Will & Grace

"Hot Rod and Cold Sweats"

Written by

Mark Suffanti

TEASER

FADE IN:

INT. LIVING RM. - NIGHT (DAY 1)
(Will, Grace, Jack, Karen, Rod)

WILL, GRACE AND JACK WORK ON A FOOD PROJECT.

GRACE

Do you know how long it's been since I've gone out on a really great date?

WILL

And when you do finally meet someone they turn out to be dull, inside and out.

GRACE

It's so hard to meet someone
even halfway decent.

JACK

Isn't that the truth? <u>Six</u> dates last week and do you know how many times I went home alone?

(BEAT) Actually, last week was pretty good. But the week before?

I could've been one of you two.

(ON PHONE) What do you mean I have to wait?! This is Karen Walker, doctor, I was the very inspiration for instant gratification.

KAREN LISTENS FOR A BEAT MAKING HORRIFIED FACES.

KAREN (CONT'D)

But doctor . . . but doctor . . .

Hello? (HANGS UP PHONE) Do you

believe that? I lost all my

prescriptions and my doctor says

I have to wait two weeks until

I'm due for my refills.

Recreational use, who's he kidding?!

KAREN DOWNS A PILL WITH HER MARTINI.

GRACE

Anyone could lose their prescriptions.

KAREN

I kind of lost them last month.

And the month before that. And

(MORE)

KAREN (CONT'D)

well, my memory gets a little

fuzzy before that so I guess

I'll have to take his word for

it that I've lost them every month

since he's started seeing me.

JACK

Those pills are your lifeblood.

KAREN

C'est la vie.

GRACE

You don't seem too upset for someone about to face reality for the first time in decades.

KAREN DIALS THE TELEPHONE.

KAREN

I didn't really lose all my prescriptions, silly. I've got a few pills left and I've got a backup doctor on Lexington.

SFX: THE DOORBELL RINGS.

WILL CROSSES TO ANSWER THE DOOR.

WILL

I wish I could order up a date like Karen does her pills.

JACK

I'll take an order of ruggedly handsome with chiseled features and big hands.

WILL OPENS THE DOOR AND WE SEE ROD, A HANDSOME, WELL BUILT MAN IN HIS THIRTIES, STANDING THERE CLAD ONLY IN A TOWEL.

JACK (CONT'D)

(SHOCKED) Omigod, how'd I do that?!

ROD

Hi, I'm Roderick. But my friends
call me Rod.

WILL

I can see why. I'm Will, nice to meet you.

THEY SHAKE HANDS.

ROD

I blew a fuse and it's my aunt's apartment and I'm not sure where the box is. Help!

GRACE AND JACK RUSH OVER.

GRACE

Hi Rod, I'm Grace and I'd be happy to help you look for the box. The fuse box, I mean.

WILL

Right. I'll grab a flashlight.

WILL CROSSES OUT.

KAREN

(ON PHONE) What do you mean I can't talk to Dr. Rosenblatt?!

JACK

Just ignore Karen, Rod, we all do. I'm Jack, I live right across the hall there (POINTS) and if you ever need anything, any little thing at all, just knock, Rod.

JACK GIVES ROD A LINGERING COME HITHER LOOK.

ROD

Thank you, Jack.

JACK

Day or night. Night or day.

Anything. Anytime.

GRACE

(TO JACK) Like a bib for your drool?

ROD

Thanks, I'm only in town briefly to audition for a couple of parts.

JACK

Oh, you're an actor. (TO GRACE)
Gay.

ROD

Aspiring actor. I'm an engineer by training.

GRACE TURNS TO JACK AND SHAKES HER HEAD NO.

KAREN

(ON PHONE) I demand you put me through to Dr. Rosenblatt right this second!

 $\underline{\text{WILL}}$ RE-ENTERS AND SHINES HIS FLASHLIGHT OVER ROD'S BARE MUSCULAR CHEST.

WILL

All ready to check you out.

WILL, GRACE, ROD AND JACK START TO EXIT.

JACK

Sure hope I don't trip in the dark and grab onto something I shouldn't.

JACK PRETENDS TO TRIP AND PULL ROD'S TOWEL DOWN.

GRACE

(TO JACK) Try it and I'll kill you, he's mine, buster!

THEY EXIT LEAVING KAREN STANDING ALONE IN THE ROOM.

