

INT. ABERCROMBIE & FITCH. - SUNNY AFTERNOON.

Business is better than usual, probably because the kids are out of school for the Summer.

TWENTY-SOMETHINGS and TEENAGERS with their MOMMIES shop randomly about the aisles.

The manager, GERALD BELFAST, works the register and eyes the customers inquisitively.

Two friends, a fiery red-haired beauty, TIFFANY ROVE, and SHELLY MIRIAD walk in from the boardwalk and begin to browse, passing the register desk.

SHELLY

Can I see the engagement ring  
Caleb bought you again?

Tiffany reaches in her purse and pulls out a rather large, slightly gaudy ring.

TIFFANY

I'm getting it sized tomorrow.  
It's still too big on my finger  
to wear right now.

Tiffany slides it on and shakes her hand around to prove her point.

Even though Tiffany's taken, it still doesn't stop Gerald from gawking at the beautiful young woman in her mid-twenties.

SHELLY

Goddamn, that's a big rock.

The two trail out of Gerald's earshot as they continue to browse. They search through clothes, necklaces in glass cases, muddle through flip-flops and sandals in the bargain bins and try on different sunglasses.

Tiffany finally makes a choice on sunglasses and they head back towards the register counter.

Tiffany all of a sudden stops abruptly and begins searching around her pockets and purse.

TIFFANY  
Oh, God. Where'd it go?

SHELLY  
What?

TIFFANY  
My ring, where'd it go?

SHELLY  
You lost it?

They start to gather attention from the other shoppers and Gerald.

TIFFANY  
Holy fuck. I swear to God...  
Hold these.

Tiffany hands the sunglasses she is buying to Shelly so she can search through her purse with both hands.

SHELLY  
Are you sure you put it back in  
your purse?

TIFFANY  
I don't know. I don't remember.  
It's not in here.

She checks all her pockets, but nothing.

TIFFANY  
(cont.)  
Maybe I dropped it on the floor.

Tiffany and Shelly search the floor around the areas they had browsed. Even a couple other customers help.

After a few minutes of searching, though, the ring still doesn't turn up.

SHELLY  
I don't think anybody was around  
to steal it.

TIFFANY  
Caleb is going to fucking kill  
me! That ring was sixty-five  
hundred dollars!

The two continue to search in vain, but give up.  
Finally, they reach Gerald at the register.

GERALD  
I'm sorry about your ring.

TIFFANY  
Thank you. I have no idea what  
I'm going to do.

GERALD  
I'll keep an eye out for it.

Tiffany opens up her purse and counts all the money she  
has in it.

TIFFANY  
Listen. This ring was really  
expensive. If anybody finds it,  
tell them I'll give them all the  
money I have on me right now.  
There's almost twenty-eight  
hundred here. That's how much  
I'll give them.

This catches Gerald by surprise.

GERALD  
Wow. I'll let everybody know.

Tiffany takes out a pen and paper from her purse and  
writes down her contact information.

TIFFANY  
This is how to get a hold of me.  
My number's 954-927-8515, and my  
name's Tiffany Rove.

GERALD  
All right, Tiffany. I'll keep  
this right here in my register.

Gerald lifts up a stack of hundred dollar bills and sets  
the torn piece of paper underneath.

TIFFANY  
Thank you so very much. I can't  
believe this is happening to me.

GERALD

I'm sure everything'll turn out  
all right.

TIFFANY

I hope so.

Tiffany and Shelly walk out of the store and back onto  
the boardwalk.

CUT TO:

INT. ABERCROMBIE & FITCH. - THAT NIGHT.

Closing time and only Gerald is there.

Instead of cleaning up for a proper close, though, he  
scours every inch of the floor for a trace of the ring.

After a while, he gives up, turns out the store lights,  
closes and locks the front door.

FADE TO:

INT. ABERCROMBIE & FITCH. - THE NEXT AFTERNOON.

More customers shop and the manager, Gerald, once again  
works the register.

Among the shoppers is BRANDON DiGIACOMO, in his late-  
twenties, by himself and browsing through tee-shirts.

He makes his way over to the flip-flop and sandal  
'bargain bin' and mucks through the pile of assorted  
open footwear.

Suddenly, Brandon stops searching and squints his eyes  
to get a better look at something.

CUT TO:

INT. ABERCROMBIE REGISTER. - MINUTES LATER.

Gerald hands a customer's change and receipt over and  
Brandon now approaches the counter, a pair of sandals in  
hand.

GERALD

Is that all for you, today?

BRANDON

Yeah. That'll be all. Hey, I was wondering, did anybody happen to mention anything about a lost ring? I found this in the bargain bin over there.

Gerald looks up and sees that Brandon holds up the slightly gaudy engagement ring that Tiffany had showed to Shelly the day before.

GERALD

Oh, yeah. As a matter of fact, she gave me a number to reach her at if anybody had turned it in to lost and found.

BRANDON

Well, I'll bet this'll be a load off her mind. This is a pretty nice ring.

GERALD

Yeah it is. A bit gaudy for my tastes, but then again, that's probably why I'm single.

Gerald holds out his hand for the ring.

BRANDON

Actually, I was wondering if you could give me the number to reach her at. I'd like to give it to her myself. You know, see the big smile across her face and all.

Gerald pauses a moment.

GERALD

Oh, well, actually, you can just leave it with me. She comes in here all the time, so I'll make sure she gets it the next time she comes in.

BRANDON stops and thinks about the situation a little bit.

