

MAKING PORN

a new play about the gay porno industry

by Ronnie Larsen
(OFFICIAL SCRIPT)

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SCENE 1 TIE SCENE #1

(When the audience enters we see a bed center stage made from four rectangular blocks pushed together covered by a white sheet and two pillows. Behind the bed is a free standing door. There is a cluttered desk with a chair to the right and a small table with chair to the left. Between the door and the stage left table stands a ladder. Against the left wall is a table with a coffee maker, mugs, sugar etc. A long table stands against the upstage right wall. It is covered with props, dildos, video equipment. The wall above it is plastered with pictures of pornstars ripped from the pages of skin magazines. Lights go to black and as they come back up we see Linda sitting on the edge of bed. Ricky and Ray are now in the bed but completely covered by the sheet. Jack enters. As lights come up, there is a bed on stage, Ray & Ricky are in it but we can't see them because they are under a white sheet. Linda is sitting on edge of bed. Jack is looking for his audition tie. He can't find it)

Jack I'm gonna be fucked.

Linda Just wear a different one.

Jack I need that one. It's my good luck tie.

Linda Well I'm sure it's here.

Jack Did you throw it out?

Linda Why would I throw it out?

Jack You didn't see it?

Linda I told you.

Jack Did you send it to the cleaners?

Linda No.

Jack You didn't loan it out did you?

Linda Who would I loan it out to?

Jack Did you wear it?

Linda No.

Jack Maybe you wore it to work and left it there.

Linda Why would I wear it to work?

Jack Goddamnit.

Linda I'm sure it'll show up.

Jack I need it now. I have an audition in two hours.

Linda Why is it lucky?

Jack It's my lucky tie.

Linda Yeah, but when has it gotten you any work?

Jack I feel lucky when I wear it. I feel like good things are gonna happen when I wear it.

Linda Well maybe if you don't wear it something good really will happen. Maybe it's a sign.

Jack A sign of what?

Linda A sign that... I don't know, just a sign.

Jack Can you just help me please?

Linda Where do you want me to look?

Jack Anywhere, just find it. *(He exits. She shakes her head and follows him off. As soon as Linda exits, Ray & Ricky pop up and we're into the next scene.)*

SCENE 2 RAY AND RICKY IN BED

(Lights focus on bed. Ray lights a cigarette with a lighter.)

Ray So what's your name?

Ricky Ricky.

Ray Welcome to San Francisco.

Ricky Thank you.

Ray Where are you from?

Ricky Bakersfield.

Ray I went to Bakersfield once.

Ricky Did you like it?

Ray They have a cruisy park right?

Ricky Beach Park.

Ray Beach Park, that's it.

Ricky I know it well.

Ray You get around huh?

Ricky I try.

Ray I didn't think you were as innocent as you pretended to be.

Ricky I'm a good actor.

Ray I guess.

Ricky And so are you.

Ray Excuse me.

Ricky I know who you are.

Ray Who am I?

Ricky Ray Tanner, star of *Body Shop* and other infamous pornos.

Ray You got the wrong guy.

Ricky Don't lie to me.

Ray I'm not.

Ricky My favorite scene is where you're in the classroom and you fuck the teacher on his desk.

Ray That's everybody's favorite scene.

Ricky I'm so jealous.

Ray Oh please.

Ricky I love porn.

Ray Here we go.

Ricky I want to be in one.

Ray Trust me, you don't

Ricky When I was in High School I kept a journal and I wrote that when I grow up I want to be in a porno and maybe go to college.

Ray You do not want to be in a porno.

Ricky Why not?

Ray Why would you want to be in a porno?

Ricky It just seems exciting.

Ray It's awful.

Ricky It can't be all bad.

Ray It gets old real fast.

Ricky I didn't know you could even make a full time living from being in porn.

Ray Well it's not just porn you know, there's other stuff.

Ricky Like what?

Ray Appearances, layouts, hustling...