KAREN

(ON PHONE) Okay, let me get this straight. By dead you mean like Dr. Rosenblatt's dead?

ON KAREN'S TROUBLED LOOK WE:

CUT TO:

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

<u>A</u>

FADE IN:

INT. LIVING RM. / INT. HALLWAY - LATER - NIGHT (DAY 1)
(Will, Grace, Jack)

GRACE

I didn't know you knew a circuit breaker from Circuit City, Will.

WILL

Oh please, it was nothing. Where's Karen?

JACK

Karen who, I want Rod.

GRACE

Do you think Rod's gay?

WILL

I did feel a certain spark when we were huddling over the fuse box.

GRACE

Was that <u>before</u> or <u>after</u> you almost electrocuted yourself?

JACK

Well, I certainly think Rod's gay.

GRACE

Just because Rod's gorgeous, wants to be an actor and has a perfect body does not mean he's gay.

WILL AND JACK STARE KNOWINGLY AT GRACE FOR A BEAT.

GRACE (CONT'D)

Okay, 60/40 yes, but he was checking me out.

JACK

Try 100% Grade "A" homo.

WILL

When our eyes met over the fuse box there was definitely a spark. So yes to gay, no to the two of you.

JACK

I'm going to ask him out.

JACK STARTS FOR THE DOOR AND GRACE IMMEDIATELY BLOCKS IT WITH HER BODY.

GRACE

Oh no, I've been waiting too long for this ship to come in.

WILL

Both of you out of my way.

AS WILL AND GRACE STRUGGLE JACK SLIPS OUT THE DOOR AND WE:

RESET TO:

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS - NIGHT (DAY 1)
(Jack, Will, Grace, Rod)

JACK RUNS TO ROD'S DOOR AND POUNDS FRANTICALLY. ROD OPENS THE DOOR WITH A CONFUSED LOOK.

JACK

Thank god you're okay, I thought

I smelled gas! (COMPOSED) Anyway,
glad you're fine, so fine, please
have dinner with me tomorrow night.

GRACE RUNS IN BREATHLESS.

GRACE

 $\label{eq:Rod, have dinner with me tomorrow.} % \end{substitute}% % % \end{substitute}% % \end{substitute}% % \end{substitute}% % \end{substitute}% % % \end{substitute}% % \end{substitute}% % % \end{substitute}% % \end{substitute}% % \end{substitute}% % \end{substitute}% % \end{substitute}% % % \end{substitute}% % % \end{substitute}% % \end{s$

WILL

Ditto, and how's six o'clock?

ROD

Well, I don't have any plans but I

JACK

(CUTS OFF) Don't want to be bored to death by the like of these two? Who can blame you? Say, I know a cozy place in . . .

GRACE

(CUTS OFF) TriBeCa that we could check out. Chinese fusion? Just the two of us?

ROD

Well, I . . .

WILL

(CUTS OFF) Can't stand the MSG?
Who can? How do you feel about
French cuisine?

JACK

Don't like snails and funky organ meat? Who does? (SEXY) How do you feel about Greek?

ROD

In the company of such a friendly and eager group the food would be of secondary consequence. Just pick one.

GRACE

Chinese.

WILL

French.

JACK

Greek.

ROD

That settles it, pot luck it is.

WILL

What a brilliant suggestion, Rod.

ROD

What can I bring?

JACK

How about that towel you had on earlier?

GRACE

He's such a kidder. (ELBOWS JACK

SHARPLY) How about some wine?

ROD

Wine it is. What time would you

like me?

JACK

Any time. $\underline{\text{Any}}$ time at all.

WILL

How does six o'clock sound?

ROD

I'll see you all then.

ROD CLOSES HIS DOOR ON THEIR ADORING LOOKS.

JACK

For sure Greek.

AS WILL AND GRACE GLARE AT JACK WE:

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. KAREN'S LIVING ROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT (DAY 1)
(Karen, Rosario)

KAREN USES A PHARMACIST'S COUNTER TO TAKE STOCK OF HER PILLS WHILE ROSARIO KEEPS TALLY ON A CLIP BOARD.

KAREN

(COUNTING PILLS) Eleven.

ROSARIO

God forbid you should emerge from your drug induced fog and try living in the real world.

KAREN

(HOT) Cut the crap and let me see that!

