

OBSERVE AND REPORT

Written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. CAROLINA MALL - MORNING

ONE LONG TRACKING SHOT FROM THE BACK.

A PERVERT in a trench coat runs along the edge of the mall. A group of OLD WOMEN is coming toward the MAIN ENTRANCE. The Pervert opens his trench coat and flashes the old women. They SCREAM!

The Pervert ducks behind the bushes and runs with the skill of a Navy SEAL. A FAMILY is walking down the sidewalk. The Pervert opens his trench coat and flashes them.

The Pervert ducks behind a dumpster. He keeps running and sees a car driving by. The Pervert flashes the CAR.

The Pervert takes a two-step run, sees ANOTHER LADY, flashes her. He dives behind a car. Then pops up and flashes ANOTHER GIRL.

It's an all-out Pervert assault!

The Pervert then runs across the parking lot, jumps a fence, and darts from the property -- vanishing as quickly as a Ninja who just perfectly executed an assassination.

INT. MALL - BUSINESS OFFICES - DAY

MARK, the Mall Manager, walks by a group of women, who were exposed to the Pervert. They crowd around and complain loudly.

MARK

Ladies, please, we're doing

everything we can to handle the situation. Nothing is more important to us than the safety of our shoppers. Now in the meantime, feel free to check out some of our wonderful back-to-school sales. Excuse me for a minute.

Mark walks down the hallway that houses all of the business affair offices. He stops at the RECEPTIONIST'S desk.

MARK

Have you seen Ronnie?

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2.

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RECEPTIONIST

I haven't seen him all morning.

The Mall Manager quickly walks off. On the way, he passes a JANITOR.

MARK

Ramon, have you seen Ronnie?

JANITOR

No, senor.

The Mall Manager keeps walking.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - DAY

The Mall Manager comes into the surveillance room. It's a small office with monitors that show the different security cameras around the mall. DENNIS, a Mall Security guard with sunglasses who will not utter a word ever, turns around in the chair.

MARK

Where is Ronnie?

Dennis shrugs.

CUT TO:

INT. GARAGE - DAY

Blackness. White shafts of light sporadically shoot through the dark and we see IMAGES. A GIANT FLASHLIGHT is inserted into a UTILITY BELT. MACE is inserted in the other side. A WALKIE-TALKIE is turned on. A TASER is sparked. MIRRORED SUNGLASSES are pushed over the nose.

A garage door raises and bright light spills in...

EXT. GARAGE - DAY

A garage door opens slowly and reveals a souped-up ORANGE GOLF CART. There's a siren on top that spins around. The man driving is RONNIE BARNHARDT (28), a stocky mall security guard whose expression reads all business. Ronnie pulls out of the garage...

SUPERIMPOSE: OBSERVE AND REPORT

3.

EXT. MALL - DAY

HEAVY METAL MUSIC. A group of anarchist SKATERS rages through the mall parking lot tearing up everything they see. A couple of them smoke cigarettes. One skater grinds over a bench. One kid ollies onto the hood of a car. Another slams into an old man and knocks him over.

Meanwhile, Ronnie sits in his golf cart -- waiting. He looks eerily like Mel Gibson at the beginning of Mad Max.

The skaters ride past a set of construction cones. One skater picks up the cone and tosses it across the parking lot.

The skaters soar past Ronnie, who flips on the silent orange siren and gives chase.

As the skaters ride through the parking lot, Ronnie pulls up and drives alongside of them.

RONNIE

(cop authority voice)

Pull over to the sidewalk, NOW!

STEVIE, the leader of the skaters, yells back.

STEVIE

Fuck off, Ronnie, it's just a parking lot.

RONNIE

Sir, pull over to the sidewalk,
NOW!

HECTOR, another skater, joins in.

HECTOR

Leave us alone.

STEVIE

Yeah, skating's not a crime, dick.

RONNIE

Skateboarding is not allowed on mall premises. Pull over now!

STEVIE

We're not leaving.

HECTOR

Yeah, fuck you!

The skateboarders flip Ronnie off and push hard to get away from him. Ronnie guns it and an all out chase ensues.

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Ronnie pulls up alongside of a SLOW SKATER. Ronnie side-swipes the skater, forcing the skater to run into a trash can and fall.

Ronnie catches up to ANOTHER SKATER. This time, Ronnie tries to hit the skater on the side again, but he is too fast. Ronnie swerves trying to get him, but he dodges and ducks. Ronnie hits the brake. The skater thinks he has escaped, but looks up and sees that a car is in his way. The skater nails the car and is thrown over the hood.

Ronnie is back in the chase and only Hector and Stevie are left. Ronnie guns the golf cart and zooms up closely behind the two kids.

Ronnie rams Hector over and over from behind. Hector

wobbles. Ronnie rams him again. Hector goes swerving off and falls down hard.

Ronnie doesn't break his pace and guns it toward Stevie.

Stevie is good. He turns and rides through cars, ollies over parking blocks, and through pedestrians. Ronnie burns down the lane beside him.

Stevie looks behind and Ronnie is nowhere in sight. He's in the clear.

Stevie turns back around and sees Ronnie, driving in reverse straight towards him. Ronnie rams into the skater and knocks the poor kid on his ass.

STEVIE

What the fuck are you doing?

RONNIE

I was driving in reverse and trying to get you to flip into the back seat.

STEVIE

What?

RONNIE

That way I could handcuff you smoothly and take you in. You know, never mind, just get in the goddamn golf cart.

Stevie picks himself up slowly and hobbles toward the golf cart.

5.

INT. MALL - SECURITY OFFICE - MORNING

Ronnie is in the room with the monitors. The skaters sit across from him. There's a poster on the wall with the security guard motto: OBSERVE AND REPORT.

Ronnie fiddles with his walkie-talkie.

RONNIE

It seems like we go through this every day. What's it going to take for you all to realize that I won't tolerate this horseplay and just do whatever you want to and

don't worry about the rules
attitude?

STEVIE

Ronnie, I hear what you're saying
and I just want you to know that
personally, it pains me to see you
all worked up and I just want you
to know that I'm really sorry
because you can't do shit and you
can take your little rules and
stick'em up your ass, you fuckin'
rent-a-cop.

The Skaters all start cracking up.

HECTOR

Yeah, suck my dick.

The Skaters start laughing louder.

RONNIE

That's funny, guys. I try to be a
mentor to the youth, but it seems
like you boys have gone straight
past boydom to the land of street-
hardened criminals. I'm left with
no choice. You call me rent-a-
cop, but I call myself the law's
right hand. I see the crime...
and I phone it in. And that's
what I'm getting ready to do right
now.

Ronnie picks up the walkie-talkie and turns it on. He
speaks into it.

RONNIE

(into walkie)

317, this is Ronnie Barnhardt over
at Carolina Mall. Come in, over.

(CONTINUED)

6.

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WALKIE VOICE (V.O.)

This is Officer Douglas, what do
you wish to report? Over.

RONNIE

(into walkie)

I've got a couple of trespassers who have been found skateboarding on mall property. Can you send a black and white over to take these boys into processing? Over.

Ronnie winks at the Skaters.

WALKIE VOICE (V.O.)

Uh... Yeah, Ronnie, we're kind of busy today. I mean, we got like three car accidents.

Ronnie picks up the walkie and whispers into it.

RONNIE

(into walkie)

What do you mean? I've got these guys red-handed. I'm gonna need a car over here pronto. I can't hold them all day by myself. Over.

WALKIE VOICE (V.O.)

Copy. Yeah, like I said, we're awfully busy right now. I think you should probably just make'em promise not to do it again and threaten to call their parents or something. That'll get them. Over.

The Skaters start laughing.

RONNIE

(into walkie)

Sir, I don't think you understand, their parents don't care about them. This is a 911 from one of your soldiers. Officer needs assistance! Over!

WALKIE VOICE (V.O.)

Yeah, it's not gonna happen...

The VOICE fades as Ronnie turns off the Walkie.

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RONNIE

So as you can see, the law is just one little call away. But I'm gonna choose not to use that tactic today. I'm gonna do something that I like to do from time to time, and that's called handle shit myself.

Ronnie takes his pad out of his pocket. He begins writing.

RONNIE

While I won't have you arrested today, I am going to suspend each of you for one week. For those of you who don't know how this works, here it is. This is official documentation. If you step foot on mall property, it is considered trespassing. At that point, I call the police, they come down, you go directly to jail.

Ronnie fills out the paperwork, sets the suspension notes on the table. Stevie looks down at it. He picks it up, reads it, balls it up, and throws it at Ronnie.

The Skaters start cracking up.

RONNIE

You accepted it originally, so it still counts.

Ronnie sits there while the Skaters laugh.

INT. MALL - FOOD COURT - DAY

Ronnie sits at a table with a Cinnabon in front of him. Across the table sits NELL, a chubby but cute girl, who wears a Cinnabon uniform. The couple holds hands and they have their heads bowed.

NELL

Dear Lord, bless this food that we eat and purify it with Your salvation. Also, please keep Ronnie safe as he works in Your

name to protect the customers and employees and store owners of the mall.

(MORE)

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8.

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NELL (CONT'D)

And please turn your wrath on any sinners that try to hurt him and make them pay by burning in the eternal flames of hell. In Christ's name we pray, amen.

RONNIE

Amen.

Ronnie begins devouring his Cinnabon.

NELL

So what's on the agenda for you today?

RONNIE

You know, the usual. Spot crime before it happens, perform random acts of bravery, save people from certain death, yada yada yada.

NELL

What's wrong, Ronnie?

RONNIE

Nothing, Nell.

NELL

Ronnie, I know that you really want to be a Police Officer, but you have to realize that things work out the way they're meant to.

RONNIE

I know. I'm okay, Nell. Thanks, but really, I mean, I'm on the front lines right now. I'm livin' it.

NELL

Your job is definitely more exciting than mine.

RONNIE

Of course it is, but at least you don't have to wrestle with the demons at night. I better get going.

NELL

I'll see you after work, sweetie.

Nell leans in to kiss Ronnie, but he pulls away.

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9.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

Not at work, Nell. We have to keep up appearances, we talked about this. And don't call me sweetie.

NELL

I'm sorry. I'll see you after work, Officer Barnhardt.

RONNIE

'Bye, Nell.

Ronnie stands up and walks off.

INT. MALL - DAY

Ronnie stands in the middle of the mall and supervises the early morning MALL WALKERS as they stride around the outer marked lane. It's all senior citizens.

RONNIE

Slow it down. Watch your speed there. This ain't a race. Hey, second time, slow it down.

Mark, the Mall Manager, walks up to Ronnie.

MARK

I've been looking all over for you.

RONNIE

I haven't been hiding, but some things that I have to do are better to keep hidden from you and 'official' eyes. Trust me, it's best all around if there are no bodies to clean up.

MARK

So you may or may not have heard, but this morning, several women were assaulted just outside the front doors by a crazy Pervert.

RONNIE

For the love of God.

MARK

I know, it's horrible.

(CONTINUED)

10.

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RONNIE

You want me to phone this one in to the police?

MARK

Not just yet. See if we call the police, they'll be a big scandal and something like that could kill what little traffic we have at this mall. What I need you to do is watch out for this Pervert and if you see him, try to stop him or quietly phone it in so we can handle this discreetly.

RONNIE

Hold on, Mark. Let me make sure I understand you. You're telling me to deny my primary objective of Observing and Reporting crime and at the same time, you're giving me authorization to handle this case on my own.

MARK

I'm just saying keep an eye out

and keep quiet.

RONNIE

So basically, I'm in charge of this whole investigation.

MARK

There's no investigation.

RONNIE

Not yet. Okay, Mark, I'll do it, but I'm gonna need a few things first.

MARK

You can't carry a gun.

RONNIE

Well, I'm gonna need a new title. Something to instill fear in the criminal mind. How about Director of Mall Intelligence?

MARK

Head of Mall Security.

RONNIE

That's perfect.

(CONTINUED)

11.

CONTINUED:

MARK

And it doesn't come with a raise.

RONNIE

Got it.

MARK

And the new title stays between us.

RONNIE

Understood. Thank you for this opportunity, Mark. I won't let you down.

CUT TO:

EXT. CAROLINA MALL - DAY

Ronnie stands in front of a Cadillac with a boot on one of his tires.

A local news camera crew comes up to Ronnie and the FEMALE REPORTER starts asking questions.

FEMALE REPORTER

Excuse me, sir, but we would like to ask you a few questions.

RONNIE

I'm sorry, but I can't answer anything.

FEMALE REPORTER

We heard a report that an unidentified man was spotted earlier today exposing himself to several women. Do you care to comment?

RONNIE

I'm not allowed to comment on that situation.

FEMALE REPORTER

So you admit there is a situation.

RONNIE

I'm trained to resist torture for up to 72 hours, you really expect me to break now? Get real, lady.

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12.

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FEMALE REPORTER

(to her camera crew)
We're wasting our time here.
Let's go find some police to interview.

RONNIE

Good luck.

FEMALE REPORTER

What's that supposed to mean?

RONNIE

It just means you won't find any police.

FEMALE REPORTER

Are you telling me the police haven't even been called!

RONNIE

(SARCASTIC)

Ewww, alert the media.

FEMALE REPORTER

Jesus, well who'd they leave in charge, you?

Ronnie smiles like he knows a secret.

FEMALE REPORTER

Yeah, right. Why would they leave you in charge?

RONNIE

First of all, if there was a situation to be handled, I don't see why you find it so goddamn ridiculous that I would be in charge.

The Reporter waves for her crew to start filming.

FEMALE REPORTER

(setting a trap)

Look, there is no way you're in charge of this investigation.

RONNIE

Well for your information, I'm in charge of this whole fucking operation.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

RONNIE (CONT'D)

I don't give a goddamn if you believe me or not, Ms. Hot Fuckin' SHIT news lady. I'm the first line of defense against this pervert. As the law's right hand, I'm here so that people like you can live in your own little happy world and think places like this mall are safe and fun. I'm the defender of this war zone. Just me and my goddamn flashlight.

Just then, SADDAMN, an angry Middle Easterner with shitloads of cell phones and beepers strapped to him, comes running up to Ronnie.

SADDAMN

You motherfucker, you put a boot on my car!

RONNIE

(cop voice)

I warned you about parking in the fire lane, Saddamn!

SADDAMN

Fuck you, Ronnie! Take that goddamn boot off of my car.

RONNIE

(going into cop

VOICE)

Step away now!

SADDAMN

I pay good money to this mall. Don't tell me where to park!

RONNIE

Sir, I will be forced to take action if you do not step back!

SADDAMN

I'm gonna kill you!

Ronnie pulls out his taser and shoots Saddamn. Saddamn goes down hard and begins twitching. He is fucking out of it!

Ronnie goes back to giving the interview as if nothing

happened.

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14.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

As I was saying, the pervert situation here is real bleak. For all you people out there thinking of coming to the mall, please for your own safety, stay away.

SADDAMN

(still fucked up)
I can't believe you tased me.

RONNIE

(to the man)
That's right and I've got another one waiting right here for you.

CUT TO:

INT. DEPARTMENT STORE - DAY

BRANDI, the make-up counter girl, globs on tons of make-up. She's a hot girl who looks like she's spent a few sticky nights in the bed of a truck.

Ronnie stands back and watches Brandi. Finally, he walks up to her.

RONNIE

Hey, Brandi.

Brandi looks up from her mirror and then goes back to applying make-up.

RONNIE

That color looks great on your skin. Not just that color, but I've noticed that all make-up looks really good on you. Especially the blue around your eyes. I bet it drives the men crazy.

Brandi glares at Ronnie.

RONNIE

It's okay. I can say that because I'm taken.

BRANDI

What do you want, Ronnie?

(CONTINUED)

15.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

I'm here on official business. See, I don't know if you know this, but I have recently been made Head of Mall Security. Did you hear about that?

BRANDI

No.

RONNIE

Well, I'm sure you will. It's actually pretty huge news. But the reason I stopped by is to tell you that it looks like we've got a pervert on the loose. A real live psychopath who gains sexual gratification by exposing himself to ladies such as yourself. I just want to warn you to be careful when coming and going to work.

BRANDI

Okay, got it.

