

The King of Queens

"King Arthur"

written by

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ACT ONE

A

FADE IN:

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY (DAY 1)
(Doug, Carrie)

DOUG QUICKLY DESCENDS THE STEPS WITH HIS GOLF BAG FOLLOWED
BY A MORE DELIBERATELY MOVING CARRIE.

DOUG

(IMPATIENT) Would you hurry up,
Carrie? If we leave right now
I'll have time to squeeze in
nine holes!

CARRIE

I thought this was supposed to
be a romantic getaway. Remember,
just the two of us, a chance to
rekindle the flames of lost
passion?

DOUG

It is. And in between kindling
yours truly is going to light a
fire on the championship golf
course at Mountain Pines.

CARRIE

(CONCERNED) I feel like we're forgetting something.

DOUG

(CHECKING GOLF BAG) Soft spikes; tees; fresh balls; my new titanium driver with patented sweet spot technology, oh yeah! Nope, not a single thing.

CARRIE

(FACETIOUS) The last of the red-hot lovers, lucky me. I know we're forgetting something.

DOUG

Like the \$400.00 I've already put down on this trip? Would you hurry up, please.

CARRIE

(REMEMBERS) Money! Did you leave money for Arthur?

DOUG

I put it on the kitchen counter.

CARRIE CROSSES INTO THE KITCHEN AND RE-ENTERS HOLDING
MONEY.

CARRIE

(MAD) Five bucks?

DOUG

You never said how much.

CARRIE

Like I don't have enough guilt
about leaving my father alone
all weekend?!

DOUG

(RESIGNED) How much?

CARRIE

Fifty.

DOUG

(SHOCKED) Dollars?!

CARRIE

No, pesos. You want to squeeze
in nine holes or stand here and
debate this?

DOUG CHECKS HIS WATCH THEN QUICKLY PULLS OUT HIS WALLET.

DOUG

(FURIOUS) This is blackmail!

CARRIE

I think while you're golfing
I'll soak in the Jacuzzi tub,
order room service and get
ready for an evening of romance.

CARRIE EXITS TO THE KITCHEN WITH THE MONEY DOUG GIVES HER.

DOUG

Did I tell you they have night
golfing?

CARRIE (O.C.)

(FROM KITCHEN) Don't even go
there, Doug!

SFX: THE PHONE RINGS.

DOUG

Let the machine get it, we're gone.

CARRIE (O.C.)

I'll just be a second.

DOUG

(TO GOLF CLUBS) So close, yet
so far. We are going to kick some
serious butt out there, guys!

CARRIE RUNS BACK INTO THE LIVING ROOM.

CARRIE

(FRANTIC) C'mon, let's go! Hurry!

DOUG

(RELIEVED) Finally!

CARRIE

(FRANTIC) That was the ER at
Queens Hospital, they just admitted
Arthur. They think it's a heart
attack!

CARRIE RUNS OUT THE FRONT DOOR AND DOUG RUNS OUT AFTER HER
CARRYING HIS GOLF BAG. AFTER A BEAT DOUG RUNS BACK IN AND
DROPS HIS GOLF BAG OFF THEN RUNS BACK OUT AND WE :

CUT TO:

B

INT. HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - MINUTES LATER - DAY (DAY 1)
(Doug, Carrie, Nurse #1, Waiting Room Extras)

A BREATHLESS DOUG AND CARRIE APPROACH THE NURSE'S STATION.

CARRIE

(TO NURSE #1) I'm Carrie Heffernan,
somebody just called and said you
were admitting my father, Arthur
Spooner. How is he?

NURSE #1

I'll check his status.

NURSE #1 CROSSES OUT.

CARRIE

(TO DOUG) I knew we shouldn't
have left him alone!

DOUG

We didn't, we haven't gone
anywhere yet.

CARRIE

(UPSET) Don't argue with me!

DOUG

Okay, okay, calm down.

CARRIE

I can't believe this is happening.

DOUG

(DEPRESSED) Me either. So much
for my nine holes.

CARRIE

How can you think of golf at a
time like this?!

DOUG

I don't know, maybe I'm so
overcome with emotion I can't
think straight? (SHRUGS)

NURSE#1 CROSSES BACK IN.