KAREN GRABS THE CLIP BOARD AND STUDIES IT FOR A BEAT.

KAREN (CONT'D)

This is not good Rosario. I could pull an Elvis and blow through these pills over a long weekend.

ROSARIO

You're in luck, I make a decent fried peanut butter and banana sandwich.

I've got two long weeks before
Dr. Mengele okays my refills.
Two whole weeks, Ro!

ROSARIO

I'll call the liquor store and tell them to triple the order.

KAREN

You don't understand. Don't get me wrong, a day without my Bombay would be like a day without (SEARCHES) shopping.

KAREN QUICKLY DOWNS A PILL WITH HER MARTINI.

KAREN (CONT'D)

I hate it when I scare myself like that. Anyhoot, liquor is great, provided it's chemically reacting with the right pharmaceutical combination.

ROSARIO

The high and the mighty, especially
the high, come crashing back to
earth. (LAUGHS HYSTERICALLY)

KAREN NERVOUSLY POPS ANOTHER PILL.

KAREN

Well Rosario, if my life does become a living hell I guarantee yours will too, sister.

ROSARIO

Rats, I was really gonna enjoy watching you suffer too, you rich bitch!

(A BEAT)

KAREN

(WORRIED) Rosario, I'm scared. What am I going to do?

ROSARIO

Listen, you got two weeks before you can get more of your candy, right?

KAREN

Yeah.

ROSARIO

We'll just divide up your pills so they last until you can get some more from your doctor.

(RELIEVED) I knew you'd come up with something, Rosario.

ROSARIO REACHES FOR THE PILL BOTTLES ON THE TABLE AND KAREN DEFENSIVELY STARTS COLLECTING THEM IN HER BOSOM.

KAREN (CONT'D)

Wait, don't take these! Or these, or those, and I've got to have these, and these, and I couldn't live without these, or these either. Good plan, Ro.

ROSARIO PICKS UP THE LAST BOTTLE AND SHAKES IT - IT'S EMPTY.

ROSARIO

You may lack the will power to stay the course.

KAREN

I'm not used to denying myself.
(LAUGHS NERVOUSLY)

ROSARIO

You want this to work?

KAREN

More than anything.

ROSARIO

Then give all the pills to me.

I'll dole them out to you on a schedule and we'll both coast until your next refill.

KAREN

What's the alternative?

ROSARIO

Betty Ford, cold sweats and exploding bowels.

KAREN

(HANDING BOTTLES OVER) Deal!

ROSARIO

This could be very difficult.

KAREN

I know, but this has to work. So even if I beg and cry don't you dare fork 'em over, okay?

ROSARIO

You can count on it.

ON ROSARIO'S GROWING SMILE WE:

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HALLWAY/INT. ROD'S APT. - THE NEXT DAY - DAY (DAY 2)
(Grace, Rod)

GRACE EXITS THE ELEVATOR WITH A BOUQUET OF FLOWERS AND GOES TO HER APARTMENT AND CALLS FOR WILL. THERE IS NO ANSWER. SHE KNOCKS ON JACK'S DOOR AND AGAIN THERE IS NO ANSWER AND SHE THEN KNOCKS ON ROD'S DOOR AND ROD ANSWERS.

GRACE

Hi Rod, it's me, I just thought I'd bring you some welcome to the building flowers.

ROD

Bird of paradise; Gerber daisies; tea roses. Thanks, they're fabulous.

GRACE

(CONCERNED) <u>Fabulous</u>? You sure know a lot about flowers.

ROD

My parents ran a nursery. But I know nothing about flower arranging.

GRACE

(RELIEVED) That's good. I do.

ROD

Great, come on in.

RESET TO:

INT. ROD'S APT. - CONTINUOUS - DAY (DAY 2)
(Grace, Will, Jack, Rod)

GRACE ENTERS AND SEES JACK SITTING THERE.

GRACE

(TO JACK) You!

ROD

What?

GRACE

(RECOVERING) You must put those

in water, Rod.

ROD

Of course. Would you like some

champagne? Jack brought it.

GRACE

In that case I'd love some.

ROD

I'll get another glass.

ROD EXITS TO THE KITCHEN WITH THE FLOWERS.

JACK

Nice touch with the flowers.

GRACE

Plying Rod with alcohol?

JACK

Witch.

GRACE

Whore!

ROD ENTERS WITH A CHAMPAGNE GLASS.