RONNIE

And you may not want to wear any of those skirts that you like to wear.

BRANDI

What skirts?

RONNIE

You know what skirts. Something

like that could set him off. And for that matter, you better not wear any of those little low-cut top things either, okay? Especially with those black bras because, you can really see them in the light. Perverts really tend to notice stuff like that. Okay, see you later.

Ronnie takes off and leaves Brandi still applying make-up.

INT. MALL - NIGHT

The lights are turned off and the mall is empty. Ronnie walks out with Dennis.

(CONTINUED)

16.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

Dennis, man, I'm glad we've got a minute to talk. There's no easy way to say this so I'm just going to come right out with it. Mark offered me the position of Head of Mall Security. I know this isn't easy for you to hear seeing as you've been here longer than me. But I want you to know that you're my best friend and I'm only going to accept the job if you're okay with that.

Dennis shrugs.

RONNIE

Well, you should know I've already accepted and it's too late to turn it down now. Every ship needs a captain. So you were passed over. Who gives a shit? Dennis, in time, you'll come to accept answering to me. Remember, there aren't any leaders in friendship. We cool?

Dennis and Ronnie shake hands. They walk out and lock the doors behind them.

RONNIE

Hey, you want to go and grab a beer or something?

Dennis doesn't say anything and just walks to his car. Ronnie follows.

RONNIE

Yeah, you're right. You're probably in no mood to party after that news. Well, try not to take it too hard. See you later, buddy.

Ronnie leaves Dennis and walks to his car.

EXT. TRAILER - NIGHT

Ronnie's home is a shitty double-wide at the very end of the shittiest trailer park in town.

17.

INT. RONNIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Ronnie lives in a boy's room. There's all kind of posters up with instructions on how to execute choke holds, wrist locks, and other assorted death blows. However, the biggest decoration is a large diagram of the mall.

Ronnie stands in the middle of his room with his MOM across from him. She's an old, thick boozer, with the strength of a father and the love of a mother. She downs a full beer and throws it against the wall.

MOM

You think you're ready for a shot at the title, motherfucker?!

RONNIE

I'm ready, Mom.

MOM

Ding ding.

Ronnie and his Mom take to fighting. Ronnie's Mom is surprisingly good and she lands the first blows to

Ronnie's cranium.

RONNIE

Ow!

MOM

What's wrong, baby? Is your pussy hurting?

RONNIE

Fuck you!

Ronnie attacks his Mom. He manages to scoop her and body slam her to the ground. Ronnie's Mom flips out of it on the ground. However, Ronnie holds onto her wrist and stands up, thus locking in the submission hold.

MOM

Ah!

RONNIE

You give?

MOM

Fuck you!

Ronnie flips the wrist lock tighter!

MOM

Ow!

(CONTINUED)

18.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

You move with me, you go down.
You move against me and your arm breaks.

MOM

I give!

RONNIE

What's that?

MOM

I give! Let me go, goddamn it.

Ronnie lets his Mom go. She shakes off the pain.

MOM

I can't believe you got that lucky
shit on me.

RONNIE

Luck has nothing to do with it.

MOM

You almost broke my arm.

RONNIE

I'm sorry, Mom. Are you okay?

MOM

Not really.

Ronnie's Mom rubs her arm. Ronnie drops his guard and comes over to tend to his Mom's wounds. However, she's only playing possum. Ronnie's Mom sees an opening and attacks Ronnie at his legs. Ronnie goes down and the two start wrestling again.

(NOTE: This plays as realistic as possible, no phony punches or smooth/comedy fighting, it looks like a school yard fight video. Sloppy and real.)

CUT TO:

INT. RONNIE'S BEDROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT

Ronnie is laying in bed while his Mom chugs another beer beside him. She's one-eye-closed punch-me-in-the-face drunk. They're watching Ronnie on the news from earlier.

EDITED LOCAL NEWS SEGMENT:

Ronnie talks into microphone.

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19.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE (V.O.)

Yeah, well for your information,
I'm in charge of this whole BEEP
operation. I don't give a BEEP if

you believe me or not, Ms. Hot BEEP BEEP news lady. Do you see anybody else? BEEP no you don't. As the law's right hand, I'm the first line of defense against this pervert. I'm here so that people like you can live in your own little happy world and think places like this mall are safe and fun. I'm the defender of this war zone. Just me and my BEEP flashlight.

The FEMALE REPORTER addresses the camera over FOOTAGE OF **RONNIE TASING SADDAMN.**

FEMALE REPORTER (V.O.)

No comment as to why steps are not being taken, but this Security Guard feels like he is the only one doing anything to protect the people who visit Carolina Mall from the suspect. For all of us, I hope this isn't the case. Back to you, Lindsay.

Ronnie turns off the television.

MOM

(drunken slur)

I'm so proud of you, Ronnie.

RONNIE

Do you think I did good?

MOM

Hell yes. You were great.

RONNIE

Ah, you're just drunk.

MOM

Nah, you did good.

RONNIE

Yeah, I usually don't come out to the forefront like that.

(MORE)

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RONNIE (CONT'D)

My official orders are Observe and Report, but when Mark put me in charge of mall security, something inside of me changed. It's what I've always wanted. Things haven't always worked out, with the whole... well, you know. But this gives me faith that I can do something great. This is my call to duty and I'm going to answer. I'm going to bust this fucking pervert. I swear it on everything I am. Anyway, I better get to sleep. I got a big day tomorrow. Good night, Mom.

(off no answer)

Mom?

On cue, Ronnie's Mom falls over in a drunken sleep. She starts SNORING loud as hell. Ronnie gets out of the covers and helps his Mom onto the bed. Ronnie tucks her in like a loving son. He pries the bottle from her fingers. Then, he grabs a pillow and goes to sleep on the floor.

INT. MALL - O'CHARLEY'S - DAY

Ronnie walks up to O'Charley's. It's the one-step-up restaurant that's in the mall. There's a BOUNCER out front who watches over the store.

RONNIE

You working the door here?

BOUNCER

That's what they tell me. They needed to hire a little security here in case the drunks get out of line or whatever.

RONNIE

Kind of funny they thought they needed more security here. Ha. You do realize that if anyone gets out of hand, you need to call me to handle the situation.

BOUNCER

I work for O'Charley's, not for the mall.

(CONTINUED)

21.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

Granted, but you realize that my jurisdiction supersedes any and all other forms of security when under the roof of Carolina Mall?

BOUNCER

You know, I thought about getting a job as a Mall Security.

RONNIE

You did?

BOUNCER

Yeah, man. I mean, I'm kind of on extended vacation from college and it's just like, I don't want to do shit, you know what I mean? My parents said I have to work if I want to live at home, but I just don't feel like doing anything. This was the easiest job I could find, I mean, what the hell could be hard about being a bouncer in a mall restaurant? But now that I think about it, Mall Security could be easier than this.

RONNIE

My young friend, you are sorely mistaken. Do you know how much stuff I'm in charge of?

BOUNCER

No.

RONNIE

A shitload. That's not even counting the parking lot.

BOUNCER

Really? I thought you just kind of chilled out and called stuff into the police.

RONNIE

No way, that's about like 75, maybe 82 percent of it. There's so much other stuff.

BOUNCER

Like what?

(CONTINUED)

22.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

Two words, Friday Night.

BOUNCER

What about it?

RONNIE

It's crazy, let's just leave it at that.

BOUNCER

Okay.

RONNIE

Listen. I like you, but I don't like the fact that you're masquerading as an official in the security world. If you're serious about a career in the security world, then perhaps I could look into getting you a job on my staff?

BOUNCER

Oh yeah?

RONNIE

Part of my job is reaching out to troubled youths such as yourself. It's who I am.

BOUNCER

Does it pay more than \$6.50 an

hour?

whispers Ronnie laughs. He leans over to the Bouncer and
in his ear.

BOUNCER
(WHISPERING)

Seven even.

Ronnie stands back and winks at the Bouncer.

BOUNCER

I'd say that's more than I'm
making now.

RONNIE

Hold on, this job involves a
probationary period. You have to
prove yourself worthy. We can't
just hire any old Tom, Dick, or
Harry just because they want to
carry a flashlight.

(CONTINUED)

23.

CONTINUED:

BOUNCER

What do I have to do?

RONNIE

You have to complete a term as
deputy. You will answer directly
to me. Your job will be to come
and find me if you see any
trouble. If this works out, then
I will phone the crime into the
police. Now, this will train your
eyes to spot various criminal
activity. Once you have completed
your training, you will be awarded
an official position on my
security staff where you will have
the duty of actually phoning in
crimes to the police yourself.

BOUNCER

So basically, I just do what I'm
doing now and then you'll get me a

job?

RONNIE

For starters.

BOUNCER

How long does this mentorship last?

RONNIE

Until Mark lets me hire another guy.

BOUNCER

Can I smoke while I work?

RONNIE

Yes, you can.

BOUNCER

Sign me up.

RONNIE

You keep that attitude up and you'll have no problem making the squad.

Ronnie reaches into his pocket and hands the Bouncer a mini flashlight.

BOUNCER

What's this?

(CONTINUED)

24.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

It's a flashlight. Get to know it. It's your new best friend. Until you get your giant flashlight. Then, that will be your new best friend.

The Bouncer takes it and puts it into his shirt pocket.

RONNIE

Okay, look alive, soldier. Deputy time starts now. No more slacker attitude for you.

Ronnie walks away, but after he takes a few steps, he stops and turns.

RONNIE

You know, I remember when I got my first flashlight...

Ronnie goes into an emotional memory in his mind.

Ronnie walks away leaving the Bouncer there alone.

EXT. MALL - DAY

LOUD ROCK SCORE FADES TO LOUD ROCK SOURCE. A tricked-out Toyota pulls up to the parking lot. The car comes to a stop and out steps Brandi, the makeup counter girl.

Brandi walks toward the mall to start her new day. As she crosses the parking lot and heads toward the door, the Pervert pops out. This time, he's upped his attack and beats off staring right at her.

The horrendous sight stops Brandi dead in her tracks. She SCREAMS bloody murder...

CUT TO:

INT. DEPARTMENT STORE - DAY

It looks like a RAPE SCENE. Brandi cries in the makeup chair and is surrounded by a large group of mall employees. Her makeup runs down her face as her effeminate coworker BRUCE consoles her. Mark is working crowd control.

(CONTINUED)

25.

CONTINUED:

MARK

(to the crowd)

Alright, people, she's doing good. We're just gonna get her down to my office and everything's going to be fine, so the best thing for you employees to do is just get on

back to your stations and you
customers can go ahead and enjoy
the back to school savings here at
Carolina Mall.

BRANDI

It was horrible! Oh, my God, the
thought of that disgusting -- I
think I'm going to be sick.

BRUCE

Just let it out, baby. He should
be ashamed!

BRANDI

I just keep playing it over and
over again in my head.

MARK

Brandi, please, Dennis has called
the police and let's just take
this down to my office.

The DEPARTMENT STORE MANAGER comes running over.

DEPARTMENT STORE MANAGER

What's going on?

BRUCE

A Pervert attacked Brandi is
what's going on!

DEPARTMENT STORE MANAGER

Are you okay, Brandi?

BRANDI

Physically, yes. But
psychologically, no!

Brandi starts crying hard. The Department Store Manager
pulls Mark aside.

DEPARTMENT STORE MANAGER

(WHISPERING)

Did you call the cops?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MARK

They're on the way.

Brandi starts crying even louder.

DEPARTMENT STORE MANAGER

Yeah, we got to get her the fuck out of here. Everybody's standing around and nobody's shopping. This is bad for business.

MARK

I'm trying, but she just keeps crying.

Ronnie comes running up on the scene. He looks like a man who ran a mile to get here.

RONNIE

Brandi! I came as soon as I heard. Jesus, are you alright?

BRANDI

I'm fine, Ronnie.

MARK

She's fine, Ronnie.

RONNIE

This is one of the most heinous things I've seen. Jesus, I tried to tell you about the skirts. It's not your fault, you little fighter you. Ronnie's not mad, okay?

MARK

Ronnie, can you get her down to my office so the Police can talk to her in private when they arrive.

RONNIE

Rogers.

BRANDI

I can't walk right now. I feel like I'm in shock.

RONNIE

Don't worry. I'll carry you.

Ronnie reaches down and picks up Brandi. She totally lets him. Ronnie struggles and can't lift her. It looks dumb.

(CONTINUED)

27.

CONTINUED:

MARK

Oh, fucking Jesus.

Ronnie finally manages to lift Brandi. He carries her out of the Department Store and down through the middle of the mall.

EXT. MALL - DAY

A black UNMARKED POLICE CAR pulls up quickly and stops directly in front of the Main Entrance to the mall as if to say to the world, "I'm a Cop and I can do this."

Out steps DETECTIVE HARRISON, a young cop that has the arrogance and swagger of a man who is just beginning to feel his power.

INT. MALL MANAGER'S OFFICE - DAY

Mark sits at his desk, while Ronnie comforts a crying Brandi. Dennis stands in the corner, not saying a word.

Detective Harrison knocks as he comes in the door.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Your secretary told me to come on in. I'm Detective Harrison, Cabarrus County Police.

Detective Harrison shows his badge to Mark.

The two

men

shake.

MARK

Mark Talbert, I manage the mall. This is Brandi, she's the one who saw the deviant.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Hello, Brandi. Are you doing okay?

BRANDI

I'm really shaken up.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Yes, ma'am, I'm sure you are after all you've been through, but I'm here to tell you that we're going to work together to make sure we catch the person who did this.

(CONTINUED)

28.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

My name is Ronnie Barnhardt, chief inspector on the case and head of Mall Security here at Carolina Mall and this is my lieutenant, Dennis. From one law enforcement officer to another, I just want to welcome you and say that we will do whatever it takes to coordinate with your department in order to bring this assailant to justice.

The Detective pauses as if he's unsure what just happened.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Great.

(back to Brandi)

Okay, Brandi. Did you get a look at the suspect?

BRANDI

Yes, I did.

RONNIE

Did you get a blood sample?

BRANDI

No.

RONNIE

That's a shame. Would have been useful.

MARK

Go ahead, Detective.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Thank you. Brandi, can you remember anything specifically? What color was his hair? Was he tall or short?

BRANDI

He was tall and skinny and he had brown hair and it was real greasy.

Detective Harrison begins writing in his note pad as Brandi speaks. Ronnie notices this and picks up some paper and begins to write as well.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Was his hair long or short?

(CONTINUED)

29.

CONTINUED:

BRANDI

It was long about to his shoulders.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Did he say anything?

BRANDI

No, he just stood there and you know, touched himself.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

What was he wearing?

BRANDI

Just a brown trench coat.

RONNIE

This is what I got so far.

Ronnie holds up his paper. Ronnie has drawn a crude sketch of the Pervert that Brandi described, but it's basically a long-haired stick figure with a penis.

RONNIE

What's yours look like?

DETECTIVE HARRISON

I just wrote a description.

RONNIE

Oh.

Ronnie puts his sketch away.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Okay, Brandi, I think that's good for now. I think the best thing at this point is to just follow up with the other ladies who saw the perpetrator yesterday and see if they remember anything.

BRANDI

What if he comes back?

DETECTIVE HARRISON

That's highly unlikely. These incidents are usually random and unpredictable. I'm sure you'll be safe.

(CONTINUED)

30.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

I'm afraid I'm going to have to disagree with you there, Detective. By my math, it seems pretty clear that Brandi's been targeted.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Targeted? What gives you that impression?

RONNIE

Well, how about the fact that she was the first employee to get assaulted? Not to mention the fact that she is the prettiest

girl who works at this mall. To me it seems obvious that this is some sort of methodical villain that plans on returning to finish what he started by murdering Brandi.

BRANDI

Is that going to happen?!

DETECTIVE HARRISON

That's not going to happen.

Ronnie looks at Brandi and nods his head "yes."

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Well don't worry. I'm on the case and I'm going to do everything in my power to bring this guy down.

RONNIE

That's right, Brandi, you've got the best team in law enforcement working for you.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Look, I've got to get going. Here's my card. I'll even write my home phone number on the back, just in the event you need to get a hold of me.

Detective Harrison writes his number on the back and then hands his card to Brandi.