NURSE #1

Your father is still in with
Dr. Kratz, ma'am.

CARRIE

(WORRIED) Is he okay?

8.
(I/B)

NURSE #1

You'll have to ask the doctor.

CARRIE

When can I do that?

NURSE #1

He should be done soon. Have a
seat we'll let you know when the
doctor is finished.

DOUG PUTS HIS ARM AROUND CARRIE AND AS HE GUIDES HER TO
A CHAIR WE:

CUT TO:

C

INT. HOSPITAL EXAMINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS - (DAY 1)
(Arthur, Dr. Kratz)

ARTHUR, WITH AN OXYGEN TUBE IN HIS NOSE, RESTS COMFORTABLY
IN BED WHILE THE DOCTOR MAKES NOTES.

ARTHUR

I feel really good, Doctor.

DR. KRATZ

You're breathing pure oxygen,
Mr. Spooner. That can give you
a slightly euphoric feeling.

ARTHUR

(INHALES DEEPLY) Pure oxygen is
pure heaven.

DR. KRATZ

The racing heart and chest pain
that you felt were both due to
the recent change in your heart
medication. We're going to try
you on a lower dose. That should
alleviate all of your symptoms.

ARTHUR

So I didn't have a heart attack?

DR. KRATZ

No, Mr. Spooner, just a good scare.

ARTHUR

(RELIEVED) That's a load off, Doc,
thanks.

DR. KRATZ

We've made a follow up appointment
for you with your regular physician,
otherwise there's nothing for you
to worry about.

ARTHUR

Can I get some of this oxygen to go?

DR. KRATZ

I'll set it up with the nurse. It
might be useful until you get
adjusted to your new dose if you
start to feel short of breath again.

ARTHUR

You are aces with me, Doc, aces.

ARTHUR SMILES, INHALES DEEPLY AND WE:

CUT TO:

D

INT. HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - CONTINUOUS - DAY (DAY 1)
(Doug, Carrie, Nurse #2, Dr. Kratz, Waiting Room Extras)

CARRIE GETS UP FROM HER SEAT AND APPROACHES NURSE #2 AT
THE NURSE'S STATION.

CARRIE

(IMPATIENT) Hello, we have been
waiting forever and I'd really
like to know how my father,
Arthur Spooner, is doing?

NURSE #2

You'll have to talk to the doctor.

CARRIE

Maybe I wasn't making myself clear.
I want to know how my father is doing.

NURSE #2

You'll have to ask the doctor.

NURSE #2 TURNS AWAY AS DOUG APPROACHES.

CARRIE

(TO DOUG) Do you believe that?!

DOUG

They're busy, Carrie. Let's go
sit down.

CARRIE

I'm tired of sitting, I want to
know how my father's doing. He's
already had three heart attacks!

DOUG

You sit and let me see what I
can find out, okay?

DOUG PLANTS CARRIE IN A CHAIR AND APPROACHES THE STATION.

DOUG (CONT'D)

Excuse me, my wife's father was
admitted earlier and we'd really
like to know how he's doing.

NURSE #2

Patient's name?

DOUG

Arthur Spooner.

NURSE #2

He's still in with Dr. Kratz, sir.

DOUG

We know that. How is he doing?

NURSE #2

You'll have to ask Dr. Kratz, sir.

DOUG

I'm asking you, and as nicely as
I possibly can I might add!

NURSE #2

(READING) Possible myocardial
infarction; no crash cart; stable
EKG; no referral to ICU.

DOUG

How about telling me in English?

NURSE #2

I'd say at this point it looks
pretty good.

DOUG

Thank you.

DOUG GIVES CARRIE AN ENCOURAGING THUMBS UP.

DOUG (CONT'D)

Can I borrow your phone?

NURSE #2 HANDS DOUG THE PHONE AND EXITS. AS HE DIALS
CARRIE COMES RUSHING OVER.

DOUG (CONT'D)

Looks real good so far, honey.

CARRIE

Who are you calling?

DOUG

The hotel, we're supposed to be
checking in right now.

CARRIE PUTS HER FINGER ON THE BUTTON TO HANG UP THE PHONE.

DOUG (CONT'D)

What are you doing, I've got to
call the hotel and see about our
\$400.00 deposit.

CARRIE

What's more important Arthur or
\$400.00?!

DOUG STANDS THERE THINKING FOR A BEAT.

CARRIE (CONT'D)

Doug!

DOUG

I'm thinking, I'm thinking.

DR. KRATZ APPROACHES CARRIE.

DR. KRATZ

I'm Dr. Kratz, the nurse said you
wanted to see me?

CARRIE

(RELIEVED) Yes, thank you, I'm
Arthur Spooner's daughter. How
is my father doing, Dr. Kratz?

DR. KRATZ

He's resting comfortably.

CARRIE

He's already had three heart
attacks, is he going to, you
know, be okay?

DR. KRATZ

His prognosis looks very good.

CARRIE

You can give it to me straight,
Dr. Kratz, is my father going
to pull through?

NURSE#1 RUNS OVER TO DR. KRATZ.

NURSE #1

Dr. Kratz -- room six, stat.

16.
(I/D)

DR. KRATZ

I've got to go. Your father did
the right thing by seeking care
at the first sign of trouble.
You're free to go in and see
him any time you like.

NURSE#1 AND DR. KRATZ EXIT AND CARRIE GIVES DOUG AN
APPREHENSIVE LOOK AS THEY WALK TOWARD ARTHUR'S ROOM
AND WE:

CUT TO:

E

INT. HOSPITAL EXAMINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS - DAY (DAY 1)
(Doug, Carrie, Arthur, Nurse #1)

DOUG AND CARRIE ENTER AND QUIETLY APPROACH ARTHUR, WHO LIES COMFORTABLY IN BED BREATHING OXYGEN WITH HIS EYES CLOSED.

CARRIE

(SOFTLY) Daddy, it's me, Carrie.

ARTHUR

(STARTLED) Oh, you scared me.

Boy did my heart jump!

CARRIE

(ANXIOUS) I'm sorry. How do you feel? Are you okay to talk?

ARTHUR

They've got me on pure oxygen.
All in all, I'd say it's not a bad way to go, really.

CARRIE

Don't say that, my poor, brave father. We were so worried about you, isn't that right, Doug?

DOUG

You look great, Arthur.

ARTHUR

I thought you two were on your way to your big, fancy weekend.

DOUG

We were, until all of this happened.

ARTHUR

You should go, I'll be fine.

DOUG

(HOPEFUL) Honey, did you hear that?

CARRIE

Don't be ridiculous, we're not going anywhere.

DOUG

Let's hear Arthur out on this.

CARRIE

Doug, shut up! We wouldn't dream of leaving now. (FIRM) Would we, Doug? (GLARES ANGRILY)

DOUG

Never even crossed my mind.

CARRIE

Not after you've had another
heart attack.

ARTHUR

Heart attack? But I didn't ...

CARRIE

(CUTS OFF) Save your strength.

ARTHUR

But I ...

CARRIE

(CUTS OFF) Ssssh. You just rest
and concentrate on getting better
and we'll take care of everything
else. Anything you want or need,
just name it, and we'll get it. We
are both here for you, Daddy.

ARTHUR

Really? (BEAT) Anything?

CARRIE

Anything. Your wish is our command.

(FIRM) Isn't that right, Doug?

DOUG STANDS THERE BITING HIS LIP IN CONTEMPLATION.

CARRIE (CONT'D)

(ANGRY) Doug?!

DOUG

(WEAKLY) Yes.

ARTHUR

I hardly know what to say except
thanks for your concern and I'll
try not to be a bother to you.

CARRIE

A bother? Not a chance, Daddy.

NURSE#1 ENTERS WITH A WHEELCHAIR.

NURSE #1

Okay, Mr. Spooner, we're ready to
discharge you.

CARRIE

(INCREDULOUS) Discharge? Already?

ARTHUR

You know how hospitals are today,
what with drive-through deliveries
it's a wonder they let me stay
this long. (LAUGHS NERVOUSLY)

CARRIE HELPS ARTHUR INTO THE WHEELCHAIR.

