

KISS ME RUBY - THE MOVIE

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LOGLINE

A director on the eve of a dangerous film trip to South America struggles to say goodbye to a prostitute whom he has developed feelings for.

SYNOPSIS

Simon had been struggling in his film career after being fired from a big directing gig, but found support on the arms of Ruby, a prostitute recommended to him by an actor called Patrick. During six months of 'consulting' with Ruby both physically and psychologically, Simon put together a new daring project to be shot in the dangerous jungles of South America. He comes to see Ruby one last time on the eve of the voyage, but finds it difficult to say goodbye as he has grown very fond of her. Ruby is the one who surprises him by revealing she has developed true feelings for him and wishes to come together on the trip. Caught off guard, Simon must decide if he loves her back and if it would be prudent to bring her along. The many obstacles involved, such as the dangers of the jungle, tight budget, and the fact that Patrick knows she's a hooker, might prove to be too many for Simon to take her. Ruby threatens she won't be around anymore if and when Simon comes back, because she can't wait on a dangerous trip that has no date of return, and risks so high as to become a 'one-way trip'. Today might be the last day they see each other and their last chance for love.

KISS ME RUBY

INT. DARK CORRIDOR - DAY

OMINOUS SCORE is playing.

SIMON (30s), dressed 1920s style with a long coat and a top hat, paces slowly until a door at the end and taps the secret knock.

Knock... knock, knock, knock...

He waits... Looks down at the long and empty dark corridor. Something's fishy.

RUBY (30s), in long dress 1920s style, opens the door but leaves the latch on. They converse through the slit.

SIMON

The bird has left the nest.

RUBY

The cat has jumped the fence.

SIMON

The pot of gold-

RUBY

Awaits at the rainbow's end.

SIMON

Are you alone?

RUBY

That's what I said.

SIMON

Let's not delay.

Ruby opens the door...

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS - DAY

Simon barges in and pushes her against the wall. He restrain her wrists and scans her up and down.

SIMON

Why should I trust you?

RUBY

You should not.

He releases her and enters the apartment. The whole place is dark, lit only by a few scattered candles. He walks towards a window and slightly sways the curtain aside to peek outside. Faint sunlight pours in.

SIMON
Why is it so dark?

RUBY
Someone might be watching.

Ruby retrieves a long kitchen knife and handles it in a creepy way. She aggressively stabs a lump of cheese.

RUBY (CONT'D)
Provolone?

SIMON
I'm not hungry.

RUBY
Thirsty?

Ruby pours two glasses of wine and offers him one. He takes it and smells it. He is suspicious.

SIMON
Give me the other one.

They swap glasses.

SIMON (CONT'D)
Drink.

She makes a motion as if to drink it, but instead she pours the entire glass on the floor and on her feet. They stare at each other. She mocks him by making a 'disgusting flirting face'. He laughs faintly. She points her finger at him.

RUBY
I win.

SIMON
Why are you pouring wine on your feet?

RUBY
I win, I win.

SIMON
No, you lose, you broke character.

RUBY
I did not!

SIMON
Roxascha would never flirt with
Romantchov like that.

RUBY
She just did. And I win.

He looks at the puddle of wine on the floor and her stained
feet.

SIMON
Well played.

They embrace each other and kiss.

RUBY
(Pulling away) Sorry, my feet are
all sticky.

SIMON
I know.

RUBY
I have to clean this.

SIMON
Yep.

Simon walks to the window and pulls the curtains aside
bathing the entire room with light. Ruby comes back with some
wet tissues and wipes the wine. Simon's PHONE RINGS.

SIMON (CONT'D)
It's my AD.

She giggles.

RUBY
Clarence?

He nods.

SIMON
Last production meeting today
before we fly out to shoot this
goddamned movie.

Simons picks up the phone.

INTERCUT AND SPLIT SCREEN WITH:

EXT. DOWNTOWN MANHATTAN - CONTINUOUS - DAY

CLARENCE (20s), dressed in a fashionable a combination of different colored pants, suit and bow tie, paces quickly talking on the phone.

SIMON
Talk to me Clarence.

CLARENCE
Hi Simon, I'm sorry to bother you.

SIMON
Well hurry up then.

CLARENCE
Yes, I'm sorry.