Ricky But you hate it.

Ray Basically.

Ricky Well, next time you get offered a part you don't want, call me.

Ray Listen, you're young. you're healthy, you seem happy, You don't need to do porn.

Ricky Oh come on, it's the perfect job for a gay man. You get paid to pose and have sex.

Ray The way you romanticize making porn is kind of charming but trust me, you don't want to get into it. If you can do anything else, and I'm sure you can, then do it because it's just not what you think it is.. *(Ray and Ricky exit, Jack comes down center stage and sings a capella. He is in a spotlight and he is tie less)*

SCENE 3 JACK AUDITION #1 "YOUNG & HEALTHY"

Jack I'm young and healthy, and you've got charms
It would really be a sin, not to have you in my arms
If I could hate ya, I'd slip away
But that ain't my nature, I'm full of vitamin A, say.

I'm young and healthy, and so are you
When the moon is in the sky tell me what am I to do?

(Offstage voice.) Thank you. (Jack exits as lights come up to reveal Jamie and Arthur . Jamie moves around the office trying to put things in order as Arthur stands and thinks.)

SCENE 4 ART & JAMIE INTERVIEW RICKY FOR COPS

Arthur Actors are assholes, don't ever forget that.

Jamie He'll be here.

Arthur I'm not interested in optimism today.

Jamie He'll be here.

Arthur I hate actors.

Jamie You hate everyone.

Arthur But I really hate actors.

Jamie He said he'd be here. He sounded sincere so let's give him 10 more minutes.

Arthur He's bad news, I can smell it.

Jamie You haven't even met him yet.

Arthur But I can tell he's gonna be trouble.

Jamie He'll be here.

Ricky *(Ricky runs on from upstage and bounds through the door).* Sorry I'm late.

Arthur Ricky?

Ricky Yeah.

Arthur Hi, I'm Art *(Art enthusiastically shakes Ricky's hand.)*.

Ricky Hi.

Arthur Is everything OK?

Ricky Yeah, I just got behind.

Arthur No problem.

Ricky I'm sorry if I inconvenienced you.

Arthur Not at all.

Ricky I'm usually on time.

Arthur *desk.* Honey, I'm just glad you're here. So, this is Jamie. *(Art leads Ricky to Jamie who is downstage left by the desk.)*

Ricky Hi.

Arthur Jamie's my right hand man. He basically does everything.

Ricky Nice to meet you. *(Jamie & Ricky shake hands.)*

Arthur He's also my husband, so hands off. *(Ricky quickly pulls his hand away.)*

Jamie Art.

Arthur I'm kidding. He's not my husband, he's my wife.

Jamie He's hilarious huh?

Arthur So anyway, how do you know Ray? *(Art leads Ricky back to stage right. Ricky sits on the edge of the blocks and Arthur stands over him.)*

Ricky Actually, we met outside Safeway.

Arthur And you're a student at SF State?

Ricky Yes.

Arthur And you've never made a porno before?

Ricky No.

Arthur It's hard work.

Ricky That's OK.

Arthur It's long hours.

Ricky I know.

Arthur You're not gonna make much for your first film.

Ricky That's OK.

Arthur You won't make the kind of money Ray makes unless you're around for awhile and you develop a following.

Ricky That's OK.

Arthur And if you say you'll show up and you don't I'll hunt you down and break your legs.

Ricky OK.

Arthur Are you always so agreeable?

Ricky Yes.

Arthur OK, let me see your dick. (*Ricky stands and takes out dick. Arthur looks for a moment and leads Ricky upstage center and stands at his side observing his dick. Ricky is facing the door and we see him from behind.*) Jamie, come look at this. (*Jamie comes to Ricky's other side and observes.*) He's got a nice dick huh?

Jamie It's hard not to notice.

Ricky It's not that big when it's soft.

Arthur Can you get it hard for me?

Ricky Sure. (*Starts to jack off*)

Arthur Thanks. Is that as big as it gets?