(CONTINUED)

31.

CONTINUED:

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Give me a call when you aren't working and I'll have you come to the station to look through some mug shots.

(touches her leg)

Don't worry okay.

BRANDI

I feel a lot better now.

Ronnie holds out his hand.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

What?

RONNIE

I'll take one of those cards as well.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Oh, okay.

Detective Harrison reluctantly hands Ronnie a card.

RONNIE

Go ahead and write your home phone on there as well in case I need to get a hold of you.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

You can just leave a message at the station. I check my messages constantly.

RONNIE

Sorry, but I'm gonna need those digits. If we're gonna solve this crime we need to constantly be in communication with each other and have an open door policy with intelligence. Brandi, let me see that card.

Ronnie takes the card from Brandi and copies the home phone number from the back.

RONNIE

Cool, I'll call you later with an update.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Don't do that.

(CONTINUED)

32.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

It's no problem at all. We're brothers of the badge. This is what we do for each other.

Detective Harrison takes off. Ronnie looks around happily.

RONNIE

Seems like a good guy. A little green, but still solid.

INT. MALL - NIGHT

The mall is winding down for the day and most of the customers have gone home. Ronnie walks through the mall, taping up pictures of the sketch he made of the Pervert.

Nell comes walking up with her apron over her shoulder.

NELL

What are you doing?

RONNIE

Just putting these posters up.

NELL

You've been so obsessed with catching this pervert I've barely seen you.

RONNIE

That's what it's like when you date the Head of Mall Security. The downside is we don't get to see each other as much, but the upside is you get to brag to all your friends.

NELL

Well, are you ready to go?

RONNIE

Sure, let's take off.

INT. RONNIE'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The LOCAL NEWS is on and they show an update on the MALL FLASHER STORY. The sound is OFF.

33.

CONTINUED:

The living room is dark. Ronnie and Nell are on the couch making out. Ronnie is starting to get frisky. His hands go to Nell's boobs, but only outside of the shirt. She allows it.

Ronnie decides to push it. He takes his hand and tries to go up her shirt. Nell immediately stops kissing and pushes Ronnie away.

NELL

What are you doing, Ronnie?

RONNIE

Come on, let me get some of those big bazoombas.

Ronnie goes in hard for the tits, but Nell pushes him away.

NELL

Ronnie, no.

RONNIE

Goddamn it, are we ever gonna do it?

NELL

You know we talked about this.

RONNIE

We did, it's just, well, I'm tired of just doing what we do. I'm ready for something bigger. Like sex or just maybe using a finger on you --

NELL

Ronnie, you know I'm saving myself for marriage. I thought you were okay with that.

RONNIE

Well, I used to be, it's just. I don't know. What's so great about being a 27-year-old virgin?

Nell stands up and starts to put on her coat.
stands up and tries to comfort her.

Ronnie

RONNIE

Nell, I'm sorry. Don't go away
like this.

(CONTINUED)

34.

CONTINUED:

NELL

I thought you loved my purity.

RONNIE

I do. I really do. I'm sorry,
Nell.

NELL

It's okay. I should leave anyway,
it's late.

RONNIE

I'll stop by for breakfast
tomorrow.

NELL

See ya tomorrow.

Nell leaves and Ronnie closes the door behind her.

RONNIE

Mom, wake up. Let's go to bed.

Ronnie's mom groans. She has been passed out on the
floor with an empty bottle of Jack D beside her the whole
time.

INT. MALL - NIGHT

The lights are off and a gloved hand breaks into a case
in the jewelry store. All of the diamonds and gold are
picked up and pocketed. Someone is robbing this bitch.

CUT TO:

INT. MALL - THE NEXT MORNING

Ronnie strolls through the mall sipping on his morning coffee. He stops when he sees that the jewelry store has been broken into and robbed.

RONNIE

Oh shit.

Ronnie goes running down through the mall.

INT. MALL - SECURITY OFFICE - MORNING

Dennis and Ronnie are sitting and Mark stands over them. They're looking at the security tapes.

(CONTINUED)

35.

CONTINUED:

Detective Harrison knocks on the door and walks in. Ronnie stands up to greet him.

RONNIE

Good to see you, brother. Looks like the old team is getting together to crack one more case.

Ronnie gives Detective Harrison a hug.

RONNIE

I'm ready to go to war with you.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Thanks for waking me up this morning, Ronnie.

RONNIE

I've already checked the Security tapes. They didn't catch a thing. Someone must have broken in here and turned them off.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

My team just checked all the doors and there are no signs of forced entry. I've also checked out the crime scene, but we didn't see any

fingerprints on the glass. The suspect was probably wearing gloves.

MARK

That doesn't sound good. How did they do it?

RONNIE

Laser technology.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

My guess it was an inside job. Probably someone who has access to keys like a janitor or a security guard.

RONNIE

Detective Harrison, can I ask you how long you've been a detective for?

DETECTIVE HARRISON

I'm almost at the end of my first year.

(CONTINUED)

36.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

Just as I thought, a rookie.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

I've been a police officer for several years.

RONNIE

Yeah, you're a rookie, okay. It's fine, you'll learn with experience. And when you do, you'll discover that rule #1 of law enforcement is that you don't ever turn on a fellow officer. Now, I know you would never actually accuse somebody on my Security Force of committing this act of lawlessness.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Whoever did this would have to had keys to the Security Room so they could shut off the camera.

RONNIE

Look, my record speaks for itself and as for Dennis, well I can certainly vouch for him. Dennis is one of the finest men I know, so just take my word, you're barking up the wrong tree. Now, let's put this little squabble behind us and get back to busting the guys that robbed this mall.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Ronnie, nobody is accusing anybody, but I would like to stick around for a while and interview some of the employees.

MARK

Okay, but all I ask is that you do it quietly, so that the hoopla is kept to a minimum.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

I understand.

RONNIE

I understand too, sir.

(CONTINUED)

37.

CONTINUED:

MARK

Ronnie, you are to leave Detective Harrison alone and let him handle the investigation.

RONNIE

No can do, Mark. When you appointed me Head of Mall Security, I swore an oath to protect this mall and aid in

bringing crime to its knees.

MARK

You didn't swear an oath.

RONNIE

To myself I did.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Ronnie, on these types of investigations, it's usually not a good idea to have too many cooks in the kitchen.

RONNIE

There's only one cook. I'm a chef. A cook and chef, together, serving up justice.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

I'm gonna do this alone.

RONNIE

Hot plates of justice.

Ronnie stands up.

RONNIE

Come on, rookie. Let me show you the lay of the land.

CUT TO:

INT. MALL - DAY

Ronnie talks to Dennis in the middle of the mall.

RONNIE

Okay, Dennis. I've gotta hang with Detective Harrison.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

38.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE (CONT'D)

What I need for you to understand

is that just because Detective Harrison is here, doesn't mean that you and me are no longer best friends. Sure, Harrison would be cool to hang out with. He carries a badge and a gun. He probably owns a boat. Over time, we'll probably become really close like brothers, but for right now, you're still number one. Now, I must leave you behind because duty calls, so... chin up. Radio if you need anything.

Ronnie takes off, but we STAY WITH Dennis. He walks directly to the ARCADE. Dennis puts a quarter in the machine and plays pinball.

INT. MALL - KIOSK - DAY

Ronnie watches from afar as Detective Harrison interviews SADDAMN, who stands in front of his cell phone kiosk.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

So, have you seen any suspicious people hanging around the mall? Anybody who might have been casing the stores?

SADDAMN

Nah, man. I ain't seen nothing.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Okay, well if you can think of anything, here's my card.

Detective Harrison hands Saddamn his card and begins to leave. Disgusted, Ronnie comes walking up.

RONNIE

(to Harrison)

My turn, Rookie.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

What are you doing, Ronnie?

RONNIE

Solving the whole case right before your eyes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED :

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Ronnie, this is official police business.

RONNIE

Hello, Saddamn.

SADDAMN

What the fuck you want, Ronnie?

RONNIE

I want your ass to face the music is what I want.

SADDAMN

Don't come any further, bitch. The restraining order says 20 feet so just back the fuck up.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Ronnie, I appreciate your enthusiasm, but just let me handle this.

(to Saddamn)

Have a good day, sir.

RONNIE

So you're just gonna let him slip right through your fingers?

DETECTIVE HARRISON

I have no reason to make him a suspect.

RONNIE

No reason? Look at him. There's every reason in the goddamn book.

SADDAMN

Why are you saying that, man?

RONNIE

I think it's obvious, Saddamn.

SADDAMN

That's fucked up. You're racist,

man.

RONNIE

You're not even black.

(CONTINUED)

40.

CONTINUED:

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Ronnie, stop. We're finished here. Now if you're going to tag along, I'm gonna need you to just stay back; are we clear?

RONNIE

Sure, sorry. We're crystal.

Detective Harrison walks away. Ronnie follows, but takes one more look at Saddamn, who flips Ronnie off.

Saddamn goes back to hollering at girls.

SADDAMN

What's up, girl, you got a boyfriend? Free cell phones with a month trial and I throw in my phone number for free.

INT. MALL - JANITOR'S ROOM - DAY

Ronnie stands nearby as Detective Harrison questions an old Mexican JANITOR, who stands by his cart of cleaning products.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Did you let anybody borrow your keys?

JANITOR

No, senor.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Have you seen anything suspicious?

JANITOR

No, senor.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Okay, sir. Thank you for your time.

RONNIE

Alright, I believe I can be of some assistance here.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Ronnie, we talked about this.

RONNIE

This is a special circumstance.

(CONTINUED)

41.

CONTINUED:

DETECTIVE HARRISON

What special circumstance?

RONNIE

Communication skills, watch and learn.

Ronnie steps into the forefront.

RONNIE

Que pasa?

JANITOR

Long drawn out conversation in Spanish?

RONNIE

Como?

JANITOR

More Spanish dialogue.

RONNIE

Si.

(to Harrison)

Yeah, this guy definitely did it.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

What did he say?

RONNIE

I don't know, I don't speak Spanish, but judging from his tonal inflections, it's safe to say that he's hiding something. The only question is where.

(to Janitor)

Okay, Ramon, I'm giving you one chance and one chance only to come clean. Or else Detective Harrison is going to come over to your house and deport your whole family back to Mexico.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

No, I'm not.

RONNIE

Good cop, bad cop, just play along.

(to Ramon)

Where are you hiding the jewels?

(CONTINUED)

42.

CONTINUED:

JANITOR

No se.

RONNIE

Alright, you're gonna make me be the bad guy here? Well, that's a role I'm comfortable playing. Let's just see what you're hiding.

Ronnie digs through the trash bin that is on the cart. Ronnie slings trash out all over the floor. He finds nothing.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Ronnie, that's enough.

RONNIE

Think you're pretty slick, don't you? Guess what? I'm pretty slick too.

Ronnie takes the cleaning products and opens the bottles. He pours the contents out on the floor. What's he looking for? Who knows.

RONNIE

Alright, you're free -- Wait a minute.

Ronnie takes the mop and breaks it in half with his foot. He takes the halves and shakes them, thinking that something will come pouring out of the open cylinders. Nothing does.

RONNIE

Okay, my mistake. Sir, you're free to go. Uh, you might want to have someone clean this up which in this case is you, so, uh, chop-chop. Wouldn't want anyone to slip on this mess.

Ronnie leaves the Janitor with a bewildered look.

INT. MALL - VICTORIA SECRETS - DAY

Ronnie follows Detective Harrison into the lingerie store. They approach the counter where a HOT CLERK is working the register.

HOT CLERK

Hello, can I help you?

(CONTINUED)

43.

CONTINUED:

DETECTIVE HARRISON

I'm Detective Harrison with the Cabarrus County Police.

RONNIE

And I'm Ronnie Barnhardt, head of Mall Security.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Okay, seriously, would you back the fuck off?! I'm trying to do my job and you're fucking it up.

RONNIE

Come on, we're working here.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

I'm working!

Detective Harrison is seriously annoyed.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

(back to the Clerk)

Sorry. Hi. I'm doing a check with all the mall employees to see if anybody has any information on the robbery that took place here last night?

HOT CLERK

I'm sorry, but I haven't noticed anything out of ordinary.

A SEXY WORKER comes up to them holding a scandalous pair of undies.

SEXY WORKER

Tracy, do you think my boyfriend would like these?

The Sexy Worker holds the undies up to her crotch. Ronnie looks and his tongue almost drops out of his mouth. He straightens himself out.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

That's fine, thanks for the help.

RONNIE

You're gonna let them distract you with a little bit of panty showing. You have got a lot to learn, my friend.

(to the Hot Clerk)

Who are you protecting, toots?

(CONTINUED)

44.

CONTINUED:

HOT CLERK

What are you talking about?

RONNIE

Look, I'm sure you and your little friend have made a real lifestyle

for yourselves here. It's probably easy for you to blind most men with your beauty, but I'm not most men. I can see through the sexuality to the truth. Jewelry, gold, diamonds, you don't really expect me to think that a man wants that crap. I'm putting you on my list of top suspects. I don't think you did the crime, but I do think you are an accomplice.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

I'm sorry, ma'am. He's not with me. Here's my card. If you think of anything, just give me a call.

Detective Harrison walks out and Ronnie follows him. On the way out of the store, Ronnie passes a MAN who is looking at the underwear. Ronnie stops.

RONNIE

You should be ashamed of yourself.

Ronnie gives him a warning look, then walks out.

INT. MALL - HOT TOPIC - DAY

Ronnie and Detective Harrison stand across the counter from a tattooed SALESMAN.

RONNIE

Is that pot I smell?

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Shut up, Ronnie!

SALESMAN

It's sage.

RONNIE

Whatever, hippy. If I find you doing drugs or killing cats or whatever you devil worshippers do, I'll come back here and bust you. I swear to God.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Get the hell out, Ronnie. I'm here to ask questions about the robbery.

RONNIE

Just forget that, we're on to something bigger here.

(back to the

SALESMAN)

Tell me more about this 'sage.'

CUT TO:

INT. MALL - SEARS - DAY

Ronnie and Detective Harrison are in the hardware department talking to the SEARS MANAGER. Detective Harrison sits on the ground. He has completely given up on the investigation at this point, as Ronnie controls it all.

Ronnie picks up a hammer.

RONNIE

Now, maybe I'm crazy or maybe I'm the smartest man alive, but it seems kind of convenient to me that you sell hammers like this one that could easily be used to smash a glass case in, oh say, a jewelry store.

SEARS MANAGER

Couldn't you smash the glass with anything?

RONNIE

You really think you're gonna talk your way out of this one?

CUT TO:

INT. MALL - FOOD COURT - DAY

Ronnie is hanging out with Dennis and the Bouncer from O'Charley's. Behind him, Nell works the counter at

Cinnabon.

(CONTINUED)

46.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

You guys should have been there today. We were just solving shit left and right. I mean, that's what this job is supposed to be like. Busting loiterers and kids who steal pennies from the fountain has its rewards, but really getting in there and closing cases is where it's at. It's rewarding too because at the end of the day, you know you've done something good for the world.

BOUNCER

What are we doing here, Ronnie? I thought you said they were giving away free Chick-fil-A sandwiches.

RONNIE

Well -- What is your name anyway?

BOUNCER

Charles.

RONNIE

Well, my young apprentice. I called you here today because as Head of Mall Security, I have decided that it's time to take protection to the next level. In other words, I alone cannot combat this recent crime wave. In order to help me in my personal journey, I have decided to divide up the tasks between my soldiers. So, for now on, Dennis, my right-hand man, you will be in charge of solving the case of who is robbing the mall. Little Chucky, you will be on the case of the Pervert. You are both to collect data and provide it to me. I will analyze

the data, draw conclusions, and solve these crimes as well as coordinate and strategize with various law enforcement agencies.

BOUNCER

Since we're going to be doing a lot of the work and you're going to be solving the crimes, do we at least get paid?

(CONTINUED)

47.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

You can't measure honor in dollars and cents.

Ronnie looks over at the Cinnabon and Nell waves to him. Ronnie smiles back and waves at Nell.

BOUNCER

Is that your girlfriend or something, Ronnie?

RONNIE

Who me? Nah, man. Why? What do you think of her?