SIMON
Stop saying you're sorry.

Clarence struggles and nearly says he's sorry again.

SIMON (CONT'D)
Don't!

Clarence swallows dry.

CLARENCE
Where are you?

SIMON
I'm busy, but I'll be there in an hour or so.

CLARENCE
Ok... I thought you were coming early to help me set up?

SIMON
Bye Clarence.

CLARENCE
Simo-

Simon hangs up.

BACK TO:

INT. RUBY'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS - DAY

RUBY
How is he?

SIMON
He's fine, let's not talk about
him.

RUBY
Are you sure it's fine?

SIMON
(Flirting)
It can be better. How much time do
we have?

RUBY
You're asking me? (...) You know I
don't bring any other clients here.
I reserved the day just for you.

They start making out. She climbs his back, he carries her to
the bedroom and kicks down the door.

INT. RUBY'S BEDROOM - DAY

Simon and Ruby are having sex.

SIMON
Oh yeah. That's it.

RUBY
Yeah?

SIMON
Yeah, yeah.

RUBY
Yeah!

SIMON
Yeaaaah!

RUBY
Yes!

They orgasm.

SIMON
Baby, I love you baby.

RUBY
I love you too darling.

He is embarrassed.

SIMON

Wow, that came out of nowhere. I'm sorry.

RUBY

Don't worry, it's ok.

SIMON

Do your other clients say shit like this?

RUBY

Right. Ahm, yeah, these things happen.

SIMON

Right.

RUBY

The heat of the moment, right?

SIMON

Right, I don't know why I got embarrassed. I guess I do love you in a way and I just wanted to say that I'm going to miss this. I'm going to miss this a lot.

RUBY

You are?

SIMON

I wish I had a little more time.

RUBY

Do you wish we had more time?

SIMON

But then I would just be giving excuses, wouldn't I? Thanks to you I don't do that shit anymore.

RUBY

Right. Good job Mr. Director.

SIMON

Thank you. I mean, of course I'm a little nervous and since you can see right through me I won't even try to hide it, but because of you I feel good, you know? I feel patient.

(MORE)

SIMON (CONT'D)

I know there will be a lot of conflict on this trip and everything is gonna go wrong all the time. But that's ok. Conflict is good.

RUBY

I wish we had more time.

SIMON

That's so cute. I am so sorry my money is going away from you.

RUBY

Right... Haha...

SIMON

All right, I get it. I'm taking off. Just let me find my clothes.

RUBY

No, not at all.

Simon finds his watch.

SIMON

Shit, 6:30pm, Clarence must be going crazy already. All right. Life. What am I doing. I... Let me get out of here, I don't want to mess with your precious schedule. I'm sure you have other clients waiting for you.

RUBY

No. Not today, and never here.

SIMON

Time is money.

Simon clumsily puts his clothes on.

RUBY

Hey, just calm down. All is gonna be there for you just where you left it.

SIMON

What?

RUBY

I mean... Hurry up? You're gonna fuck it up?

SIMON

Right.

RUBY

Directors are always early...
Right?

SIMON

Yep, fun time is over,
unfortunately. Now it's the
important stuff. Business.

RUBY

Yes sir...

Simon is ready to go. They look at each other.

SIMON

(Tries to 'french it up')
*Avant que je ne parte, mon cheri,
je veux juste dire, merci. J'espère
vous revoir. Au revoir.*

Simon kisses Ruby's hand.

RUBY

That was beautiful.

SIMON

All right, see you in six months. I
mean, if I don't get shot by some
crazy narco or something, right?

Simon walks to the door.

RUBY

Are you not forgetting anything?

SIMON

Holy shit, I almost forgot to pay
you.

RUBY

Oh, no. Not that...

SIMON

Yes, I did.

RUBY

Don't worry about it, honestly,
just pay me next time? I was
thinking-

Simon checks his wallet.

SIMON

Next time? That will take months. I mean, literally this whole production just might go south because I have no money to pay for it and, if that's the case, I might never see you again.

RUBY

Really?

SIMON

No, I mean, I do have money to pay you now, obviously, but probably not to get the shooting done and then come back to America and-

RUBY

No, Simon, just relax for a minute.

SIMON

Right, I'm rambling, no second thoughts. A director always knows what he's doing even if he doesn't.