ROD

What's that?

GRACE

Whore . . . d'oeuvres. Hors

d'oeuvres. That's what we need.

ROD

I'll see what I can put together.

ROD HANDS THE GLASS TO GRACE AND EXITS TO THE KITCHEN.

GRACE

What are you doing here?!

JACK

He's gay, he's mine, now just

accept us as a couple and move on.

GRACE

Jack, not even you can move that

fast.

JACK

Rod is gay, Grace. Hello!

GRACE

Rod is not gay!

JACK

And I thought Cleopatra was the queen of de - nial.

SFX: THE DOORBELL RINGS.

ROD ENTERS FROM KITCHEN AND DEPOSITS FOOD AS HE CROSSES.

ROD

I'll get it.

GRACE

The cheese look delicious, Rod.

JACK

(WATCHING ROD) So do the buns.

ROD

Look who's here, it's Will.

WILL ENTERS AND REACTS TO SEEING JACK AND GRACE THERE.

WILL

I, I, I just wanted to stop by and give you one of my famous welcome to the building Balducci's bag full of goodies.

JACK

More like famous for lamest excuse to drop by uninvited that I've ever heard.

ROD

This is turning into a real party!

SFX: THE TELEPHONE RINGS.

ROD (CONT'D)

I'll be right back.

ROD TAKES THE BAG AND EXITS TO THE KITCHEN.

WILL

(HOT) How dare you two sneak behind my back!

JACK

What are you doing here?

GRACE

Both of you are wasting your time.

Rod is not gay.

WILL / JACK

(IN UNISON) Not gay?!

JACK

Do you know Rod told me he once worked retail? And he modeled?

GRACE

So what?

JACK

So let me spell it out to you -

actor; model; retail; gorgeous.

WILL

Case closed!

ROD ENTERS AND CROSSES QUICKLY.

ROD

Sorry, I have to run. (EXCITED)

I just got a call back on one

of my auditions.

WILL, GRACE AND JACK ADLIB TERRIFIC.

GRACE

Which one, Rod?

ROD

The touring company of "The Full

Monty."

ROD EXITS BEAMING WITH EXCITEMENT.

JACK

Yes!

JACK DROPS TO HIS KNEES, CLOSES HIS EYES, CLASPS HIS HANDS IN PRAYER AND LOOKS TOWARD HEAVEN.

JACK (CONT'D)

Dear god, please let Rod get the part, please let Rod get the part, please let Rod get the part...

AS WILL AND GRACE STARE INCREDULOUSLY AT JACK WE:

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. KAREN'S MANSION - A HALLWAY - THAT NIGHT - (DAY 2)
(Karen, Rosario)

KAREN QUICKLY ADJUSTS THE TIME ON A GRANDFATHER CLOCK IN THE HALLWAY THEN TAKES A SLUG OF HER MARTINI AS ${\hbox{\tt ROSARIO}}$ ROUNDS THE CORNER.

KAREN

Would you look at that RoRo,

it's time for my meds. (GULPS

MARTINI) My how time flies

when your sober.

ROSARIO

You think I'm stupid? You think

I don't know what time it is?

ROSARIO LOOKS AT THE GRANDFATHER CLOCK THEN HER OWN WATCH.

ROSARIO (CONT'D)

You got two more hours.

KAREN

(ANGRY) Like hell I do!

ROSARIO

My watch says two more hours.

And that clock, which costs as much as a seven series BMW, says now. What are we going to believe, a meticulously maintained hand - crafted time piece or that made to look expensive cut glass covered thing on your wrist?!

ROSARIO

You gave me this watch for Christmas.

KAREN

So I should know!

ROSARIO

You told me it was Van Cleef and Arpels.

KAREN

The box was, now gimme the pills and get the lead out!

ROSARIO

I think we should stick to our agreement.

It's the watch, isn't it?
Here, take mine.

KAREN REMOVES HER WATCH AND HOLDS IT OUT.

KAREN (CONT'D)

It's a Cartier, costs more than
the average house in your country
and it's yours. Go on, take it.

ROSARIO TAKES THE WATCH AND EXAMINES IT FOR A BEAT.

KAREN (CONT'D)

See that sparkle? Those are real

D flawless diamonds around the

bezel and pave' sapphires on the

face. Beautiful, isn't it?

