

"THE ODD COUPLE II"

"Travelin' Light"

Screenplay

by

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1 EXT. BALL PARK - DAY

On the wall of the small, sun drenched ball park, we see that it is the home of the Sarasota Sparks, minor minor league team. The legend on the screen tells us...

"SARASOTA, FLORIDA"

(then)

"...Thirty years later"

2 EXT. INSIDE THE BALL PARK - DAY

The game is in progress. The stands are filled with about 90 people, out of a possible 1000. The batter swings and hits a slow ground ball to the shortstop, who bobbles it, picks it up to throw, drops it, picks it up again and throws ten feet over the first baseman's head. Two very old men rush for the ball. It takes them forever.

3 EXT. PRESS BOX - DAY

OSCAR MADISON, now about 74, wearing a Hawaiian shirt and a straw hat and cigar, watches in disgust. ABE, another sportswriter sits beside him. They watch the men going after the ball. One man picks it up.

OSCAR

The old cockahs in the stands are better than the young cockahs in the field.

4 EXT. THE FIELD - DAY

The next batter swings and hits a foul ball into the stands.

5 EXT. PRESS BOX - DAY

ABE

Ooh! He just missed someone in the crowd.

OSCAR

What crowd? We could all go home in one car.

6 EXT. THE FIELD - DAY

The batter takes a mighty swing and misses.

7 EXT. PRESS BOX - DAY

ABE

Terrible. Maybe he should lay down
a bunt.

OSCAR

This guy couldn't lay down a carpet.

8 EXT. THE FIELD - DAY

Batter takes a mighty swing and misses.

9 EXT. PRESS BOX - DAY

ABE

Now he's overswinging.

OSCAR

Don't complain. At least he's
cooling off the place.

10 EXT. BALL PARK - DAY

Oscar and Abe walking towards the parking lot. Abe is
very short, and very bald.

ABE

I always envied you, Oscar.
Covering the Yankees and the Mets.
I bet you miss New York, heh?

OSCAR

Well, what was I gonna do? They
were trimming costs. They sold the
paper to an Australian. Lucky the
Japanese didn't buy it. It would
take a year to read the batting
averages.

A sixtyish WOMAN drives by in an open '73 Cadillac
convertible. She smiles at Oscar.

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED:

WOMAN

(flirtingly)

Oscar? I'm having a dinner party
Friday night. We're short one man.

OSCAR

How about Abe here? He's a short
man.

WOMAN

You can run, Oscar, but you can't
hide.

She drives off.

OSCAR

I hate a woman who talks like
Mahammed Ali.

They pass a young, attractive Hispanic cop (CONCHITA)
directing traffic.

CONCHITA

Tough loss today, heh, Oscar?

OSCAR

(big smile)

Yeah, I'm suicidal, honey. If I
call 911 tonight, any chance of
mouth to mouth?

He laughs.

She laughs and shakes her head. As she turns to direct
traffic, Oscar looks at her rear end.

OSCAR (CONT'D)

Oy gutt... Abe? Don't you look at a
good ass anymore?

ABE

If I'm not allowed to look at
pastrami, why should I look at an
ass?

OSCAR

(stops at his car)

You playin' poker tonight, Abe?

ABE

I'll be a little late. I have to
pay my respects. A friend in my
building died.

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED: (2)

OSCAR
What'd he die of?

ABE
He got hit by lightning on a golf course.

OSCAR
Aghh. He shoulda been using his woods... Find out what his rent is. I'm always looking for cheaper.

He gets in his car and drives off, his muffler leaving a trail of dusty clouds.

11 EXT. TWO STORY CONDO - EVENING

Since it's summer, it's not yet dark.

The condo is not first class but it's kept neatly by its tenants. Oscar sticks his head out of the second floor window with a plastic bag of garbage. He looks down and lets it go.

The trash bag bounces off the rim of the garbage can and splatters everywhere.

OSCAR
I used to make that shot.

Six cats suddenly come out of nowhere and start foraging through the mess.

A man (MORTON), about 65, comes out of his first floor apartment and is aghast at the mess.

MORTON
(angrily yells up)
Damn it, Madison. My wife and I are fed up with this. I'm filing a complaint. Are you going to clean this up?

OSCAR
Absolutely. Whatever the cats don't finish, I'll clean up later.

He goes back in.

12 INT. OSCAR'S KITCHEN - EVENING

Obviously, it's a mess. He piles food and drinks on a tray and heads into the other room.

13 INT. COMBINATION LIVING ROOM AND DINING ROOM - EVENING

A poker game is in session. It is five women (HATTIE, ESTHER, MILLIE, WANDA and FLOSSIE), aging from mid-sixties to early eighties, plus Abe who is now wearing a bad toupee.

Oscar enters.

OSCAR

Nobody bet. I still got a raise coming... How we doing, girls?

HATTIE

Everybody's in except Esther.

Esther wears very thick glasses.

OSCAR

You didn't make your straight, Esther?

ESTHER

Who knows? I can't see the numbers. Why can't we play with those great big cards?

OSCAR

We tried it once. Every time I shuffled, it blew Abe's toupee off.

Abe feels his toupee.

ABE

Not anymore. This is the kind you can swim in.

OSCAR

Be careful. You swim with that rug, they'll think you're building a dam.
(already has put down tray)

Okay, girls. Who gets the Enteman's Lemon Loaf Cake, no fat, no cholesterol, no taste?

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED:

MILLIE
(a portly woman)
That's mine.

OSCAR
One late of chemical sponge cake for
Millie.

He puts it in front of her. He leans over and smells
Wanda's neck.

OSCAR
Wanda, you vixen. You know that
perfume gets me crazy. I'd bite
your neck but I don't want to get a
mouthful of pearls.

WANDA
You really like it?

OSCAR
Not only do I like it, I can see I
got you beat.

WANDA
(throws in cards)
He always does that to me.

OSCAR
Don't worry about it. I lost so
many brain cells today, I can't
remember what I saw.

WANDA
(to other women)
He's just like my third husband, he
should rest in peace.

OSCAR
How do you know he's dead? Maybe
he's just bluffing.
(picks up plate of food)
Who gets the salt free nachos with
the cottage cheese chili?

MILLIE
That's mine.

OSCAR
(putting it down)
One Jenny Craig Mexicali Special for
Senorita Abromowitz.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

OSCAR (CONT'D)

(puts a glass down for
Abe)

And a glass of cherry soda for Abe.
Where is he?

ABE

Here.

OSCAR

Sit on a magazine, willya, I can't
see you.

ABE

(sips soda)

This isn't cherry. It's lemon.

Oscar takes a cherry off someone's drink and drops it in
Abe's glass.

OSCAR

Now it's cherry... What's the bet?

FLOSSIE

Millie raised a quarter so it's
thirty-three cents for you.

OSCAR

Thirty-three cents? You need nerves
of steel for this game.

(throws in money, then
picks up a coin)

Hey, girls, I keep telling you. No
Mickey Mouse pins from DisneyWorld.

The phone RINGS. Oscar picks it up.

OSCAR

(into phone)

Whoever it is, I'll pay you
Thursday... Who?... Brucey?

(lights up)

Brucey, how are you, boychik?

(to girls)

Hey, girls, hold it down. It's my
son from California.

ESTHER

Huh. California. My sister lost
three pairs of dentures in the
earthquakes.

(CONTINUED)

MILLIE

So how does she eat?

ESTHER

She sends out.

OSCAR

(to phone)

No, no. It's my poker game. Last week I won a pair of earrings...

INTERCUT:

14 INT. BRUCEY'S PLACE, CALIFORNIA - NIGHT

His son BRUCEY, about 32, is with an attractive girl (HANNAH), about thirty.

BRUCEY

You sound good, Pop.

OSCAR

You too. You still an actor?

BRUCEY

Yeah. Still an actor. I just got a call from CBS. I may get a pilot this week.

OSCAR

Terrific.

(to ladies)

Hey, my kid may get a pilot this week.

FLOSSIE

He got his own plane?

HATTIE

You don't know what a pilot is? It's a television show that doesn't get on television.

BRUCEY

That's not why I'm calling, Pop. I got some big news for you.

(looks at Hannah next to him)

I'm getting married this week.

Hannah smiles, kisses Brucey's cheek.

(CONTINUED)

OSCAR
Married? Why?

BRUCEY
Because I love her, that's why.

OSCAR
Oh. You didn't say it was a girl...
Listen, if you're happy, I'm happy.
(to ladies)
Hey, my kid is getting married this week.

WANDA
There goes my Rachel's last chance.

BRUCEY
It's this Sunday afternoon. Out here. You think you could come?

OSCAR
(into phone)
Wild race horses couldn't keep me away. Where is it?

BRUCEY
At her mother's house in San Malina. That's about two hours north of L.A. Five in the afternoon. I'll send you the address.

OSCAR
If I'm not too nosy, sweetheart, who the hell are you marrying?

BRUCEY
Well, she's beautiful, talented, smart...

Hannah grabs the phone.

HANNAH
(into phone)
...and she loves your son.

BRUCEY
(grabs back phone)
See what I mean?

OSCAR
I love her already. So who is she?

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED: (2)

BRUCEY

Well... hold onto your hat, Pop.

OSCAR

I need a hat to hear this?... She's not one of those six foot ten basketball players, is she?

HATTIE

What's the difference? As long as she's thin.

OSCAR

(into phone)

I can't hear you... She's whose daughter??... WHOSE???... OH, MY God!!

15 INT. PLANE - DAY

FELIX UNGAR, full face CLOSE UP. He blows his nose loudly into a Kleenex, then makes that sheep bleating sound to clear his nasal passages. Then a couple of those "Mwow Mwow"! sounds with his throat.

WE ARE IN A PLANE.

Felix is sitting in economy between a man and a WOMAN. They look annoyed at his constant symptoms.

FELIX

(smiles apologetically)

Sorry. Sorry.

A STEWARDESS passes by.

FELIX (CONT'D)

Oh, Miss... Miss.

She stops.

FELIX (CONT'D)

I wonder if I could change my seat?
Into the non-smoking section?

STEWARDESS

The entire plane is non-smoking, sir. There is no one smoking on this aircraft.

(CONTINUED)

FELIX

I understand. But maybe the attendants who clean out the planes in the airport were smoking in here. I'm very sensitive to that.

STEWARDESS

I'm sorry, sir. The entire plane is full.

She walks on. Felix squeezes out of his seat, excuses himself. He follows her down the aisle, then stops her.

FELIX

(lowers his voice)

It's not just the smoke. The woman next to me is wearing a perfume that I have a definite allergy to.

STEWARDESS

I already moved you once.

FELIX

No, that was because of a hair spray. I know I sound crazy but I'm one of those hyper-allergenic cases. Can't you at least try?

STEWARDESS

You mean sniff every woman in the plane until you find a perfume you're not allergic to?

FELIX

Look, I didn't complain about the food, did I? I didn't eat it but I didn't complain about it.

STEWARDESS

You asked for the Hawaiian Mahi Mahi and I told you we only serve Mahi Mahi on West to East flights, not East to West flights.

FELIX

I just thought there was one piece of Mahi Mahi that was making the return trip... never mind. I'll manage.

(CONTINUED)

She walks away, Felix walks back and squeezes into his seat. The woman next to him looks at him as he begins to clear his throat.

WOMAN

I have some cough lozenges if you like.

FELIX

Oh, thank you very much. No. I have an unusually small windpipe. If it got stuck I could be dead in two minutes.

He smiles and shrugs. She nods. She takes out her cologne spray and sprays behind her ear lightly.

WOMAN

I hate to see someone uncomfortable.

Felix presses his finger against his left nostril so as not to breathe in the fumes. It makes him speak nasally:

FELIX

No, I'm fine. A little nervous, I guess. My daughter is getting married on Sunday. Out in California. In San Ma-San Ma -- Well, a friend is picking me up.

WOMAN

Oh. Congratulations.

FELIX

Thank you.

WOMAN

Are you having trouble breathing?

FELIX

Just on this side. An old sinus wound in the war... Yes, she's marrying the son of an old friend of mine. I haven't seen him in years.

The man on his right takes out some after-shave lotion from his case and pats some on his face. Felix looks, then presses his right finger on his right nostril, so that both nostrils are now closed.

(CONTINUED)

WOMAN

So your daughter and his son have known each other before?

FELIX

(holding nostrils, very nasal)

Not really. They grew up in different places. They met in Los Angeles. He's an actor, she's an actress.

WOMAN

Are you alright? Your face is turning bluish? Do you need oxygen?

FELIX

Yes...

(points up to it)

...but you never know who used that before.

He starts to gag from the lack of air intake.

16 INT. AIRPORT - DAY

Digital Readout in Baggage Claim Area. It says: "Flight 91 - Jacksonville".

17 THE CAROUSEL

The bags are coming down the chute. Oscar right at the bottom of the chute.

18 ANOTHER CAROUSEL (#3)

Digital Readout in another area of the same airline. It says: "Flight 96 - New York".

We see Felix waiting for his bag.

19 OSCAR'S CAROUSEL

An old weathered beaten bag appears at the top of the carousel chute.

OSCAR

Excuse me, I see my bag. Can I get through there, please?

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED:

His bag tumbles down the chute, hits another bag and the old locks spring open. Oscar's bag is open and all its contents start to fly out.

OSCAR (CONT'D)

(to baggage handler)

Hey! Hey! That's mishandling of luggage. That's a federal misdemeanor.

20 CAROUSEL #3

The bags come down. Felix sees his bag. It is a neat suitcase covered with a clear plastic case around it. He picks it off and puts it down. He sees a spot on it, licks his thumb and wipes the spot off.

21 LONG SHOT OF BAGGAGE AREA

We see Felix at one end starting to walk towards the middle where the exit to Transportation is. At the far end is Oscar, now with his clothes repacked but holding the broken bag in his arms.

They both squint as they see each other in the distance. They both stop.

FELIX

Oscar?

OSCAR

Felix?

FELIX

(big smile)

OSCAR!!!

OSCAR

FELIX!!!

They both start to run towards each other. After all, it's been years. They run faster and faster and just as they are about to rush into each other's arms, a woman pushing her luggage carriage, pushes it in front of Felix, who goes flying into Oscar and they crash.

22 THE CEILING

We see Oscar's clothing flying in slow motion up to the ceiling and down.

23 EXT. AIR TERMINAL - DAY - 3 P.M.

It's where you pick up your transportation. The door from the baggage area springs open and Oscar is pushing out a wheelchair with a disconsolate and pained Felix sitting in it, his wounded leg, stretched out. A porter carries their suitcases.

FELIX

We haven't even said "hello" yet and I have a broken leg.

OSCAR

It's not broken. It's just a sprain. Hello, Felix.

They cross the road.

FELIX

Let me know when you're going to hit a bump.

They hit one. Felix bounces and winces, "AGGHH".

OSCAR

Okay. That was a bump.

24 EXT. BUDGET RENT-A-CAR - DAY

Oscar comes out of Budget carrying both suitcases in one hand, a plastic box in the other and the keys to the car in his mouth. We PULL BACK and see Felix, standing on one leg, holding onto a post. Their car is parked in front.

