EXT. UPSCALE HOME - NEW YORK CITY SUBURB - AFTERNOON

A typical affluent suburban house. Two MERCEDES parked in the driveway. No children bikes or basketball hoops on the side of this house.

INT. HOUSE - KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

JULIE, very attractive, in her early 40s, stands in the middle of her elegant kitchen. She seems upset.

JEFF, bold, overweight, late 40s, sits at the kitchen table calmly sipping a coffee.

JULIE
Is this your final decision?

JEFF
Yeah.

JULIE
After ten years of marriage, this is what you have to say?

JEFF
Yeah.

JULIE
Fuck you!

JEFF
What you want me to say?

JULIE
Tell me why you're leaving me.

JEFF
You know why.

JULIE
No, I don't know why. You tell me.

JEFF
You lost your sparkle.

JULIE
What about your sparkle?

JEFF
I still have it with the right woman.
JULIE
So, you have another woman?

JEFF
Look outside.

INT. HOUSE - KITCHEN - SAME TIME

Julie glances outside from a large kitchen window and sees...

EXT. STREET - SAME TIME

A SPORTY, CONVERTIBLE CAR parked in front of the house. At the steering wheel, a YOUNG WOMAN in her 20s, skimpy shorts, amply revealing neckline, extremely sexy.

INT. HOUSE - KITCHEN - SAME TIME

JULIE
Who's SHE?!

JEFF
My new secretary, MOLLY.

JULIE
You bought that car?

JEFF
Yeah.

JULIE
The young SLUT is--

JEFF
don't say the "S" word, she's a very intelligent girl. She just got a degree from an online college in BANGLADESH.

JULIE
Oh yes? I'm sure, a degree in BLOWJOBBING.

JEFF
You are upset because she's young and sexy.
JULIE
I was young and sexy before meeting a scumbag like you. How long you think it's going to last?

JEFF
A long time, she loves me.

JULIE
She loves your money, you fucking moron.

JEFF
As usual, you're wrong. I love her and she's crazy about me.

INT. HOUSE - KITCHEN - SECONDS LATER
Julie GRABS a dish full of pancakes from the table. She THROWS it in the direction of Jeff but misses him.

JULIE
You love her eh, fucking cheater.

Julie is enraged. She gets an empty glass from the table and LAUNCHES it with force at him.

This time, the glass STRIKES Jeff's arm.

JEFF
You're crazy, STOP! Let's be civil.

JULIE
Fuck civil! GO! Go to your prosty.

JEFF
Okay, I'm going, my lawyer will send you the divorce papers to sign.

JULIE
I'm happy to sign your fucking papers, but don't come back to me after that fucking bitch takes off.

INT. HOUSE - FOYER - CONTINUOUS
Julie opens the front door and STEPS outside.
EXT. HOUSE - FRONT DOOR - CONTINUOUS

Julie stands outside her house.

    JULIE
    (to Molly)
    Hey you, piece of shit, listen to me.

Molly TURNS her head towards Julie and flashes a big smile. Then makes a greeting gesture.

    JULIE
    Baby, your fucking SUGAR DADDY can't get an erection without VIAGRA. He needs two hours before getting his sick dick half hard. Go in bed with something to read.

EXT. HOUSE - FRONT DOOR - SAME TIME

Jeff stands in back of Julie.

    JEFF
    Honey, don't listen to her. She's only a frustrated bitch. I'm a great lover, you know that right?

Molly smiles and sends him a kiss.

    JEFF
    (to Julie)
    See, she loves me.

    JULIE
    Fuck you!

    JEFF
    Tomorrow, I'll send somebody to get my things.

    JULIE
    Don't forget to pack your blue pills.

    JEFF
    I don't need pills with her.

INT. JULIE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - LATER

Julie talks on the phone with TARA, her nouveau riche friend.
JULIE
...and he left. His baby lover was waiting for him in a car he bought for her.

TARA (V.O.)
Did he say why he left you?

JULIE
He told me I wasn't good enough for him.

TARA (V.O.)
What did he mean?

JULIE
He meant--

TARA (V.O.)
in bed?

JULIE
I guess so.

TARA (V.O.)
Was he right?

JULIE
I did everything to make him happy.

TARA (V.O.)
Maybe other problems?

JULIE
I don't know, he had a dick impairment.

TARA (V.O.)
Its size?

JULIE
I wish, he couldn't get an erection. He needed Viagra before having sex.

TARA (V.O.)
Viagra isn't bad. My husband needs blue lights, jazz music, candles...a big Hollywood production.

A beat.
TARA (V.O.)
Did you try to arouse him? You know, tongue work--

Julie BURSTS into tears. Her voice trembles.

JULIE
what difference does it make now what I did, he left and I'm alone.

TARA (V.O.)
Honey, you are gorgeous and so smart, you'll easily find a wealthy dude.

JULIE
At my fucking age...

TARA (V.O.)
Don't be silly, look at me...I found MARTY, he's not George Clooney but he's loaded. Listen, let's meet tomorrow and talk. Okay?

JULIE
Thank you, you're a good friend. Okay. I'll see you tomorrow. Good night.

TARA (V.O.)
Okay, good night. Love you.

JULIE
Love you too.

INT. LUNCHEONETTE - NEW YORK CITY - MORNING

Julie and Tara, moderately attractive, in her late 40s, sit in a corner table having breakfast.

TARA
Feeling better this morning?

JULIE
I didn't sleep all night. I took two pills and still I couldn't fall asleep.

TARA
It's normal, you need time to readjust your life.
JULIE
He left me like a fucking stranger...after ten years. I was always a good wife, always tried my best to please him...always ready...

TARA
When did he start to change?

JULIE
A year ago.

TARA
Something must have happened. I'm sure he has male menopause.

JULIE
I don't know, maybe he just wanted a younger woman...I don't fucking know.

TARA
He's going to shell out a lot of money for his young sweetheart.

JULIE
He makes tons of money, he can pay.

TARA
How are you doing financially?

JULIE
I'm broke. He wanted me to stay home and I never went to work. Now, I'm lost.

TARA
No savings?

JULIE
Everything is under his name.

TARA
But half belongs to you, it's the law.

JULIE
He put his money in a OFFSHORE ACCOUNT. He knew all the tricks that bastard.

TARA
You need a Jewish lawyer, I know a good divorce attorney. If you want,(MORE)
TARA (cont'd)
can give you his phone number. I'll call you later.

JULIE
Thanks.

TARA
What are you going to do now?

JULIE
I have to find the way to pay my debts.

TARA
Do you have any ideas how?

JULIE
No, no fucking idea.

TARA
You have to start thinking about that.

JULIE
I'm so confused. I don't know what's happening to me!

Julie starts to weep silently.

Tara tries to LIGHTEN UP the conversation.

TARA
Talking about money, maybe you should get married again...somebody like my Marty, you know what I mean.

Julie smiles tensely.

JULIE
You've been lucky, I don't know where--

TARA
Forget the dating scene, they are all losers. You need somebody solid, you know...with big bucks.

JULIE
Do you think I'm still attractive?

TARA
You're gorgeous.
A beat.

Julie squints looking at her.

    JULIE
    You really think somebody--

    TARA
    I'm sure, you just have to find the way to meet this guy.

Julie tries a forced smile.

    JULIE
    Honey, it's too late for me, I am in my forties, with a ten-year marriage and ...

    TARA
    Don't be silly, you're still very sexy, you have nothing to worry about.

    JULIE
    I don't know...

    TARA
    You can do it, don't wait.

INT. JULIE'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - EVENING

Julie sits on the bed alongside two large cartons. She scans the papers in the boxes one by one. They are all bills waiting to be paid.

She adds each amount on a small hand calculator.

A small TEDDY BEAR lies on a pillow. It's MAX, Julie's childhood COMFORT TOY.

    JULIE
    (to the teddy bear)
    Max, I owe more than two hundred thousand dollars. That son-of-a-bitch stopped paying the bills. What can I do now?

The telephone on top of the nightstand RINGS. Julie picks it up.

    JULIE
    Yes.
VOICE (V.O.)
Ms. Julie SPENCER?

JULIE
Speaking.

VOICE (V.O.)
Good evening Ms. Spencer, this is BILL MARTINEZ from WORLDWIDE COLLECTION AGENCY, do you have a few minutes for me?

JULIE
You said, collection agency?

BILL (V.O.)
Yes, I represent a collection company.

JULIE
What you want from me?

BILL (V.O.)
You did not pay your mortgage for the past three years.

JULIE
Mr. Martinez, I don't know what to tell you. My husband...my ex-husband took care of the house finances.

BILL (V.O.)
Are you telling me that you are divorced?

JULIE
I'm waiting to sign the divorce papers. Am I in trouble?

BILL (V.O.)
My best suggestion is to pay what's due as soon as possible, otherwise the bank will repossess your house.

JULIE
SHIT! How much I owe?

BILL (V.O.)
Seventy-five thousand dollars.

Julie's voice SHAKES.
JULIE
I don't have that kind of money. I have no money, nothing! Is there anything you can do?

BILL (V.O.)
I'm sorry Ms. Spencer but we work for the bank. You must pay this amount or you'll lose your home.

Julie sobs quietly.

JULIE
How much time do I have?

BILL (V.O.)
We can give you a two-month postponement. After that, if you don't settle the debt, your house goes back to the bank.

JULIE
I'll try to find the money. I'm in a difficult time you know I--

BILL (V.O.)
Good night Ms. Spencer. Remember, two months only.

She HANGS UP the telephone and CURLS UP on the bed.

She HUGS Max and begins to cry violently.

INT. JULIE'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - TWO HOURS LATER
Julie wakes up. She appears calmer.
She starts a conversation with Max.

JULIE
Max, I need money and fast. Tara told me to get married again, you know, with a rich man. If I don't pay, the bank will take back the house. You don't want to finish your days in a garbage dump, right? Do you have any idea?

Max's glassy eyes stare at her.
JULIE
What are you saying, I should get married again...and....what? Restore my virginity? Max this is crazy, who's going to believe that a woman of my age is still a virgin. It's ridiculous. Okay, I should try, I don't have a choice...I need money.

Max's fake eyes gawk at her.

JULIE
I see what you mean...let me think about a good story. Okay, I'll do that later. I know, virgins are rare at my age, one in a zillion...a virgin middle-aged spouse can be a gold mine. Only one fake orgasm and I'll solve all my problems. Or maybe, he'll shower me with money and the orgasm will be real...

Julie's P.O.V. - the TEDDY BEAR...

smiles and nods.

BACK TO SCENE

JULIE
I'm glad you agree.

She smiles at Max, kisses it and swiftly leaves the bedroom.

INT. OFFICE - NEW YORK CITY - MORNING

Dr. SANDERS, a bearded man in his 50s, sits behind his desk.

He reads from a file.

Julie sits in front of him. She looks nervous.

DOCTOR SANDERS
Ms. Spencer, I'm reading that you wish to have a HYMEN RESTORATION PROCEDURE.

JULIE
Yes, doctor. I told everything to the nurse.
DOCTOR SANDERS
I've it on file. I have only one question, WHY?

JULIE
It's difficult to explain, let me just say that I'm thinking to get married and I want to please my hubby.

DOCTOR SANDERS
I understand. As with all surgeries, there are some risks involved, you should be aware of that.

JULIE
What kind of risks?

DOCTOR SANDERS
Hemorrhage, pain the first time you have intercourse and there is always the chance that the membrane is too thick and doesn't break.

JULIE
What happens then?

DOCTOR SANDERS
We have to do it surgically.

