

How to Juggle

By

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OPENING

EXT. A STREET SCENE DAYTIME  
FOLLOWING THROUGH BUILDING AND INTO LIFT

A view as if looking through the eyes of a person. The viewer doesn't know who it is. A person (AP) gets out of a taxi outside of an office building in Sydney. AP goes up some steps and into the foyer. There is a sign 'Australia Banking Corporation'. AP passes the doorman who waves AP through to a lift where AP waits with a crowd for the lift to come. A few seconds later it comes and AP moves into the lift with the waiting crowd. Some people seem to stare a bit. As the lift goes up various people get off until AP is the only one left. AP gets off at the top floor and walks out of the lift.

There is a receptionist outside of an office.

RECEPTIONIST

Just go through. I think he's on  
the phone.

AP goes through a door and into a large office.

INT. DAVE DIAMOND'S OFFICE

It is an executive's office with views overlooking Sydney Harbour. Dave Diamond is on the phone. Dave is early thirties, fit and well dressed.

The camera revolves round at this point and for the first time you see Alison Peters who has just closed the door.

She is an extremely attractive girl, late-twenties, dressed in a very sexy style, just short of tarty.

Dave Diamond signals her to wait. He has his feet on the desk and looks very confident. She picks up a magazine on the desk whilst she waits for Dave on the phone.

Camera zooms into magazine cover of 'The Banker' for a few seconds and then to Dave Diamond on the phone.

DAVE DIAMOND

(Into phone)  
...So you're saying he finished up  
walking through the factory naked?  
(pause)  
He got his what caught where?  
(pause)  
Oh, I see,  
(pause)  
L shaped? Really?,  
(pause)  
Okay. I'll sort that out.

Dave puts phone down. Alison come over and kisses him.

ALISON  
I love it when you dress all sexy.

DAVE DIAMOND  
Oh. You mean the suit?

ALISON  
Makes you look powerful. Do you  
want to make a deposit?

DAVE DIAMOND  
Hmmm not just at the moment.  
Someone may walk in.

They start to embrace. Alison is still hugging Dave Diamond  
when his laptop bursts into life and a message pops up.

ON SCREEN

Call from Penny ...

Whilst embracing Alison, Dave moves the laptop to avoid her  
seeing it.

The camera moves into the screen and then zooms out.

INT. PENELOPE'S APARTMENT IN PARIS, TEXAS NIGHT

It's a tidy apartment, there is a window and it's dark  
outside. Penelope Phillips is looking at the screen of her  
laptop.

ON SCREEN

Call not answered.

She types in the chat area.

called u. u must be very busy. cmb.

VIEW OF APARTMENT

Penelope goes out the front door.

BEGIN FLASHBACK TO WHEN THEY FIRST MET.

INT. DAVE DIAMOND OFFICE

Dave Diamond is looking on the computer.

ON SCREEN

A list of girls and their photos. One is marked PennyFromParis and there is a photo of Penny.

Dave Diamond clicks on it and writes a text message

SuccessBanker I'm very succfl  
banker in Sydney, Aus. Travel alot.  
Like to come to your part of the  
world. I like long walks on the  
beach and intelligent people. How  
about you?

PennyFromParis im a long way from  
the beach. work in travel. ill let  
you decide if im intelligent. my  
friends think so

SuccessBanker im a banker. i dont  
have friends. just kidding!

PennyFromParis LOL im in travel.  
everyone wants to be my friend to  
get cheap travel

SuccessBanker I love Paris. went  
there a while ago

CAMERA ZOOMS OUT

INT. PENNY'S APARTMENT DAY

Phone rings. Penny picks up phone and listens for a bit.

PENELOPE

(Into phone)

No I told you. I'd love to get you special cheap tickets to London but I have to pay the price the airline charges. I can't give you a return fare for two hundred dollars. Yes I know you're a friend of Rosemary's...

(pause)

I don't think a free coffee next time I'm in your cafe is really going to do it. Now if you could give me free house...

(pause)

No, that was a joke. I know you can't get free houses and I can't get cheap airline tickets....

(pause)

So tell Rosemary I'm not your friend anymore.

Puts the phone down and returns to the computer.

ON SCREEN

SuccessBanker has logged out.

INT. IN A CAFE DAY

Penelope is with her friend Kelli

PENELOPE

I think he thinks I live in France.

KELLI

France? You mean Paris, France?

PENELOPE

Yea. That Paris. The other one. I was about to tell him I lived in

Texas but got interrupted.

KELLI

So, just tell him.

PENELOPE

I think he likes the idea of me being in France. He travels there from time to time.

KELLI

So he'll turn up in France and you'll be thousands of miles away.

PENELOPE

I'll cross that bridge....

(pause)

Do you know Kieran?

KELLI

No. I don't think so. The only Kieran I know is Kieran Sklocoutsky.

PENELOPE

That's her. She's a friend of Rosemary's. She wanted me to get her air tickets to London for two hundred dollars.

KELLI

Return?

PENELOPE

It's a ridiculous price. How can I get tickets for that price?

KELLI

I saw them advertised on Fox for that price.