FELIX

I'm supposed to give the bride away. How am I going to stand up for her on one leg?

OSCAR

You can lean on the groom. We'll work it out, Felix.

He puts the two bags down, the plastic box on top of them and puts the keys in his pocket. He helps Felix to the car, who hops on one leg.

FELIX

Maybe we can stop and get a pair of crutches somewhere.

(CONTINUED)

OSCAR

I'll keep my eye open for a crutch store. I'm sure there's a lot of them on the Freeway.

He props Felix up against the car, then opens the front door.

OSCAR (CONT'D)

Okay. Now bend down and slide into the seat. Tell me when it hurts.

Felix bends slightly.

FELIX

It hurts.

He bends a little more.

FELIX (CONT'D)

It hurts.

OSCAR

Okay. I got an idea.

FELIX

What?

OSCAR

Don't tell me when it hurts... because it's gonna hurt anyway... Let's do it in one move... One, two, THREE!!!

He helps Felix into the seat.

FELIX

OW OW OW OW OW OW OW OW!!!

He is in.

OSCAR

I liked "it hurts" better.

Oscar opens the back door, throws in his bag, picks up the plastic box and rushes around to the front and gets in. He hands Felix the plastic box.

OSCAR (CONT'D)

Here! I got you ice from the machine. It'll keep the swelling down.

(CONTINUED)

24 CONTINUED: (2)

FELIX

I need something to put the ice in.

OSCAR

Put it in your sock. What am I, an orthopedic?

He starts the car and they pull away. As the car leaves, we see Felix's suitcase still standing on the sidewalk.

25 EXT. THE RENTAL CAR - DAY

On the Freeway.

26 EXT./INT. THE RENTAL CAR - DAY

We are on Felix's foot. His shoe and sock are off and his bare foot is in the box of ice. He is shivering. Felix's teeth are chattering.

OSCAR

Your foot feeling any better?

FELIX

It's not a foot anymore. It's a piece of frozen meat.

OSCAR

Hang it out the window. It's warm out.

FELIX

I'm starved. I haven't eaten since last night.

OSCAR

They didn't serve on the plane?

FELIX

No. My fish was going east.

Oscar looks at him, the same old Felix.

OSCAR

Here.

(takes a small pack of airline nuts from his pocket)

You can have my complimentary nuts.

(CONTINUED)

Felix looks at them with disdain, he shivers.

OSCAR (CONT'D)

Go on, eat 'em. If your teeth keep chattering, you'll have peanut butter in three minutes.

FELIX

Do you know what the fat content of nuts are? Not to mention the salt content. I could have a heart attack at the wedding.

OSCAR

(shakes head)

I haven't seen you in what, Felix? Eight, nine years?

FELIX

(shakes head, laughs)

Seventeen! Seventeen years. You couldn't remember we haven't seen each other in seventeen years?

OSCAR

To tell you the truth, I didn't dwell on it... Okay, seventeen years and you haven't changes an iota. Your hair got whiter, your ears got bigger, your nose got longer, but you've still retained that unique, elusive pain in the ass quality that drives me besoiik.

FELIX

Oh, really? Well you have changed, Oscar. When I saw you in the airport, I thought you died and your mother was coming to tell me.

OSCAR

(looks at him)

I heard that line on the Jerry Seinfeld show.

FELIX

So what? It's how fast I thought of it that counts.

27 EXT. THE RENTAL CAR - DAY

On the Freeway.

28 EXT./INT. THE RENTAL CAR -DAY 2

Felix is drying his foot with his handkerchief. He picks up the box with melted water.

FELIX

Open the window, I want to throw the water out.

OSCAR

It is open.

Felix throws the water but the window is not open. It splashes back on Felix, who turns to look at him.

OSCAR (CONT'D)

Sorry. They must have just cleaned it.

29 EXT. THE RENTAL CAR - DAY

On the Freeway.

30 EXT./INT. THE RENTAL CAR - DAY

Felix is wiping the window with his sock.

OSCAR

You feeling any better?... Heh?...
Whatsa matter, you sprain your
tongue too?

FELIX

No. I'm angry at myself. I'm sorry
I yelled at you. I behaved badly
back there. I was wrong, Oscar.

OSCAR

Well, we always had bad chemistry.
We mix like oil and frozen yogurt...
But I'm glad to see you anyway.

FELIX

Me too, Oz.
(laughs)
God, I was a nut in those days,
wasn't I?

OSCAR

From pecan to pistachio.

(CONTINUED)

FELIX

I still am, I guess. I hate mess. I hate disorder. I hate how dirty the windshield on this car is... I went to a hypnotist to try to cure me.

OSCAR

It didn't work, right?

FELIX

No. He was late, so I straightened up his office and left.

They both laugh. Then as Felix is still laughing...

FELIX (CONT'D)

...You better get off the Freeway, Oz, I gotta pee.

Oscar looks at him with murder in his eyes.

31 EXT. A MACDONALD'S - DAY

Oscar is sitting on an outside bench waiting for Felix. He looks at his watch. A five year old BOY comes and looks at Oscar. He just stares at him.

OSCAR

Hi, sonny.

(no answer)

How you doin'?

(no answer. Oscar looks around)

Where's your parents?

(no answer)

You alright? You want something?

What?

BOY

(puts hand out)

Five dollars.

OSCAR

Five dollars? Why should I give you five dollars?

BOY

Your friend said you would for telling you that he's locked in the bathroom.

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED:

A disgusted look on Oscar's face as he gives the boy five dollars and heads into MacDonald's.

32 INT. THE RENTAL CAR - DAY

It's on a service road.

OSCAR

Why'd you tell him five bucks? He's a kid. He'd have done it for a quarter.

FELIX

Kids don't do anything today for a quarter. He was wearing Michael Jordan sneakers that cost more than my suit.

33 EXT. THE RENTAL CAR - DAY

They turn up a ramp and onto the Freeway. Felix looks back.

34 INT. THE RENTAL CAR - DAY

FELIX

What Freeway are we supposed to be on?

OSCAR

The 405.

FELIX

I think that sign said 101.

OSCAR

If you didn't have the brains to pee back in the airport, how the hell would you know what the sign said?

FELIX

(edgy)

Reading and peeing are two different things.

OSCAR

At your age, you're lucky you can do either one.

35 EXT. THE RENTAL CAR - DAY

35

On the Freeway.

36 INT. THE RENTAL CAR - DAY

36

OSCAR

Is your daughter anything like you?
I mean she's not gonna clean up
after the reception, is she?

FELIX

(glares at Oscar)

My daughter's a wonderful girl. And
your boy's lucky to get her. Let me
tell you something, Oscar --

OSCAR

Felix, I don't want to fight with
you. That's why I moved to Florida.
If we keep this up, I'll be living
in Guatemala... Okay?

FELIX

Fine with me.

They drive in silence for a moment.

OSCAR

...So er, what are you, retired now?

FELIX

Me? Retired? Never. I do part-
time charity work in the hospital.

OSCAR

What do you mean? Bed pans, things
like that?

FELIX

I read books to them. I write
letters. Tell 'em some jokes. It
helps me too. Because ever since my
last wife - well, you must have
heard.

OSCAR

Yeah. I was sorry to hear about
that. I heard she went very
quickly.

(CONTINUED)

FELIX

Yeah. She moves out while I was sleeping. Never even left a note.

OSCAR

So what is that now? Three divorces?

FELIX

Three divorces, two broken engagements and five women disappeared on the first date. Went to the ladies room and never came back.

He laughs but it hurts.

OSCAR

Well, listen, you just had bad luck with your personality.

FELIX

But I haven't give up hope, Oscar. Because I know out there, somewhere, is the right woman for me.

OSCAR

You want me to stop the car and look?

FELIX

(smiles)

Nah... But we should turn off here. I have to eat. It's a low sugar condition. I have to eat every four hours.

OSCAR

Then why didn't you eat when we were in MacDonald's?

FELIX

Well, it wasn't time to eat yet. It was time to pee.

Oscar wants to scream.

37 EXT. RENTAL CAR - OVERHEAD SHOT - DAY

The car swerves and passes another car to get off at the ramp, almost causing a twenty car crack up as all the other cars come to a screeching halt.

38 INT. RESTAURANT - DAY

Oscar and Felix at a table. Felix eating a salad and toast. Oscar has a cup of coffee. He takes out a piece of paper and a pen. He shoves it over to Felix.

OSCAR

Here. Make out a timetable when you eat, when you pee, when you fart, when you sleep and when you cry. Because that was the last time I'm pulling off the Freeway, you hear?

FELIX

And I suppose you never have to pee.

OSCAR

I do it for a half hour in the morning and I'm through for the day.

Felix takes out a pill box, pours them all on the table. Starts to take them one at a time.

OSCAR (CONT'D)

How do you know which ones to take?

FELIX

It doesn't make any difference. Whatever they fix, I got.

He swallows the pills.

OSCAR

Don't you take them with water?

FELIX

(holds up glass of water)

Local water? From around here? You know how many pesticides they have in local water?

OSCAR

No, but lower your voice. All these people in here don't know they'll be dead in week.

39 EXT. RESTAURANT - DAY

They are walking to the car.

(CONTINUED)

FELIX

Maybe we should call Hannah and tell her not to worry if we're late.

OSCAR

We won't be late... So little Hannah Ungar's gonna be Hannah Madison, heh?

FELIX

No. She wants to keep her own name. Her mother did the same thing. Very progressive women, you know.

(a memory comes to him)

Quite a gal. Frances was.

OSCAR

You're not gonna start grieving over your divorce again, are you? You're too old to commit suicide. It's for younger men.

40 EXT. A COUNTRY ROAD - DAY

The car drives along.

41 INT. RENTAL CAR - DAY

Felix has dozed off. He starts to cough and wakes up. Oscar is smoking what's left of a cigar.

FELIX

Jesus, open a window, willya?

Felix opens the window and waves the smoke out.

FELIX (CONT'D)

How long did I sleep?

OSCAR

I don't know. I didn't know you wanted me to time it.

Felix looks out the window. Sees that they're in the country.

FELIX

Oh, we're off the Freeway. Are we almost there?

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED:

OSCAR

I don't think so.

FELIX

You don't think so? Well, what do the directions say?

OSCAR

They're gone. I threw them out the window.

FELIX

You -- you threw the directions out the window?? Why would you do a stupid thing like that?

OSCAR

I had them on my lap so I could read them. I lit my cigar and the hot ashes fell on my crotch, the map caught fire. I had the choice of finding the house or burning up one of the most important parts of my body. Guess which I picked?

FELIX

Why the hell didn't you wake me up?

OSCAR

I can't open a window, hold a burning map, trying to steer a car at sixty-five miles an hour with a lit cigar in my mouth and yell, "Oh, Felix! Would you wake up, please?"

FELIX

Unbelievable... So why'd you get off the Freeway?

OSCAR

Because the directions said go north on the 105 and then turn off on exit -- and that's when the directions caught fire.

FELIX

So you just picked any exit to turn off?

OSCAR

I had to get off someplace, didn't I?

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED: (2)

FELIX

This isn't someplace. This is no place... Alright. Stop the car. I'll get the directions out of my suitcase.

Oscar jams on the brakes and the car slams to a stop.

42 EXT. RENTAL CAR - DAY

Felix glares at him, then gets out and crosses to the rear of the car. Oscar stays seated. Felix gets a funny look on his face, then comes back and looks at Oscar through the window.

FELIX

Where's my suitcase?

OSCAR

Your suitcase? In the trunk.

FELIX

No.

OSCAR

No?

FELIX

No.

OSCAR

Did you look good?

FELIX

(holds his arm apart)

The trunk is this big. It takes a second and a half to look. Your 1927 cardboard suitcase is back there but not mine.

Oscar looks at him, gets out of the car, crosses to the trunk and looks.

THE TRUNK.

We see Oscar's old battered suitcase but that's all.

FELIX

I'm going to try to stay very calm through the next sentence I'm going to say...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

FELIX (CONT'D)

If it's not in the trunk, WHERE THE HELL IS MY GODDAMN SUITCASE?

OSCAR

This is just a wild guess, but I'd say it's standing in front of the Budget Rent-A-Car office.

FELIX

In Los Angeles?

OSCAR

That's a good guess too.

FELIX

Then why didn't you stop the car and go back?

OSCAR

Go back? It took us two hours to get to here. It would take us five hours to go back there because I don't know how the hell we got here in the first place. And if I did go back, we'd have to make three stops for you to pee, to get locked in the john, to pay another kid another five bucks and then we'd stop for you to eat again, take your pills and then tell me what you've been doing with your life for the last seventeen years, does that answer your question?

Felix turns, walks away and sits under a tree and sulks. Oscar crosses to him.

OSCAR (CONT'D)

So what'd you have in there? Two shirts, two pairs of socks, an ironing board and a tube of spot remover? I'll pay you back.

FELIX

(his eyes look up)

In that suitcase is the black afternoon formal suit I bought to wear when I give my daughter away in marriage. In the suitcase was the six thousand dollar silver Tiffany tray I bought as a wedding gift.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

FELIX (CONT'D)

In that suitcase, was ten thousand dollars in cash I intended to give to my son-in-law on his wedding day. Now in your suitcase, the police will find your broken, smashed, mutilated and dissected body in the event that you don't go back and find my fucking suitcase...

OSCAR

Why don't we call Budget and ask them to deliver it?

FELIX

Deliver it to where? You've criss crossed California more than the covered wagons did a hundred years ago... What do you we tell them? Follow the burnt pieces of directions on the Freeway?

OSCAR

We'll drive to the first town we see and then we'll call Budget.

FELIX

That was my good leather suitcase. How long do you think it's going to stand out there on the street, unclaimed? There's someone going to have pepperoni pizza tonight on my daughter's silver Tiffany tray.

Oscar moves back towards the car. The car is sitting on a hill.

OSCAR

Come on. Get back in the car. If it's still there, they have new things today that get them to you fast. Like Federal Express or U.P.S. or er... er a fax.

FELIX

Fax my suitcase? You mean I could wear a picture of my black wedding suit? Paper copies of ten thousand dollars cash?

He walks menacingly towards Oscar.

(CONTINUED)

42 CONTINUED: (3)

OSCAR

Don't get physical, Felix. I'm too old to hit but I could spit you to death.

FELIX

I just want to know why... why, when you get around me, you behave like a goddamn...

(bangs top of car with his hand)

Idiotic...

(bangs it again)

Imbecilic...

(bangs it again)

Total moronic...

(bangs it again)

SHITHEAD????

(on shithead, he gives in one final bang)

The car slowly starts to move backward down the hill. They both stand there transfixed as it rolls faster and further down the hill, over an embankment, crashes, catches fire and explodes. They watch it. Then Felix looks at Oscar.

FELIX

Didn't you put the brakes on?

OSCAR

Why? I didn't know you were going to punch it.

They watch it burn.