JULIE
Does it happen often?

DOCTOR SANDERS
Fortunately not, maybe one case in ten thousands. It never happened in our clinic. We guarantee your virginity and a smooth deflowering.

JULIE
How does it work, I mean, what you have to do?

DOCTOR SANDERS
This minor procedure takes less than an hour and is relatively painless. The hymen will then tear normally during sexual intercourse. Basically, we reconstruct the hymen by using a flap of the vaginal lining, complete with its blood supply. This creates a new hymen.
JULIE
Can the partner detect that the membrane is artificial?

DOCTOR SANDERS
Absolutely NOT! To him, it's natural.

JULIE
Okay, what comes next?

DOCTOR SANDERS
First we have to take some photos of your vagina in and out. We want to study its conditions before the operation. You can make an appointment with my secretary.

JULIE
How long does it take?

DOCTOR SANDERS
Between the tests and the procedure about two days.

JULIE
How long I have to wait before having sex?

DOCTOR SANDERS
Four weeks. You have to be careful, no special positions, only missionary for the first time. I'll give you an instruction booklet after the procedure.

JULIE
...I worry about its cost. I am...huh, in some financial difficulty right now.

DOCTOR SANDERS
Everything included, it will cost you around five thousand dollars. For the payment, my secretary can arrange an easy installment schedule.

JULIE
It's better but still expensive I--

DOCTOR SANDERS
Well, it's not exorbitant if you consider the advantages. Your husband
DOCTOR SANDERS (cont'd)
will make love to a virgin. At your age, it's, it's--

JULIE
incredible?

DOCTOR SANDERS
Huh...well, yes.

INT. OFFICE - NEW YORK CITY - MORNING

RAJ PATEL, Indian (50) sits at a large desk. He wears an elegant English suit and rimless glasses.

Julie is seated on an office chair in front of him.

The ambiance is austere almost funereal.

(Raj speaks English with an Indian accent)

RAJ
How did you find out about us?

JULIE
Online, I was looking for an auction house.

RAJ
There are many auction houses in New York, why did you choose UNWONTED LOTS?

JULIE
Your ad says that your house deals with unusual items. You know, I don't have a painting to auction off.

RAJ
True, we are the only auction house auctioning exclusively eccentric items. What you want to auction off?

JULIE
My WEDDING!

RAJ
I don't understand, what you mean?

JULIE
What I mean is that I offer myself for marriage...
RAJ
If I understood correctly, you're willing to marry the highest bidder.

JULIE
Yes, and I offer something more.

RAJ
Something more? What?

JULIE
My VIRGINITY.

Raj slowly oscillates his butt. He removes his eyeglasses and smiles.

RAJ
You said "your virginity?"

JULIE
Yes. are you surprised?

RAJ
Very unusual, it's difficult to believe that you're still a--

JULIE
after I'll tell you my story, you'll understand.

RAJ
Please go ahead.

JULIE
My parents died in a auto accident when I was ten years old--

RAJ
sorry to hear that.

Julie shows a somber expression.

JULIE
Thank you, I was saying, after my parents' death, my grandmother tried to take care of me but she developed Alzheimer and it was the end of her.

Raj manifests a strong interest in her story.

RAJ
What happened then?
JULIE
My distant relatives sent me in a convent UPSTATE NEW YORK. Later, I became a NUN.

RAJ
A nun?

JULIE
Yes, a SISTER.

RAJ
How long did you stay there?

JULIE
I came out a month ago.

RAJ
Why?

JULIE
Because the ORDER refused to promote me to MOTHER SUPERIOR. I had worked very hard for that position. No secret lovers like the other nuns, no sins, only prayers and good deeds.

RAJ
You did the right thing to leave the Order. Which Order was that?

She hesitates.

JULIE
...huh...the Order...huh... THE SISTERS OF THE TRUTH.

RAJ
What was your name as a nun?

JULIE
Huh...Sister VIRGINIA.

A long beat.

Julie displays a saddened expression.

JULIE
Mr. Patel, I have no job, no money and no future. The only solution I have is to get married...and my virginity. I hope you can help me, I desperately need money.
RAJ
To marry a virgin can be very attractive for the right man...we can make good money. Okay, I can put your package on the auction block but I need the assurance that you will marry the bidder and ....well, that you are indeed a virgin.

JULIE
Oh, GOD BLESS YOU!

Raj smiles glancing at her.

RAJ
This auction can be good for you and the house...but you must sign a contract pledging that you will marry the highest bidder.

JULIE
I can sign that.

RAJ
Okay, what about your virginity?

JULIE
I don't know--

Raj looks at her with a smirk.

RAJ
Just bring a CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY from your doctor.

JULIE
No problem, my Ob/Gyn can sign it.

RAJ
As soon as you bring those documents, I'll organize the auction. I'll assign my partner MARCELLO DELFER, the best auctioneer in New York. I'm sure, he'll make big money for us. Bidders go very high with a genuine HOT LOT.

JULIE
Thank you, thank you Mr. Patel. Of course, I will take care of you.
RAJ
Ms. Spencer, the house takes ten percent of the winning bid. I thought you knew that.

JULIE
You mean, ten percent of the bid?

RAJ
No, no, we take the lawful ten percent of the bid and in addition another ten percent before the money is distributed. Of course, it's customary to recognize the auctioneer's work...

JULIE
So, you take twenty percent of the total bid plus a tip for the auctioneer. Is my math correct?

RAJ
Correct. As you know, we are unique in this business...and you are, well, strapped for money.

JULIE
I know.

RAJ
Call me as soon as papers are ready and we'll start moving. It was nice meeting you. By the way, you're a beautiful woman.

JULIE
Thank you.

Julie glances at him, she smiles.

INT. JULIE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - EVENING
Julie lounges in a couch sipping a glass of wine.
Her cell phone RINGS. She picks it up.

JULIE
Hello.

VOICE (V.O.)
Good evening Ms. Spencer, this is Dr. Sanders. Am I disturbing you?
JULIE
Not at all, doctor. How can I help you?

DOCTOR SANDERS (V.O.)
I saw the photos of your vagina, we may have a minor problem.

JULIE
Inside?

DOCTOR SANDERS (V.O.)
No, no, inside everything is fine, I'm talking about outside.

JULIE
What's wrong outside?

DOCTOR SANDERS (V.O.)
To be frank, outside, your vagina looks a little...old, it shows your age. You need an aesthetic vaginal spruce up, a simple cosmetic surgery, a VULVOPLASTY. Also, you need tightening of the surrounding skin, trimming your pubic hair and a reshaping of your labia majora with fat injections.

JULIE
Oh my, I'm a mess.

DOCTOR SANDERS (V.O.)
Absolutely not, it's normal at your age. After the procedure, you'll feel and look like a born-again virgin.

JULIE
When are you going to do it?

DOCTOR SANDERS (V.O.)
Soon after the hymen restoration.

JULIE
What about the cost?

DOCTOR SANDERS (V.O.)
You are lucky Ms. Spencer, this week we have a free PUBIS BEAUTIFICATION SPECIAL with any hymen rejuvenation.

JULIE
Okay! Let's do it!
EXT. SIDEWALK PIZZERIA - NEW YORK CITY - AFTERNOON

Julie, Tara, JENNY, a cute, cheerful divorcee in her 30s and SOPHIE (50) a single, upper crust woman sit around a sidewalk table enjoying a large pizza and beers.

The sidewalk is crowded with other pizza lovers.

JULIE
So, what you think of my idea?

TARA
I absolutely love it!

SOPHIE
My opinion is that you are making a terrible mistake. How can you think you can get married again and then sell a fraudulent virginity. You know that the man can sue you for misrepresenting your condition? Julie, don't do it. You can go to jail for this.

JENNY
Why are you always so pessimistic? When the husband will make love, he wouldn't know if her virginity is artificial or natural and Julie has a good story to tell him.

TARA
Your nun story is very believable.

SOPHIE
Oh yes, very believable for an imbecile.

JENNY
For once, can you see the bright side of life? Julie has nothing to worry about. Marriage at her age is good for her. Millions of couples marry in their forties.

SOPHIE
Shut up Jenny! You're so jejune! Yes, they marry at forty but no woman is a virgin.
TARA
Stop, both of you! We should support her. That low-life left her with a lot of debts. She got a great idea--

SOPHIE
what I'm saying is that she should be careful...people are suing for much less these days.

JULIE
So, what I'm supposed to do, in two months I have to pay the collection agency seventy-five thousand dollars and I have a mountain of bills...

JENNY
Don't listen to her, go ahead with your plan, you're going to be a happy wife soon.

SOPHIE
I just gave her my advice, I saw many of these cases, women with enhanced breasts, men with artificially augmented penises...they were sued for fraud, lost and had to pay millions.

Julie looks perplexed and worried. She is on the verge of tears.

SOPHIE
Okay, go ahead but be careful.

JENNY
I'm so excited, you'll be like a teenager again. Did you dream of a SPECIAL man to marry?

Julie smiles looking at Jenny.

JULIE
Oh yes, I would like a kind of rich and generous RICHARD GERE.

JENNY
What about his dick?

JULIE
... I have to pay my debts.
TARA
Money isn't everything. I remember with my ex, plenty of money but no action.

JENNY
Maybe he was acting outside the house...

SOPHIE
Why not with her?

TARA
I'll tell you why, it turned out that he was GAY.

INT. CLINIC - NEW YORK CITY - MORNING
Julie relaxes in bed after the vaginal surgery. Her room is filled with flowers. She appears happy.

INT. CLINIC - CONTINUOUS
Dr. Sanders enters the room smiling.

DOCTOR SANDERS
Congratulations! The procedure went perfectly. You are a virgin again!

Julie smiles happily.

JULIE
Any problems?

DOCTOR SANDERS
None whatsoever! Inside, your vagina was in top conditions, no irritations.

JULIE
My ex did not make love to me for a year.

DOCTOR SANDERS
In your case, it was beneficial. Please look at your vagina in the mirror. It's young-looking and sexy.
Julie stares at her pubic area in a magnifying wall mirror.

JULIE
WOW, it was like this when I was fifteen! When I can be dismissed?

DOCTOR SANDERS
Tomorrow.

JULIE
Thank you doctor, you can't imagine what you did for me. Let me give you a kiss...now you know me well.

Dr. Sanders leans over Julie's bed. She kisses him gently. Dr. Sanders reciprocates with passion. They lips remain glued for a few seconds.

INT. CLINIC - NEW YORK CITY - SECONDS LATER

Dr. Sanders and Julie lock eyes.

DOCTOR SANDERS
Call me anytime if you need me...for anything.

JULIE
Thanks you doctor, maybe I will. Are you married?

DOCTOR SANDERS
Divorced, why?

JULIE
Just curious.

Dr. Sanders EXITS the room.

JULIE
(whispers to herself)
Shit, it wasn't just a doctor-patient kiss. Maybe, I should go after him.

INT. OFFICE - NEW YORK CITY - MORNING

Raj and Julie stand in the middle of Raj's office. He holds some documents.
RAJ
Excellent, this is what I needed, the signed assurance you'll marry the auction winner and your doctor's certification you're a virgin. Now, we can take the pictures.

JULIE
Pictures?

RAJ
Ms. Spencer, people wants to see what they are bidding for. We need a large photo of you in underwear and a close-up of your vagina.

JULIE
But I'm auctioning off my marriage...

RAJ
Yes, but your virginity is an attractive bonus. I'm sure, the bidders will admire your picture and use their imagination. The first night with a virgin...it's all MARKETING, Marketing is PRESENTATION and presentation translates into MONEY!