RUBY

Yes...

SIMON

\$250?

RUBY

No.

SIMON

No, right, extra time.

RUBY

No!

Simon checks his watch.

SIMON

6:35pm. And I thought you were supposed to keep track of time.

RUBY

Simon.

SIMON

It's ok, I forgot it too. Let's call it another \$100 then?

RUBY
It's not about the money.

Simon senses something in Ruby's tone but prefers not to indulge.

SIMON
No. Of course I'll pay you. I told you, 'therapy' is in the budget. I almost forgot. I've been wanting to do this for a long time. Ready?

He tosses a bunch of \$1 bills in the air.

SIMON (CONT'D)
I shower you with gold my diva!

RUBY
Woo...

Ruby is not excited but catches a couple of gliding bills and places them in her bra.

SIMON
You see? I brought all these bills. My wallet was like, so thick... Don't you think that's funny? You seem a little... What's wrong?

RUBY
Nothing.

SIMON
Is it because I'm leaving?

RUBY
What? Of course not...

SIMON
Right. Didn't think so.

RUBY
I was just thinking that...

SIMON
Hum?

RUBY
You could use more 'therapy'.

SIMON
Hum?

RUBY
And I could use some time off.

SIMON
What?

RUBY
God damn it, do I have to spell it out for you?

SIMON
What?

RUBY
Can't you take me with you?

SIMON
What?

RUBY
I don't know, it's just something I was thinking. Take a vacation or something.

SIMON
You want to come to South America with me?

RUBY
Maybe?

SIMON
Are you being serious right now?

RUBY
I can help, no? Like I was helping with the castings?

SIMON
Well, I'm going to be working, yes, in the middle of the jungle! Where you can't wear your pretty clothes that you look so beautiful. I told, it's so rainy and damp over there your clothes don't get dry for days. Plus the bugs, diseases, rebel groups...

RUBY
Like in 'Hearts of Darkness', I get it. A filmmakers real life nightmarish adventure.

SIMON

Plus, I'm pretty sure I got all the help I can afford.

RUBY

You don't have to pay me anything. I can pay for my own ticket, and what's even better, I can be an investor. So you see. You paid me for... 'Therapy', and I'll pay you for... Accompanying me in an adventure.

SIMON

Ok... I'm gonna go..? I have a meeting...

RUBY

We could make it work.

SIMON

...And everyone is probably there already, and I'm in charge. I'm the director...

RUBY

We could keep each other company.

SIMON

...The plane leaves tomorrow, I have to explain everything to the entire crew today, there's a major investor I still have to secure. The whole enterprise might be ruined! I mean, odds of that happening are already like, so high.

RUBY

Nobody would know. We would be mixing business with pleasure.

SIMON

You're not kidding, ok, first of all-

RUBY

Except for Patrick of course.

SIMON

Exactly. Patrick.

RUBY

He's such a nice guy though, he wouldn't give us any problems.

SIMON

Is he now? Nice in what sense?

RUBY

Don't even start, you know I exercise full discretion with all my clients.

SIMON

Fucking actor is already nagging me for more lines. If I bring you along-

RUBY

Well, if it weren't for him you wouldn't have met the love of your life.

SIMON

Exactly. He knows how happy you make me. He knows me too well.

RUBY

Just man up. If he keeps asking you for stuff just cut him off.

SIMON

Just man up... If Patrick knows then Wanda knows. And if Wanda knows then everybody knows.

RUBY

Wanda is a troglodyte and a bitch, I don't know why you cast her.

SIMON

Jungle? Hiking? Narcos?

RUBY

Yes, I get the troglodyte part.

SIMON

Whatever, that's not the point I'm trying to make.

RUBY

You're afraid.

SIMON

No, that's not the point either.

RUBY
Mixing business with pleasure.

SIMON
Yes. That's what got me in trouble
in the first place.

RUBY
I know.

SIMON
I got fired for freaking out on the
set and snapping at my producer.
Why? Because I took something
personal when I shouldn't. And did
my long lasting friendship with him
make any difference when I called
to apologize? Of course not, the
damage was done.

RUBY
You are afraid.

SIMON
No. No more mixing business with
pleasure. That's the best decision.
Otherwise you just ruin everything.