BOUNCER

She's not my type, but that's just me.

RONNIE

Yeah, but, you don't think she's kind of hot?

BOUNCER

Are you blind? Give me a break. Wait, are you sure she's not your girlfriend?

RONNIE

Fuck no. There's no way I'd date that... person who's obviously not hot.

Nell waves again, but Ronnie just kind of turns away,

ignoring her.

RONNIE

Anyway, our new unit will operate under the name, 'Special Elite Task Force.' You will answer directly to me and no one else. Now, let's all put our hands in the middle and do a unifying cheer.

Ronnie puts his hand out. Dennis puts his in as well. Charles isn't sure.

BOUNCER

You're gonna hook me up with a job, right?

RONNIE

Seven even. I promise.

(CONTINUED)

48.

CONTINUED:

Charles puts his hand in as well.

RONNIE

One, two, three, TASK FORCE!

ass Ronnie is the only one who gets into it. It's a weak-cheer.

RONNIE

Okay, so now I say we all take a celebratory trip to Sears because, as we all know, today is half-price day on all automotive parts for mall employees.

CUT TO:

INT. MALL - DAY

SLOW MOTION BAD-ASS SHOT.

The "Elite Task Force" walks down the mall as if they were the baddest ass-kicking team on the planet. They walk united and unopposed.

CUT TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - NIGHT

Ronnie tacks up pictures of all of the robbery "suspects" on a bulletin board. It's pictures of Saddam and the Devil Worshipper guy. Beside him is a sketch of the Pervert. The images are on the bottom points of a Pyramid.

On top of the Pyramid is a combination drawing/picture of Ronnie. The body is drawn with his arms folded across his chest and a photo of his face is tacked on top. The whole thing adds up to nonsense, with the only clear idea is that he defeats them all. Ronnie sits back in his chair and stares at the board.

All of a sudden, there is a KNOCK at the door. The door opens and BRANDI peeps her head in.

BRANDI

Sorry to interrupt.

(CONTINUED)

49.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

It's no interruption. What are you still doing here?

BRANDI

I had to do inventory tonight. Bruce took off early so I'm the last one. Hey, I was wondering if you would mind walking me to my car. You know, just in case that freak with the dick is out there someplace.

RONNIE

It would be my honor.

Ronnie stands up and walks out with Brandi, shutting off the light as he leaves.

EXT. MALL - NIGHT

Ronnie and Brandi pull up to Brandi's car in the golf cart.

BRANDI

Alright, thanks for the ride.

RONNIE

Just doing my job with a little something extra especially for you.

BRANDI

See ya tomorrow.

RONNIE

Brandi, um... I was just thinking, would you like to go to dinner this weekend?

BRANDI

How come every time somebody does something nice for me, they act like I owe them a blow job?

RONNIE

Look, it's not like that. I've got a girlfriend... who doesn't work in this mall.

BRANDI

Ronnie, I got to be honest with you, you're not really my type.

(CONTINUED)

50.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

Just out of curiosity, what is your type?

BRANDI

Rich guys. Or guys who are really hot.

RONNIE

Yeah, I guess that's not me.

BRANDI

I'll go out to dinner with you on one condition.

RONNIE

What's that?

BRANDI

This is not a date. Do you understand? We're going to dinner, but we are not going on a date.

RONNIE

Done.

BRANDI

And you can never tell anybody we went out.

RONNIE

My lips are sealed.

BRANDI

You pay for dinner, right? And as many drinks as I want.

RONNIE

You may drink your fill.

BRANDI

And you have to drive me to my car every night after work for the next six months.

RONNIE

You got it.

BRANDI

And my car is low on gas, so I need some money to fill it up.

Ronnie takes out his wallet.

(CONTINUED)

51.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

Is \$20 enough?

BRANDI

Nah, fifty.

Ronnie takes out more money and hands it to Brandi.
She takes it, counts it, and puts it into her bra.

BRANDI

Okay, you can pick me up after work on Saturday. Dinner and that's it. Don't try to kiss me because I'll smack the shit out of you. It's not a date.

RONNIE

Got it. Not a date.

BRANDI

Thanks for the ride.

Brandi climbs out of the golf cart and walks to her car. She opens the door and starts to get in --

RONNIE

Hey, Brandi.

BRANDI

What?

RONNIE

I lied. It is a date.

Before she can argue, Ronnie guns the golf cart and drives away.

EXT. MALL - MORNING

Ronnie sees Stevie and the Skaters doing hand rails down a ramp while mall patrons try to get by without getting nailed by flying skateboards. Ronnie drives up on his golf cart.

STEVIE

Our suspension is over.

RONNIE

I'm not here for that. I need to
talk to you.

A giant BODYGUARD with a shaved head stands up.

(CONTINUED)

52.

CONTINUED:

BODYGUARD

Anything you want to say to
Stevie, you can say to me,
motherfucker!

RONNIE

Who the fuck are you?

STEVIE

This is my cousin, Roy. He's a
boxer.

BODYGUARD

You got a fuckin' problem, bitch?!

Ronnie reaches into his belt and produces a can of mace.
He sprays it into the eyes of the Bodyguard. The guy
goes down and starts SCREAMING IN PAIN.

BODYGUARD

My eyes!

STEVIE

Jesus, Ronnie, what the fuck are
you doing?

RONNIE

I need a favor.

STEVIE

I'm listening.

RONNIE

As you know, we've had a lot of
crime around here lately. Between

the Flasher and all the break-ins, I've decided to go to the streets. Frankly, I'm looking for a stool pigeon and you're just the right person.

STEVIE

Why would I want to help you?

RONNIE

I could make it worth your while. You like skating at the mall. I could allow you to skate here whenever you wanted. In exchange, you keep your eyes peeled and provide me with any information you come across as to the identity of the perpetrators.

(CONTINUED)

53.

CONTINUED:

STEVIE

Sorry, dude, but I'm no snitch. Go find somebody else to do your dirty work.

RONNIE

Well, let me put it another way. If you don't help me, I'm gonna spread your little butt cheeks and stick this flashlight up your ass. But like for real. Like I really will do that. This is the new me talking and I get what I need, you understand me, Stevie?

STEVIE

Alright, dude, I understand, you sick fuck.

RONNIE

Cool. In that case, have fun shreadin'.

Ronnie gets into his Golf Cart and drives off. Stevie looks down at the Boxer who is still on the ground.

STEVIE

Stop crying, Roy.

Stevie starts skating.

INT. MALL - FOOD COURT - DAY

Ronnie walks into the Food Court and sees Nell waiting at their table with Ronnie's morning Cinnabon. He takes a deep breath and heads over.

NELL

Hey, sweetie -- Oh, I'm sorry,
good morning, Officer Barnhardt.

RONNIE

Good morning, Nell.

NELL

Where were you last night? I
tried to call, but your mom said
you weren't home from work yet.

(CONTINUED)

54.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

Look, I got to talk to you about
something. I'm not really sure
how to put this. Let's see. If
you drove a Toyota.

NELL

I drive a Ford.

RONNIE

I know, but let's just pretend you
drove a Toyota. Now, this Toyota
runs really good. It always
starts when you need it to and it
gets good gas mileage and you
don't have to do much to maintain
it. Then you get a really
important job like Astronaut, no
that won't work, you get a job as
the head of Wall Street. Well,
you may really like that Toyota,
but you're going to feel weird

about driving it to work every day, right? Now let's say that somebody offers you a chance to get rid of that Toyota and instead you get a Ferrari. It may be more expensive and harder to drive, but I mean, it just looks good as hell. What would you do?

NELL

I don't get it.

RONNIE

You would trade up, Nell. Well, that's exactly what I'm doing.

NELL

Are you thinking about getting a new car?

RONNIE

No, Nell, I'm getting a new girlfriend.

NELL

What?! Who?

RONNIE

This girl, Brandi.

(CONTINUED)

55.

CONTINUED:

NELL

The slutty girl who works at the make-up counter?

RONNIE

Yeah, I mean, no, she's not a slut. But you're thinking of the right person.

NELL

How could you do this to me?

RONNIE

I'm sorry. I don't mean to hurt you. It's just, well, I believe

in this world, you play the hand
you're dealt and at this point in
my life, I've been dealt five
Aces. I'd be a fool not to bet.

NELL

Why are you doing this, Ronnie?

RONNIE

I have to, Nell.

NELL

Don't you love me?

RONNIE

Of course I love you.

NELL

Then tell me why?

RONNIE

Because I've never dated the prom
queen before.

NELL

Remember when you started this
job? You weren't such a hotshot
then. I've stood by you when you
were at your worst. Every time
you fell, I held your hand and
told you everything would be okay.
Time and time again.

RONNIE

Come on. Why do you have to bring
that up?

(CONTINUED)

56.

CONTINUED:

NELL

I never cared about who you wanted
to be, I fell in love with who you
really are. If you leave me,
Ronnie, I won't be there to pick
you up when you fall.

RONNIE

Even if I do fall, it won't matter, because I'm learning to fly.

Ronnie stands up and walks away. Nell sits there sad. She looks down at her Cinnabon and devours the whole thing.

INT. MALL - MAURICE'S FOR MEN - DAY

Ronnie looks through a clothing rack. It's full of cheap fabrics, lots of imitation silks and shit. A SLICK SALESMAN approaches Ronnie.

SLICK SALESMAN

Can I help you, sir?

RONNIE

Yeah, um, I've got a really special date tonight with a hot young lady -- Do you know Brandi?

SLICK SALESMAN

No.

RONNIE

Never mind. Anyway, I need something that's really 'cool.' Something that will impress her and I guess you could say I'm not exactly in the know with what the hipsters are up to these days.

SLICK SALESMAN

Let's see. Are you looking to fall in love or are you looking to get laid?

RONNIE

Um, I guess love, but uh...

SLICK SALESMAN

You want to get laid, too?

(CONTINUED)

RONNIE

Watch it, man. She's a lady. But
yes.

SLICK SALESMAN

Alright, I got just the thing.
Something classy is what you want.
Show her you're a man with taste.

CUT TO:

INT. RONNIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Ronnie's Mom sits on his bed with a bottle of Wild
Turkey. She waits for Ronnie to come out of the closet.

MOM

Come on, Ronnie, just get out
here.

RONNIE

It's too tight in the butt.

MOM

Let me see.

Ronnie comes out of the closet and he's wearing a
ridiculous fucking outfit. It's an imitation silk button
up, with a pair of black parachute pants. There's two
belts for some DOUBLE BELT action. He's got no socks on
and a pair of white shoes. He looks like a goddamn fool.

MOM

Ronnie, you look so handsome!

RONNIE

Really, you don't think I look
like a phony.

MOM

Hell no. You look like a stud
muffin.

RONNIE

Yeah, I guess these clothes are
kind of cool.

MOM

Nell is a lucky girl.

RONNIE

Its not Nell, Mom.

(CONTINUED)

58.

CONTINUED:

MOM

Really, I thought you and Nell were going to get married some day.

RONNIE

I did too. But then I met this girl Brandi and she swept me off my feet.

MOM

Well, I always liked Nell, but as long as you're happy, Ronnie, that's all I care about.

RONNIE

I actually feel kind of bad about Nell, but I figure that I can pour all the sadness into Brandi and just really rely on her for my happiness instead of Nell.

MOM

That sounds wonderful. Is she pretty?

RONNIE

She is, Mom. She's the most perfect girl in the whole world.

MOM

I remember when your father picked me up for our first date. I swear he was the most handsome man that I had ever laid eyes on. I knew right then and there that this would be the man that I married.

RONNIE

I hope that happens tonight.

MOM

It will, Ronnie. Then you'll have

to give her a ring like the one
your father gave me.

Ronnie's Mom holds up her finger for Ronnie.
giant yellow/cottony-looking diamond ring.

It's a

RONNIE

Is that a yellow diamond?

(CONTINUED)

59.

CONTINUED:

MOM

It's a glass diamond. This is how
it looks now.

RONNIE

Mom, why did Dad leave?

MOM

Well, he kind of freaked out when
you were born. You had so many
special needs that he just
couldn't handle the pressure. One
day, he just couldn't take it
anymore.

RONNIE

Do you think it was my fault that
Dad left?

MOM

Definitely. You don't think it
was mine do you?

RONNIE

Well, I didn't know, with the
drinking and all.

MOM

Nope, it was all you.

Ronnie nods.

MOM

I love you, Ronnie.

RONNIE

I love you, too, Mom.

INT. CAPTAIN O'LANDERS - NIGHT

The restaurant is the cheesiest of all sea food restaurants. Think one step down from Red Lobster. Ronnie sits across the table from Brandi. She chugs one of those giant frozen drinks, killing it in one gulp.

RONNIE

Damn, that was pretty impressive.

BRANDI

Yeah, work's been pissing me off, so I just need to blow off some steam.

(CONTINUED)

60.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

Well, Brandi, can I just say that you look absolutely beautiful tonight.

BRANDI

Yeah, I know.
(calling to waiter)
Nurse! Get me another --
(to Ronnie)
You got this, right?

RONNIE

Yeah, yeah. No problem.

BRANDI

Nurse! Bring me another and keep 'em coming.
(to Ronnie)
I think it's funny to call the waitress nurse.

Ronnie takes a pill bottle out of his pocket. He opens it up and pops a pill.

BRANDI

Hey, what's that?

RONNIE

Oh, it's nothing.

BRANDI

Don't be stingy, what the fuck is that?

RONNIE

It's just a pill I'm supposed to take.

BRANDI

Let me see.

Ronnie hands the pills to Brandi.

BRANDI

Where the fuck did you find these?

RONNIE

The Doctor.

(CONTINUED)

61.

CONTINUED:

BRANDI

Damn, Ronnie, Klonopin. I'm impressed. This is the good shit. I didn't know you partied like this.

RONNIE

Yeah, I guess I party like this every four to six hours as needed.

BRANDI

Let me get one.

RONNIE

Help yourself.

BRANDI

Hell yeah!

Brandi pops a bunch of pills.

RONNIE

So, how do you like working at the mall?

BRANDI

I hate that shit. All I do is listen to bitching all day long. I got to put makeup on these fat-ass women all day and it's like, I don't give a shit what you do, you can't polish a turd.

RONNIE

Yeah, I see how that could get to you.

BRANDI

Let's do some shots. Waiter, four shots of Jager!

RONNIE

That's a lot.

BRANDI

It's Friday.

RONNIE

So, Brandi, I hope I'm not being too forward, but do you have a boyfriend?

(CONTINUED)

62.

CONTINUED:

BRANDI

I've got a few hook-ups but nobody who is a boyfriend.

RONNIE

Yes!

BRANDI

You know, it's just like a time in my life where I want to be free right now and think about myself. Not get tied down to one person.

RONNIE

Yeah, I understand. I hate ties.
I recently cut mine and now I'm
free like a bird.

The shots come.

BRANDI

Alright, bottoms up.

Ronnie holds up a shot to toast.

RONNIE

To new beginnings.

BRANDI

Right up your ass!

Brandi downs her shot.

RONNIE

Okay.

Ronnie takes his shot.

BRANDI

Oh, shit!

RONNIE

No more. I'm sticking to beer.

BRANDI

What's wrong, is your pussy
hurting?

RONNIE

God, you remind me so much of my
mother.

Brandi knocks back the other two shots.

(CONTINUED)

63.

CONTINUED:

BRANDI

Feel the burn, bitch!

RONNIE

You are so beautiful.

INT. RONNIE'S CAR - NIGHT

Ronnie's car is a piece-of-shit Subaru. Brandi is shit-faced and yelling at people out of the window.

BRANDI

Who wants to see my titties?!

Brandi lifts up her shirt and shows the passengers of other cars her boobs.

RONNIE

Brandi, this is the most fun I've ever had on a date.

BRANDI

For the last time, this ain't a date, motherfucker! This is a party!

RONNIE

Wooo! Um, so, Brandi, it's no secret that I'm attracted to you. I think everybody in the mall is. As you know, I recently split with my girlfriend and basically, I was wondering if, since you don't have a boyfriend, that I could maybe be your boyfriend and you could be my girlfriend?

BRANDI

That's my house!

Ronnie hits the brakes.

