

FADE IN:

EXT. PRISON - EARLY MORNING

Ominous grey skies loom above a huge stone building. A door opens and a WARDEN and GROUP OF GUARDS escort a MAN outside.

The now-former prisoner is JASON (25). He walks like he's king of the Universe.

WARDEN

Well, Jason, I hope you've learned
a lesson during your short stay.

JASON

Sure have, Leo. Don't get caught.

The warden chuckles.

As they reach the perimeter gate, he takes Jason aside.

WARDEN

Look, I don't usually do this, but
is there anything I can do for you
before you hit the road?

The guards watch as the warden digs in his pocket and gives Jason something. The two men shake hands and Jason passes through the gate, to freedom.

The warden joins the throng of guards.

WARDEN

You know, boys, I really think that
kid's going to do alright.

GUARD 1

Hey, boss, what'd you give him?

WARDEN

Just some cab money.

GUARD 1

I already gave him twenty!

GUARD 2

Fifty from me.

GUARD 3

(holds up his bare wrist)
I loaned him my watch.

They all turn and watch Jason get into a waiting cab.

INT. TAXI - EARLY MORNING

Jason checks out his new watch.

The frizzy-haired CAB DRIVER eyes him in her rearview mirror.

JASON

Hi there.

CAB DRIVER

Can it, jail bird. My daddy was a cop.

JASON

Hey, you got me wrong...

He glances at her cab license, posted on the back of the seat, and sees her name.

JASON

Agnes, can I call you Agnes? I volunteer three mornings a week...

He spots rosary beads hanging from the mirror.

JASON

Helping Father O' Brien with his bible study group.

She smiles and steps on the gas.

EXT. MILTON'S HOUSE - MORNING

The taxi pulls up to a modest little home.

Jason gets out and tries to pay Agnes, but she waves him off. She hands him a slip of paper.

He waits for the cab to pull away before tossing her number. He walks up the path towards the house.

INT. MILTON'S HOUSE - MORNING

Jason enters and spots a fat, middle-aged NURSE.

JASON

Hi. I'm looking for Milton.

The nurse can't find her glasses, though they're perched on her head.

NURSE
You mean, Lord Wiley? Well, you're
too late. Whatever he owes you, you
ain't gonna get it.

She finds her spectacles, puts them on and gasps.

NURSE
Wait, you're Jason!

JASON
Yeah, where's Milt?

INT. MILTON'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Jason is ashen as he sits down opposite the nurse.

JASON
I wondered why he stopped visiting.

NURSE
He could barely visit the john by
the end, let alone the clink.

JASON
Was it fast?

NURSE
No, it took him about a half hour
to tinkle, let alone a--

JASON
No, the end. Did he... did he go--

NURSE
Fast ain't the word. He was
watching Jeopardy, how he loved
that show. He yelled out 'what is
Sackajewia?' and that was it.

She's sombre as she looks up at an old photograph on the
wall. Milton's dressed in spiffy 1950's fashion, a man of
around 30, every inch the lovable rogue; just like Jason.

NURSE
Boy, was he a charmer, though.

She smiles at Jason.

NURSE
Well, they say the acorn don't fall
far from the turnip truck.

JASON
We weren't really related--

NURSE
Lordie, I almost forgot!

She pulls an envelope from her apron and hands it to him.

Jason opens the envelope. There's a document inside.

NURSE
He left you everything. Lucky you
can't inherit debt! I'm owed two
months pay! But I'da nursed that
old buzzard for free for the rest
of my life, and that's the truth.

She gets up.

NURSE
You know what really breaks my
heart? He was wrong. It was 'what
is Pocahontas?'

She leaves in tears. Jason finds something else in the
envelope. A letter with Lord Milton Wile in fancy lettering
at the top of it.

MILTON (V.O.)
(in a stiff English accent)
Dear Jason, young fellow, me-lad...

FLASHBACK INT. MILTON'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Bed-bound MILTON (80's) writes with a shaky hand.

MILTON (V.O.)
By the time you read this missive,
I'll have departed this world.
And, alas, I will pass alone and as
poor as a one-legged Irishman
living above a distillery! So
please, my boy, heed my words.

INT. MILTON'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT (PRESENT)

Jason looks round the shabby room. A photograph of Jason and
Milton sits on the night stand. Jason continues to read.

MILTON (V.O.)
Learn from my mistakes, lead an
honest life from here on.
(MORE)

MILTON (V.O.) (CONT'D)
And don't pretend that love has no
value, for love's worth more than
all the treasures of the world.

JASON
Go straight?! Love? Is this some
kind of joke, Milt?

As Jason sits down on the bed, a pair of discarded false
teeth nearly bite him on the ass.

MILTON (V.O.)
This is not some kind of joke. I
was your age when I fell in love.

FLASHBACK INT. MILTON'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Milton holds a faded photograph of a beautiful woman, dressed
in the fashion of a bygone age. A tear rolls down his cheek.

MILTON (V.O.)
But damned fool that I was, I let
her slip away, abandoning her in my
search of wealthier women, ripe for
the plucking! How I regret my
calamitous folly.

He puts the photograph in a box with dozens of letters.

MILTON (V.O.)
Over the years, I've written her
many a letter and never had the
gumption to post a single one.

EXT. MILTON'S HOUSE - MORNING (PRESENT)

Jason walks down the path with the box.

MILTON (V.O.)
As a last request, deliver these
letters to Mrs. Florence Mudge, so
she'll know what she meant to me,
even if it's too late.

As Jason reaches the end of the path, he looks at the address
on the package: ONE MILLIONAIRE LANE.

MILTON (V.O.)
I understand she married well...

EXT. MANSION - MORNING

A sign on a gilded gate reads "One Millionaire Lane". The huge house behind the wrought iron looks well-named.

A cab pulls away, revealing VICTORIA (35). She's the epitome of the blonde airhead, dressed flashily with dark shades. She squeals with delight as she sees the mansion.

Beside her is GORDON (45), an impeccably dressed, impossibly buff guy with a perfect moustache and jaw line. He sobs as he sees TWO MEN slide a stretcher bearing a covered body into the back of a black van. Victoria clutches his arm.

JEEVES (O.S.)

But where will I go?

Elderly JEEVES has been bundled out of the house, his coat and hat half-on, and a suitcase in his grip.

JEEVES

I've worked for this family for
half a century!

LAWRENCE MUDGE (50) is behind him, a chubby little man with a bad toupee and a cheap suit. He stuffs a few bills in Jeeves' hand.

JEEVES

(looking at the money)
This wouldn't buy me a bus ticket!
If your mother were alive, master
Lawrence, she'd--

LAWRENCE

Tell you to take it easy! After
fifty years, you've earned it.

JEEVES

You're just like your father.

Lawrence looks quite pleased by this comment.

JEEVES

He was a cheap asshole too. But at
least he was tall.

Lawrence snarls.

Jeeves passes Gordon.

GORDON

Jeeves, where are you going?!

JEEVES
Ask your miniature brother.

And he's off.

GORDON
Lawrence! Where's Jeeves going?

LAWRENCE
He was mother's servant, Gordon.
Now that she's gone--

Gordon sobs and hugs Lawrence, who looks uncomfortable.

GORDON
Oh, big bro, I'm so sorry you had
to go through her death alone.

ELENA (O.S.)
He wasn't alone.

Standing behind Lawrence is ELENA (30s), dressed for
business, buttoned up and bespectacled.

ELENA
He had me.

VICTORIA
Just like you had me, Gordy.

LAWRENCE
I see you've grown another beard,
Gordy.

Gordon rubs his bare chin in confusion.

VICTORIA
I'm Victoria, you gotta be Larry!

LAWRENCE
Lawrence.

VICTORIA
Come here, Larry!

She hugs him hard. Lawrence shakes her off.

VICTORIA
We're kin folk now, so you better
get used to huggin'! Yep, I'm Mrs.
Gordon Mudge, the sixth and last,
honey!

(MORE)

VICTORIA (CONT'D)
Those other gals might not have
been able to keep this big lug
happy but I will! And who's this
pretty little thing?

LAWRENCE
Just my assistant, Elena.

Elena flinches at this description. Victoria's about to hug
her when Elena sticks out a hand instead. As they shake,
Victoria inspects Elena's hand.

VICTORIA
No ring on that finger, blossom?

Elena pulls back her hand like it was burned.

Gordon follows Lawrence into the house, leaving Victoria to
pick up their suitcases and follow Elena inside.

INT. MANSION - FOYER - MORNING

Incredibly high ceilings, marble everything, two grand
staircases that converge on the upper floor... it all screams
money, and Victoria's loving that sound.

She carries the suitcases as she follows Elena up one of the
staircases, while her husband follows Lawrence to the study.

ELENA
I've put you in the bedroom next
door to your husband.

INT. LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Gordon's tearful, seated on a sofa. Lawrence can hardly hide
his disdain as he sits down behind his desk.

GORDON
Did momma suffer in the end?

LAWRENCE
Terribly. It didn't matter how much
they doped her up, the pain just
kept coming!

The more Lawrence goes on, the harder Gordon sobs.

LAWRENCE
And she kept saying, 'where's my
Gordon?' And I said, 'mother, he's
having a gay old time in Acapulco!
(MORE)

LAWRENCE (CONT'D)
But I'm here.' And that brought
poor mom some comfort as she took
her last tormented breath.

Gordon's totally devastated.

Victoria comes in with Elena.

ELENA
If you don't like the room, there's
a lovely Best Western three streets
away. It might feel more like home.

Victoria sits down by her husband.

VICTORIA
Honey, I don't understand. Why
ain't we in the same room?

GORDON
Mama's old fashioned.

VICTORIA
But we're married! And she's dead!

Gordon dissolves into tears. Victoria tries to comfort him.

Lawrence is about to speak to Elena when he sees a furry
creature under the table.

It's MR. PEEPS, a skunk.

Lawrence aims a kick at the beast but his stubby legs are too
short. He flies back and almost topples over in his chair.
Elena steadies him.

Lawrence grabs a paperweight and threatens to throw it.

LAWRENCE
Filthy little--

GORDON
Don't hurt him! Come here, little
buddy. Come to Uncle Gordon.

Mr. Peeps snarls and bolts to the other side of the room.

VICTORIA
(to Gordon)
When you said your momma loved her
skunk, I thought you meant
something else.

GORDON
Mother adored Mr. Peeps. And he
adored her. And they both hated
everyone else.

The skunk hisses across the room for emphasis.

LAWRENCE
Now mother's gone, we'll have to
see about getting Mr. Peeps...
relocated.

GORDON
At least let's wait till after the
funeral. When is the funeral?

VICTORIA
(too eagerly)
And when's the reading of the will?

A pretentious doorbell rings. Lawrence looks at Elena.

EXT. MANSION - MORNING

Elena opens the door. Jason's waiting with the package.

JASON
Hello there.
(huge smile)
Is Mrs. Florence Mudge home?

Elena melts in the glow of that smile but not for long.

ELENA
She's... she cannot be disturbed.

JASON
But I've got something for her.

ELENA
Well, believe me, whatever it is,
she doesn't need it.

Elena shuts the door.

Jason looks down at the package and shrugs.

JASON
Well, I tried, Milt.

As Jason walks down the driveway, a car approaches fast.

INT. CAR (MOVING) - DAY

ANNETTE's behind the wheel, on her cell. She's vibrant and pretty, early 20s, well-dressed and warm-faced.

ANNETTE
(on the phone)
Look, I'm going to get the check
right now, if you can just wait--

She doesn't notice Jason until it's almost too late.

ANNETTE
Shit!

EXT. MANSION - DAY

Jason sees the car barrelling towards him.

JASON
Shit!

He throws himself off the road into the hedge.

The car screeches to a halt and Annette gets out.

ANNETTE
Oh, my God, I'm sorry! Are you OK?

Jason pulls himself out of the hedge, clutching his arm.

JASON
I think you broke my arm! You
better have good insurance, lady!

Her lower lip starts to tremble.

As she starts to weep, Jason's horrified.

JASON
Hey. No, don't--

She's really crying now.

JASON
Hey, I... wow, my arm! I'm getting
the feeling back! Hey! Look!

He flaps his arm around.

She stops crying.

JASON

But next time, you might want to watch where you're going. You were looking right at me and didn't even see me.

After a moment, he smiles.

She smiles too.

ANNETTE

I'm really, really sorry.

JASON

It's no biggie. Seriously.

A big grin. He walks away.

JASON

(under his breath)
Going soft, Milt.

INT. MANSION - FOYER - MORNING

Everyone comes out of the living room as the front door opens and Annette comes in, still a little shaken.

GORDON

Annette!

ANNETTE

Hi, Uncle Gordon. I see you brought something back from your vacation. Again.

GORDON

This is my wife, Victoria.

ANNETTE

Pleased to meet you, Victoria.

She sticks out a hand. Victoria takes it and won't let go.

VICTORIA

And you too, sweet pea. Don't you look pretty? Gee, what nice implants, they look almost real!

ANNETTE

They are... I mean they aren't... thanks.

She finally gets her hand free of Victoria's.

VICTORIA
No ring on your finger, neither!
What's with you gals, y'all got
something against matrimony?!

Her eye lands on a big painting of an old lady hanging on a wall behind them; Mrs. Florence Mudge.

VICTORIA
(to Annette)
But ain't you just the spitting
image of your grandma? Well, except
that she's much older. And her
hair's white. And her skin's
wrinkled. And she's dead.

Shock floods over Annette's face.

INT. POST OFFICE - MORNING

Jason joins the line, package in hand. He winks at the WOMAN ahead of him. She's in love, on the spot. Then she reacts to something behind Jason.

IVAN (O.S.)
Ivan hope envelope full of money
for Ivan.

Jason stiffens but doesn't turn.

JASON
I was on my way to see you!

Behind him, IVAN (40s) a Russian thug with a accent you could butter black bread with, presses something into Jason's back.

IVAN
You think Ivan stick stamp on
letters now for to make living?
Give Ivan money now.

JASON
Look, buddy, I don't exactly have
it yet, but I'm totally on the
case. I can get your fifty-grand
in, say, a week, no problemo!

IVAN
You make ha-ha. It fifty when you
go in slammer. Hundred now. And a
week, is crazy talking. You get
money by tonight.

(MORE)

IVAN (CONT'D)
Don't mess with Ivan when he on
sheep. I number eight on America
most wanted now.

JASON
You're going up, congratulations!

IVAN
Thank you, have big party to--
(back to bad Ivan)
You get money for tonight or I give
for you Ukrainian haircut.