JULIE
What about some photos fully dressed?

RAJ
That too.

Raj picks up the telephone on his desk and DIALS a number.

RAJ
ADYA please tell Marcello to come to my office.

INT. OFFICE - NEW YORK CITY - MINUTES LATER

A handsome MAN in his 40s enters the office. He is MARCELLO DELFER, a topnotch AUCTIONEER.

Julie stares at him. She is speechless.

RAJ
Ms. Spencer, may I introduce Mr. Marcello Delfer, the auctioneer I (MORE)
RAJ (cont'd)
told you about. He will take care of
your auction.

Julie smiles warmly.

JULIE
Nice meeting you Mr. Delfer.

MARCELLO
Please, call me Marcello, we are
partners now.

RAJ
Ms. Spencer has an unusual lot to
auction off.

MARCELLO
There is nothing I didn't see on the
auction block.

RAJ
She is auctioning off her marriage
with the higher bidder and...

And?

MARCELLO
Her virginity.

MARCELLO
To be frank, in twenty years in this
business, I never saw this lot,
membership and virginity. Interesting!
I'll do my best. We can easily start
at one hundred thousand dollars.

JULIE
You said--

MARCELLO
yes, one hundred thousand dollars but
with a woman like you and...., the
sky is the limit.

RAJ
Well, Ms. Spencer, we are ready.
After tomorrow, we'll take the
pictures and will have the auction in
a week.
JULIE
Can we have it, let's say, in four weeks?

RAJ
You gave me the impression you were in a hurry.

JULIE
I'm but I want to make sure everything is...in order. I have some important appointments now that I'm no longer a nun, you know, interviews with the DIOCESE, writing to the VATICAN...so much bureaucracy.

RAJ
(to Marcello)
I understand, will do it in a month. Is it okay with you?

MARCELLO
In a month is possible. Later, every day is booked.

RAJ
(to Julie)
Perfect, I'll see you for the photos in a couple of days. I'll call you.

INT. STORE - NEW YORK CITY  AFTERNOON

Julie and Tara BROWSE through fashion underwear at an upscale female boutique.

TARA
Any particular color?

JULIE
What you think? Light or dark?

TARA
For your skin, dark is better.

JULIE
You mean black?

TARA
Dark but not black. This color is overused.
JULIE
A strong purple?

TARA
Purple will work. Men like this color.

JULIE
How you know that?

TARA
I read a university study about erotic colors. Purple came first, men find this color exciting.

JULIE
I'll take five pairs of purple panties and bras. Which model you think is best?

TARA
Not too skimpy, kind of conservative. Make them dream about what you have under. It's not only your marriage you are auctioning off, it's like a package.

JULIE
You are right, it's my PLEASURE PACKAGE.

Julie and Tara LAUGH gleefully.

INT. AUCTION ROOM - NEW YORK CITY - MORNING

A large room decorated in Italian Renaissance style.

A group of about fifty people mostly in their 60s await the opening of the auction.

Near the block, two large painting-like objects are supported by huge easels and covered by black cloths.

A religious silence pervades the room.

INT. AUCTION ROOM - NEW YORK CITY - MINUTES LATER

Marcello ENTERS the room and takes position behind the block.
MARCELLO
Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen.
My name is Marcello Delfer. Some of you may know me from other auctions.
Today we are auctioning off a unique, rare lot.

A beat.

MARCELLO
Please KARLA, remove the cloths.

Karla tall, gorgeous in her 20s, slowly removes the cloths.
The first series of pictures show Julie elegantly dressed.
The second enlarged color photo shows Julie in dark purple, classy panties and bra. Her body is perfect. A sensual statuary image.
The third black and white photo presents an huge image of her vagina. The contrast of black, white and gray intensifies the beauty of the perfectly combed pubic hair, its well proportioned dimensions and her delicate white skin all around. A young, tantalizing vagina.

A widespread sound of surprise and excitement pervades the room.

MARCELLO
I understand your amazement, this lot is a first for any auction house.
The gorgeous lady in the picture is auctioning off the signed promise to marry the highest bidder. And her husband will experience the thrill of having married a virgin. Yes gentlemen, this beautiful, intelligent woman is a certified virgin. In the presentation package, you can read about her moving story.

The crowd is now silent, waiting for the starting price.

MARCELLO
For the marriage, including deflowering, the starting price is one hundred thousand dollars. Do I hear one hundred and ten?

An elderly MAN (mid 70s) seated at the right side of the room signals his bid.
MARCELLO
Yes, the gentleman on the right. Opening bid is one hundred ten thousand dollars.

Marcello points to an elderly man.

MARCELLO
Do I hear one hundred twenty thousand dollars? Yes, HANIN by telephone.

He indicates a MIDDLE-EASTERN-looking beauty in her 30s behind a desk in the back of the room.

MARCELLO
Anyone for two hundred fifty thousand dollars?

A beat.

MARCELLO
Yes, the gentleman in the center. Now we are at half million dollars, Any bidder for five hundred thousand dollars?

Hanin WHISPERS on a small microphone on her lapel.

MARCELLO
Hanin by telephone again, the new bid is one million dollars. Anyone for one and a half million dollars?

An elegant MAN in his 60s seated in the last row MOVES his hand.

MARCELLO
One and a half million dollars, the gentleman in the back of the room. Anyone for two million dollars?

Hanin SUSSURRATES a number in her mini mic.

MARCELLO
It's incredible, Hanin just told me that the telephone bid is for TEN MILLION DOLLARS! Anybody for eleven million dollars?

The bidders are frozen. Nobody says anything or moves a finger.

Marcello BANGS the gavel.
MARCELLO
Bidder number 89 is the highest bidder. He will marry this beautiful, virgin lady. The auction is now over. Thank you for your participation. Have a good day everyone.

A long beat.

The bidders EXIT slowly the room. A glacial silence surrounds them.

INT. OFFICE - NEW YORK CITY - AFTERNOON

Julie, Marcello and Ray sip champagne. Their mood is utterly joyous.

RAJ
In my thirty years in this business, I've never seen anything like this. An auction price so high and so quick. Julie, you're a winner!

MARCELLO
Congratulations!

JULIE
Thanks to both of you, Marcello has been great, my God, I still can't believe it.

MARCELLO
I just did my job, the bidder was very interested in the lot.

JULIE
What is going to happen now?

RAJ
Tomorrow, we'll have a meeting with the agent of the actual bidder.

JULIE
Do you know him?

RAJ
Not in person, we have been dealing with him by phone
JULIE
I'm kind of anxious... you know, who's going to marry me and... take my virginity, you know...

RAJ
I understand, tomorrow you are invited to the meeting and you can ask all the questions.

MARCELLO
You need to relax, what are you doing tonight?

JULIE
Well... nothing. I'll order a pizza and rent a movie.

MARCELLO
Would you join me for dinner?

JULIE
I don't know, I--

RAJ
go ahead, you have to celebrate.

JULIE
Okay, I'm fine with it.

MARCELLO
I'll come to pick you up at 8, do you like Italian food?

JULIE
I love it.

INT. JULIE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - EVENING
Julie talks on her cell phone. She sounds enthusiastic.

JULIE
... and the auctioneer--

TARA (V.O.)
What's his name?

JULIE
Marcello! Oh my God, he's so handsome.
TARA (V.O.)
What happens with him?

JULIE
He invited me to dinner.

TARA (V.O.)
Are you going?

JULIE
Of course I'm going.

TARA (V.O.)
Be careful, just dinner, you don't want to throw away all that money.

JULIE
Uhm, maybe after I get married...

TARA (V.O.)
Ask if he has a twin brother...

JULIE
What about your husband?

TARA (V.O.)
(smiling)
I was kidding...

INT. RESTAURANT - NEW YORK CITY - EVENING
Julie and Marcello occupy a corner table.

They sip red wine.

The room is small but nicely decorated with an Italian motif. Several couples are having dinner.

JULIE
It's a nice place.

MARCELLO
Wait for the food.

JULIE
Do you come here often?

MARCELLO
(laughing)
Only when the winning bid reaches ten million dollars.
JULIE
You're very good...

MARCELLO
Thank you, this time wasn't difficult, I would have bid ten millions myself...if I had that kind of money.

JULIE
I wonder who is the bidder?

MARCELLO
When they use a representative by phone, it means that they don't want to be present at the auction. You'll meet his rep tomorrow.

JULIE
This guy must be filthy rich.

MARCELLO
Marry a beautiful virgin like you it's unique.

JULIE
I guess it is.

A long beat.

JULIE
You know a lot about me, tell me about you?

MARCELLO
Well...I was born in New Jersey, went to college there and during the summer, I used to intern in a small auction house in Manhattan. After four years, I was promoted to junior auctioneer. I stayed for another couple of years and then I moved to this house. It was a kind of progression.

JULIE
You have a good job, you must be doing well.

MARCELLO
I make good money but after my divorce my wife took most of the savings and the house.
JULIE
How she could do that?

MARCELLO
The judge believed her, she told him 
I cheated on her. She had a good 
lawyer.

JULIE
Did you cheat?

MARCELLO
Of course not, she wanted her freedom 
"to follow my dreams" she said.

JULIE
What kind of dreams?

MARCELLO
She never told me that.

JULIE
Do you have children?

MARCELLO
No, my wife did not want children. 
She cared only about her career.

JULIE
Where you live now?

MARCELLO
I have a small but interesting 
apartment in the City.

JULIE
Why is it interesting?

MARCELLO
Do you want to see it?

JULIE
(smiling)
No, thank you....not tonight.

MARCELLO
I'm sorry, I didn't mean to--

JULIE
it's okay, I understand. Are you with 
somebody right now?
MARCELLO
No, I'm still reclaiming my life. The divorce was hard to take.

JULIE
I had the same experience, mine was painful too.

MARCELLO
What are you planning to do with the money?

JULIE
My ex left me a mountain of debts. I have to pay them.

MARCELLO
You don't owe ten million dollars, I hope.

JULIE
Not that much. I would like to start a business independently from my husband.

MARCELLO
A business by yourself is a good idea.

A WAITER (30) approaches the table with the food.

MARCELLO
Enough with our miseries...it's time to eat.

JULIE
Good appetite.

MARCELLO
Thank you, enjoy it.

EXT. ICE CREAM PARLOR - NEW YORK CITY - LATE MORNING

Julie, Tara, Sophie and Jenny enjoy huge ice creams in a sidewalk ice cream parlor.

JENNY
I'm happy for you, oh my, it's so wild...tomorrow you'll know the name your benefactor.
SOPHIE
He's not a benefactor, he'll marry her and take her virgin vag.

JENNY
She gets ten million dollars for a fake membrane, for me he's a benefactor.

SOPHIE
She'll marry him...a blind date with immediate result.

TARA
It's just a business transaction with a shade of lies.

JENNY
Why should he believe her?

TARA
Because for him she is a legit virgin wife with a credible story...and a certificate from her doctor.

SOPHIE
I still think it's a fraud. I hope everything goes smoothly--

JENNY
(laughing)
you mean smoothly in?

JULIE
Don't be silly, this is a traumatic moment for me...I have to marry a stranger because that bastard cheated on me and left me penniless.

Julie breaks down in tears.

TARA
See what you did?

JENNY
I'm sorry, I wanted to make her laugh.

SOPHIE
Okay, let's not make this more agonizing. Julie, dear, nothing will happen, you'll get married, I'm sure with a good looking man, and then (MORE)
the money is yours. C'mon honey, smile.

Julie ATTEMPTS a smile while slowly wiping off her tears.