EXT. BRANDI'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Ronnie opens Brandi's door and helps Brandi out. She's almost passed out drunk. Both of her eyes are closed and she immediately tries to sleep on the ground. Ronnie helps her up, but when he does, Brandi gives him a kiss -- a sloppy one.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

Brandi, I had a wonderful time tonight.

BRANDI

I'm so fucking shit-faced.

They kiss again, but when they do, Brandi pukes all over the place. It's a disgusting puke and there's vomit on her cheek and stuff. Ronnie holds her head for her.

RONNIE

Are you okay?

BRANDI

My breath smells like asshole.

Ronnie looks longingly into her eyes.

RONNIE

I love you, Brandi.

BRANDI

I think I've got puke in my teeth.

RONNIE

I don't care.

Ronnie kisses Brandi passionately on the mouth. He walks her inside the house. On the way in, she falls over. Ronnie helps her up. He carries her into the house where the make-love spot is.

CUT TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

INT. MALL - FOOD COURT - DAY

Ronnie is with Dennis in the food court. Ronnie is smiling, but Dennis isn't saying a word as usual.

RONNIE

Don't look at me like that, Dennis. I told you I wouldn't talk.

Ronnie sits back, but he can't help a giant grin on his face.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

I'm serious, Dennis. A gentleman never kisses and tells. So, just stop with all the pressure because it's just not gonna happen.

Ronnie keeps on grinning at Dennis.

RONNIE

Okay, fine, you son of a bitch, you want details, I'll give you details. I had sex with Brandi last night.

Dennis and Ronnie high-five.

RONNIE

It was amazing. I mean, I've never experienced anything like it. I've been with a girl or two.

Dennis stares at Ronnie.

RONNIE

Okay, fine, I've been with a girl, but let me tell you, this was so much better. You know how many times we did it? Twice! BAM!
BAM! BAM!

OVER AT THE CINNABON STAND

Nell, who looks like she's been crying nonstop, stuffs a whole Cinnabon into her face. As it fills her cheeks, she looks over to Ronnie's table and sees Ronnie making thrusting motions at the table. Nell swallows, stuffs another Cinnabon in, then storms out of the Food Court.

BACK AT RONNIE'S TABLE

Ronnie continues to talk to Dennis.

RONNIE

But I got to tell you, Dennis. It

was steamy and sexy, but more than anything, I should tell you that it's her soul that I fell for the most. She got pretty tanked, but I could just really tell that she's a good person. The kind of person that I could see myself with.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

66.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE (CONT'D)

Look, I'm gonna get out of here. There's a lot of people I need to tell about this, so I'll catch up with you later. Oh, and I almost forgot, keep your eyes peeled for crime and stuff.

Ronnie leaves the table.

INT. DEPARTMENT STORE - DAY

Nell watches Brandi as she pops a couple of aspirin behind the makeup counter. She takes a deep breath and walks up to the counter.

NELL

Excuse me.

BRANDI

How may I help you?

NELL

I need to talk to you.

BRANDI

What is it, honey? Let me guess. You're looking for something to take care of those blackheads and hide that puffiness under your eyes. I've got just the thing.

NELL

No, that's not it. Well, how much

is it?

BRANDI

Fifty dollars for the bottle.

NELL

Okay, I'll take it.

Brandi begins to ring up the cream.

NELL

Listen, I know you're Ronnie's new girlfriend.

BRANDI

What the hell are you talking about?

(CONTINUED)

67.

CONTINUED:

NELL

It's okay. I know he left me to be with you and I accept that.

BRANDI

I don't know who you've been talking to, but it's safe to say that you're fucking trippin'.

NELL

It's fine really. It's going to take a while for me to get over it, but I'll be okay.

Nell starts to get all teary-eyed. She picks up a Kleenex from a box on the counter and wipes her eyes.

BRANDI

Oh fuckin' Lord. This is disgusting.

NELL

I'm sorry.

BRANDI

Pull it together. This is how you run around all the time? Have some self-respect. No wonder your

man left you. Who the hell would want to be around this shit all day?

Nell pulls herself together.

NELL

Jesus teaches us to forgive. And I forgive you for what you did to me when you stole my boyfriend. Plus, I feel pretty confident that you'll end up burning in hell because of the various evil ways you live your life and that brings me some satisfaction. But I just want to tell you that Ronnie is a good person. He does a lot of stupid stuff, but really, he wants to do good for the world. I want you to know that if you hurt him and ruin his heart, I will personally come down here and kick the ever living shit out of you.

Nell walks away.

(CONTINUED)

68.

CONTINUED:

BRANDI

You better fuckin' run, bitch!

Nell turns around and starts storming toward Brandi. Brandi throws her hands up, frightened.

BRANDI

I'm just kidding.

Nell stops charging and walks away. Nell walks past Bruce who is helping a customer at the end of the counter.

NELL

It's not too late to change your ways.

BRUCE

Okay. Thanks.

Nell walks out of the department store.

INT. MALL - FLOWER SHOP - DAY

Ronnie looks at the colorful flowers in the glass refrigerator. The FLOWER SALESMAN walks up to Ronnie.

FLOWER SALESMAN

Ronnie, I've been expecting you.

RONNIE

You have?

FLOWER SALESMAN

Oh yeah, I heard about last night.
Brandi is quite the woman.
Congratulations, my friend. Or
should I say, welcome to the club?

The Flower Salesman winks and starts laughing. Ronnie doesn't. It gets weird so the Flower Salesman stops.

RONNIE

What color of roses do the women
like anyway?

FLOWER SALESMAN

Well, it depends on what you are
trying to say. The white roses
symbolize innocence and purity.

(CONTINUED)

69.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

Yeah, we're way past the color
white if you know what I mean.
What about the yellow ones?

FLOWER SALESMAN

Joy, happiness, appreciation.

RONNIE

I don't even know what to make of
that.

FLOWER SALESMAN

The pink rose means thank you.

RONNIE

Next.

FLOWER SALESMAN

The red rose is the most powerful.
It symbolizes love.

RONNIE

Why didn't you just say that? I'm
a busy man here.

FLOWER SALESMAN

I'm sorry.

RONNIE

Forget it. Give me a big bag of
the red ones.

FLOWER SALESMAN

Um, can I ask a question?

RONNIE

Go ahead.

FLOWER SALESMAN

Do you really like Brandi?

RONNIE

I've only been on one date with
her, but I could see myself being
with her for all of eternity.

FLOWER SALESMAN

Well, in that case, the greatest
symbol of love is just a single
red rose.

(CONTINUED)

70.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

Seems like a big bag of roses
would be more love than just one,
but I guess you're the expert.
Gimme one.

The Flower Salesman takes a single red rose from the case and hands it to Ronnie.

INT. DEPARTMENT STORE - DAY

Brandi is behind the counter gossiping with Bruce. Ronnie holds his rose and watches them from a distance. He takes a deep breath and then walks to the counter.

RONNIE

Brandi?

BRANDI

What are you doing here?

RONNIE

I came here to see you. And to present you with this single red rose. It symbolizes 'love.'

BRANDI

Ronnie, that's really... uncalled for.

RONNIE

Well, after last night, I just wanted you to know that it wasn't just some fling to me. It meant something special and I felt it deep in my soul.

BRUCE

You fucked the Security Guard?

(PLAYFUL)

You are such a little slut!

BRANDI

Oh, like you've never been drunk, Bruce!

Brandi grabs Ronnie and pulls him off to the side.

BRANDI

Ronnie, look. I got to be honest with you. I barely remember last night.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

I remember it for the both of us.

BRANDI

Okay, see here's the thing. I don't know how to say this, so I'm just gonna come on out with it. Ronnie, I could never date you seriously. I mean, you're a security guard.

RONNIE

I'm the head of Mall Security.

BRANDI

Exactly. The point is, I don't really see myself being with that. Like ever. You know what I mean?

RONNIE

Brandi, I know exactly what you mean. And I just want to thank you for being honest. You're telling me I'm not living up to my full potential in life. It's funny, because I've been feeling like this for quite some time. I guess I just needed that extra little push to get me over this hurdle I've been stuck on. How can you be with a man who isn't living the life he was meant to?

BRANDI

Yeah, something like that. And just you know, you're a security guard at the mall and it's like, come on, you know?

RONNIE

I don't like it, Brandi, but I do understand. I promise you this. Next time you see me, I will be wearing a uniform that will make you proud. I will be the man that you will be honored to call your life's love.

BRANDI

Don't bet on it.

(CONTINUED)

72.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

I will though. I'll bet everything I have on you. Now I ask you for one favor. Although I am unworthy, will you accept this rose from me anyway?

BRANDI

I can't do that. And tell your girlfriend to stop coming by my work and threatening me and shit.

Brandi walks away, leaving Ronnie there holding his flower.

CUT TO:

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Ronnie sits at a small table and waits patiently. Then a POLICEMAN walks into the room. Ronnie stands to shake his hand.

RONNIE

I'm here to become a police officer.

POLICEMAN

We're always on the hunt for new recruits. Do you have at least a high school diploma?

RONNIE

I have a GED.

POLICEMAN

We usually prefer an actual diploma, but GED is technically acceptable. Are you a citizen of the United States?

RONNIE

You bet your ass I am.

POLICEMAN

Okay, Mr. Barnhardt, there are several steps you have to complete in order to be eligible for the police academy. Physical evaluation, psychological test, background check.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

73.

CONTINUED:

POLICEMAN (CONT'D)

If you pass these tests, you will be admitted to the police academy. Now, I like to tell all new recruits that they should complete a ride along before making this decision. It's where you actually ride along with a real police officer during a routine patrol. It helps give you an idea of the kind of situations you'll be dealing with. Sound good?

RONNIE

That sounds fun. Sign me up.

INT. POLICE CAR - NIGHT

Ronnie sits in the unmarked police car with Detective Harrison.

RONNIE

It's like it was meant to be. You behind the wheel. Me riding shotgun. Two brothers of the badge unite to form the ultimate crime-stopping combo. I'm psyched to be here, Harrison. Thank you for the opportunity.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

You requested to ride along with me.

RONNIE

I know. You want to know the truth. It's because I respect you. See, when we're at the mall, it's obviously my turf. Sure, I break your balls about being a rookie, but out here in the streets, I'm the rookie. I'm here to learn. Teach me.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Why do you want to become a Cop?

RONNIE

I've wanted to be a Police officer all my life.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

74.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE (CONT'D)

Don't get me wrong, I love keeping the mall safe, but you guys are the ones that really enforce justice and protect, not just our mall, but our whole community. I don't tell the guys on my squad this, but the Security Guard job was just temporary.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Well, just pay attention tonight and make sure you stay out of the way.

RONNIE

Right, we're not back at the station anymore so we can cut the charade.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

What are you talking about?

RONNIE

Well, I know that policy demands I stay out of the way, but between you and me, I just want you to

know that if anything pops off tonight, I'm going to jump right in there and take 'em down with you.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

No, no. Ronnie, policy says you have to stay in the car.

RONNIE

I get you. You have to say this in order to keep you safe 'legally' speaking. I should probably follow along too. 'I swear I won't get out of the car and fight justice tonight.'

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Ronnie, you really can't.

RONNIE

I know.

Ronnie winks at Detective Harrison. A smile comes across Harrison's face.

(CONTINUED)

75.

CONTINUED:

DETECTIVE HARRISON

I'm glad we understand each other.

Detective Harrison puts the car in drive and the guys head off for the night.

INT. POLICE CAR - LATER THAT NIGHT

Ronnie and Detective Harrison sit in the parked car. They're at the shittiest crack corner in the whole town. Lots of scary bums and hookers loiter around the car.

RONNIE

Yeah, so then I basically saw his ass trying to circumvent around the ped exit and slip through the employ exit. Not allowed. The two ped exits are to be used

only --

DETECTIVE HARRISON

You see that corner there, Ronnie?

RONNIE

Yeah, I see it.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

That corner used to be the worst corner in this whole town. It was riddled with drugs, prostitution, and gang violence. It was nicknamed 'The Crossroads.'

RONNIE

Shit, I've heard of that.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

That's right, but myself and the other officers worked on cleaning it up for years so that the good folks of this neighborhood wouldn't have to worry about being safe. Yes, sir, that corner is a testament to the fine police work of our force.

RONNIE

I don't know. It looks pretty shitty to me.

(CONTINUED)

76.

CONTINUED:

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Well, it's a low income area, Ronnie. You're being kind of prejudiced.

RONNIE

Oh, yeah, I can see that it's basically a fine neighborhood.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

That's right, but it hasn't been easy. We still patrol this area every night just to keep our

presence up.

RONNIE

I use that same technique at the mall.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

I'm sure. I usually do the foot patrols myself, but because I like you, I'm going to let you do it tonight.

RONNIE

Really?

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Yeah, really. But I told you about department policy, so I'm going to need you to keep quiet about this one.

RONNIE

You can count on me. Thank you for the honor.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Of course, Ronnie. I just really believe in you.

RONNIE

I won't let you down.

Ronnie opens the door and gets out of the car. As he exits, a car drives by BLARING RAP MUSIC. The passenger throws a beer bottle at Ronnie. He dodges it and the bottle shatters on the ground.

Ronnie is shaken, but he waves to Detective Harrison like he's okay. Detective Harrison waves back, then PEELS OUT OF THERE. Ronnie is confused.

(CONTINUED)

77.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

Where are you going?!

Detective Harrison keeps on driving without looking back.

CUT TO:

EXT. CROSSROADS - A SHORT TIME LATER

stands
Ronnie looks petrified as he stands guard. A BUM
off to the side staring Ronnie down.

Ronnie waves to the bum. The bum runs his finger under his throat. Ronnie tries to ignore him.

A group of KIDS walk by Ronnie talking loudly.

RONNIE

Hey, no horse play. You guys get on home.

KID

You want some crack?

RONNIE

No, I don't want any crack. In fact, I didn't want to do this, but you leave me no choice in the matter. I'm placing you under citizen's arrest.

Ronnie grabs the little Kid by the shoulders to restrain him.

KID

Let me go, motherfucker!

RONNIE

I place you under citizen's arrest for the crime of selling a Schedule 1 Narcotic. You have the right to remain silent...

Unbeknownst to Ronnie, Gang Members start walking up behind him. It's like that scene in Training Day where all the gangsters are hanging out right across the street with guns and shit. They come up behind him as he speaks to the kids...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

... If you cannot afford an attorney, one will be appointed to you. Now I guess we just wait here for my ride to come back.

Ronnie turns around to look for Harrison's return, but instead he sees that he is surrounded by a large group of pissed-off GANG MEMBERS.

GANG MEMBER #1

That's my little brother you got there.

RONNIE

Who, this little guy right here?

GANG MEMBER #1

That's right.

RONNIE

Well, I hate to be the one to tell you this, but it appears that your little brother has tried to sell me illegal drugs. I know it's hard for you to hear that.

GANG MEMBER #1

He works for me, motherfucker!

RONNIE

Is that so? Well then, it looks like you got one less employee because I'm taking little brother down. I'll die right here before I let crime prevail.

The Gang Members all pull out their guns and point them at Ronnie.

RONNIE

(to the little Kid)

Free to go, little brother. My mistake completely. Good luck with the crack.

The little Kid runs off.

RONNIE

Alright, so I guess I'll be seeing
you folks.

The Gang Members stand in Ronnie's way and cock their
guns.

(CONTINUED)

79.

CONTINUED:

GANG MEMBER #2

Yo, waste this pig, Tone.

RONNIE

Oh, no. That's really not
necessary, Tone.

GANG MEMBER #2

Do it, man.

Gang Member #1 puts the gun right up to Ronnie's head.

RONNIE

Oh, Jesus, I don't want to die.
Don't let me die, don't do it!

Ronnie goes down on his knees.

RONNIE

No, please! I'm sorry!

Ronnie reaches into his boot and pulls out a small rod.
He flips his wrist and it extends into a night stick.
Ronnie's begging was a trap. Ronnie pops up and begins
dropping all those motherfuckers with lightning-fast
precision.

Ronnie breaks arms and busts heads like a fucking ninja.
Gang Member #1 comes in and hits Ronnie with a sucker
punch, busting his nose wide open.

Ronnie stands up and goes mano y mano in a fist fight
with Gang Member #1. He starts kicking Ronnie's ass.
Ronnie goes down again and Gang Member #1 starts stomping
Ronnie.

Ronnie grabs Gang Member #1's leg and twists it. He
takes him down. Ronnie jumps on top of him and begins
beating him senseless.

SLOW MOTION: Ronnie stands up and looks around at the pool of beaten bodies. This is Ronnie at his most primal and also at his best.

CUT TO:

INT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT

Detective Harrison is eating doughnuts and laughing with a bunch of other COPS.

(CONTINUED)

80.

CONTINUED:

COP #1

I can't believe you dropped him off at the Crossroads. That's fucking hilarious.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Trust me, you would have done the same thing. This guy is without a doubt the biggest fucking idiot I have ever met.

COP #1

He's probably going to get killed.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Good! Fuck him, I hope he does get killed.

All of a sudden, Ronnie comes in all beaten and bruised.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Ronnie, what are you doing here?

RONNIE

I know what you did!

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Ronnie, look, I didn't do anything --

RONNIE

You're not going to talk your way out of this one. You set me up!

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Ronnie, look --

RONNIE

Don't try to deny it! You set me up and that's all there is to it.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Ronnie, I --

RONNIE

And I just want to thank you for it.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Thank me? Why?

(CONTINUED)

81.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

Because I'm proud to report that I passed the test. I know you wanted to see if I had the chops to cut it on the police force and I'm glad to say that I passed. I knew I would get initiated some time, but I didn't think it would be so soon. Thank you, Detective Harrison. Thank you for believing in me.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Ronnie, I don't know what to say.

RONNIE

You don't have to say anything. Your actions speak for themselves. Thank you for giving this rookie a shot. Get used to seeing Ronnie Barnhardt around here, boys.

BAD-ASS PHYSICAL EXAM MONTAGE - INT. TRAINING FIELD - DAY

SPRINT: The TESTING OFFICER blows a whistle and starts the 100 meter dash. Ronnie jumps off the starting line

and hauls ass down the track. The other Trainees fall behind Ronnie as he smokes their asses.

PULL-UPS: Ronnie jumps on the bar and begins to do pull-up after pull-up.

SIDE SLIDE: The Testing Officer blows a whistle and Ronnie begins to shuffle side to side like an ice skater that never moves forward.

SIT-UPS: Ronnie goes hard on the sit-ups.

OBSTACLE COURSE: Ronnie sprints up a wall and flips to the other side. He charges a body of water, then jumps onto the rope and swings safely to the other side.

CUT TO:

INT. MALL - NIGHT

All the lights are off and we see the dark shadow creep through the darkness.

The shadow breaks into the SHOE STORE and grabs as many pairs of sneakers that it can carry. The shadow opens the sliding cage and closes it from the other side. Then bends down and locks it.

82.

INT. MALL - MANAGER'S OFFICE - THE NEXT DAY

Mark sits behind his desk reading a paper. The HEADLINE READS: CHAOS CLIMBS AT CAROLINA MALL. There's a KNOCK at the door.

MARK

Come in.

Ronnie sticks his head in the door.

RONNIE

Good morning, Mark.

MARK

Is it, Ronnie? I mean, the mall is getting butchered in the press. Somebody who works here is ripping the place off. The cops don't have any leads. I'm getting shit from the owner of the mall. Sales

are down. I mean, what's so good about this morning?

RONNIE

I feel your pain, Mark. Quite frankly, there's two things happening. One, I'm lacking a sufficient firearm. And two, we're understaffed. That's why I come to you this morning with a plan.

(calling to the door)

Come on in, Charles.

Charles opens the door and walks in.

MARK

Who is this?

RONNIE

This is Charles, sir.

CHARLES

(BOUNCER)

How's it going?

MARK

You work at O'Charley's, right.

CHARLES

That's right.

(CONTINUED)

83.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

Mark, I would like to hire Charles here as an additional Security Guard. He would operate under me. I figure with the additional criminal element, we should hire more security in hopes that we would have a better chance of catching these guys.

MARK

Do you have any experience, son?

CHARLES

Not really.

RONNIE

Um, sir, I have personally been training young Charles for weeks now in preparation for this day. The kid kind of looks up to me. I'm some what of a big brother to the little guy.

Charles kind of looks at Ronnie like he's crazy.

MARK

Alright, it's actually not a bad idea. It might make our Security more visible so we can give people the illusion that we're on top of this.

Ronnie winks at Charles.

CHARLES

Thank you, Mark.

MARK

Ronnie, one more thing. Look, if this crime doesn't come to an end pretty soon, we're gonna have to let someone go. I mean, you've always done a great job for me, but the truth is, someone is going to have to take the fall. You're the one who wanted to be Head of Mall Security and quite frankly, I just bought my wife a new Cadillac, so let's just say it won't be me.

(CONTINUED)

84.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

With Charles on my team, I can now devote more time to the robbery and Pervert case. I plan on having these wrapped up by the end of the week.

Mark laughs to himself.

RONNIE

Why'd you just laugh?

MARK

It's nothing. Have fun, Ronnie.

Ronnie looks at Charles.

RONNIE

Did I say something funny?

CHARLES

Let's go, Ronnie.

Ronnie and Charles take off.

INT. MALL - DAY

Ronnie and Charles stand in the middle of the floor and supervise the "mall walkers."

CHARLES

Be careful, guys. Nice and slow.

RONNIE

That's not bad, but you need to learn to speak in a more authoritative voice. Watch this. Slow it down! Slow it down! You've already received one verbal, don't make me issue a second!

(back to Charles)

See, you can't be intimidated. You have to make them respect you.

CHARLES

Ronnie, you know I really want to thank you for the job. You're a man of your word.

(CONTINUED)

85.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

No problem, my young student. So, I got something to tell you. Keep this between us until it's official, but I don't think I'm going to be here for much longer.

CHARLES

You're quitting? But you love this job.

RONNIE

I do love it, but it looks like someone is going to be joining the police force.

CHARLES

The real police?

RONNIE

They're calling me up. It's basically a done deal. Just a little red tape is the only thing keeping me from carrying a gun.

CHARLES

I didn't even know you wanted to become a Cop.

RONNIE

It's always been my job. The Mall thing is great training, but it has its limitations. Some stars are just meant to shine brighter than others.

CHARLES

Congrats, brother.

RONNIE

(to a mall walker)

HEY, SLOW IT DOWN, LADY!

A Mall Walker slows her pace.
Ronnie sees that it's Nell.

She turns around and

RONNIE

Nell?

NELL

Hey, Ronnie.

RONNIE

What are you doing?

(CONTINUED)

86.

CONTINUED:

NELL

Nothing, just getting in shape.

RONNIE

Well, that's okay, I guess. Just watch your speed, okay?

Nell waves and walks on.

CHARLES

Isn't that your girlfriend?

RONNIE

Ex.

CHARLES

She looked good.

RONNIE

You think so?

CHARLES

She looks a lot better.

RONNIE

Yeah.

Ronnie shrugs it off.

INT. PSYCHOLOGICAL EVALUATION - DAY

Ronnie sits across from a female PSYCHOLOGIST.

PSYCHOLOGIST

Okay, Ronnie, today I'll be giving you a psychiatric evaluation to determine if you're competent to enter into the Police Academy. It's really just a formality. Don't want any serial killers

working for us, now do we?

RONNIE

No, ma'am, we don't.

PSYCHOLOGIST

Okay, Ronnie, so let's start with your background. Where are you from?

RONNIE

Born and raised right here.

(CONTINUED)

87.

CONTINUED:

PSYCHOLOGIST

Local boy. Okay, and, Ronnie, have you ever been convicted of any crimes?

RONNIE

No, ma'am. My record is totally clean.

PSYCHOLOGIST

Do you now take any illegal drugs or have you taken any in the past?

RONNIE

No, ma'am. I believe drugs are the path to self-destruction and should be purged from the face of the earth with ruthless vengeance.

PSYCHOLOGIST

Any prescription medications?

RONNIE

Yes, for my nerves. A man in my line of work has a lot of stress to deal with. If you've seen the bloodshed I've seen, you'd be on the meds too. I -- Where are you going with this?

PSYCHOLOGIST

Are you presently or have you ever been affiliated with the Communist Party?

RONNIE

I can't believe you'd even ask me that.

PSYCHOLOGIST

Have you ever been in the military?

RONNIE

Yes.

PSYCHOLOGIST

What branch of the military were you in?

RONNIE

The kind of branch that doesn't exist on paper.

(CONTINUED)

88.

CONTINUED:

PSYCHOLOGIST

Okay, here's a real world scenario. You have a gun --

RONNIE

Finally.

PSYCHOLOGIST

That wasn't really the question, never mind, I think I got that one. Um... here's one. Do you feel like you would work well on a team?

RONNIE

Would I? Yes. Would I be more useful working alone, I would say definitely. I see myself more like a Rambo kind of guy. A man who rolls solo. Taking care of business on his own terms. Kind of like a Superhero or something.

PSYCHOLOGIST

Why do you want to become a cop?

RONNIE

I want to become a cop to help people. The world is a scary place with lots of evil everywhere. See, I have this vision of evil trying to get at the world from every angle and there I stand at the top of it all with my gun, just kind of blowing it away. Just me and my weapons, cleaning up this whole town. I know I could do some good if I was just given a chance and everybody would be a lot better off.

PSYCHOLOGIST

Uh-huh. So, what do you feel is the greatest danger facing a police officer today?

RONNIE

Maybe Russian gang activity, but you know what? I think I'm gonna have to go with evil on that one too.

(CONTINUED)

89.

CONTINUED:

PSYCHOLOGIST

Okay, I think we're good here. It's been a pleasure, Ronnie.

RONNIE

Thank you, ma'am.

INT. RONNIE'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - NIGHT

Ronnie's Mom takes a bath and swigs on a bottle. She's drunk and passing out in the tub. Ronnie scrubs her back with a sponge.

RONNIE

I'm telling you, Mom, this police thing could be good for both of us. Not just the fact that I'll be making the streets safer for you, but they have health insurance and a pension plan so I don't have to worry about your medical bills as much.

MOM

I don't care about that bullshit. All I need is a little nip of this good shit right here and I'm ready to walk through the pearly gates.

RONNIE

Mom, I know, but maybe you should stop drinking so much. You're getting up there and you know what the doctor said about your liver.

MOM

I don't tell you how to party, don't tell me how to live my life. I've taken care of you since you were born.

RONNIE

I just worry about you is all.

MOM

Ronnie, don't get your hopes up about this police thing.

RONNIE

Why would you say that?

(CONTINUED)

90.

CONTINUED:

MOM

You know why. I just don't want to see you get hurt. It's my job to protect you from the bullshit.

RONNIE

Mom, I appreciate it, but I'm going to make it as a police

officer. I'm tired of coming in second all the time. Everybody in life gets to go for their goals, why should I be any different?

MOM

I know. Just be careful is all. You've got a good heart and I don't want to see it broken.

RONNIE

Okay, Mom. I hear you.

MOM

And, Ronnie, one more thing.

RONNIE

What's that, Mom?

In the tub, a bunch of bubbles plop to the surface.

RONNIE

Mom! That's gross!

MOM

(drunk laughing)

That's right! Now you got to smell it!

RONNIE

Mom.

EXT. POLICE ACADEMY - DAY

The Police Academy is full of energy as new recruits pour up the steps and into the building, eager to start their training.

Ronnie comes walking up and takes a long look at the building. Ronnie smiles to himself and heads up the stairs.

Ronnie reaches the top where Detective Harrison is waiting. Ronnie stops.

(CONTINUED)

RONNIE

Ronnie Barnhardt reporting for duty.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

I can see that. Listen, I don't really know how to say this, but we're not going to be able to let you join the academy.

RONNIE

What?! Why not?

DETECTIVE HARRISON

It seems you had a little trouble passing the minimum requirements.

RONNIE

Did I fail one of the tests?

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Well, yes, actually, you failed the psychological exam.

RONNIE

No!

DETECTIVE HARRISON

It says...

(reads from the form)

That Ronnie Barnhardt shows warning signs of delusion and allowing him to join the force puts his life and the lives of others in jeopardy.

RONNIE

Detective Harrison, you've got to believe me. I'm completely sound. This has got to be a mistake.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Ronnie, I personally did your background check and this is the fifth time you've been turned down for the police academy.

RONNIE

You guys keep records on that?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETECTIVE HARRISON

We sure do. Look, I tried to talk to them, but there's no way they're gonna let you in. I'm sorry, but your dreams of becoming a Police Officer just aren't going to happen.

RONNIE

I understand. Thanks for believing in me, Detective. And just for the record, I'm not crazy.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Take care, Ronnie.

Detective Harrison goes inside and closes the doors on Ronnie.

Ronnie stands outside of the closed academy by himself.

The CAMERA PUSHES INTO Ronnie and SPINS UPSIDE-DOWN.

CUT TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

INT. CAROLINA MALL - MORNING

Ronnie is behind the locked gate to the food court, but it looks like he is behind bars in a prison. Ronnie slides the bars up and walks out.

INT. MALL - DAY

Ronnie walks through the mall and looks at the lights of the different shops. Everything looks colorful and weird. Ronnie is in his own head. This isn't the exciting world as before, now it's a disgusting fabricated make-believe land.

TIME LAPSE: A DAY SPEEDS BY AS RONNIE WALKS LIKE A ZOMBIE THROUGH IT ALL.

INT. MALL - FOOD COURT - NIGHT

stores The mall is kind of winding down for the day. The
are closing and people are going home.

Ronnie sees Nell putting her apron away and preparing to
leave. Ronnie walks up to her.

(CONTINUED)

93.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

Hey, Nell.

NELL

Hey, Ronnie. How's it going?

RONNIE

Can I talk to you for a second?

NELL

What is it?

RONNIE

I tried to get into the police
academy again and the same thing
happened.

NELL

Oh, Ronnie, I'm sorry.

Ronnie starts to tear up.

RONNIE

Why does this keep happening to
me, Nell?

NELL

I don't know, Ronnie. Maybe it's
just not meant to be. Are you
okay?

RONNIE

No. Are you going home? I mean,
do you want to go somewhere and
talk or something?

NELL

Ronnie, I can't.

RONNIE

Why not?

NELL

I've got plans.

RONNIE

What plans?

SADDAMN

Look at this sorry piece of shit.

Ronnie looks up to see Saddamn walking toward him.

(CONTINUED)

94.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

What the fuck do you want?

SADDAMN

I don't want anything from you.

(to Nell)

How you doing, sweetness?

Saddamn hugs Nell from behind and kisses her on the cheek.

SADDAMN

You look beautiful tonight.

RONNIE

What the fuck is going on?

SADDAMN

You ready to go? We got reservations at 9:00.

NELL

I'm ready, Saddamn.

RONNIE

Nell, for the love of God, don't go with him.

NELL

I'm sorry, Ronnie.

Nell and Saddamn turn and walk towards the door. On the way out, Saddamn turns back around to Ronnie and smiles. Then, he begins to "air hump" Nell from behind.

RONNIE

Don't go, Nell. Remember your purity! Remember your purity!

Nell and Saddamn leave the mall.

INT. MALL - DAY

Ronnie sits down on one of the benches in the mall. He watches a couple walk by, their little kid swinging between their arms.

Then, Stevie comes in and takes a seat next to Ronnie.

STEVIE

What are you doing, Ronnie?

(CONTINUED)

95.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

I'm just taking a break. What do you want, Stevie? I don't have time to fuck around with you today.

STEVIE

I got something.

Stevie reaches into his pocket. He pulls out a bunch of Polaroids of penises.

RONNIE

What the fuck is this?

DUDE

Dude, I found these all over the mall. I'm guessing that whoever this Mall Flasher is, left these for girls to find.

RONNIE

This thing gets grosser and grosser all the time. Well, thanks for the clue. Maybe I can use this to identify the freak. You can skate all you want around here.

STEVIE

What's wrong with you, Ronnie?

RONNIE

What do you mean?

STEVIE

I don't know. You just seem kind of sad.

RONNIE

Nah, man, I'm fine. I mean, I'm catchin' perverts and protecting this mall and just you know, really livin' the dream.