PENELOPE

They can't do it. The agent's can't

buy the tickets at that price.

KELLI

So they'll go broke and you've got rid of the competition.

PENELOPE

It's a scam to get you in the shop. It's called bait and switch. You get them in and then sell them something else.

KELLI

So they come in asking for tickets to London and you tell them you can't do it but you can sell them tickets to Austin at that price and they say OK?

PENELOPE

Yes. That's the sort of thing.

KELLI

Who's gonna fall for that? So why don't you advertise tickets to Paris for two hundred dollars and you can meet your boyfriend there.

PENELOPE

He's not my boyfriend.

KELLI

He's a boy, or man I hope, and he's your friend.

END FLASHBACK

IN SAME COFFEE SHOP, PRESENT DAY

Penelope is at a different table where there is picture of the Eiffel Tower on the wall at the back. She positions herself with her back to the wall and gets out her laptop.

ON SCREEN

Calling SuccessBanker

Dave Diamond appears on the screen.

DAVE

Hi. nice to talk to you again.

PENELOPE

How's sunny Sydney.

DAVE

It's early in the morning here and raining. It does rain here sometimes. How's Paris in the Spring?

PENELOPE

Yes. Warm. Its...

(She brings up a website with weather in Paris, France.)

Seventy.

DAVE

Seventy?

PENELOPE

I mean twenty-two. Sorry I still can't get used to Centigrade.

DAVE

How long have you been there?

PENELOPE

(Hesitantly)

Two years.

DAVE

So where were you before?

PENELOPE

Austin. Texas.

DAVE

I went to Houston once. Just wanted to get out. Can't blame you for leaving for Paris. It must be great there. I went there years ago and



really enjoyed it. Great food and  
the women are really fashionable.

PENELOPE

Oh yes. Not like Texas.

BACK TO PENELOPE

Penelope is looking at an old copy of Paris Match magazine  
and on the cover is a picture of a very classy model with a  
cigarette dangling from her mouth. Suddenly she hears her  
name being called in shrill voice.

SHOT TO WOMAN WALKING IN THROUGH THE DOOR

A woman has just walked into the cafe dressed as 'white  
trash': track suit with stains and burn marks and an unlit  
cigarette in her mouth. She is standing in a pose that  
exactly mimics the model in the magazine but is a parody of  
it.

BACK TO PENELOPE

Penelope slams down the lid on her laptop.

PENELOPE

Errr. Hi Mrs. J. Surprised to find  
you here.

MRS. J

Yea. Need change for ciggy machine.  
You know I think the government  
hates us even though I give them  
thousands of dollars in taxes.  
Fancy shmansies who come to these  
places. They think they're too good  
for you and me.

PENELOPE

I come here you know...

MRS. J

You're OK. It's the others.

Waitress comes up to Penelope.

WAITRESS  
(Whispers)  
Do you know her?

PENELOPE  
(Whispers back)  
She's my neighbour. I think she's  
harmless.

MRS. J  
(Shouts over to someone who is  
giving her a dirty look.)  
So what makes you so good? You  
think you're better than me because  
you drink late?

PENELOPE  
It's called LART-EY.

MRS. J  
Yea. Well I bet I drink later than  
you do. I drink past midnight. And  
the real thing. Whiskey. Not your  
fancy coffee. So there.

Mrs. J goes to the counter where the assistant seems to be  
only to pleased to give her change to get rid of her. Mrs.  
J finally leaves and Penelope opens up her laptop again.

ON SCREEN

Dave Diamond comes appears on the screen.

DAVE DIAMOND  
What happened? We got cut off.

PENELOPE  
My flattery. It was bat.

DAVE DIAMOND  
You had a bat flattery? I always  
said flattery would get you  
nowhere, especially when it's bat.

PENELOPE  
(Sounding embarrassed)

I mean I had a flat battery.

DAVE DIAMOND

So I'm coming to Paris next week.  
I'm hoping to get a day or so from  
meetings so we can spend time  
together.

PENELOPE

Oh. That's great.

DAVE DIAMOND

You don't sound so pleased. You're  
not married are you?

PENELOPE

No of course not.

DAVE DIAMOND

Just kidding. Of course you never  
know on the net. You could be a  
one-armed bandit.

PENELOPE

I've got two arms.

DAVE DIAMOND

So where are you in Paris?

PENELOPE

You mean this cafe? It's ...

She looks down at the magazine and sees a reference to the  
West Bank of Paris.

PENELOPE

West Bank.

DAVE DIAMOND

Great. So we can go there together.  
I'll let you know flights etc. I've  
got to go now. Was just hoping you  
would get back online so I could  
give you the good news.

SuccessBanker has logged out.

BACK TO PENELOPE

Penelope goes through some emails and then rings someone on her computer. A women answers but there's no video.

PENELOPE

Hi. Is that Jenny?

JENNY

Yes. Who's that?

PENELOPE

It's Penny. You remember - from school? You said If I was ever in Paris to look you up and I would be welcome to stay.

JENNY

(Slowly)

Possibly. I said that to a lot of people. I thought I would be lonely and miss everyone. It was two years ago and things have changed.