FELIX

Well, we'd better call Budget and have them fax us another car.

43 EXT. DESERT - DAY

A blazing sun.

PAN DOWN to Oscar and Felix, dragging themselves along, coats off, ties askew, sleeves rolled. They are roasting. They walk along nowhere. Some brush, a few scattered wilted trees, an arroyo but no houses or signs of life.

44 THE BLAZING SUN AGAIN

45 EXT. DESERT - DAY

They stop, look up at the sun, wipe their foreheads.

OSCAR

I think I know where we are.

FELIX

You do? Where?

OSCAR

In a Clint Eastwood movie.

FELIX

"The Good, the Bad and the Stupid".

OSCAR

Hey, Felix. You're not the only one who lost everything in his suitcase.

FELIX

Really? What did you lose? An old 1967 Mets T-shirt and a half a corned beef sandwich?

OSCAR

I lost the most important thing in my life.

FELIX

What's that?

OSCAR

My return ticket to Sarasota, Florida... Instead of complaining, why don't you look for a telephone?

FELIX

You think there's a phone around here? This is where they probably test nuclear bombs.

OSCAR

Well, they'd have to call someone to ask if they went off, wouldn't they?

FELIX

(jumps)

Jesus! I thought that was a snake. Probably have poisonous spiders too.

(CONTINUED)

OSCAR

What would they live on? You think they're gonna wait around here for two schmucks like us to show up?

FELIX

I got to rest. Let's sit down a minute.

They sit under a dead tree, not much protection from the sun.

FELIX (CONT'D)

Look, we have to have a plan, agreed?

OSCAR

Agreed.

FELIX

Okay. What do you think the plan should be?

OSCAR

I don't care. I agreed. I did my part.

FELIX

(gets up)

We've got to find a phone. Then we call Hannah's mother and tell her to send out a car to pick us up.

OSCAR

Perfect. You know her number?

FELIX

No. It was in my suitcase. We call information. Her married name now is Frances Povitch.

OSCAR

Great. In what town?

FELIX

Er... San... San something. My daughter told me. Don't you remember?

OSCAR

I had a poker game going, I couldn't hear... San Marino?

(CONTINUED)

45 CONTINUED: (2)

FELIX

No. Not San Marino... San Cantino.

OSCAR

Not San Cantino... San Sereno.

They start to walk.

FELIX

Not San Sereno... San Bandino.

OSCAR

San Madina?... San Patina... San
Farina?

FELIX

We could do this forever. We need a
phone book. How many towns could
sound like that?

OSCAR

In California? All of them... San
Diego... San Jose... San Quentin...The CAMERA is now on their backs as they walk away from
us, their voices diminishing.

FELIX

San Mateo...

OSCAR

San Clemente... Robert Clemente...

FELIX

Sancho Pancho... Pancho Gonzales...

OSCAR

San Jemima.

FELIX

San Jemima??

OSCAR

What the hell do I know? Fernando
Lamas... Ricardo Mantalban...

FELIX

Ricky Ricardo...

They fade away.

46 EXT. A COUNTRY ROAD - DAY

46

Farm country, actually. It is a four way intersection, growing crops all around. Oscar and Felix in the intersection looking in all four directions. Not a sign of life.

FELIX

(looks up at sign
pointing in all four
directions)

...Los Pintos? Los Brisas? Los
Pecos?... Sound familiar?

OSCAR

Yeah. They're hotels in Acapulco.

FELIX

Look, a car has to come from some
direction. You stand here, I'll
stand on the other side of the road.

OSCAR

So we can catch all the heavy
traffic at five o'clock at Los
Pecos?

FELIX

You got a better idea, Los Idiot?

Felix crosses to the opposite side of the road. Oscar stands at the other one.

They both are watching the same road from opposite directions. They're really not paying much attention to the roads that intersect them.

47 EXT. ROAD - DAY

The hot sun overhead.

The two of them standing there.

FELIX

(calls over)

You see anything yet?

OSCAR

Yeah, for a minute I thought I saw
Omar Sharif on a camel.

They stand watching again.

(CONTINUED)

47 CONTINUED:

Then suddenly, seemingly out of nowhere, a sports car goes whizzing by as fast as the Road Runner and disappears out of sight... Oscar and Felix look at each other.

Then from the opposite side of the same road, another car whizzes by even faster and out of sight, leaving a trail of dust.

Oscar and Felix then move and stand on opposite sides of the road where the cars whizzed by.

Then we hear the drone of a motor. They both peer down the road. The motor gets LOUDER.

FELIX

I hear something. You hear that?

OSCAR

With our luck, it's the Killer Bees from Brazil.

The SOUND becomes a roar and before they can see it, a biplane flies directly overhead and drops a white insecticide powder. It covers everything. When the plane leaves and the powder clears, Oscar and Felix are standing in the exact positions, covered from head to toe with white powder.

FELIX

What the hell was that?

OSCAR

They purposely did it. They hate New Yorkers.

Felix crosses over to Oscar's side as they try, to little avail, dusting the powder off themselves.

FELIX

Who's going to pick us up now? We look like two Pillsbury Doughboys.

OSCAR

Well, let's get out of the sun before we start to rise.

48 EXT. ROAD - DAY - A HALF HOUR LATER

They are walking down the road, still very powdered. Felix suddenly starts to laugh.

(CONTINUED)

48 CONTINUED:

OSCAR

What's funny?

FELIX

I was just thinking. If we ever get there, we could be the two figures on the wedding cake.

From behind them, we hear the ENGINE of an old vehicle. They turn and look. It is an old fruit truck, filled with fruit, coming down the road. Oscar and Felix step into the middle of the road and start waving their arms vehemently. The truck stops. The DRIVER is Hispanic, about 60, with a short white beard and a sweet smile. Heavy accent.

DRIVER

Where you guys going?

OSCAR

San Rodondo?

FELIX

San Yolando?

DRIVER

Where?

OSCAR

San Tamale? San Taco Belle. We'll go anywhere.

49 EXT./INT. THE FRUIT TRUCK - DAY

The boys are in the seat next to the driver as they move along the road.

DRIVER

(looks at their clothes)

What you doin' out here with no car?

FELIX

Oh, that's a long story. We're going to a wedding. My daughter and his son.

DRIVER

(big smile)

Oh, tha's nice. Then you must be very good friends.

(CONTINUED)

FELIX

(with some irony)

Oh, yeah. The best... Look, we need to get to a telephone. Can you do that?

DRIVER

Telephone? Si. No problem. Gas station two mile from here. I take you.

FELIX

Oh. Gracias. That's very nice of you. We'd be glad to pay you.

DRIVER

No. No money. You my amigos. You poor people like me. Is my wedding gift to your children.

FELIX

You hear that, Oscar? It's a wedding gift to our children. That's more than I'm giving them.

50 EXT. ROAD - DAY

Suddenly, from the opposite direction, we see a speeding, dirty old pick-up truck, coming in a cloud of dust. They screech to a halt and wave to the Fruit Driver, who also stops.

Two men in the pick-up. One motions to the Fruit Driver to get out and come to them. He does, then gets into a frenzied conversation with them in Spanish, which we can't hear.

FELIX

(to Oscar)

See! I told you things would work out. Everything's going to be just fine.

OSCAR

Right. I keep forgetting what a good time we've been having.

The Fruit Driver crosses back to his truck but doesn't get in.

(CONTINUED)

50 CONTINUED:

DRIVER

(to Felix and Oscar)

Oh, very bad news. These men my
cousins. They say my madre very
sick. I mus' go to her very pronto.
It's back where we jus' come from.

FELIX

Back there? But --

DRIVER

I go with them. They drive very
fast. You take my truck to gas
station. You leave it there for me.
Rico. They know me.

FELIX

Are you sure? We'll be very careful
with it.

DRIVER

(crossing to other
truck)

I trus' you. Adios, my compadres.
You get hungry, eat some peaches.

He gets into the pick-up and they speed off in a cloud of
dust. Felix gets behind the driving wheel.

FELIX

(to Oscar, gloating)

Okay, compadre? I did pretty good,
comprende?

Oscar glares at him.

FELIX (CONT'D)

I'll drive this time, Amigo. Which
is what I should have done in the
first place, muchacho!

He puts it in gear and drives off, looking very superior.

51 EXT./INT. TRUCK - DAY

The truck ambles along, Felix driving, humming and
singing...

FELIX

"I've got the world on a string
Sittin' on a rainbow
Ba ba da ba da my finger..."

(CONTINUED)

51 CONTINUED:

Oscar takes a bite out of a very juicy peach.

FELIX (CONT'D)

Hey, use a handkerchief. You're getting peach juice on me.

OSCAR

You already look like a powdered doughnut, I'm adding a touch of fruit salad.

He takes another bite.

52 EXT. ROAD - DAY

Suddenly a Police Helicopter appears overhead. It comes down and the officer inside waves to them, motions something up ahead.

53 INT. TRUCK - DAY

FELIX

(smiles and waves back)

Hey, look, Os. A police helicopter. I bet Budget called them to come out and look for us.

OSCAR

How would a Rental Car company know we got lost?

FELIX

Maybe they found my suitcase. And anyone dumb enough to leave their suitcase is dumb enough to get lost.

He smiles and waves back. The helicopter drops lower and the officer motions up ahead.

54 EXT. ROAD AHEAD - DAY

It's a steep incline. The truck starts to chug and puff, barely able to make it.

55 INT. TRUCK - DAY

FELIX

Come on, baby, don't give up now. We're almost home.

(CONTINUED)

55 CONTINUED:

OSCAR

It's not gonna make it. It's not in the cards. We're riding a dead horse and we're coming in for the funeral.

FELIX

Will you stop being such a God damn pessimist. I'm telling you we're gonna make it. I'm betting we get over that hill... Come on, baby, do it for Papa.

56 EXT. ROAD - DAY

The truck huffs and puffs. The helicopter flies on ahead and disappears. The truck climbs the hill and finally, miraculously gets to the very top.

57 EXT./INT. TRUCK - DAY

FELIX

I KNEW IT!! I KNEW IT!!... Never count me out until the fat lady divorces me. HA HA!!

And down below on the other side, we see about fifteen police cars in a semicircle. It's a road block. Twenty policemen behind their cars, all with guns and rifles pointed at the Fruit Truck. The helicopter lands behind them.

FELIX

What the hell is this?

OSCAR

I don't know. Maybe they want free peaches.

THE POLICE.

The LEAD COP has a bullhorn.

LEAD COP

Stop the truck. Get out of the vehicle with your hands up. Lie on the ground with your legs apart. Let's move it.

FELIX

Are they talking to us?

(CONTINUED)

57 CONTINUED:

OSCAR

It's a weird state. Maybe cops
don't get out alone here.

They get out of the truck with their hands up.

FELIX

(to the cops)

Officers, I think there's some
mistake here.

OFFICER

On the ground, legs apart.

FELIX

We didn't steal the truck and we
didn't pick the peaches, I swear.

OFFICER

ON THE GROUND, I SAID!!

They both get down on the ground. The officers rush to
them and handcuff their hands behind their backs. They
rush for the fruit truck.

FELIX

(to Oscar)

You don't think it's about me
offering that kid money in the
bathroom, do you?

The police take off the cases from the back of the truck.
After the top cases are gone, we see a large tarpaulin
tied down. They untie it and pull it away. Twenty
illegal aliens come out with their hands up.

OFFICER

(to Felix and Oscar)

You're under arrest for violation of
California Immigration Law 1407, for
the transportation of illegal
aliens. You have the right to
remain silent.

On the ground, Oscar looks at the aliens coming out of
the truck with hands up.

OSCAR

(to Felix)

We could say we invited guests to
the wedding.

58 INT. THE LOCAL JAILHOUSE - DAY

In one large holding pen are all the illegal aliens and Oscar and Felix, sitting on the floor, backs to wall.

Besides the aliens, there are four or five HELL'S ANGEL types, some shaved heads, all with lots of jewelry. They are truly mean looking. Felix chuckles to himself.

OSCAR

Something amuse you, muchacho?

FELIX

Yes. Tell me how we're going to explain to Hannah and Brucey why we were forty years late to their wedding?

OSCAR

Stop worrying, willya? We'll get out of this.

FELIX

Not without a lawyer. Do you have a lawyer?

OSCAR

In Florida. He's ninety-two. It takes him six hours to walk to the phone, the case'll be over... We'll just tell them the truth.

Oscar looks at the BIG HELL'S ANGEL across from him.

OSCAR

You look familiar. Were you ever in sports.

The Big Hell's Angel nods.

OSCAR (CONT'D)

I thought so. Did you play tackle for the Chicago Bears?

The Big Hell's Angel shakes his head no.

OSCAR (CONT'D)

Pro Wrestling? Mr. Earthquake?

Another no.

OSCAR (CONT'D)

Then what?

(CONTINUED)

58 CONTINUED:

BIG HELL'S ANGEL

(He's gay)

Third runner up, 1984 Olympic Figure Skating.

OSCAR

Right. Right. You wore a Batman costume and danced to Chopin's Moonlight Sonata.

The man nods.

OSCAR (CONT'D)

Put on a little weight, haven't you?

BIG HELL'S ANGEL

I love sweets, what are you gonna do?

We hear the jail door open. The police usher in the Driver of the Fruit truck and his two friends.

Oscar and Felix look at each other and cross to the Driver.

FELIX

(grabs him by his shirt)

How's your dying mother, compadre?

DRIVER

Oh, she's mucho better, gracias.

FELIX

Good. Good. I'll send her a crate of peaches.

OSCAR

(angrily to driver)

Are you going to tell them the truth or not?

DRIVER

I told them. I say you picked me up on the road, gave me a ride, then I see my friends and they take me home.

OSCAR

(looks at him then at Felix)

...That's a better story than ours. I think we're in trouble.

(CONTINUED)

58 CONTINUED: (2)

We hear the cell door open.

POLICEMAN

(at the door)

Oscar Madison and Felix Ungar.
Let's go.

Oscar and Felix get up.

FELIX

(as he leaves, points to
driver)

If we go down, you're goin' down
with us.

OSCAR

(to Felix)

What are you, Dirty Harry? You
watch too much television. Let's
go.

They leave the cell.

59 INT. DETECTIVE'S OFFICE - DAY

Felix and Oscar are sitting, TWO DETECTIVES and an
IMMIGRATION OFFICIAL in the room.

The Detective is looking through their wallets and cards.

DETECTIVES

...Okay, so now tell me one more
time how the rented car caught fire
and exploded.

OSCAR

He called me a shithead and punched
the car. It rolled down the hill.

DETECTIVE

(to Felix)

Why'd you punch the car?

FELIX

Because the shithead threw the
directions to the wedding out the
window and left my suitcase back at
the car rental.

(CONTINUED)

59 CONTINUED:

DETECTIVE

(to Oscar)

Why'd you throw the directions out the window?

OSCAR

Because they caught fire from my cigar ashes and were burning on my crotch.

FELIX

Ha! First time he's been hot down there in years.

DETECTIVE

(quickly on that)

Okay, boys, calm down... I already got a confession from the truck driver so I have no reason to hold you. You can both go.