Ricky Not quite. (*Jacks off faster*)

Arthur He's got star quality huh? A star is born. You have a huge dick.

Ricky (*Ricky lets go of his dick.*)That's about as big as it gets.

Arthur What a difference. OK you can put it away.

Ricky Thank you. (*He struggles to put his "erection" away.*)

Arthur OK. Be at 1024 Folsom on Saturday at ten a.m.. Be clean and don't jack-off Thursday, Friday or Saturday. (*Arthur crosses to Jamie and gets a paper with the address which he hands to Ricky who has followed him.*)

Ricky Do you need me any other times?

Arthur I'm not sure yet.

Ricky Because I'm free.

Arthur I'm just not quite sure how I'm gonna use you.

Ricky But you will use me?

Arthur Definitely.

Ricky Great.

Arthur Now tell me, do you come a lot?

Ricky What do you consider a lot?

Arthur Well I need guys who can shoot long steady streams. I have too many dribblers.

Ricky Well, If I don't jack off for three days that shouldn't be a problem.

Arthur Great. OK, ten o'clock, 1024 Folsom, Saturday morning. And I'll give you a check at the end of the day depending on how many scenes you do.

Ricky Is it possible to get paid in cash because I don't...

Arthur My checks don't bounce.

Ricky Uh, OK.

Arthur So I'll see you Saturday.

Ricky I'll be there.

Arthur You better be. *(Ricky exits through the door.)* So what do you think?

Jamie Pretty big. *(During the following exchange Jamie empties the garbage cans, taking the trash off stage and then returning to continue straightening up.)*

Arthur Great huh? I'm gonna use him as a cop.

Jamie I thought we needed a plumber type?

Arthur He's not rough enough. We need someone rougher. More blue collar.

Jamie Well I don't have anyone.

Arthur Oh my God. You know who'd be perfect? *(Art crosses to the wall of porn pictures and takes photo of Ray Tanner off the wall.)*

Jamie Who?

Arthur Ray.

Jamie Tanner?

Arthur Yeah.

Jamie I think he's still mad at us Arthur.

Arthur Tell him to get over it.

Jamie Well, you didn't pay him for six months.

Arthur He should be glad he got paid at all. Half of these queens would do it for free.

Jamie Not Ray.

Arthur Is he still doing those jack-off shows at the Campus Theatre?

Jamie Last time I heard.

Arthur That's pathetic.

Jamie As opposed to the art we make?

Arthur Don't start.

Jamie You don't make any sense.

Arthur It's a lot better to be in a porno than in a jack-off show.

Jamie Why?

Arthur It just is.

Jamie Why.

Arthur Would you rather be in a play or a movie?

Jamie Neither.

Arthur Well if you were an actor you'd rather be in a movie because anyone can be in a play, but you have to be good to be in a movie.

Jamie That's not true.

Arthur When was the last time you went to a play?

Jamie I don't remember.

Arthur Exactly. Nobody goes to plays anymore and nobody wants to be in 'em. But movies are a lot different, they're exciting.

Jamie Are you saying doing a jack-off show is the same thing as being in a play?

Arthur Kind of.

Jamie How?

Arthur Well there's a stage and an audience and lights.

Jamie There's no script.

Arthur So it's more like improv. Whatever. The point is you can make more money being in a jack-off show over a play and you can make more money being in a porno over a jack-off show and Ray is a greedy son of a bitch. So I need you to go to the Campus Theater or whatever basement he's dancing in and tell him that I really, really need him for *Cops*.

Jamie He's not gonna do it.

Arthur Fine, tell him I'll pay him cash the morning of the shoot.

Jamie Where are you gonna get cash to pay him before the shoot?

Arthur (*Exploding, he throws a water bottle at Jamie narrowly missing him.*) Just tell him that. Goddammit Jamie. Does everything have to be a fucking discussion. Can't we ever just do something. Do we have to talk everything into the fucking ground?

