HI MOM!

Written by

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EXT. HOUSING PROJECT - DAY

SUPER: 2006

A sexy blonde newswoman, HEIDI MARTIN, stands before numerous POLICE CRUISERS, AMBULANCES, and a taped off CRIME SCENE.

HEIDI MARTIN
An attempted robbery gone terribly wrong. Mikayla Reyes thought she was throwing a small party for a few friends--

A befuddled man in a red flannel shirt and a wool cap, ETHAN WITT, walks behind Heidi as she reports the news. He continues off screen.

HEIDI MARTIN (CONT’D)
--little did she know those same friends would throw her from an eight storey balcony.

Heidi stops talking and holds her ear as to listen to a question from someone off camera.

Ethan walks back on screen from the other direction. He stops behind Heidi.

Heidi nods as she readies a reply to the off screen question. Ethan waves to the camera like a moron.

HEIDI MARTIN (CONT’D)
That’s right Alan. Witnesses say they heard a horrific thud sound--

Ethan walks up right behind Heidi and stares into the camera with his mouth agape. He pretends to lick her earlobe.

HEIDI MARTIN (CONT’D)
--which awoke one woman from her slumber. Another man... uh. Ano--

Ethan blows in Heidi’s ear. She stops her report and angrily turns to him.

HEIDI MARTIN (CONT’D)
Excuse me sir, this is a live report.
ETHAN WITT
We’re on TV right now?

HEIDI MARTIN
Yes, now please--

ETHAN WITT
Hi mom!

INT. STUDIO - DAY (PRESENT)

Video of the prior scene plays on a TV screen. We see Ethan continue his shenanigans behind Heidi.

He botches a cartwheel. He walks like an Egyptian. He caresses fake breasts. He descends a fake set of stairs, only nothing is blocking him, so it looks ridiculous.

ETHAN WITT
Baba-Booey!

The video freezes on his dopey face, with Heidi looking mortified.

We pull back to reveal Heidi Martin at a news desk with Ethan’s dopey face hovering over her shoulder.

HEIDI MARTIN
Known simply as the “Guy in the background,” Ethan Witt went on to become an internet phenomena.

QUICK SHOTS - VARIOUS YOUTUBE VIDEOS

“BACKGROUND GUY STRIKES AGAIN!” Ethan, still in his flannel and hat, rides a unicycle behind an unsuspecting MALE REPORTER. - 7,453,600 views.

“BACKGROUND DUDE AT BALLGAME.” Ethan sits behind home plate at a ball game. He holds up a sign that reads “Hi Mom!” - 6,202,651 views.

“ETHAN WITT’S ASS LIVE ON TV!” Ethan presses his butt cheeks against the glass while a live taping is underway. - 12,346,899 views.

“BEST HALLOWEEN COSTUME EVER.” A DRUNK FRAT DUDE dressed in a red flannel and wool hat stumbles out of a bar.

DRUNK FRAT DUDE
Hi Bob!
INT. STUDIO - LATER

The video freezes on the Drunk Frat Dude’s dopey face.

We pull back to reveal Heidi sitting beside the screen. On the other side sits Ethan, now clean cut and dressed in an expensive suit.

HEIDI MARTIN
Humble beginnings. Can you believe the path your life has taken?

ETHAN WITT
S’been a wild ride.

HEIDI MARTIN
So you became an internet celebrity. What came next?

ETHAN WITT
I started getting noticed around town, and I got a call from casting director who hired me for a walk on role on this short lived racist sitcom called “The Jolly Lamas.”

INT. TV SHOW SET - KITCHEN - DAY

An INDIAN FAMILY sit down for dinner.

Ethan walks in and disrupts their peaceful meal.

ETHAN WITT
Hi mom.

INDIAN MOTHER
(bad accent)
What? Who are you? I am not your mother.

The FATHER jumps to his feet.

INDIAN FATHER
(worse accent)
Get out of my house!