RUBY
We have been seeing each other for
six months, I think I know a little
bit about you at this point.

SIMON
Shit Ruby, if you want to take a
vacation go somewhere else, you
have the entire world. Definitely
not the middle of the jungle. I
mean, ok if it happens that you are
in South America in the same
country as me, and in a hotel, I
guess we can meet for a quicky.

RUBY
You would like that, wouldn't you?

SIMON
Yes, but I have more important
things to worry about right now.

RUBY
Then what is keeping you?

SIMON
You are!

RUBY
Am I? Are you sure? Because I don't
think so.

SIMON
Yes, I'm ready to go.

Simon's PHONE RINGS.

SIMON (CONT'D)
Look, Clarence is calling. I have
to go.

RUBY
I won't be here when you come back.
If you ever come back.

Simon answers the phone.

INTERCUT AND SPLIT SCREEN WITH:

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM IN AN OFFICE - CONTINUOUS - DAY

Clarence is by the door away from the table at the back where
the CREW is engaged in inaudible conversation.

SIMON
Yes Clarence.

CLARENCE
Hi Simon, where are you?

SIMON
I'll be right there, ok?

CLARENCE
The investor is here.

SIMON
Ok, just tell him I'll be right
there.

CLARENCE
It might just be me, but I think
moods are heating a little bit
here.

SIMON
Calm down Clarence.

CLARENCE

I can't do this without you. People are gonna pull out on the deal, we're gonna lose everything. No movie.

SIMON

Clarence, just be yourself. That's why I hired you, because you're nice. Because you can do this.

CLARENCE

Simon, do you care about this movie?

SIMON

What sort of question is that, of course!

CLARENCE

Because you're losing it.

SIMON

I literally went broke because of it.

CLARENCE

You're losing your baby.

SIMON

Just stall them, I'll be right there. Bye Clarence.

CLARENCE

Oh my god-

Simon hangs up.

BACK TO:

INT. RUBY'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS - DAY

SIMON

Clarence... Is freaking out already. I have to go.

RUBY

Goodbye then.

SIMON

Goodbye. I don't know why you're doing this.

(MORE)

SIMON (CONT'D)

You're really sort of ruining this for me because the idea of seeing you again was actually bringing me some comfort. Anyway-

RUBY

Because I fucking love you, stupid ass.

Simon is speechless.

RUBY (CONT'D)

There. I said it. I don't want you to go without me.

Simon is playful.

SIMON

I mean... I love you too darling?

RUBY

No...

SIMON

Holy shit.

RUBY

Surprise...

SIMON

No, no, no. Nobody loves me.

RUBY

I do.

SIMON

I mean, my mom did but that's because she carried me for nine months and I came out of her vagina.

RUBY

You've opened up to me so many times. You're funny and cute and sad and I think I have a thing for sad guys, I feel pity for them-

SIMON

Got it. Yes, I agree, I am depressing.

RUBY

No wait, let me explain.

SIMON

Thank you, I appreciate your pity.

RUBY

With you is different. You know? I know you.

SIMON

No, you don't. You're not my fucking therapist, you are a hooker. Ok? How about we go back to being honest with each other here.

RUBY

Do you think it's fair that you got to open up to me so many times and made me listen to all your bullshit.

SIMON

Wow!

RUBY

And I didn't get to open up not once.

SIMON

First of all, bullshit?

RUBY

First of all, hooker?

SIMON

I am paying you.

RUBY

I just thought that... I'm so fucking stupid. Why do you do this Ruby? Why do you do this! Ruby!

SIMON

You are so unfair. You had plenty of opportunities to say whatever you wanted.

RUBY

No I didn't.

SIMON

But you were always so... Boss. I never thought-

RUBY

That's the job. It didn't seem smart to mix business with pleasure. But after listening to you-

SIMON

What? I said the opposite.

RUBY

You said the opposite but what you actually meant was the opposite of the opposite.

SIMON

Well I'm sorry, but I thought I was saying what I was saying.

RUBY

Is that all you have to say?

SIMON

If it makes you feel any better I've been told that I'm like a vampire. That I suck people's energies to feed my ego and make everyone around me feel miserable. And it never stops, because I'm a depthless well. The emptiness inside of me can never be fulfilled. Best thing for you is to stay as far away from me as possible.