JASON
Is that some kind of a mullet?

IVAN
You not make so funny with hole in
head. And you no think to run.

JASON
Hey, of course not, I'd never--

IVAN
You run New York, Ivan kill in New
York. You run Antarctica, Ivan pop
out of penguin ass with Kalashnikov
and bang-bang-bang. You run Fiji--

JASON
I got it, you'll kill me in Fiji.

IVAN
Yes, then Ivan relax on beach with
pina colada! I come for money
tonight!

JASON
Look, Ivan, friend--

Jason finally turns.

Ivan's gone. Jason is now at the front of the line.

A pimply CLERK behind the counter gives him the evil eye.

CLERK
You wanna mail that or not?

Jason looks down at the package with new eyes.

INT. MILTON'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - MORNING

Jason opens Milton's closet. The old guy's clothes hang in neat rows. Jason thinks hard.

JASON
Sorry, Milt.

He tears open the package, takes a deep breath, and starts to read Milton's first letter to Florence.

JASON
(reading)
Dear Florence...

INT. MANSION - FOYER - MORNING

Annette comes from the study, wiping tears from her eyes, with Gordon and Victoria following her.

ANNETTE
I was so sure she'd hang on long enough to see the big show tonight.

VICTORIA
'America's Got Talent'?

GORDON
No. Mom was a philanthropist.

VICTORIA
Don't know that one. Is it on HBO?

GORDON
No. She put money into the local community center. And once a year, the kids put on a show.

ANNETTE
They'll be heart-broken.

Lawrence pops up out of nowhere.

LAWRENCE
And that's why we gotta keep it to ourselves, for the sake of the children. After all, the show must go on and all that... jazz.

Annette heads for the stairs.

ANNETTE

I want to see her room one last time.

Gordon and Victoria follow her up.

Lawrence goes back into the study.

INT. STUDY - MORNING

The instant he closes the door, Lawrence drops to his knees and raises his arms in classic prize fighter triumph.

LAWRENCE

Ding dong, the witch is dead! She's bought the farm, pushing up daisies, dead as a door nail, dead, dead, dead, dead, dead!

Elena grins from across the room.

ELENA

And now that she is, we can finally profess our secret love! Come here, my little big boy!

As she comes towards him, eyes closed, lips puckered, he moves away fast and she ends up with a face-full of door.

LAWRENCE

I'm gonna be stinking, filthy, rotten, dirty, rancid, scabby, mowing-down-disabled-people-in-my-Bentley-and-getting-away-with-it rich!

Lawrence takes a seat at his desk.

Behind him, there's a portrait of a stern-faced man, Mr. Mudge, senior. Elena sits.

ELENA

But your cut's only twenty percent of the estate. That's what the will says. That's rich, sweetie, but not stinking, filthy, rotten, dirty, rancid, scabby, mowing-down-disabled-people-in-your-Bentley--

LAWRENCE

That was the old will.

He goes into a drawer and pulls out a document.

LAWRENCE

One extra swig of cough-syrup and
the loon would've signed over every
penny to me... oh, wait... she did!

He hoots. Elena examines his ill-gotten will.

ELENA

(beaming)

You're a wicked, wicked man,
Lawrence! And a genius!

LAWRENCE

I know!

He snatches the will back.

ELENA

And you look so sexy in that new
toupee, is it real nylon?

LAWRENCE

(so pleased with himself)

It's from the Burt Reynolds
collection, but it was on sale, so
I got it pretty cheap!

ELENA

Well, it looks just like real hair!

She strains across the desk to pat his rug, but that instant,
he's up on his feet and pacing the room, and she falls flat
on her face on the desk. She picks herself up.

ELENA

When will you tell the others?

Lawrence puts the will in his jacket pocket.

LAWRENCE

Just as soon as I've filed this bad
boy tomorrow morning. Jesus Christ,
I hate Sundays.

ELENA

Speaking of churches, darling, I've
been looking around at places we
could consider when we finally--

A WAIL from upstairs.

INT. FLORENCE'S ROOM - MORNING

Lawrence and Elena rush in to find Victoria, Annette and Gordon staring at something in shock.

GORDON

It was on pause! Like it was just waiting for us!

Lawrence follows their gaze. His eyes widen.

On the TV screen is the frozen image of FLORENCE MUDGE in a chair. She's very old but her eyes are bright and clear. Mr. Peeps snoozes on her lap. She holds a hankie.

Gordon hits the remote and the video starts.

FLORENCE (ON TV)

By the time you watch this, I will be gone. But I've made up my mind about something, and it affects you all. Money's worth very little. Love is all that matters. And yet it's so easy for love to get lost in this world.

Lawrence grabs the remote and hits pause.

LAWRENCE

Wise, wise words, mother. So, who wants lunch, IHOP, my treat?

ANNETTE

Uncle Lawrence.

He sighs and hits play again.

FLORENCE (ON TV)

Long ago, I abandoned the warmth of my one true love, a dashing young man named Milton who hadn't a penny to his name. Instead I married Franklin Mudge and his cold cash... but his heart was even colder.

FLASHBACK INT. FLORENCE'S BEDROOM - DAY

The old lady sits before the camera for real.

FLORENCE

I've decided that the Mudge family fortune won't get in the way of your chances for love.

(MORE)

FLORENCE (CONT'D)
I've made a new will that
supersedes all others, a will that
leaves everything I own to the one
man who really cared for me. Now,
if you look on top of the wardrobe--

Mr. Peeps wakes up, grabs Florence's hankie and leaps from her lap, knocking over the camera in the process.

INT. MANSION - FLORENCE'S BEDROOM - MORNING (PRESENT)

The family stand gaping before the blank screen.

ANNETTE
(stunned)
I'm... I'm going for a walk.

She's out of there, followed by Mr. Peeps.

Lawrence finally snaps out of it.

LAWRENCE
What the hell... ?

All eyes move to the wardrobe.

Everyone trips over each other in a mad race. Lawrence elbows the others and leaps up like a little dog going for a bone. He's too short to reach the top of the wardrobe. Elena lifts him up.

Lawrence's greedy fingers find a music box. He brings it down and opens it. Music tinkles. Dozens of letters.

LATER

Gordon sits with the same letters spread everywhere.

The tinkly music dies with a whimper. Lawrence has smashed the music box to bits.

LAWRENCE
There's no will here, Goddamnit!

Gordon looks over one of the letters.

GORDON
Mom wrote this Milton all these
letters, but never sent them.

VICTORIA

Like something straight outta 'The Bold and the Beautiful'. But honey, you're still gonna be rich, right?

EXT. MANSION - MORNING

Just as Annette disappears into the garden maze, the front gate creaks open and SOMEONE enters the grounds.

OLDER BRITISH GENTLEMEN (O.S.)

The thing is this, my dear--

INT. MANSION - FLORENCE'S ROOM - MORNING

Gordon finds a photo of youthful Milton.

GORDON

This must be the guy. Nice loafers.

Lawrence smacks Gordon on the back of the head.

LAWRENCE

You would spot his loafers, you bearded buffoon.

Gordon touches his chin, still not getting it.

LAWRENCE

I'm not losing my inheritance to someone named *Milton*!

EXT. MANSION - MORNING

Mirror-polished shoes stop at the porch.

OLDER BRITISH GENTLEMEN (O.S.)

I've gotten into a tiny health-related pickle, don't you know.

An umbrella tip heads towards the doorbell buzzer.

INT. MANSION - FLORENCE'S ROOM - MORNING

While Victoria and Gordon continue to read the letters, behind them, Lawrence paces the room with Elena.

LAWRENCE

What the hell do I do now?

ELENA
You don't panic, darling. I mean,
who knows, this Milton character
might not even be alive--

The doorbell rings. Everyone freezes!

EXT. MANSION - PORCH - MORNING

The door opens and Elena pokes her head through.

She sees an OLDER GENTLEMAN with a trilby hat, carrying a
battered suitcase... and with a familiar twinkle in his eye.

OLDER GENTLEMAN
Good day, young miss. My name is
Lord Milton Wiley. Esquire. May I?

And Milton (who's really Jason) pushes past stunned Elena.

INT. MANSION - FOYER - MORNING

Milton smiles, showing authentic British teeth.

MILTON
Good day, everyone! Rather blustery
out for the month of June, what?

Lawrence, Victoria and Gordon are frozen on the staircase.

LAWRENCE
Who the hell are you?

ELENA
This is Lord Milton Wiley.

LAWRENCE
Oh shit.

He starts walking down the stairs but trips over Mr. Peeps.
Lawrence falls spectacularly down the staircase. Everyone
watches the long drawn out process until, finally, he comes
to a stop at Milton's feet.

Flat on his back, Lawrence tries to play it off, extending
his hand in greeting.

LAWRENCE
Pleasure to meet you...

Rather than shakes his hand, Milton helps Lawrence up.

MILTON

I say, have you sustained an injury, my good chap?

LAWRENCE

That, oh, that was nothing, I meant to do that. That's how we Mudges say hello to... to English people.

MILTON

So you meant to take a frightful header down a flight of stairs?

He looks towards the rest of the family on the staircase.

Victoria puts a hand on Gordon's back.

VICTORIA

Don't be rude, honey. Where I'm from, why, tradition's tradition. Get rolling.

She shoves him.

Gordon tumbles down the stairs and crashes into Lawrence, knocking him back over.

Gordon tries to help Lawrence up and gets a smack on the back of the head for his trouble. Lawrence smiles at Milton.

LAWRENCE

I'm Lawrence Mudge. This is my dumb-ass brother Gordon and his airhead sixth wife--

VICTORIA

And last!

LAWRENCE

Victoria.

Victoria smiles at Elena and takes a deep breath. She throws herself down the stairs, but she falls like a stunt man, unscathed. And her landing is a perfect ten.

She's right before Milton.

VICTORIA

Honored, sire.

Victoria curtsies. Gordon looks at her like she's crazy.

MILTON
(about Elena)
And who is this rapacious filly?

Elena thinks about it then just walks down the stairs.

VICTORIA
Spoilsport. Oh, wait, she ain't
one of us Mudges!

This cuts Elena but she hides it well.

MILTON
So who are you, then, prithee?

LAWRENCE
She's just my assistant. Now, what
do you want? I mean, what can we do
for you, Lord Wiley?

MILTON
You can take me to see your dear
mamma! Is the good lady here?

VICTORIA
Aw, shucks, honey, she's de--

Gordon smothers his wife in a passionate kiss to shut her up.
When it's over, Victoria looks as surprised as everyone else.

VICTORIA
You even used your tongue!

Gordon wipes his tongue on his tie.

LAWRENCE
Mother's detained.

MILTON
Oh dear, what a poor show, for how
long d'you estimate, dear chap?

GORDON
(under his breath)
Indefinitely.

LAWRENCE
She's gone...

ELENA
Shopping!

Lawrence nods frantically.

MILTON

Well, then, would you object if I were to wait for the dear lady to return from her sojourn at the retaileries?

Lawrence looks at Elena in panic.

ELENA

Of course not! Mr. Gordon, why don't you and Victoria take Lord--

MILTON

Milton, my dear lady, please!

ELENA

Take Lord Milton into the living room while we wait for your dear mother to return.

(so only Gordon can hear)

Keep him in there and don't let him out of your sight! Got it?

(to Lawrence)

Mr. Lawrence, there's some matters that need your attention.

He follows her into the study, at a loss.

Gordon and Victoria lead Milton off.

VICTORIA

So how's the Queen doin', milord?

INT. STUDY - MORNING

Lawrence closes the door and turns around, ashen.

LAWRENCE

When he finds out she's dead--

Elena's the picture of calm.

ELENA

What if he doesn't find out?

LAWRENCE

Well, he's gonna figure it out pretty quick when she doesn't come back from the retaileries!

ELENA

But what if she does come back?

EXT. MANSION - MAZE GARDEN - MORNING

Annette walks in silence, tears still in her eyes as she wanders to the end of the maze. The light shines bright on her face... but someone blocks the sunshine--

Lawrence. Grinning.

LAWRENCE

All those years of theater training
are about to pay off, Annette.

INT. MANSION - FLORENCE'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Elena pulls clothes out of a large closet and lays them on the bed, while Lawrence tries to sweet-talk Annette.

ANNETTE

Are you crazy?

LAWRENCE

And you don't think it's just a bit
odd that Lord Milton Wiley shows up
after being AWOL for half a
century, huh? And all of a sudden
there's a new will?!

ANNETTE

I don't understand.

LAWRENCE

What are you, retarded?

Elena takes over.

ELENA

Miss Annette, I don't know how he's
done it but he's clearly found some
way of tricking your dear old
grandma into leaving him her money.

ANNETTE

But--

ELENA

You know how it feels to have men
sniffing around just to get your
cash. Is that really what you want
to happen to your poor grandma?

Annette hesitates.

ANNETTE

Well... all he'd have to do is ask
a few questions about back in the
day and I'd be sunk!

Lawrence hands her a stack of letters.

LAWRENCE

You just need to research your
character, my little thespian.

INT. MANSION - LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Victoria, Gordon and Milton drink tea in silence.

MILTON

By Jove, a smashing cup of char.

VICTORIA

Glad it's to your taste, your sir-
ship, and I do hope you've forgiven
us for that li'l old party up there
in Boston where we ruined your tea.

MILTON

Rather before even my time, dear.
So... how long have you two lovely
people been married?

VICTORIA

Two weeks.

GORDON

Two great weeks! What a honeymoon
we had, huh, babe? We hardly left
the room!

VICTORIA

Yeah, I think we saw every episode
of the Golden Girls!

GORDON

How about the one when Sophia sets
fire to Shady Pines?!

They both laugh their heads off.

VICTORIA

Are you married, your grace?

MILTON

Heavens, no! Been an army man all my life, never been in port long enough to give a filly my surname, don't you know. Although there was one gal... as I'm sure you know...

Victoria is so focused on Milton that she drops her sugar lump into mid-air instead of her cup. She leans over to pick it up. Gordon bends down to help her.

While they're both searching, Milton takes a sip of tea which goes down the wrong way. He coughs and sputters.

Gordon and Victoria bang heads as they search.

Milton looks into his cup and sees he's lost his fake teeth.

Gordon and Victoria resurface as Milton gets to his feet.

GORDON

Wait, where are you going?

MILTON

(with stiff lips to hide
his missing teeth)
The water closet, old boy!

GORDON

You can't! It's... broken!

VICTORIA

But Gordy, you said this place had more cans than a case of Pabst!

GORDON

(so only Victoria can
hear)
Elena told me not to let him outta my sight!