STEVIE

That's cool. Look, man, you want to get high?

RONNIE

No, I don't want to get high.

STEVIE

That's cool.

(CONTINUED)

96.

CONTINUED:

The conversation dies down and the two just kind of sit there.

RONNIE

And by the way, if I see you getting high, I will call the police and have your criminal ass arrested. Don't you fuckin' ever mistake my kindness for weakness.

I hate drugs and I hate you too.

STEVIE

Fine, you fucking dick.

Steve stands up to leave. Ronnie sits there looking sad.

EXT. MALL - NIGHT

Ronnie sits in his golf cart staring at the mall as the last of the customers leave. That's when Ronnie sees Brandi come out of the door. Brandi looks around and darts across the parking lot.

Ronnie follows Brandi's path and tries to catch up with her.

EXT. MALL - NIGHT

Ronnie drives around, but he can't find Brandi anywhere.

Ronnie sees a lone black car at the outer edge of the parking lot. He pulls his golf cart over and climbs out.

Ronnie creeps up to the car and peers in the window. Inside, Ronnie sees Brandi and Detective Harrison banging like a couple of wild animals.

Ronnie jumps back in shock!

INT. DETECTIVE HARRISON'S CAR - NIGHT

Brandi stops humping Detective Harrison.

BRANDI

Shhhh.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

What is it?

BRANDI

I thought I heard something.

(CONTINUED)

Detective Harrison looks out of the window. He doesn't see anything. He climbs back on top of Brandi.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

It's nothing.

OUT OF NOWHERE, A FLASHLIGHT BREAKS THE BACK WINDOW OF THE CAR.

EXT. MALL - NIGHT

Ronnie runs around Detective Harrison's car wielding a flashlight like a mad man.

RONNIE

HARRISON!!!

Ronnie beats the shit out of Harrison's car. He smashes headlights, mirrors and fenders.

INSIDE THE CAR

Harrison and Brandi duck down.

BRANDI

Shit!

DETECTIVE HARRISON

That motherfucker is crazy.

BRANDI

Well, you're the fucking cop. Do something.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

You're right. Okay, here it goes.

Harrison reaches over Brandi and opens her door.

BRANDI

What the fuck are you doing?!

Harrison pushes Brandi out of the car and shuts himself back in.

OUTSIDE

Ronnie sees Brandi and stops pummeling the car.

(CONTINUED)

98.

CONTINUED:

BRANDI

Ronnie, it's me! Don't do anything crazy.

RONNIE

Get back inside, Brandi. This isn't about you... you... you slut!

BRANDI

Fuck off, Ronnie.

RONNIE

How can you just stand there after you ruined my life and act like nothing happened?!

BRANDI

It's easy 'cause I don't give a
FUCK ABOUT YOU!

Ronnie SNAPS. He charges at Brandi with the flashlight over his head. He's about to crack her when...

CLICK.

Ronnie STOPS to see Harrison on the other side of him with his pistol drawn and pointed at Ronnie.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Drop the flashlight, Ronnie.

Ronnie drops the flashlight from his hands.

RONNIE

You're pretty tough with that gun.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Ronnie, I know you've had a hard time --

RONNIE

You were supposed to be my friend!

DETECTIVE HARRISON

So you're gonna kill Brandi?

RONNIE

I was just trying to scare her.

BRANDI

You don't scare me, you piece of shit.

(CONTINUED)

99.

CONTINUED:

Ronnie lifts the flashlight up again like he's going to hit Brandi. Brandi ducks.

Detective Harrison cocks the gun.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Ronnie!

RONNIE

Fine, fuck you! Fuck all of you! And, Harrison, you better be glad you have a gun or I'd kick your ass too. And you know what? I'm taking my friendship back because you don't deserve it! And, Brandi, I'm taking my love back too. I'm gonna leave now and you two can just have fun. Have fun sleeping tonight because something tells me, you won't be able to.

Ronnie climbs into the golf cart and drives off.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

That guy is a nut job.

BRANDI

Tell me about it.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

So you slept with him?

BRANDI

I was drunk okay. You gonna make a big deal out of it.

DETECTIVE HARRISON

No, I guess not.

BRANDI

Fine.

INT. RONNIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

ON THE TELEVISION: There's an update on the CAROLINA MALL FLASHER. It says he has exposed himself to more girls.

As the TV blares the headline, Ronnie lays in his bed and watches. The images shine COLOR on him, but Ronnie is in his own world.

100.

INT. MALL - FOOD COURT - DAY

Ronnie has the Special Elite Task Force assembled.

RONNIE

I'm disbanding the task force.

CHARLES

Hey, Ronnie, that's crazy talk.
Are you cool?

RONNIE

No, I'm not cool, Charles. In fact, shit is seriously fucked up. I've got to protect the whole mall by myself. Now, I got you this fucking job, when are you going to stop being a little baby and do something for a change.

(MOCKING)

'I don't want to do anything hard. I just want to be a little bitch and brag about dropping out of college.' Grow a fucking pair, will you, Chucky?

CHARLES

I'm gonna go check the parking lot.

Charles walks away.

RONNIE

(calling out)

I'm sorry, Charles! I didn't mean it, buddy!

Ronnie puts his head on the table.

RONNIE

You know, Dennis, for the longest time I made this job my whole life. I looked at this mall as a kingdom and I looked at Mark as the King. I thought of myself as the first Knight and the customers, well, they were the peasants. I lived by an old code where one was bound by duty and honor. But now I don't know if I believe in that code anymore. I've lost my way. Now I just feel like it's one big kingdom of shit. Right now, I got half a mind just to let this whole place burn. Burn it to the fucking ground!

(CONTINUED)

101.

CONTINUED:

Dennis stares down at the desk. Dennis takes off his hat and reveals that he has bleached white Eminem hair underneath. Next, he reaches under his collar and flips out a thin gold necklace. He kicks up his shoes and reveals the newest and freshest basketball kicks.

This is the REAL DENNIS and for the first time ever, he speaks...

DENNIS

(high ghetto voice)

I've been waiting on you to get on my page this whole time. You look at this mall as a Kingdom?! Shit! I look at this place like a motherfucking jail sentence. You put on that uniform every morning, but what are you really protecting? Commerce and corporations and money.

Well I say, fuck that! I'm
a fucking outlaw and I'm going to
live that until the day I die. Now,
I can show you the way, but you've
got to be willing to accept it. So
I'm gonna ask you now, Ronnie. Are
you ready for a trip to the other side?

RONNIE

You're goddamn right I'm ready.

DENNIS

Alright then. Let's party.

CUT TO:

EXT. DUMPSTERS - DAY

Dennis and Ronnie hang in the back of the mall by the
dumpsters. Dennis sucks down a fat joint. He passes it
to Ronnie.

DENNIS

So, yeah, usually I take a joint
straight to the head before I
start work in this motherfucker,
but on really stressful days, I
like to get drunk too.

Dennis pulls out a flask and gulps it down. Ronnie is
still staring at the joint. Finally he takes a puff and
begins violently coughing. He finally stops.

(CONTINUED)

102.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

Fuck it, give me the bottle.

Dennis hands Ronnie the bottle and he takes a big swig.

CUT TO:

INT. MALL - DAY

Ronnie and Dennis stand against a wall while they check

out booties of various shapes and sizes on all of the girls that walk by.

DENNIS

So then I usually come in here and perv out on girls for about an hour or two. I hooked up twice last week. One was this Asian chick and the other was this mom. She wasn't that hot, but what else do I got to do?

Two high school girls walk by.

DENNIS

Sweet Jesus in the morning.

INT. DEPARTMENT STORE - DRESSING ROOM - DAY

Ronnie and Dennis are hanging in a dressing room.

DENNIS

Dressing rooms are a great place to hide out, because nobody is really going to think of looking for me here. You can nap or just kind of hang out and just really have some personal time. Hey, hand me that camera.

Ronnie picks up a shitty camera and hands it to Dennis.

DENNIS

Thanks, Ronnie.

Dennis stands up on the bench and looks into the other changing room. The two high school girls are changing into other clothes. Dennis starts taking pictures of them without them knowing.

CUT TO:

103.

EXT. DUMPSTERS - DAY

Ronnie is smoking a joint and so is Dennis.

DENNIS

Right before lunch I usually blaze up again real good.

CUT TO:

EXT. MALL - DAY

Dennis and Ronnie walk by the skaters.

DENNIS

Hey, what's up, motherfuckers?!

STEVIE

What up, Big Den?!

DENNIS

You know, smokin' that good good.

STEVIE

Dude, why are you hanging out with Ronnie?

RONNIE

Fuck you, Stevie!

DENNIS

Hey, Ronnie's alright. Let me see that stick.

Stevie slides the skateboard over to Dennis. He jumps on it and does a perfectly executed kick flip. The skaters cheer!

INT. DEPARTMENT STORE - DAY

Brandi is at the counter with Bruce. She helps a MALE customer.

BRANDI

That'll be \$39.99.

MALE

My wife's gonna love this perfume.

BRANDI

I hope so. It's my favorite.

(CONTINUED)

104.

CONTINUED:

Brandi looks past the Customer and sees Ronnie just standing there staring daggers at her. Ronnie shakes his head in disgust. The Male Customer turns around and sees Ronnie. It's a weird little moment.

Dennis grabs Ronnie by the arm.

DENNIS

Come on, brother. Let's go.

Ronnie follows Dennis off.

CUT TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

THIS BEGINS THE ROCKING MONTAGE OF MALL DESTRUCTION

INT. RECORD STORE - DAY

Ronnie stands in the store and looks down at his walkie.

MARK (V.O.)

(over the walkie)

Ronnie, we need you down at the candy store. Some little brat has been shoveling peanuts in his mouth for the last hour.

Ronnie turns the walkie-talkie off.

Dennis runs behind the counter. Dennis drops the needle on a ROCKIN' SONG. Dennis jumps on top of the counter and starts jumping up and down with the music. He's fucking drunk. Dennis jumps off the counter and tackles Ronnie, knocking over a stand of DVD's.

CUT TO:

INT. MALL - DAY

Ronnie and Dennis ride on a mini railroad train for kids. They both drink from the flask as they spin around the track. It's full of nothing but kids and security.

CUT TO:

INT. MALL - VICTORIA'S SECRET - DAY

The HOT SALES CLERK stands outside of the dressing room wearing a sexy teddy with a G-string and garters.

Dennis and Ronnie are kicking back in the love seat and watching. Dennis makes a motion for the Sales Clerk to spin around. She reluctantly does as she is instructed.

CUT TO:

INT. MALL - TOY STORE - DAY

Ronnie and Dennis play video games. A LITTLE KID tries to take the controller from Dennis, but Dennis whips out the handcuffs. He locks the Little Kid onto the display case so the kid can't move.

CUT TO:

INT. ARCADE - DAY

Ronnie and Dennis play Skee-Ball, except Ronnie tosses the balls to Dennis who is standing on top of the machine. Dennis slam dunks the balls into the 100 point hole. The tickets pour out.

CUT TO:

EXT. MALL - DAY

Ronnie and Dennis are driving in the golf cart and they're both wearing those GIANT SUNGLASSES that they won with arcade tickets. Behind them, Stevie and the other Skaters hold onto the golf cart and get pulled on their skateboards.

They race towards a loading ramp. Dennis floors it and they go up the ramp and JUMP the golf cart into the air. The golf cart and Skaters soar into the air. It holds forever, until suddenly, the golf cart lands with a thud.

CUT TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

INT. MALL - NIGHT

The mall is basically empty as Dennis and Ronnie make the final rounds. They get to the doors and lock up for the night.

(CONTINUED)

106.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

Dennis, I got to thank you for today. Man, I was so down, but you taught me that I don't need to take things so seriously here. We have a pointless existence. Who gives a fuck?

DENNIS

Don't mention it, homey. I'm just glad I got me a partner in crime.

RONNIE

A partner. I like that. You know, I've never really had a friend before, but I think that this could be the beginning of a real good thing.

Dennis unlocks the doors to the Gap.

DENNIS

You ain't even seen the best part. After everybody leaves, I rob the shit out of this place.

RONNIE

What do you mean?

DENNIS

I steal shit!

RONNIE

You're the one who's been robbing the mall?

DENNIS

Hell yeah! Who'd you think it was?!

Dennis goes inside the Gap and just starts grabbing shit.

RONNIE

I can't believe this. Right in front of my goddamn face this whole time!

Dennis holds up a sweat shirt.

DENNIS

This probably will look good with my complexion.

RONNIE

Dennis, I can't take part in this.

(CONTINUED)

107.

CONTINUED:

DENNIS

Ronnie, I thought you were down?! What the fuck?! Here I am opening up myself to you and you're just gonna stick it to me like this. What the fuck has this place ever done for you? Don't you know that people see us as jokes?! A useless tool that's left in the shed. Well that's not me. Not now, not ever. I told you, I'm an outlaw.

RONNIE

I can't let you rob the mall.

DENNIS

What the fuck you mean you can't let me?

RONNIE

Come on, Dennis. We're best friends, so just put that stuff back and let's go get a beer.

DENNIS

Alright, Ronnie, you're right.

Dennis sets the shirts down.

DENNIS

I don't really know what I was thinking. Robbing the mall? Let's just go get that beer.

RONNIE

Good, man. That makes me feel better.

Ronnie turns to walk, but Dennis grabs the hand of one of the mannequins and rips it off. He takes the hand and cracks Ronnie over the head with it. Ronnie goes down on his knees.

DENNIS

See ya in Mexico, bitch.

Dennis cocks back and whacks Ronnie again. Ronnie's lights go out.

108.

EXT. CITY STREET - NIGHT

Dennis pulls out of the mall driving a HARLEY DAVIDSON. He flips a joint into the air and peels out. He cruises down the street. He passes a cop car and flips it off.

CUT TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

INT. CAROLINA MALL - MORNING

The JANITOR walks up the floor with a mop. Ronnie is battered and bloodied from his fight with Dennis, but he is wide awake and handcuffed to THE GAP.

RONNIE

Ramon, get your ass over here! Go get my spare keys out of the office.

The Janitor looks at Ronnie, smiles, and calmly mops in the other direction.

RONNIE

Ramon! Goddamn it get back here! Go get my goddamn keys.

INT. MALL - MANAGER'S OFFICE - DAY

Mark sits across the desk from Ronnie and Charles.

MARK

How fucking stupid do you have to be?! I mean Dennis. What the fuck, Ronnie? How could you not have known it was Dennis? Then, how the fuck could you be so stupid as to let him get away. OBSERVE AND REPORT. Those are the only two things you have to do and you can't do those worth a shit.

RONNIE

Can I speak now?

MARK

Go ahead.

RONNIE

Are you sure?

MARK

Just start talking, Ronnie!

(CONTINUED)

109.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

It seems only natural that 'some people' would want to blame me and truth be told I do put a lot of that blame on myself. But some people might say that the cops are to blame for not catching them. Some people might say that the reason this happened was the undeniable fact that I was under-equipped and quite frankly, lacking a sufficient firearm. But not me. I carry this loss alone deep inside my heart.

MARK

Good. Because you're fired.

RONNIE

(PLAYFUL)

Fuck you.

MARK

I'm serious, Ronnie. I've always liked you, but there's just no excuse for this. Somebody is going down and I'll be damned if it's going to be me. Now, don't make a big thing out of this. Just pack your shit and get out by the end of the day.

RONNIE

Wait a minute. I thought I could trust you, Mark, and now you're telling me that you're going to be the one to put the knife in my back. Fair weather friend you are.

MARK

I'm not your friend, I'm your boss.

RONNIE

You think you're so smart, Mark. You don't know everything. If you're firing me, then you can say goodbye to your entire Security staff. Because there is no fucking way my team is going to work here if you fire me. Isn't that right, Charles?

(CONTINUED)

110.

CONTINUED:

CHARLES

Ronnie, I got to talk to you about this. Mark asked me down here to escort you out.

RONNIE

And you told him to fuck off, right? Charles? Right?

CHARLES

What the fuck do you want from me,
Ronnie?

RONNIE

This isn't happening! Everybody
is fucking me over?! I hate you
all.

Charles stands up.

CHARLES

I'm sorry, Ronnie, but it's time
to go.