He chases Ethan out the door. We pause on Ethan’s dopey, scared face.
INT. STUDIO - DAY

The SCREEN between Heidi and Ethan is paused on the face.

ETHAN WITT
They weren’t jolly at all.

HEIDI MARTIN
Your breakout performance?

ETHAN WITT
Not quite.

EXT. BATTLEFIELD - DAY

Ethan, in full camouflage, is holed up in a trench with another YOUNG SOLDIER. The sounds of hell lay right over a small hill of dirt they hide behind.

ETHAN WITT
(gritty)
I’m goin out there.

YOUNG SOLDIER
Are you crazy man? They’ll kill you!

ETHAN WITT
Maybe. Maybe not. Either way, I’m not just gonna lay here and wait for one of Charlie’s grenades to blow my face off.

YOUNG SOLDIER
You’re the bravest son of a bitch I’ve ever met. God speed.

ETHAN WITT
Hey kid, if I don’t make it, I need you to do something for me.

YOUNG SOLDIER
Anything.

ETHAN WITT
Find my mother... and tell her I said “Hi.”

Ethan jumps to his feet and is immediately RIDDLED WITH BULLETS. We freeze on his horrified dying face.
INT. STUDIO - DAY

Ethan and Heidi seem moved by the clip.

HEIDI MARTIN
(to camera)
"Hell in a Nam Basket," went on to win four Golden Globes that year.
(back to Ethan)
So, tell us about your new film.

ETHAN WITT
It's really good, my first sci-fi blockbuster. It's a--

Ethan trails off, but we MONTAGE through him talking on various late night talk shows.

INT. LATE NIGHT - NIGHT

A GOOFY REDHEAD HOST hangs on his every word.

ETHAN WITT
--true fish out of water story. I star as a playboy lawyer who has conquered every sexual conquest he's ever set out for.

GOOFY REDHEAD HOST
So you played yourself?

The CROWD LAUGHS. Ethan fake laughs, a little too over the top.

ETHAN WITT
Now, now, there are women present.

IN THE CROWD

An OLD LADY holds up a sign that reads "MOMS LOVE ETHAN WITT!"

ETHAN WITT (CONT'D)
So anyway, my character has run out of--

INT. THE TONIGHT SHOW - NIGHT

A BIG CHINNED HOST is enthralled by Ethan's words.
ETHAN WITT
--women to... ya know, so he
enlists his scientist best friend
to send him to another dimension.

INT. THE EARLY SHOW - DAY

A WEATHERED BRUNETTE smiles as she listens to Ethan speak.

Behind them, a SEA OF ETHAN FANS and IMPERSONATORS can be seen.

ETHAN WITT
--The Dimension ends up being the
same as ours, only every person is
of the opposite sex. And
naturally, hilarity ensues.

WEATHERED BRUNETTE
And you were nice enough to bring a
clip. Here's a scene from "Go
[BLEEP] Yourself," starring Ethan
Witt.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

We've come full circle, back to the interview with Heidi.

A Clip on the screen ends with Ethan awkwardly studying an
ELDERLY MAN across the table from him.

ETHAN WITT
(in the clip)
Hi... Mom?!

The clip freezes on his shocked face.

HEIDI MARTIN
Well Ethan, looks like you've got
another hit on your hands.

ETHAN WITT
Thank you Heidi, we hope so.

HEIDI MARTIN
I have to hand it to you, when you
danced behind me that day I never
would have guessed you'd become one
of the world's biggest stars.
ETHAN WITT
Who could have guessed something like that?

HEIDI MARTIN
It was nice catching up with you.

ETHAN WITT
And you.

HEIDI MARTIN
We’ve saved the most important question for last.

ETHAN WITT
(laughing)
Uh-oh. Lay it on me.

HEIDI MARTIN
When the world was introduced to you, it all started with the words “Hi Mom.” So, tell us, what does your mother think of all your success?

ETHAN WITT
Oh, my mother actually died when I was 7.

Ethan makes the dopey face and waves to the camera. Heidi sits mortified.

FADE TO BLACK.