OSCAR

So what'd you ask us all those questions for?

DETECTIVE

It's a small town. We're starved for entertainment... There's a girl outside on the computer. Give her your family's name and she'll punch the phone number out for you.

FELIX

Thank you.

He picks up his wallet.

OSCAR

This is false arrest, you know. Did you call my lawyer in Sarasota?

DETECTIVE

Four times. His phone keeps ringing.

OSCAR

Well, give him a chance to get to it.

FELIX

(grabs him)

Will you come on.

60 INT. OUTSIDE OFFICE - DAY

GIRL on the computer.

COMPUTER GIRL

(to Felix)

What'd you say the name was?

FELIX

Povitch. Her married name is
Frances Povitch.

The girl starts to find it on the computer.

61 EXT. A PRETTY COUNTRY HOUSE - DAY

We hear the PHONE RING inside.

FRANCES (V.O.)

Put those flowers over there,
please.

(into phone)

Hello?... Felix? FELIX!! We've
been worried about you. Where are
you?

62 INT. OUTSIDE OFFICE - DAY

Felix on the phone.

FELIX

Is that you, Frances? God, you
sound as young as ever... How's
everything going?

INTERCUT:

63 INT. COUNTRY HOUSE - DAY

FRANCES, late fifties, is on the phone. Wedding
preparations going on behind her.

FRANCES

It's going beautifully. We thought
surely we'd have heard from you by
now.

FELIX

Yeah, well, we just happened to make
a wrong turn -- everywhere... What
city is this again?

(CONTINUED)

63 CONTINUED:

FRANCES

San Malina.

FELIX

San Malina. Right. That's what
I've been telling Oscar...

He looks at Oscar. Oscar snarls at him.

FRANCES

It's 277 Poincietta Lane. Big white
house as you come in town. Where
are you now?

FELIX

We're in a little town called er...

He snaps a finger at Computer Girl.

COMPUTER GIRL

Santa Menendez.

FELIX

(into phone)

Santa Menendez. I don't know how
far that would be from you.

COMPUTER GIRL

To San Malina? About five hours.

FELIX

(into phone)

About five hours.

(to Computer Girl)

Five hours??

COMPUTER GIRL

If you know the way.

FELIX

(into phone)

Frances, they say it's going to take
about five hours... Well, that's a
long story... Right now its...

(looks at his watch)

Twenty after dust.

(wipes face of watch)

Twenty after six... And we're pretty
tired.

(to Computer Girl)

Is there a hotel in town?

(CONTINUED)

COMPUTER GIRL

Right down the street. The Santa Florita.

FELIX

(into town)

Frances, Oscar and I need to get a shower, some sleep, a hot meal and we need to get our suits renovated. If we rent a car and leave here by seven in the morning, we should get there about noon. Plenty of time.

FRANCES

Alright, Felix. Drive carefully.

FELIX

We will... No, thanks. There's nothing you can do.

OSCAR

The suitcase.

FELIX

(into phone)

Well, I do need a favor. Could you call Budget Rent-A-Car at the L.A. Airport? I left my suitcase there. Maybe they could send it out to your house... Oh, that would be a big help. See you tomorrow. Bye...

He hangs up. There is a look of sadness on his face, of things lost. Then he snaps out of it. To Oscar as he starts for the door.

FELIX (CONT'D)

Come on. We're going to the Santa Florita Hotel.

OSCAR

Did you get directions?

As he follows him out.

64 INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

It's a single room with a double bed. Oscar is walking back and forth in his underwear and socks. We hear the shower going in the bathroom and Felix humming and singing happily. Oscar KNOCKS on the door.

(CONTINUED)

64 CONTINUED:

OSCAR

(loudly)

How long you gonna be in there?
That's local water, you know. Keep
your mouth shut.

The shower stops, the door opens. Felix leans out, all
wet, towel draped around him.

FELIX

Did the kid pick up our suits to be
cleaned?

OSCAR

Yeah. He was still coughing as he
left.

FELIX

And did you give him money to buy
underwear and socks?

OSCAR

Yes.

FELIX

Did he think it was weird?

OSCAR

No. He looked like he did it all
the time.

There's a KNOCK on the door. Felix goes back in to dry
off. Oscar crosses and opens the door. The BELLMAN, no
uniform. He hands Oscar a brown paper bag.

BELLMAN

Here's your socks and underwear. I
got the right sizes. Your suits'll
be back in a half hour.

OSCAR

(takes the bag)

Thanks.

The Bellman waits.

OSCAR (CONT'D)

I'll have to get you later. I don't
have any change in my shorts.

He closes the door.

(CONTINUED)

64 CONTINUED: (2)

64

OSCAR (CONT'D)

FELIX! Our new underwear arrived.

FLIP SCREEN TO:

65 INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT - LATER

65

We see Felix and Oscar looking at themselves in the mirror. As we PAN DOWN, we see their underwear. Oscar's undershirt is army khaki and his shorts have pictures of fish and hunting dogs. Felix's undershirt is light purple and his shorts have pictures of Elvis Presley.

FELIX

(aghast)

Where'd he buy this? At Graceland?

OSCAR

It's Santa Menendez, for Chrissakes.
The Georgio Armani Boutique must
have been closed.

66 INT. RESTAURANT IN THE HOTEL - NIGHT

6

Felix and Oscar enter in their cleaned suits, shirts and ties. It's a very rural restaurant. Lots of truckers and farmers at the bar and at the tables. The television over the bar is showing the country western Dancing Partners show.

A heavy WAITRESS comes over with some menus.

WAITRESS

Hi, there. Drinks or dinner?

OSCAR

(smiles)

Does one preclude the other?

FELIX

We'll have a drink at the bar before
we eat, thanks.

WAITRESS

Just let me know when you're ready.

She leaves. As Oscar and Felix cross to the bar, everyone there turns to look at them. Looks like rough trade.

(CONTINUED)

66 CONTINUED:

FELIX

(aside to Oscar)

I don't think this is our kind of crowd.

OSCAR

(aside)

If anyone gets tough, show 'em your underwear.

They sit at the bar. BARTENDER crosses to them.

BARTENDER

What'll it be?

FELIX

I'll have a dry martini on the rocks, please.

BARTENDER

Martini?

The other men down the bar turn to see who ordered a martini. Felix smiles at them.

OSCAR

Double scotch for me.

The Bartender nods and leaves. Oscar smiles at the boys down the bar.

We hear a woman's voice to their left.

WOMAN (O.S.)

A couple of beers here, please.

Felix and Oscar turn.

TWO WOMEN in jeans and T-shirts, both about 45 or so, but with good figures and not bad looking, in Harley Davidson sort of way, sit and open a pack of cigarettes. Oscar nudges Felix and smiles at the ladies.

OSCAR

'Evening.

1ST WOMAN

Hi.

OSCAR

Beautiful weather, isn't it?

(CONTINUED)

66 CONTINUED: (2)

1st WOMAN

Just terrific, honey.

She smokes and drinks. Oscar turns and gives Felix one of those "look what we just met" looks.

FELIX

(aside)

If you're thinking what I think you're thinking, just forget it.

OSCAR

(aside)

I'm not thinking. I'm just talking.
(turns to girls)
Nice town you have here, ladies.

2nd GIRL

It's not our town, Pops. Just passin' through.

OSCAR

Really. So are we. Where you headin'?

1st GIRL

Don't know yet. Maybe Lake Tahoe, maybe Vegas. Who knows?

OSCAR

Just lovers of the open road, eh?...
Oh. This is my friend Felix. They call me Oscar.

1st GIRL

Hi, Felix. Hi, Oscar. I'm Thelma.

OSCAR

Thelma?

(to 2nd Girl)

You're not Louise, are you?

2nd GIRL

Like I haven't been asked that a million times... I'm Holly.

OSCAR

Holly? Very nice name. Especially around Christmas.

He laughs. The girls smile, amused. Felix is miserable.

(CONTINUED)

HOLLY

Cute.

OSCAR

Like you haven't heard that line a million times.

(still chuckling)

So, er, are you ladies staying here at the hotel?

THELMA

We're savin' our money for Tahoe. We got a van out back.

OSCAR

A van? Really? That couldn't be all that comfortable to sleep in, could it?

THELMA

Now, Oscar. If I didn't know better, I'd say a nice old grandfather like you was trying to hit on a couple of young ladies.

OSCAR

In the first place, I'm not a grandfather. And I'm not as old as I look. I had some plastic surgery done recently and this quack doctor botched it up.

Felix chokes on his drink. Oscar starts pounding his back, then smiles at the girls.

HOLLY

Your friend doesn't talk much, does he?

OSCAR

No. He's the doctor who botched it up.

This really breaks the girls up. Oscar laughs and rubs Felix's back.

OSCAR (CONT'D)

You okay, Doc?

(CONTINUED)

66 CONTINUED: (4)

THELMA

(still laughing)

You know, with all the dead honchos around here, you're the only fun guy around.

The Waitress comes over to Oscar.

WAITRESS

Excuse me, but we're closing the kitchen in a half hour, if you still want to eat dinner.

OSCAR

Closing the kitchen?

(looks at his watch)

My God, is it eight o'clock already? Where did the time go?

FELIX

(gets off the stool)

If you ladies will excuse us, we haven't eaten all day. Come on, Oscar. Doctor's orders.

He starts to move away. Oscar grabs his arm.

OSCAR

Where's your manners, Felix? Perhaps the ladies would like to join us before they retire to their van.

FELIX

They said the kitchen was closing soon. Maybe they don't have that much food.

OSCAR

Then we'll share.

(to ladies)

Ladies, would you give us the pleasure of your delightful company for a light supper.

THELMA

(looks at Holly)

You think we can trust these guys?

HOLLY

If not them, then who?... We'll freshen up. See you at the table.

(CONTINUED)

They go. Oscar watches their tight buns in their tight jeans. Felix and Oscar start for the table.

FELIX

Are you crazy? Two middle-aged bikers? They're tougher than the guys we left in jail... And have you ever stopped to think of what we could get?

OSCAR

Lucky is the only word that comes to mind.

FELIX

Well, I'm not letting you do this. To either of us.

OSCAR

I know it's not going to happen. They'd never even come up to our room. And it would take two years for you and me to climb into their van... And the last thing I'd want to see is our underwear.

FELIX

Then what are you doing this for?

OSCAR

To be wanted. To get close to it happening one more time. The wick is almost out, Felix. All I want is for the candle to glow rather than curse the darkness.

FELIX

It's not going out, Oscar. Not yours and not mine. But I still have hope that out there, somewhere, we'll find the right lamplighter.

OSCAR

We just used so many metaphors, I forgot what the hell we were talking about.

An ELDERLY MAN, about 84, neatly dressed in a very nice suit, with a sweet face and kind disposition, sits at the table next to them. He takes the napkin, and tucks it under his chin and looks at the menu.

(CONTINUED)

ELDERLY MAN

Good evening.

FELIX

(smiles)

Good evening.

ELDERLY MAN

You gentlemen here for the seminar?

FELIX

What seminar is that?

ELDERLY MAN

"Life. Does It Really Have To End?"... Dr. John Boxer, a wonderful man. I come up here every year for it. People younger than you gentlemen flock to hear him. I'm eighty-four myself and Dr. Boxer sees no reason why I can't be around to celebrate the year two thousand and twenty. Maybe more.

FELIX

Isn't that interesting. Well, you certainly don't look eighty-four.

ELDERLY MAN

Thank you. A minimum of exercise, a maximum of clean living. Last day of the seminar is tomorrow but I've got to get back home to San Malina. My youngest daughter's sixty-third birthday.

Felix and Oscar look at each other.

OSCAR

San Malina? That's where we're going. Our two kids are getting married there.

ELDERLY MAN

Fancy that. Do you gentlemen need a lift?

FELIX

Well, actually we could... we hear it's a five hour drive.

(CONTINUED)

ELDERLY MAN

Nonsense. I know every road and by road. You come with me. I'll have you there in less than two hours. We leave at 6 a.m. on the dot.

FELIX

...What do you think, Oscar?

OSCAR

Six o'clock? Gee, that's a little early for me. I may have some business tonight with friends from Lake Tahoe.

Felix throws him an angry glance.

ELDERLY MAN

You'll never live a long life sleeping late. You meet me out front six a.m. and we'll be on the road. I have a Rolls Royce. Very comfortable auto.

FELIX

Sounds great to me.

ELDERLY MAN

You seem like fine men. Well-bred. Otherwise I wouldn't ask you.

Theima and Holly arrive at the table wearing more makeup, puffing away. As they sit...

THELMA

Can you imagine these creeps closed the bar already?

(takes out a pint bottle from hip pocket)

Well, don't worry, honey. I stay open all night.

HOLLY

(squeezes next to Felix)

We just took a vote about you guys in the john... You won in a landslide.

They laugh it up. Felix looks at the Old Man with a feeble smile. The Old Man takes his napkin off.

(CONTINUED)

66 CONTINUED: (8)

ELDERLY MAN

Perhaps I was wrong. Six a.m. would
be a little early for men like you.

(gets up)

Good evening.

(nods to girls)

Ladies.

He goes. Felix jumps up.

FELIX

(to Oscar)

You go to Tahoe. I'm going in a
Rolls Royce.

(turns, goes, calling
off)

Sir! Sir! May I speak to you for
just a second.

He is gone. Oscar is alone with the girls.

THELMA

Bummer... What are two wide awake
girls gonna do with one hunky funny
guy?

OSCAR

Why don't we all write a suggestion
on a piece of paper?

All three laugh. Then Holly puts her two end finger in
her mouth and WHISTLES to the bartender.

HOLLY

(calls out)

A little music here wouldn't kill
you, would it?

OSCAR

I've tried to whistle like that. I
could never do it.

HOLLY

It's all in the fingers. I'll lend
you mine later.

The girls laugh, he finishes his drink in one gulp. The
music comes on. It's Tony Bennett singing one of his
classic love songs. (Not "San Francisco").

(CONTINUED)

66 CONTINUED: (9)

THELMA

Now Tony Bennedetto's over seventy
and he's still hot.

HOLLY

(looks over her
shoulder)

I wish your cute little boy scout
friend would come back. I'm just
itching to dance.

OSCAR

(gets up)

I'll get him. Don't scratch yet.

He runs off. While they wait, the two girls sing the
lyrics along with Tony Bennett.

67 INT. HOTEL LOBBY - NIGHT

Which is small. Felix is on a house phone as Oscar runs
over.

FELIX

(into phone)

Yes, sir. I'll be outside at six
a.m. sharp. Thank you very much,
sir.

(hangs up, to Oscar)

I'm going in the Rolls Royce.

OSCAR

I'll go with you. I promise. Just
do me one favor. Come back inside
and dance for me.

FELIX

Why would I want to dance for you?

OSCAR

Because I'm hunky and the other
one's itchy... Felix, please. Just
come in and dance and you can call
all the shots the rest of the way.

