

FADE IN:

INT. VALERY'S APARTMENT - MORNING

BEN (24) wraps various belongings in newspaper and packs them into a box. Behind him a capuchin monkey sits at on the couch watching a National Geographic documentary and masturbates.

In her bathrobe, VALERY (23) emerges from the bathroom. She freezes in shock at Ben, but ignores the monkey.

VALERY

Ben?

BEN

Yes?

VALERY

What's going on?

BEN

I think it's pretty self -
explanatory. Oscar's masturbating
and I'm leaving.

Ben seals up the box.

VALERY

Ben...

BEN

Valery, don't act like you didn't
see this coming.

In the background Oscar the monkey moans louder.

VALERY

You can't do this to me.

The monkey's pleasurable groaning reaches a loud climax.

BEN

Oscar—can you keep it down out
there?

VALERY

It's not his fault. He was abused
and tortured by researchers. He
needed somewhere safe after we
rescued him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BEN

I don't mind the monkey. I fully support you with the animal rights group. I just thought you'd have found a reserve to take him already.

VALERY

It's not so easy. Oscar is damaged goods.

BEN

(looking behind him)
Now the couch is damaged goods.

VALERY

Eeep.

They exchange glances at her eeep noise making tic.

VALERY (CONT'D)

(slowly tearing up)
Can I we at least discuss it over breakfast?

CUT TO BLACK

INT. DINER - DAY

Ben and Valery sit in silence, sipping cups of coffee.

BEN

(grabbing a menu)
On second thought, I think I'll order food.

Valery snatches the menu from him.

BEN (CONT'D)

What? Are you watching my diet now?

VALERY

You think your next relationship's gonna be any different?

BEN

What next relationship?

VALERY

You're gonna become a monk?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BEN

No, I just want to... take a break from dating for a while.

VALERY

OK, OK, what would you like me to change?

BEN

Excuse me?

VALERY

You heard me. What would you like me to do differently?

BEN

It's not that easy.

VALERY

Is it because I make eep noises?

BEN

It's not because you make eep noises.

VALERY

Is it the masturbating capuchin monkey?

BEN

No.

VALERY

Is it the Obsessive Compulsive Disorder? 'Cause I've been working on that. I've been going to support groups and everything. Eep.

BEN

It's not the O.C.D. It's not the masturbating monkey. It's not the eep.

VALERY

But I think O.C.D.'s a contributing factor, isn't it?

BEN

Maybe, but -

VALERY

I'll go use the restroom right now.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

BEN

Valery, I'm not really interested
in -

VALERY

Seriously.

Valery signals a WOMAN at the counter.

VALERY (CONT'D)

Ma'am? Ma'am? You want to come with
me to the restroom? You'll be my
witness.

The woman reacts awkwardly.

VALERY (CONT'D)

(to Ben)

I will pee in a public stall just
for you! That's how much I love
you, Ben.

BEN

Valery, I don't care if you pee in
the damn stall! As a matter of
fact, I would prefer if you don't.
Hell, I wouldn't sit down to pee in
that restroom.

VALERY

So my O.C.D wasn't an issue?

BEN

It's not that simple. I've tried to
support you in that too, but...

VALERY

You mean to say you have a whole
laundry list of reasons?

Ben doesn't answer.

VALERY (CONT'D)

I knew it.

BEN

Are we meant to be together Valery?
I don't know. After three years
romance is muddled so much with the
everyday that the life has been
sucked from us.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

BEN (CONT'D)

With arguments about whose turn it is to do the laundry, and complaints I make your tea wrong I can no longer tell. Right now, I would say we're no. All my stuff is packed. It's time to move on!

Valery slowly bursts into tears.

VALERY

I can't.

Ben hesitantly places his hand on top of Valery's.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - NEW YORK CITY - DAY

Valery helps Ben load boxes into the back of a rented U-Haul van. Ben shuts the back of the truck.

Ben and Valery hug each other goodbye. Oscar watches on.

Ben hops into the driver's seat and rides off. Valery waves goodbye, then takes Oscar's hand and they both walk up the stairs.

INT. U -HAUL VAN (MOVING) - DAY

Ben sits behind the wheel. His cell phone RINGS. He plugs in his Bluetooth/hands-free device and answers the call.

BEN

Y -hello?

CLIFF(O.S.)

(from phone)

Hey, you needing somewhere to stay? I'm outa town till next week. School holidays. Taking the kid to fucking Disneyland, but key's with the neighbor. Told them you were coming. Let yourself in. There's beer in the fridge.

BEN

Yep... Thanks again for doing this for me, Cliff. I promise I'll be out of there the minute I find a place of my own...

CLIFF (O.S.)

Crash with me as long as you like.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BEN

Yeah, yeah, you say that now.

INT. CLIFF'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Ben brings in the last box, exhausted. He goes to the fridge and indeed there is a beer. He opens it, switches on the TV and falls on the couch. An ad comes on. Ben is the actor in the ad. Ben on the couch smiles. In the ad he's dressed as a superhero: "Hemhero."