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

Sorry to be so much trouble.

CARRIE

You're no trouble at all, isn't
that right, Doug? (BEAT) Doug?!

DOUG

(FLAT) No trouble at all.

DOUG FORCES A BITTER SMILE AND AS HE PUSHES A GRINNING
ARTHUR OUT OF THE EXAM ROOM IN THE WHEELCHAIR WE:

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

F

FADE IN:

INT. KITCHEN / INT. LIVING RM. - DAY (DAY 2)
(Doug, Carrie)

CARRIE IS FIXING ARTHUR'S LUNCH AS DOUG ENTERS FROM THE BASEMENT.

CARRIE

Why do you keep going down to
Arthur's room?

DOUG HOLDS UP ARTHUR'S READING GLASSES.

DOUG

(HOT) Because I'm being ordered
around by Arthur like he's a king
and I'm an indentured servant. Get
this. Get that. Do this. Do that.

CARRIE

It's good exercise for you.

DOUG

The only exercise I want involves
18 holes of championship golf!

(MORE)

DOUG (CONT'D)

And if we don't go by next
weekend the hotel is booked
solid for six months and we'll
lose our \$400.00 deposit!

CARRIE

I am not leaving Arthur after he
just had a heart attack, Doug.

DOUG

He seems fine to me. (SURVEYS
LUNCH TRAY) Filet mignon?! His
appetite is sure healthy. You
could at least think about going,
couldn't you?

CARRIE

Okay, I thought about it. (BEAT)
No!!

DOUG

What if we got somebody to stay
with Arthur, like Holly or Danny?

CARRIE

Holly is too ditzy and I
wouldn't trust Danny to watch
our grass grow. Forget it!

DOUG TRIES TO SNEAK FOOD FROM ARTHUR'S TRAY BUT CARRIE
CATCHES HIM AND SMACKS HIS HAND AWAY.

CARRIE (CONT'D)

Go give Arthur his glasses.

DOUG EXITS TO THE LIVING ROOM AND WE:

RESET TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS - DAY (DAY 2)
(Arthur, Doug, Carrie)

ARTHUR SITS WITH HIS FEET PROPPED ON PILLOWS AND A OXYGEN
TANK AT THE READY NEXT TO HIM. DOUG ENTERS AND
UNCEREMONIOUSLY DROPS ARTHUR'S GLASSES IN HIS LAP.

DOUG

The royal spectacles, your
Highness.

ARTHUR

Would you get the book on my
night stand?

DOUG

I was just down there to get
your reading glasses!

ARTHUR

Right, and now I need something
to read.

DOUG

Can't you get it yourself, Arthur?

ARTHUR

I'm afraid I'll get dizzy on the
steps, fall and break something
vital.

DOUG

(ANGRY) The only thing you're
afraid to break is a sweat!

ARTHUR

Of course, if you're too busy I
could ask Carrie.

CARRIE ENTERS WITH ARTHUR'S LUNCH ON A TRAY.

CARRIE

Ask Carrie what?

ARTHUR

I was explaining to Douglas that
with my dizzy spells I'm afraid
of falling on the steps and would

(MORE)

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

he please get my book downstairs.

In fact, I feel a little light

headed as I speak.

ARTHUR TAKES A FEW DEEP BREATHS FROM HIS OXYGEN MASK AND CARRIE GLARES ANGRILY AT DOUG. AFTER A BEAT DOUG GRUDGINGLY STARTS WALKING TOWARD THE KITCHEN AND CARRIE SETS UP THE LUNCH TRAY FOR ARTHUR.

DOUG

Are you sure there's nothing else
you need while I'm down there?

ARTHUR

That will do for now, Douglas.

(TO CARRIE) I feel like royalty.

DOUG

(UNDER BREATH) A royal pain in
the ass!

DOUG EXITS AND CARRIE TUCKS A NAPKIN IN ARTHUR'S COLLAR.

ARTHUR

This looks delicious, Carrie. I
see my steak but I don't see
my cocktail.

CARRIE

You shouldn't be drinking with
your heart condition.

ARTHUR

It's for medicinal purposes only.
It aids my digestion and relaxes me.

CARRIE

I think you can manage without it,
don't you?