She gets it and turns to Milton.

VICTORIA

Yep, that's right, all them johns are kaput, honey! I've been holding it in since we got here.

MILTON

How odd, that all the loos should be on the blink at once, what.

GORDON

Well, you see, the *loos* are linked up to this *master loo*, and due to a highly unlikely series of events... some kind of... chemical reaction... and BOOM! Anyway, the moral of the story is no ice for the wine coolers in Tijuana!

VICTORIA

(baffled but game)
Yeah.

MILTON

Well, when I was in the war with Monty, it was ten thousand men to a solitary latrine so I picked up a few tricks, tally-ho!

He makes his way to the door. Gordon panics.

GORDON

But, but... you're taking your tea with you to the bathroom?!

MILTON

My boy, you don't know many Englishmen, do you?

Milton opens the door and comes face-to-face with Lawrence.

LAWRENCE

Look who's come home, Lord Wiley!

Everyone looks towards the door, and in steps...

FLORENCE!

Or rather, Annette disguised as Florence -- but she's damned convincing. A fan she holds to her face, coquettishly, helps.

Victoria shrieks. Gordon slaps a hand over his wife's mouth, but when he looks back to Florence, he can't help but shriek himself. He covers his own mouth with his free hand.

Florence and Milton stare at each other, stunned.

FLORENCE

Milton?

Milton thinks quick and chugs his cup of tea on the spot, teeth and all. He moves the teeth around in his mouth until... success, they snap back into place.

MILTON
(smiling hugely)
Florence! Is it... really... you?

LAWRENCE
In the extremely old flesh!

Milton takes Florence's gloved hand and kisses it.

MILTON
How long has it been?

FLORENCE
Sixty years, three weeks and two
days... but who can recall?

MILTON
The years be dashed, you're still
as fragrant as a rose in full bloom
in an English country garden.

FLORENCE
And you still have the silver-
tongue of a poet.

Victoria nudges Gordon.

VICTORIA
I haven't been this confused since
our wedding night. I thought that
old lady was dead!

GORDON
So did I!

Lawrence grabs them both and hustles them into a corner.

LAWRENCE
It's Annette, you pair of walking-
talking boobs!

VICTORIA
Gee, she musta fell asleep at one
of them tan salons!

LAWRENCE
Shut up, you southern twit!

GORDON
Don't talk to my wife like that!

VICTORIA

Aw, thank you, Gordy. You know, I
snoozed off on one of them sunbeds
once and--

GORDON

Shut up, you Southern twit.
(to Lawrence)
That's Annette?!

Gordon strains to look at Florence again and Lawrence smacks
him on the back of the head.

LAWRENCE

Quit looking!

GORDON

But why is Annette wearing mom's
clothes? Why, big bro?

LAWRENCE

You think English Joe over there's
dug himself up after three
centuries to show up today on our
porch by pure coincidence, twinkle
toes?

GORDON

Maybe he was just in the
neighborhood, looking for tiffin.

LAWRENCE

Tiffin??

Lawrence smacks him on the back of the head again.

LAWRENCE

Whatever he's here for, we need to
stall him until we find that new
will and destroy it! Just keep
doing what I tell you!

GORDON

Gee, I don't know if I'm
comfortable with this, Lawrence.

LAWRENCE

And you'd be comfortable skipping
your twice-weekly butt wax?

GORDON

What do you need us to do?

LAWRENCE

Make sure Annette doesn't end up in anything too sticky. If he starts asking awkward questions, you two head him off at the pass. Got it?

GORDON

(nodding)
Give him head.

VICTORIA

(nodding)
Make a pass.

Lawrence readies a smack for them both, but just walks off.

VICTORIA

(to Gordon)
You really get a butt wax twice a week, honey? Doesn't it sting?

Lawrence passes Florence and Milton.

LAWRENCE

(whispers to Florence)
Find out what he wants.

He exits.

FLORENCE

So, Milton, what--

Milton takes Florence by the hand and they sit.

MILTON

You haven't changed a whit, my dearest. You are still as lovely as a spring day in Somerset.

He's about to kiss Florence's hand when Gordon inserts himself between them on the sofa.

GORDON

So how are the cucumber sandwiches this season, Lord Wiley?

Before Milton can answer, Mr. Peeps leaps onto his lap.

MILTON

(in Jason's voice)
What the f--
(he recovers; clears his throat)
I mean, what in her majesty's pleasure is this dashed hirsute beast doing on my lap, what?

Mr. Peeps nuzzles up to Milton. The skunk's in love.

FLORENCE
(as Annette)
Mr. Peeps doesn't like anyone but--

GORDON
...but you, mama.

MILTON
What an adorable creature.

He gives Mr. Peeps to Florence.

The skunk snatches her fan and runs away.

Victoria squeezes in next to Gordon. The sofa is uncomfortably packed now.

VICTORIA
My mee-maw back home had a pet squirrel. Well, at least she did till one Thanksgiving, we couldn't stretch to a turkey.

GORDON
Why don't you go and, um, fix us up a snack for our guest, sweetie?

Victoria extracts herself from the sofa and leaves.

GORDON
I hope you don't mind a chaperone, but I could watch you two reunited love-birds all day!

MILTON
(beaming at Florence)
What a delightful family you have.

INT. FLORENCE'S ROOM - MORNING

Lawrence paces, picking at his toupee.

LAWRENCE
It's gotta be here somewhere.

Elena closes a box.

ELENA
Well, I've looked everywhere.

LAWRENCE
Well, look better! Oh, why did he have to turn up now?!

ELENA

Maybe it's just that he still loves the old woman after all these years. People do fall in love, you know, Lawrence. And get married--

LAWRENCE

Oh, my God, you're right. Lord Crumpet's here to marry mom so he can enjoy the windfall while he's still drawing air into those wrinkly British lungs!

He jumps when the doorbell rings.

INT. LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Milton perks up.

MILTON

I say, is that the air raid siren?!

When it rings again, Milton looks at Gordon expectantly. Gordon finally leaves.

Milton smiles at Florence.

MILTON

Alone at last! Now, my dear, I wonder... may I ask you something?

EXT. MANSION - PORCH - MORNING

Gordon answers the door. A PIZZA BOY waits.

PIZZA BOY

Sixteen inch meat feast.

GORDON

(coyly)
I'll bet.

Victoria appears.

VICTORIA

Pay the guy, Gordy.

Gordon simpers as he fishes about for his wallet, eyeing the pizza boy who grows increasingly uncomfortable.

GORDON

So... work out much?

INT. MANSION - FOYER - MORNING

Lawrence and Elena reach the bottom of the stairs as Victoria approaches with the pizza box in hand, all smiles.

VICTORIA

Is your brother ever so nice to blue-collar workers, Larry! He was always chatting up a storm with the bellboys at the hotel!

LAWRENCE

Wait, who's with Annette and the royal fossil?!

INT. LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Milton holds Florence's hand.

MILTON

The thing is, my dear, I was wondering if, perhaps--

Lawrence bursts in.

LAWRENCE

Lord Wiley, I'm afraid it's time for mother's afternoon nap.

Victoria comes in behind him, opening the pizza box.

VICTORIA

Grub's on, y'all.

Lawrence flips the box closed and looks at Florence.

She yawns. Milton gets up.

MILTON

Well, my dearest Florence, then I suppose it's time I wend my way--

He clutches his chest.

FLORENCE

Milton! What is it?

MILTON

It's me poor old ticker! Not been the same since that business on the River Kwai! Ye gads!

He falls back onto the sofa.

LAWRENCE

Let's get you a cab so you can get home and rest up.

Florence shoots Lawrence a stern look.

FLORENCE

He's not going anywhere.

INT. UPSTAIRS CORRIDOR - MORNING

Lawrence is trying to push his way into the guest room, but Florence, who's inside, keeps him at arms length with ease.

FLORENCE

(hissing, as Annette)
It's fine.

She slams the door shut on Lawrence's fingers.

LAWRENCE

Oww!!!

He dances around with his hand jammed in his armpit.

Beyond pissed, he heads for the stairs when, once again, Mr. Peeps comes out of nowhere, tripping him up.

Lawrence's toupee flies off as he tumbles down the stairs like a fat sack of something unpleasant, landing flat on his back in the--

FOYER

He's without his toupee as Elena helps him up.

LAWRENCE

(clutching his back)
That shit skunk!

Mr. Peeps snickers and runs away.

LAWRENCE

That's it! I'm calling an exterminator, first chance I get!

He puts his toupee on backwards. Elena watches adoringly as he limps off.

INT. MILTON'S ROOM - MORNING

Milton lies on the bed.

MILTON

My sincere and many thanks for
allowing me to rest, Florence.

Florence fusses around the room.

FLORENCE

Don't be ridiculous, you're ill.

MILTON

No, just old, my dear. But we were
young once though. You remember.

She hesitates then busies herself anew.

FLORENCE

How about another cushion?

Nothing on hand. She searches in the closet.

FLORENCE

I know there's another pillow in
here somewhere.

While she's occupied, Milton pulls out one of the letters he
was supposed to deliver to Florence and covertly reads.

He pockets the letter as Florence returns with the pillow.

MILTON

Thank you, turtle dove. Remember I
used to call you that when we were
courting. And do you remember what
you used to call me when I was
being fresh?

Florence freezes.

MILTON

Surely you remember. You used to
call me shiftless Will.

She's totally lost then she gets it.

FLORENCE

Because your middle name's William!
Of course it is!

MILTON

No, it's Algernon, my sweet.
You remember, we saw that play
together at the Orpheum on our
second tryst. T'was a muggy day in
July, and there was that rather
wayward character in it who stole
the leading lady's knickerbockers--

FLORENCE

And he was called Shiftless Will!

MILTON

No, that was the name of his tabby
cat. And you maintained that I had
the look of that feline about the
whiskers! Surely you recall?

FLORENCE

How could I forget?

Milton's gaze lands on a picture of Annette.

MILTON

Who is that rather breathtaking
young woman?

Behind her mask of Florence, Annette is flattered.

FLORENCE

My granddaughter, Annette. She's
pretty, but I doubt she's ever been
called 'breathtaking' before.

MILTON

She is a goddess on earth, my dear,
and I see the family resemblance.
She's almost as beautiful as you.

FLORENCE

(changing the subject)

What was it you wanted to ask me?

MILTON

Oh, yes, you see... the long and
short of it is--

Someone bangs on the door hard.

LAWRENCE (O.S.)

It's way past nap time, mother!

FLORENCE

I'd better go, Milton.

She opens the door and Lawrence hustles her out.

Milton locks the door and pulls off his wig. He's Jason again. He looks at Annette's photo.

JASON

Sorry, babe, business is business.

In his pocket, his cell vibrates.

INT. STAIRCASE - MORNING

As Lawrence leads Florence down one of the staircases, she pulls off her wig and Annette's hair tumbles down.

ANNETTE

I can't do this.

LAWRENCE

Why not?!

ANNETTE

Shiftless Will, that's why!

LAWRENCE

Who the hell's Shiftless Will?

ANNETTE

Exactly! Look, if grandma chose to leave Lord Wiley everything--

ELENA (O.S.)

She didn't leave Lord Wiley anything.

Elena stands at the bottom of the stairs.

INT. MILTON'S ROOM - MORNING

Jason talks on the phone.

JASON

But I need more time, Ivan! I can't get a hundred grand by tonight!

EXT. MEAT MARKET - MORNING

Ivan hangs animal carcasses on hooks as he talks on his cell.

IVAN

Ivan have take crappy job -- drive
car made in Czechoslovakia -- all
because Jason owe Ivan, Ivan's
money! You no deliver money
tonight, Ivan give you Odessa Eye
Examination... with corkscrew!

Ivan punches one of the carcasses as he passes. Ribs crunch.

INT. MANSION - MILTON'S ROOM - MORNING

Jason's cell goes dead.

JASON

Shit.

He pulls off his mustache and makes another call.

JASON

Fingers, it's Jason. I got a favor
to ask you, buddy.

INT. STUDY - MORNING

Elena's behind the desk, her laptop open.

ELENA

There's no Lord of that name, the
length and breadth of Great
Britain. I've checked everywhere.
He's lying.

Lawrence looms over Annette who sits on the sofa.

LAWRENCE

I knew there was something rotten
in Cadbury!

ANNETTE

I don't believe it.

ELENA

Well, it's true, I'm afraid.

Annette leaves, clearly conflicted.

ELENA

I did good, huh?

Lawrence snorts.

LAWRENCE

What difference does it make
whether he's a Lord or a
leprechaun? The way this is going
down, that redcoat coffin-stuffer's
gonna get everything!

(looking at his father's
portrait)

What would daddy do?

ELENA

(irritated)

Probably have him bumped off. Look,
Lawrence--

Lawrence's eyes go wide as a new idea hits.

LAWRENCE

Elena, I feel a chill. Would you
get me a sweater... shnookums?

ELENA

Oh, you poor, cold thing!

And she's gone like it's a real emergency.

Lawrence gets out his cell and dials.

LAWRENCE

Chuck, Lawrence Mudge... yeah, the
little guy. I was so sorry to hear
about your wife's terrible
accident. A real tragedy... so who
took care of that for you?

INT. MILTON'S ROOM - MORNING

Jason's on his phone.

JASON

Legs, my man, I realize a loan
means I have to pay it back, I'm
good for it. You know me...

INT. UPSTAIRS CORRIDOR - MORNING

As Elena comes out of Lawrence's bedroom with a sweater, she
hears Jason's voice coming faintly from behind Milton's door.

She walks to it and is about to put her eye to the keyhole.

VICTORIA (O.S.)
(in a loud voice)
Whatcha doing, honey?

Victoria approaches Elena, eating a slice of pizza.

VICTORIA
There something going on in there?
Is the old guy taking his pants
down and showing his cute wrinkly
English bum?! Lemme see!!

She jams her eye to the keyhole.

INT. MILTON'S ROOM - MORNING

Hearing the commotion outside, Jason panics, snags one of his fake mustaches, and blocks the keyhole with it.

INT. UPSTAIRS CORRIDOR - MORNING

Victoria's disappointed.

VICTORIA
I can't see nothin' but black.

Elena walks away fast.

EXT. BUNGALOW - MORNING

Wind chimes hang everywhere.

One smacks Lawrence on the head as he steps on the porch. He reaches for the doorknob, but the door opens by itself.

INT. BUNGALOW - HALLWAY - MORNING

Lawrence comes inside.

LAWRENCE
Hello? Anybody home?

Nothing. Silence. He turns to go.

