

FROM BABBET WITH LOVE

By

BAD BOY SANTA

(c) 2021

FADE IN:

INT. GIFT SHOP - DAY

A small gift shop with three employees in the midst of decorating for Xmas.

INT. GIFT SHOP - CARD RACK - DAY

BETTY 19, works feverishly to open a box of Xmas cards.

SOUNDS (V.O.)

Umph! Ouch. Hurry up, will you?
It's been a year already!

Betty opens the box, and places the Xmas cards on the shelf.

The design SHOWS CHARLES 28, and GINNY 27, seated under the Xmas tree opening gifts.

CHARLES

Finally! I didn't think she'd ever
get the box open.

GINNY

Good help is hard to find these
days. How was your year?

CHARLES

Boring as usual. And you?

GINNY

Got into it with the designer. They
wanted me lying on a chase lounge.

CHARLES

Sex sells.

GINNY

Hey check this card from Caroline.
It has a battery.

Betty presses on the battery.

(music plays)

*"I really can't stay (Baby it's cold
outside)...."*

CHARLES

Oh oh, you're gonna get in trouble
with the feminists.

Betty closes the card. The music stops.

GINNY

I don't see why? It's a cute song.

CHARLES

Back in the forties women weren't suppose to have any personal feelings about sex. It was strictly for men's pleasure. But now they do. And in today's society, the song suggests date rape.

GINNY

That's crazy. It's just a song.

CHARLES

Tell that to the MeToo movement. But my argument is that it lets predatory women off the hook.

GINNY

Women have been chasing men since caveman days. They didn't use a club. But we know what they used.

ANOTHER BOX - CONTINUOUS

Betty opens another box, places the cards on the shelf.

The design SHOWS a shopping mall where a man is dressed as SANTA, 60. The child on his lap is BILLY, age 8.

BILLY

(arrogant)

What took so long? I waited a whole year and never got any toys?

SANTA

Maybe you didn't deserve any toys. Ever think about that?

BILLY

You're full of shit.

SANTA

That's one reason. The other is the money you stole from the kids at school.

BASIL

Fuck you, you fake-ass Santa!

SANTA

I rest my case.

ANOTHER BOX - CONTINUOUS

Betty opens another box of cards, places them on a shelf.

The design SHOWS a young couple RALPH 30, LAURA 28. Both wearing a Santa hat. And sipping sparkling cider.

LAURA is admiring her sparkling diamond engagement ring.

RALPH is trying to adjust the mistletoe overhead.

CHARLES

Hey, Ralph. Laura. Long time no see. How've you been?

GINNY

I can see that Laura is doing just fine. I like that ring, girl.

LAURA

Isn't it just the end?

RALPH

Took me the whole year to get her to say yes.

LAURA

Took me a whole year to get him to ask. By the way, I got Babbet a beautiful carved cameo for a wedding present--as soon as Santa finishes his community service.

SANTA

My third DUI, Ralph. I gotta do this community service if I want to keep my sleigh license and reindeer permit.

(beat)

Anyway, it looks like I may not get back to the North Pole in time for Xmas. And I'm really bummed out about that. Especially because of Babbet.

GINNY

What about Babbet?

SANTA
You guys haven't heard?

The group shakes their heads to the negative.

SANTA (CONT'D)
Babbet died.

The entire group is stunned and shocked.

GINNY
She died? No...?

RALPH
You're not serious? She died? How?
When?

SANTA
Right after new years, another
company company bought them out and
replaced the Xmas card line with
all religious cards.

LAURA
Wow! That has to be devastating for
Trevor.
(looking around)
Is he around? Anybody seen him?

Everyone shaking their heads no.

GINNY
Wait. She's opening the last box
now. Maybe....?

ANOTHER BOX - CONTINUOUS

Betty opens the last box. Places the cards on the shelf.

The design SHOWS a country house in the midst of snow.

In the front yard TREVOR 30, is building a large snowman.

CHARLES
Hey Trevor. Man, we just found out.
I can't tell you how sorry I am to
hear the news.

LAURA
I can't believe they would do
something like that?

TREVOR
(sadness, near tears)
Worst part for me, I never got to
say goodbye.

GINNY
Man, that really sucks.

SANTA
I may be able to help in that
regards, Trevor. I figured Babbet
had an inkling something was up,
because I got a note from her
addressed to you.

TREVOR
(upbeat)
Really?

SANTA
It's up in my place at the North
Pole. If I'm stuck down here, I
could have the Mrs try and ship it
by FedEx? But they only swing by my
place once every two or three
months.

TREVOR
Could you have her scan it and
email to me?

SANTA
Something that personal, Trevor?

TREVOR
You guys are like family. You loved
her as much as I did.

SANTA
If you're sure, Trevor...

DISSOLVE:

INT. TREVOR'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Drinking eggnog, Ginny, Laura, Charles, Ralph, Santa, and
Trevor seated in front of a glowing fireplace.

Trevor opens a letter, and begins to read. But his voice
changes to Babbet's voice.

BABBET'S VOICE (V.O.)
 Trevor and I had planned a long 12
 month honeymoon, but we only got
 two weeks. Now I'm gonna give all
 of you three items that will help
 you get over my transition...

INT. GIFT SHOP - CARD RACK - DAY

The card design SHOWS the sudden disappearance of Ginny,
 Charles, Trevor, Laura and Ralph one by one.

BABBET (V.O.)
 First I want you to disappear from
 the Xmas cards completely...

INT. GIFT SHOP - CARD RACK - NIGHT

Charles, Ginny, Ralph, Laura and Trevor suddenly materialize
 in life forms in front of the Xmas card rack.

BABBET'S VOICE (V.O.)
 And the second thing I want you to
 do is take on human form. See if
 you like it? If you don't, you can
 always come back to the Xmas cards.

INT. AIRPORT - DAY

Charles, Laura, Ginny, Ralph and Trevor clear security. We
 see them separate as Trevor goes to the LUFTHANSA counter.

BABBET'S VOICE (V.O.)
 The third item is about travel.
 Trevor always wanted to go to
 Germany's OKTOBEREST.

EXT. BEACH - TAHITI - DAY

Charles, Ginny, Ralph and Laura are relaxing on a Tahiti
 beach sipping tropical drinks.

BABBET'S VOICE (V.O.)
 And for you remaining four,
 I've arranged a little trip to
 Tahiti. But when you return -- if
 you choose to -- you'll never hear
 from me again. Love you all...

FADE OUT: