its base on the kitchen pass-through. He hears a knock at the door, walks over to the double doors, which are slightly open, and shuts them.

EXT. MARCELLO'S HOUSE /FRONT DOOR -- NIGHT

Jack stands, surprisingly, in a heavy mist at the door.

MARCELLO

Jack?! Are you alright? Why are you still on the island?

JACK

A family member fell ill. I will be leaving tomorrow morning headed back to England.

MARCELLO

Oh, I am so sorry.

JACK

Sometimes, you are just not at the right place at the right time, and sometimes you are. Things just happen for a--

MARCELLO

Please come in and have a seat. Say no more out here.

Jack accepts and enters the main room.

INT. MARCELLO'S HOUSE /MAIN ROOM -- NIGHT

He sits on the couch and motions for Jack to sit. There is a cup of fresh coffee sitting on the table. Marcello drinks from the cup.

MARCELLO

Jack? Can I help you? In any way?

JACK

I'm really not here for me, but as a favor for the Dr. He wanted to get a picture of the two of you together in front of a painting, or something.

Marcello points to the mural of Greece on the wall.

MARCELLO

That one there. The mural. Jack, your accent, it is--

JACK

Confusing. Mother is Irish, Father English, and educated in America.

MARCELLO

Yes, I can hear it all. Now that you mention it to me.

JACK

Is that the only painting he helped you with?

MARCELLO

Yes, actually it is, why do you ask?

JACK

He spoke of doing this...painting several times on the plane, sounded like he was very proud. He really wanted a photo with you...it must have slipped his mind with his...New and exciting find.

Marcello understands Dr. Yoster's (Pascal's) excitement.

MARCELLO

Oh yes, well, he is very excited!

Marcello points at the wall.

MARCELLO (CONT'D)

The painting, it one of my favorites--

Jack interrupts. Marcello looks insulted then realizes Jack's situation.

JACK

Could I trouble you for a cup of coffee, it has been a long day and--

MARCELLO

Of course. Cream and sugar?

Marcello stands and heads to the kitchen.

JACK

That would be great, thank you.

Jack sees Marcello's back to him then pulls and pours a small vial of clear liquid into Marcello's cup. Jack then stands facing the painted mural. Jack's voice is raised.

JACK (CONT'D)

This was more than a find, it was one of those incredibly lucky ones that make you famous.

He takes out his camera and stares at the mural, then takes a few shots. Marcello brings another cup of coffee in fine china, with cream and sugar, all on a silver platter.

MARCELLO

Dr. Yoster is already known well... Here you are. Again, I am sorry about your family. Is it serious?

Marcello motions for Jack to sit. They both sit, and begin to drink their coffee.

JACK

Hope not, let's have a toast to their well-being.

Jack holds up his cup, the Marcello does the same.

MARCELLO

Yes. To you and your family.

They drink to the toast.

JACK

I do have one request, not for me, exactly--

MARCELLO

Yes?

JACK

Well, if I could get one shot of you in front of the mural, I would like to send it to him as a surprise on his upcoming birthday.

Marcello is on cloud nine speaking about art, something very dear to his heart, obviously shown.

MARCELLO

Brilliant idea, Jack! You know this fresco was made with authentic natural paints from the 3rd century. It is really one of the finer works of art replicated today from past techniques. What do you think, Jack?

Marcello is very excited and when he stands he almost falls over, Jack catches him.

JACK

Are you okay?

MARCELLO

Yes, must have raised up too quick.

Jack holds Marcello's arm, but Marcello pulls it gently away and motions that he is okay.

MARCELLO (CONT'D)

Jack, get the camera, I will be fine.

INT. MARCELLO'S HOUSE /MAIN ROOM /MURAL -- MOMENTS LATER

He stands at the mural and leans against the wall. Jack snaps a few photos with his camera.

JACK

Well, I think that I haven't a clue because I am not a master panier. But it looks like a masterpiece done by a master painter.

Jack smiles with cynicism.

JACK (CONT'D)

You know what I mean?

Marcello smiles, nods his head in agreement thanking Jack. Jack quickly shoots a few pics, Marcello then stumbles; he is clearly losing balance quickly, like alcohol inebriation.

INT. MARCELLO'S HOUSE /MAIN ROOM /COUCH -- NIGHT

Jack takes his arm and sits him on the couch.

JACK

Here, drink some coffee. Maybe it will wake you up.