68 INT. RESTAURANT IN THE HOTEL - NIGHT

In the dining room. We are on the light fixture above.
Tony B. is singing something else. PAN DOWN and Oscar is
dancing very close with Thelma, PAN OVER and Felix is
dancing closer to Holly than he'd like.

(CONTINUED)

68 CONTINUED:

HOLLY
Loosen up a little, honey.

FELIX
I'm trying. I think I'm stuck on
your velcro.

She does a twirl around him, then back close to him.

HOLLY
I went to high school with a boy
like you.

FELIX
Yeah? Who was he, the principal?

PAN OVER to Oscar and Thelma.

THELMA
You are a very good dancer... Don't
you think?

OSCAR
I don't know. I never looked down.

She does a few fancy steps, then back close to him.

THELMA
Let me try a new step on you.
(leads him, then does a
double dip)
You got it, honey?

OSCAR
Very good. What do you call that?

THELMA
Safe sex.

The PHONE RINGS at the bar. The Bartender picks it up

BARTENDER
(into phone)
Yeah?... Who?... Just a minute.
(hands over phone, calls
out)
Someone wants to know if a Thelma
and Holly are here.

THELMA
What does he sound like?

(CONTINUED)

BARTENDER
Drunk and real mad.

THELMA
(to Oscar)
Have to run, hon. Don't ask
questions.

HOLLY
(to Felix as she runs
for her jacket)
You never met me, you never saw me
and you never danced with me.

They both grab their jackets and dart out the back way.
Oscar and Felix stand there alone.

FELIX
Okay. Are you satisfied?

OSCAR
(dour)
Satisfied is not how I would
describe it.

69 INT. THE BOYS' HOTEL BEDROOM - NIGHT

Both undressing, taking off their pants.

FELIX
I call the shots now, right?

OSCAR
Right.

FELIX
(near the wall switch)
Ready for lights out?

OSCAR
Ready.

Felix turns out the light. The room is dark but their
undershorts keep glowing in the dark.

FELIX (O.S.)
Either these are the ugliest shorts
ever made, or this town was hit by a
nuclear disaster.

70 INT. THE HOTEL ROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT

The room is dark. We are on Oscar, who is fast asleep. Suddenly Felix's face appears looking into Oscar's face. Felix is out of bed, kneeling down.

FELIX
(whispers)
Oscar!... Oscar!!

OSCAR
(opens his eyes)
What? What is it?

FELIX
Where are we?

OSCAR
Where are we? We're in a hotel.

FELIX
I know, but where's the hotel?

OSCAR
In California. In one of those
Santa places.

FELIX
I woke up and I was lost. And I got
scared. Did you ever wake up and
get scared, Oscar?

OSCAR
Yes. When I wake up and see you
staring at me.

FELIX
Anyway, I'm glad you're here, Os. I
don't mind being alone but not in a
strange place... It's just getting
old, I guess.

OSCAR
I'll tell you how not to feel old.

FELIX
How?

OSCAR
Hang around with older people than
you... Goodnight, Felix.

(CONTINUED)

70 CONTINUED:

FELIX
Thanks, Os. G'night.

They go to sleep.

71 EXT. FRONT OF HOTEL - SIX A.M.

Felix and Oscar waiting. Oscar shields his eyes from the rising sun. We hear the sound of a CAR HORN tooting.

FELIX
(turns, looks)
Will you get a load of this thing.

We see the car coming. It is a large 1954 Rolls Royce.

FELIX (CONT'D)
How about that?

OSCAR
Probably gets two blocks to the gallon.

The car stops. Elderly Man at the wheel.

ELDERLY MAN
Glad to see you both could make it.
Climb in, boys.

They get in. Felix in front, Oscar in the back.

ELDERLY MAN (CONT'D)
There's only four of these cars left in America and I own them all.

FELIX
Oh? You're a collector?

ELDERLY MAN
No. I use the other three for parts. Hang onto your hats, boys.

And they drive off. About twelve miles an hour.

72 EXT. THE ROAD - DAY

The Rolls Royce moves slowly on.

73 INT. ROLLS ROYCE - DAY

73

OSCAR

Is this as fast as it goes?

ELDERLY MAN

It takes a few minutes to warm up,
then we ride like the wind.

74 EXT. ROAD - DAY

74

The car is still doing about twelve miles per hour.

75 INT. ROLLS ROYCE - DAY

75

OSCAR

(looks at his watch)
It's been a half hour. And the wind
is going faster than us.

ELDERLY MAN

It just seems that way. Actually
we're doing eighty-five right now.

He points to the dashboard.

FELIX

(looks at dashboard)
No, sir. That's your clock. It
says eight twenty-five.

ELDERLY MAN

Oh, don't mind that clock. It
always breaks down.

FELIX

No offense, sir, but do you really
think we'll make it to San Malina in
two hours?

ELDERLY MAN

Who said that?

FELIX

You did. Last night.

ELDERLY MAN

No, no. I think you misunderstood
me. What I meant was, I can make
this five hour drive seem like two
hours.

(CONTINUED)

75 CONTINUED:

Felix and Oscar look at each other. They're in trouble.

ELDERLY MAN (CONT'D)

...Take in the scenery. Relax and enjoy being alive and well. Doing that, I actually once made it back in an hour twenty.

Oscar and Felix sink back in their seats, in trouble again.

76 EXT. THE ROAD - DAY

The Rolls Royce creeps along as CARS HONK and pass them, a school bus passes them, five bikers pass them and four hikers pass them.

77 EXT./INT. ROLLS ROYCE - DAY

OSCAR

The only thing that hasn't passed us was the MacDonald's back there.

FELIX

(to Elderly Man)

With all due respect, at this rate we're going to be late to our kids' wedding. Could you possibly let us off at the next town so we can rent a car?

ELDERLY MAN

Well, I'll be sorry to lose your company, but if that's what you want. Santo Yosanto is just thirty miles from here.

FELIX

Santo Yosanto?

ELDERLY MAN

We'll be there in no time at all.

OSCAR

Nothing faster than that?

The Elderly Man yawns.

(CONTINUED)

77 CONTINUED:

ELDERLY MAN

Excuse me, but the scent of the trees and flowers always intoxicates me.

FELIX

Look, if you're intoxicated, I'd gladly be your designated driver.

ELDERLY MAN

No, no. I'm fine.

The Elderly Man yawns again. The car bumps.

ELDERLY MAN (CONT'D)

Good gracious. Did I just hit a rabbit on the road?

Felix looks out the window. We see a rabbit just looking at them.

FELIX

Yes, sir. But at this speed, he hardly felt it.

ELDERLY MAN

Well, we'll be home soon enough.

78 EXT. THE ROAD - DAY

The car seems to be slowing down... slower and slower... until it comes to a stop, right there in the road.

79 EXT./INT. ROLLS ROYCE - DAY

OSCAR

(looks around)

Why are we stopping here?

FELIX

(nudges Elderly Man)

Sir, you've stopped in the middle of the road. That's a very dangerous thing to -- are you alright?

(nudges him again, no response)

Jesus, I think he's asleep.

OSCAR

Why? When was he awake?... Alright move him aside and I'll drive.

(CONTINUED)

79 CONTINUED:

Felix feels the Old Man's pulse.

OSCAR (CONT'D)

What are you waiting for? He'll wake up and then snails will start passing us.

FELIX

He's not going to wake up. He's dead.

OSCAR

Dead??? How do you know?

FELIX

No pulse and no heartbeat means dead. I've seen this in the hospital.

OSCAR

Seen what? All you did was read books and tell jokes.

FELIX

What do you want me to do, an autopsy? He's dead I'm telling you... At least he went quickly.

OSCAR

You call twelve miles an hour quickly?... What are we gonna do with him?

FELIX

What do you mean?

OSCAR

He knows the directions. We don't. It would take us two days to get there. And without camphor balls, it would not be a pleasant trip.

FELIX

Let me think.

The body's weight suddenly falls to the left and his head is out the side window.

OSCAR

Well, while you're thinking, pull him back in before a bird sits on his head.

(CONTINUED)

FELIX

Jeez!

(turns to reach over and
suddenly screams and
grabs his neck)

Oh, my neck! I strained my neck.
Damnit! This always happens.

OSCAR

Always? You mean whenever you try
to pull a dead body back in?

FELIX

Will you get out and push his head
back in, for Chrissakes. I can't
move.

Because a car drives by and HONKS, Oscar gets out on the
side of the roadside, so as not to get hit. As he's
outside, a huge truck whizzes by and the wind blows the
toupee off the dead man. Oscar doesn't see it as he
comes around the car so that now he sees the dead man
with no hair.

OSCAR

Hey! This guy is starting to
decompose already.

FELIX

His hairpiece flew off. Go back and
get it.

OSCAR

Why? He's dead. Who does he have
to look good for?

FELIX

Out of respect. Maybe his family
never knew. Just go get it.

Oscar goes back. The hairpiece is about ten yards away.
Suddenly a bird flies down and sits on it.

Oscar goes back. The bird doesn't move.

OSCAR

(calls out)
Felix!

FELIX

(holding his neck)
What?

(CONTINUED)

79 CONTINUED: (3)

OSCAR
It's not a hairpiece anymore. Now
it's a nest.

FELIX
(turns painfully)
Well, shoo him away.

OSCAR
Shoo!... Shoo!

The bird still doesn't move.

OSCAR (CONT'D)
(to Felix)
He doesn't know what shoo means.

FELIX
Well, flap your arms. Do I have to
do everything?

OSCAR
(flaps his arms and
yells)
Shoo! Shoo!

The bird flies off but takes the hairpiece with him in
his beak.

OSCAR (CONT'D)
(looking up)
Well, unless that bird flies south
to Sarasota, we'll never see that
again.

A bigger truck whizzes by this time and the strong wind
blows the Elderly Man back in the car, but his head falls
on Felix's lap. Oscar goes back around the car and gets
in the back seat again. All he can see is Felix.

OSCAR (CONT'D)
Where'd he go?

FELIX
He's in my lap.

Oscar leans over and looks.

OSCAR
That's not a good position. Because
it looks like --

(CONTINUED)

79 CONTINUED: (4)

FELIX

I KNOW what it looks like... Help me pull him up.

Oscar reaches over and the two of them straighten him up. We suddenly hear a GUNSHOT from in the woods.

OSCAR

What the hell is that?

FELIX

Sounded like a gunshot. Maybe it's hunting season.

OSCAR

What kind of animals would they have around here?

We hear another GUNSHOT. Then the bird, now dead, bounces off the hood of the car but the hairpiece stays on the windshield.

FELIX

Can you believe this?... Go out and get it.

OSCAR

In the last three minutes, I've walked more than we've driven today.

He goes out to get the hairpiece. As he leans over the hood of the car, the body falls forward, his head hitting the horn. The HORN BLASTS out loudly. Oscar yells and jumps.

OSCAR (CONT'D)

Are you crazy??

FELIX

I didn't do it. He did it.

OSCAR

Well, check his pulse again.

He comes around and gets back in the back seat, holding the hairpiece.

OSCAR (CONT'D)

Here. You take it.

FELIX

I don't want it. Put it on his head.

(CONTINUED)

79 CONTINUED: (5)

Oscar puts the hairpiece on his head but puts it on backwards. Felix looks at the body.

FELIX (CONT'D)

You got it on backwards.

OSCAR

Oh. For a minute I thought he was looking at me.

He turns the hairpiece around, then pushes it down to make sure it sticks. Felix reaches into the dead man's pocket, starts to feel around.

OSCAR (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

FELIX

I've got to get his name and address, don't I? So we can call his family.

He takes out the Elderly Man's wallet, opens it up.

FELIX (CONT'D)

(reads)

Adam Beaumont... Beaumont?... I've heard of him. Owns half of northern California. Oscar, this is one of the richest men out here.

OSCAR

Doesn't spend much on toupees, does he?... We're wasting time here. What if the police show up?

FELIX

We don't have to worry about that anymore.

OSCAR

Why not?

FELIX

Because they just pulled up behind us.

Oscar turns and looks.

We see a California State Trooper car behind them. It stops, two OFFICERS get out of the car and approach the Rolls.

(CONTINUED)

79 CONTINUED: (6)

OSCAR

This should be interesting.

The body falls to the right again, his head leaning against Felix's shoulder. The hairpiece falls off and Felix picks it up.

OFFICER

(at their window)

Don't you know you can't stop in the middle of the road. Pull the vehicle over, please.

FELIX

Well, we'd have to move the driver first and as you can see --

OFFICER

Is he sick?

FELIX

No.

OFFICER

Is he drunk?

FELIX

No... Try dead.

The Officer looks at Felix, then takes the pulse of Mr. Beaumont.

OFFICER

How'd this happen?

OSCAR

We don't know. We think God just came and took him.

FELIX

He was eighty-four years old. He just gave us a lift.

OFFICER

What's that in your hand, sir?

FELIX

This is his hairpiece. It won't stay on.

OFFICER

I mean in your hand.

(CONTINUED)

79 CONTINUED: (7)

FELIX

(looks at wallet)

This? Oh. It's his wallet. We were looking for his address so we could take him home.

Both officers draw their guns quickly and aim them.

OFFICER

I'm going to ask you two to step out of the car, please.

FELIX

That's all we've been doing on this trip.

They both get out, their hands up.

OFFICER

Just face forward and place your hands against the car, please.

They do it.

OFFICER (CONT'D)

Keep your legs apart while we search for identification.

He holds the gun on them while the other cop searches them.

OFFICER

You both have the right to remain silent.

FELIX

(glares at Oscar)

All this because you left my suitcase at the car rental.

80 INT. SANTA MENENDEZ POLICE DEPARTMENT - DAY

They are in the same room, sitting in the same chairs, looking at the same Detectives. The 1st Detective is looking through Mr. Beaumont's wallet.

DETECTIVE

...So the man is dead, you have his wallet, riding in an antique car worth over a hundred and fifty thousand dollars... How do you think this looks?

(CONTINUED)

OSCAR

Well, to you it looks terrible. To my mother, she wouldn't be all that upset.

FELIX

Look, we didn't kill him, and we didn't rob him... You believed us before, why don't you believe us now?

DETECTIVE

Because I didn't expect you to keep bouncing back in here like a beach ball... Why did you take his toupee?

FELIX

We didn't. A truck whizzed by and blew it off.

OSCAR

I tried to get it back but a bird sat on it. I shooed him and he flew away with the hairpiece.

DETECTIVE

You shot him? You had a gun?

OSCAR

No. I shooed him.
(flaps his arms)
Shoo! Shoo!... Then a hunter shot him and he fell down on the car and the hairpiece fell on the windshield.

The Detective stares at him suspiciously.

OSCAR (CONT'D)

...I hope there's not going to be a trial because I would hate to repeat that story in court.

Another OFFICER comes in, whispers in the Detective's ear, who nods.

DETECTIVE

Alright... examination reveals he died of natural causes.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

80 CONTINUED: (2)

DETECTIVE (CONT'D)

His daughter just informed us that he called last night and said he was going to give a lift home to two nice men he met at the hotel... So once again you're out of here.

