

RIGATONI RIGMAROLE

OVER BLACK:

INT. PHONE BOOTH

SOUND FX: GRUNTS and GROANS, then -- a single phone key is pressed -- BEEP! A FEMALE OPERATOR answers --

OPERATOR
(through phone receiver)
Operator.

A gruff, raspy male voice, SAL, answers back --

SAL
(into phone)
Yeah, I'd like to make a collect call.

OPERATOR
Your name, Sir?

SAL
Sal.

OPERATOR
The number calling?

SAL
555-3498.

OPERATOR
This is a local call.

SAL
No shit, Einstein.

OPERATOR
(beat)
One moment, please.

SOUND FX: phone RINGS x 3, then picks up. Another male voice, LOUIE, answers --

LOUIE
(through phone)
Hello?

OPERATOR
Hello, Sir. This is Metropolitan Area Exchange calling. I currently have a Sal on the line placing a collect call to this number, do you accept the charges?

Sal and Louie scream over the Operator.

SAL
Louie! It's Sal... can you hear me?!

OPERATOR
Sir, please hold I need to confirm the end user will accept --

LOUIE
Sal...? What the fuck?!
What's goin' on, where are you?!

This shit is Bedlam --

OPERATOR
Sir! Do you accept the --
Sir, if you could please wait... it's actually more than a quarter --

SAL
Louie, I don't have a fucking quarter, collect the call!

OPERATOR
Sir! Do you accept --

LOUIE
Yeah, yeah! Just put him through already!

OPERATOR
Go ahead, Sir.

LOUIE
Sal? What the fuck!?

SAL
Louie, shut up and listen. I'm at the pay-phone at Rigatoni's, Nicky and Tony are here too, talk loud so's we all can hear... capisce?

Two other male voices, NICKY and TONY, chime in --

NICKY
Lou! Can you hear me?! It's Nicky!

TONY
We're all crammed in here like fucking sardines, man!

SAL
Stop screaming in my ear, asshole!

LOUIE
You told me to talk loud!

SAL
What?!

LOUIE
You said --!

SAL
Not you, dipshit over here!

SOUND FX: More GRUNTS and GROANS.

LOUIE
Sal, Rigatoni's is bugged up the
ass by the Feds. Call me from the
burner-phone I got you!

SAL
I can't find it!

LOUIE
I put it in your coat pocket. I'm
calling it now!

SOUND FX: SONG: 'Schnuffel - Kuschel' <-- click for ringtone.

SONG
(cellphone ringtone)
*You are my sweetest love,
that love I always wanna hug,
because I really love you,
the world just has to know.*

SAL
Why's it suddenly sound
like I'm at an Alvin and
the Chipmunks Rave!?

LOUIE
That's your burner-phone ringing.
Answer it!

SAL
Sounds like he has his balls
in a vice!

TONY
I've heard this before!

LOUIE
Answer the fucking burner-phone,
Sal!

SOUND FX: GRUNTING, as the SONG gets louder, then stops.

SAL
It stopped!

LOUIE
You left it too long, it went to
voice-mail.

SAL
Why're you leaving a damn message?!
I gotta dial into a fucking voice-
mail now?!

LOUIE

I'm not. I'll call back. Answer it this time!

SOUND FX: same SONG, louder now.

SAL

Okay, I have it now. Why does it sound like that?! What's wrong with him?!

LOUIE

That's your new ringtone; I downloaded it for you. It's a little rabbit singing to his carrot!

SAL

Wait a minute. You telling me you put a song of a little rabbit singing to his carrot... as my fucking burner-phone ringtone?!

LOUIE

Yeah... that's what I've been trying to tell you!

Long drawn out beat of silence.

SAL

Oh, now *that's* cute!

NICKY

Precious!

TONY

Fucking adorable!

SOUND FX: GRUNTS and GROANS as they all exit the phone-booth.

SAL

(distant, outside booth)
Hey, everyone! Listen to this cute little rabbit singing a lullaby to his carrot!

LOUIE

(still on landline)
Sal...? Tony, Nicky...? Someone answer the fucking burner-phone!

THE END