MARCELLO

Yes, thank you.

Jack zooms in on Marcello's face with his camera as Marcello and takes a photo while Marcello takes a few more sips of coffee. He places the cup down, it spills onto the floor.

JACK

I think, perhaps, you should lean your head back, Antonio. I'll get this mess cleaned up.

MARCELLO

What!? Jack, what did you call me? I am Marc--

JACK

Save it, Antonio.

MARCELLO

Who are you?

Jack responds sternly. A complete reversal from before.

JACK

How did you think your works could keep appearing after your supposed death?

Marcello does not respond, he cannot. Jack finishes his coffee and then stands and walks over to Marcello.

JACK (CONT'D)

It took a long time to find you, and the story is going to make me a lot of money. Nothing personal. Robert and Tess were bonuses. Mucho Dinero.

Jack rubs his forefinger and thumb, stands and heads towards the closed double doors. Marcello strains to speak.

MARCELLO

No. You can't. You mus--

JACK

But I am, and I will Antonio. Just relax and you should be fine in about 10 hours. Well, you may have a slight headache, but such is life. Oh, thanks for the coffee, woke me up!

Jack opens the door and we see a flood of light come through the doors. Marcello's vision fades seeing Jack enter the room in a dark silhouette against a pure white light. EVERYTHING fades to grey, then black.

INT. MAIN HOUSE /BALCONY -- NIGHT

Tess is standing on the balcony looking out over the pool which is lit by a bright full moon. She walks over to Robert's door and knocks softly.

TESS

Hey, are you awake?

She peaks inside to see Robert sound asleep with a few blue beer bottles beside him. The clock reads 11:30.

TESS (CONT'D)

Pssst. Hey, beautiful night for a walk.

She hears nothing. She shuts the door and quietly walks down the steps to the front door and exits.

EXT. OUTER BEACH -- NIGHT

Jack is waiting on the beach leaning against the 4 wheeler with the trailer. The trailer is full unidentifiable items. He looks again and again at his watch.

JACK

Come on, bloody idiot! Where are you!

He first hears, then sees pinpoints of lights in the distance. The seaplane is approaching. He begins to wave the high-powered flashlight wildly. He notices that the seaplane cuts off all but the two smaller engines. It heads for the lagoon. He shines the light right into the cockpit.

JACK (CONT'D)

Here! Here! How can you miss this?!  
Damn it! Damn it! Damn it!

He jumps back on the 4 and rides hard and fast.

EXT. LAGOON BEACH -- NIGHT

Tess walks quietly down the main road listening to the leaves rustle in the gentle wind. As she does lightning in the distance sends gleaming shafts of light, lighting her way. Tess is almost to the water's edge when she sees the seaplane approaching, it comes into focus. She is surprised to see another unidentified seaplane breaking the silence and still of the night. The plane engines are quiet compared to the giant seaplanes earlier (mushroomtroll, skunkmagazine, titanseed and no-name, flown by Crest).

The seaplane skips up and down off the water a few times before the engines are cut off. She begins to yell half-heatedly as she knows it will be meaningless.

TESS

Watch out for the..

It is low tide therefore the pylons are higher. She watches as the seaplane's right wing hits the tall pylon with a dull thud. The plane spins around and settles perfectly parallel to the dock. The tail is right on the beach. Tess, in shock, decides to find out what is going on.

EXT. DOCK /DOOR OF SEAPLANE -- NIGHT

The door opens, and after a few moments CAPTAIN #2 stumbles out. He is definitely drunk by the indication of his movements, the slurring of his words, and the half-empty bottle of vodka in his hand. He looks around. Tess' silhouette appears. He is American. Jimmy Buffet plays softly in the background. He speaks loudly to himself.

CAPTAIN #2

Ah. Another perfect landing!  
Couldn't have done better if I tried!  
(laughs)  
Indeed, I did try.

He takes another drink. Tess appears fully lit by the continual lightning flashes and occasional moonbeam.

TESS

Can I help you?

CAPTAIN #2

Ah, You must be Jack...

TESS

No.

CAPTAIN #2

Well, whatever, climb aboard.

The captain goes in and sits in the pilot's seat.

CAPTAIN #2 (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Well! Come on! I won't bite.

Tess is curious but cautious. She doesn't want the captain to start the seaplane so she boards.

