AUSTRALIAN NATURE GUY

by

Steve Nazarian

stevenaz226@comcast.net
WGA Registered
Copyright 2008
FADE IN:

INT. OFFICE BUILDING - DAY

A group of people stand in line in front of

A VENDING MACHINE

A businesswoman, PATTY, 37, presses her nose up against the plexi-glass window. She steps back, unsure of what to get.

BOB (O.S.)

Tough decision?

Patty turns to BOB, 42, a businessman standing behind her.

PATTY

Sorry, Bob.

Patty turns back to the vending machine and puts a dollar in it. The machine spits it out. She tries again. It spits it out again.

Bob turns and gives a pained look at the person standing behind him. He is startled to see

AUSTRALIAN NATURE GUY

Australian Nature Guy wears a safari outfit and speaks with an Australian accent. Think guy from Animal Planet.

AUSTRALIAN NATURE GUY

G’day, mate! Glory day for a candy bar, eh?

A confused look from Bob.

BACK TO THE VENDING MACHINE

Patty finally gets the vending machine to take her dollar. She hits B-7. A bag of chips slowly pushes forward in the tray... then gets stuck... and doesn’t fall.

PATTY

Sonuva!

Patty shakes the vending machine, then kicks it, but the bag of chips won’t budge.

PATTY

Motherfucker!

Australian Nature Guy brushes past Bob.
BOB
Hey, I’m next buddy--

Australian Nature Guy holds his index finger to his lips...

AUSTRALIAN NATURE GUY
Shhhhhhhhh...

... and then tips his hat to Patty, who smiles.

AUSTRALIAN NATURE GUY
(whispering)
All right there, Lassie... Be very quiet and don’t make any sudden movements...

BOB
I’m sorry do you even work here?

Australian Nature Guy SHUSHES him again.

AUSTRALIAN NATURE GUY
(whispering)
Careful friend... It looks like a croc has got inside your big shiny box of treats... This one’s got a sweet tooth on her, do right!

Bob and Patty are both fucking speechless.

Australian Nature Guy inspects the vending machine, cocking his head sideways as he runs his hands over the plexi-glass window.

AUSTRALIAN NATURE GUY
(whispering)
Oh gory! This croc’s gotten herself inside a fat onion now hasn’t she! I don’t think she can wiggle herself out of there on her own!

BOB
Now see here buddy--

Patty SHUSHES Bob this time.

BOB
What you’re shushing me now? Patty, you don’t actually think this lunatic can fix the machine--
PATTY
I don’t know, Bob. There’s something about him...

BOB
Yes... He’s a retarded person.

PATTY
Maybe it’s because I’m a city girl and he’s lived his whole life in The Bush...

BOB
More like an actual bush I’d say.

PATTY
Or maybe it’s because he looks good in a safari outfit...

BOB
He looks completely ridiculous. Especially in this office setting.

PATTY
Maybe something about him tells me he can teach us all a valuable lesson not only about our lives... but about this great big planet we call Earth...

BOB
Maybe you need to get your head examined. Wait-- isn’t that the plot from Crocodile Dundee?

PATTY
I don’t care if it is. I trust him. I trust him with my life!

BOB
You really need to get out of the office more, Patty.

BACK TO THE VENDING MACHINE

Patty taps Australian Nature Guy on the shoulder.

PATTY
(whispering)
How’s it look? Can you fix it?

Australian Nature Guy gives her a wink and confident grin.
AUSTRALIAN NATURE GUY
(rhetorical)
Do wallabies shimmy gandashanks?

PATTY
(whispering)
I... I have no idea... I just
really want my bag of chips... and
if you can get them for me... I’m
probably going to sleep with you.

Australian Nature Guy smiles, tips his hat, and turns back to
the vending machine.

He takes a GIGANTIC HUNTING KNIFE out of a sheath on his leg
and uses it to pry open the vending machine’s NUMERIC KEYPAD.

Bob, seeing the giant knife, turns and yells out loud to no
one in particular:

BOB
Security!

Australian Nature Guy is now using two hands on the knife,
wigging it back in forth into the keypad.

AUSTRALIAN NATURE GUY
Yeah this croc is a tricky bitch!
She does not like this one bit!
But I’m going to keep doing it
because candy isn’t good for her!

Australian Nature Guy puts his right foot on the plexi-glass
to gain additional leverage and jams the knife in deeper.

SPARKS START SHOOTING OUT OF THE VENDING MACHINE.

AUSTRALIAN NATURE GUY
Just a little bit deeper and I can
pry her out!

ANOTHER BURST OF SPARKS.

PATTY
Be careful!

AUSTRALIAN NATURE GUY IS ELECTROCUTED AND COLLAPSES TO THE
FLOOR.

The LIGHTS in the building flicker on and off, then slowly
come back up.
BOB
Damn... And I really thought that was going to work.

Patty bends down and takes a pulse off of Australian Nature Guy’s smoking body. She looks up at Bob.

PATTY
He’s dead.

Beat.

BOB
I’m glad.

THE VENDING MACHINE BEEPS.

Patty’s bag of chips moves forward and falls into the receptacle below.

PATTY
He did it...

Patty approaches the vending machine. Touches the plexiglass. A solemn look back at Australian Nature Guy’s body.

PATTY
He gave his life for this bag of chips.

BOB
Yeah and he also taught us a valuable lesson, which is: never stick a giant knife inside a fucking vending machine. Thanks Australian Nature Guy.

PATTY
You think this is funny?

BOB
I really don’t see how it could not be.

PATTY
You’re a bastard, Bob.

BOB
Yeah, but I’m alive, which is more than you can say for Dingo Ate My Baby over there.

PATTY
I can’t believe I slept with you.
BOB

Really? Because you offered to
sleep with that guy for a bag of
chips. So it’s actually quite
believable.

Patty shakes her head in disgust. She turns back to the
vending machine. Opens the receptacle drawer and retrieves
the bag of chips. Stares at it like it’s the HOLY GRAIL.

TEARS stream from her face. Her hands SHAKE as she opens the
bag.

BOB

Can we wrap this up, Patty? I’ve
got a meeting in 10 minutes and
really need some sugar in me.

Patty takes a few chips out of the bag and eats them.

CRUNCH... CRUNCH... CRUNCH...

PATTY

(wiping tears away)
Oh my God... these chips are so
good.

BOB

So go eat them away from the
machine.

Patty bends down and kisses Australian Nature Guy on the
forehead.

PATTY

Thank you...

CRUNCH... CRUNCH... CRUNCH...

PATTY

... Australian Nature Guy. I will
always remember you.

Patty stands, shoves another handful of chips in her mouth,
and leaves.

CRUNCH... CRUNCH... CRUNCH...

BOB

Finally!

Bob steps up to the vending machine. Presses his nose
against the plexi-glass, unsure of what to get...
... and as he decides we PAN AROUND THE MACHINE and see a GIANT CROCODILE TAIL poking out the back...

FADE OUT.