Jamie Please don't condescend to me.

Arthur Oh my God. (*Arthur starts to exit.*)

Jamie I'm trying to explain to you.

Arthur I clear? (*Turning back.*) I don't care about that. I care about getting *Cops* made. So will you please go find him? Am I clear?

Jamie Yes.

Arthur Thank you.

Jamie How much should I offer him?

Arthur I don't care.

Jamie Well, like a ballpark.

Arthur Can't you take initiative and negotiate? Find out what he wants.

Jamie But what's your limit?

Arthur I hate talking numbers.

Jamie I need a ballpark.

Arthur Goddamnit Jamie, how long have we been making films together?

Jamie Just give me a ballpark.

Arthur How long huh?

Jamie You pay everyone differently, that's why I need to know what you think. I know what I think, I need to know what you think because I am not a fucking mind reader.

Arthur You don't need to get testy.

Jamie No, I do because you're a total asshole (*Jamie grabs his bag crosses to the door.*)

Arthur Jamie? Jamie?

Jamie (*Exiting through the door.*) Go fuck yourself Arthur. (*As the door closes, we hear the beginning of Girls on Film. Lights fade to red and chaser lights flash around the door..*)

Arthur Jamie. (*Arthur exits.*)

SCENE 5 RAY'S JACK OFF SHOW

(*We hear a voice over a loud speaker.*) "We hope you're enjoying yourselves tonight. As always we're proud to present San Francisco's finest, the very best in live entertainment. Our next performer was most recently seen in *Hot Times At Reedmont High*. Please welcome back to our stage the one and only Ray Tanner." (*We hear very light scattered, unenthusiastic applause. Music continues as Ray enters wearing a robe. He brings on a stool which he places on top of the blocks. He removes his robe and sits on the stool facing upstage and begins to jack off. Right before he cums, Ricky appears down stage right. A light comes up on him and Ray freezes and the music stops.*)

SCENE 6 RICKY CALLS PARENTS

Ricky Mom tell Dad to pick up the other phone, I have really good news. Dad? Hi. Mom? Are you back Mom? Great. OK, first of all I got all my classes and I got a great job. In a law firm. 7 dollars an hour. I know, that's what I was thinking. So I'm not gonna have any problem covering my tuition in January. Well of course, yeah. But I'm sure the job's gonna work out, I mean so far it's great. Mom, when do you have your surgery? Do you need me home that weekend? I can come home, it's not that much. I get paid every two weeks. I'm not gonna blow all my money. Most of it's going right to the bank. Don't worry Mom, you worry too much. So I'm gonna come home the week of your surgery. Just plan on me being there. I'll call you next week. It's not that much to call Bakersfield from San Francisco. No, it's not that much. Don't worry Mom, I told you I have a great job! (*Ricky exits, his light goes out, music resumes and Ray continues his show. He cums and is done.*)

SCENE 7 JAMIE & RAY RECONCILE

Offstage Voice Let's give a warm hand for Ray Tanner. (*Scattered applause, Ray leaves 'stage' and goes to dressing area. Lights come up on stage left table as Ray gets to it. Music fades out and Jamie opens the door and applauds Ray.*)

Ray Oh my God!

Jamie (*Crossing to him.*) You were sensational Barbra.

Ray Thank you.

Jamie The lights, the people.

Ray How are you?

Jamie I'm great. How are you?

Ray Oh my God. It's so good to see you.

Jamie Nice outfit.

Ray Thank you darling. Just my little backstage attire.

Jamie Ahhh, the theatre.

Ray So what's up?

Jamie We want you back.

Ray You're still with Arthur?

Jamie What do you think?

Ray No comment.

Jamie We really want you.

Ray I'd love to, but it's not acceptable for me to be paid in 1982 for work I did in 1981.

Jamie I'm sorry.

Ray It's not you Jamie.

Jamie No, it's my fault too.