INT. SEAPLANE /COCKPIT -- NIGHT

CAPTAIN #2

Come on now. You were the one in the big hurry!

TESS

Captain?

CAPTAIN #2

Up here. After you close the hatch, we can--

Tess appears next to the captain and takes the bottle before he can get it to his lips.

CAPTAIN #2 (CONT'D)

Come on Jack. Just a little swig before we take off.

TESS

What? You can't even walk!

CAPTAIN #2

You're right, I AM better at flying. Are you all buckled up?

He looks at Tess, shakes his head and takes another look.

CAPTAIN #2 (CONT'D)

You're the best looking Jack I have ever...

He passes out. In the distance, headlights close fast.

TESS

Damn.

(to captain)

This should be interesting.

Jack arrives quickly and boards the seaplane. Tess gets as low and deeply hidden as she can. She finds a cargo blanket and masks herself just enough to miss Jack's initial glances around the cockpit.

JACK

Hey, asshole! What is your problem? I said on the beach. Hey?!

He spots the almost empty bottle of vodka that tess placed back in his lap. He notices he is passed out. He smacks the captains cheeks.

JACK (CONT'D)  
Hey, sleepy head. HEY!

The captain awakes startled.

CAPTAIN #2  
Oh, hey. Hey, your not as pretty as I thought. Damn nice dream I guess. Ready?

Jack turns off the music.

JACK  
What? Hey, listen. I will...  
(captain nods off)  
Hey!  
(he awakes)  
I will be back with coffee at 5 am.  
Be ready.

Jack lets go of the captain and he falls back semiconscious. Jack takes the bottle of vodka and drinks the remaining amount. He goes to the 4 wheeler and begins to unload, then load his stuff in the seaplane. Tess peeks to see Jack reappear, rip out a page of the log book, writes "5 am" and places it in the captains hat covering his eyes.

INT. SEAPLANE /CARGO AND PASSENGER BAY -- NIGHT

Jack rummages through his goods to find his satellite phone and a small flashlight. The bright flashes provide enough light for Tess to see glimpses of Jack. He exits and shuts the door quietly. Tess waits until she hears him outside. She pokes her head up to see him walking away. She can hear through the open side windows.

EXT. DOCK /LAGOON BEACH -- CONTINUOUS

Jack is walking in circles talking into the phone in a harsh, stinging tone; however, he keeps it almost at a whisper.

JACK  
I don't care, get up. Yeah. Listen, the pilot is drunk, but I have all the proof I need to take two people down, and me to the top. So, the price is triple now.  
(listens to phone)  
Don't threat...Don't you forget!  
I will get to a civilized island and send you one photo, no more until the money is in my account.

He walks off to his cabana.

INT. SEAPLANE /COCKPIT -- CONTINUOUS

Tess gets up. Says to captain quietly.

TESS

I hope he's only an ass because he  
knows you...

Tess watches, then sees Jack enter his cabana. She goes to see what is aboard.

INT. SEAPLANE /CARGO AND PASSENGER BAY -- NIGHT

She continues to talk to the captain.

TESS

...because I would just hate to have  
just met a complete jerk instead of  
prince charming.

Tess walks up and peeks her head in at the captain.

TESS (CONT'D)

You know?

She pauses, gets no response

INT. SEAPLANE #3 /CARGO AREA -- NIGHT

She notices 4 large items covered in brown wrapping paper, held up by Jack's bags. They are 2x2', 4" deep. Tess looks around at all Jack's stuff. She hears some rustling and opens the door quietly-nothing. She returns to Jack's stuff and counts the items outloud.

TESS

1, 2, 3, 4...4? I don't remember  
seeing--

She starts to stick her hand through the paper when she is startled by a voice; she turns to the door. Jack yells.

JACK

Shit!

The lights of Jack's cabana go out.

TESS

Time to go. Have a good night.

EXT. DOCK /LAGOON BEACH -- NIGHT

She carefully exits and walks back up the beach.

EXT. LAGOON BEACH -- NIGHT

Tess stops, pauses, and just stares at the seaplane, looking like she doesn't know what to do. She turns towards the main road then back again at the seaplane.

EXT. JACK'S CABANA -- MORNING

Tess peeks in Jack's window to see him asleep, The sun shines through Jack's window and across his eyes and wakes him. He reaches for the clock; Tess disappears.