PENELOPE

Yes well I'm coming to Paris next week and I want to take you up on your offer.

JENNY

It's not very convenient. My boyfriend's just moved in with me and there's nowhere to sleep and it's really not convenient.

PENELOPE

Great so that sounds good. I'll let you know when I'm arriving.

JENNY

Well you'll have to sleep on the floor. I don't have a mattress and I can't afford to feed you. Anyway why now?

PENELOPE

I got cheap tickets. Texas to Paris  
for two hundred dollars.

JENNY

You sure that's not Austin to  
Paris, Texas for two hundred  
dollars?

PENELOPE

I work in travel. I know what I'm  
doing.

JENNY

So why can't you get a cheap hotel  
in Paris?

PENELOPE

You're a good friend. I always knew  
I could rely on you.

JENNY

We weren't close. You called me  
smelly Jelly.

PENELOPE

Well, I was young. I was jealous  
'cause you smelled so good.

JENNY

You stole three boyfriends from me.

PENELOPE

I was testing them. They didn't see  
your real qualities or they would  
have stuck with you.

JENNY

You said I was fat.

PENELOPE

I was jealous because you developed  
so well. I had no breasts. I looked  
like a boy. You had... you know...  
boobs.

JENNY

Well these boobs have got me a good boyfriend and you're not stealing this one from me.

PENELOPE

Great. I'm really looking forward to this. Is your address still the same as on your email?

JENNY

Yes. Unfortunately.

INT. DAVE DIAMOND OFFICE DAY

Dave is with a colleague, Andrew Barns.

DAVE DIAMOND

I'm going to Paris and London next week. I'm trying to tee up to stay with Penny.

ANDREW

This isn't right you know. It's only a matter of time before Alison finds out. She's a great match. I put it on notice now if she breaks up with you, I'll go out with her like a shot.

DAVE DIAMOND

She won't and you wouldn't. Would you? It goes against everything that mates do.

ANDREW

Well you'll only have yourself to blame. You know James is coming back next week. He'll want his office back.

DAVE DIAMOND

That's a shame. I love working here. Ali loves it. She thinks it makes me powerful.

ANDREW

So just as you move back to your old grotty office she'll discover that you've been two-timing her. Good move.

DAVE DIAMOND

Three or four timing her if I can get Lindy and Mandy onside. Anyway I'm off to Melbourne tomorrow. I wonder if I can get together with Mandy?

ANDREW

Another one! Who's Mandy?

DAVE DIAMOND

Ah, I was talking to her mother Barbera in Brissie, Mandy's her daughter. Very nice.

ANDREW

This gets worse and worse. Does her mum know?

DAVE DIAMOND

Of course not. She would go up the wall. I can't see her in Brissie because of her mum and I certainly can't see her here.

Dave gets back onto his computer

DAVE DIAMOND

Let's get Lindy on side.

ON SCREEN

Dialing LindyInLeeds.

Lindy appears on the screen. She's attractive but in plain way. No makeup.

DAVE DIAMOND

Hi. I was hoping to catch you. I'm coming to London next week and

maybe we can meet up?

LINDY

London. That's quite a way. Not sure I'll be able to make that.

DAVE DIAMOND

Really? It's not very far.

LINDY

Well, it's expensive. I'd love to come. I've only been to London twice before. Can you come to Leeds?

DAVE DIAMOND

Hmmm. Possibly. I'll see what I can do.

BACK TO DAVE

Dave looks at a map of the world, measures the distance from Leeds to London and measures the same distance from Sydney. It hardly registers.

DAVE DIAMOND

I don't believe she can't afford to go from Leeds to London. It's around two inches.

ANDREW

You would have thought she would travel two inches to get two inches.

Dave Diamond just glares at him.

ANDREW

I can't see how you'll have time to go to Leeds.

DAVE DIAMOND

No. It's a shame. She's very sweet.

ON SCREEN



Dialing Mandy.

Mandy appears on the screen.

MANDY

Hi. Mister successful. When can I come to Sydney?

DAVE DIAMOND

I'm going to Melbourne tomorrow. Didn't you say you had some work to do there? How about you meet me there? I'm there for two days.

MANDY

Tomorrow? Short notice. I'm sure I could fit it in.

DAVE DIAMOND

We could meet early for breakfast. Then I've got a meeting but we can meet up again for lunch.

MANDY

Busy, busy. Okay. We'll do breakfast.

DAVE DIAMOND

Great. Look forward to seeing you. I'll text you my hotel.

MANDY

Chou.

INT. IN A HOTEL RESTAURANT IN MELBOURNE

MANDY

What meeting is it?

DAVE DIAMOND

It's a banking meeting. You know we talk about banking stuff.

MANDY

Don't be condescending. What kind

of banking stuff?

DAVE DIAMOND

Okay. You want to know? It's a company that's going into receivership and they want us to handle the account. It's hush-hush. No one knows that the company is in trouble.

MANDY

Do they know you? The people you're meeting?

DAVE DIAMOND

Well, we've never met...

MANDY

So I could be your assistant?