They get up, taking their wallets off the table again.

DETECTIVE (CONT'D)

But if I see you back here under arrest, I will charge you both with disturbing the law. There's a bus that leaves here in twenty minutes. They make a quick stop over in San Malina. Be on it! Get off it! And stay out of my face. Got it?

81 EXT. A BUS - DAY

On the road.

82 INT. BUS - DAY

Felix and Oscar sitting on the bus.

FELIX

(in window seat)

...Oscar, I'm going to say something now that's going to surprise you.

OSCAR

Why do you always have to introduce everything you're going to say? It's either, "Oscar, let me tell you something", or "Oscar, you may not like this but I'm going to say it anyway"... Why don't you just say it, get it over with, then I can read a magazine and you can start thinking of the next thing you're going to say... What is it?

FELIX

...I actually had a good time on this trip.

OSCAR

You did? As much as World War Two?

(CONTINUED)

FELIX

I mean it. Sure it was dirty and scary and ugly and expensive. But I met a lot of people I never would have met before. I got out of the house. Had an adventure. That there's more to life than a job, a dinner alone and a TV show. I wasn't involved with my own problems every minute. I actually feel younger now than I have in years.

OSCAR

Why didn't you say this last night when we could have used it?

83 EXT. THE BUS ON THE ROAD - DAY 8

It is traveling at a good pace.

84 EXT./INT. THE BUS - DAY 8

Felix and Oscar are both asleep in their seats.

85 EXT. THE ROAD - DAY 8

The BUS DRIVER, an African-American, looks down the road, then squints, wondering what he's seeing.

86 EXT./INT. THE BUS - DAY 8

UP AHEAD, two men, mid-forties, both rough types, stand brazenly in the middle of the lane the bus is driving on, their hands on their hips. They are LEROY and JAYJAY. As the bus gets closer, they pull out guns from the back of their belts and take dead aim on the driver.

BUS DRIVER

What the hell...?

He hits the brakes and the bus comes to a SCREECHING, sliding stop. Bags and packages fall from the racks overhead.

LeRoy bangs on the bus door with his gun. The Driver opens it. The two gunmen jump on the bus.

LEROY

Alright, everyone stay put. This ain't no robbery.

(CONTINUED)

They move slowly up the aisle, checking out everyone. Oscar and Felix look at them, then at each other, puzzled. LeRoy and JayJay finally get to Oscar and Felix, glare at them. The boys smile back. The gunmen then step to the row directly behind Oscar and Felix.

Two women pretend to be asleep, jackets pulled up over them. LeRoy stops, then pulls the jackets off. It is Thelma and Holly.

LEROY

I told you, Thelma, if you ever left me, I'd come 'n get you. Now move your ass, l'il darlin'.

THELMA

The hell I will.

Oscar and Felix turn, see the two girls. They look shocked, then try to slip down in their seats.

JAYJAY

Holly, you tryin' to break my heart? Runnin' off with someone else?

HOLLY

I told you, JayJay. I ain't takin' your crap no more.

OSCAR

(aside to Felix)

Remember, we don't know them, we've never seen them.

JAYJAY

(to Oscar, quickly)

What'd you say?

OSCAR

I honestly can't remember.

LEROY

(to Thelma, pointing to Oscar and Felix)

That's them, ain't it? Bartender at the hotel described them.

JAYJAY

(to Oscar and Felix)

What happened to that big old Rolls Royce you boys had this mornin'?

(CONTINUED)

36 CONTINUED: (2)

FELIX

I think you're mistaking us for
another gentleman who's dead.

LeRoy grabs Theima by the wrist and yanks her out of the
seat. Then he pulls Holly out as well.

LEROY

Let's go, girls. We're all goin'
home.

JAYJAY

(points gun at Oscar and
Felix)

That means you too, boys.

OSCAR

You're taking us home?

JayJay puts his gun right at them, then motions for them
to get up and go. They do.

LeRoy pushes Theima and Holly ahead of them. JayJay
prods Oscar and Felix.

FELIX

(aside)

Do something. Say something.

OSCAR

ATTICA! ATTICA!

(to Felix)

That's all I could think of.

They all move out of the bus except LeRoy, who turns to
all the passengers.

LEROY

These men were abducting our wives.
Wouldn't any man here do the same as
us?

He gets off. They all pile into the open convertible,
then drive off quickly, making a SCREECHING U-turn on the
road and head back home.

87 INT. BUS - DAY

The Driver picks up the radio phone.

DRIVER

Alice? Call the police. We just
had a double abduction here.

88 EXT. THE ROAD - DAY

8

In the convertible, LeRoy drives with the two girls up front. JayJay has Oscar and Felix in the back.

FELIX

Look, we just had an innocent drink and an innocent couple of dances with the girls... It was all very innocent.

OSCAR

(aside)

Get off the innocent thing.

FELIX

(laughs)

But run off with them? No... I mean why would two beautiful women like these run off with two old geezers like us?

JAYJAY

When the goose wants it, the geese come runnin'.

FELIX

(stares at him,
bewildered)

...No. Not geese. Geezers. We're Geezers, not geese.

OSCAR

(to JayJay)

Ask them yourself... Ladies, did we abduct you?

THELMA

Honey, there's no way these jackasses are gonna believe me and Holly.

JAYJAY

Where you wanna stop, LeRoy?

LEROY

Just other side of this hill there's a nice stretch of woods. That'll do fine.

FELIX

Do fine? Do fine for what?

(CONTINUED)

38 CONTINUED:

38

JAYJAY

(smiles)

To cook us a couple of fine geezers.

LeRoy and JayJay laugh. Then Thelma and Holly laugh.

HOLLY

That's funny.

(turns to Oscar and

Felix)

I'm sorry, fellas, but that just strikes me funny.

Oscar and Felix look at each other.

OSCAR

(to Felix)

You had to bring up geezers, heh?

The car comes to the crest of the hill and just as it starts down, we see six police cars blocking the road with twelve cops pointing their guns at LeRoy's car.

LEROY

Goddamnit to hell!!

OSCAR

Don't worry about it. I know all of them personally.

89 INT. THE POLICE ROOM - DAY

The same room, the same chairs, the same Detective. The Detective has his head in his hands, his elbows on the desk. He is disconsolate. Felix sits, looking at the floor. Oscar sits staring at the ceiling. The 2nd burly Detective stands and just watches this... It is quiet for a long time... Finally --

FELIX

(to Detective)

-- Don't you even want to talk about it?

DETECTIVE

(only his eyes look up)

No.

FELIX

...Ever??

(CONTINUED)

DETECTIVE

What's the point? No matter what I say, you two still end up in here.

OSCAR

(aside to 2nd Detective)

Would it be possible to find out the results of the second race at Hollywood Park? I've got a trifecta going?

2ND DETECTIVE

A what?

OSCAR

A trifecta. You've got to pick the three winning horses in the exact order that they finished.

FELIX

I don't believe this. We've got a wedding we can't get to and all he has on his mind is a trifecta.

DETECTIVE

(looks at Oscar)

I'll tell you who won.

OSCAR

You know?

DETECTIVE

Yes... I won. You're my trifecta. The same two men have been arrested three times, for three different crimes, and all three times by my men. In less than fourteen hours. You know what the odds are on that happening? In any police station in the world?

OSCAR

Roughly, I'd say twelve million to one.

DETECTIVE

And what would it be if it happened in a small sheriff's office in a little town called Santa Menendez, California?

(CONTINUED)

OSCAR

It would be in the trillions. No bookie could handle it.

FELIX

Oscar, of all the differences we've ever had, of all the fight we've ever had, of all the petty arguments we've ever had --

OSCAR

(to Detective)

We can keep on talking 'cause he'll be on this a half hour.

FELIX

-- Of all the times I wanted to choke you by the throat, this is the worst... If you say trifecta one more time, I'm going to choke you until you're dead, and he can arrest me one more time, for one more crime, and one more time in his office. Then he'll have a FOUR-FECTA!! So SHUT THE FUCK UP, OKAY???

OSCAR

That would be the biggest payoff in the world.

FELIX

What would?

OSCAR

A four-fecta. There isn't a racetrack in the world that --

Felix jumps off of his chair and goes for Oscar's throat, but the 2nd Detective grabs him and holds him back.

DETECTIVE

Sit down! Both of you!...

They sit.

DETECTIVE (CONT'D)

Okay. Since the ladies already gave a statement that you two had nothing to do with the abduction, I have no reason to hold you.

(CONTINUED)

FELIX

Then why are we here?

DETECTIVE

Because if I let you go, I'm afraid you'll come back... I'm running for Sheriff next year and I can't run on a campaign of mostly arresting you two.

OSCAR

I wouldn't advise it.

DETECTIVE

If I promise to get you to San Malina in time for the wedding, I need your guarantee that you'll never come within a hundred miles of this town. No. Two hundred... Make it three.

FELIX

You've got my solemn oath.

OSCAR

Since I've only been here once in seventy-four years, the odds on my coming back --

FELIX

Don't finish that sentence, Oscar.

DETECTIVE

(putting on his jacket)
Alright, let's go.

FELIX

The wedding's at four. How will you get us there on time?

DETECTIVE

Leave that to me.

They all start to leave.

OSCAR

I wish you had subways out here. I never got lost on subways...

90 INT. LOBBY OF POLICE STATION - DAY

90

At the far end, we see Thelma and Holly embracing and kissing their respective spouses.

FELIX

They made up?

DETECTIVE

Yeah. The boy's will serve a month in jail for using firearms on a public vehicle. They always get a month.

FELIX

What do you mean "always"?

DETECTIVE

This is the fifth time they've done this.

FELIX

The fifth time?

OSCAR

(to Detective)

That's a five-fecta.

Felix glares at him and Oscar steps away from him.

91 EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

The two Detectives walking with Oscar and Felix.

DETECTIVE

There's an airport about five miles from here. You can't land in San Malina but there's one in Rockport. Then it's a twenty minute cab drive to where you're going.

FELIX

See, Rockport is a name I would have remembered.

DETECTIVE

The flight should take you about forty minutes. I don't have a car to take you to the airport but we have a Police Transfer Vehicle going by there.

(CONTINUED)

91 CONTINUED:

FELIX

A police car? Finally a ride I'm going to feel safe in.

DETECTIVE

I hope you won't be offended by my saying I hope to God I never see either of you again. Now get outta here.

FELIX

(smiles)

Thank you.

UNIFORMED POLICEMAN

If you both come with me, the vehicle's in the garage.

They start to walk with him.

FELIX

You know, Os --

OSCAR

If you say "I'm gonna miss them," I'll kill you in the vehicle.

THE DETECTIVE

He watches them go, then to 2nd Detective.

DETECTIVE

Andy... if those guys commit a triple murder and rob a bank -- just let 'em go.

2ND DETECTIVE

Gotcha.

They walk off.

92 EXT. POLICE VAN -DAY

It pulls out of the garage.

93 INT. POLICE VAN - DAY

On one side, we see Oscar, Felix and the Uniformed Policeman. On the other side, protected by a mesh wire fence, are two PRISONERS, chained, shackled, unshaven and as mean looking as they come.

(CONTINUED)

93 CONTINUED:

91

They stare angrily at Oscar and Felix. Oscar and Felix sort of smile back.

FELIX
(to prisoners)
Hi, there.

OSCAR
(nods to them)
How you doin'?

1ST CON
...Just great. How about you?

FELIX
Oh, a little tired. We had a rough trip.

2ND CON
Aww. Too bad. You got a cigarette?

FELIX
No. I... I don't smoke.

2ND CON
Yeah. I should cut down too.
(to Oscar)
What about you?

OSCAR
No. I used to smoke cigars but I gave them up... They were turning my teeth yellow.

2ND CON
Yeah. I hate when that happens.

He gives a half-smile revealing a mouth that is missing a few teeth in the front.

1ST CON
So, you guys under arrest or what?

FELIX
No... Well, yes. We were arrested three times this weekend but we were innocent.

1ST AND 2ND CONS
Same here.

(CONTINUED)

93 CONTINUED: (2)

2ND CON

So whattaya doin' in dis cage?

OSCAR

Well, this sheriff offered us a ride to the airport. We're kind of in a rush.

FELIX

We're flying to San Malina. Our kids are getting married.

1ST CON

And this cop offers you a ride?

FELIX

Well, we had to give him our word that we would never ever return to this town again.

1ST CON

(looks at the 2ND)

Why the fuck didn' we ask for that deal?

94 EXT. AIRPORT - DAY

The police van is pulling away as Oscar and Felix start into the terminal.

OSCAR

If some travel agent booked this trip, we could sue them for a fortune.

FELIX

Everything happens for a reason, Oscar. We're not going through all this for nothing. I think there's some divine payoff at the end.

OSCAR

You want to buy my half? I'll sell it real cheap.

95 INT. TERMINAL - DAY

They walk to the gate. A dozen or so other people are waiting before they can board.

(CONTINUED)

95 CONTINUED:

FELIX

Almost there, Oscar. We're actually going to make it. I can't believe it.

Then we hear a woman's voice behind them.

FELICE (O.S.)

Oscar? Is that you?

They turn. They see the woman (FELICE). She's about fifty-five, very pretty, stylishly dressed, intelligent and easy to talk to.

FELICE

(smiles a pretty smile)

It is you. I'm Felice Adams, Blanche's sister.

OSCAR

Felice? Oh, my God. I didn't recognize you. You haven't changed in thirty years. You look wonderful.

FELICE

Oh. Thank you.... I guess we're both going to the wedding, aren't we?

OSCAR

Yes. You live around here?

FELICE

No. San Francisco. But you have to make four stops to get to Rockport.

Felix, with a big smile, is waiting to get introduced.

OSCAR

(looks around)

Is your husband with you? What's his name again? Larry?

FELICE

Barry... No. Barry passed away two years ago.

OSCAR

Oh, I'm very sorry... You had two little daughters, didn't you?

(CONTINUED)

95 CONTINUED: (2)

9:

FELICE
And now two little granddaughters.

OSCAR
(laughs)
Imagine that.

Felix laughs too.

OSCAR (CONT'D)
Oh. I'm sorry. This is my good
friend, Felix Ungar. Felix, this is
my ex-wife's sister, Felice.

FELIX
How do you do.

FELICE
Felix Ungar? Oh, yes. I remember
Blanche talking about you a lot.

FELIX
Yeah, well, I've changed since then.

FELICE
Haven't we all... Oh, they're
boarding. See you on the plane.

She goes on ahead of them. They start to talk.

FELIX
(aside)
Oscar, we have to talk.

OSCAR
About what?

FELIX
On the plane. ON the plane.

96 EXT. AIRFIELD - DAY

We see the small commuter plane take off and into the
skies.

97 EXT./INT. THE PLANE - DAY

It carries about 24 passengers, capacity. It's not quite
full. Felix at a window seat, third row, Oscar sitting
next to him. Felice is sitting in the sixth row, the
seat next to her is empty.

(CONTINUED)

97 CONTINUED:

97

Felix turns back and smiles at her.