ROSARIO

Beautiful yes, but two hours fast.

ROSARIO HANDS THE WATCH BACK TO KAREN.

KAREN

Don't you want it?

ROSARIO

What do I want with a watch that can't keep time?

C'mon Rosario, this waiting is killing me! Just this once?
Please, please, please?

KAREN LOOKS HOPEFULLY AT ROSARIO FOR A BEAT.

ROSARIO

You know Karen, I knew there would be times like this and I vowed to myself that I would be strong, for the both us. No matter how much it hurts.

KAREN

But it's only hurting me!

ROSARIO

I know, life's a bitch, ain't it?

ON ROSARIO'S SATISFIED GRIN WE:

DISSOLVE TO:

Ε

INT. LIVING RM. - THE NEXT NIGHT (DAY 3)
(Will, Grace, Jack, Rod, Karen)

SFX: THE DOORBELL RINGS.

WILL, GRACE AND JACK RACE FOR THE DOOR AND FIGHT FOR THE HANDLE BUT MANAGE TO LOOK COMPOSED WHEN THEY OPEN THE DOOR AND ROD IS THERE WITH A BIG SMILE AND BOTTLE OF WINE.

ROD

What an attractive crowd. Grace, you look absolutely radiant.

ROD ENTERS AND KISSES GRACE'S HAND AND GIVES HER THE WINE.

GRACE

Thank you, kind sir.

ROD

Evening Will, still the smartest guy I know.

WILL

Greetings and salutations to you,

Roderick.

ROD

Jack, always a pleasure.

JACK

Right back at ya, stud. Can I

(MORE)

JACK (CONT'D)

interest you in a (SUGGESTIVE)

cock - tail?

ROD

I like that way that sounds.

JACK

(SMIRKING AT GRACE) I thought you might.

WILL

How did your audition for "The Full Monty" go?

ROD CROSSES HIS FINGERS AND JACK MAKES A SIGN OF THE CROSS.

GRACE

Rod, why don't you tell us about your engineering days?

JACK

What's to tell? He's an actor.

Loves Broadway musicals. Has

exquisite taste in clothes and

cried at Liza's wedding! (BEAT)

Okay, I just made up that last

part, but you get the picture.

ROD

Jack, if I had your sense of humor, or Will's smarts or a beautiful wife like Grace behind me I might've gone further. But the truth is that my heart was never really in it.

GRACE

That's so sad.

JACK

Yeah, you could <u>easily</u> get a better looking wife than Grace.

SFX: LOUD BANGING AND POUNDING ON THE FRONT DOOR.

THE FRONT DOOR BURSTS IN AND KAREN CROSSES ALMOST RUNNING TO THE BATHROOM.

KAREN

Hey, hi, how are ya? That's nice.

KAREN SLAMS THE BATHROOM DOOR BEHIND HER.

SFX: BOTTLES AND CONTAINERS CRASHING TO THE FLOOR.

ROD

Should someone check on her?

WILL

Discretion is the better part of valor.

ROD

Nicely put.

WILL

Thank you, Rod.

SFX: A BEEPER GOES OFF.

ROD

That's my agent! I'll be right back.

AS ROD EXITS THE TRIO ADLIBS GOOD LUCK AND KAREN EMERGES FROM THE BATHROOM WITH HER ARMS FULL OF PILL BOTTLES.

KAREN

(HOT) You call that a medicine cabinet?!

KAREN THROWS THE BOTTLES ON THE COUCH IN DISGUST.

KAREN (CONT'D)

What kind of people don't have prescription pain killers?! What if an emergency came up, like you sprain your ankle running for the last bar stool at "21" or your favorite sun dress suddenly makes you look fat and jaundiced?! I'll tell you what kind of people -- (LOSES IT) ANIMALS!

WILL

Get the tranquilizer gun, I think she's finally run amok.

KAREN

Don't toy with me, Wilma!

GRACE

How about a martini, Karen?

KAREN

Only if it comes with Percocet!

GRACE

I thought you had that covered.

KAREN

My backup doc croaked and Rosario's doling out my few remaining pills so they last until my next refill and it is killing me!!

WILL

What can we do, knock over a pharmacy?

KAREN IMMEDIATELY RETRIEVES A PIECE OF PAPER FROM HER PURSE.