DEATHHEAD stands before him. Sixty, with silver hair tied back in a ponytail, wearing a cheesecloth shirt, tie-dyed slacks, and shades on his weathered face.

He glides off into a white-carpeted room.

Lawrence follows.

DEATHHEAD

Shoes.

INT. BUNGALOW - MAIN ROOM - MORNING

Incense burns and mini-water features babble.

Lawrence notices a ridiculously elaborate shrine. Hundreds of candles surround a photograph of an old man with intense eyes and a single white stripe through his jet black hair.

DEATHHEAD (O.S.)

Master sees all.

Deathhead sits in the lotus position, eyes closed. He opens them and stares at Lawrence.

DEATHHEAD

I know why you're here, dude.

LAWRENCE

Yeah, I told you on the phone.

Deathhead holds up his hand to call for silence.

DEATHHEAD

And I know you have a job for me.

LAWRENCE

Yeah, like I said--

Deathhead holds his hand up again.

DEATHHEAD

As Master awaits imminent
reincarnation, Master speaks to me
through the runes. Hush, small,
round man, while I consult.

He casts the stones (which are four pink Barbie dice from a child's game). He gasps as they land.

LAWRENCE

What?!

DEATHHEAD

Four convertibles. My master says I
must retire now, my perfect kill
record unbroken. Be mindful of your
head on the chimes on the way out.

LAWRENCE

I wasted half a tank of gas, and
all to be told by some muesli-
crunching, Neil Young-loving dip-
shit that his Barbie dice say he
can't come out to play?! Well,
screw you and your wind chimes.
Enjoy your retirement. At your age,
you couldn't kill time!

HALLWAY

As Lawrence reaches the front door, a barrage of various
ninja weapons whiz past him and stick deep in the wood,
making the perfect silhouette of his body.

Lawrence slowly turns around, but Deathhead's not there.

He opens the weapon-laden door and, impossibly, waiting on
the other side, is Deathhead.

DEATHHEAD

Who's the mark?

INT. MANSION - FLORENCE'S ROOM - MORNING

Annette looks at a photo of happy young Milton with happy
young Florence. She gets up from the bed.

INT. MANSION - MILTON'S ROOM - MORNING

Jason looks in the mirror as he talks on his cell.

JASON

Earlobes, I can you pay you back!

There's a knock at the door. He nearly shits a brick.

ANNETTE (O.S.)

Hello? Lord Wiley? I hope I'm not
disturbing you.

JASON

(as Milton)

Just a moment!

(as Jason; on phone)

Gotta run, Lobes.

Jason hangs up and goes to the door. He pulls out the
mustache blocking the keyhole, looks through, and sees
Annette.

ANNETTE
It's Annette, Florence's
granddaughter. May I speak to you?

CORRIDOR

Annette tries the doorknob, but it's locked.

ANNETTE
Lord Wiley, are you alright?

MILTON'S ROOM

Jason crams the mustache back on.

JASON
(in Milton's voice)
Give me two shakes of a billy gruff
goat's tail and I'll be right with
you, toodle-pip, huzzah!

His outfit is complete, except he can't find his wig.

CORRIDOR

Annette is beginning to get concerned when the door opens.
Milton's before her with a towel wrapped around his head.

MILTON
Annette, how lovely to meet you, my
dear! And it's Milton, please!

He notices her curious glances at the towel.

MILTON
Ah, this... yes, well, it's an old
habit I got into when I was
stationed in India! Still got a
taste for the old curry powder too!
Packs a wallop I can tell you!

He smiles and Annette laughs.

ANNETTE
I'll take your word for it. It
looks like a lovely morning. I was
going to take a walk around the
grounds. Would you care to join
me... Milton?

MILTON'S ROOM

He closes the door.

MILTON
(in Jason's voice)
Maybe not a goddess on earth,
Milton, but not bad.

INT. FOYER - MORNING

Elena's waiting for Lawrence as he comes into the house.

ELENA
We've got another problem.

INT. CORRIDOR - MORNING

Milton comes out of his room and makes his way down the hall.

He passes a closed door.

LAWRENCE (O.S.)
Why didn't you talk them out of it?

ELENA (O.S.)
They'd already made plans with
Florence to come to dinner before
the show, what could I say?

Milton keeps going, passing Mr. Peeps who feasts on a scavenged piece of pizza.

EXT. MAZE GARDEN - MORNING

Annette walks, lost in thought.

MILTON (O.S.)
Annette, dear? Where are you?

Milton's in another part of the maze.

ANNETTE (O.S.)
I'm over here, Lord Wiley!

He finds his way to her, after a few wrong turns.

MILTON
I say, I do love a good maze.
Something about losing one's self
on purpose has always held appeal.

ANNETTE

I know exactly what you mean... but sometimes I feel like I'm lost in someone else's maze, and I just want to find my way out.

Milton kindly slips Annette's arm into his.

MILTON

We'll find the exit together!

They walk in silence.

ANNETTE

So... Lord Milton... tell me, how did you become a lord?

Milton hesitates then smiles like a born showman.

MILTON

Well, it's all rather hush-hush. You see, I was spending Christmas at the palace with Queen Liz and Prince Phil, don't you know...

INT. LAWRENCE'S ROOM - MORNING

Lawrence is disgusted with Elena.

ELENA

I did my best!

Lawrence notices something outside.

EXT. MAZE - MORNING

Milton and Annette emerge from the maze laughing.

MILTON

...one pink gin led to another, and before you know it, there's me being knighted with a poker! Of course, this is strictly on the QT, off the record, you know.

ANNETTE

Of course!

(a thought occurs)

Do you have any plans for the afternoon?

MOMENTS LATER

Milton gets in Annette's car, but before she can do the same--

LAWRENCE (O.S.)
Where the hell are you going?

Lawrence stands on the porch.

ANNETTE
I'm going to show Lord Milton the theater.

Lawrence is horrified, until he has an idea.

LAWRENCE
Have a wonderful time.

INT. CAR - MORNING

Annette starts the car.

MILTON
Your Uncle's a colorful character.

ANNETTE
My Uncle's a prick.
(shocked)
I mean--

MILTON
I know precisely what you mean.

EXT. MANSION - MORNING

Victoria and Gordon join Lawrence. The three of them wave as Annette drives off.

VICTORIA
Gordy, if your momma left Milton all the money, does that mean he's gonna be rich and not you?

Gordon goes inside. She's thoughtful as she follows.

Lawrence takes out his phone.

INT. BUNGALOW - MORNING

Deathhead's cramming exotic fruits and vegetables into his juicer when his phone rings, to the tune of 'GIVE PEACE A CHANCE'.

EXT. MANSION - MORNING

Lawrence hangs up, chuckling.

ELENA (O.S.)
Who's Deathhead?

Elena right behind him. Lawrence spots Mr. Peeps.

LAWRENCE
The exterminator!

EXT. COMMUNITY YOUTH CENTER - DAY

A beautiful old Victorian theater in a bad part of town.

INT. COMMUNITY YOUTH CENTER - AUDITORIUM - DAY

KIDS listen on stage as the DIRECTOR finishes his notes.

DIRECTOR
And Beyonce, please don't pick your nose on stage. Do you think Dame Judi Dench does that... often?

BEYONCE picks her nose again.

Milton and Annette stroll up the aisle.

MILTON
What a wondrous place!

ANNETTE
It means a lot to me, and to grandma.

MILTON
Well, we spent many an afternoon at the Empire when we were courting. She once had dreams of being an actress, don't you know. You have the looks to have gone down that path yourself. Did you ever dream of treading the boards?

ANNETTE

When I was younger I did, but I think the idea of pretending to be someone else has lost its appeal...

(changing subject)

But I love teaching these kids to act. It helps them find the confidence to face their problems, you know what I mean?

MILTON

I certainly do. In fact, I know a lad who could've used a distraction like this as a kiddy to keep him on the straight and narrow.

The MANAGER of the center approaches.

MANAGER

Annette, you gotta moment?

ANNETTE

Sure.

(to Milton)

I'll be back in a sec. Walk around. See everything!

INT. CORRIDOR - DAY

Milton checks out photos on the wall. Happy kids, playing sports, putting on shows.

BOY (O.S.)

Go again, double or nothing?

INT. MANAGER'S OFFICE - DAY

Annette and the manager sit at a desk.

MANAGER

But your grandma's usually so prompt with her donation checks.

Annette can't meet the stern woman's eyes.

ANNETTE

She's not doing so good.

MANAGER

I'm sorry to hear that, and I don't mean to be insensitive, but we've got bills to pay.

(MORE)

MANAGER (CONT'D)

Not only do we have the performance, but there's the field trip to the museum, basketball camp, and those after-school tutors aren't free. Without your grandma's charity, this place will close for sure.

INT. DRESSING ROOM - DAY

A GROUP OF BOYS play a game. WILLY's the one in charge, moving cups around on the floor and winning every time. Suddenly, a CHAPERONE swoops in and grabs Willy by the arm.

CHAPERONE

Ok, Willy, this is the last time, you're outta here, I've told you--

Milton appears at the open door.

MILTON

I say, I believe I saw a kiddy playing with a box of matches back there. She had quite a blaze going!

The chaperone panics and heads off fast.

KID

Cool, a fire!

The other kids follow the chaperone.

Milton approaches Willy.

MILTON

Spiffing trick, my lad. I bet you think you're smart enough to win every time, don't you?

Willy shrugs. Milton pulls a bill from his pocket.

MILTON

Show me. Twenty of your finest Yankee dollars if you win.

Willy grins, puts down his cups and covers the ball under one. He moves them around deftly, then stops.

WILLY

Where's the ball... sucker?

MILTON
(as Jason)
Right here, sucker.

Milton opens his hand and, sure enough, there's the ball.

Willy's eyes are wide as saucers.

WILLY
Hey, how'd you do that?! And what's
with your voice?

DOWN THE CORRIDOR

Annette can see what's going on. From here, it looks like a kindly old man is taking an interest in a kid. She's touched.

IN THE ROOM

Willy takes the ball from Milton's hand and examines it.

MILTON
(as Jason)
Truth is, kid, nobody's smart
enough to keep winning.
You keep scamming and they'll throw
you out on your ass.

He looks up and sees Annette.

MILTON
(to Willy; as Milton)
Think about it, old chap.
(to Annette)
There you are, my dear!

Milton ambles off to join Annette.

Willy picks up his cups. To his utter amazement, there's a folded up twenty dollar bill under one of them.

INT. STAGE - DAY

The director faces off with MARY, a fat eleven year old.

DIRECTOR
Just say the line, Mary.

MARY
I can't remember it.

DIRECTOR

Are you trying to give me an
aneurism right behind my eye? I can
feel it throbbing!!

Annette's behind him, smiling helpfully.

ANNETTE

Why don't you take five?

The director walks to the wings in a melodramatic huff.

Annette walks to Mary.

ANNETTE

Mary, honey, are you a little bit
scared about tonight?

Mary nods.

ANNETTE

I used to get scared too. But you
know what I used to do? I'd look at
one person and just imagine I was
saying everything to them. Is your
daddy coming to the show tonight?

After a moment, Mary nods.

Annette looks out into the auditorium.

Milton waves at her from the stalls.

ANNETTE

You see that nice man there, Mary?
That's my friend, Milton. If I was
in the show tonight, I'd find him
in the crowd and just talk to him
like there was no one else in the
world.

IN THE AUDITORIUM

Milton watches Annette speak to Mary.

He's touched by what he sees.

ON THE STAGE

Annette puts her arm around Mary's shoulder.

ANNETTE

Tonight... it's just you and your
daddy. OK?

After a moment, Mary smiles and nods.

The director flounces back on stage.

DIRECTOR

Ok, please, tiny people, let's take
it from the top.

Mary moves back into position with fresh enthusiasm.

IN THE AUDITORIUM

Annette joins Milton, who's still visibly moved.

ANNETTE

Would you like to see backstage?

INT. BACKSTAGE - DAY

The scenery backdrops are bright and colorful. Children paint
props and hang up costumes. It's a wonderland of happy kids.

As Annette give him a tour, Milton's impressed by it all.

MILTON

What a splendid institution! All
these little tykes having a bally
whale of a time, what?

IN THE FLY TOWER

SOMEONE watches Annette and Milton from above.

BACKSTAGE

Milton sees how much the kids are enjoying themselves.

ANNETTE

This place is all some of these
kids have. If it closes--

MILTON

But why should it, my dear?

Annette stops. She's about to speak when--

Movement to the side catches Milton's eye.

A rope's unravelling fast.

Milton looks up.

A large bit of scenery's hurtling down from the fly tower.

Milton rushes forward -- much faster than an old man should be able to -- and throws Annette out of the way.

The scenery smashes on the spot where Annette was an instant before. Kids scream.

Milton staggers backwards and falls into open cans of paint. Annette lands on top of him. Paint flies everywhere.

Their eyes lock for a moment... Jason's shine from behind his Milton mask. He recovers quickly and helps Annette up.

MILTON

Nothing like a spot of excitement
to test the old reflexes, what?

INT. CAR (MOVING) - DAY

Annette drives. Milton's covered in paint.

ANNETTE

You could have been killed!

MILTON

Fiddlesticks. I simply did what any
decent chap would have done.

ANNETTE

I can see why grandma fell in love
with you, Lord Wiley.

MILTON

Please. Milton to you.

They travel in silence.

Jason watches Annette from the corner of his eye.

MILTON

And what about you, my dear? Who's
the lucky fellow in your life? I
can't imagine you lack suitors!

ANNETTE

Oh, sure, and they're all interested in my inheritance. I think grandma was right when she said money ruins everything.

MILTON

But there are times when money can be quite the lifesaver. Like your center, for example!

ANNETTE

Yes! And you mentioned someone earlier who would've really benefited from the program--

MILTON

Yes, my adopted grandson, Jason.

ANNETTE

You adopted him? Wow! That's really terrific! And I'll bet he turned out great with you as a role model.

Milton says nothing.

EXT. ROAD - DAY

Deathhead follows Annette in his eco-friendly hybrid car with his phone pressed against his ear.

DEATHHEAD

This never happens!

INT. MANSION - STUDY - DAY

Lawrence leaps up from his chair.

LAWRENCE

(on the phone)

You idiot! Finish the job!

He hangs up as Elena comes in.

ELENA

Lawrence, your relatives are--

AUNT PENELOPE (O.S.)

Yoo hoo!

EXT. MANSION - DAY

As Milton gets out of the car, he's puzzled to see a vintage Rolls Royce in the drive. Annette takes his arm.