RUBY

You told me that already. In different words but meaning the same thing.

SIMON

How can I possibly love you back, Ruby? I'm not gonna date a... Call-girl.

RUBY

Right... Got it. Forget about it. Let's not make a big deal out of this. I was just kidding. And you better go. You're running late.

Simon checks his watch.

SIMON

Yeah, shit. At this point I'd better spend on an Uber.

Simon checks his phone.

SIMON (CONT'D)

Great, there's a 'Mohamed' only five minutes away... Done.

RUBY

Ok. Have a safe trip, thank you for your business. Now get out.

SIMON

Ruby-

RUBY

Go away.

SIMON

Ruby, I'm sorry.

RUBY

Get out! Get out of here! Do you want to see me cry you fucking asshole? Go away and never come back.

SIMON

Fuck man. Why the women I like never like me, and the women I don't like, do! No, I mean, it's not that I don't like you. I mean... All this time I thought we were being honest with each other but now you are telling me that it was all a lie?

RUBY

No, I thought I was being honest too, but then for once in my life I started feeling something different than ego, or pity or envy. And you gave me that. So, I'm sorry that I told you, but I'm also really glad that I did because I would regret it so much more if I didn't.

SIMON

I don't know what to say.

RUBY

Of course you don't. It's not fair what I did to you. And now you're gonna be late for your meeting and it's my fault. I'm sorry, it's just something I do, I repeatedly ruin other people's lives just so I can blame myself for it.

SIMON

You're kind of like a vampire like me.

RUBY

Yes, but with a burden of blame.

SIMON

Do you want to talk about it?

RUBY

How the tables have turned.

SIMON

I can't give you good feedback though. Best I can do is an awkward tap at the back.

RUBY

I appreciate your pity.

SIMON

You're welcome.

RUBY

...A long time ago I ran away from home because I thought I could make it on my own. One day when my beautiful prideful self found herself with no roof above her head and nothing to eat, she did not go back to mommy. No she didn't... It's funny I told my mom I was gonna be an actress. That that was my destiny, you know? It had always been my dream since I was little. C'mon, how depressing is that. You can laugh.

SIMON

Yeah, that's pretty depressing. It would be even more depressing if you were still pursuing acting.

RUBY

I am!

They laugh. He is suspicious.

RUBY (CONT'D)

Yeah... For a second there I became that little girl again who pictured... I pictured my self... That's so silly... I pictured myself with you, going to South America together and shooting your stupid movie... I know what you're thinking. I admit, I appreciated your business if that's what you want to hear. But I mostly enjoyed being with you, playing theatre with you, hearing your stories about show business. Your passion, the struggle of making a movie. I wanted to be a part of it, but how could I possibly say any of that without sounding utterly and completely petty and desperate... I wanted to have everything, mix business with-

Simon's PHONE RINGS.

RUBY (CONT'D)

Your Uber is here.

SIMON

(Into phone) Hi. Yes, I'll be right down. (Hangs up) Fucking Ubers come so fast...

RUBY

You're gonna be late. Just go. Get out of here.

Simon doesn't move.

RUBY (CONT'D)

Are you worried about me or something? Just go. I'll be fine. Because you know who loves me? Me. I know how to take care of myself. I'll go on my own adventure and I'll start over as many times as I have to.

SIMON

You're gonna be fine. I mean, I wish I was going by myself too, you know? Loners will be lonely... Nah, who am I kidding, I'm glad that I have company. The guys are nice. Patrick is nice... And...

RUBY

Clarence?

SIMON

Yes, Clarence.

Ruby imitates Clarence in a squeaky voice.

RUBY

(Imitating Clarence)

Hi I'm Clarence. How are you beautiful peoples?

Simon also imitates Clarence's voice.

SIMON

(Imitating Clarence)

I'm Clarence. Don't think of me as your boss, think of me as your friend.

RUBY

(Imitating Clarence)

I am so sorry everybody. I am SO sorry about everything.

SIMON

(Imitating Clarence)

Mimimi. Sniff, sniff, sniff.

RUBY

And Wanda.

SIMON

(Rough voice, imitating Wanda)
Yes. Wanda.

Ruby strikes a masculine pose.

RUBY

Wanda-Wall. Woo!

