

"CONCUPISCENCE"

Written By
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INT. COPY CENTER - DAY

CUT BETWEEN Opening Credits print out on color copiers, laser printers, dot matrix printers.

ZOOM shots of extras working in a small copy shop downtown. WHIP PAN to & from the different people being described. (POV of Peter & Dan)

DAN (V.O.)

And what about her ?

PETER (V.O.)

The impression I get is that she was the kinda girl in high school that was plain Jane, you know ? One of those girls that was never the homecoming queen, but put together the dance.

DAN (V.O.)

I can see that. Always in all the clubs and social, but never the girl every guy wanted.

PETER (V.O.)

Right. And then in college she dated one or two guys, married the long time boyfriend. And now, she's in her late twenties and fianlly blossomed into a sexual creature and feels like she missed something.

DAN (V.O.)

And her ? She looks like she's had it hard.

PETER (V.O.)

Mary ? You know how some people get a bit of the ugly tree ? Someone made a baseball bat and beat her senseless with it.

DAN (V.O.)

You are truly evil, man.

PETER (V.O.)

I am an agent of the Devil, but my duties are largely ceremonial. Now **THIS** girl is something else.

C.U. (ZOOM) on BETSY, early 20's, dressed business like, but very modern & sexy.

PETER (CON'T)

She has the look like a woman who is repressing a latent desire, a woman who is ready for discovery.

INT. COPY SHOP, DAN'S DESK - DAY

Two shot of DAN & PETER, early 30's, Dan is a little bit disheveled, and Peter is very well dressed, but unshaven.

DAN

I think you're wrong. Betsy is right out of college and my guess is she's focussing on her career.

PETER

Yeah right. With those clothes ? Are you kidding me ? She's in dire need of man. Right out of college ? She's probably just getting over all of her lesbian experiments with her roommate in the dorm or with her sorority sisters. Wearing those nighties and possibly having a pillow fight with...

DAN

You ARE an idiot. Not every girl on earth goes through a Penthouse Forum story, you know.

PETER

Just look at her.

CUT TO: Show Betsy, arms folded, staring back at them.

CUT TO : back to the guys.

PETER (CON'T)

She could probably...

They slowly look back to her.

CUT TO: Betsy, eyebrow raised.

CUT TO: The guys start to straighten out their desks, and move around.

DAN

Maybe we should get back on that project file.

PETER

Do you have the invoice ?

Betsy comes up to their desks.

BETSY

Don't you have work to keep you busy ?

DAN

No, we were just...

PETER

It may not look like it, but on a molecular level, I am very busy. Can I ask you something ?

Dan rolls his eyes.

PETER (CON'T)

I was wondering if you could tell what college you went to.

BETSY

I went to Bairdsford University.

PETER

Is that an all girl's school ?

DAN

Peter...

PETER

It's just that, I think you are attractive. I'm definitely attracted to you. I think we should go out. You and me.

BETSY

What's my last name ?

PETER

Does it matter ?

BETSY

It does to me.

PETER

I can always find out.

BETSY

If you were interested in something other than just sex, you might have thought to find that out.

PETER

What is your last name ?

BETSY

BEFORE giving me a reason to mistrust strangers.

PETER

I don't need to know your last name when I cry out a name while giving you a...

DAN

STOP !

BETSY

As much as I am refreshed and challenged by your unique attempts, you've got the emotional depth of a rain puddle.

PETER

So maybe tonight at 8 O'clock ?

BETSY

How about never ? Does never work for you ?

INT. COPYSHOP, BOSSES OFFICE - DAY

The Boss, older and grumpy, comes out to the main room of the office.

BOSS

Can I please have everyone's attention ? This is important. We just received word from our printers that all jobs sent to them last night are lost. I am looking for volunteers to work late tonight to re-do the jobs.

Everyone gathers around the bosses office door. People groan at the mention of overtime.

PETER

Big boss man...

BOSS

Peter, I'm visualizing the duct tape over your mouth already.

PETER

Sir, it's Friday night. Asking people to work late like this is cruel and unusual. I suggest our newest employees put in the time. A lot of us have already worked overtime in our tenure here.

BOSS

This idea actually sounds reasonable.
(to his secretary)
Have the pharmacy refill my prescription.

PETER

If I might say, sir...

BOSS

Do I have any volunteers ?

BETSY

I'll stay.

Dan perks up.

BOSS

Good. Anyone else ?

DAN

I will too. It's a thankless job, but I have a lot of bad karma to work off.

BOSS

Excellent. You'll both get some overtime. Come into my office and I'll divvy up the job assignments.

Everyone breaks off and goes back to work.

PETER

What are you doing ? We're supposed to go to Hooters tonight.

DAN

This is my chance. A night alone with Betsy.

PETER

Chance ? What chance ? You have been trying to hit on her for the last three weeks.