ARTHUR

Actually, no. I'll settle for a
glass of wine.

CARRIE

We don't have any.

ARTHUR

On the top shelf of the closet in
your office is a gift basket from
your boss from Christmas. There's
a fine Bordeaux, if my memory serves
me correctly, that will go quite
nicely with this steak. And no
arguments, please.

ARTHUR TAKES A FEW DEEP BREATHS FROM HIS OXYGEN MASK FOR EFFECT AND CARRIE CROSSES OUT TO GO UPSTAIRS. ARTHUR PUTS THE MASK DOWN AND TURNS ON THE TV AS DOUG RE-ENTERS.

DOUG

I thought you wanted to read?

ARTHUR

Not while I'm eating. And after this big lunch I'll probably be too sleepy so forget the book and let's talk video rentals. There's nothing on television.

DOUG

Tiger Woods tees off in two minutes.

ARTHUR

Perhaps, but I'm thinking comedy, like "Abbott and Costello Meet The Mummy."

DOUG

Think again, Arthur.

ARTHUR

Video Bonanza should have it.

ARTHUR TAKES A BITE OF HIS FOOD AND GIVES A SATISFIED LOOK.

DOUG

How would you like to eat
this book?

CARRIE STARTS COMING DOWN THE STEPS WITH THE WINE.

ARTHUR

If Video Bonanza doesn't have
it try Total Video.

DOUG

That's clear across town! Forget
it Arthur, I'm watching Tiger
tee off and that's that!

CARRIE

(ACCUSING) What's going on?

DOUG

(GUILTY) Nothing.

ARTHUR

I thought a video might be nice,
something fun, you know, to take
my mind off my worries? But
Douglas wants to watch golf on
TV so I guess that "that's that."
Did somebody dim the lights?

ARTHUR TAKES A FEW HITS OF OYXGEN AND LOOKS WANLY AT
CARRIE. CARRIE GIVES DOUG A MURDEROUS LOOK FOR A BEAT.

CARRIE

(ANGRY) How can you be so
inconsiderate, Doug?!

DOUG

Me inconsiderate? How about him?!

CARRIE

Not another word, Doug. Not one
single word. Go and get Arthur's
video, Doug. Now!

AS DOUG STARTS TO LEAVE HE SHAKES HIS FIST AT ARTHUR A LA
JACKIE GLEASON AND SLAMS THE DOOR AS HE EXITS AND WE:

DISSOLVE TO:

G

INT. BEDROOM - THAT NIGHT (DAY 2)
(Doug, Carrie)

DOUG AND CARRIE GET READY FOR BED.

DOUG

Arthur is driving a wedge between
us, Carrie.

CARRIE

No, he's not.

DOUG

He's destroying our marriage, not
to mention my sanity. And you're
helping him do it!

CARRIE

You need to be more patient,
that's all.

DOUG

You could try taking my side
occasionally.

CARRIE

I'm not taking anyone's side.

(MORE)

CARRIE (CONT'D)

I'm trying to prevent Arthur
from having another heart attack.

DOUG

It's me that's going to an early
grave if this keeps up much
longer!

SFX: A HAND BELL RINGS AND RINGS.

DOUG (CONT'D)

It's almost midnight, what the
hell could Arthur want now?!

CARRIE

I'll go find out. Promise me
you'll try to be more patient
with Arthur, Doug. Promise?

DOUG

I'll try, but if you really
want to save Arthur's life tell
him to stop ordering me around!

ON DOUG'S ANGRY LOOK WE:

DISSOLVE TO:

H

INT. KITCHEN - THE NEXT MORNING (DAY 3)
(Doug, Carrie, Arthur)

CARRIE SERVES ARTHUR A BOWL OF OATMEAL.

ARTHUR

Oatmeal? I thought I told you I
wanted French toast.

CARRIE

Oatmeal is better for your heart.

ARTHUR

This looks like wall spackling.
You shouldn't serve oatmeal
without fresh fruit, Carrie.

DOUG

How about some strawberries?

ARTHUR

(EXCITED) Now you're talking.