FELIX
Have a nice flight.

FELICE
(looks up from her book)
Oh. Thank you. You too.

She goes back into her book.

OSCAR
(to Felix)
Alright, you want to talk, talk.

FELIX
Wait'll the seat belt sign goes off.

OSCAR
You can't talk with your seat belt
on? Is that a new federal law?

FELIX
When it's still on, it could get
bumpy and I don't want anything
interrupting what I have to say.

98 THE SEATBELT SIGN

9

It goes from on to off.

99 FELIX AND OSCAR

9

They've both been watching it.

OSCAR
Okay. It's safe. We're bumpless.
What is it you have to say?

FELIX
That's her. That's the woman.

OSCAR
What woman?

FELIX
The "somewhere, someplace in this
world is the right woman for me"
woman. That's her.

(CONTINUED)

99 CONTINUED:

OSCAR

Felice?

FELIX

Even the name is right. Felice-Felix. The first three letters are identical. We match up. It's like an omen. I'm telling you, Oscar, she's the one.

OSCAR

Good. I'm very happy for the both of you.

FELIX

Don't mock this. I think we were meant to go through all that crap for me to get on this plane and meet her today. I'm telling you, Oscar, this is the match up I've been looking for.

OSCAR

(nods)

Suppose she doesn't want to match up with you?

He peeks back at her. She's still absorbed with her book. Then back to Felix.

OSCAR (CONT'D)

...Because right now her book is running about ten lengths ahead of you.

FELIX

Oscar, trust me. This one is written in the stars.

OSCAR

Yeah, well, until you get a fax, don't count on anything.

100 EXT. PLANE - DAY

We are flying over some beautiful West Coast scenery.

101 EXT./INT. PLANE - DAY

FELIX

(peeks back, then to Oscar)

Okay. She put the book down. Now's my chance... Think of a reason why I should go over and sit down next to her.

OSCAR

I don't know. How about your seat is broken?

FELIX

I'm a bad liar. She'll know that I'm lying.

OSCAR

How about if I break your seat?

FELIX

No, no. I got it. Never mind.
(gets up)
Wish me luck

OSCAR

You're not going to tell me what your plan is?

FELIX

If I tell you and you don't like it, I'll lose confidence. Move your legs.

He gets by and into the aisle, then starts to walk back. As he passes her...

FELIX (CONT'D)

Good day to fly, isn't it?

FELICE

(smiles)

Yes. Perfect weather.

But he can't think or say the next word so he continues on and goes into the bathroom.

102 INT. AIRPLANE BATHROOM - DAY

He's in and locks the door, then bangs his fist into the wall.

(CONTINUED)

102 CONTINUED:

FELIX

What's wrong with me? Damn me to hell. I finally meet the right woman and I can't say the right thing.

He turns, looks into the mirror. A look of determination.

FELIX (CONT'D)

(at his reflection)

Alright, you chicken hearted gutless wimp. If you don't go back there and sit next to her, you and I are through, you hear?

He opens the door, steps out, straightens his tie, throws back his shoulders and takes two steps and stops. He looks.

103 INT. MAIN CABIN - DAY

Felice's seat. Oscar is sitting next to her. They seem to be deeply in conversation.

Felix walks back down the aisle, glares at Oscar and sits in his own seat.

104 EXT. THE PLANE- DAY

It is flying over more mountainous areas.

105 EXT./INT. PLANE - DAY

Oscar comes back and sits next to Felix again.

FELIX

Have a nice chat, old buddy pal dear close friend of mine?

OSCAR

Relax. I just set it all up. Go on back and sit down.

FELIX

What did you say to her?

(CONTINUED)

105 CONTINUED:

OSCAR

I told her you were writing an article for the New York Sunday Times about Widowed Women and Womenless Men. And you wondered if you could ask her a few questions. She said absolutely. Go on, she's waiting for you.

FELIX

Why'd you tell her that?

OSCAR

Well, it was better than you going into the john and banging on the walls again... Are you going or do you want me to get the food trolley and wheel you over?

FELIX

I'm going. I'm going.

He gets up, crosses down the aisle and stops at her seat.

FELIX (CONT'D)

...May I?

FELICE

(smiles)

Please do.

He sits.

FELIX

First of all, I have to explain about that article I'm writing.

FELICE

What article?

FELIX

The one Oscar told you I was writing for the Sunday Times?

FELICE

He never told me that.

FELIX

(stunned)

...Then what was he saying to you?

(CONTINUED)

105 CONTINUED: (2)

FELICE

That you wanted to meet me and couldn't think of a good reason to sit down next to me and I said, tell him to come over and sit. I'd like to meet him as well.

Felix looks dumbstruck. Then turns and looks at Oscar.
Oscar is smiling, then winks at him.

106 INT. COCKPIT OF PLANE - DAY

PILOT and Co-Pilot. Pilot on the speaker phone.

PILOT

Ladies and gentlemen, we should be arriving at Rockport's Barbara Streisand Airport in about twenty minutes. So just relax and enjoy the rest of our flight.

107 INT. MAIN CABIN - DAY

Oscar is fast asleep in his seat.

Felix and Felice. They are both laughing hard.

FELIX

...No, no. First the car caught fire and exploded and then we got the ride on the truck.

FELICE

...And that's when you got arrested for the second time?

FELIX

No. That was the first time. The second time was when Thelma and Holly's husbands, LeRoy and JayJay abducted all four of us from the bus.

They are enjoying this immensely.

108 EXT. A CAB - DAY

On the road.

109 EXT./INT. CAB - DAY

The three of them in the back. Felice sitting in the middle.

FELIX

...No, I never use tarragon. Maybe a few bay leaves and just a hint of pesto sauce.

FELICE

Really? And how long do you let it simmer?

FELIX

Two, three minutes on a low flame. Ten seconds too much could be disastrous.

OSCAR

I don't mean to interrupt your Pasta Genovese but I think we're here.

110 EXT. THE WHITE HOUSE ON POINCIETTA STREET - DAY

Friends and guests have all arrived, gathered on the lawn. Dozens of chairs are set in rows for the wedding service. The decorations, lanterns and floral arrangements are placed tastefully everywhere.

A small five piece band is setting up. Maybe a pianist playing for the early arrivals.

Oscar, Felice and Felix get out of the cab. As Oscar pays, the cabbie puts Felice's bags out on the ground.

FELICE

(looks at everything)

Oh, doesn't it look sweet?

FELIX

Is it too soon for me to get nervous or can I start now?

(to Oscar)

Is this exciting or what?

A young man takes Felice's bags and heads for the house.

Oscar looks around, starts to sniff.

(CONTINUED)

FELIX

(sniffs too)

Yeah. Don't those flowers smell incredible?

OSCAR

I'm not smelling flowers. I smell trouble. I can smell it a mile away. Something's wrong here.

FELIX

Really? How come you never smelled in on the peach truck? Or on the bus? Or in the slowest Rolls Royce in the world? Relax, Oscar, let's get a drink.

OSCAR

Where's Blanche? Where's Frances? Where are the families? Why isn't someone here to meet us?

FELICE

I'm sure they're all tending to last minute preparations. And things look like they're going very well. I'm dying for something to drink.

She crosses to the outdoor bar.

111 EXT. THE HOUSE - DAY

111

FRED, Blanche's third husband comes out onto the porch, sees Oscar and Felix, waves and comes walking quickly towards them.

FRED

Oscar? I'm Fred Wyman, Blanche's third husband.

OSCAR

(they shake hands)
Where's her second husband?

FRED

He's here with his third wife.

OSCAR

This is Felix Ungar. Hannah's father. Is everything alright?

(CONTINUED)

111 CONTINUED:

FRED

Alright? Oh, yes. Fine. Fine...
 There's one problem that's come up
 but I'm sure it'll straighten out.
 Could you and Mr. Ungar come inside
 a minute?

As they follow Fred, Oscar gives a gloating look at
 Felix.

OSCAR

(to Felix as he points
 to his own nose)
 This is the nose that knew the
 Braves would blow the '96 World
 Series.

FELIX

(yells, waves to Felice,
 who is sipping champagne
 and talking to friends)
 Felice! I'll be right back. Don't
 go 'way.

She smiles and shakes her head 'no'.

112 INT. THE HOUSE - DAY

The boys follow Fred down a long hallway, through a den,
 through a dining room, through the kitchen which is at a
 feverish pace by cooks, and then through another door to
 a small, enclosed patio, away from everyone else. There
 is BLANCHE, Frances and her new husband, JACK. The men
 are comforting the women. Blanche and Frances rise when
 they see the boys.

BLANCHE

Oh, Oscar. Thank God you're here.

FRANCES

Oh, Felix. What a mess.

She gives him a quick hug.

FELIX

Hello, Frances. You're looking
 wonderful... What's going on?

FRANCES

Blanche, you tell him.

(CONTINUED)

112 CONTINUED:

BLANCHE
Brucey is gone.

OSCAR
Gone? Gone where?

BLANCHE
He disappeared.

FRANCES
We can't find him.

BLANCHE
He wasn't in his room.

FRANCES
We looked everywhere.

BLANCHE
We even called the police.

The two women start to cry.

OSCAR
Alright, don't cry. It's bad luck
to cry before a wedding.

BLANCHE
No, it's only bad luck if the groom
isn't here before the wedding.

FELIX
Did he leave a message? A note?

FRANCES
Nothing. Not a clue.

OSCAR
He'll show up. My kid never ducked
out of anything.

FELIX
Where's Hannah? Is she alright?
Can I see my daughter, please?

FRANCES
She's upstairs getting dressed... We
haven't told her.

FELIX
You haven't TOLD HER??? What were
you waiting for? Her fifth
anniversary of being alone?

(CONTINUED)

112 CONTINUED: (2)

11

FRANCES

Don't yell at me.

FELIX

I wasn't yelling at you. I'm yelling at the situation.

FRANCES

God, you haven't changed in thirty years, have you?

FELIX

I don't believe this. I haven't seen the woman in a half a century and she still hasn't finished the last fight we had.

OSCAR

Alright, can everyone stop acting like children here?

BLANCHE

Children? You think we're children? We've been preparing this wedding for three months and you take a casual joy ride to get here? Patronizing women again, Oscar?

OSCAR

Don't yell at me, Blanche. You got two other husbands here to do that... Felix, can we go in the other room a minute? I need to talk to you.

113 INT. ANOTHER ROOM - DAY

He leads Felix out into another room and closes the door.

FELIX

How about that Frances? I'd love to divorce her again, I swear... So what do you think has happened?

OSCAR

My honest opinion?

FELIX

Yes.

OSCAR

I don't know.

(CONTINUED)

113 CONTINUED:

FELIX

So what are you calling me out here for?

OSCAR

I thought maybe you'd have an idea.

FELIX

If I had an idea, I would have called you out here... So what do we do?

OSCAR

We'll have to wait and see. The worst that can happen is we'll have to postpone the wedding.

FELIX

Postpone?? You think I'm going to let my daughter be humiliated in front of the whole world because of your ditzy son?

OSCAR

Hey! Watch what you say about my son. Maybe it's your Hannah that's the wacky one.

FELIX

Hannah wacky?? My Hannah wacky??

OSCAR

Stop repeating it. Sounds like a Hawaiian hotel... One of them caused this, I don't know which one.

FELIX

And I'm saying, if he breaks her heart, that boy will have to deal with me.

OSCAR

Are you threatening to get physical with my kid?

FELIX

If that's what it takes.

They are now nose to nose.

(CONTINUED)

113 CONTINUED: (2)

OSCAR

Get your nose off my nose before I
sneeze your brains into a tiny
Kleenex.

FELIX

That's it! That's it, Oscar...

The door opens. We HEAR a helicopter overhead. Frances
and Blanche come in.

BLANCHE

They found him.

FELIX

They found him? Oscar, they found
him.

FRANCES

A police helicopter just spotted
him.

OSCAR

Where is he, for God's sake?

114 EXT. THE HELICOPTER - DAY

We see it flying over the house, making low passes.

115 POV - THE HELICOPTER - DAY

Looking down, we see the grounds, the guests and now
Felix, Oscar, Frances and Blanche and others all looking
up. The copter makes a turn and then swoops down towards
the roof. Bruce is sitting on the roof wearing jeans,
sneakers, and a T-shirt. He is sitting tightly against
the chimney, out of sight of everyone below. He waves
off the copter and turns his face away.

116 EXT. HELICOPTER - DAY

A GUY with a bullhorn.

BULLHORN

He's on the roof!

117 INT. THE HOUSE - DAY

Oscar, Felix and others all rush up the stairs. On the
landing.

(CONTINUED)

117 CONTINUED:

OSCAR
Which is his room?

BLANCHE
(points)
That one there.

They all follow Oscar to the door. He stops.

OSCAR
(to others)
This is not a coffee klotsch. He's
my son, I'll talk to him alone.

BLANCHE
He's my son too. He'll listen to
me.

OSCAR
Is that why he's up on the roof?

He opens the door slowly and goes in.

118 INT. THE GUEST ROOM - DAY

Oscar crosses to the open window and leans out.

119 EXT. THE ROOF - DAY

Bruce is still sitting near the chimney.

OSCAR
(looking out)
Beautiful day, isn't it?

BRUCE
Yeah.

OSCAR
I hope you don't think I'm meddling
but... were you planning on coming
to the wedding today?

BRUCE
I'm thinking about it.

Oscar sits on the sill.

OSCAR
Nervous, heh? Listen, everyone gets
nervous before they get married.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

119 CONTINUED:

OSCAR (CONT'D)

The night before my wedding, I tried to join the Peace Corps in Kenya.

BRUCE

...I think I'd be making a big mistake.

OSCAR

Why is that?

BRUCE

Because I don't trust marriage. Look at everyone here. My own family. Mom's been married three times. You were married once and then never again for thirty years. Hers were too many and yours not enough. What's wrong with it that frightens everyone so much?

OSCAR

Well, it's like baseball. Either you can play or you can't. I couldn't play and your mother could play but she kept getting traded all the time.

BRUCE

That's not the answer I'm looking for.

OSCAR

Then why'd you wait so long to ask the question?

BRUCE

Because it's what I thought I wanted. Until I saw all the divorcees gather here. And now I know it's not what I want.

OSCAR

You sure?

BRUCE

Yes. I'm sure.

OSCAR

Then get out of it. Don't do it, Brucey.

Bruce looks at him.

(CONTINUED)

BRUCE

Do you mean it?

OSCAR

Absolutely. Because you'll live your life out regretting this day forever. Get out, Bruce. She's young, she's pretty, she'll find someone else. But you're my son. Don't do this terrible thing to yourself. Let me go talk to the others, I'll figure out what to say.

He comes in and crosses to the door. Bruce climbs into the room.

BRUCE

The only thing is, I really love her.

OSCAR

Sure you love her. Now! So you'll have two years of excitement and forty-five years of hell. Trust me, Brucey.

He turns to open the door.

BRUCE

I'll always love her. She's the best thing that's ever happened to me.