HEMHERO

Do you suffer from hemorrhoids? I can help.

He flies through the city, then swoops down to where an elderly woman walks (in some discomfort) across the street. He waves his hand and the woman is engulfed in cheesy 3D lighting effects.

ELDERLY WOMAN

I suffered from hemorrhoids all my life - until I found Hemhero!

In the sky again, Hemhero spots a middle-aged golfer, in similar discomfort. Down he swoops. He waves his hand. More light. The man straightens up and finishes his golf swing.

GOLFER

My swing really improved once I discovered Hemhero.

Ben as Hemhero lands and faces the camera, hands on hips in heroic fashion.

HEMHERO

Hemhero is the 100% natural product that's guaranteed to vanquish hemorrhoid pain.

A sexy girl dressed in a Wonder Woman like costume rushes to his side and puts her arm around him.

GIRL SIDEKICK

Oh Hem! You're my hero!

Ben sits watching. He groans and puts his head in his hands.

INT. LOUIE'S TIKI BAR - NIGHT

An indoor tiki bar with a Hawaiian theme: male bartenders in Hawaiian shirts, female bartenders in hula skirts. The MUSICAL THEME to Hawaii Five-0 plays in a loop.

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CONTINUED:

Ben strolls up to the bar. A nerdy-looking MALE BARTENDER with thick glasses approaches him.

MALE BARTENDER

(in a monotone)

Aloha. Welcome to Louie's Tiki Bar. I'll be your bartender, Tim. Would you like to try one of our drink specials?

Ben's about to speak, but Tim continues to go on.

TIM

Today's Special of the Day is the Maui Wowie Sweet 'N Soury.

Again, Ben's about to speak, but the bartender keeps gabbing on.

TIM (CONT'D)

It's only \$4.50 and it contains pineapple juice, rum, lemon juice, raspberry...

(checks the menu)

... bunch of other good stuff. But it's only \$4.50. The umbrella's free of charge.

Tim lets out a creepy, half-assed laugh.

BEN

No, thank you, Tim. I think I'll stick with the house margarita on the rocks with salt. But you are one persuasive salesman.

TIM

Coming right up. Aloha. That also means "goodbye" in Hawaiian. Actually, I'm not saying "goodbye," but "be right back." But I don't know how to say "be right back" in Hawaiian.

BEN

That's fine. I appreciate the effort.

Tim walks off.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

VALERY

(O.S.)

Still haven't changed your drink
order, I see.

Ben looks over to Valery, who sits at the other bar.

BEN

What are you doing here Valery?
You're stalking me?

VALERY

First off, "Hello. I'm fine, thank
you." Secondly, I'm just here to
have some drinks.

TIM

Would you like to try our Special
of the Day?

VALERY

Absolutely.

TIM

Um, I didn't tell you what it was.

VALERY

That's fine. I like to live
dangerously.

BEN

(chuckling)

You?

VALERY

And what are you, James Dean? 'Til
this day, you always eat your
broccoli when your mother's around.

BEN

So?

VALERY

You hate broccoli! You just eat it,
so your mom won't yell at you.

BEN

Let's just pretend we never met.
Let's just pretend we're two
strangers sitting at a bar.

VALERY

Fine by me.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Tim hands Ben his margarita.

BEN

Thank you, sir. By the way, hope you went easy on the rum on the little lady's drink. Last time she had ten shots of Captain Morgan at a party... Well, let's just say she was walking the plank.

VALERY

How would you know? You've never met me.

Ben lets out an embarrassed chuckle.

A BUSINESSMAN sits between Ben and Valery.

TIM

(to the businessman)

Aloha -

BEN

His name is Tim and here's today's special.

Ben slides the drink menu over to the businessman.

VALERY

Can't you let the man do his job?

Tim hands Valery her drink.

VALERY (CONT'D)

Thank you, Tim.

BEN

Why don't you just go hook up with Tim?

VALERY

Maybe I will.

Tim blushes.

VALERY (CONT'D)

Seems like he knows how to treat a lady.

TIM

And I give a mean foot massage.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

VALERY
(planting a fake smile)
I bet you do.

Ben leaves a tip on the counter and walks off.

INT. LOUIE'S TIKI BAR - LATER THAT NIGHT

Ben racks up the balls at the pool table, which is located in the back room of the bar. He breaks.

Valery sidles up to him. Ben rolls his eyes.

VALERY
Don't you need an opponent?

Ben shoots.

Valery sits on the edge of the table.

VALERY (CONT'D)
Come on... eight ball, side pocket.

Valery flirtatiously strokes the pool cue.

BEN
That's just so unfair.

Valery knocks all the balls out of the way and lays on the pool table.

BEN (CONT'D)
Come on, Valery. We're broken up!
How much more broken up do we need
to be?

Valery spreads her legs.

BEN (CONT'D)
Is that a... hot pink thong?

Valery smiles and nods.

BEN (CONT'D)
The thong I bought you for your
birthday?

VALERY
Yes... except I didn't wear it very
long.
(pulls off thong)
Much like now.

(CONTINUED)