DOUG GETS A BLOCK OF STRAWBERRIES FROM THE FREEZER AND
DROPS IT ON THE TABLE IN FRONT OF ARTHUR LIKE A BRICK.

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

Fresh, not frozen, Douglas.

(MORE)

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

The freezer squeezes the life
out of them.

DOUG

(UNDER BREATH) I'd like to
squeeze the life out of you!

DOUG PRETENDS TO THROTTLE ARTHUR BEHIND HIS BACK.

CARRIE

Doug, why don't you go to work?
Arthur, we'll stop at the deli
on the way to your doctor's
appointment, okay?

ARTHUR

Fine. Boy, if my heart doesn't
get me your lousy oatmeal just
might!

DOUG SNICKERS AND AS CARRIE STEWS WITH ANGER WE:

DISSOLVE TO:

J

INT. DR'S OFFICE RECEPTION AREA - LATER - DAY (DAY 3)
(Carrie, Arthur, Receptionist, Waiting Area Extras)

CARRIE IS AT THE RECEPTION DESK TALKING TO THE
RECEPTIONIST.

RECEPTIONIST

You must have had quite a scare
the other day.

CARRIE

I felt like I was the one having
a heart attack, you know? I just
can't believe the hospital
discharged him so soon. I thought
if you had a heart attack they
admit you for at least a day or
two for observation.

RECEPTIONIST

They usually do.

CARRIE

So why did they discharge Arthur
right after his heart attack?

RECEPTIONIST

Arthur didn't have a heart attack.

CARRIE

(STUNNED) What?

RECEPTIONIST

It was just his new heart medication. It caused symptoms like a heart attack but he should be fine now. Excuse me.

THE RECEPTIONIST EXITS AS ARTHUR ENTERS.

ARTHUR

Doc says I'm doing okay, all things considered. You mind stopping at D'Agostino's on the way home? We'll get some fresh fruit. If it's not too much trouble.

CARRIE

(THROUGH CLENCHED TEETH) It's no trouble at all.

AS CARRIE SEETHES WITH ANGER WE:

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

K

FADE IN:

INT. BEDROOM - THAT NIGHT (DAY 3)
(Doug, Carrie)

CARRIE

Sit down Doug, we need to talk.

DOUG

If it's about rescheduling our trip to Mountain Pines I'm all ears. Anything else can wait. Between my job and Arthur's running me around I'm pooped.

CARRIE

It's about Arthur.

DOUG

(SARCASTIC) There's a shocker.

CARRIE

I was talking to the receptionist at his doctor's office and she told me that Arthur never had a heart attack.

DOUG

(LOSING IT) What?!

CARRIE

It was his new heart medication,
it gave him the same symptoms
like a heart attack.

DOUG

I will kill him, you hear me! No
jury would convict me.

CARRIE

Control yourself, Doug. I was mad
too until I realized all of this
is a cry for attention.

DOUG

I'll give him some attention, and
a good cry! (BEAT) He's had us
waiting on him hand and foot!

CARRIE

He's lonely and depressed, Doug.

DOUG

So get him a hooker and some
Prozac. (BEAT) Then I'll kill him!

CARRIE

Stop talking crazy. Murder
isn't the answer.

DOUG

You're right. Getting mad isn't
going to solve anything. Getting
even, that's where it's at!

DOUG STARTS DIALING THE TELEPHONE.

CARRIE

Who are you calling?

DOUG

Mountain Pines, so I can re-book
our trip. And you're right about
killing Arthur, that's far too
quick and painless. He definitely
deserves something more slow and
excruciating!

AS A DIABOLICAL GRIN GROWS ON DOUG'S FACE WE:

DISSOLVE TO:

L

INT. KITCHEN - THE NEXT MORNING (DAY 4)
(Doug, Arthur, Lou Ferrigno)

ARTHUR SITS EXPECTANTLY AT THE TABLE AS DOUG ENTERS.

ARTHUR

Where's Carrie, I'm starving?

DOUG

She's sleeping in today.

ARTHUR

I'll have two eggs, over easy,
and toast, not too dry, with jam.
Better still, make that marmalade.
And fresh squeezed juice, not too
pulpy. And coffee, fresh ground.