SIMON

Somebody's gotta protect Clarence.

RUBY
Right.

SIMON
Yeah...

RUBY
They're nice.

SIMON
Yeah... They're very nice...
Everybody's nice...

Simon's PHONE RINGS. He doesn't pick up.

SIMON (CONT'D)
I used to work with this guy and he kept telling me that because I'm lonely and shit I would end up dating a hooker. That one day I would have enough money to keep fucking her and then I would get an exclusive or something. And it kind of made sense, I never really excluded that possibility, I just never thought that I would end up dating a hooker without having any money. I'm broke Ruby. All my money is going into this crazy movie in South America. And... I love you too.

Simon's PHONE RINGS again.

RUBY
The meeting!

SIMON
The meeting! Oh my god!

RUBY
Oh my god! You're gonna be late!

SIMON
Everyone's waiting for me.

RUBY
You better hurry.

SIMON
Yes, yes. Right. Ok.

Simon is ready to leave.

SIMON (CONT'D)
So, we're going to South America
then?

RUBY
Yes we are.

SIMON
Ok. We have to buy your plane
ticket.

RUBY
Good idea.

SIMON
Oh my god, this is never going to
work.

RUBY
Nothing ever works.

SIMON
You might die in the jungle.

RUBY
You'll protect me.

SIMON
We're going to fight a lot.

RUBY
Conflict is good?

SIMON
I'm going to be jealous. Fuck, I
mean, Patrick's going to be there.

RUBY
Patrick is ugly and horrible in
bed.

SIMON
Really?

RUBY
Yes, and his dick is small.

SIMON
I knew it.

RUBY
I prefer yours even when it's soft.

SIMON
Ok. That's too far.

RUBY
Ok, sorry.

SIMON
Ok. It's ok. Wait. What about you?

RUBY
What?

SIMON
Are you not coming to the meeting?

RUBY
Of course not. You go.

SIMON
But the whole crew is there.

RUBY
Precisely. And I'm a mess. We're both a mess, but you unfortunately have no choice. You have to go.

SIMON
No... You should come. I should introduce you today. My new assistant.

RUBY
Simon, no. We're not thinking straight over here.

He approaches her.

SIMON
C'mon, put some clothes on. Let's go mix some business with pleasure.

She embraces him.

SIMON (CONT'D)
Ok. Let's do a quicky and then we go.

They kiss.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM IN AN OFFICE - DAY

Clarence is distressed. He is on the phone waiting for Simon to pick up. It rings once, it rings twice, and then...

INTERCUT AND SPLIT SCREEN WITH:

INT. MOVING CAR - CONTINUOUS - DAY

Simon speaks on the phone. Ruby sits next to him.

SIMON

I'm in a cab, I'm almost there.

CLARENCE

That's what you said thirty minutes ago.

SIMON

Hang in there Clarence. Tell them I was securing a new investor. A really hot one.

Simon winks at Ruby.

CLARENCE

Is that why you're so late?

SIMON

Yes, and I'm bringing her with me. You're all going to meet her.

CLARENCE

They're gonna leave, Simon, the minute I hang up the phone.

SIMON

No they're not.

CLARENCE

Yes they are.

SIMON

You're not gonna let them. Remember, if you look worried, than everybody else will get worried too.

CLARENCE

I'm not so sure if that ship hasn't already sailed.

SIMON

A director always knows what he's doing, even when he doesn't.

CLARENCE

I'm not-

SIMON

Yes you are. You are the assistant director, that's what that means. Now go do your job and save the movie.

CLARENCE

I can't-

SIMON

Be a dick, Clarence. Show them who's in charge. Please. I'm in the middle of traffic, I'm gonna hop off and make a run for it. See you in a few.

Simon hangs up.

BACK TO:

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM IN AN OFFICE - DAY

Clarence turns to face the EIGHT CREW MEMBERS: WANDA (30s), PATRICK (30s), NESTOR THE DP(30s) who has a camera on a strap around his neck, PHIL THE PA (20s), DAVID THE INVESTOR (40s) and THREE CREW MEMBERS (20s to 40s).

DAVID

So?

Clarence is very shy.

CLARENCE

So, hm, Simon said he's on his way-

NESTOR

Where is he coming from? Alaska?