INT. JACK'S CABANA -- MOMENTS LATER

He jumps up to see that his clock stopped at 3 am. He looks at it and then he looks at his watch, it is 7 am. He drops the clock.

INT. MAIN HOUSE /ROBERT'S BEDROOM -- MORNING

Robert awakes to the sound of a yelling Marcello. He jumps up; he is only wearing shorts. He grabs a shirt and sprints.

MARCELLO (O.S.)  
Roberto!! Tess!! Roberto!! Help!

Robert runs out into the hallway and sees Marcello gasping for air below. He sees Robert putting a shirt on.

MARCELLO (CONT'D)  
Outside, quick. Come. Jack...

He runs outside.

ROBERT  
Coming.

INT. MAIN HOUSE /TESS' BEDROOM

He mutters almost silently to himself.

ROBERT  
Jack, figures.

He runs into Tess' room only to see the clothes folded and a note saying "I AM sorry."

INT. JACK'S CABANA -- CONTINUOUS

Jack is frantically looking to make sure he has taken everything. He is frustrated.

JACK  
This is just getting psycho. Damn it!

He flings the door open and runs toward the dock.

EXT. ISLAND /DOCK -- MORNING

As he turns towards the seaplane he hears Tess.

TESS (O.S.)  
What time did you say to meet you?

Jack doesn't stop. Tess follows into view.

INT. MAIN HOUSE -- CONTINUOUS

Robert is still searching for Tess in different rooms.

ROBERT  
Tess?! Tess?!  
(MORE)

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
 (to Marcello)  
 Coming, Marcello. Coming!

He rushes down the steps, out the door and into the cart.  
 Marcello sits in the passenger seat mumbling; head in hands.

EXT. DOCK /LAGOON BEACH -- CONTINUOUS

Jack is almost at the door and yells to Tess.

JACK  
 Now would be great!

He jumps aboard the seaplane to see the captain beginning to stand; he pushes him down. He speaks out of breath.

INT. SEAPLANE /COCKPIT -- MORNING

The captain is just about to get up; Jack pushes him down.

JACK  
 Sit down and get this thing moving  
 now and I will buy you a case of the  
 finest vodka...your choice. Here is  
 an advance. If not, I turn you in.

He hands him 3 new \$100 bills.

CAPTAIN #3  
 Sure thing.

Jack goes to the door. The engines fire up one at a time.

INT./EXT. SEAPLANE /DOOR -- MORNING

Tess stands outside. The engines start to come to life;  
 Jack yells to the captain.

JACK  
 Come on, what are you waiting for?  
 Let's go, NOW!

TESS  
 You lied to me!

JACK  
 No, take my hand and get aboard. I  
 will tell you everything. Come on.

Tess is hesitant as Jack's arm stretches for her.

EXT. MAIN ROAD /CART -- CONTINUOUS

Robert and Marcello are in the cart, the beach is just ahead.

ROBERT  
 I know! You told me that already.  
 That's all you have said. I don't  
 know what paintings you are talking  
 about.

Marcello keeps on repeating something in hysterics reverting back and forth from English to Spanish.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

I know. HEY!! Sorry, I just didn't want to slug you. We'll get 'em. The Bastard!

They arrive at the beach to see Jack standing in the doorway of the seaplane that is beginning to move. He has a portable camera and is laughing as he takes shots of Marcello and Robert running toward him.

EXT. DOCK /SEAPLANE -- MORNING

The aircraft is just out of range to jump on and it is steadily increasing in speed. He has to yell over the engines ROAR.

ROBERT

Tess! Hey asshole, where's Tess?

Robert keeps up a frantic pace to keep up with the departing seaplane. Jack motions that he can't hear Robert and continues taking pictures. The plane is pulling away.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Tess!? What did you do to Marcello?

JACK

What? You lose something?

Jack looks inside and smiles. His large grin turns larger; his eyes say "gotcha".

JACK (CONT'D)

Sorry, can't hear. Oh, looks like your friend Antonio needs help.

Robert is confused because he doesn't know who Antonio is. He turns and looks to see Marcello on his knees near the edge of the dock. He turns back to the seaplane and bends.

JACK (CONT'D)

These are for you. I have more than enough. Bye.

Jack wings the camera, and points to Marcello, who is no longer on the dock. The camera flies through the air; suddenly Robert snatches it without looking. Jack shuts the door and the aircraft begins to move out of sight. He, puts the camera in his pocket, then runs and jumps off the dock.