RONNIE

Wait a minute. I'll work for
free, Mark.

MARK

No, Ronnie.

RONNIE

I'll pay you.

MARK

Nope.

RONNIE

I love you.

MARK

Ronnie, Jesus have a little self-
respect.

RONNIE

You don't love me, Mark?

MARK

Ronnie, it's over.

Ronnie takes a deep breath. He stands up to leave.
Ronnie starts to walk out, but stops.

(CONTINUED)

111.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

Hey, Charles. Mark asked you down

here in case I got out of hand?
Well, get ready to earn your
money.

Ronnie cracks. He grabs a calendar and throws it on the
ground in a violent baby-like outburst.

MARK

Stop him!

Charles tries to grab Ronnie, but Ronnie pushes him off.
Ronnie knocks the framed pictures off of the wall. He
then opens the door and slams it into the wall over and
over again. That does nothing. Ronnie tries to rip the
cushion on the chair. He looks ridiculous.

CHARLES

Alright, Ronnie, that's enough.

Ronnie stops and begins to cry. Then he runs out of the
office in tears.

INT. RONNIE'S BEDROOM - DAY/NIGHT

Ronnie lies in his bed and we...

TIME LAPSE: The sun rises and sets three times through
the window of his bedroom, signifying that three days
have passed. The whole time, Ronnie doesn't move from
his bed.

Until...

Ronnie gets on his "nice" clothes, but they're a far cry
from his Security Guard uniform. Ronnie's Mom comes up
to him.

MOM

What's on the agenda for today?

RONNIE

I guess maybe look for a job or
something.

MOM

Well, I know you're sad about it,
but try to look on the bright
side.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

There is no bright side. My life is over.

MOM

Ronnie, you may not be smart or handsome, but you've got dreams inside of you and dreams make you special. No matter what this world tries to throw at you, they can never take those dreams away.

RONNIE

What the fuck are you talking about, Mom?

MOM

I don't know. I'm drunk. I just know that mothers are supposed to talk like that to their children when they're sad, so I tried. What do you want from me?

RONNIE

Nothing. That's exactly what you're supposed to do. I just blew my life. I tried to be a big shot, a hero and a stupid cop. I wanted to be recognized for being great. I should have just been happy where I was at. I didn't do my duty.

MOM

Ronnie, the other night when I soiled my pants right before I puked myself, I was thinking about how you would come home and find me and clean me up. I knew you would be there to find me and take care of me, so I was able to pass out on the floor and not worry. If there's one thing you know about, it's duty.

RONNIE

I do it because I love you.

MOM

I know and I love you too, Ronnie.
I haven't always been easy to deal
with and most people would have
thrown me away a long time ago.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

113.

CONTINUED:

MOM (CONT'D)

Just like your father did. But
not you, Ronnie. Look, whiskey
was always the way I dealt with
being a single mother, but as I
get older, I know that I can't
keep doing this. I've got
everything I need with you. So I
want you to know that I'm ready to
make a change. Your life needs to
get easier and you don't need to
take care of old Mom anymore.

RONNIE

Are you going to quit drinking?

MOM

I'm switching to beer. I can
pound those all day and still keep
my shit together. I'm doing it
for you.

RONNIE

I'm so proud of you, Mom.

MOM

I'm proud of you. Now today is a
new day and we're going to get
through it. Now, get out there
and find what the world has in
store for you.

Ronnie's Mom leaves and Ronnie looks at himself in the
mirror. Then something catches his eye. Ronnie sees a
newspaper laying on the ground. He picks it up and
reads.

EXT. JAIL - DAY

Ronnie walks up the steps that lead to the local jail.

INT. JAIL - DAY

Ronnie walks into one of those booths where you can talk to a prisoner on the opposite side of a Plexiglas divider. Ronnie sits down in wait. Then, two GUARDS appear escorting a handcuffed Dennis. Dennis takes a seat and picks up the phone.

DENNIS

What's up, Ronnie? How you doing?

(CONTINUED)

114.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

I've been better. You?

DENNIS

I'm holding it down in here.

RONNIE

Yeah, I heard they finally caught up with you.

DENNIS

I know. I should have hit Mexico, but, you know, I got stoned and just kind of kicked with this girl in Kannapolis for a while.

RONNIE

You know they fired me when they found out you were the one who robbed the mall.

DENNIS

Shit, dog. Sorry about that.

RONNIE

It's cool, but I need to know why you did it.

DENNIS

I told you. I'm an outlaw.

RONNIE

Come on, Dennis.

DENNIS

Man, you want to know the real reason?

RONNIE

Yeah.

DENNIS

Alright, I'll tell you. Man, that gig was one of the best jobs I ever had. I got to wear a uniform, I could smoke weed whenever I wanted. For once in my life, I felt like I was actually somebody. I know most people don't think it's shit, but I really loved it. Then, all of a sudden, I find out that your ass got promoted over me.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

115.

CONTINUED:

DENNIS (CONT'D)

After all I put into it, you're the one that makes it to Head of Mall Security. You know what it's like to get passed over, Ronnie? So I got pissed off. I started robbing the joint as a way to get at them for what they did to me. But you know what, Ronnie?

RONNIE

What's that?

DENNIS

You ever love a girl so much that you can't break up with her, so the only thing you can do when she pisses you off is smack her in the

goddamn face?

RONNIE

No, Dennis, I haven't.

DENNIS

Well, I have. And that's pretty much how I felt about the job.

RONNIE

Thanks for talking to me, Dennis.

DENNIS

Well, it's the least I could do after knocking you out and all.

Ronnie starts to hang up the phone.

DENNIS

Hey, Ronnie.

RONNIE

Yeah, Dennis.

DENNIS

Bail me out of here, old friend.

RONNIE

I can't do it, Dennis. You're now a criminal who stopped caring, but my crime is that I care too much.

Ronnie hangs up the phone and walks out.

116.

INT. MALL - DAY

Ronnie comes into the mall and makes his way down the center of it, feeling naked without his uniform.

Charles, now wearing a mall security uniform, comes out and stops Ronnie.

CHARLES

Ronnie, what are you doing back here?

RONNIE

I just came to talk to Nell. Don't get your panties in a wad, I'm just here as any normal

patron.

CHARLES

Ronnie, dude, I've been all fucked up in the head. I feel like shit about what happened. I mean, here I am, just looking to shuck responsibility and I ended up hurting you in the process. Look, I should have been honest with you. I don't give two shits about this stupid job. But you do.

RONNIE

It's okay, Charles.

CHARLES

I've decided I'm going back to college. Getting stoned and studying beats this any day. I realize that now. I realize that there aren't any jobs where you can avoid hard choices. Anyway, take as long as you want at the mall. I'll keep Mark off your back.

RONNIE

Thanks, Charles.

INT. MALL - FOOD COURT - DAY

Ronnie sees Nell sitting down and eating a Cinnabon. Ronnie takes a seat at her table.

NELL

Ronnie, what are you doing here?

(CONTINUED)

117.

CONTINUED:

RONNIE

I got something I want to say.

NELL

I don't think we should be talking.

RONNIE

I'll be quick. Nell, this is the only job I was ever any good at. I'm not a crime solver or right hand of the law. I'm just a dumb guy in a uniform who can't even become a real policeman. Somewhere along the way I started to think I was something special, someone whose shit didn't stink, someone who deserved to date out of my league. You know, I've learned. My shit does stink. It smells horrible. And you're also out of my league, but for some reason, you like the smell of my shit. I guess what I'm saying is...

Ronnie reaches into his pocket and pulls out his Mother's disgusting yellow engagement ring, but for some reason, it looks beautiful.

RONNIE

If you give me another chance, I'll spend the rest of my life making it up to you. And you can call me sweetie in front of people and I'll like it.

Nell thinks about it. She leans over the table and kisses Ronnie.

Ronnie is stunned. With one kiss, Nell seems to make everything okay. They stare at each other and the moment seems to hold for an eternity. Love is in the air until...

THE PERVERT STEPS IN FRONT OF THEM AND EXPOSES HIS DING-A-LING!

Nell SCREAMS! The Pervert runs. Ronnie gets pissed!

RONNIE

Son of a bitch!!!

(CONTINUED)

118.

CONTINUED:

NELL

Oh, my God!

RONNIE

Are you alright?

NELL

I'm fine.

RONNIE

Shit, we should call somebody.

NELL

Ronnie.

RONNIE

Yeah?

NELL

Go get him.

Ronnie realizes that this is his duty and his alone. Ronnie rises from the table slowly. He looks at Nell and nods acceptance. Then, Ronnie runs after the Pervert.

INT. MALL - DAY

The Pervert is in a full blown run through the mall. His trench coat is wide open and his wienie is flapping for the world to see. In a way, it's his greatest accomplishment. People scream! Mothers grab their daughters! No one is safe!

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

Ronnie comes ripping out of the food court. He's got a fierce look of determination in his eyes. He runs hard to catch up with the Perv.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

There's a crowd surrounding the Cell Phone Kiosk. The Pervert bursts through the crowd and knocks people out of the way.

SADDAMN

What the fuck, man?!

(CONTINUED)

119.

CONTINUED:

Ronnie comes running up behind him.

RONNIE

Get out of the way! Get out of
the way!

The crowd totally clears a path for Ronnie, but Ronnie stops running and SUCKER PUNCHES SADDAMN. Saddamn goes down hard and Ronnie rejoins the chase.

RONNIE

Stay the fuck away from my wife!

CUT TO:

THE PERVERT

runs past the skaters, who are hanging out on a bench.

STEVIE

Dude, that's fucking disgusting!

Ronnie comes running way far behind.

STEVIE

Hey, Ronnie, here!

Stevie slides his skateboard out for Ronnie to jump on. Ronnie jumps like he is going to land on the skateboard and sail to the finish line. However, when Ronnie's feet touch the board, it goes shooting out from under him. Ronnie slams onto the ground. All of the skaters start laughing.

STEVIE

What a fucking douche!

Ronnie picks himself up and starts to run again. He only makes it a little ways before he hits something slippery. Ronnie falls onto the ground and cracks his head.

Ronnie lays on the ground and sees Ramon laughing against a wall with a mop in his hands.

RONNIE

Okay, Ramon, we're fucking even!

Ronnie picks himself up and starts running again.

CUT TO:

120.

THE PERVERT

runs past VICTORIA'S SECRET. He stops at the doorway and as if he can't resist, flashes the ladies in the store. He takes off running again.

CUT TO:

RONNIE

as he runs by the RECORD STORE, which of course is BLASTING MUSIC. Ronnie stops at the doorway.

RONNIE

Turn it down. Turn it down.

The Record Store guy turns the MUSIC DOWN. Ronnie goes back to his chase.

CUT TO:

THE PERVERT

runs past Mark. He looks around at all the people staring.

MARK

Okay, show's over. Enjoy your shopping experience at Carolina Mall.

Ronnie runs past Mark.

MARK

Jesus.
(calling out)
Charles!

Charles comes running up.

CHARLES

What is it?

MARK

Call the police. And go get
Ronnie.

CHARLES

He's trying to help.

MARK

Just do what I ask you.

Charles runs after them. Ronnie sees Charles coming and
runs faster. Charles is moving in on him.

(CONTINUED)

121.

CONTINUED:

CHARLES

Hey, Ronnie!

Ronnie turns around to see Charles as he flings him a
giant flashlight. Ronnie catches it.

RONNIE

Fuck yeah!

Ronnie starts running again, but this time, he's a little
more together.

CUT TO:

THE PERVERT

has made his way through the whole mall at this point,
but Ronnie is right on his ass. The Pervert is heading
toward the DEPARTMENT STORE.

INT. DEPARTMENT STORE - DAY

The Pervert comes barreling in and the ladies at the
perfume and make-up counters SCREAM.

He looks like he's charging straight at Brandi. He's getting closer.

BOOM! Ronnie comes in from the side and nails the Pervert with the flashlight. Ronnie jumps on top of the Perv and beats the ever-living shit out of him. This is a vision of a man leaving all out on the field.

Ronnie stops pounding and looks up. He sees Brandi staring at him. Ronnie is overcome by anger and beats on the Pervert harder than ever before. Finally, Charles comes in and pulls Ronnie off of him.

A huge crowd has gathered around. Ronnie has blood all over him. Ronnie picks the Pervert up and holds him tightly by the arms. Mark comes running up.

CHARLES

You want to report this to the police.

RONNIE

Hell no. I'm taking him down myself.

Ronnie starts to walk away with the Pervert.

(CONTINUED)

122.

CONTINUED:

MARK

Hey, Ronnie.

Ronnie stops and turns around. Mark tosses Ronnie a set of keys.

MARK

Good job, Ronnie.

RONNIE

Thank you, sir.

Ronnie leads the Pervert outside.

On the way, he passes Brandi.

BRANDI

Good job, Ronnie.

RONNIE

I don't love you!

BRANDI

I don't love you either.

RONNIE

Fine.

The customers and employees of the mall CLAP for Ronnie.
This is his finest moment.

CUT TO:

INT. GOLF CART - DAY

Ronnie is stuck in traffic. He looks ridiculous in the orange golf cart on a city street with a Pervert chained up beside him, but Ronnie could care less.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

The golf cart pulls up to the police station and Ronnie gets out with the Perv. Ronnie walks up the front steps and all of the officers part and let him through.

Detective Harrison is at the top of the stairs. Ronnie walks right up to him.

RONNIE

I caught the Pervert.

(CONTINUED)

123.

CONTINUED:

DETECTIVE HARRISON

I see that. Well, you better turn him over to me and I'll take him inside and book him.

RONNIE

Since you're a real Cop, right?

DETECTIVE HARRISON

Hey, Ronnie, you may not be an officer of the law, but you're the law's right hand. Good job.

Ronnie lets go of the Pervert. He nods to Harrison, then turns his back and walks back down the steps. Ronnie gets into his golf cart and drives away.

CUT TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

EXT. CAROLINA MALL - MORNING

Ronnie stands in front of the Mall with Nell beside him. Ronnie looks nervous, but Nell looks down at her yellow ring with pride. She looks at Ronnie, sees a loose eyelash and brushes it off of him.

RONNIE

What are you doing?!

NELL

You had an eyelash?

RONNIE

I'm trying to remember my speech.

NELL

Sorry.

Nell looks straight ahead, but smiles as Ronnie tries to take himself serious.

FEMALE REPORTER

Okay, Ronnie, we're ready for you.

Ronnie takes a deep breath and walks over to where the LOCAL NEWS has set up a camera and microphone.

FEMALE REPORTER

Okay, we rolling?

CAMERAMAN

Rolling.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FEMALE REPORTER

Good evening. We're here today with Ronnie Barnhardt, head of Mall Security here at Carolina Mall. Last week, Ronnie was able to catch The CAROLINA MALL FLASHER single-handed and bring him to justice. Ronnie, how did you manage to find the identity of The Pervert and take him down?

RONNIE

Well, being a mall security guard basically requires the same skill set that someone in say the FBI has. You have to use logic and evidence and old-fashioned common sense as well as the latest technology to deduce the criminal mind. It's what I do.

All of a sudden, STEVIE AND THE SKATERS come up behind Ronnie. They look into the camera lens and start smiling. Ronnie turns around and sees them, but tries to focus on the reporter.

FEMALE REPORTER

Any last words for the folks at home.

RONNIE

Yeah, I'd just like to say that Carolina Mall is back on track and safer than ever...

The Skaters start flipping off the camera. Ronnie
keeps getting distracted.

RONNIE

In fact, there are some wonderful sales taking place right now.

Stevie walks up behind Ronnie and pretends to hump him.

RONNIE

So for all you families out there, come on down and see us. It's a wonderful place.

Ronnie turns around angrily.

RONNIE
THAT'S IT, YOU LITTLE SHIT!

(CONTINUED)

125.

CONTINUED:

THE SKATERS jump on their skateboards and skate off.
Ronnie runs after them. He jumps into his GOLF CART and
gives chase.

The NEWS CAMERA is still rolling. The FEMALE REPORTER
looks into the lens.

FEMALE REPORTER

You heard it, folks. Everything
is back to normal here at Carolina
Mall. Back to you, Lindsay.

CUT TO BLACK.

THE END