DAVE DIAMOND

I don't think so. It's very technical. I could be sacked if someone found out.

MANDY

(Seductively)

You know sometimes you have to live a bit dangerously.

DAVE DIAMOND

That's crazy. You would give yourself away in moment. You're supposed to know about corporate law.

MANDY

Why - do you? You're a banker.

DAVE DIAMOND

Well I know as much corporate law as I need.

MANDY

I'm an actor. I can act.

DAVE DIAMOND  
This isn't a movie script.

MANDY  
(Seductively)  
Try me.

DAVE DIAMOND  
You're on. Let's go.

INT. IN A BOARDROOM.

There are four or five people besides Mandy and Dave. They sit down around the boardroom, Dave and Mandy next to each other.

CORPORATE MEETING PERSON 1  
(To Dave)  
You didn't tell me you had an assistant?

MANDY  
He only lets me out on special occasions.

CORPORATE MEETING PERSON 1  
So I'm glad we're considered special.

Dave pulls out a huge file of papers and starts browsing through them. Mandy takes a bundle of papers and looks at them as if she know exactly what she is doing.

CORPORATE MEETING PERSON 2  
One of the issues we wanted to discuss is clause 17a regarding layoffs. We have an obligation to our employees and we can't allow you to lay people off without any consultation.

DAVE DIAMOND  
(Hesitantly)  
Hmmm... This is usual procedure. We have to have control over the finances.

CORPORATE MEETING PERSON 2

With all respect, we know how to run this company better than you do and we can't have you simply laying people off without consultation.

MANDY

With all respect, if you know how to run a business so well how come you're going broke? Of course you control the running of the business and we control the money.

CORPORATE MEETING PERSON 2

We can run a compay. It was an incident.

DAVE DIAMOND

Yes I heard. Something about a body part getting caught in the machinery.

CORPORATE MEETING PERSON 2

So the news got out? You would have though a safety officer wold have known to protect important mmm... bits. Anyway, we can't run a business without access to funds.

MANDY

We have access to all funds and we call the shots regarding layoffs. We do intend to work with you though, after all we want you onside.

Dave looks at her shocked.

CORPORATE MEETING PERSON 1

Of course. That's why we called you in. You're the best at what you do.

MANDY

And you can explain about clause 33c which seems to contradict

clause 5e.

There's a pause as everyone looks at the clauses.

CORPORATE MEETING PERSON 1  
Yes. I didn't notice that. You put  
this together Dave. Didn't you run  
it past your assistant?

DAVE DIAMOND  
Err...

CORPORATE MEETING PERSON 3  
Well I think you ought to in  
future.

As meeting finishes

CORPORATE MEETING PERSON 4  
You know you should look after your  
assistant. She's going to go a long  
way.

DAVE DIAMOND  
Yes. I hope she does.

They all shake hands and Dave and Mandy go to the lift.

INT. IN LIFT

As soon as the lift doors close.

DAVE DIAMOND  
Jeez. You were supposed to just sit  
there and look pretty.

MANDY  
I thought I did look pretty. Pretty  
and intelligent. Pretty  
intelligent.

DAVE DIAMOND  
They're going to expect you at all  
the meetings. Really I don't know  
whether to kiss you or just walk  
away.

MANDY

You're lucky to have me working for you. Not many people would put up with you, especially for what you pay me.

DAVE DIAMOND

I don't pay you anything.

MANDY

Exactly. You can buy me a drink though.

Dave kisses her.

EXT. WALKING OUT OF THE LIFT

MANDY

Why don't you take the afternoon off and we can go sightseeing.

DAVE DIAMOND

You're a really bad influence on me.

MANDY

You know I could always miss my return flight and stay the night. Anyway after that breakfast we had this morning I'm sure you don't feel well. Ring up and tell them you've got food poisoning.

DAVE DIAMOND

I feel a bit sick but I don't think it's food poisoning.

MANDY

Of course it is. Lets get lunch and see the Eureka Tower.

EXT. IN THE FOYER OF THE EUREKA TOWER.

There is long queue. Mandy grabs Dave by the tie and pulls him to the front. There is an assistant standing at the front of the queue with a book on a podium.

MANDY

(To a girl at the front, In a loud voice)

We rang up yesterday. My father here has breast cancer and you've got tickets waiting.

ASSISTANT

What name is it under?

MANDY

Scunthorpe. John Scunthorpe.

Assistant looks through some files.

ASSISTANT

We've nothing here. Your father looks remarkably well.

MANDY

Yeah well you wouldn't say that if he took his shirt off. His chest is fucked.

ASSISTANT

(Sounding sceptical)

Who did you speak to.

MANDY

(Getting louder)

I don't know her name. My father's dying and you lose his tickets?

ASSISTANT

Just keep your voice down and we'll give you tickets.

The assistant gives them tickets. Everyone is staring at them. They go through to the lift and when they go in It's a large lift but everyone else is round the edges leaving a gap round them as if they have something catching.

View from above showing people standing around the edge of the lift

INT. IN DAVE'S HOTEL ROOM

Dave and Mandy are kissing very passionately. Dave is moving them towards the bedroom. Mandy suddenly stops.