ROBERT

Marcello, I'm coming.

EXT. LAGOON -- MORNING

Robert lands in the shallow water and pulls Marcello out.

EXT. LAGOON BEACH -- MORNING

He drags Marcello's limp body onto the beach.

ROBERT

Marcello!?

Marcello coughs and shakes is shaking. He is barely heard.

MARCELLO

Yes, Roberto. I am still alive,  
maybe not so fortunately.

ROBERT

Nonsense. Let's get you home.

Robert lifts, then buckles Marcello in the seat of the cart.  
Marcello coughs hard then passes out again.

INT. MARCELLO'S HOUSE /MAIN ROOM-- MORNING

Robert places Marcello, still passed out, on the couch in  
the living room and listens to his heart. He smiles. He  
sees the spilled coffee and notices 2 cups.

ROBERT

You'll be okay now, my friend.

Robert turns and sees the double doors open. Light pours  
out of the doors. Robert walks through them.

INT. MARCELLO'S HOUSE /STUDIO -- MORNING

Robert is amazed to find a large room filled with paint and  
painting supplies. Light pours through translucent skylights  
and the hanging high-wattage, Metal Halide daylight lamps.  
Some paintings are stacked, vertically leaning on one another,  
wrapped in paper; others remain visible.

The paintings are mostly landscapes of both fictional and  
real places. There are castles, forests, downtowns of modern  
cities across the world. Some are Impressionistic, however,  
various styles and sizes abound.

The room is immaculately organized and clean, except for the  
few ripped pieces of brown paper and little strings used for  
wrapping laying about. These were left by Jack in haste.

He notices that each one bears the name of Antonio Sequilla.  
He reads it outloud.

ROBERT

Antonio Sequilla? So, this is where  
you disappeared?

Robert continues to look around amazed not only because of  
the beauty of the paintings, but also because he knows the  
secret of Marcello's identity.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

How many secrets does this island  
have left?

He turns near an easel by the window and finds a 2 x 2' painting of a majestic tropical island in the center surrounded by a circle. Next to it lay a 1 x 1' "note". There are 20 spaces, 5 blank, including line 1; 10 marked out with a single broad stroke of black paint; and the other five are randomly scattered throughout. They read: "L'amour Islands"; "Paradise Islands"; "Paradise Isles"; "Isle of Man" - it has a check beside it.

Robert looks around and finds a brush with green paint on it. He writes, in the number 1 spot, "Masterpiece Isle". He pauses, thinking outloud.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Isle of Man? Tess!? She couldn't go with that bastard, Jack. No way!

Robert leaves the studio, passes the main room; Marcello is still asleep. He runs out of the house and down the side path to the main house. He is there in record time.

INT. MAIN HOUSE /TESS' BEDROOM -- DAY

Robert enters to find the clothes and note just as he left it. It just says "sorry". He turns it over to see, "hope you can forgive me!" He yells again.

ROBERT

TESS! Tess?!

He then hears the sound of a 4 wheeler rush by. He runs downstairs and out the front door.

EXT. MAIN HOUSE /ENTRY -- DAY

Robert stands looking around. He hears it but can't tell what direction. Jumps in the Hummer, takes off only to come to a dead still almost immediately.

ROBERT

This is totally insane!

He looks in both directions, then heads towards Marcello's house.

INT. MARCELLO'S HOUSE -- DAY

Robert enters yelling for Marcello, he get no response and finds no body. He yells frantically.

ROBERT

Marcello!? Marcello!! Damn!

EXT. MAIN ROAD /HUMMER -- DAY

Robert speeds down past the lagoon looking but sees nothing.

ROBERT

Marcello! Don't repay me by killing yourself! You extravagant ol' man.

He slams on the breaks at the end of the secondary road. Only the path leads up. Dark clouds are starting to overtake the island.

EXT./INT. SECONDARY ROAD /HUMMER -- DAY

He buckles his seat belt.

ROBERT

Hold on everyone. It'll be a rough, but fun ride.

He floors it up the path. Items go flying out of the back. Everything is bouncing around. Near the top of the cleared path, he yells emulating Dr. Yoster.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Let's see what this blue button, here, does. Ya.

After he pushes it the Hummer bolts forward, throws him back and gets airborne over the plateau. He sees the 4 wheeler, Marcello is sitting by the edge looking out over the sea. Robert stops before getting to close; he jumps out and runs.