Ray Jamie everyone knows Art is a huge asshole.

Jamie I know.

Ray So what's the movie.

Jamie It's called *Cops*.

Ray Original. I like it.

Jamie It's about cops.

Ray Noooo!

Jamie Clever huh?

Ray Who'd have thought?

Jamie And you play...

Ray Wait, let me guess.... Um, a florist?

Jamie No.

Ray A hairdresser?

Jamie No.

Ray A cop?

Jamie No.

Ray I don't play a cop?

Jamie No.

Ray I want to be a cop.

Jamie You play a plumber.

Ray What?

Jamie You play this plumber who goes over to a cop's house on Saturday and you guys end up getting it on.

Ray You mean we have sex?

Jamie Yes.

Ray On screen?

Jamie Yes.

Ray In front of everyone?

Jamie Unfortunately yes.

Ray Is that all?

Jamie And then there's a scene where you get pulled over for not having your truck registered and they take you downtown.

Ray Ooooh.

Jamie And then there's the big group scene...

Ray And everyone stands around and jacks off on me and I end up with cum all over my chest.

Jamie Basically.

Ray He's such an innovator.

Jamie That's the role.

Ray How much?

Jamie That's what we need to talk about.

Ray You're not gonna like my offer.

Jamie What.

Ray Twenty-five hundred.

Jamie Twenty-five hundred?

Ray I just shot a film for Rawhide video and I got twenty-five hundred.

Jamie Really?

Ray And I've made a lot of films for Arthur.

Jamie I know.

Ray And that's what I want.

Jamie Well he really wants you.

Ray What was his offer?

Jamie He didn't say.

Ray I think twenty-five hundred is fair.

Jamie I guess we can do that.

Ray To be paid the morning of the shoot.

Jamie I understand.

Ray What's the schedule?

Jamie Saturday at ten, but after that I need to check. So I'll call you tonight with the rest of the dates.

Ray Sounds good.

Jamie Great.

Ray I can't wait to get back on a set with Arthur.

Jamie Just try to stay calm.

Ray Has he gotten better or worse.

Jamie He never changes.

Ray Great.

Jamie So Saturday at ten. But I'll call you.

Ray OK.

Jamie I'll let you go.

Ray I'm almost on again.

Jamie Break a leg.

Ray Oh I will.

Jamie Smile baby.

Ray It's great seeing you again.

Jamie You look good.

Ray I try.

Jamie Is there a pay phone? (*Jamie crosses to the door and opens it.*)

Ray Right in the lobby.

Jamie Great.

Ray See ya later.

Jamie I'll call you tonight. *(He closes the door. Art crosses to the left side of the door holding a phone. Jamie appears on the right side of the door also with a phone. A spotlight lights up just the door.)*

SCENE 8 JAMIE TELLS ART HE GOT RAY

Jamie I got him.

Arthur How much?

Jamie Twenty-five hundred.

Arthur What?

Jamie That's what he wanted.

Arthur No.

Jamie You said...

Arthur Twenty-five hundred ?

Jamie I asked you.

Arthur Jamie.

Jamie That was his price.

Arthur No way.

Jamie That's what he asked for.

Arthur No fucking way.

Jamie Why did I ask? Because I knew you.

Arthur Twenty-five hundred Jamie? Twenty-five hundred?

Jamie I asked you over and over.

Arthur I should have gone myself.

Jamie You should have.

Arthur Next time I will.

Jamie Fine.

Arthur Call him and tell him he can't get twenty-five hundred.

Jamie I'm not gonna call him and tell him that.

Arthur You offered it.

Jamie You call him.

Arthur You made the ridiculous offer.

Jamie You'e the one that wanted him

Arthur Just call him up and tell him you made a mistake.

Jamie I didn't make a mistake.

Arthur You didn't?

Jamie No.

Arthur Who did then?

Jamie You because you wouldn't give me a ballpark.

Arthur Oh good Jamie, blame me for your fuck up.