MANDY

I can't sleep with you.

DAVE DIAMOND

(Shocked)

What do you mean you can't sleep with me? What are doing here if you can't sleep with me? And why not?

MANDY

I've got boyfriend.

DAVE DIAMOND

So what. I've got a girlfriend.

Mandy suddenly pulls away.

MANDY

You've got a girlfriend? Does mum know?

DAVE DIAMOND

That wasn't supposed to come out.

MANDY

I bet.

DAVE DIAMOND

You didn't tell me you had a boyfriend.

MANDY

You didn't ask. Anyway I just did.

DAVE DIAMOND

You can't suddenly stop now.

MANDY

So why don't you ring your girlfriend and get her to finish you off?



DAVE DIAMOND  
Don't be ridiculous. She's in  
Sydney.

INT. IN DAVE'S HOTEL ROOM. IN MORNING

Dave has been sleeping on the couch and has just got up. Mandy is in the bed. Dave is looking at her and she comes awake.

DAVE DIAMOND  
Your boyfriend is very lucky. I  
hope he appreciates you.

MANDY  
If he doesn't you're next on the  
list, but don't hold your breath.  
(As she dozes off)  
Well, maybe not next. After Jack  
and Alec and Matt and Cindy...

EXT. IN PARIS, FRANCE. STREET SCENE

Penelope is walking down a road looking for an address on a piece of paper. She gets to a house, goes up to the front door. There's a number of buttons. She looks at them and presses one.

MARCEL (French accent) (V.O.)  
Hello?

PENELOPE  
Is Jenny there? It's Penelope.

MARCEL (V.O.)  
Oh. This is Marcel. She's not in.  
Come on up.

A buzzing sound and Penelope pushes the door and goes into a hallway.

INT. IN HALLWAY OF JENNY'S APARTMENT BLOCK

A door opens up the stairs and Marcel comes out.

MARCEL

Up here.

Penelope walks up with her suitcase.

INT IN JENNY'S APARTMENT

Jenny walks into the apartment.

PENELOPE

Hi. I'm Penelope.

MARCEL

I'm Marcel. Jen-ai told me you were coming. She said you were a slag. You're good friends, nes-pa?

PENELOPE

Oh yes. Since school. Very close. That's how friends talk about each other.

MARCEL

Aha. Boyfriend-stealing cow is a term of affection, nes-pa?

PENELOPE

Oh yes. Very endearing.

MARCEL

My English is not very good but I think you tease me. Jenny's at work. She'll be back later. Around six. Have you eaten?

PENELOPE

I need the bathroom. I'm jet-lagged.

INT. IN JENNY'S APARTMENT LATER ON

Penelope and Marcel are in deep conversation when Jenny walks in. She looks very suspiciously at Penelope.

PENELOPE

Hi. Really nice to see you after

all this time.

JENNY

(unenthusiastically)

Yea. Nice.

PENELOPE

You know you look really good. You don't seem to have aged. I'm not surprised you still get the nice guys.

JENNY

(Warming slightly)

Well, thank you. Why you here? I mean, why suddenly are you in Paris?

PENELOPE

I'm here to meet a guy from Sydney.

JENNY

You came to Paris to meet a guy from Sydney? You know Sydney's in Australia. It's not like Paris in Texas. You know, Sydney, France.

PENELOPE

It's complicated.

JENNY

It always is. At least you're finding your own guys instead of stealing other people's.

PENELOPE

I don't steal other people's boyfriends. Well, except yours. And that was just the once.

JENNY

Three times I seem to remember.

PENELOPE

I remember Jake. What did you see in him anyway?

JENNY

I didn't get a chance to see anything before you took him away. Or at least, I didn't see anything interesting.

PENELOPE

You know he had an L shaped penis?

MARCEL (Interrupting)

Really do we need to talk about this?

JENNY

No. I suppose not.

(To Penelope)

I'll show you where you're sleeping. I've tried to make it as uncomfortable as possible.

PENELOPE

I'm sure.

The following day Penelope meets up with Dave at the airport, but although Penelope is supposed to have lived in Paris for three years (which is what she told him) she can't speak French and doesn't know her way round. She constantly gets lost but pretends that she actually intended to go to the places where they finish up, and when she orders strange things from the menu because she doesn't understand the language she pretends that it was what she really wanted.

Finally she takes Dave back to the Airport.

DAVE DIAMOND

This has been fantastic. I think I could move here you know.

PENELOPE

I'm not sure that would work. I mean, you wouldn't find a good job.

DAVE DIAMOND

Well you did and my French is

better than yours. You know when we were chatting on Skype I always thought you were really in Texas. I don't know why I thought that. I must be a bit mad.

When Penelope returns to the apartment Marcel tells her he wants to leave Jenny and go to America with Her. Penelope panics. She doesn't want to steal another boyfriend from Jenny and in any case she has enough on her plate with Dave and besides, Marcel wouldn't get a visa. She gathers her stuff and rushes out the house without saying goodbye to Marcel or Jenny.