ARTHUR HOLDS UP HIS NEWSPAPER AND STARTS READING. DOUG
STEAMS WITH ANGER FOR A BEAT THEN SLOWLY PUSHES ARTHUR'S
NEWSPAPER DOWN WITH HIS HAND, CRUMPLING THE TOP.

DOUG

(IRRITATED) Arthur, I've got a
little surprise for you.

ARTHUR

I'm hungry, give it to me after
breakfast.

DOUG

No, Arthur, I'm going to give
it to you now.

DOUG OPENS THE BACK DOOR AND LOU FERRIGNO ENTERS WEARING A
SWEAT SUIT, WHISTLE AND BIG SMILE.

DOUG (CONT'D)

Your very own strength and
conditioning coach! Someone to
really whip you into shape.

LOU

Morning Arthur, ready to get
started?

ARTHUR

(IN SHOCK) Huh?

DOUG

Carrie and I have been worried
sick that between your weight and
your sedentary lifestyle you're
just a double cheeseburger away
from having another heart attack.
So we decided to hire Lou to help
you lose weight and build stamina.

(MORE)

DOUG (CONT'D)

And I personally told him to
be very aggressive in his
approach because I know how
much your good health means to
all of us. What do you say,
Arthur?

ARTHUR SITS THERE SLACK-JAWED FOR A BEAT.

ARTHUR

Where's my oxygen?

ON DOUG'S SATISFIED SMILE WE:

DISSOLVE TO:

M

EXT. BACK YARD - A LITTLE LATER - DAY (DAY 4)
(Arthur, Lou)

MUSIC: THE THEME FROM "ROCKY."

ARTHUR LIES ON HIS BACK ON A MAT ON THE GROUND. LOU IS HOLDING ARTHUR'S ANKLES AS HE STRUGGLES MIGHTILY TO DO A SITUP. DESPITE HIS WILD PROSTRATIONS AND LOU'S ENCOURAGEMENT ARTHUR IS ONLY ABLE TO LIFT HIMSELF MERE INCHES OFF THE MAT. FINALLY, IN A FIT OF PIQUE, ARTHUR THROWS HIS ARMS FORWARD AND MANAGES TO RAISE HIMSELF A LITTLE HIGHER OFF THE MAT AT WHICH POINT HE GRABS ONTO LOU'S HAIR TO BRACE HIMSELF AND ON THEIR LOOKS OF MUTUAL AGONY WE:

DISSOLVE TO:

N

EXT. BACK YARD - A LITTLE LATER - DAY (DAY 4)
(Arthur, Lou)

MUSIC: THE THEME FROM "ROCKY."

ARTHUR LIES ON A WEIGHT BENCH WHILE LOU STANDS OVER HIM HOLDING A BARBELL. LOU IS ASKING ARTHUR IF HE'S READY AND ARTHUR TAKES THE BARBELL INTO HIS HANDS AND SHAKES HIS HEAD YES. LOU RELEASES THE BARBELL AND IT DROPS STRAIGHT TO ARTHUR'S CHEST. ON THEIR COMEDIC AND HISTRIONIC REACTIONS WE:

DISSOLVE TO:

P

EXT. BACK YARD - A LITTLE LATER - DAY (DAY 4)
(Arthur, Lou, Doug)

MUSIC: THE THEME FROM "ROCKY."

WE SEE A CLOSE UP OF THE PEDALS OF A STATIONARY BIKE FURIOUSLY PUMPING. AS THE CAMERA PULLS BACK WE SEE THAT IT'S ARTHUR, SWEAT ON HIS BROW AND WEARING HIS OXYGEN MASK. LOU IS STANDING IN FRONT OF HIM CHEERING HIM ON WHILE DOUG STANDS OFF IN THE BACKGROUND DRINKING A BEER AND LAUGHING AT THE TURN OF EVENTS.

DISSOLVE TO:

Q

INT. KITCHEN - THAT NIGHT (DAY 4)
(Doug, Carrie, Arthur)

CARRIE IS SERVING DOUG DINNER AS ARTHUR ENTERS AND WEARILY COLLAPSES ON A CHAIR.

DOUG

(LEADING) Feeling okay, Arthur?