KAREN

Give them this list. I'll provide $({\tt MORE})$

KAREN (CONT'D)

the silk stocking mask, Colt .38

Diamond Back <u>and</u> drive the getaway

car. There's not a cop in Manhattan

that can catch Stan's Lamborghini!

GRACE

Karen, we are not going to commit armed robbery so you can coast through life in a blissful narcotic haze.

KAREN

 $\label{eq:continuous} \mbox{I'll give you cash, and lots of it.}$ KAREN FANS OUT A FISTFUL OF BILLS.

JACK

(INTERESTED) And you'll drive?

ROD BURSTS IN VERY EXCITED.

ROD

I got the part!

WILL AND GRACE ADLIB TERRIFIC AND JACK THANKS THE HEAVENS.

ROD (CONT'D)

I've got some champagne on ice next door, let's go have a toast.

GRACE

This is so exciting, Rod.

WILL

Indeed, it's a remarkable
opportunity for a young thespian
like yourself.

JACK

And you have to get naked, right?

ROD

You're such a kidder, Jack.

JACK

Yeah, I know. (BEAT) But you do, right?

THEY ALL EXIT LEAVING KAREN STANDING THERE ALONE.

KAREN

(TEARY) Some friends you guys are.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

F

FADE IN:

INT. APT. BUILDING HALLWAY - LATER THAT NIGHT (DAY 3)
(Will, Grace, Jack, Rod)

WILL, GRACE AND JACK WALK ROD TO HIS APARTMENT DOOR.

ROD

I can't recall when I've had so much fun.

WILL

Sure you won't have a nightcap.

ROD

(WINKS) I'll take a rain check,

Will. Don't forget you're all

invited to my rehearsal on Friday.

WILL

Wild horses couldn't drag me away.

GRACE

I wouldn't miss it for the world.

JACK

So you'll be in costume and out?

ROD

It's the full "Full Monty".

JACK

Who said dreams don't come true?

ROD KISSES GRACE'S HAND, LETS HIMSELF INTO HIS APARTMENT AND AS THE TRIO ADLIBS GOODNIGHT HE CLOSES HIS DOOR.

GRACE

He is so mine.

GRACE EXITS TO HER APARTMENT.

WILL

Who is she kidding, did you see that wink?

JACK

Yeah, it was like "see ya later, 'Good Will Hunting,' " ain't gonna bag my man, okay!

JACK EXITS TO HIS APARTMENT AND A WOMAN EXITS THE ELEVATOR.

WILL

That wink said it all. That wink spoke volumes about our growing bond.

WILL STARTS WINKING AND THE WOMAN LOOKS AT HIM THEN NERVOUSLY RUNS DOWN THE HALL.

ON WILL'S REACTION WE:

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. KAREN'S DINING ROOM - THE NEXT NIGHT (DAY 4)
(Karen Rosario, Francesca)

KAREN AND ROSARIO SIT AT AN ELABORATELY SET TABLE.

KAREN

It's so nice we could have dinner together, just the two of us.

ROSARIO

Yes, isn't it. (DEADPAN) To what, I wonder, could I possibly owe the pleasure.

KAREN

Another cocktail?

ROSARIO

No, this one's already kickin' my butt. What did you put in here?

KAREN

Oh, Ro, you silly goose. It's just a little pineapple juice, a little sugar and a little something from hillbilly country that comes in a mason jar called napalm nectar.

Bottoms up!

If I didn't know better I might think you were trying to get me drunk.

KAREN

Nonsense. Now, I made a call to
Baron Rothschild and he personally
selected tonight's wine which,
along with the foie gras, truffles
and your own French maid Francesca,
were all flown over first class
this afternoon.

FRANCESCA ENTERS IN A FRENCH MAID'S UNIFORM WITH CHAMPAGNE.

FRANCESCA

Bon jour, Madames.

ROSARIO

Just what I always wanted, my own tarted - up serving wench.

KAREN

Ro, you are priceless! Francesca dear, give RoRo some champers.

FRANCESCA

RoRo would like some champagne?

RoRo's had enough booze. Why don't you see if you can find Jerry Lewis, I think he's in the pantry.

FRANCESCA

Oui Madame, in the pantry.

FRANCESCA CROSSES OUT.

KAREN

Ro honey, I need a teensy weensy favor.

ROSARIO

No.

KAREN

I haven't asked yet.

ROSARIO

I know what you want and the answer's no.