ANNETTE

Come and meet some more Mudges.

INT. MANSION - FOYER - DAY

Annette and Milton come into the house.

VICTORIA

What's happened, Sir Wiley?

She rushes down the stairs and starts to clean the paint from his jacket.

VICTORIA

Oh, jeepers, what a mess you are!

AUNT PENELOPE (O.S.)

Yoo hoo!

AUNT PENELOPE (92) shuffles out of the living room, followed by UNCLE DONALD (90) who's wheeled in a wheelchair by Gordon.

ANNETTE

Hi, Auntie P!

AUNT PENELOPE

It's Annette, Donald!

UNCLE DONALD

What's that?

AUNT PENELOPE

(spotting Milton)

And who's this Johnny come lately?

MILTON

Lord Milton Wiley at your service.

He takes Aunt Penelope's gloved hand and kisses it.

AUNT PENELOPE

(giggling)

British! He's British, Donald! From the Great Isles of Great Britain! God save the Queen, cream teas, elevenses. Twelvses.

UNCLE DONALD
A goddamn limey?

Milton sticks out a paint-spattered hand.

MILTON
Lord Milton Wiley's the name, sir.

GORDON
(yells in his ear)
And an old soldier too!

UNCLE DONALD
When did you serve... what unit?

MILTON
Ah, my good chap, I would love to
chin-wag about the old days, but I
must attend to this last spot of
paint I've just noticed on my
tunic. Perhaps we'll chew the fat
when I return. Cheerio.

VICTORIA
Let me help you, baby cakes.

MILTON
No, I'm fine, thank you, dearie.

As Milton walks up the stairs, Mr. Peeps spots a white streak
of paint on the back of Milton's jacket. The skunk checks out
his own stripe and sees the link.

Judging by the way he trips up the stairs after Milton, it's
clear Mr. Peeps thinks he's found a pal.

INT. SITTING ROOM - DAY

Aunt Penelope settles in a sofa. Uncle Donald's beside her in
his wheelchair.

AUNT PENELOPE
When are we eating?

Lawrence looks up at Elena.

She leaves with a sigh.

AUNT PENELOPE
And where's Florence?

LAWRENCE
She'll be with us shortly.

He looks at Annette who looks right back at him.

INT. FOYER - DAY

Elena's headed for the kitchen in a bad mood.

A CRASH from above stops her in her tracks.

INT. UPSTAIRS CORRIDOR - DAY

Deathhead lies in a heap below an open window, the curtains tangled around his legs.

DEATHHEAD
(to himself)
I tripped! I never trip.

ELENA (O.S.)
Who the hell are you?

Deathhead freezes and looks up, guilty as sin.

ELENA
(she remembers)
Oh, you're the exterminator
Lawrence hired!

DEATHHEAD
He told you?!

ELENA
He tells me everything. Just don't
let anyone see you do it.

She heads back down the stairs.

DEATHHEAD
(to himself)
I was seen! I'm never seen!

He tries to walk away, only to get tangled up in the curtains again, hitting the ground hard.

DEATHHEAD
(looking up)
I totally get your displeasure,
master, but now that I've taken the
job, I gotta finish it! You
understand, dude. I have to retire
with a perfect record!

INT. MANSION - FOYER - DAY

Aunt Penelope leans heavily on Annette as they walk.

AUNT PENELOPE

I'm worried about your grandmother,
dear. Last time I saw her she
didn't look at all well. If she
isn't back to normal when I see her
today, I'm having my doctor over
immediately!

Lawrence grabs Annette and pulls her away, leaving Aunt
Penelope to totter. Gordon saves her.

IN A CORNER

Annette squares up to Lawrence.

ANNETTE

I'm not doing it. It's one thing
trying to trick someone who hasn't
seen grandma for fifty years, but
this is her sister!

LAWRENCE

Who's half blind and Donald's deaf
as a post, we'll keep the lights
low and everything will go fine.

AUNT PENELOPE

(yelling over)

What's keeping Flo? If Donald
doesn't eat at five-thirty sharp,
he's liable to fall asleep in his
pre-dinner scotch!

LAWRENCE

(yelling back)

Don't worry, she'll be down before
you know it.

He turns back to Annette.

LAWRENCE

Now you listen and you listen good!
I know why you took Lord
Fiddlebottom to the theater, to
talk him into keeping that dump
afloat if he gets his hands on the
money. Admit it.

ANNETTE

Fine, I admit it!

LAWRENCE

Yes, but did it occur to you that the last thing he's gonna do is give anything to someone who dressed up as the dead love of his life to con him? And wouldn't it devastate dear old incontinent Auntie P and Uncle D if they found out too? Shall I go over there and tell them now?

ANNETTE

But it was all your idea!

LAWRENCE

Yeah, but I wasn't the one in a wig!

She stares at his toupee.

LAWRENCE

Now get up those God damned stairs!

Annette looks beaten as she climbs the stairs, passing Elena on her way down. Elena reaches Lawrence.

ELENA

(whispered)

The exterminator's here.

Lawrence is baffled. He yelps. Victoria's wheeled over his toe as she pushes Uncle Donald towards the dining room.

VICTORIA

Come on, honey, you can show me your war wound. And I'll show you mine.

UNCLE DONALD

(to Lawrence)

Every time that idiot brother of yours goes on vacation, he come backs with a new slut in tow. What's wrong with a T shirt?

Hurt, Victoria lets Lawrence take over pushing his Uncle. They go into the dining room, leaving her alone. A noise from above grabs Victoria's attention.

INT. UPSTAIRS CORRIDOR - DAY

One last mystical hand gesture from Deathhead and Milton's door unlocks as though by magic. He enters--

MILTON'S ROOM

The bathroom door's closed. A tap runs inside the--

BATHROOM

Where Jason washes off the paint.

MILTON'S ROOM

Deathhead pulls a piano wire from a hidden compartment in his sleeve. He grips it tightly, ready to strangle his victim.

He's about to enter the bathroom when he hears footsteps.

He winds in the piano wire and rushes from the room, deftly shutting the door behind him.

UPSTAIRS CORRIDOR

Deathhead hides behind a big statue. Unseen by him, Mr. Peeps is sizing him up from on top of the statue's head.

Victoria reaches Milton's door and knocks.

VICTORIA

Lord Wiley? You alright in there,
my liege?

She reaches for the doorknob.

INT. MILTON'S ROOM - DAY

Jason emerges from the bathroom stripped to the waist, carrying his Milton wig. He's about to don his disguise when the door flies open. He throws the wig across the room.

It hits the wall and falls behind the bed.

Meanwhile, Victoria stares in shock at this buff stranger.

JASON

Why, howdy!

INT. DINING ROOM - DAY

Lawrence sits at the head of the long, polished table in the candle-lit room.

At the other end, the two relatives peer around in the murk.

AUNT PENELOPE

Why is it so gloomy in here, Larry?

LAWRENCE

You know how your eyes are, Auntie.
And please don't call me Larry.

AUNT PENELOPE

I can see a jackass well enough,
Larry, isn't that right, Donald?

UNCLE DONALD

What's that?

AUNT PENELOPE

I said Larry's a jackass. Where's
dinner? And where's my sister?!

INT. UPSTAIRS CORRIDOR - DAY

Deathhead's confused behind the statue, as Victoria and Jason exit Milton's room.

VICTORIA

But I don't mind waiting for the
old guy to finish powdering his
nose, honey.

JASON

Oh, he'll be down soon enough.

Deathhead waits for them to pass from sight, then sneaks back to the door and extends his piano wire again.

Carefully, he opens the door a crack and peers into--

MILTON'S ROOM

Which is empty, but the bathroom door is closed.

Deathhead creeps to it... flings the door open and leaps in, ready to throttle Milton, but--

THE BATHROOM

is empty.

Deathhead's at a loss. The piano wire retracts with a zip. Confounded, he turns to leave just as--

Mr. Peeps flies at his face, claws itching for battle!

Deathhead shrieks, trying to shake Mr. Peeps off. The little skunk scratches, hisses, and bites like a wolverine on PCP.

Deathhead finally manages to pry the animal off. He flings Mr. Peeps into the bathroom, slams the door and leans against it, panting, his face scratched to hell.

The door shakes as Mr. Peeps smashes against the other side.

INT. DINING ROOM - DAY

As Aunt Penelope squints at the tarnished silverware, Elena comes in with a trolley laden with soup bowls.

AUNT PENELOPE

Where's Jeeves?

LAWRENCE

On vacation! Permanently.

AUNT PENELOPE

And where's Annette? And Lord Wiley? And Flo!

Before Lawrence can answer, Victoria enters with Jason.

VICTORIA

Make room for one more!

Gordon beams when he sees Jason.

GORDON

Hi!

LAWRENCE

Who the hell's this?

VICTORIA

This cutie-pie is Milton's adopted grandson, Jason!

JASON

(megawatt smile time)

Hi, folks.

Aunt Penelope sits up, all girlish smiles.

LAWRENCE
What are you doing here?

JASON
I just popped in to check up on old
Milt and Victoria talked me into
sticking around for lunch...

He looks at Lawrence's angry face.

JASON
But I'll take a rain check.

LAWRENCE
Fabulous to meet you, don't let the
door knob hit you on the ass on
your way out.

Gordon leaps up and puts an arm round Jason's shoulders.

GORDON
Don't be silly. We insist!

Victoria pushes him away and grabs Jason.

VICTORIA
We sure do!

She pulls Jason into a seat beside Aunt Penelope. Victoria
sits on his other side. Both women are thrilled.

LAWRENCE
But... I don't think there's enough
soup, is there, Elena?

VICTORIA
He can have mine.

GORDON
He can have mine!

Both shove their soup at Jason and the bowls smash together.

Gordon and Victoria get face-fulls of soup.

Jason smiles at Uncle Donald.

UNCLE DONALD
Who's the pretty boy?

AUNT PENELOPE
(to Jason)
Your grandfather's a charming man.

UNCLE DONALD

I had my fill of the Brits in the war... all teas and queens.

LAWRENCE

Maybe you should go there on your next honeymoon, Gordy.

Gordon smiles weakly.

LAWRENCE

Provided you lose the beard.

Neither Gordon or Victoria get it.

UNCLE DONALD

Only thing worse than a limey is *two limeys*.

Aunt Penelope pats Jason's knee kindly.

AUNT PENELOPE

You'll have to excuse my husband, he's an idiot. Speaking of idiots, Larry, I demand to see my sister!

The door creaks open.

LAWRENCE

And here she is!

Florence enters, wearing a hat with a veil so thick, she might as well be Darth Vader.

FLORENCE

Good evening, everyone.

Florence takes a seat as far from the relatives as she can.

FLORENCE

Please don't get up, my dears.

AUNT PENELOPE

I don't know if I could, Flo. How are you feeling? You sound queer.

Gordon smiles at Jason before he knows what he's doing.

FLORENCE

Just a slight cold. So mind you keep your distance, Penny!

She notices Jason for the first time and does a double-take.

FLORENCE
(as Annette)
Oh, my God!
(as Florence)
I mean, who are you?

JASON
(a big grin)
Hello, ma'am. I'm Jason Smith.

AUNT PENELOPE
Lord Wiley's adopted grandson!

FLORENCE
(still reeling)
Ah, yes, of course. Milton's told
me... I mean, told Annette all
about you! But I didn't know you
were you. I mean, here. I mean--

LAWRENCE
He knows what you mean, mom.

He makes the universal sign of crazy to everyone else.

LAWRENCE
And he's just about to leave!

AUNT PENELOPE
Shut up, Larry. So what happened to
your parents, Jason?

GORDON
Aunt Penelope!

AUNT PENELOPE
I'm just asking! Well?

Jason hesitates before he speaks.

JASON
I... well, I guess I don't really
know. I never knew either of them.
They gave me up for adoption when I
was just a kid. They were just kids
too, I guess. They put me in an
orphanage. Then I ran away... then
Milton found me.

AUNT PENELOPE
Weren't you lucky? I bet he taught
you a great deal. Why, I imagine
he's still teaching you.

JASON
(to himself)
He's trying.

AUNT PENELOPE
Annette's an orphan too! Her
parents died in a terrible
accident! It was a tragedy.

Jason is totally stunned.

JASON
We're both orphans?

Florence looks at him, then looks away.

AUNT PENELOPE
But you had Lord Wiley!
(to Florence)
And Annette had you!

Florence stares at her soup.

Jason studies his table mat.

GORDON
(to Jason)
Say, haven't I seen you at the gym?

LAWRENCE
Shut up about the gym, fruit loop!

Elena's sceptical as she plonks soup in front of Jason.

ELENA
Don't I know you from somewhere?

JASON
I don't think so. I'd remember a
face like yours.

His big grin's wasted on Elena.

ELENA
Hmm. Strange that you're not
related to Lord Wiley by blood, but
look so uncannily alike! And what's
keeping him anyway? His soup's
getting cold.

VICTORIA
He was in the john, honey.

ELENA

He's sure been up there awhile. I think I'll go check on him.

As she makes for the door, Jason leaps up.

JASON

Don't trouble yourself. I'll do it.

ELENA

It's no trouble at all.

They both try to retain the semblance of nonchalance as they half-run from the room.

JASON

I insist.

ELENA

Not as much as I do!

FOYER

Jason and Elena hurtle from the dining room and up the

STAIRCASE

Jason races up one side and Elena runs up the other.

JASON

Really, don't put yourself out!

ELENA

My pleasure!

UPSTAIRS CORRIDOR

As Deathhead tends his wounds, he hears footsteps on the stairs. He panics and jumps into a nearby closet.

Jason beats Elena to the door of Milton's room by a nose.

The door slams in Elena's face. She knocks furiously.

ELENA

Let me in or I'll--

The door swings open and Milton stands before her.

MILTON

Top of the afternoon! Luncheon
already, what?

Elena pushes past the old man into

MILTON'S ROOM

She looks around the completely shipshape bedroom.

ELENA

And where's Jason?

Milton nods at the closed bathroom door.

ELENA

Now he's in the bathroom?

MILTON

Where else? Unless you think him a
sorcerer capable of vanishing like
a stray shilling in Shrewsbury!

ELENA

That's exactly what I think.

The sound of the toilet flushing stops her in her tracks.

Elena is taken aback. Milton's eyebrows rise for a split
second, but he recovers quickly. Grabbing Elena's arm, he
ushers her to the door.

MILTON

Be down in a quarter-jiffy.

Milton shuts the door on a bewildered Elena.

As he locks it, there's another flush from the bathroom.

