THE BRIBE

by

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EXT. PRIVATE PARKING LOT - DAY

SHANE (early 30's) shuts the door of a beaten down late 90's Honda decked out with a blue door that complements the rest of the red car. Shane looks over to see a police car pull into the parking lot. Shane swallows hard.

The cruiser comes to a stop and OFFICER ELIJAH (40) steps out of the car. He adjusts his belt and pulls up his pants. Elijah walks over toward Shane and puts his hands on his belt.

OFFICER ELIJAH
Afternoon.

SHANE
Uh, hi.

OFFICER ELIJAH
Your car alright?

SHANE
Uhhh...

Shane looks over the car for a moment then back at Officer Elijah.

SHANE
Yeah, it should be fine.

OFFICER ELIJAH
So then I guess you'll be on your way. This is a private parking lot.

SHANE
Oh! Uh sorry, I'm just meeting up with some friends and it's really packed out there.

OFFICER ELIJAH
It's packed everywhere, it's new york.

SHANE
Is there anything we can do?

Shane motions around the empty parking lot.

SHANE
There's like, nobody here.

OFFICER ELIJAH
 Doesn't matter, private lot.

SHANE
I mean, it's just going to be for an hour. No more I promise.

Officer Elijah raises his hand to stop Shane from talking.
OFFICER ELIJAH
Look, you're acting a little jumpy and it's starting to make me think something is not right here. Would you mind if I take a look around the car?

SHANE
I don't think you have the legal right to do something like that.

OFFICER ELIJAH
Oh, I do.

Officer Elijah begins to walk over toward the trunk.

SHANE
Come on, this is ridiculous.

Officer Elijah stops.

OFFICER ELIJAH
Are you really not going to do anything?

SHANE
What do you mean?

OFFICER ELIJAH
Every cop in this city knows that people park here when they shouldn't.

SHANE
Uhh...

OFFICER ELIJAH
I do this every day. You drive in, I follow, and you help me look the other way.

SHANE
You mean like a bribe?

OFFICER ELIJAH
Well don't say it like that. Tip toe around it.

SHANE
Aren't you supposed to... not do things like this?

OFFICER ELIJAH
Son, I'm a New York City police officer. This is the same as breathing air to me.
Shane sighs and looks around for a moment. He looks back at Officer Elijah.

SHANE
Okay uh do you think maybe a friend of mine could help convince you to let me stay here?

OFFICER ELIJAH
A friend you say?

SHANE
Yes, I have a friend who maybe, might, could, maybe help you out?

OFFICER ELIJAH
Help me out, huh?

SHANE
You know, get you up and going?

OFFICER ELIJAH
Wait a second, Are you offering me a sexual favor?

Shane recoils back.

SHANE
What? No! God no! I was just trying to say I have a friend named Hamilton who wouldn't mind getting to know you.

Officer Elijah crosses his arms.

OFFICER ELIJAH
Um...

SHANE
He's a little shy though.

OFFICER ELIJAH
This is getting a little weird.

SHANE
His friend Andrew might be willing to join in too but he's really shy.

OFFICER ELIJAH
I thought you said this wasn't a sexual thing.

SHANE
No, this is the bribe.

OFFICER ELIJAH
Are you sure?
SHANE
Okay, look, let's start over okay?

OFFICER ELIJAH
Okay...

Shane composes himself for a second.

SHANE
I have a friend

OFFICER ELIJAH
Okay...

SHANE
Named Andrew Jackson

Officer Elijah motions upward with his thumb.

SHANE
Grant?

Officer Elijah nods his head.

SHANE
Ulysses S. Grant who noticed the bulge in your pants and would like to be inside that if you catch my drift.

OFFICER ELIJAH
It just got back to being sexual.

SHANE
No.

Shane smacks his hands on his thighs.

SHANE
I meant your wallet in your pants.

OFFICER ELIJAH
Why did you say it like that?

SHANE
I'm trying to be coy.

OFFICER ELIJAH
Well, Stop. It sounds like you're trying to suck my dick.

SHANE
Jesus Christ, Why is this so difficult?

OFFICER ELIJAH
Can we just get this over with? I'm about at the end of my rope.
SHANE
Okay, just one more try. I got it this time.

OFFICER ELIJAH
Fine.

SHANE
For you trouble. Would my friend Benjamin Franklin be able to help you forget about seeing me for the rest of the night?

OFFICER ELIJAH
I think we can make that work.

SHANE
Alright, perfect. You're in luck because Benny swallows.

Officer Elijah nods his head and takes out his handcuffs.

OFFCIER ELIJAH
Okay, I'm just going to arrest you.

SHANE
WHAT!?

THE END.