Dave leaves Paris and goes onto London. After he arrives he rings Lulu and they arrange to meet in a cafe near Kings Cross station.

Dave walks in the cafe and is looking around for Lulu. He sees her but she's at a table with another woman, who also seems very attractive.

INT. IN CAFE NEAR KINGS CROSS

Dave walks up to Lulu.

DAVE DIAMOND  
Are you Lulu?

LULU  
You must be Dave. You're even better looking than you seemed.

DAVE DIAMOND  
And you're just as stunning.

ANNIE  
(Joking)  
Oh cut the crap you two.

LULU  
This is my friend Annie.

ANNIE  
I'll leave you two alone and get you a coffee from the bar.

LULU  
Sorry. She's a good friend of mine.  
It's very complicated.

DAVE DIAMOND  
What's so complicated?

LULU  
Well, you see, I used to be a guy.

DAVE DIAMOND  
Err, did I hear that right?

LULU  
Yes. I used to be a guy. I hope  
you're okay with that. Some people  
find it a bit off-putting but I  
don't see why.

DAVE DIAMOND  
Hmm... well... I can sort of  
understand why.

LULU  
Annie used to be my wife.

DAVE DIAMOND  
Err,.. really?

Annie comes back with a coffee which she gives to Dave.  
There's an awkward silence. Then Lulu gets up.

LULU  
I've got to go to the loo.

When she has gone Annie starts talking

ANNIE  
I hope she didn't say that she used  
to be a guy?

DAVE DIAMOND  
I'm glad she did. You know it's  
best to be honest about these  
things.

ANNIE

No, I mean it's not true. Did she say I used to be her wife?

DAVE DIAMOND

Yea.

ANNIE

It's all crap. She says it to people to test them. To see if they like her for what she is.

DAVE DIAMOND

So what do you suggest I do?

ANNIE

Why don't you play along and see what happens?

DAVE DIAMOND

I think I will.

Lulu returns.

ANNIE

Well I'm done here. I'll see you later.

Annie leaves and Lulu and Dave are alone at the table.

LULU

So, big boy what do you want to do?

DAVE DIAMOND

I'm free for the rest of the day. My meeting got cancelled.

LULU

What about a movie?

DAVE DIAMOND

Sounds good but I'm jet lagged so I don't know if I'll stay awake.

EXT. OUTSIDE CINEMA

Dave and Lulu are in front of a cinema. The movie advertised is 'The Crying Game'.

LULU  
Have you seen this?

DAVE DIAMOND  
No. It sounds like a chick-flick.

LULU  
Don't you worry about that.

INT. IN CINEMA

Dave is asleep with his head on Lulu's shoulder as soon as they settle down and doesn't wake up until the movie is over.

INT. IN DAVE DIAMOND'S HOTEL ROOM

Lulu goes into the bathroom and comes out wearing a very seductive negligee but Dave is fast asleep on the bed.

INT. IN DAVE DIAMOND'S HOTEL ROOM THE FOLLOWING MORNING

Dave wakes up and he's on his own. He immediately jumps out of bed and checks his wallet and passport. They are there. He gets out his laptop.

ON SCREEN

Calling Lulu

Lulu comes on the screen.

DAVE DIAMOND  
Hi. I wondered what happened.

LULU  
I thought you would probably prefer to be on your own.

DAVE DIAMOND  
Yea. Well, thanks for yesterday.



LULU  
You slept through most of it.

DAVE DIAMOND  
I hope you don't take this the  
wrong way but I must admit that  
where I woke up I checked my  
wallet.

LULU  
(Jokingly)  
What do you mean the wrong way? How  
many ways of taking that are there?  
You thought I was a thief?

DAVE DIAMOND  
No. Well... Look I didn't know you  
but whatever I thought I was wrong  
so I would like to make it up to  
you.

LULU  
By stealing my purse you mean?

DAVE DIAMOND  
No. Look, I like you. I'm sorry if  
I gave the wrong impression.

LULU  
Okay. Next time you're in London.

DAVE DIAMOND  
Good.

LULU  
Bye.

Camera zooms into screen  
Lulu has logged out.

Just then another message comes up.  
LindyInLeeds is calling

Lindy comes on the screen.

LINDY

Hi. I was hoping to catch you. How did your meeting go the other day?

DAVE DIAMOND  
Meeting... oh

Dave looks in his diary and it says "Talk to Penny re paris trip".

DAVE DIAMOND  
Good. We negotiated them up naught-point-four percent so I made the bank a few hundred thousand dollars.

LINDY  
They should give you a good bonus. Just wanted to catch you in London. Do you think you'll make it here?

DAVE DIAMOND  
I'll do my best.

LINDY  
Great. Gotta go. I'm late for work.

CAMERA ZOOMS OUT

INT. IN LINDY'S APARTMENT

Very drab and run down. It's gloomy outside. Lindy has an old desk-top computer. She leaves her apartment and goes down a really grotty flight of stairs.

EXT. OUTSIDE LINDY'S APARTMENT

There's a tramp sitting by the very worn front door.

LINDY  
Hello Jim. How's your arm?