KAREN

Just something to help me get a decent night's sleep?

ROSARIO

I'll tell you a bedtime story.

KAREN

Listen Ro, I need your help. I had no idea it was going to be anywhere near this hard.

ROSARIO

Would you like some cheese with that whine?

KAREN

I've got no one else I can turn
to, Rosario. Please?

KAREN GIVES ROSARIO A PLEADING LOOK FOR A BEAT.

ROSARIO

(FIRM) Not a chance.

KAREN

(HOT) How can you be so indifferent to my suffering?!

ROSARIO

I'm not indifferent. I'm enjoying
it immensely.

KAREN

So much for appealing to your sympathy.

ROSARIO ENJOYS A BITE OF THE FOIE GRAS.

I have none. You should try this foie gras, it's out of this world.

KAREN

I'll find your jelly spot yet,

Rosario!

ROSARIO

You're welcome to try.

ROSARIO GLEEFULLY POPS A CRACKER IN HER MOUTH AS KAREN STEWS WITH ANGER AND WE:

DISSOLVE TO:

Η

INT. REHEARSAL THEATER - THE NEXT DAY - DAY (DAY 5)
(Will, Grace, Jack, Rod, Director, Cast Extras)

WILL, GRACE AND JACK ENTER FIGHTING.

JACK

(HOT) You two really need to
come to your senses and stop
wasting my time!

GRACE

You two are the ones wasting time. Rod is <u>not</u> gay!

WILL

If either of you had even a fraction of what I already have with Rod you'd see who was wasting who's time. Or is it whom's time?

JACK

Cork it professor pretentious, here comes my boyfriend!

${\hbox{\tt ROD}}$, ${\hbox{\tt A}}$ ${\hbox{\tt GROUP}}$ ${\hbox{\tt OF}}$ ${\hbox{\tt ACTORS}}$ ${\hbox{\tt AND}}$ ${\hbox{\tt THE}}$ ${\hbox{\tt D}}{\hbox{\tt IRECTOR}}$ ${\hbox{\tt ENTER}}$.

DIRECTOR

(TO ACTORS) How many of you have ever been in a production involving nudity?

ONE ACTOR RAISES HIS HAND.

DIRECTOR (CONT'D)

Being naked in front of an audience can throw even the best actors. Therefore, we're going to start today's full dress rehearsal by getting undressed for the last scene, gentlemen.

JACK

Tell me I'm not dreaming.

GRACE

You're dreaming, trust me.

WILL

(TO GRACE) You're dreaming if you think your charm act will snare Rod.

GRACE

My female charms are not an act.

WILL

Right, they're an illusion. We live together, remember ? I know how often you shave your legs.

And pits. And how often you fart.

GRACE

Well, that can certainly change.

WILL

Meaning what, you'll shave more than once a fortnight and stay away from spicy food?

GRACE

Meaning we don't have to live together.

WILL

You'd throw away everything we've gone through, all the years we've been friends, just for Rod?!

GRACE

(COY) Maybe I meant it, maybe I didn't.

WILL

Where are our priorities? We're at each other's throats. We've completely blown off Karen. And for what, a guy?! What are we thinking?

THEY BOTH NOTICE JACK'S TRANCE-LIKE STARE TOWARD THE STAGE.

JACK

(DREAMY) A stage full of disrobing studmuffins. Pinch yourself Jackieboy, it doesn't get better than this.

WILL

(TO GRACE) Tell me we're not $\underline{\text{that}}$ superficial.

GRACE

I'm sorry, Will, I didn't mean it.

WILL

WILL AND GRACE HUG EACHOTHER.

I say we walk away now, as friends.

GRACE

Rod is beautiful. But not worth our friendship. Jack can have him.

DIRECTOR (O.C.)

Okay, gentlemen, let's get those shorts off.

WILL, GRACE AND JACK STARE CURIOUSLY AT THE STAGE FOR A BEAT.

GRACE

Is that normal?

WILL

But his hands are so big.

JACK

(STANDING) Well, I'm ready to go. This fisherman is throwin' that small fry back!

WILL, GRACE AND JACK START TO EXIT AND TURN FOR A LAST LOOK.

WILL

Rod sure is handsome.

JACK

Except for that one small thing.

WILL

You guys want to stop by Karen's on the way home?