Milton opens the door to the bathroom.

Standing on the back of the toilet is Mr. Peeps.

MILTON

(in Jason's voice)
Now how'd you get in here?

INT. DINING ROOM - DAY

As Lawrence finishes his soup, Elena whispers in his ear.

ELENA

There's something fishy about this.

LAWRENCE

(spraying out his soup)

Why didn't you tell me? You know I don't eat anything that shits in its own sauce!

ELENA

I mean with Jason.

LAWRENCE

Then go find out what it is!

Elena leaves, passing Victoria, who's guzzling wine.

GORDON

I don't remember you drinking like this on our honeymoon.

VICTORIA

I don't remember doing nothing else.

Meanwhile, Aunt Penelope smiles at Florence.

AUNT PENELOPE

I'm so glad to see you up and about, Flo. I was just telling Annette how worried I've been!

She weeps a little. Florence looks guilty as hell.

INT. MILTON'S ROOM - DAY

Milton sits on the bed beside Mr. Peeps.

MILTON

(in Jason's voice)

What am I doing, Peeps?

The skunk looks at him.

MILTON

(in Jason's voice)

I don't know either. I like her. And that could screw everything up.

Mr. Peeps suddenly disappears under the bed as a massive shadow falls on Milton.

IVAN (O.S.)
You think trick Ivan with disguise?

Milton turns. Ivan looms large next to the open window.

He tears off Milton's wig, revealing Jason.

IVAN
In Russia, Ivan was Czar of seeing
through disguise!

He grabs Jason by the throat.

IVAN
Where is money?

JASON
I'm working on it!!

IVAN
Is that why you play dress-up in
fancy house?

JASON
Sure is, buddy! And I'm nearly
there... swear!

Ivan lets go.

IVAN
Then you get on with job!

Unseen by Jason, Ivan hides a tiny spy microphone in Milton's wig before cramming it back on Jason's head.

IVAN
Jason only have few hours for to
get Ivan's two hundred grand.

JASON
Two hundred! You said--

IVAN
Make Ivan jump through circle, now
have extra hundred to find. Or
Jason dead as parakeet, capeche?

JASON
Capeche? You're Russian. And it's
as dead as a dodo, not a parakeet.

IVAN
You not seen Ivan's parakeet.

Ivan pulls the wig down over Jason's eyes.

When Jason pulls it up, Ivan's gone, the curtains blowing in the breeze.

INT. UPSTAIRS CORRIDOR - DAY

As Milton walks down the hall...

DEATHHEAD

hangs above him on the chandelier, unseen, poised to attack... blackjack raised high...

MILTON

spots something stuck to his shoe.

DEATHHEAD

swings hard at Milton's head just as...

MILTON

bends over and plucks the item off his loafer.

DEATHHEAD

misses extravagantly, the momentum of the swing causing him to fly off the chandelier and tumble over the banister.

As he falls, the piano wire hidden in his sleeve snags on the railing and pulls out to its fullest extent.

Deathhead dangles by the wire, high above the marble floor of the foyer, trying not to make a sound.

MILTON

examines the furry object he's retrieved. It's his moustache. He tries to reattach it, but it's too tattered. He tosses it aside and rushes back to his room.

DEATHHEAD

tries to pull himself up. He hears movement.

Mr. Peeps pokes his head through the railing and peers down at Deathhead. The skunk wears Milton's discarded mustache. He wiggles it like Charlie Chaplin... turns around... tail raised...

DEATHHEAD

Oh, hell no!

Mr. Peeps pees right on Deathhead's face.

INT. DINING ROOM - DAY

A glass fills with white wine. Victoria burps as she throws it back in one. She's refilling her glass when Gordon takes the bottle from her.

GORDON

I think you've had quite enough.

VICTORIA

And I think you're g--

FLORENCE

(rising abruptly)

Goodnight! I think it's bedtime for me, toodle-oo, all.

AUNT PENELOPE

You've barely eaten anything, Flo!

FLORENCE

I nibbled earlier and I really just came down to see you, Penny. Adieu.

She makes for the door.

AUNT PENELOPE

Oh, I'll come up with you, Flo.
Just give me twenty minutes or so
to get out of this chair.

FLORENCE

No, I'm fine on my own!

AUNT PENELOPE

Nonsense.

FLORENCE

I said I'm fine!

Aunt Penelope's hurt by her tone; Annette's sorry.

AUNT PENELOPE
Have it your way. And tell Annette
I want a word with her.

INT. FOYER - DAY

Florence runs up the stairs, not seeing Deathhead still
dangling precariously above, blinded by skunk pee.

UPSTAIRS CORRIDOR

As Florence disappears into her room, Deathhead pulls himself
up to safety. He staggers along, rubbing his eyes, still
seeing nothing.

He ventures dangerously close to the edge of the stairs but
opens his eyes and sees his predicament just in time.

His arms windmill to keep his balance.

He's almost regained control when...

Mr. Peeps scurries up and gives Deathhead the tiny little
nudge he needs to send him crashing down the stairs.

INT. DINING ROOM - DAY

Lawrence hears the racket.

INT. FOYER - DAY

Lawrence rushes out of the dining room but doesn't see
anything. Then something tugs at his pant leg. He looks down.

It's Deathhead, wedged under a desk like a contortionist.

LAWRENCE
What are you doing here?!

A hiss from across the room catches Deathhead's attention.
It's Mr. Peeps. The skunk runs off.

DEATHHEAD
That thing's a demon sent straight
from the ninth circle of hell!

Lawrence hears footsteps coming down the staircase and ducks
under the desk with Deathhead.

INT. DINING ROOM - DAY

Milton enters.

MILTON
Apologies and salutations!

Aunt Penelope beams.

AUNT PENELOPE
It's the Lord of the manor!

EXT. MANSION - DAY

Ivan's Eastern European jalopy is parked outside the gates.

INT. IVAN'S CAR - DAY

Ivan pulls out the antenna on a massive, cold war era radio receiver. He strains to hear what's being said inside.

AUNT PENELOPE (OVER RADIO)
And just in time for pudding!

INT. MANSION - DINING ROOM - DAY

Milton sits down between Penelope and Victoria.

AUNT PENELOPE
Naughty old you, that's your
grandson's chair.

Milton rises but Victoria pulls him back down with a wink.

VICTORIA
Have a li'l drinkie, baby?

MILTON
Where's Florence?

ELENA
Where's Jason?

GORDON
Yeah, where is Jason?

AUNT PENELOPE
Where's Annette?!

VICTORIA
Where's the wine?

INT. FOYER - DAY

Lawrence and Deathhead are still under the desk.

LAWRENCE

What am I paying you for?!

DEATHHEAD

To off the old guy!

LAWRENCE

But not in my house, you idiot!

He picks up a katana that is among the spilled contents of Deathhead's coat and stares at it, aghast.

LAWRENCE

Shit! And if you are gonna do it here, it's gotta look like an accident, not like the texas chainsaw massacre, you baboon's ass! I thought you were the best!

DEATHHEAD

I am the best!

He grabs his sword and collects the rest of his stuff.

DEATHHEAD

But Master's not happy!

Lawrence is disgusted as he gets out from under the desk.

Elena walks towards him, wearing an apron.

ELENA

I'm about to serve dessert.

LAWRENCE

I hope it tastes better than that cream of crap you just served!

Elena takes off her apron.

ELENA

That's it, I've had it, Lawrence. You're abusive and cruel--

LAWRENCE

I thought you loved that about me!

ELENA

Yeah, when you do it to other people!

She heads for the door. He runs after her.

LAWRENCE
Don't leave me! Baby.

She hesitates.

ELENA
Lawrence--

LAWRENCE
Shhh. Can you hear it?

ELENA
Hear what?

LAWRENCE
The sweet sound of wedding bells in
a little church in Alsace-Lorraine!

ELENA
(melting)
Oh, Lawrence.

LAWRENCE
Now do you hear that?

ELENA
What, is it more bells?

LAWRENCE
Yes. And kids screaming. At Chuck-e-
cheese, 'coz that's where we'll be
having the wedding if Milton asks
too many questions over dinner!

As he buries his head in his hand, she has a thought.

ELENA
Well, just maybe he'll take a nap
after dessert.

INT. DINING ROOM - DAY

Lawrence retakes his seat.

Uncle Donald glares at Milton.

UNCLE DONALD
So you're a military man, you say?

Milton's about to answer when he jumps.

Victoria simpers.

Under the table, her hand's on his knee.

Unseen by any of them, Deathhead's peeking through the dining room door. And he has a clear view of Milton's back...

FOYER

Deathhead readies a pathetic-looking, tiny blowgun. He lifts it to his lips... aims... takes a deep breath and... whoosh!

DINING ROOM

The dart zips silently through the air.

Milton's focused on Uncle Donald.

UNCLE DONALD

Well, are you a fighting man or aren't you?

MILTON

Sixth generation. My great-great grand papa fought at Waterloo.

Deathhead peeks through the door with a satisfied smirk.

His face falls at what he sees.

Milton seems not even to have noticed the dart... which is exactly right since it's stuck firmly in his wig.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Elena loads one of the bowls of ice cream with crushed-up sleeping pills and sprinkles. She's pleased with her work.

INT. DINING ROOM - DAY

Uncle Donald won't let it go.

UNCLE DONALD

Who'd you fight under?

MILTON

Monty, of course!

UNCLE DONALD

Where?

MILTON
The desert.

UNCLE DONALD
Which one?

MILTON
The Sahara, I believe.

UNCLE DONALD
Which battle, fool?

Behind Milton, Deathhead's tiny blowgun pokes through the open door once again.

Another dart strikes right next to the first one, dislodging Ivan's bug in the process.

Nobody notices the tiny microphone fly high in the air...

To land in Victoria's ample cleavage.

INT. IVAN'S CAR - DAY

Ivan yanks off his headphones as the signal from the bug whines with feedback. He curses in Russian.

INT. MANSION - FOYER - DAY

Deathhead can't believe Milton's still upright. He stuffs a third dart in the blowgun.

DINING ROOM

Aunt Penelope turns to Lawrence.

AUNT PENELOPE
Where's dessert?

Lawrence gets up and throws open the door to the foyer. A muffled grunt comes from the other side.

LAWRENCE
(yells)
Elena! Hurry up with the god damned
dessert!

FOYER

The door swings closed to reveal Deathhead, smooshed against the wall, the remnants of his blowgun hanging from his lips.

DINING ROOM

Lawrence sits back down, pissed.

FOYER

Deathhead tosses the broken blowgun and looks very pleased with himself as he removes something from his arsenal... a backup blowgun! Even smaller than the last.

He loads it... aims through the door... takes a big breath... and jumps when someone taps him on the shoulder.

Deathhead accidentally inhales the entire blowgun!

Elena's behind him with the dessert cart.

ELENA

Did you get him yet?

Deathhead sputters and gasps. He tries to answer, but he's lost his voice! He simply shakes his head.

She runs over his foot with the cart as she passes.

Deathhead's about to leave when he hears footsteps again.

Annette's coming down the stairs.

INT. DINING ROOM - DAY

Uncle Donald's still hassling Milton as Elena enters.

UNCLE DONALD

The Belgian Congo you say? And what year was that, Lord Wiley?

MILTON

One of the finest I can recall.

Uncle Donald frowns as Annette comes in and takes her seat.

ANNETTE

Sorry I was so long.

AUNT PENELOPE

Oh, Annette, I'm relieved your
grandma's looking better. But she
seems in a awfully funny mood.

Annette looks really guilty now.

Elena puts the bowl with the sprinkles in front of Milton.

ELENA

Enjoy.

She gives Uncle Donald his bowl and he's not happy, eyeing
Milton's fancier-looking dessert across the table.

UNCLE DONALD

Where's my sprinkles?

ELENA

Only had enough for the guest.

Uncle Donald sputters with outrage.

AUNT PENELOPE

Oh, shut up and eat your ice cream.

As everyone digs in--

Below the table, Victoria's hand wanders up Milton's leg.

VICTORIA

(whispered to Milton)

I can lick my own eyebrows. Let's
sneak outta here and I'll show you.

Milton's so distracted by this, he doesn't notice Uncle
Donald switch desserts with him.

Victoria rises, with a wink at Milton.

VICTORIA

I gotta take a whizz.

She leaves the room, passing Aunt Penelope and Uncle Donald,
who's unconscious, face down in his bowl.

AUNT PENELOPE

He naps at the most inopportune
times.

MILTON

Yes, well, I think it's high time
for a lie-down myself.

Lawrence perks up.

LAWRENCE

(loudly)

By all means, Lord Wiley. Please go
back to your room and take a load
off. I'm sure you'll sleep soundly!
There are some nice big downy
pillows up there, careful you don't
suffocate under them, ha!!

FOYER

Deathhead hears Lawrence's message and darts up the stairs.

DINING ROOM

Annette's concerned as Milton rises with difficulty.

ANNETTE

Your heart's bothering you again,
isn't it?

Milton (Jason) risks a brief, longing look at her.

MILTON

In a manner of speaking.

INT. MILTON'S ROOM - DAY

Deathhead draws the curtains and unscrews the light bulb on
the bedside lamp. He grabs a pillow and hides in the closet.

Someone comes into the room and shuts the door. There's
rustling, and finally the sound of the person getting in bed.

Deathhead slowly opens the closet door and creeps out.

He leaps onto "Milton" with the pillow. The figure flips
Deathhead over with ease.

It's Victoria in a negligée, barely identifiable in the
darkness.

VICTORIA

Oh, Lord Wiley! You like to play
rough! Now what's that poking me?

She holds up a baton she's found in Deathhead's coat.

VICTORIA
 Oh, you're a kinky one, eh?
 Take that, you dirty old Lord!

She whacks him good with the stick.

Deathhead screams a silent scream.

INT. IVAN'S CAR - DAY

Ivan listens.

VICTORIA (OVER RADIO)
*Let's get your pants off, so I can
 smack that bad old hiney of yours!*

IVAN
 American depravity.

INT. FOYER - DAY

Annette helps Milton towards the staircase.

ANNETTE
 Is there anything I can do to help?
 Anything at all?

Beneath his disguise, Jason hesitates.

She looks right into his eyes with compassion.

Milton's about to speak when Aunt Penelope enters, followed
 by Gordon wheeling a snoring Uncle Donald.

AUNT PENELOPE
 Annette, you tell old Flo I'll see
 her tonight at the theater.

ANNETTE
 (panicking)
 I don't think she's planning to--

AUNT PENELOPE
 I know my sister, she won't skip
 the big show.
 (to Milton)
 And you'll come too! What with all
 the donors and the newspapers
 there, it's the event of the year,
 isn't it, Annette?