TARA
That's better.

JENNY
What are you going to do with all that money?

JULIE
First of all, we all go on a shopping spree.

SOPHIE
If I were you, I would invest it in the Market, buy Long Term insurance...a ROTH IRA, things for your future.

JENNY
She's so young...and the husband will take care of her.

SOPHIE
Never trust men--

TARA
Sof is right...ninety-nine percent are scumbags and the rest--

JENNY
only interested in sex.

JULIE
Do you think my husband will enjoy sex thinking that he paid for it?

JENNY
A few bucks make lovemaking more exciting. Poor people don't have good orgasms, you know.

SOPHIE
Where did you read this?

JENNY
Online.
INT. OFFICE - NEW YORK CITY - MORNING

Raj, Julie and a tall, elegantly dressed MAN in his 50s sit around a small table in a corner of the large office.

RAJ
May I present Mr. GIORDAN, he's the representative in New York of the bidder.

Mr. Giordan smiles politely. He kisses Julie's hand while his eyes discretely scan her body.

RAJ
This is Ms. Julie Spencer.

GIORDAN
Honored to meet you Ms. Spencer. I read your life story. Fascinating!

JULIE
Thank you Mr. Giordan, you're so kind.

RAJ
Well, Mr. Giordan, please let's proceed with the details.

GIORDAN
As you know, the bidder is not in New York. You'll reach him in his private jet.

JULIE
I don't understand, where does he live?

GIORDAN
Far from here but you don't have to worry, I have arranged every step of the trip.

JULIE
I don't know, it seems so strange--

RAJ
Ms. Spencer, this happens often.

GIORDAN
(to Julie)
Don't worry, you'll have your check as soon as your marriage is completed.
RAJ
...and my commission?

GIORDAN
As we agreed, your commission will be paid before we depart. For us, it's a normal business operation.

JULIE
Do I have time to prepare my luggage?

GIORDAN
Of course, my limousine will come to pick you up tomorrow afternoon for the airport.

JULIE
You said a private airplane?

GIORDAN
A very comfortable GULFSTREAM G650ER, the most modern aircraft available today.

INT. JULIE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT
Julie converses on the cell phone. She sounds apprehensive.

JULIE
...this guy has a private plane.

MARCELLO (V.O.)
Did he say where are you going?

JULIE
No, he just said "far from here."

MARCELLO (V.O.)
Are you nervous?

JULIE
Yes I am....and a little scared.

MARCELLO (V.O.)
Scared of what?

JULIE
I don't know, it seems a fantasy.

MARCELLO (V.O.)
Ten million dollars can't be called a fantasy...or, maybe it's a fantasy.
A beat.

MARCELLO (V.O.)
...do you want my advice?

JULIE
Yes!

MARCELLO (V.O.)
Get married, give him what he paid for, get the check and run.

JULIE
And if he doesn't like me?

MARCELLO (V.O.)
I don't think this guy is blind.

JULIE
He can be a weirdo. You know, one who likes kinky sex, whipping, that stuff.

MARCELLO (V.O.)
If you don't want to do it, just say NO.

JULIE
He may kill me after the wedding.

A long beat.

JULIE
I'm not going!

MARCELLO (V.O.)
If you wish to throw away ten million dollars...go ahead. Remember your debts.

A beat.

JULIE
...you're right, my debts. But if I'm in trouble, can I call you?

MARCELLO (V.O.)
Everything will be fine, but in case you don't like what's happening, call me and I'll fly over. Later, we'll think about your marriage.
JULIE
(laughing)
Okay, if I run away who's going to pay my bills?

MARCELLO (V.O.)
(laughing)
Nobody, we'll run away together in the BAHAMAS.

EXT. AIRPORT - LATE AFTERNOON

An EXTRA-LONG LIMOUSINE approaches a latest-model GULFSTREAM aircraft parked on the tarmac.

Giordan, Julie and two athletic MEN exit the limousine and board the plane CLIMBING on an air stair.

INT. AIRCRAFT - EVENING

Julie relaxes in a large, comfortable seat. She flips through the current issue of PEOPLE magazine.

A gorgeous FLIGHT ATTENDANT in her mid-20s leans over her seat.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
Ms. Spencer, the dinner will be served in twenty minutes. Would you like an aperitif?

JULIE
Just a glass of wine, please.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
White or red?

JULIE
White, please.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
We have from FRANCE, PINOT BLANC, the ITALIAN CINQUE TERRE, ALVERINHO from PORTUGAL, the AUSTRIAN SILVANEL, VERDICCHIO from ITALY. In the CHAMPAGNE category, I can serve you DOM PERIGNON, KRUG and PERRIER JOUET.

JULIE
Okay, okay just white wine, please.
FLIGHT ATTENDANT
Just white wine Ms. Spencer.

She gently POURS Italian white wine in a crystal glass and hands it to her.

A beat.

JULIE
Do you know where we are going?

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
I'm sorry Ms. Spencer, only the CAPTAIN knows that.

JULIE
Can I talk to him?

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
I'm afraid you can't.

JULIE
Why not?

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
These are the instructions.

JULIE
From Mr. Giordan?

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
Yes, from the owner of the plane to Mr. Giordan.

JULIE
Do you know the owner?

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
No Ms. Spencer, I deal only with Mr. Giordan.

JULIE
You never saw him?

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
No, I know that he's very rich.

JULIE
Is he a businessman?

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
I don't know for sure. Maybe, he is.
JULIE
How long are you working here?

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
This is my second flight.

ISLAND OF SATAR - SAUDI ARABIA

EXT. AIRPORT - MORNING

The aircraft LANDS perfectly. A limousine awaits on the runway.

Giordan, Julie and the two men DISEMBARK from the jet and quickly get into the car.

EXT. HIGHWAY - MINUTES LATER

The limousine SPEEDS along the highway.

INT. CAR - ONE HOUR LATER

Julie sits between the two men. Giordan occupies a seat facing them.

The car windows are covered by shields blocking the view. She appears nervous.

JULIE
Are we close to the place?

GIORDAN
Just fifteen more minutes.

JULIE
Is it a city?

GIORDAN
We're not going to a city.

JULIE
Where does he live?

GIORDAN
It's a beautiful palace. You'll love it.
INT. ROOM - PALACE - EARLY AFTERNOON

A large room with TERRA-COTTA tiles floor, SWEDISH-style furniture and modern paintings on the walls.

Julie stands in the middle of the room staring at the expensive elegance of the place.

INT. ROOM - PALACE - MINUTES LATER

A door slowly OPENS with a soft, squeaking sound.

Julie turns her head towards that sound and sees...

A tall, bearded MAN in his 70s dressed in an elegant SAUDI ARABIAN THOBE.

INT. ROOM - PALACE - CONTINUOUS

The man steps towards Julie and extends his welcoming hand to her. A smile lights up his features.

She glances at two GOLDEN RINGS with brilliant STONES on his fingers.

(He speaks English with a British accent).

THE MAN
I'm SHEIK RASHID bin MUHAMMAD, but in private you can call me RASH. I'm happy to meet you Ms. Spencer.

Julie stares at him speechless.

JULIE
I am....I am....in Saudi Arabia?

Rash smiles.

RASH
Yes, we are near the PENINSULA of SAUDI ARABIA, I am the ruler of this island. Maybe you know SATAR, we ship a lot of oil to America.

JULIE
I'm sorry, I never heard of your country.
RASH
I'm not surprised, we're a small island but we produce twenty percent of the Arab oil.

JULIE
I see...

RASH
Ms. Spencer, you must be tired, it was a long trip.

JULIE
I'm okay, thank you... Rash...

Rash smiles cordially.

RASH
You sound so adorable when you pronounce my name.

JULIE
Why did you bid so high at the auction? Why you want to marry me?

RASH
Well, I have five young wives in my HAREM.

JULIE
Why you need five wives?

RASH
Each one has a virtue, no woman has all the virtues to be the only wife.

JULIE
Why you want a sixth wife?

RASH
Well--

JULIE
where do I fit in this scenario?

RASH
Let's not talk about this now. Have a warm bath and a nice sleep. We'll have a formal dinner tomorrow. If you're in the mood for a light snack, (MORE)
RASH (cont'd)
there is fruit and some American-style sandwiches in the next room.

JULIE
I didn't bring anything appropriate to wear for the dinner tomorrow.

Rash smiles and indicates a door on one side of the room.

RASH
In your bedroom's closets, you'll find fifty dresses and accessories I bought for you in Paris. Wear what you like.

JULIE
How did you know my size?

RASH
Giordan sent me your photo.

JULIE
Oh my! I am, I am...May I ask you another question?

RASH
Anything.

JULIE
I saw in the movies that in Saudi Arabia you have elaborated furniture, beautiful Persian carpets, why this room looks so European?

RASH
I did it for you, to make you feel at home...this section of the palace is decorated in modern Western style.

JULIE
Just for me?

RASH
Yes, I want you to be happy.
Now, if you excuse me, I have to go.

Rash quickly EXITS the room.

INT. PALACE DINING ROOM - EVENING

A large, artistically chiseled mahogany table dominates the room.
The decoration is strictly Arabian.
Rash and Julie sit at the table sipping wine.
The table is set up for a sumptuous meal.

**RASH**
My chef is from FRANCE. He's preparing something special.

**JULIE**
Are we eating alone?

**RASH**
This is not the moment for my wives to appear.

**JULIE**
Where are they now?

**RASH**
They have the harem...they have all they need.

**JULIE**
I would like to meet them.

**RASH**
This night is dedicated to you only...to us!

A beat.

**JULIE**
I get it...am I receiving the check before or after we get married?

**RASH**
Ms. Spencer, we have to chat a little.

**JULIE**
Do you have problems with the check?...Raj told me that I would get the entire sum of the bid before we get married. If you want, I can wait.

**RASH**
You'll receive all the money but first, I need to explain--
JULIE
pf you have ...huh...other problems, you know what I mean... I'm very patient...you can take all the time you need.

Rash BURSTS into a loud laugh.

RASH
Ms. Spencer, remember I have five wives...I have to keep them satisfied. I'm not a young man anymore but I can still perform.

INT. ROOM - PALACE - ONE HOUR LATER.

Julie and Rash lounge in an elegant sofa enjoying a cup of Arabian coffee.

The room is decorated with CHINESE furniture and paintings.

JULIE
The dinner was incredible...the best I had in a long time.

RASH
You can eat like this every day... or I can hire an American chef if you prefer.

JULIE
Every day these meals? I don't want to get fat. You wouldn't like a fat wife

RASH
Tomorrow, I'll show you the gym...the trainers are OLYMPIC athletes.

JULIE
Tell me about the wedding.

A beat.

RASH
(hesitant)
Let me explain a few issues first.

A long beat.

Julie attempts a smile. She looks perplexed.
JULIE
This room is fascinating.

RASH
Thank you, these are rare pieces from the MING dynasty I collected them throughout the years.

JULIE
So, what you want to tell me?

RASH
Ms. Spencer--

JULIE
Rash, you're going to make love to me, try Julie.

RASH
Okay, Julie, we have to discuss your chastity.

JULIE
If you think I'm not a virgin? I--

RASH
I asked this question to Giordan, I was skeptical at first. Nowadays, to meet a virgin is like find oil in a rock.

JULIE
I can assure that--

RASH
It's okay, Giordan faxed me the Certificate of Authenticity signed by your doctor and I read your life story. Remarkably interesting.

JULIE
Yes, I dedicated my life to my vocation.

RASH
This is what impressed me the most about you...your dedication to chastity.