GRACE

I'll tell her we're reconsidering her offer to knock over a pharmacy.

That should cheer her up.

AS WILL, GRACE AND JACK HEAD FOR THE EXIT WE:

DISSOLVE TO:

J

INT. KAREN'S MANSION - HALLWAY / INT. BEDROOM (DAY 5)
(Will, Grace, Jack, Francesca)

FRANCESCA LEADS WILL, GRACE AND JACK DOWN THE HALLWAY TO KAREN'S BEDROOM AS THE LIGHTS FLICKER OFF AND ON.

GRACE

(RE: LIGHTS) What's that from?

FRANCESCA

It's Madame, she's possessed by

the devil!

WILL

Everybody thinks that when they

first meet Karen.

JACK

Yeah, you just have to get to

know her better.

GRACE

Of course, even then you may

have your doubts.

FRANCESCA PUTS ON A JACKET THEN OPENS THE DOOR TO KAREN'S BEDROOM AND WE:

RESET TO:

INT. KAREN'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS - NIGHT (DAY 5)
(Will, Grace, Jack, Francesca, Karen, Rosario)

KAREN IS STRAPPED TO A HEAVILY PADDED FOUR POSTER BED. HER EYES ARE CLOSED AND HER FACE IS PAINTED BRIGHT GREEN.

WILL

Maybe we should call a doctor.

GRACE

Maybe we should call a priest!

FRANCESCA

(TO KAREN) Madame, are you alright?

KAREN OPENS HER EYES, SEES EVERYONE AND LOSES IT, SENDING FRANCESCA RUNNING OUT OF THE ROOM.

KAREN

Nobody sees me like this!

KAREN STRUGGLES VIOLENTLY WITH HER RESTRAINTS.

KAREN (CONT'D)

Get these damn things off me!

JACK

Is that Karen talking or a demon spirit?

KAREN

Untie me or I'll put depilatory cream in your K - Y Jelly!

JACK

Yeah, that's you.

KAREN

And close those windows, it's colder than Grace's diaphragm in here!

GRACE

Definitely you.

WILL

What's with the bondage thing?

KAREN

These facials are so itchy they
make me want to claw my face off!
Boy, do I miss the old days when
I'd just pop a couple of 'ludes,
pass out, and let the
cosmetologists have at it.

WILL

Life can be pretty wonderful without drugs, Karen.

KAREN

What's so wonderful about it?!

GRACE

Well, how about things like friendship?

KAREN

Some friends you guys are abandoning me to chase after some pretty boy!

WILL

We're really sorry about that,

Karen, but we applaud your decision
to stop living in a delusional
world and face reality.

KAREN

Puhleeeease, and you call me delusional?! How about you three and Hot Rod? (TO GRACE) What would a god of a man like that want with a flat-chested bore like you?

GRACE

I, I, I am not boring. (BEAT)
To most people.

KAREN

(TO JACK) Or a whore who's

turned more tricks than Harry

Houdini and David Copperfield

combined? (TO WILL) Or a weak

and spineless mama's boy like you?

WILL

Forget the priest and bring me a hari kari knife.

KAREN

My problems can be solved with a refill. You three are hopeless!

ROSARIO BURSTS IN MUMBLING THROUGH COTTON DENTAL PACKING AND WAIVING TWO PAPER PRESCRIPTIONS IN THE AIR.

ROSARIO

I got! I got it! I got it!

KAREN

Come to Mama!

KAREN GRABS THE PRESCRIPTIONS AND READS THEM.

KAREN (CONT'D)

Something for pain $\underline{\text{and}}$ for sleep!

You are the best, Rosario!

ROSARIO REMOVES THE DENTAL PACKING.

And there's more where that came from.

KAREN

You're having more teeth pulled?

ROSARIO

No, I'm having my hernia fixed.

KAREN

I didn't know you had a hernia.

ROSARIO

I don't, yet. Hop on and I'll give you a lift to the pharmacy!

KAREN CLIMBS ONTO ROSARIO'S BACK.

KAREN

You know, you were right, Will.

Life really is wonderful! See ya!

AS KAREN TRIUMPHANTLY RIDES ROSARIO OUT OF HER BEDROOM WILL, GRACE AND JACK LOOK AT ONE ANOTHER AND START TO CRY. AS THEY MERGE FOR A GROUP HUG WE:

FADE OUT.

THE END