EXT. ISLAND PRECIPICE -- DAY

He stops next to Marcello, Marcello just looks ahead and speaks without facing Robert.

MARCELLO

I want to thank you for helping me.  
I am ashamed of not telling you who I was...but...

Robert kneels in front of Marcello, he is gasping for air. Robert looks down the precipice, scared, he moves to the side of Marcello. They face one another.

ROBERT

I'm sure you had your reasons. We all have reasons for privacy. Are you okay?

MARCELLO

My name is Antonio.

Robert places his hand in Marcello's hand. Rain begins.

ROBERT

How 'bout I just call you Mello, and you call me Roberto?

They stand and Marcello and gives him a hug, Robert realizes he may have saved this man's life; he made a friend; and he too needs a hug. He gently pats Marcello on the back.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

It's cool. Everything will be okay.

MARCELLO

Thank you, Roberto, but you don't understand. My life, as I know it is over. They will find me.

ROBERT

Who?

MARCELLO

Paparazzi, clients, reporters. They will all come.

ROBERT

This is my island, and no one will--

MARCELLO

Yes, I know.

ROBERT

You do? Listen, tell me about it later. We've got to get out of this rain.

They begin to walk towards the hummer.

MARCELLO

It was in the letter that Tess gave me. My friend Mr. Man has always been honest with me. He felt it the right thing to do...To let me know what has happened, you buying the islands, Tess...

ROBERT

And, you said nothing? Not to me or anyone?

MARCELLO

No. I keep secrets. I also wanted just to know you without influences.

ROBERT

So Tess still doesn't.

Robert pauses and Marcello shakes his head "no". Robert gets an idea, his entire expression has changed.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

One of my companies, if I still have any left after this mess, provides high tech security. This is my island and you are my friend. No one will get to either of us.

MARCELLO

I don't understand?

ROBERT

Let's both talk about it later. When we're dry. You are the only friend I will probably have after this affair.

MARCELLO

You are so kind, thank you, but you,  
Tess, everyone made me believe in my  
own words again. I must live as  
Antonio, once again. I must--

Large gusts of wind accompany the rain. They turn and head towards the Hummer only to see Tess standing there. She has a busted lip and is just leaning against the Hummer. Marcello looks at Robert, then heads for cover under the canopy of trees. Robert walks up to her.

EXT. ISLAND PRECIPICE /HUMMER -- DAY

Rain falls harder as Robert gets to Tess yelling. They both signal "here we go" through their facial gestures.

ROBERT

I can't believe you would even show  
your face on my island. I understand  
why you might want to ruin my life...  
well, not really. But, you almost  
landed Marcello in the grave. He  
didn't deserve any of this.

TESS

Let me explain--

ROBERT

Explain what? Why you would even  
consider helping that arrogant,  
unscrupulous, bastard and--

TESS

Asshole!?

ROBERT

Yes. Thank you.

Robert gets closer to notice her lip bleeding.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

You've been hit.

TESS

No--

ROBERT

He's... Is he here with you!

TESS

Yes! He is!

ROBERT

What!?

Robert can't believe what he just heard. Jack is with her back on the island. He turns and takes a few deep breaths; however, it doesn't stop his pain and, finally, anger.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

Was the rain too much to fly in and you came back to get more...you are crazy!

TESS

What do you want from me?

ROBERT

What do you want from me?

Robert is now in her face, they stare into one another's eyes.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

You said you loved me and walked out. The only way to get your attention was to bring back disco.

TESS

I was confused and I needed to make sure. Anyway, you love disco.

Tess starts to cry.

ROBERT

The music! Yes. The hair and sideburns, that was scary!

Tess cracks a little smile then cries harder.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

What do you mean *it worked in a way* anyway!?

Tess shakes her head crying, she can't hold back.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

In your way? Is that good for US! Shit, well, now at least not we're on the same level...Confused!

Robert walks around in a circle making gestures. He searches for the right words in his head. Tess can barely look at him. She knows she hurt him, and Marcello. Robert walks right up to her face.

ROBERT (CONT'D)

I love you! Good or bad, that's the truth. You are a prize worth more than any possession I have. Nothing is more important or valuable!

TESS

Why the whole mysterious facade?

ROBERT

I love you, damn it!

TESS

You should have told me who you were!