JIM  
Not so bad. So long as I can keep the alcohol levels up it keeps the pain away.

Waves a bottle of Gin in front of her.

LINDY

I'm sure it's not good for you.

JIM

Of course it is. I feel much better after a drink or two or three or better still a bottle of gin. You work in a shop, can you get me gin?

LINDY

Of course not. I'll see if I can get you some food that's going to be thrown out.

JIM

Food! What good is that?

LINDY

You need to eat properly.

JIM

I know you really care. You're an angel.

INT. LINDY'S SUPERMARKET WORKPLACE

There's one older woman at a checkout and a really long queue. The woman is very slow.

LINDY

Hi Mrs. Jones.

Mrs. Jones doesn't reply. Lindy sets up in adjacent till, immediately Mrs. Jones puts up a 'closed' sign. The people at the back of the queue go to the front of Lindy's queue and the people at the front look round and have to go to the back of the new queue. Mrs. Jones leaves without even saying anything.

VIEW OF LINDY'S TILL

Lindy is always smiling and starts to serve people. Everyone has one or two items and they are ridiculously expensive. She starts a conversation with one of the

customers who has more items whilst she checks them out.

LINDY

How are you Mr. Goodman.

MR. GOODMAN

Nothing's changed. My bird escaped from its cage.

LINDY

That's sad. How did it happen?

MR. GOODMAN

My wife knocked the cage over.

LINDY

Oh I am sorry. How did that happen?

MR. GOODMAN

She panicked and tripped when she was going for her purse.

LINDY

Why did she panic?

MR. GOODMAN

Two kids were waiting for her.

LINDY

What were they doing there?

MR. GOODMAN

They broke in.

LINDY

You got broken into again?

MR. GOODMAN

Yes. I told you nothing's changed.

Whilst this is going on the lady behind him in the queue has a young girl who starts pulling sweets off the shelf into her basket. The lady tries to put them back as fast as the girl pulls them off and she trying to stop her. The girl seems out of control. The lady finally gives up. When

Mr. Goodman goes off and the lady comes up to the till,  
Lindy looks in the basket and it's filled with sweets.

LINDY  
Are you sure you want all these  
Mars bars?

LADY  
Yes. Sasha gets uncontrollable if  
she doesn't have sugar.

A LITTLE LATER

An old lady comes up with a can of cat food. Lindy rings it  
up.

Shot of till register

£237.23.  
Back to Lindy

LINDY  
I didn't know you had a cat Mrs. P?

MRS. P  
I could have.

LINDY  
This isn't for you is it?

MRS. P  
I'm told it will give me a wet  
nose, a glossy coat and make me  
playful.

LINDY  
You don't need a wet nose. Is this  
all you can afford?

MRS. P  
I've got plenty of money I'm just  
waiting for the bank to sort it  
out. You know when Charlie died  
there was a lot of money, I'm  
waiting for the bank. You know  
these things take time.

LINDY

It's been twenty years. Wait here.

CAMERA FOLLOWS LINDY AS SHE WALKS THROUGH THE SUPERMARKET

Lindy gets out from her place at the checkout and walks down the line of waiting people. The walk goes on for a while. The line is very long. Lindy goes to the frozen food department and picks up a frozen meal. She walks back to the checkout.

BACK TO THE CHECKOUT

LINDY

Have this on me Mrs. Penelope. It will be better than cat food.

Mrs. Penelope looks at it and a tear comes to her eyes.

MRS. P

I don't have a freezer.

LINDY

You don't need one. Just cook it up tonight.

MRS. P

I don't have any gas. They cut it off.

LINDY

Really? Can't you get meals on wheels?

MRS. P

(Insulted)

Don't be ridiculous. I can't afford wheels.

Mrs. Penelope shuffles off with the frozen meal.

EXT. OUTSIDE LINDY'S APARTMENT

Jim is asleep across a dustbin in front of her door. Lindy nudges him with her shoe. He wakes and stands up.

LINDY

I've got some food for you. Fresh salmon and a salad. They were going to throw it out.

JIM

You're an angel.  
(Looks in the bag)  
Where's the Gin?

LINDY

There's no gin. It's very good food.

JIM

Thanks. Next time - gin. Or whiskey.

INT. LINDY'S APARTMENT

Lindy walks in and puts her coat away. She goes to the computer. On the screen there's a message from Dave.

SHOT OF SCREEN

Dave: I'll see if I can make it to Leeds. Send me your phone number.

Lindy types in her phone number and hits 'send'.

DREAM SEQUENCE

EXT. OUTSIDE LINDY'S APARTMENT

Lindy is with Dave, and everything is rosy. The weather is warm with blue sky, colours are bright. Jim is a doorman of her apartment and is holding the door open for them as they leave.

LINDY

Thank you Jim. Are you working out?

JIM

Daily. I feel fantastic.

INT. IN SUPERMARKET

The supermarket is very well lit, all the checkouts are staffed by extremely attractive girls, the customers are young, good looking and happy, there are no queues and all the prices are ridiculously cheap.

They pass Mr. Goodman looking very happy and carrying a box of birdseed. Lindy sees Mrs. J. who looks very wealthy.