Annette is ashen. And Lawrence is staring right at her from behind Aunt Penelope.

AUNT PENELOPE
Perhaps I'll help Flo get ready.

She mounts the stairs. It'll take 100 years to reach the top.

Lawrence looks at Annette. She sighs and mounts the same staircase, passing Aunt Penelope as she climbs.

AUNT PENELOPE
(turning to look at
Milton)
And I'll pop in and say toodle-oo
to young Jason too!

Milton looks defeated as he climbs the other staircase.

INT. UPSTAIRS CORRIDOR - DAY

Victoria comes out of Milton's room and checks if the coast is clear. She pokes her head back in.

VICTORIA
I'll be right back, dirty boy.

She sneaks off.

A moment later, Deathhead comes stumbling from the room, all welts, lipstick, and torn clothing.

He hears people coming, panics and looks for somewhere to go. He looks up and spots--

An attic door.

AT THE OTHER END OF THE CORRIDOR

Milton reaches the top of the stairs. He turns and watches Annette disappear into Florence's room. His shoulders slump.

As he continues on, Victoria flies out of her bedroom.

VICTORIA
Couldn't wait eh, Mr. Lordy-Lord-
Lord-mucky-drawers Wiley. Time to
see how wiley you can be!

She rubs against Milton.

Not even attempting to stay in character, Milton pushes her by the forehead back into her room, slams the door, and continues on his way, not knowing Ivan's bug is now stuck to his lapel.

VICTORIA (O.S.)
I've got jumper-cables!

EXT. MANSION - DAY

Lawrence and Elena wave to Aunt Penelope who's in her Rolls with Uncle Donald snoring in the passenger's seat.

She drives off at glacial speed, drifting onto the lawn then back onto the driveway. TOOT TOOT! as she flattens a small bush in her path.

Annette watches from a window. Face full of regret and guilt.

INT. MILTON'S ROOM - DAY

Jason's seated on the bed, totally exhausted.

There's a knock at the door.

GORDON (O.S.)
Hello in there!

Jason closes his eyes as if to wish the world would end.

INT. UPSTAIRS CORRIDOR - DAY

Annette comes from Florence's room and pauses when she sees

AT MILTON'S DOOR

Gordon lays a hand on Jason's bicep.

GORDON
So what's your routine? Resistance?
Weights? Nice chest definition.

Before Jason can speak, he sees Annette coming towards them.

JASON
Can we talk about this later?

GORDON
Over cocktails? It's a date!

He turns to leave and then realizes what he's said. He looks between Annette and Jason awkwardly.

GORDON

Uh, I mean it will be on a date-- I mean, at a future date... sometime upcoming that hasn't happened quite yet... that is--

Annette gives him a look that says: quit while you're behind. Gordon runs away.

Annette studies Jason. He studies her right back.

ANNETTE

I'm Annette.

JASON

I know. We met before.

He waggles his arm around like it's broken. He smiles.

She smiles back. But her smile fades fast.

ANNETTE

I need to speak to Milton.

JASON

He's resting.

ANNETTE

He's really sick, isn't he?
Does he need money for an
operation?

He can't meet her teary eyes. It takes all the effort he can muster but finally he looks at her... and nods.

She looks really sad. Before she can speak--

LAWRENCE (O.S.)

Annette, you don't want to be late
for the show!

Lawrence waits at the end of the hallway with a vanity case.

ANNETTE

(whispering to Jason)
Promise you'll bring Milton to the
performance tonight.

INT. IVAN'S CAR - DAY

Ivan perks up at this part of the conversation.

ANNETTE (OVER RADIO)
*Grandma will make sure he gets all
the money he needs.*

Satisfied, Ivan retracts the antenna on his receiver with glee, humming the national anthem of the Soviet Union.

INT. UPSTAIRS CORRIDOR - DAY

Jason watches Annette walk away.

JASON
Annette?

She turns back around.

JASON
I... I'll make sure he's there.

INT. MILTON'S ROOM - DAY

Jason closes the door.

He stays glued to the spot. He's done.

There's a tap at the door.

JASON
Christ, what now!?

He opens the door and looks down.

JASON
Oh, it's you again.

INT. UPSTAIRS CORRIDOR - DAY

Annette reaches Lawrence.

LAWRENCE
Ready... mom?

She takes the vanity case from him.

ANNETTE
Oh, I'm ready.

EXT. MANSION - ROOF - DAY

Deathhead pulls himself out of the attic window.

JASON (O.S.)
Don't look at me like that. I don't
have a choice.

INT. MILTON'S ROOM - DAY

Mr. Peeps watches Jason get ready.

JASON
Going straight won't do me any good
with a Ukrainian haircut.

EXT. MANSION - ROOF - DAY

Deathhead dangles over the ledge by his feet and peeks into Milton's window upsidedown.

He sees what looks like Milton talking to himself, but he fails to notice Mr. Peeps.

Deathhead pulls himself up, draws a pair of daggers, closes his eyes and meditates.

INT. MANSION - MILTON'S ROOM - DAY

As he adjusts his tie in the mirror, Jason sees Milton's face staring back at him. He looks at himself... really looks.

MILTON
(as Jason)
I can't do this.

He throws his things in the suitcase on the bed and shuts it.

EXT. MANSION - NIGHT

Milton drops his suitcase out the window to the bushes below, then climbs out and scales down a lattice, just as...

DEATHHEAD

performs an incredible ninja move, diving from above, going through the open window.

INT. MANSION - MILTON'S BEDROOM - DAY

Deathhead lands, his deadly daggers whirling, ready for the attack...

But the room is empty.

The knives slow and lose momentum until they stop altogether.

Deathhead's totally bamboozled.

He checks the bathroom...

The closet...

Scratches his head with a knife...

Gets down on his hands and knees...

He looks under the bed.

It's pitch black, but then Deathhead sees a pair of intense eyes glowing in the dark. He gasps.

DEATHHEAD
Master? Is that you???

EXT. MANSION - LAWN - DAY

Milton makes a run for it.

The gate is within sight... but so is Ivan. And the big guy's seen him.

Milton changes directions and heads into...

THE GARDEN MAZE

Milton tries his best to evade Ivan, running this way and that... but he takes a bad turn and arrives at a dead end.

He turns to face Ivan, who blocks his only escape...

EXT. MANSION - DAY

Gordon and Victoria, both dressed for the theater, wait in front of an idling limo.

Milton emerges from the maze with Ivan right behind him.

VICTORIA
Who's your super-sized friend,
honey?

GORDON
And where's Jason?

MILTON
Who can say, old chap. This is my
good chum, Ivan.

IVAN
Count Ivan.
(so only Milton can hear)
If Jason can be Lord, Ivan can be
Count.

VICTORIA
Oooh, a count! Gimmie a hug, Count
Ivan! Say, you married?

Victoria comes forward but Gordon elbows her out of the way.

He shakes Ivan's hand enthusiastically.

GORDON
Wow, powerful shake, big hands. You
know what they say about big hands?

IVAN
Is good for making strangle.

Gordon and Victoria don't get it.

VICTORIA
Say, wanna join us at the show?

Ivan nods grimly.

Gordon and Victoria pile into the limo.

Ivan stops Milton for a second.

IVAN
Not forget, you mess up Ivan...

Ivan mimes the technique of the Odessa eye exam. Even through his makeup, Jason pales as Ivan imitates a screwing motion with his hand and makes a popping sound with his mouth.

INT. MANSION - MILTON'S ROOM - DAY

Deathhead peers out the window at the departing limo, then looks at Mr. Peeps who's trapped under a laundry basket.

DEATHHEAD

The universe will be out of harmony
if there's a blemish on my perfect
record. I gotta complete the kill!
You dig, master?

The skunk hisses.

Before Deathhead can continue--

The doorknob turns.

Deathhead somersaults out the window--

Elena enters.

She trips over the laundry basket and Mr. Peeps is set free.
The tiny skunk leaps out the window as Elena falls.

Lying on the floor, she spots something under the bed.

EXT. MANSION - FRONT GATE - DAY

Deathhead starts his car and speeds off...

Not knowing Mr. Peeps clings to the back bumper.

EXT. COMMUNITY YOUTH CENTER - NIGHT

The parking lot is jammed. Well-dressed PEOPLE get out of fancy cars.

INT. COMMUNITY YOUTH CENTER - BACKSTAGE CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Lawrence snarls as he steers Annette through the sea of kids.
The manager approaches.

MANAGER

Annette, where's Florence?

LAWRENCE

She'll be here soon enough.

He shoves Annette into a changing room then throws the vanity case in after her, smiling, to the manager's bewilderment.

Lawrence stands guard outside the changing room.

INT. CHANGING ROOM - NIGHT

Annette sits down at a dressing table, looks at herself in the mirror and opens the vanity case.

INT. MANSION - MILTON'S ROOM - NIGHT

Elena pulls a Milton wig from under the bed.

INT. CHANGING ROOM - NIGHT

The backstage speaker blares and Annette can hear every note the band hits. She's now transformed into Florence and, judging by the look on her face, she's ready to take action.

BACKSTAGE CORRIDOR

Lawrence picks his ear with his keys and inspects the result.

ANNETTE (O.S.)
Uncle Lawrence, I need a hand.

CHANGING ROOM

Lawrence stands at the threshold. The room's empty.

As he walks into the room, baffled--

Florence steps from behind the door and slips out into the--

BACKSTAGE CORRIDOR

Florence locks Lawrence in.

LAWRENCE (O.S.)
Hey!

FLORENCE
(as Annette)
The show's over, Uncle Lawrence.

CHANGING ROOM

Lawrence bangs on the door.

LAWRENCE

Let me outta here! Annette!

He pulls out his phone.

INT. ELENA'S CAR (MOVING) - NIGHT

Elena's on the phone.

ELENA

She did what?! I'm already on my way. And wait till you see--

He's hung up before she can finish.

INT. COMMUNITY YOUTH CENTER - AUDITORIUM - NIGHT

The place is packed.

INT. LOBBY - NIGHT

As they enter, Milton wiggles free of Victoria and hightails it up a staircase. Ivan takes off after him. Gordon and Victoria watch them climb the stairs together.

VICTORIA

Ain't he just the cutest thing?

GORDON

He sure is.

They look at each other and follow Ivan and Milton.

Deathhead creeps in and climbs the stairs.

Mr. Peeps is on his trail.

INT. COMMUNITY YOUTH CENTER - BOX SEATS - NIGHT

Uncle Donald's still fast asleep but Aunt Penelope's delighted as Milton sits down beside her.

AUNT PENELOPE

Look who it is! And where's that handsome grandson of yours?

MILTON

Here in spirit, my dear!

Ivan sits down beside him.

Gordon and Victoria take their seats too.

The house lights go down.

ON THE STAGE

The curtain goes up. A KID comes out in costume.

IN THE WINGS

Florence joins the manager and watches the kid.

She spots Milton in the audience and takes a deep breath.

IN THE BOX

Milton's focused on the stage.

Behind him, the door creaks open and Deathhead peeks in. He lifts a ninja star to throw...

IN THE CORRIDOR

Teeth bared, Mr. Peeps launches himself at Deathhead's ass.

IN THE BOX

Deathhead stifles a gasp.

But Ivan's heard him.

IN THE CORRIDOR

Even with the skunk still clinging to his ass, Deathhead's determined to throw his ninja star...

But his arm is caught by Ivan.

IVAN

You think you kill my goose made of
precious metal?

DEATHHEAD

Hey, man--

There's a ripping sound.

Mr. Peeps takes off with much of Deathhead's pants.

Ivan shoves Deathhead hard and he falls down the stairs.

Ivan goes after him.

IN THE BOX

Milton realizes Ivan's gone. He quietly rises, unseen, and makes for the door, opening it--

Only to come face to face with Florence.

INT. LOBBY - NIGHT

As Florence and Milton head backstage...

They miss Elena as she comes in, with Milton's wig in hand.

INT. DRESSING ROOM - NIGHT

Lawrence bangs on the door so hard that his toupee flies off.

LAWRENCE

Lemme out!

ELENA (O.S.)

I'm here, Lawrence.

LAWRENCE

Hurry up, you idiot woman!

INT. BACKSTAGE CORRIDOR - NIGHT

A BARTENDER struggles to pull the cork from a bottle of wine.

Milton winces as he passes with Florence.

MILTON

Florence, my dear, there's something I must tell you.

He glances back.

Ivan's on his tail.

Milton sees the cork finally pop from the bottle.

MILTON

Whatever it costs me.

FLORENCE

And I have something to tell you
too, Milton.

As they walk, neither see Deathhead ambush Ivan. He back-flips, grabs Ivan with his legs, and tosses the Russian head-over-heels.

INT. STAGE - NIGHT

Willy and Mary act together.

BACKSTAGE

As Milton arrives with Florence--

MILTON

Florence, my dear--

Before he can continue, applause begins in the auditorium.

Florence takes Milton's hand.

STAGE

The kids take their bows as the applause thunders on.

They turn to the wings.

Florence comes on stage...

Half-dragging a reluctant Milton with her.

The applause fades.

So do the lights.

Until all that's left is the spotlight Florence stands in.

Silence.

She looks at Milton and turns to face the crowd.

FLORENCE

Ladies and gentlemen, this center
has been a labor of love for many
years. And we all know the
extraordinary lengths we'll go to
protect what we love. Even doing
things we'd never ordinarily do.

(MORE)

FLORENCE (CONT'D)
Foolish things. Selfish things.
Even bad things.

She looks at Milton. He looks at his feet.

INT. BACKSTAGE CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Elena finally pulls the door open and Lawrence falls out,
landing flat on his face.

ELENA
Lawrence, look!

She holds out the wig.

Confused, he feels his bald head, grabs the wig and shoves it
on, but he's not happy with what he sees in a nearby mirror.

LAWRENCE
What kinda crap rug is this? Looks
like a yak's ass!

He storms off.

ELENA
Lawrence, listen!

LAWRENCE
Not now!

INT. STAGE - NIGHT

Florence continues.

FLORENCE
There's an old friend with us
tonight. Someone who has taught me
a great deal about love, and truth.
That man is Lord Milton Wiley.

She holds out her hand.

Milton has no choice but to join her in the spotlight.
Applause. And total shame on Milton's part.

IN THE WINGS

The fight between Ivan and Deathhead has reached Jackie Chan
proportions: kicks, punches, choke-holds, improvised weapons,
you name it.

