

REVISED DRAFT - 3/14/06

32.

DANNY

'Minister'

So Friday night, Saturday - I'm having a great time with this woman driving around the "Escalade"... I'm playing it cool - never brought up her brother once.

EDDIE

Good...

DANNY

So, now it's Sunday, I bring her with me to the Baptism. (OFF EDDIE'S LOOK, "WHY NOT?") She likes kids!

CUT TO:

INT. CHURCH - SUNDAY

ABOUT 30-40 GUESTS ARE IN THEIR SEATS.

DANNY (V.O.)

So, she's sitting there, with cliff family...

ANGLE - FIRST OR SECOND ROW - ANGELINA SITS COMFORTABLY BETWEEN CLIFF'S GRANDMOTHER AND CLIFF'S OLDER CHILDREN - SIX-YEAR OLD GIRL, FOUR-YEAR OLD BOY.

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

Everything is hunky-dory... We're in the middle of the thing

UP ON THE PULPIT - DANNY, HOLDING THE BABY - STANDS WITH CLIFF, HIS WIFE BRENDA AND THE MINISTER - WHO WEARS THICK-LENSED GLASSES.

Start →

MINISTER

(PREACHING IN FULL ORATORY BLUSTER)
And as we welcome this child to our world, let us vow she will not walk alone. But that we all will walk with her in the Light of the Lord.

1/4

"Untitled Paul Reiser Project"

REVISED DRAFT - 3/14/06

33.

~~DANNY (H.O.)~~

*

~~MINISTER (H.O.)~~

*

MINISTER

*

And now --

*

SFX: BANG! EVERYONE'S TURNS TO THE BACK OF THE CHURCH WHERE CLARISSA HAS JUST BURST THROUGH THE DOORS WITH GREAT URGENCY. SHE LOOKS AROUND, FINDS DANNY ON STAGE AND GESTURES SOMETHING TO HIM - WHICH HE CAN'T UNDERSTAND.

MINISTER (CONT'D)

*

It is with great joy...

*

ANGLE - CLARISSA - STILL GESTURING TO DANNY.

ANGLE - DANNY - STILL NOT UNDERSTANDING.

MINISTER (CONT'D)

*

... that the Church receives this child.

*

*

ANGLE - CLARISSA - POINTING TO ANGELINA.

ANGLE - DANNY - POINTS TO ANGELINA TOO, AS IN, "HUH?"

MINISTER (CONT'D)

*

(TO THOSE ON STAGE, INDICATING) The water, if you please.

*

*

CLIFF HANDS DANNY THE PITCHER AND INDICATES FOR HIM TO SPRINKLE SOME OVER THE BABY. DANNY NERVOUSLY PLACES THE BABY IN THE BASIN AND GINGERLY POURS A FEW DROPS OVER HER.

*

MINISTER (CONT'D)

*

(TO THE CROWD) For "He that passes through the fountain shall not die, but rises to new life!"

*

CLARISSA IS STILL SILENTLY MOUTHING AND GESTURING TO DANNY, WHO STILL STRUGGLES TO UNDERSTAND HER, WHILE HE CONTINUES TO POUR.

*

*

MINISTER (CONT'D)

For this great power of water touches the body and *cleanses* the soul!

2/4

REVISED DRAFT - 3/14/06

34.

THE MINISTER, HEARING AN AWFUL LOT OF WATER BEING POURED,
DIPS HIS HAND INTO THE BASIN - WHICH IS NOW PRACTICALLY FULL.

MINISTER (CONT'D)

(TO DANNY) Uh, that's plenty clean.

DANNY

Sorry.

ANGLE - CLARISSA PULLS OUT HER CELL AND DIALS FURIOUSLY.

MINISTER

We pray that the Wisdom of God, The
Goodness of God, the Grace of God will
call to her.

SFX: THE DOPEY "AUSTIN POWERS" CELL PHONE RING

DANNY TRIES TO IGNORE IT. WITH EVERYONE STARING AT HIM, HE
THEN TRIES TO SWAT THE PHONE QUIET. IT STILL RINGS. HE
KEEPS SWATTING, IT KEEPS RINGING.

DANNY

Sorry.

STILL HOLDING THE PITCHER, HE SHEEPISHLY TAKES OUT THE PHONE
AND, WITH ONE HAND, TRIES TO SILENCE IT.

MINISTER

As this child begins her journey of
faith...

ANGLE - CLARISSA AS SHE FURIOUSLY TYPES IN A TEXT MESSAGE.

MINISTER (CONT'D)

... we humbly call His name and say --

BUT DANNY FUMBLES AND THE PHONE SPLASHES INTO THE BASIN OF
HOLY WATER.

DANNY

(RE: THE PHONE) Oh, geez!

MINISTER

("YOU SAID IT!") Oh, Jesus!

3/4

REVISED DRAFT - 3/14/06

35.

CLIFF

(TO DANNY, "ARE YOU KIDDING ME?!")
Oh, my, God!

MINISTER

("YOU SAID IT!") Oh, my God in Heaven!

*

DANNY

(TRYING TO EXPLAIN) Dropped.

MINISTER

("EXACTLY") *Drop* from above thy
Heavenly Grace!

DANNY PUSHES UP HIS SLEEVE, FISHES OUT THE PHONE - AND
NOTICES THE TEXT MESSAGE.

INSERT - THE TEXT MESSAGE - "SHE'S NOT JETER'S SISTER!!"

DANNY

(KNEE JERK REACTION) NO!!

MINISTER

("EXACTLY") Know that we will receive
it with open hearts!

*

DANNY

(REALIZING, TO MINISTER) Sorry.

MINISTER

("EXACTLY") *Sorry are we* for our
transgressions!

DANNY

(TO CLIFF) Sorry.

MINISTER

("AMEN") *Sorry are we* for having
fallen before You!

TRYING TO EXPLAIN TO CLIFF, DANNY POINTS TO ANGELINA. BUT
CLIFF HAS HAD ENOUGH AND POINTS TO THE DOOR, AS IN, "JUST...
PLEASE LEAVE NOW."

CUT TO:

END 4/4