JULIE
Do you still have reservations about my virginity?
RASH
Absolutely not! You're a certified virgin.

JULIE
So, can we sleep together tonight?

RASH
Before I answer, I would like to show you my harem and introduce you to my girls.

JULIE
Why not your wives?

RASH
Right now, the girls are more important.

INT. ROOM - PALACE - EVENING
Rash and July stand at the entrance of a very elegant room decorated in MIDDLE EASTERN style.

A FOUNTAIN in the middle of the room happily squirts water in the air.

Rash RINGS a bell.

INT. ROOM - PALACE - MINUTES LATER

Seven dark-haired, beautiful GIRLS in their teens stand in front of Rash and Julie.

RASH
May I introduce Julie, a friend of mine.

They timidly whisper Arabic words among themselves while looking at Julie.

RASH
(softly)
These young women are all very well educated, speak fluent English, play music, write poems...and they are all VIRGINS!

JULIE
And only one will be your sixth wife?
Yes, only the worthy one.

A difficult choice, they are all perfect.

They are not perfect, they lack discipline.

So young, it's normal, what you expect?

A few times, the palace guards had to stop them from arguing.

Are you keeping guards around them?

Rash moves his hand in the direction of one young woman.
She gets close to Julie. A beautiful smile illuminates her face.

(All the young women speak English with a British accent).

This is JADA. Her name means GIFT.

She slowly BOWS.

Glad to meet you.

My pleasure Jada.

You have an enchanting name.

Thank you, very kind of you.
Rash calls the second young woman.

RASH
She's NADIA. In Arabic it means FIRST.

Nadia bows reverently.

NADIA
Welcome.

JULIE
It's my pleasure to be here.

NADIA
What is your country?

JULIE
The UNITED STATES.

NADIA
We do a lot of business with America. Our oil goes into your cars and homes.

JULIE
I know.

The third young woman moves forward.

RASH
She's ABIA, it means GREAT.

Same deferential bowing.

ABIA
Welcome to our harem.

JULIE
Thank you.

ABIA
I always listen to a talented American musician.

JULIE
Oh yes? What's his name?

ABIA
Louis Armstrong.
JULIE
Sorry, I don't know him...I follow
LADY GAGA.

The FOURTH young woman bows while smiling at Julie.

RASH
She's FURAT, my SWEET WATER.

FURAT
You're very beautiful Julie.

JULIE
Not as beautiful as you.

FURAT
Do you think that HILLARY CLINTON
will be your next president?

JULIE
I don't know, I'm not too familiar
with politics.

The FIFTH young woman stands in front of Julie.

RASH
May I introduce HALA, SWEETNESS.

Hala bows like the others.

HALA
How long are you going to stay in the
palace?

JULIE
I don't know.

HALA
I hope a long time.

A long beat.

JULIE
Maybe.

Rash introduces the SIXTH young woman.

RASH
She's HUSNIYAH, in English her name
means BEAUTIFUL.
JULIE
A very appropriate name. Glad to meet you Husniyah.

HUSNIYAH
It's my pleasure. I wish you happiness.

JULIE
You're so sweet. Thank you.

RASH
And the LAST is MALAK, an ANGEL.

Malak bows discretely while lowering her eyes.

RASH
She's very shy.

JULIE
So cute.

MALAK
Did you have a nice trip?

JULIE
Yes, I did. Thank you for asking.

RASH
You must be tired, let's go inside.

JULIE
Wait.

A beat.

JULIE
It was very nice meeting you. You're all very beautiful and smart. I wish you a happy life.

Nadia answers for all the young women.

NADIA
May ALLAH protect you and your family.

INT. ROOM - PALACE - LATE EVENING

Julie and Rash sit in leather armchairs in a small, intimate room.
Julie appears apprehensive.

    JULIE
Are we going?

    RASH
Julie, let me be sincere with you--

    JULIE
    (laughing nervously)
you are poor...

A beat.

    RASH
We are NOT going to have sex.

    JULIE
Okay, not tonight. Tomorrow night? In the morning? When!?

    RASH
NEVER! I need you to REMAIN A VIRGIN.

A beat.

    JULIE
WHAT?!

    RASH
Let me explain...my bid was for your virginity not for deflowering you.

    JULIE
Are you telling me that you bid ten million dollars just to preserve my virginity?

    RASH
...well, yes.

    JULIE
But why? You don't like me?

    RASH
On the contrary, I think that you are a very attractive woman, with a great personality.

    JULIE
So, what is the fucking problem?... Pun intended.
RASH
I want you to stay with me.

JULIE
Why? What you mean?

RASH
I need you to keep the discipline inside the harem, harmony among the young women...like a...how should I say...an ABBESS, yes an abbess.

JULIE
Can I do it without my virginity?

RASH
The girls are all virgins...you must be a virgin to live in the harem.

JULIE
So, if I understand what you're saying, you want a kind of virgin LADY SUPERIOR.

RASH
Perfect characterization! Yes! Julie, you left the convent because they did not promote you...I'm giving you the position you wanted.

JULIE
And you bid all that money for that?

RASH
Yes, your chastity and your life in the harem.

JULIE
When am I going to get the money if we don't have sex?

RASH
You'll receive the full amount while you are in the harem. Giordan will pay all your debts and the rest of the money is yours.

JULIE
What about my life, my friends...and sex, no sex for the rest of my life? Are you crazy? I don't want to be your slave!
RASH
You're not a slave, you can accompany me during my trips, go to my vacation resort in the RED SEA with the girls or shop in the BAZAARS. You'll get used to a sexless life.

JULIE
What about a COMPUTER?

RASH
No, all the books you want but not a computer.

JULIE
No FACEBOOK? I rather kill myself.

Rash looks irked.

RASH
If you don't like the deal you can leave right now but without money! I know that you have massive debts, the bank will take your house and you can go to jail if you don't pay back your creditors.

JULIE
What about Raj's promise? He told me I would get the money after having sex.

RASH
Ray was lying my dear...he knew about the harem, he got his commission already.

JULIE
That son-of-a-bitch!

RASH
He's in business to make a profit.

JULIE
I'm broke, I need that money.

RASH
Okay, accept my offer then.

JULIE
I don't know...I'm confused...

Rash stares at her with piercing eyes.
RASH
You don't have to answer me now, sleep over it and then tell me your decision.

JULIE
Tomorrow?

RASH
Yes, I want your final answer tomorrow afternoon.

INT. LIVING ROOM - PALACE - MORNING

Julie stands in the middle of a modernly furnished living room.

Rash sits in an armchair on a side of the room.

RASH
Did you sleep well last night?

JULIE
No, I was thinking about your offer.

RASH
Well?

JULIE
It seems fair, I accept it. But I need to go back to New York, I have things to settle.

RASH
I'm glad! It's a wise choice. What kind of issues you need to settle?

JULIE
Financial...with my bank, huh...sign divorce documents, write to the Vatican...

RASH
You can do it from here, I have direct contact with the major banks in New York and my lawyers can represent you in New York and Rome.

JULIE
It's not just the banks, my house, I need to see my friends...and...huh...
(MORE)
JULIE (cont'd)
my AUNT is very sick, you know, we're very close.

RASH
I can fly your friends here--

JULIE
I wants to see aunt LINA before she dies. I really have to go.

A long beat. Rash stares at her.

RASH
Okay, how much time you need?

JULIE
Two weeks.

RASH
Can you come back sooner?

JULIE
No, I really can't.

Rash ruminates for a few seconds.

RASH
Okay, you can go for two weeks.

JULIE
What about some money?

RASH
I'll give you five hundred thousand dollars as a prepayment, you'll get the rest during your stay in the harem.

JULIE
May I have it in cash?

RASH
Five hundred thousand dollars in bills?....too dangerous. I'll give you a personal check, you can cash it in New York. Do you have a bank account?

JULIE
Not really. I was in a convent, remember?
RASH
You can ask a friend who has it.

JULIE
My friends are wealthy, maybe they can cash it.

RASH
Very well then, I'll see you in two weeks. Giordan will come with you. Have a nice flight.

JULIE
Thank you Rash. See you soon.

She kisses Rash on his cheek.

INT. AIRCRAFT - EVENING

Julie relaxes in a comfy seat. She flips through the current issue of VOGUE magazine.

The same gorgeous flight attendant leans over her seat.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
Ms. Spencer, the dinner will be served in twenty minutes. Would you like an aperitif?

JULIE
Just a glass of wine.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
White or red?

JULIE
White, please.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
We have from FRANCE, PINOT BLANC, the ITALIAN CINQUE TERRE, ALVERINHO from PORTUGAL, the AUSTRIAN SILVANEL, VERDICCHIO from ITALY. In the CHAMPAGNE category, I can serve you DOM PERIGNON, KRUG and PERRIER JOUET.

JULIE
Okay, okay just white wine, please.
FLIGHT ATTENDANT
Just white wine Ms. Spencer.

She gently POURS Italian white wine in a crystal glass and hands it to her.

INT. JULIE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

Julie talks on the cell phone walking nervously around the kitchen.

She looks excited.

JULIE
...and he gave me five hundred thousand dollars, a check for half million dollars, no sweat. Now I have to cash it.

TARA (V.O.)
How can you cash it? You don't have a bank account.

JULIE
Can you cash it at your bank? I'll endorse it to you and--

TARA (V.O.)
sweetie, my husband controls the money. Let me ask him. Wait a sec.

Tara hollers.

TARA (V.O.)
Honey, Julie asked me if you can cash a five hundred thousand dollars check?

HUSBAND (O.C.)
How much?

TARA (V.O.)
Five hundred thousand dollars.

HUSBAND (O.C.)
Are you guys crazy?

TARA (V.O.)
So, it's yes or no?

HUSBAND (O.C.)
Who wrote this check?
TARA (V.O.)
A sheik.

HUSBAND (O.C.)
Don't waste my time!

TARA (V.O.)
Are you still there?

JULIE
Yes, I am. I heard him.

TARA (V.O.)
I'm sorry, I tried.

JULIE
What should I do?

TARA (V.O.)
Did you ask Sophie and Jennie?

JULIE
I did, they can't, they said it's too much and don't know who wrote it.

TARA (V.O.)
Maybe you should ask somebody familiar with these checks. Why don't you call that Raj at the auction house?

JULIE
Fuck him, that bastard...he lied to me, I don't want to fucking see him again.

TARA (V.O.)
What about your ex, he has money--

JULIE
fuck him too! Never mind, maybe I got an idea.

INT. MARCELLO'S APARTMENT - LATE MORNING
A typical two-room apartment in NEW YORK CITY.
Julie sits in a worn out sofa in the living room.
Marcello is seated next to her. They enjoy a beer.
JULIE
...and this is what happened.

MARCELLO
It sounds like a story from a movie.

JULIE
It's all real...I still can't believe it myself.

MARCELLO
What are you thinking to do?

JULIE
First, I have to cash this check.

MARCELLO
Are you planning to go back there?

JULIE
Are you nuts, of course NOT! Five hundred thousand dollars are enough to pay all my debts.

MARCELLO
What about the rest of the money, he will not pay it if you don't join the harem.

JULIE
And spend the rest of my life in his harem? He can keep his fucking money and his young virgins!

MARCELLO
Yeah, these Arabs thinks they can buy AMERICA with their oil wealth.

A beat.

JULIE
Can you help me cashing the check?

MARCELLO
Huh...I think...maybe I can. I have an account where I deposit the money of the auction house...I'll put your money in the account and, when you need it, I issue the checks.
JULIE
Perfect, thank you, you're saving my life.