LINDY

Hello Mrs. J. How are you?

MRS. J

Couldn't be better.

END DREAM SEQUENCE

INT. DAVE DIAMOND OFFICE

Dave and Andrew are in the office. Dave is doing something on the computer.

DAVE DIAMOND

Wow. I think I've made a boo-boo

ANDREW

You did something in your pants?

DAVE DIAMOND

No not that sort of boo-boo

ANDREW

You lost the bank another million dollars?

DAVE DIAMOND

No... What do you mean another million? No I meant to send my party invitation to Mandy...

ANDREW

With Alison there?

DAVE DIAMOND

She knows. Mandy that is. She's



coming with her boyfriend. I've sent the invite to all by mistake.

ANDREW

So you've invited the whole bank?

DAVE DIAMOND

No, I've invited all the girls.

ANDREW

Now that could be embarrassing.

ANDREW

I don't think anyone's going to come anyway. Aren't they all in France or the UK?

DAVE DIAMOND

Yea. I'll send another email saying there are problems and they have to stay in an expensive hotel and pay their own fare.

INT. PENNY'S APARTMENT IN PARIS, TEXAS

Penny in on the computer.

ON SCREEN.

email to: Jenny

Subject: Trip to Sydney

Jen:

Thanks for your kindness and sorry I left without saying bye. I've got an invite to a party in Sydney and am able to get 2 cheap tickets through the agent so I can arrange for you to fly from Paris and meet me in Sydney.

I'm sending a flight voucher out to you that you can use to fly return to Sydney.

Chow.

Jenny

INT. JENNY'S APARTMENT

View of a computer and someone typing in on it.

ZOOM INTO SCREEN

Email to: Jenny

Subject: Re Trip to Sydney

Penny:

That's very kind. My passport name is slightly different so can you make sure the voucher doesn't have a name on it to save a lot of problems?

Jen

ZOOM OUT FROM SCREEN

It is Marcel who is typing.

INT. LINDY'S SUPERMARKET WORKPLACE

Lindy is working on the till. There is an girl with an American accent buying some cat food.

LINDY

I hope you don't eat this?

SAMANTHA

(laughing)

Yea. My hair is got glossy since I've started. I'm going to Australia next week. I have to look good.

LINDY

I've been invited to Sydney for a party but I can't afford it.

SAMANTHA

That's amazing. I'm going with my brother. You know you could come with us. He's got a spare ticket. We were thinking it was going to go

to waste.

(Holds her hand out)  
I'm Samantha. From San Francisco.

LINDY  
(Shaking her hand)  
I'm Lindy. This sounds a ridiculous  
idea.

SAMANTHA  
My brother works for QANTAS. He  
gets cheap tickets. Give me your  
address. Let's see if we can work  
something out.

INT. IN CAFE NEAR KINGS CROSS

Lulu and Annie are at a table.

LULU  
That Aussie bloke has invited me to  
a party in Sydney.

ANNIE  
That's a long way to go for a  
party.

LULU  
I think he could be worth it.

INT. FOYER OF SMART HOTEL IN SYDNEY

Penelope and Marcel arrive and they are arguing.

PENELOPE  
So does Jenny even know you're  
here?

MARCEL  
She knows I'm not in Paris.

PENELOPE  
She'll go berserk. I'm trying to  
make it up to her and you make it  
even worse.

LONG VIEW OF FOYER

Penelope and Marcel are in the middle of the foyer. Samantha, her brother and Lindy are sitting down in some chairs. Lindy and the brother are in a passionate embrace. Samantha looks bored. Lulu walks in and goes to reception.

INT: IN BAR OF HOTEL

Lindy and the brother are in a passionate embrace. Samantha looks bored. Lulu sits down next to her.

LULU

Hi. I'm here on my own, I don't know anyone and you look bored.

SAMANTHA

I came out with my brother and a complete stranger.

(Indicating to the couple)  
She's not so strange now.

LULU

I was invited to a party by someone I hardly know.

SAMANTHA

So was Lindy. But I don't think she's much interested in going now.

ZOOM OUT FROM TO SEE WHOLE OF BAR

Marcel and Penelope are in animated conversation. Zoom in on Marcel and Penelope

PENELOPE

Really? She complained when you spoke to a girl at work?

MARCEL

I didn't realise she was a, how do you say, nut case?

PENELOPE

And to think I felt guilty.

Marcel and Penelope start kissing each other.

ENDING

Caption: 6 months later

MONTAGE 1

Lindy and the brother and Samantha and Lulu are walking through a park in San Francisco. They are obviously two couples, laughing.

MONTAGE 2

Penelope and Marcel are having their photo taken in front of the Eiffel Tower but as the camera zooms out it becomes apparent that it is in Paris, Texas.

MONTAGE 3

Mandy and her boyfriend are in a queue at the Eureka Tower and although there is no sound Mandy is leading her boyfriend to the front of the queue and then talks to the assistant. The boyfriend then starts to lift his shirt up.

MONTAGE 4

Dave Diamond and Alison Peters are getting married. Andrew is apparently the best man.

THE END