

STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT

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CHARACTERS

JANIE	Disreputable woman on a date
BRIAN	Disreputable man on a date

SETTING

A seedy motel room.

SCENE

*(Brian and Janie have just entered a rent-by-the-hour motel room. They appear to be highly inebriated.)*

JANIE

Well, this place is certainly a shithole.

BRIAN

You get what you pay for.

JANIE

They could've put a picture on the wall, at least. Or maybe one of those—

BRIAN

If you're looking at the walls, luv, you ain't doing it right. Come here.

JANIE

Probably got more bugs than MI-6.

BRIAN

Who cares? It's got a bed.

JANIE

I was talking about the bed.

*(Brian has an epiphany.)*

BRIAN

Lemme guess. You've never done this before, have you, luv?

JANIE

I have.

BRIAN

Oh, come on.

JANIE

I'm not a prossie, but I get my share.

BRIAN

Well, how about you sharing it with me?

JANIE

Actually, I've got a bit of a surprise for you. Wanna see?

BRIAN

Alright...

*(Janie reaches into a handbag and pulls out a gun – or some other kind of weapon. She's suddenly dead sober.)*

JANIE

Surprise.

*(Brian remains unexpectedly cool.)*

BRIAN

You're the filth? You gotta be shitting me. Don't matter. Didn't do nothing wrong. No money changed hands or—

JANIE

I ain't a pig.

BRIAN

Then—

JANIE

I'm robbing you, you pillock. Wallet. Watch. Keys. Hand 'em over. Now.

*(Brian starts to laugh.)*

What's so funny?

BRIAN

You're trying to rob me?

JANIE

That's the plan.

BRIAN

Well, it ain't my plan. This...

*(Brian suddenly pulls out his own gun – or whatever.)*

...is my plan. Now gimme the bag!

Right. JANIE

No joke. Gimme the bag. BRIAN

Gimme your wallet. JANIE

Bag! BRIAN

Wallet! JANIE

Bag! BRIAN

Now look. I pulled a gun first. JANIE

That don't matter. BRIAN

It's basic etiquette in a situation like this. Whoever pulls a gun first gets to rob first. So give me your wallet. JANIE

Then what happens? BRIAN

I'm not really sure, actually. This is my first time robbing someone who was gonna rob me. JANIE

*(They're silent for a moment, then...)*

Alright. I have an idea...

Yeah? BRIAN

JANIE  
We take turns.

BRIAN  
What?

JANIE  
You give me your wallet, then I give you my bag. Then you give me your watch...

BRIAN  
Then I get your bracelet.

JANIE  
Right.

BRIAN  
*(Considers it, then...)*  
Yeah, alright. Seems fair.

JANIE  
So gimme the walle—

BRIAN  
Wa-wa-wait. My car's worth way more than any of the rest of this.

JANIE  
Tough shit. Should've taken an Uber.

BRIAN  
Nah, this ain't gonna work. Let's say we just forget the whole thing?

JANIE  
Or... we could just... you know... actually fuck.

BRIAN  
What? Here? This place is rank. Even the bedbugs wear condoms.

JANIE  
Doesn't bother me. I'm gonna be on top.

BRIAN  
Actually I'm gonna be on top.

JANIE

Not tonight you're not.

*(They stare at each other, a silent face off.)*

BRIAN

Fancy a cuppa instead?

JANIE

Yeah, alright. But you're buying.

*(They exit. Lights out.)*