DAVID

That's it, I'm leaving. And I'm taking my money with me.

CLARENCE

Mr. Harris, please. Just a few more minutes.

DAVID

Don't 'Mr. Harris' me. I've had enough. This is bullshit.

CLARENCE

No!

DAVID

Excuse me?

For a second it looks like Clarence is going to 'man up' and be a 'dick' like Simon said, but instead...

CLARENCE

I'm sorry. I am so sorry. Please don't go. Just stay.

Clarence is about to cry.

DAVID

Why should I?

CLARENCE

Because... We're so close, we can't give up now.

DAVID

We haven't even started.

CLARENCE

We've been preparing for this for months. Simon has been working on it for years.

DAVID

Then where is he?

CLARENCE

He's in a cab, he's bringing a new investor.

DAVID

Bullshit.

CLARENCE

It's true. That's what took him so long. He was out there, working to make this work. We got it. We got all the funding we need. All I'm asking is a little bit more patience. Please.

NESTOR

I don't know Clarence... I think I speak for all of us here that this production is a mess.

CLARENCE

But it's always a mess, isn't it? Nestor?

NESTOR

Not this time. This time we are
literally worried for our lives.

CLARENCE

We just got cold feet.

DAVID

Talk about yourself Cinderella.

CLARENCE

Specially me. It's true. But that
doesn't mean it doesn't apply to
you too.

DAVID

Then who's gonna lead us? Our
absent leader who has abandoned us
on the eve of departure?

CLARENCE

Yes.

DAVID

What a relief it gives me to hear
you say that.

CLARENCE

And me too.

DAVID

You? I would never follow you into
the jungle, not in a million years.

CLARENCE

So what then? You're just gonna
give up?

DAVID

Yes, and save a lot of money.

NESTOR

Save my equipment from humidity and
disaster.

WANDA

I'm worried about not having a
bathroom.

PATRICK

Simon doesn't want to give my
character more lines.

CLARENCE

Leave now and save a lot of money, yes. Go back to your homes, live comfortably, keep your equipment safe, audition for other movies. And many years from now when you're telling your lives' stories to your kids, I hope you have enough of those because there's nothing sadder than an old man who hasn't lived. Instead of you Nestor, it will be someone else capturing those beautiful nature shots.

NESTOR

Are you threatening me?

CLARENCE

Probably someone who doesn't have your ability, who doesn't have your fancy '20K', 'ultra gigs', 'shutter speeds' camera. But someone's gonna do it.

Clarence turns to Phil who is somewhat distracted playing on his phone and taking selfies.

CLARENCE (CONT'D)

Somebody is gonna bring his phone and post EVERYTHING on Instagram, all day long, everyday. With monkeys, and nature and... 'Lions', I think... And... Beasts.

He turns to Wanda, the bulky actress.

CLARENCE (CONT'D)

Why work out everyday? Just so you can look good? Go out at night to dance and pick up dick?

He turns to Patrick.

CLARENCE (CONT'D)

You want your acting to be deep? How could you possibly improve if you've never suffered, never dared and never seen anything.

He turns to David.

CLARENCE (CONT'D)

Opportunity often wears a disguise. It's called uncertainty.

(MORE)

CLARENCE (CONT'D)

Fear of the unknown. And if you can't recognize her, she just walks by and leaves you behind.

CAMERA PUSHES IN ON CLARENCE.

CLARENCE (CONT'D)

Somebody is going, because I'm going, and Simon is going. And if we survive, that's all we're gonna talk about for decades and decades to come. It's not about money, it's about living. It's not about fame, it's about glory. We are all part of this. It belongs to all of us. Are you with me?

SIMON

Aye.

RUBY

Aye!

Simon and Ruby had slipped in unnoticed. Wanda stands up.

WANDA

Aye!

And then Patrick.

PATRICK

Aye!

And then Phil, still looking at his phone.

PHIL

Aye...

The other THREE CREW MEMBERS.

THREE CREW MEMBERS

Aye!

Nestor.

NESTOR

Aye...

CAMERA PUSHES IN ON DAVID.

David takes his time. Everybody around him is happy and excited. He nods.

DAVID

Aye.

RUBY

Yahoo!

SIMON

South America here we come baby!

Simon embraces Ruby under one arm and Clarence under the other.

THE END