STAGE

The applause dies down. Florence looks at Milton.

FLORENCE

Milton, I think you know by now
that this place is more than just a
theater. It's hope. And that's why
I lied to you. But please don't
make these kids pay for my mistake.

IN THE BOX

Aunt Penelope nudges Gordon.

AUNT PENELOPE

I think old Flo's finally flipped.

STAGE

Florence has tears in her eyes.

MILTON

Florence...

Florence pulls off her wig, to reveal--

ANNETTE

No. Annette.

Collective gasps. Milton's jaw drops.

ANNETTE

Grandma's dead, Lord Milton. I know
you were going to ask her for
money, but now you don't have to.
Because she left you everything.

IN THE WINGS

Deathhead momentarily gets the upper hand in his battle with
Ivan. He pulls out a crossbow and aims at Milton.

DEATHHEAD

Now you die, frustratingly-hard-to-
kill old man!

STAGE

Milton opens his mouth to speak--

IN THE WINGS

Deathhead pulls the trigger on the crossbow when--
Mr. Peeps performs a death-defying leap in slow motion...
He knocks into Deathhead's arm, disrupting his shot.
The deadly crossbow bolt goes high...

STAGE

The bolt hits a sandbag.
Sand rains down on Milton's head.
The wig comes off.
Jason's unmasked.
Annette stares at Jason in total shock.

JASON

Annette--

ANNETTE

(in a small voice)
I was looking right at you, and I
didn't even see you.

LAWRENCE (O.S.)

What the hell is this?

Lawrence rushes onto the stage with Elena.

ELENA

That's what I was trying to tell
you.

LAWRENCE

Well, well, well. If it isn't Lord
freakin' Milton frickin' Wiley...
and his freakin' frickin' grandson!
All wrapped up into one!

IN THE WINGS

Deathhead's stunned by what he sees. He looks at Mr. Peeps.

DEATHHEAD

You knew all along, master!

Ivan pulls himself up with the help of a rope.

IN THE AUDITORIUM

The baffled audience watches as the curtain come down.

IN THE BOX

Aunt Penelope is shocked. Uncle Donald's still out cold.
Victoria and Gordon look at each other and get up fast.

STAGE

Jason can't look at Annette.

Lawrence struts towards them.

LAWRENCE

Well, I guess you thought you'd
double-cross me at the last minute,
Annette! But you were the one being
double-crossed by this guy, who was
trying to outsmart all of us! But I
outsmarted all of you!

Gordon and Victoria come on stage.

GORDON

What are you talking about, bro?

LAWRENCE

Shut up, gay boy! I guess mom loved
me best after all, because before
she croaked, she made a new will,
and it leaves every single cent to
yours truly!

VICTORIA

But I thought the new will left it
all to the old guy who's not an old
guy, Gordon!

ELENA

And where is that will? Nowhere to
be found, believe me, I've looked!

LAWRENCE

And even if it does turn up,
where's Lord Dingleberry anyway?

ELENA

He's dead. Am I right, Jason?

Jason hangs his head.

LAWRENCE

As soon as my lawyer opens his
doors tomorrow, it's all gonna be
mine, mine, mine!

ELENA

Yeah, and we're gonna get married!

Lawrence hoots with laughter.

LAWRENCE

Me? Marry you? Don't be ridiculous!

LAWRENCE

But Lawrence, what about Alsace-
Lorraine? The bells?

LAWRENCE

Ding-ding-ding... I lied! Oh, and
by the way, Elena... you're fired.

As he swaggers off, Lawrence sees Mr. Peeps and, for once,
catches him. He lifts the skunk by the scruff of the neck and
dumps him in a trash can with glee.

Lawrence struts off, whistling. The world's his oyster.

Deathhead helps Mr. Peeps out of the can. He glares after
Lawrence... so does the skunk. This is war.

EXT. COMMUNITY YOUTH CENTER - PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Lawrence drives off, laughing maniacally.

Jason chases Annette as she heads for her car.

JASON

You gotta understand--

ANNETTE

I understand perfectly.

JASON

Look, I thought if I could just get
a loan from your grandmother--

ANNETTE

By dressing up as her long lost love? And you didn't think for a moment of the pain you'd have caused her if she'd been alive?

JASON

Well, what about the pain you'd have put Milton through if he had been alive? How's that different?!

ANNETTE

He was a con man. I bet he never loved my grandmother.

Jason reddens, ready to fight.

Instead, he reaches into his pocket.

JASON

Read these.

He hands her Milton's letters.

Before she can look at them, Annette sees Aunt Penelope pushing her still-sleeping husband towards them.

ANNETTE

Aunty P, I can explain--

AUNT PENELOPE

No, you can't.

UNCLE DONALD

(he stirs)

Damned Limeys.

Aunt Penelope pushes Donald off in his wheelchair.

Annette has tears in her eyes.

He watches her walk away.

INT. ANNETTE'S CAR - NIGHT

Annette puts on her seat belt.

She's shocked as Jason gets in.

ANNETTE

What are you doing?

JASON
Going with you to help find that
god damn will.

ANNETTE
Look, it's over, Jason. I know who
you are.

JASON
Yeah. I'm Milton's sole heir.

Annette hesitates.

JASON
I've seen the good the center does.
It's amazing... you're amazing.

Annette's surprised by what he's said. So's Jason. But he
takes a deep breath and continues.

JASON
If I'd had a place to go as a kid,
maybe I wouldn't have turned to
scamming in the first place. Please
let me help.

They both hear the back door open.

It's Ivan in the back seat.

IVAN
Ivan still want money.

JASON
If Ivan want money, Ivan help look.

He looks at Annette. She puts her keys in the ignition.

EXT. THEATER - PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Annette drives off, passing Gordon and Victoria.

GORDON
Where are you going?

ANNETTE
To find the will!

As she speeds away, Gordon and Victoria look at each other.
Honestly.

VICTORIA
I ain't exactly been straight with
you, honey.

GORDON
And I ain't exactly straight.

VICTORIA
No shit. Hell, let's go help them
kids find that will!

As they run to the car--

ELENA
Wait for me!

She hurries after them.

EXT. MANSION - NIGHT

Annette's car screeches to a halt, followed by Gordon's, and
they all pile into the house.

INT. MANSION - FOYER - NIGHT

Gordon hurries up a staircase, coming face to face with Ivan
at the top.

GORDON
After you... Count.

IVAN
No. First is you.

Gordon blushes and goes. Ivan follows him.

Victoria and Elena climb the stairs together.

VICTORIA
What were you doing with that rug-
wearing midget in the first place,
sweetie?

Behind them, Jason and Annette go much more slowly, each
taking a separate staircase. They meet at the top.

Mr. Peeps comes into the foyer and watches them disappear.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Victoria and Elena search together.

ELENA

I've been that way ever since I can remember, I just find short, bald, nasty little men irresistible.

VICTORIA

You're one twisted pretzel, honey. Now, with me, it don't matter so long as they got a big, big, big, big... wallet.

INT. STUDY - NIGHT

Ivan picks up heavy furniture with ease. Gordon is impressed.

GORDON

So you work out much?

IVAN

Pick up hobby in prison. Like prison. Make good friends.

INT. FLORENCE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Jason's under the bed. Nothing.

Annette's on the bed, reading Milton's last letter.

ANNETTE

He really did love her.

JASON

They loved each other. But I'm damned if I can find this will.

He sits on the bed beside her and looks around the room.

They've pulled it to bits.

JASON

Shit, what a mess we made.

Annette's studying Milton letter intently. She's moved.

JASON

What is it?

ANNETTE

(she reads)

'We were blinded by worldly things, Florence. It's so easy for love to get lost.'

JASON
 (moved now too)
 What else does Milt say?

ANNETTE
 (reading again)
 'I pray that those we leave behind
 have the courage that we lacked.
 That they know the value of love,
 and recognise it when it's staring
 right at them.'

Jason and Annette look at each other. Suddenly self-conscious, she looks back at the letter.

ANNETTE
 (reading again)
 'I only wish we had one last chance
 to be together, Florence.'

Mr. Peeps leaps onto Annette's lap, snatches the letter and runs off with it.

ANNETTE
 Mr. Peeps! Give that back!

INT. UPSTAIRS CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Mr. Peeps runs like the wind.

Jason's hot on his heels.

When the skunk flies round a corner, Jason follows him.

Dead end. No skunk.

Jason's at a loss. Then he spots--

A hole in the wall.

IN THE HOLE

Jason's hand lands on Mr. Peeps.

UPSTAIRS CORRIDOR

Everyone's clustered behind him as Jason pulls out Mr. Peeps, and then Florence's handkerchief. A fan. One of his fake moustaches. A Dominatrix's whip.

VICTORIA
So that's where that went!

Jason pulls out a girlie magazine.

GORDON
Mine.

He sees everyone's surprised faces.

GORDON
It's got good articles.

Jason pulls out a DVD of 'Ruthless People'... starring Danny De Vito. Elena grabs it, thrilled.

IN THE HOLE

Jason's hand gropes around. Finds nothing. Reaches deeper.

UPSTAIRS CORRIDOR

Jason pulls out...

An envelope. On it reads: THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF MRS. FLORENCE MUDGE'

INT. MANSION - FLORENCE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

They're all there as Jason opens the envelope.

He takes out the folded will. He's about to unfold it when he stops and looks at Annette.

JASON
Whatever this says... I don't want
your grandma's money.

He hands her the will.

JASON
Give it all to the center.

She's still not sure of him.

JASON
Or you can tear it up. Your choice.

She hesitates. Unfolds the will. Her eyes widen.

INT. LAWYER'S OFFICE - MORNING

Lawrence can hardly contain his glee as he hands over the will to his bald LAWYER.

LAWYER

What a shame about your mother. She was a wonderful woman.

LAWRENCE

Yeah, yeah, yeah, she was terrific, the best, salt of the earth, a saint, now file that puppy!

JASON (O.S.)

Not so fast!

Jason and Annette stride in with the others.

LAWRENCE

What the hell are you doing here?!

JASON

Delivering the will. The most recent one!

Jason hands the lawyer the will.

LAWRENCE

(to lawyer)

Ignore that piece of shit and the turd that brought it. The old guy she left everything to is dead--

JASON

But he's not.

LAWYER

Well, this document does bear a more recent date and it makes quite interesting reading.

(reading from the will)

'And so I leave everything to the one man who really cared for me, my loyal and faithful friend to the end... Jeeves.'

Jeeves limps into the room, to Lawrence's shock.

JEEVES

Howdy, Master Lawrence!

LAWRENCE

Jeeves?! But that's ridiculous! You were just mom's servant! I'm her son and heir!

JEEVES

A short, fat, bald bag of hot air!

LAWRENCE

But this is crazy! Who the hell witnessed it, her skunk?!

AUNT PENELOPE (O.S.)

Yoo hoo!

Aunt Penelope pushes Uncle Donald into the lawyer's office.

AUNT PENELOPE

Jeeves was always there for your mother, Larry. Unlike you and that miserable father of yours.

LAWRENCE

But... but...

LAWYER

I think we're done here, folks.

Lawrence turns to Gordon.

LAWRENCE

Don't just stand there, looking like a big fruity fool. Come on!

He smacks Gordon on the head.

Gordon looks at Ivan who gives him a nod. Gordon punches Lawrence in the face.

Lawrence's toupee flies off as he hits the ground.

Ivan nods his approval.

Lawrence gets up and staggers over to Elena's who's waiting at the door, having picked up his toupee.

LAWRENCE

Elena. Baby. You know when I said... all those things... well...

She calmly spits in his toupee and carefully puts it back on his head. He leaves.

LAWYER

Well, if there's nothing else, I've
got an orphanage to serve papers
too. Gotta make a living.

When he stands up, he's even shorter than Lawrence.

Elena's interested.

INT. DEATHHEAD'S CAR - MORNING

Deathhead watches Lawrence drive off.

DEATHHEAD

One last mission, Master.

Mr. Peeps nods from shotgun.

EXT. LAWYER'S OFFICE - MORNING

Aunt Penelope and Uncle Donald emerge as Deathhead's car
heads off.

Behind them, Annette walks with Jeeves.

JEEVES

Never needed much to be happy,
myself. Know of any good charities
in need of an endowment?

Annette smiles as he walks away.

Victoria goes after him.

VICTORIA

Wait up, honey cakes!

Jason joins Annette as Elena passes with the lawyer.

ELENA

Have you ever considered a toupee?

They walk off together.

Jason's on the verge of speaking to Annette when--

IVAN (O.S.)

Jason.

Ivan approaches.

JASON
Ivan, about the money--

IVAN
Money? Who need money when Ivan
have... love!

He beams as Gordon joins him.

IVAN
We go vacation together. Visit
beach of homo-nudes. Send postcard.

Gordon and Ivan leave arm in arm.

Jason and Annette are finally alone.

He's hopeful.

She's sad.

JASON
What is it?

ANNETTE
I just wish Milton and Florence
could have met one last time.

JASON
Why can't they?

Annette's baffled.

INT. MANSION - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Candles flicker.

The table's set for two. A tidy pile of letters sit beside
each table setting.

Jason, dressed once again as Milton, rises.

Annette, as Florence, has arrived and she's beautiful. She
sits down opposite Milton.

Milton sits down too.

They smile and raise a glass to one another.

INT. COMMUNITY YOUTH CENTER - STAGE - NIGHT (SOME TIME LATER)

Willy's pretending to be Milton/Jason, while Mary is doing her best Annette/Florence. They're sitting on a sofa in an exact reproduction of the Mudge family living room.

MARY
(as Florence)
You were going to ask me something?

WILLY
(as Milton)
Well, it's just... it's just...

Another KID, tiny and dressed as Lawrence, struts on stage.

KID
(as Lawrence)
Dinner time, mom!

He trips over the rug and goes flying, as does his bad toupee, revealing his fake bald cap.

IN THE BOX

Aunt Penelope laughs and nudges Uncle Donald, who's fast asleep, of course. She absently takes his hands.

Gordon laughs with Ivan. They're both sun-burned and Gordon's wearing a T-shirt that reads 'The Florida Keys; Turning Gay Up to 11.' They're holding hands.

Victoria sits with Jeeves, they're holding hands too.

Elena sits with the lawyer, who wears a really bad rug. And they're also hand in hand.

Jason and Annette sit together. He reaches out his hand. After a moment, she takes it.

And sitting behind them, Deathhead watches the stage too. He smiles at whoever sits beside him...

It's Mr. Peeps, wearing Lawrence's toupee as a jacket.

FADE OUT.