MARCELLO
You know what, endorse the check and I'll go right now before they close. Wait for me here.

INT. MARCELLO'S APARTMENT - TWO HOURS LATER
Marcello ENTERS the apartment.

INT. MARCELLO'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS
Julie prepares lunch in the kitchen.

JULIE
Did they accept the check?

MARCELLO
All done. I went to a manager I know well and she gave the okay.

JULIE
What you suggest I do now?

MARCELLO
Put all your bills together, tell me the amount and I'll give you the checks.

JULIE
I have to talk with the bank. The collection agency's guy told me that it's seventy five thousand dollars. My ex stopped pay the mortgage. Maybe, they can cut the amount.

A beat.

MARCELLO
How is that sheik, I mean as a person?

JULIE
A nice person...difficult to understand.

MARCELLO
His English?
JULIE
No, no, he speaks better than you and me... I mean his mind. He's a combination of ancient traditions and modern ideas. A fascinating man, rich and unhappy at the same time. Very charismatic.

MARCELLO
Are you trying to make me jealous?

JULIE
Are you really getting jealous?

MARCELLO
Maybe, I am.

EXT. STREET - SUBURB - NIGHT
A car is parked across Julie's house.

INT. CAR - SAME TIME
Giordan scans the exit of the house while talking on the cell phone.

GIORDAN
Good morning Rash, I'm parked across her house, it's night here.

RASH (V.O.)
Did you see her?

GIORDAN
It seems she's not around.

RASH (V.O.)
Did you drive her home from the airport?

GIORDAN
Yes I did.

RASH (V.O.)
Did you see her going out?

GIORDAN
After I left her, I went to lunch.
RASH (V.O.)
For how long?

GIORDAN
Two hours.

RASH (V.O.)
Maybe she went out.

GIORDAN
It might be.

A beat.

RASH (V.O.)
Find her and make sure she doesn't meet any men...

GIORDAN
I'll do that.

INT. MARCELLO'S APARTMENT - NIGHT
Julie and Marcello relax in the living room sofa.

MARCELLO
Are you sleeping here?

JULIE
Do you want me to?

MARCELLO
What you think?

JULIE
I don't know.

MARCELLO
You got the money already, you can do anything you want...I mean...

JULIE
I know what you mean.

A beat.

JULIE
And if the money isn't enough?
MARCELLO
I know some people in the City, I can help you...you really don't need to be a virgin anymore.

JULIE
Maybe there's a way to make more money.

MARCELLO
How?

JULIE
Another auction.

MARCELLO
Sweetheart, there is something you are missing about auctions...

A beat.

MARCELLO
Your lot has been a sensation in the business. Everybody knows that you got ten million dollars for your virginity and they know who paid for it. There is no way you can find an auction house in the universe that would auction off your virginity for the second time.

JULIE
Okay, maybe you're right. I'll do some work with the numbers and see what I need. I don't want to live in a shelter.

MARCELLO
You can stay with me.

JULIE
Let me see how it goes, then I'll decide. I've just finished with that bastard. Give me some time to reflect.

MARCELLO
Okay, let me know when you're ready. Are you going home?

JULIE
Yes, but don't call me. I need to be by myself for awhile.
INT. SOPHIE'S HOUSE - PORCH - LATE NIGHT

Julie and Sophie sit on white wicker chairs in the porch. The silence of the night enfolds them.

JULIE
Are you sure we can talk?

SOPHIE
As long as you want to. Listen, Julie, I know that you and the girls think that I am a pessimistic bitch, I just care about you guys and I want to protect you. I had many experiences in my life...many ups and downs.

JULIE
I know, this is why I'm here, I need your help.

SOPHIE
You must be overwhelmed by what is going on in your life, right?

JULIE
Yes, I am. What should I do?

SOPHIE
You don't have many choices but you did a smart move to get the money and come back here. By the way, where is the money?

JULIE
I put it in a bank.

SOPHIE
Good, leave it there until you start to pay your debts. What happened to your escort?

JULIE
I don't know, he drove me to my house and left. I have his phone number, he told me to call him as soon as my affairs are in order.

SOPHIE
What you feel deep inside about the sheik?
JULIE
I like the man, he's a little older, not in great shape but has class and he's--

SOPHIE
very wealthy.

JULIE
Yes, he really is.

SOPHIE
So, what's the problem?

JULIE
Sophie, he he has five wives, FIVE WIVES! And he wants me to be the guardian of the girls in his harem...with no sex for the rest of my life and...no computer.

SOPHIE
How old you think he is?

JULIE
About sixty.

SOPHIE
The stats say that men live ten years less than women, use your American know how for a few years, get married and sacrifice until he dies. You'll get part of his wealth...and still have time for good sex.

Julie gazes at Sophie and EXPLODES in a laugh.

JULIE
Or, I can kill him in one night with a deadly ORAL.

Sophie's heartfelt laugh interrupts the silence of the night.

SOPHIE
It may happen, if you do it right...

INT. JULIE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Julie works on her documents on a large living room table. She totals on a small calculator the amount she owes the creditors.
JULIE
(to herself)
Two hundred ten thousand dollars...a fucking fat check.

INT. JULIE'S HOUSE - SAME TIME
The door bell RINGS.

INT. JULIE'S HOUSE - FOYER - CONTINUOUS
Julie opens the door.
Giordan stands outside the door.

EXT. JULIE'S HOUSE - FRONT DOOR - CONTINUOUS
GIORDAN
Good evening Ms. Spencer, can I come in?

INT. JULIE'S HOUSE - FOYER - SAME TIME
Julie seems surprised.

JULIE
Of course, please.

INT. JULIE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - MINUTES LATER
Julie and Giordan sit on a leather sofa in the living room.

JULIE
I didn't expect you.

GIORDAN
I also came yesterday to check that everything was okay. You weren't home.

JULIE
I'm sorry, I went to visit my friend Sophie.
GIORDAN
Is everything fine?

JULIE
I'm doing well, thank you. I was totaling my debts. I owe a lot.

GIORDAN
You have the money Rash gave you.

Julie's cell phone RINGS.

JULIE
Hello.

VOICE (V.O.)
Good evening Julie, this is Rash, I'm calling from Paris.

JULIE
My God, Paris. How's it?

RASH (V.O.)
They call it the CITY OF LIGHTS, it's splendid.

JULIE
I envy you.

RASH (V.O.)
Next time, you can come with me.

JULIE
You really mean that?

RASH
Of course, I mean it. I've another trip in a month. Brush up on your FRENCH.

JULIE
Yes, I'll do that.

RASH
Is everything okay?

JULIE
I'm fine, thanks. I'm working on my finances.

RASH (V.O.)
Would you be ready to come back in one week?
JULIE

Of course.

RASH (V.O.)

I told the girls and they are looking forward to see you.

JULIE

Did they say that?

RASH (V.O.)

Yes, they are enthusiastic to have you in the harem.

JULIE

I'm glad to hear that.

RASH

How is your sick aunt?

JULIE

I gave her the money to buy an expansive experimental drug....she seems better. Thank you for asking.

RASH

I'm glad. What kind of disease she had?

JULIE

Huh...a blood disease....a complicated name...Do you want to talk with Giordan?

RASH (V.O.)

Yes, please.

JULIE

See you soon.

RASH (V.O.)

I'm looking forward to.

Julie gives the cell phone to Giordan.

GIORDAN

Yes?

RASH (V.O.)

When did she go back home?

GIORDAN

I don't know.
RASH (V.O.)
Any men around?

GIORDAN
No.

RASH (V.O.)
Keep an eye on her.

GIORDAN
Absolutely.

Giordan closes the cell phone and gives it back to Julie.

JULIE
Problems?

GIORDAN
No, no problems, he asked if you were okay. Thank you for your hospitality. Have a good night.

JULIE
Thank you Giordan. I'll see you soon. Good night.

Giordan walks toward the door.

INT. JULIE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING
Julie prepares a breakfast.
The doorbell RINGS.
She walks briskly towards the door.

INT. JULIE'S HOUSE - FOYER - CONTINUOUS
She opens the door and sees...

EXT. JULIE'S HOUSE - FRONT DOOR - SAME TIME
Jeff, her ex, stands at the entrance smiling.

JEFF
May I come in?
INT. JULIE'S HOUSE - FOYER - SAME TIME

Julie stares at him. She looks upset.

   JULIE
   What fuck you want?

   JEFF
   I need to talk to you, please.

   JULIE
   Where is your bimbo?

   JEFF
   Please let me in.

Julie STEPS BACK.

   JULIE
   For a few minutes.

INT. JULIE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - MINUTES LATER

   JEFF
   Are you preparing breakfast?

   JULIE
   Are you fucking blind? You don't see what I'm doing?

   JEFF
   Can you make something for me, I'm starving.

   JULIE
   Why you didn't ask your fucking baby to feed you?

   JEFF
   You're right to be upset with me, I was a asshole.

   JULIE
   So, what you want from me now?

   JEFF
   I lost everything.

   JULIE
   She took all your fucking money, right?
JEFF
No, it was the IRS.

JULIE
The IRS? What they have to do with your money?

JEFF
I didn't pay taxes for the past five years.

JULIE
Are you fucking crazy? What happened to your money in the CAYMAN ISLAND.

JEFF
They froze the account. It was illegal.

JULIE
You still have your job.

JEFF
Who wants an ACCOUNTANT who didn't pay his taxes and is investigated by the IRS. I lost my job.

JULIE
And your baby lover?

JEFF
I found her in my bed screwing the mailman.

A beat.

JEFF
You know, she wasn't really good in bed...you're much better.

JULIE
Cut the bull shit! Why are you here?

JEFF
Can I come back with you? I swear, I'm a different man.

JULIE
How are you different?

JEFF
Faithful, honest...a good husband.
JULIE
What about the divorce papers?

JEFF
I'll call the lawyer, we don't need to divorce.

JULIE
I have many good things going on in my life now. I WANT the divorce.

A beat.

JEFF
I spoke with Jenny. She told me what happened.

JULIE
What did she tell you?

JEFF
About your virginity.

Julie looks jittery.

JULIE
Did she say anything else?

JEFF
No, she told me that you had a surgery to recreate your virginity.

JULIE
Yes, I had a minor surgery to fix my vagina. You have a problem with that?

JEFF
No, no...but I have an idea.

JULIE
One of your fucking ideas, what?

JEFF
We can make lots of money with my plan, imagine the newspapers "A forty-three-year-old married woman regains her virginity." A MIRACLE!

JULIE
And what I'm supposed to do?
JEFF
Nothing! We'll rent a hall and charge ten bucks a person to see your vagina and get blessed by you.

JULIE
Shithead, don't you think that people know that virginity can be fixed with surgery?

JEFF
If they ask, you swear that you're a natural virgin. They can't examine you.

JULIE
I can't believe you're so fucking dense. This is a scam and we'll go to jail.

JEFF
I'm sure it's going to work. People believe in miracles. They're looking for miracles!

JULIE
Why don't you expose your dick and show a bigger miracle--

JEFF
what?

JULIE
That you get an erection without Viagra.

JEFF
I'm not taking Viagra anymore, I can't wait two hours. Now I'm using a powder from CHINA...I mix it with a drink and I'll have it hard in one minute.

JULIE
Did you try it yet?

JEFF
No, I'm waiting for the package from HONG KONG. In the meantime, they sent me a CD to watch. You should see, they drink the solution and a few seconds it's hard like a rock.
JULIE
How much you paid for the powder?

JEFF
Five thousand dollars.

JULIE
GOOD!

A beat.

JEFF
Can I stay here tonight?