BRANDON

You seem pretty set on giving  
this to her yourself.

BRANDON now cracks a smile.

BRANDON

(cont.)

She's offering a reward, isn't  
she?

GERALD

Look. I'll give you a hundred  
bucks for the ring.

BRANDON

What? If that's your first  
offer, I know it's got to be  
worth a lot more than that.  
This is a good ring. I know it  
didn't come out of no Cracker  
Jack box.

GERALD

Five hundred dollars.

BRANDON

Better. Closer to what I was  
going for, but still not quite  
there. A thousand.

GERALD

What?

BRANDON

Look, buddy, this ring's got to  
be worth at least three times  
that. You're just lucky I  
happen to be in a hurry for  
money and I'm settling for a  
grand. I can go pawn this off  
without no problem.

GERALD

All right, all right. A  
thousand.

BRANDON

On the spot.

GERALD

I only have a couple hundred in the drawer right now. I got to run back to the safe real quick and I'll be back.

BRANDON

All right.

Gerald disappears into the back storage room and returns a few moments later with a stack of hundred dollar bills.

He counts ten of them out and hands them over to Brandon.

Brandon pockets the money and hands the ring over to Gerald, who eyes it and puts it in his back pocket.

Brandon now reaches over the counter, grabs a bag for himself and puts the sandals in it.

BRANDON

(cont.)

I'm going to make these part of the deal, too.

Brandon turns and leaves the store. Gerald only shakes his head. He pulls the ring back out and stares at it, transfixed. Probably the most expensive thing he's ever held in his hands.

CUT TO:

EXT. BOARDWALK. - MINUTES LATER.

Brandon proudly strides down the boardwalk, putting his cell phone up to his ear, a smile across his face.

WOMAN

(filter.)

Hello?

BRANDON

Hey, Alysia. You'll never believe it.

ALYSIA

(filter.)

Believe what?

BRANDON  
Meet me in front of the place.

ALYSIA  
(filter.)  
What?

BRANDON  
You know where. I came up with  
the rest of it, Sweetheart.

ALYSIA  
(filter.)  
You're kidding me?

BRANDON  
Nope.

ALYSIA  
(filter.)  
You're fucking kidding me!

BRANDON  
I'll be there in about twenty  
minutes.

ALYSIA  
(filter.)  
I'm leaving right now.

BRANDON  
I love you, Sweetheart.

ALYSIA  
(filter.)  
Oh, I love you, Brandon.

Brandon hangs up and pockets his cell, the smile still  
not disappearing from his face.

CUT TO:

INT. ABERCROMBIE & FITCH. - LATER.

The store is almost dead. Gerald opens the register  
drawer and takes out Tiffany's number.

He picks up the desk phone and dials the number. It  
rings once, and then twice.



Suddenly, a ringing is heard outside the Abercrombie store. Gerald doesn't notice it until the fourth ring.

Gerald slowly makes his way to the door and walks out onto the boardwalk, the Abercrombie phone still in his hands.

A payphone twenty feet away rings and rings and rings.

Gerald makes his way over to the payphone and dreadfully picks it up.

GERALD

Hello?

Gerald hears his own voice crackle on the Abercrombie phone.

Realization sinks in and he slams the pay phone down.

GERALD

(cont.)

Shit!

CUT TO:

EXT. KING'S JEWELERS. - TWENTY MINUTES LATER.

Tiffany stands outside King's and peers in at one of the display cases.

Brandon sneaks up behind her and covers her eyes with his hands.

BRANDON

Goddamn, you are the most beautiful thing I have ever seen.

Tiffany immediately smiles widely and spins around to affectionately kiss him.

TIFFANY

So, how much did you get from him?

BRANDON

Never underestimate the power of greed.

TIFFANY

How much?

BRANDON

A grand.

Tiffany howls with happiness. Brandon points into King's at a display case.

BRANDON

(cont.)

That, added to the twenty-eight hundred we had before, and we got enough for our engagement ring, with about four hundred left over to go out and celebrate. I promised you I'd have the ring before your birthday, Alysia.

Alysia kisses Brandon again.

ALYSIA

I never doubted you for a moment.

Brandon lifts his fiery, red-haired beauty into the air and holds her in his arms.

He sets her down and they walk into the jewelery store.

BRANDON

Can I still call you Tiffany for a little while longer, though? It was turning me on a little bit. Kind of like a threesome.

ALYSIA

No, I don't mind, Caleb.

This stops Brandon in his tracks.

BRANDON

Forget it. I changed my mind.

ALYSIA

I love you, Brandon.

BRANDON

I love you. I'm just glad I'll

BRANDON

never have to go into another Abercrombie and Fitch for the rest of my life. If I wasn't ripping them off, I would've felt like a total sell-out. I am keeping these sandals, though.

ALYSIA

Hey, how much did you pay for the dummy ring, anyway?

BRANDON

Not much. A hundred and twenty bucks. I could've gone a lot cheaper, though. Guy was a total fish. He barely looked at it when I gave it to him.

Brandon and Alysia peck each other on the lips as they reach their display case.

CUT TO:

INT. PAWN SHOP. - NEXT DAY.

Gerald walks up to the desk of the shop and places the gaudy ring down in front of a PAWN DEALER.

GERALD

I'll take whatever you can give me for this.

The Dealer puts on a pair of glasses and puts the ring under a magnifying lens.

After two seconds, the Dealer puts the magnifying lens down and looks back up to Gerald.

He chuckles.

CUT TO BLACK.

THE END