ARTHUR

I'm exhausted, but I must confess something.

DOUG AND CARRIE LOOK AT EACHOTHER KNOWINGLY.

DOUG / CARRIE

(IN UNISON) Yes.

ARTHUR

I really worked up an appetite today and that stroganoff looks absolutely delicious.

CARRIE

The beef stroganoff is for me and Doug. Your dinner is more heart smart.

DOUG

Yeah, no fat, no taste, and
no stroganoff.

DOUG TAKES AN OVERTLY APPRECIATIVE BITE OF HIS FOOD WHILE
CARRIE PUTS A PLATE IN FRONT OF ARTHUR.

CARRIE

You get brown rice, tofu and
steamed vegetables.

ARTHUR

What about desert?

CARRIE

And two fat free cookies. Lou
came up with the menu.

DOUG

And he's planned every meal and
snack for you for the next three
months. Isn't that great, Arthur?

ARTHUR

(FLAT) Terrific.

ON DOUG'S SMIRK AND ARTHUR'S GRIMACE WE:

DISSOLVE TO:

R

INT. KITCHEN - THE NEXT MORNING (DAY 5)
(Doug, Carrie, Arthur)

AS DOUG AND CARRIE SIT AT THE TABLE DRINKING COFFEE THEY HEAR THE SOUND OF ARTHUR LABORIOUSLY COMING UP THE STEPS FROM THE BASEMENT.

DOUG

The sweet sound of revenge.

CARRIE

Don't you think Arthur's had
enough?

DOUG

I will break him!

ARTHUR ENTERS AND COLLAPSES ONTO A CHAIR.

CARRIE

I bet all that exercise made
you sleep like a baby.

ARTHUR

A baby with colic. Get me some
coffee, I can't move.

DOUG

Better drink fast Arthur, Lou
will be here soon.

ARTHUR

It's Sunday!

DOUG

Every day until you break, I
mean, get whipped into shape.

(READING) Today you're going
for a jog around Central Park
and then playing racquetball.
And then off to Lou's gym.

ARTHUR

(UPSET) He's going to give me
a heart attack!

DOUG

(KNOWING) Don't you mean another
heart attack?

ARTHUR

Look, when I was in the hospital
and you guys were being so nice
to me because you thought I had a
heart attack I found it very hard,
in light of your generosity, to
tell you the truth.

DOUG

(FACETIOUS) I don't think
you'll have that problem again.

CARRIE

So what's the truth?

ARTHUR

I didn't actually have a heart
attack it was just my medication.

DOUG

(SMILING) We know!

ARTHUR

(SURPRISED) You do?

CARRIE

The receptionist at your doctor's
office told me.

ARTHUR

So that's why you had Lou Ferrigno
torture me!

DOUG

Call it payback.

ARTHUR

He put me through hell!

CARRIE

What about the hell you put me
through worrying that you were
going to drop dead?!

DOUG

Or the hell you put me through
worrying that you wouldn't?!

ARTHUR

(TO DOUG, LOSING IT) Sorry to
disappoint you!

ON THEIR COLLECTIVE LOOKS OF ANGER WE:

CUT TO BLACK:

END OF ACT THREE

TAG

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY (DAY 6)
(Doug, Carrie, Arthur, Lou Ferrigno)

DOUG QUICKLY DESCENDS THE STEPS WITH HIS GOLF BAG FOLLOWED
CLOSELY BY CARRIE, WHO HAS LUGGAGE.

DOUG

See you in three glorious days,
Arthur.

CARRIE

I left the resort's number by
the phone.

DOUG

(DEAD-PAN) Don't call.

ARTHUR

You remember what happened the
last time you guys tried to
abandon me? (GRABS CHEST)

CARRIE

Don't worry, we're not leaving
you alone.

DOUG OPENS THE FRONT DOOR AND LOU FERRIGNO IS THERE.

53.
(TAG)

DOUG

Lou's going to spend the whole
weekend here! (SMILING) Bye,
Arthur.

DOUG AND CARRIE EXIT AND AS ARTHUR GRABS HIS OXYGEN MASK
AND HYPERVENTILATES WE:

CUT TO BLACK:

THE END