JULIE
No, I'm going out.

JEFF
Tomorrow night?

JULIE
Listen, go out of this house and never come back, YOU HEAR ME? NEVER! I paid in full for this house, it's mine now.

JEFF
Where did you get the money?

JULIE
I exposed my new and improved vagina for thousand dollars a person.

INT. BANK'S OFFICE - MORNING

The bank's manager, a WOMAN in her 50s, sits behind her desk. A huge file lies in front of her.

Julie sits at the other side of the desk. Her demeanor manifests a deep apprehension.

MANAGER
Ms. Spencer, your financial situation is complicated. Your mortgage has not been paid for the past three years.

JULIE
I know, the guy from the collection agency told me that.
Your mortgage must be repaid in FULL within a few days.

My husband causes this mess. We're in the middle of a divorce. Can you give me a break?

I understand your situation but the only help I can give you is to reduce the interests matured during the three years... but you have to pay your debt in a LUMP SUM.

How much is the total amount?

The manager does some calculations on a desk calculator.

With the interests adjustment is exactly two hundred seventy-five thousand dollars.

It's a big number. I'll see what I can do.

Okay, as soon as we receive the payment, we'll transfer the deed to you.

And the house will be under my name?

Yes, you'll be the sole owner of your house.

Do you accept a personal check?

With your financial position I can't.

What you need?
MANAGER
A certified check secured by a strong account.

JULIE
Okay, I'll try to do that.

MANAGER
Please, as soon as possible. If we don't receive the payment in a couple of days, we'll proceed with the foreclosure.

INT. JULIE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Julie, Tara, Jenny and Sophie sit in the sofa and armchairs. They hold glasses filled with white and red wine.

TARA
I'm proposing a toast to Julie and her house.

JULIE
I did not pay it yet. I'll bring the money after tomorrow.

SOPHIE
Start early in the morning and get the certified check. If you have problems with the bank call me. Don't give the check to anybody, go directly to the other bank and pay the mortgage.

JENNY
She'll do fine. Stop pampering her.

SOPHIE
You're so naive, you can't even imagine how many scam artists are in circulation.

JENNY
She's smart...

SOPHIE
Yes, but not with money.

TARA
Did you calculate your other debts?
JULIE
Yes, I owe two hundred ten thousand dollars.

SOPHIE
All together you have to pay four hundred eighty-five thousand dollars, you have left fifteen thousand dollars.

JENNY
Great! You can stay here and start a new life.

SOPHIE
Fifteen thousand dollars isn't much, she has to plan carefully and find a job.

JENNY
She has no mortgage, that's good.

JULIE
I can live in my own house and--

JENNY
fall in love?

JULIE
Maybe.

Tara RAISES her glass.

TARA
To Julie, her house, her debt-free life and--

All FOUR WOMEN in unison.

FOUR WOMEN
LOVE!

JENNY
...And WILD SEX, YEAH!

EXT. STREET - SUBURB - LATE EVENING

A car is parked one blocks from Julie's house.
INT. CAR - LATER

Giordan is seated in the car.

He talks on his cell phone.

GIORDAN
She just left in a car.

RASH (V.O.)
With a man?

GIORDAN
No, with her friends.

RASH (V.O.)
Are you sure no men?

GIORDAN
Three women and her. What should I do?

RASH (V.O.)
It must be late in New York, go to sleep and resume the surveillance tomorrow afternoon. Good night.

GIORDAN
Have a good day.

INT. MARCELLO'S APARTMENT - LATE NIGHT

Julie stands in front of the apartment's door.

She RINGS the doorbell. No answer.

She RINGS again. Silence.

INT. LUNCHEONETTE - NEW YORK CITY - NIGHT

Julie sit at a table in a luncheonette across Marcello's building.

She sips a coffee.

An OLD LADY (80) sits in the next table. She eats a piece of cake.

OLD LADY
Are you an actress?
JULIE
Do you think I'm an actress?

OLD LADY
You look like one.

JULIE
It's a compliment?

OLD LADY
Yes.

JULIE
Thank you.

OLD LADY
Are you waiting for somebody?

JULIE
I went to visit someone but he wasn't home.

OLD LADY
Your boyfriend?

JULIE
No, just a friend.

OLD LADY
Do you like him?

Julie smiles.

JULIE
Yes, a lot.

OLD LADY
You're waiting for him to come back home, don't you?

JULIE
How you know that?

OLD LADY
I saw your eyes when you talked about him.

JULIE
What about my eyes.

OLD LADY
They where brilliant, like two pearls.
JULIE
You're very wise.

OLD LADY
I wasn't wise when I was young.

JULIE
What happened to you?

OLD LADY
After a long marriage, my husband abandoned me for a younger woman and left me in poverty. He took the house, the money, everything.

JULIE
You didn't have children?

OLD LADY
Children...I had one child, he got married and moved to California. I never saw him again.

JULIE
And then what did you do?

OLD LADY
I found a job as a waitress but I got sick and they fired me. When I could not pay the rent, I was evicted. I went to a city shelter. It was terrible there. Like hell!

JULIE
My God, what about your friends?

OLD LADY
My friends...yes, my dear friends. I had many friends when I was well-off...they all disappeared as soon as I became a destitute.

JULIE
It's terrible. What did you do after you left the shelter?

OLD LADY
I started to live in the streets, eating in charity kitchens and sleeping in the parks.

JULIE
Why you're here tonight?
OLD LADY
I couldn't sleep and I was hungry. The owner gives me stale food for free. I'm a human garbage pail.

JULIE
Take some good food with you...I'll pay for it.

OLD LADY
God bless you. Sorry if I saddened you...life is cruel sometimes.

Tears slide down Julie's eyes.

INT. JULIE'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - EARLY MORNING

Julie lies down on her bed trying to fall asleep. She looks exhausted after a sleepless night.

The cell phone on the nightstand RINGS. She quickly picks it up.

JULIE
Hi, what happened to you?

MARCELLO (V.O.)
What you mean?

JULIE
Last night I came to your house and you weren't there.

MARCELLO (V.O.)
I was playing poker with my friends.

JULIE
Do you play poker?

MARCELLO (V.O.)
Once in a while with other auctioneers.

JULIE
Did you win?

MARCELLO (V.O.)
I did okay. Do you want to come over?

JULIE
When?
MARCELLO (V.O.)
Now.

JULIE
Okay, I'll take a shower and I'll be there. Give me an hour.

MARCELLO (V.O.)
See you later.

JULIE
Okay.

Julie closes her cell phone and smiles.

INT. MARCELLO'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - MORNING
Marcello and Julie sit at the kitchen table eating breakfast.

JULIE
Did you have fun last night?

MARCELLO
It was fine.

JULIE
What are you doing today?

MARCELLO
It's my day off, tomorrow I'll have a busy day. Two auctions.

JULIE
How can you remember all those details?

MARCELLO
I practice and I've a good memory. What are you going to do after you pay your debts?

JULIE
I'll find a job.

MARCELLO
Any particular job?

JULIE
I don't know, I have no skills.
MARCELLO
You can start as a waitress and move up to manager. It's hard work but you can make good money with the tips.

JULIE
No, not that, not a waitress!

MARCELLO
Why not?

JULIE
...no special reasons, I don't like it.

A long beat.

MARCELLO
You think you can fall in love again?

JULIE
Why you want to know?

MARCELLO
I see how you look at me every time we meet.

JULIE
You're good looking...

MARCELLO
Only good looking?

JULIE
Hot?

Marcello slowly gets closer to Julie.

MARCELLO
Not as hot as you.

Julie tenderly caresses her face.

JULIE
(whispering)
The truth is....I'm crazy about you.

They kiss passionately.
INT. MARCELLO'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Julie and Marcello feverishly undress each other, jump in bed and make beautiful, lustful love.

Their naked bodies are lost in a sea of desire.

INT. MARCELLO'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - LATER

Julie's head rests on Marcello's chest.

She gently caresses his nipples with the tip of her fingers.

    JULIE
    (whispering)
    It was beautiful, I love you.

    MARCELLO
    You were amazing.

    JULIE
    (smiling)
    You took my virginity.

    MARCELLO
    And you my heart.

    JULIE
    Do you love me?

    MARCELLO
    Yes, I do...forever.

They kiss lovingly.

    JULIE
    Forever?

    MARCELLO
    Forever!

A beat.

    JULIE
    As soon as I pay the mortgage, you can come to live in my house, I own it now.

A beat.

    MARCELLO
    Would you marry me?
JULIE
Yes, yes!

MARCELLO
You and I--

JULIE
we'll have a happy life together, if you want we can adopt a child.

MARCELLO
We'll see about that, for now, let's think about us.

JULIE
Yes, you and me...

A beat.

MARCELLO
When you have to pay the bank?

JULIE
Within two days.

MARCELLO
And the other debts?

JULIE
As soon as possible, they are long overdue. The creditors are calling me every day.

MARCELLO
Okay, tomorrow morning before going to work, I'll stop at the bank and withdraw the money.

JULIE
I need four certified checks - one for two hundred seventy-five thousands and the other three for one hundred thousand, fifty thousand and sixty thousand dollars.

MARCELLO
Tomorrow night you'll have the checks.

They start to kiss again. Their hot lovemaking resumes.
EXT. PARK - NEW YORK CITY - MORNING

Julie and Tara sit on a bench.

The park is populated by CHILDREN and their MOTHERS.

Few JOGGERS run on a dusty path.

TARA
How was it?

JULIE
You can't imagine it. I had two orgasms. He drove me crazy.

TARA
Oh my, two orgasms...did you feel pain?

JULIE
Nothing! Dr. Sanders did a great job. Go to him in case you need it in the future.

TARA
How is Marcello, I mean as a man?

JULIE
A darling, he even asked me if I felt any discomfort when he penetrated me. Sweet and erotic at the same time.

TARA
Are you happy?

JULIE
Yes, I am, I am, I AM!

A beat.

JULIE
He's coming to live in my house.

TARA
As husband and wife?

JULIE
Yes, we'll get married soon.

TARA
I'm so happy for you. We have to start organizing the wedding. I'll call the girls.
A beat.

Tara looks perplexed.

TARA
What are you going to tell the sheik?

JULIE
The truth, I fell in love and I'll stay here.

TARA
And the money he gave you?

JULIE
I don't know. I'll think about it later.

TARA
You can explain the situation to his representative, that Giordan.

JULIE
He seems a nice person, he'll understand. Love is stronger than--

TARA
Money?

JULIE
(laughing)
With Marcello, I say yes!

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NEW YORK CITY - EVENING

Giordan sits in a plush armchair in his luxury hotel suite.

He talks on the cell phone.

GIORDAN
I went to her house again. No trace. I don't know where she is.

RASH (V.O.)
You lost her?

GIORDAN
She must be some place, I'll find her.

RASH (V.O.)
In four days she must be back.
GIORDAN
I know, you gave her a lot of money.

RASH (V.O.)
I don't care about the money, in the harem the girls are asking for her. She made such a deep impression on them.

GIORDAN
We'll be back by the end of this week, I'm sure.

RASH
I need her here. No delays!

INT. MARCELLO'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Julie watches a TV program while waiting for Marcello to arrive with the checks.

INT. MARCELLO'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

She drinks a glass of milk while calling Marcello at his cell phone.

No answer. The cell phone is INACTIVE.

She tries again. She looks anxious, worried.

After the third attempt, she sits down at the table. She appears deeply distressed.

Slowly, she falls asleep resting her head on the table.

INT. MARCELLO'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Julie suddenly wakes up and looks at her watch. It's 4 AM.