Booming thunder is heard and the gusts, and heavy rain, increase as they stand on the precipice. In the distance there are flashes of lightning. No one, however, pays attention.

ROBERT

I wanted your love and honesty. Not to be used again and again, like the few times before where the women I dated only cared about money. Fun for a while, but no substance. You are substance, love has substance.

TESS

So, you thought I was like that!?

ROBERT

No. Damn! Let's go forward. Everything is out now, isn't it?

TESS

Yes! But, what if I don't love you?

Robert is shocked. He did not expect that kind of answer. He pauses. Saddened.

ROBERT

Then you and I walk away forever.

TESS

And what if I do love you?

ROBERT

Then we have some great times ahead! Except that my life and his have been ruined by that--

TESS

Do you think I would let that asshole destroy your life, or his!?

Marcello can't hear, he just watches. He is lost in his own discovery of self-realization. Robert gets very excited.

ROBERT

I knew you wouldn't do it!  
(to Marcello)  
I knew she wouldn't do it!

TESS

I have everything. Jack don't have jack!

The wind and rain stop as sudden as it started. Sun-rays dot the landscape around them with points of light. Robert and Tess are still talking loud.

ROBERT

Marry me!?

TESS  
You didn't even ask if I loved you?

TESS AND ROBERT  
You don't have to yell!

There is silence and they both smile. Robert gets on one knee. They are both dripping wet.

ROBERT  
Just prove it to me. Marry me,  
please?

Marcello can now hear everything and is nodding his head "yes". Tess sees him and her smile brightens. She pulls him up, kisses him in a very passionate way then pushes him back, hard. Robert is definitely confused.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
What now!? O.K. How do you want  
our masterpiece we've created to  
end?

A moment of silence.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
Do you love me or not?

Tess walks up to him looks in his eyes and slaps his face.

TESS  
That is for busting my lip and  
bruising my ribs on the way up here  
in that!  
(points to Hummer)

ROBERT  
What?! I didn't... you were in--

TESS  
I am surprised I didn't fly out along  
with everything else! Lunatic driver!

They both smile and laugh at themselves.

ROBERT  
I'm sorry. You know that I'm crazy  
in love with you, don't you?

Tess puts her hand on his cheek, Robert flinches.

ROBERT (CONT'D)  
Are we done with the slapping. It  
really hurts.

She rubs it. Anticipation of pain fills Robert's eyes.  
Tess looks deep into his eyes again.

TESS  
This is for saving Marcello's life  
and loving me.

ROBERT

You--

Tess and Robert have tears of joy in their eyes. Tess blows her nose on Robert's shirt. She snuffles, her eyes swollen.

TESS

Yes, I saw you. Will you ever give up on me?

ROBERT

If I haven't yet, then--

TESS

Even after all that has happened? How?

ROBERT

Do you love me?

TESS

Yes, Robert, I do love you.

ROBERT

That's how.

TESS

Well, then. It looks as though I'll have to take the easy way out.

There they stand, face to face with eyes lovingly engaged. Robert is almost exploding with expectation.

TESS (CONT'D)

Yes, I will marry you, Robert!

ROBERT

It's Mr. BIG to you, sexy momma!

TESS

We'll see!

Marcello has tears in his eyes and is smiling. They kiss and pull back from one another. They yell, mimicking Robert's spin move in the beginning.

TESS AND ROBERT

Owww!!!

They kiss again and it turns into a photo. We hear the remix of Hot Chocolate's, "Sexy Thing".

ENDING MONTAGE SEQUENCE BEGINS

Beginning with the kiss turning into a photo, then photos of: Dr. Yoster on different magazine covers with his new find in hand; Charley and Esmerelda sitting in a window together on the island; the wedding held on the island; Antonio playing his guitar; Robert running down the dock after the seaplane; Magazine covers of the return of Antonio; Christie's auction house selling an Antonio painting; and a new sign is revealed on the Mr. Man's office, it is the

2x2' painting Robert saw on the easel only now surrounding it are the words, "Masterpiece Isles Realty: T.A.G. Ltd."; the Mushroomtroll, Titanseed, and Skunkmagazine planes in the harbor with temporary labs set up; various. We hold on Jack unhappily wearing a "Baby Photo Shop" shirt with a name tag that simply says "Jock".

MONTAGE SEQUENCE ENDS.

FADE OUT:

*SilentOne Productions*