OSCAR

Would you be willing to gamble your life on that? I know I haven't been there enough for you, Bruce, but this is the best advice I'll ever give you. Not getting married today is the right thing for you to do.

BRUCE

Maybe right for you, Dad, but it's wrong for me... Tell everyone I'm getting dressed.

OSCAR

(relieved)

Thank God you said that. I didn't know how long I could keep up talking like an asshole.

They cross to each other, embrace.

120 INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Hannah, the bride to be, is being attended to by the dressmaker's (MARIA'S) last minute retouches. Hannah looks ravishing. A KNOCK on the door.

MARIA

(Latinio)

Whoever it is, go'way. We not ready.

FELIX (O.S.)

(voice through door)

Not even for your old man?

HANNAH

Dad? Oh, God!... Maria, let him in. Hurry.

Maria crosses to the door, mumbling to herself in Spanish. She opens it. Felix comes in and looks at Hannah. He stops, overwhelmed.

MARIA

I come back soon. If you smudge her dress, I kill you.

She goes, closes the door.

FELIX

(misty eyed)

Oh, dear God. I have just seen Heaven and it's in living color.

HANNAH

(beaming)

Do you like it?

FELIX

I would say 'yes' if I could just get the lump out of my throat first. Can I hug you?

HANNAH

You better. Because if you didn't make it, I would have postponed.

They embrace.

HANNAH (CONT'D)

Have you seen Bruce? Isn't he terrific.

(CONTINUED)

120 CONTINUED:

FELIX

Er, yes. I didn't get a chance to talk to him. He was -- busy.

HANNAH

On the roof? I know.

FELIX

You knew?

HANNAH

I sent him there. He started getting the jitters and I said, "Hey, Bruce. Don't bother me. Go sleep on the roof. I've got more important things to do'.

FELIX

(smiles)

No kidding? Good for you.

HANNAH

So was it a terrible trip?

FELIX

Well, if you asked me that question four hours ago I would have said, the pits. But something happened on the plane and suddenly everything's coming up roses.

HANNAH

You met someone?

FELIX

I'll save it for later. I don't want to keep you... As a matter of fact, I can't keep you anymore, can I?

HANNAH

Well, you could stay closer if you moved to California.

FELIX

That's funny. Because I was just thinking about checking out San Francisco.

A KNOCK on the door.

(CONTINUED)

120 CONTINUED: (2)

FELIX (CONT'D)

I'll get it.

(starts for the door)

Oh, I hope you don't mind my giving
the bride away dressed like this?

HANNAH

You look great to me.

He opens the door. Maria comes in.

MARIA

Mr. Ungar? This suitcase jus' come
for you.

Felix, amazed and delighted, takes his suitcase.

FELIX

On second thought, maybe I'll spiff
it up a bit.

He goes.

121 EXT. THE FRONT LAWN - DAY

The wedding is in progress. Felix is wearing his black
afternoon formal. Oscar stands behind the now dressed
Bruce, with Blanche at his side. Frances stands beside
Felix.

JUSTICE OF PEACE

...then with the power vested in me
by the state of California, I now
pronounce you man and wife. You may
kiss the bride.Bruce gives Hannah a loving kiss as the guests APPLAUD
and WHISTLE. The fathers give their kids each a kiss.
Then Felix gives Frances a kiss on the cheek. Then
sneezes.

FRANCES

Still allergic to my perfume?

FELIX

No, that's gone. It just triggered
an old memory in my sinuses.He turns and looks for Felice. She sees him and waves.
He crosses to her.

Oscar kisses Blanche.

(CONTINUED)

121 CONTINUED:

OSCAR
 Congratulations, Blanche.

BLANCHE
 I'm sorry I yelled at you, Oscar.

OSCAR
 Nah. I deserved it. I forgot why
 but it's not important.
 (the music starts)
 Come on. Dance with me. I'll show
 you what you missed.

122 EXT. THE PARTY - DAY

Felix dances with Felice. Oscar dances with Blanche.
 Hannah dances with Bruce. Others get up to dance.

123 EXT. PARTY - DUSK

The party's been going for a while. Felix is dancing
 with Hannah.

HANNAH
 Dad, the silver tray is gorgeous.

FELIX
 So are you.

HANNAH
 And Bruce told me what you gave him.
 That is so generous.

FELIX
 I wish it was ten times that much.
 Because I've got the most beautiful
 woman at the party.

He looks around.

HANNAH
 What are you looking for?

FELIX
 The second most beautiful.
 (sees Felice dancing
 with an attractive man)
 Oh, oh. Competition.

HANNAH
 I know her.

(CONTINUED)

123 CONTINUED:

FELIX

She's your mother-in-law's sister.
Now your aunt-in-law... Could also
be your new step-mother.

HANNAH

Good. Keep it in the family.

Bruce taps Felix on the shoulder.

BRUCE

(to Felix)

Felice wants you to rescue her.

FELIX

She said that?

Felice nods to him. Felix gives Hannah to Bruce, then
crosses and taps Felice's PARTNER on the shoulder.

FELIX

May I?

PARTNER

You again? You've tapped me out six
times.

FELIX

Sorry. You know how husbands are
about their wives.

PARTNER

That's news to me. I'm her cousin.

Felice laughs and she dances off with Felix.

124 EXT. PARTY - LATER THAT NIGHT

The party is almost over. The band is playing some
mellow oldie as a few couples remain, some still dancing.
Blanche, Frances and their husbands at a table having a
final champagne.

Hannah talking to her bridesmaids.

Oscar and Bruce sitting on the steps of the porch.

BRUCE

(looking at Hannah)

Isn't she incredible, Pop?

Oscar nods, then takes out an envelope.

(CONTINUED)

OSCAR

Bruce, I have something here for you and Hannah.

BRUCE

Pop, before you do that, I know you're strapped for cash. Just the gesture is enough for Hannah and me.

OSCAR

Who's strapped. I don't spend any money. The ladies in my poker game fill up my freezer every week. I have chicken soup ice cubes... What I have here is not cash... Please take it.

Bruce takes it and opens it. He takes out three baseball cards, looking a little worn.

BRUCE

Baseball cards? Great. You know I always saved them.

OSCAR

Not these. I've had these since before you were born. First editions, signed by Joe DiMaggio. Mickey Mantle, rookie year and Babe Ruth in his last year... Today they're worth about twenty-two thousand.

BRUCE

No way, Pop. I can't take them.

OSCAR

Then hold them for me. Until your kids are eighteen. It'll buy them a few weeks in college.

BRUCE

(moved)

...You're the greatest, Pop.

OSCAR

I know, but it only comes out once in a while... I'm tired. Walk me in.

They get up, walk towards the house.

(CONTINUED)

124 CONTINUED: (2)

124

BRUCE

No chance of your moving out here?

OSCAR

To where? Santa Yocinta Malinta
Calienta Malaguena? I'm not gonna
learn a new language just to find my
way home at night...

They keep walking.

125 EXT. LONG SHOT OF THE PARTY - NIGHT

125

The only ones left dancing to the music of the remaining
pianist is Bruce and Hannah.

126 INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

126

A big double bed. Oscar is already in bed. Felix, in the
bathroom, is singing 'Everything's Coming Up Roses'... The
light goes out and he comes out wearing fresh pajamas.

FELIX

Oooh, it feels good to have clean
pajamas on again... I am going to
sleep my little toesies off tonight.

Felix gets into bed, wriggles around, annoying Oscar.

FELIX (CONT'D)

God, what a wedding. And I'm so glad
the kids loved the silver tray....
You never told me what you gave them,
Os. Now that it's any of my
business.

OSCAR

I gave them baseball cards.

FELIX

Really? You think they're going to
have time to play cards on their
honeymoon?

OSCAR

Felix, tomorrow night I'm going to be
sleeping in my own bed. It's not a
great bed but I love it. Because it
never talks during the night.

(CONTINUED)

FELIX

I'm sorry. It's just that, well... it might be another seventeen years before we see each other again.

OSCAR

Good. We'll make it a date. Look, the bus leaves for the L.A. airport at nine in the morning. I want to get some sleep.

FELIX

Oh. Didn't I tell you? No bus. Leece is hiring a limo to get us all to the airport.

OSCAR

Leece? Who's Leece?

FELIX

Felice. But I started calling her Leece and she liked it.

OSCAR

Really? What does she call you? Lix?

FELIX

Oh. Something else. I'm not going back to New York yet. I'm going to stay up in San Fran for a while.

OSCAR

San Fran??... Lix and Leece in San Fran?... What's going on?

FELIX

Who knows? May stay a few days, may stay forever... We really hit it off tonight, Oscar.

OSCAR

I've heard you say that before.

FELIX

Well, this may be the last time you ever hear me say it.

OSCAR

Good. I hope so. I really do. Well, I'm exhausted... G.N.

(CONTINUED)

126 CONTINUED:

126

FELIX
G.N.?

OSCAR
Goodnight.

127 EXT. THE L.A. AIRPORT - DAY

127

Establishing.

128 INT. L.A.X. TERMINAL - DAY

128

Oscar, Felix and Felice enter the terminal. Oscar looks at his ticket.

OSCAR
I'm at Gate 46. Where's that?

FELICE
That's down at that end. We're at the other end.

Oscar nods. There is a moment of awkwardness, of how to say goodbye.

FELICE
Felix, I'll change your ticket. Give you and Oscar a chance to say goodbye.

FELIX
What?... Oh. Yeah. Thanks.

FELICE
Goodbye, Oscar. Have a wonderful flight.

OSCAR
And the same to you, Leece.

She smiles and walks away to the counter. Oscar and Felix alone, still wondering what to say.

OSCAR (CONT'D)
...So where you gonna live? With her?

(CONTINUED)

FELIX

No. Of course not... She has a little guest house in the back.

OSCAR

She looks like she has a lot of dogs. You're going to be walking a lot of dogs, Felix.

FELIX

You think I'm making a mistake?

OSCAR

I don't give that advice twice on the same weekend.

FELIX

It could be my last chance, Os. I just want to give it a try.

Oscar nods.

FELIX (CONT'D)

Hey, if it doesn't work, I'll just go back to my old life... whatever that was.

OSCAR

I wish you the best, Felix.

FELIX

You do?

OSCAR

Of course my best doesn't always mean much.

FELIX

It does to me.

He puts his arms around Oscar, embraces, his cheek to Oscar's cheek. He holds on.

OSCAR

Okay, that's enough... Felix, stop. She'll think you and I had something going.

Felix pulls away, then turns and goes quickly.

We see Oscar walking in his direction and Felix and Felice in the opposite direction. Felix turns and gives Oscar one last look, then continues on.

130 EXT. A FULL MOON - NIGHT

130

It is bright, shining down on Sarasota, Florida. We see the palm trees on the way down, then the exterior of Oscar's Condo, at night. We move in towards the window. The poker game is in progress.

131 INT. OSCAR'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

131

The usual guests. Abe, Hattie, Esther, Millie, Wanda and Flossie.

Oscar is putting some food down on the poker table.

OSCAR

Who gets the bagel with the tofu cream cheese?

MILLIE

That's mine.

OSCAR

And the soy bean facsimile corned beef sandwich?

ABE

That's me... This doesn't have salt, does it?

OSCAR

Just a tinge. But the box said it expired two years ago, it's safe.

FLOSSIE

Are you in this game, Oscar?

OSCAR

Yes. I'm in for twenty cents.

FLOSSIE

You didn't look at your cards.

OSCAR

At these prices, I'll take the plunge.

WANDA

(struggles with fork and cake)

This cheesecake is hard as a rock.

OSCAR

That's the wax model they keep in the window. If you like the way it looks, I'll order it.

(CONTINUED)

ESTHER

So tell us about the wedding. What did you serve?

OSCAR

(sits, looks at cards)
Veal Alphonso.

ESTHER

How do they make it?

OSCAR

A guy named Alphonso comes in early.

The DOORBELL RINGS. Oscar gets up.

OSCAR (CONT'D)

I'll get it. I ordered pizza.

HATTIE

For tonight?

OSCAR

No. From before the wedding. I forgot to cancel it.

He opens it. A forlorn looking Felix stands there.

FELIX

Hi, Os... I was in the neighborhood so I thought I'd drop in.

OSCAR

What a surprise.
(looks over his
shoulder)
Is Felice with you?

FELIX

No. It didn't work out. The woman left her clothes all over the floor, always ran out of towels, bobby pins in the bed. I just couldn't hack it... Am I disturbing you?

OSCAR

No. No. Come on in.

Felix goes back into the hall, gets two heavy suitcases and brings them in the apartment. Oscar looks at suitcases suspiciously.

(CONTINUED)

FELIX

(to ladies)

Hi.

OSCAR

Girls, I'd like you to meet the father of the bride, Felix Ungar... Felix, these are my poker buddies.

FELIX

Gee, I hope I'm not interrupting the game.

The women smiles, a little flirtatiously.

HATTIE

No. My goodness, not at all.

WANDA

It's a distinct pleasure to meet you.

ESTHER

(squints)

I can't see him. Is he cute?

OSCAR

Girls, can you excuse us for one minute? Felix, can we have a word inside?

As they leave, the women buzz like bees with their heads over the table. All except Abe.

132 INT. THE BEDROOM - NIGHT

132

OSCAR

What's with the suitcases?

FELIX

I gave up my apartment in New York.

OSCAR

To live in Sarasota?

FELIX

They have hospitals here too, you know.

OSCAR

Are you planning to move in with me again, Felix? Because it didn't work the last time.

(CONTINUED)

132 CONTINUED:

132

FELIX

No, no. Just till I get my own place... Although we could save a lot of money splitting expenses.

OSCAR

Nothing's changed, Felix. I'm still a pig and you're still a human vacuum cleaner.

FELIX

I know... Look, if you don't think it would work, just say 'no'.

OSCAR

'No'!

Felix looks at him, nods.

FELIX

Okay... So I'll go.

He starts to go.

OSCAR

(watches him)

...I didn't say 'go'. I said 'no'... Alright, we'll try it for a few weeks. But the minute you try matching up my socks, we call it quits.

FELIX

(smiles)

It's a deal... Go on. Go back to your game. I'll get my bags and hang up a few things.

Oscar leaves.

133 INT. OSCAR'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

133

MILLIE

He looks so sweet.

HATTIE

If he's looking, I've got a spare bedroom I don't use.

(CONTINUED)

OSCAR

Ladies, it's possible that in five weeks you'll all move out of Sarasota, Florida... Whose bet is it?

Felix comes out, his jacket is off.

FELIX

Don't mind me, folks. Just going to get a beer.

(looks down)

Oh. Is this your napkin?

(picks it up, gives it to Esther)

...That sandwich looks a little limp. I could retoast it for you in a second.

ABE

Really? I wouldn't mind.

FELIX

No trouble at all.

He picks up the plate and goes off into the kitchen.

OSCAR

This is the biggest goddamndest Deja Vu anyone ever had... Can we play cards, please?

The game resumes as the CAMERA PULLS BACK, slowly out of the room, out of the house, into Sarasota, still on the game...

FADE OUT.

THE END