She grabs her cell phone and dials again Marcello's number.

NO REPLY!

INT. MARCELLO'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Julie talks on the cell phone.
JULIE
(agitated)
Sophie, he didn't come home.

SOPHIE (V.O.)
Maybe, he went with his friends.

JULIE
His phone is dead. No tone, nothing.

SOPHIE (V.O.)
Don't be upset, I'm sure he'll call you during the morning.

JULIE
I need four checks for the bank and the bills.

SOPHIE (V.O.)
What Marcello has to do with the checks?

JULIE
He deposited my money in his bank.

SOPHIE (V.O.)
You didn't tell me this. So, he has your money?

JULIE
Yes.

SOPHIE (V.O.)
Bad news!

JULIE
Why?

SOPHIE (V.O.)
Because you don't have your money.

JULIE
We made love, he said that he loves me. We're going to get married.

SOPHIE (V.O.)
Do you trust him?

JULIE
...Huh...yes.
SOPHIE (V.O.)
When you have your appointment with the bank?

JULIE
This morning at 11.

SOPHIE (V.O.)
Go there and ask to postpone the payment. Tell them that your accountant did not send you the complete financial report. And call all the creditors with the same story.

JULIE
And then?

SOPHIE (V.O.)
Keep on calling him.

JULIE
Do you think something happened?

SOPHIE (V.O.)
I don't know. By the way, do you know his bank?

JULIE
No, he told that is the bank used by the auction house.

SOPHIE (V.O.)
Call the house and find out the name of the bank.

JULIE
How can I ever repay you?

SOPHIE (V.O.)
Tell our friend that I'm only a pessimistic REALIST.

INT. JULIE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - MORNING
Julie talks on the cell phone.

JULIE
Listen Adya I need the name of the bank.
ADYA (V.O.)
I can't give it to you.

JULIE
Why not?

ADYA (V.O.)
Raj told me that I should not give financial information.

JULIE
I'm asking for the name of a bank for God's sake.

ADYA (V.O.)
Sorry, I can't. Do you want to ask Raj?

JULIE
Fuck him, I don't want to talk to him.

ADYA
You don't like him?

JULIE
I hate that bastard son-of a-bitch.

ADYA
The bank is the NORTHERN COMMERCIAL BANK.

JULIE
Where's located?

ADYA
On MADISON and 38th.

JULIE
I appreciate your help, thanks.

ADYA
Ms. Spencer, I really like you, you're a very brave woman.

JULIE
Oh, thank you Adya. I wish you a bright future...and save your money.
INT. BANK'S OFFICE - LATE MORNING

Julie is seated in front of the Northern Commercial Bank's manager's desk.

The manager, a MAN in his 40s, sits behind the desk.

THE MANAGER
Why you want information about our client's account? You know that it's confidential information.

JULIE
I gave Mr. Delfer a large sum of money to deposit in his account.

THE MANAGER
Yes, I remember, he deposited five hundred thousand dollars in his personal account.

JULIE
That was my money...Mr. Delfer is my boyfriend and I asked him to deposit the check.

THE MANAGER
So, what's the problem?

JULIE
I cannot find Marcello...Mr. Delfer.

THE MANAGER
I don't know where he is, I can only tell you that he closed his account.

JULIE
What you mean?

THE MANAGER
He took all the money and canceled the account.

Julie stares at the manager's face.

JULIE
Where is the money? Where is MY fucking money?

THE MANAGER
Calm down, please. I don't know where the money is.
Julie's voice trembles. She appears to be in a haze.

JULIE
What happened to the fucking money?
You hear me? Where's my money? MY
MONEY, MY MONEY!

THE MANAGER
We gave him the entire sum in bills,
I don't know where he went.

Julie starts to weep. She has a PANIC ATTACK.

JULIE
My money, all my money...he took all
my money, my God...HE STOLE MY MONEY.

EXT. STREET - NEW YORK CITY - LATER
Julie wanders along the sidewalk. Her steps are wobbling.

FLASHBACK - LUNCHEONETTE - OLD LADY

THE OLD LADY
...I started to live in the streets,
eating in charity kitchens and
sleeping in the parks.

BACK TO PRESENT

EXT. RESORT - BAHAMAS - AFTERNOON
Marcello and a pulchritudinous WOMAN (30) lounge in elegant
beach chairs facing the BAHAMIAN sea.

They hold large glasses of tropical drinks.

MARCELLO
Are you happy?

THE WOMAN
I'm ecstatic.

MARCELLO
Would you like to live here?

THE WOMAN
Are you serious?
MARCELLO
Yes, I am.

THE WOMAN
What about your job?

MARCELLO
I can start a business in NASSAU.

THE WOMAN
What kind of business?

MARCELLO
With my money, I can open my auction house.

THE WOMAN
It would be wonderful. You and I living in the Bahamas...a dream.

MARCELLO
And you can work with me.

THE WOMAN
Doing what?

MARCELLO
You can find the clients, bring them to the auction...some entertaining for them...you know what I mean...old people coming on vacation and looking for fun.

THE WOMAN
You think it may work?

MARCELLO
It's not too different from what you used to do.

THE WOMAN
You're right...I'm good at that.

INT. BANK'S OFFICE - MORNING

The same bank's manager sits behind her desk. The same huge file lies in front of her.

THE MANAGER
I understand that you are unable to pay in full your mortgage as we agreed upon, why?
JULIE
I'm sorry, I had a problem with my accountant. He didn't complete the financial report.

THE MANAGER
I'm sorry Ms. Spencer. The bank did its best to help you but now we can't anymore. In three days, the SHERIFF will put the seals on your house.

Julie appears horrified.

JULIE
Where I'm supposed to go?

THE MANAGER
Don't you have any friends?

FLASHBACK - LUNCHEONETTE - OLD LADY
The old lady's voice sounds amplified in Julie's head.

OLD LADY
My friends...yes, my dear friends. I had many friends when I was well-off...they all disappeared as soon as I became a destitute.

BACK TO PRESENT

JULIE
...Yes, I have friends...

THE MANAGER
You can ask them to help you. Maybe they have a room or something.

JULIE
Are you sure you can't postpone the foreclosure? I only need a little time.

THE MANAGER
We gave you already plenty of time to settle your financial situation. We have our responsibilities with the shareholders.

JULIE
I understand...I'll tell my friends.
THE MANAGER
Remember, at 5 AM of the third day from today, the sheriff will foreclose your house.

INT. JULIE'S HOUSE -LIVING ROOM - EVENING
Julie talks on the cell phone. She cries.

JULIE
...she was firm. In three days I've to leave the house.

TARA (V.O.)
What happened to your money?

JULIE
GONE!

TARA (V.O.)
What you mean GONE!?

JULIE
Marcello robbed me. He cashed the check and disappeared.

TARA (V.O.)
I didn't know about this, why didn't you tell me before?

JULIE
I was ashamed. I'm sorry.

TARA (V.O.)
What are you going to do now?

JULIE
I don't know, I'm fucking lost.

TARA (V.O.)
Do you have a place to go?

JULIE
No.

TARA (V.O.)
Let me see what I can do. I'll call you.

INT. JENNY'S HOUSE - EVENING
Tara, Jenny and Sophie sit around a table in the living room. They look pensive.

TARA
...She lost all her money.

SOPHIE
Marcello, I bet.

TARA
Yes.

JENNY
What's is going to happen now?

TARA
The bank is repossessing her house.

SOPHIE
She's basically homeless.

JENNY
We have to help her.

SOPHIE
It's not easy. She has enormous debts. A mountain of bills.

JENNY
Can she go to jail if she doesn't pay?

SOPHIE
Possibly. The creditor will ask for jail time if she can't pay off the debts.

TARA
She asked me to cash her check.

SOPHIE
Why you didn't do it?

TARA
My husband.... he was afraid that it would bounce. She asked you too, why you didn't cash it?

SOPHIE
I did bad investments...I'm short--
my accountant told me not to do it.

A beat.

Sophie, you know lots of people, can you find a job for her?

Doing what? She never worked, her husband paid for everything and she was happy with that arrangement since they got married.

Are you blaming her?

I don't, but let's face it, she never tried to learn a skill, even do charity work.

She took care of her husband.

Yes, but when Jeff ask her to adopt a child, she refused saying it was too hard to take care of a child. She was selfish. He was very angry about that.

Many couples don't have children.

Yes, I know, but both have a career. He was the only one to work.

He never complained.

He complained all right, he left her.

Maybe we should call him and ask for his help. He's loaded.

She never would accept anything from him. She hates him.
JENNY
In three days, she will be homeless and without money, we've to do something.

SOPHIE
She can go to a shelter. The City has good shelters now. We can give her some money for food.

TARA
She has to find a job.

JENNY
What kind of job can she do?

SOPHIE
For example, in the health field, they need PERSONAL ASSISTANTS for the elderly. She'll get a solid minimum wage paycheck without a college degree. She's good looking...maybe she can even remarry...you know, another assistant.

JENNY
Okay, let's decide, I'm donating one hundred dollars.

SOPHIE
Okay, we all give one hundred each.

TARA
It's enough for a month of food.

SOPHIE
There is always the SALVATION ARMY on CANAL STREET.

JENNY
Maybe we should give more, food is expensive. Hundred fifty?

SOPHIE
If we give more, she'll spend more. Three hundreds is enough.

TARA
I agree.
INT. JULIE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - EVENING

The cell phone RINGS. Julie picks it up.

JULIE
Yes.

TARA (V.O.)
We had a meeting.

JULIE
And?

TARA (V.O.)
We're sorry for your situation. We have decided to do something for you.

JULIE
Thank you, what?

TARA (V.O.)
We put together three hundred dollars for food. At night, you can go to a city shelter.

JULIE
Thank you but I don't need your fucking money, I'll go to eat at my church.

TARA (V.O.)
But--

JULIE
FUCK YOU BITCHES!

Julie CLOSES the cell phone and begins to weep.

INT. JULIE'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Julie sits on her bed. Max, the teddy bear, rests on her lap.

The toy's vitreous eyes stare at her.

JULIE
You know what happened. Yes, I was a big-time sucker. Now I have no money and I've lost my virginity.

Julie stops crying.
JULIE
It's easy for you to say "don't cry"...I'm desperate. It's better I kill myself.

Max continues eyeballing her.

JULIE
Okay, life is sacred and I shouldn't think about suicide. Do you have a better idea? Max you're the only friend I have, tell me, do I have a future?

A long beat.

Julie smiles. She looks relaxed.

JULIE
Okay, I'll follow your suggestion. Thank you Max.

She kisses the toy.

INT. AIRCRAFT - EVENING

Julie lounges in a comfortable seat. She flips through the current English issue of the ARAB magazine THE MAJALLA.

She wears a MUSLIM HIJAB.

Max lies in the seat next to her.

The same gorgeous flight attendant leans over her seat.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
Ms. Spencer, the dinner will be served in twenty minutes. Would you like an aperitif?

JULIE
Just wine, please.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
White or red?

JULIE
White, please.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
We have from FRANCE, PINOT BLANC, the ITALIAN CINQUE TERRE, ALVERINHO from (MORE)
PORTUGAL, the AUSTRIAN SILVANEL, VERDICCHIO from ITALY. In the CHAMPAGNE category, I can serve you DOM PERIGNON, KRUG and PERRIER JOUET.

JULIE
I changed my mind. Dom Perignon S'IL VOUS PLAÎT.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
Dom Perignon Ms. Spencer.

JULIE
(smiling)
MERCI BIEN.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
DE RIEN.

FADE OUT