(frustrated sigh)

Need I remind you of the previous attempts to even get a word out ?

INT. BREAK ROOM, COPYSHOP - DAY

Flashback, BLACK & WHITE - film.

Betsy is going straight towards the refrigerator, and Dan movies in from the side. As he opens his mouth to speak, she slams him in the face with the freezer door.

INT. BREAK ROOM, COPYSHOP - DAY

Flashback, BLACK & WHITE - film

Betsy pours herself a cup of Java, and Dan pours coffee all over his hand as he tries to look calm. He starts to sweat and shiver as a 3rd degree burn sinks in. He runs off in a panic. Betsy looks at him crooked.

INT. COPYSHOP MAIN ROOM - DAY

Betsy sits at her desk. From behind, Dan tries to lean on her desk, and slips to the ground, but all the papers in his hands fly into the air.

INT. COPYSHOP MAIN ROOM - DAY

C.U. Dan & Peter, Dan staring into the bosses office.

Wide shot of window into bosses office, of Betsy getting her job assignment from the boss.

DAN

Well, I was going to send her an email.
That is the adult version of passing
notes.

PETER

Are you insane ? Give this up. Hooters.
Lots of them. And the food is good too.

DAN

Nope.

PETER

You leave me no choice. I am going to
have to help convince you.

(Dan rummages through his
desk)

Whenever there is a major decision in
my life, I have a technique that has
never lead me astray.

(finds it)

A-ha !

DAN

What is it ?

Peter ceremoniously whips out a "Magic 8 Ball".

PETER

Will Dan find true love with Betsy
tonight ?

(shakes the ball, reads it)

"Not likely". There is the proof. The
Magic 8 ball never lies.

DAN

It said "Not likely" which means there
is still a chance.

Dan starts to walk to the bosses office.

PETER

Don't say I didn't warn you.

FADE OUT:

INT. COPYSHOP MAIN ROOM - NIGHT

Wide shot, high up. MONTAGE sequence of Betsy and Dan working in different places. Cross dissolve from place to place. Working sometimes separate, and sometimes together.

INT. COPYSHOP MAIN ROOM - NIGHT

At the plain copy machine, Betsy presses a button and turn around.

DAN

Do you work out ?

BETSY

Yeah. I go to the gym three times a week. You ?

DAN

I tried that 8 minute abs tape once, but I did not get the six pack.

BETSY

I think you're supposed to use it more than once.

DAN

I think that's misleading. It clearly said "8 minute abs". I put in the 8 minutes. I let the Better Business Bureau know how I felt.

BETSY

I'm going on a food run. Do you want anything ?

DAN

Sure. A hamburger. Medium.

BETSY

You like your burgers medium ?

DAN

Yeah. Why ?

BETSY

I've never known anyone else who gets their burgers done medium.

DAN

I'm sure there are people who do.

BETSY

Well, yeah. DUH ! I just mean, I've never known anyone personally.

DAN
Thanks. Need some cash ?

BETSY
I got this one, cowboy.

Betsy leaves.

INT. COPYSHOP, DAN'S DESK - NIGHT

Dan types into the computer and listens to music on his jam box.

The THEME FROM THE LOVE BOAT comes on. He turns up the volume. He starts to karaoke with it.

CUT TO: an overhead shot.

Dan is singing as Betsy enters and stares.

BETSY
I see you've set aside this time to humiliate yourself in public.

Dan turns off the music.

BETSY
I don't know what your problem is, but I'm positive it's hard to pronounce.

DAN
Sorry. Sometimes you get a feeling, and you roll with it.

BETSY
The Love Boat ?

DAN
Well...

Betsy sets down the bag of burgers. Dan moves towards her.

DAN
Can I tell you something ?

BETSY
Sure.

Dan leans next to her on the same desk.

DAN
I don't know you that well, but I feel like I've known you forever. There's something about you, I can't put my finger on it. There's this connection.

He turns to her. She looks up at him.

DAN

Maybe, I'm just crazy, but I have to tell you this. I think you are amazing. You are sweet. I see you giving "get well" cards to people you've worked with for less than a month. I can see your face light up when something goes your way. It's the way you get that look of triumph whenever finish your 3:PM game of solitaire and win,
(IMPROV LINES)
You... are... perfect.

Dan leans in for a kiss. She closes her eyes too.

Just before their lips meet.

Betsy sucker punches Dan full swing into his stomach. Dan crouches over, gasping for breath. Betsy stand upright.

BETSY

How stupid do you think I am ?

DAN

(gasp)

BETSY

Take a sec. I see the picture of your wife on your desk everyday.

DAN

(still gasping, not able to fully stand up)

BETSY

Okay, I'm going back to work. Someday we'll look back at this moment, laugh nervously, and change the subject.

Betsy walks away. Dan's fingers are still on the desk, trying to pull himself up.

FADE TO BLACK.

THE END