Jamie You said I don't care about money, I care about making *Cops*.

Arthur I didn't mean I don't care about money.

Jamie What does 'I don't care about money' mean?

Arthur It means I don't care about money but it doesn't mean that money shouldn't be cared about.

Jamie You could have called him.

Arthur I write the films, I direct the films, what the fuck do I need you for if I'm gonna do everything myself?

Jamie My three minutes are up.

Arthur Put another quarter in.

Jamie We can't afford it.

Arthur Jamie... (*We hear recording "If you'd like to make a call, please hang up and try again"*).

SCENE 9 HAMLET AUDITION

Jack Hi! Thank you for seeing me. I really appreciate it. I know you're running behind but I have a really short piece so I just need a minute. (*He warms up for 3 seconds and begins the 'too too solid flesh' monologue from Hamlet*). I'll be doing Hamlet from the play *Hamlet*. Act one Scene two. "Oh that this too, too solid flesh would melt, thaw and resolve itself into a dew. Or that the"... Can I start over?..

SCENE 10 JACK WANDERS IN

Arthur OK guys, let's look at this and remember, you enter when Jamie says 'ding dong' And...

Jamie Ding dong.

Ray Hi. You have a problem with your plumbing? I'm the plumber.

Ricky Great dude. Come on in. My girlfriend's asleep upstairs so try not to make too much noise banging on my pipes.

Ray Don't worry kid. I'll go easy.

Ricky It's right in here. (*Ray 'the plumber' starts to work and gets sweaty quickly*).

Ray Wow, it sure is hot down here. (*He takes off shirt*).

Ricky Sure is. Hey you must work out.

Ray Not much. I just get a work out fixing people's pipes.

Ricky I've been working out. (*He takes off shirt*). What do you think?

Ray That's pretty good. Let me check 'em out. Oooo that feels great dude.

Ricky Yeah, you like that?

Ray Uh huh.

Arthur Stop. Guys what the fuck is this? It's way too stiff.

Ricky I'm sorry.

Arthur You need to relax.

Ricky I'll be better next time.

Arthur I hope.

Ricky I will.

Arthur And Ray, you said 'Oooo that feels great dude' and the line is 'that feels great guy'.

Ray 'That feels great guy'?

Arthur Yeah, not dude.

Ray Oh.

Arthur And not 'Oooo that feels great'. Oooo is too queenie. Just 'That feels great guy'. Got it? Got it? OK, let's butch it up and do it again. (*They do it again*).

Ray Hi. You have a problem with your plumbing? I'm the plumber.

Arthur Butcher!

Ricky Yo man. My bitch is asleep upstairs, I got a goddamn leak in the sink get in there and fix my fuckin' pipes!

Ray You got it baby..

Ricky Right there.

Ray Wow, it sure is hot down here. (*He takes off shirt*).

Ricky Goddamn, you must work out.

Ray Not much. I just get a work out fixing people's pipes.

Ricky I've been pumpin' up. (*He takes off shirt*). What do you think?

Ray That's pretty good. Let me check 'em out. That feels great guy.

Arthur Great. That was perfect. OK, let's get 'em into costume. Jamie, did you bring the work belt?

Jamie It's in the car.

Arthur Ray come with me, I need you to try it on. (*To Jamie*). Can you make sure Ricky's sweats work?

Jamie You brought your sweats right?

Ricky Yeah. Do you want me to put 'em on now?

Jamie Yeah.

Ricky (*Getting sweats. They are bright pink*). Was I awful?

Jamie No you were good.

Ricky I was more nervous in front of Arthur. He makes me nervous.

Jamie He makes everyone nervous.

Ricky He's kind of creepy.

Jamie He's an asshole.

Ricky He takes it very seriously.

Jamie He wants to make a porno that becomes a crossover hit like *Debbie Does Dallas*.

Ricky That was a crossover hit?

Jamie Well, it was famous.

Ricky I'm sure *Cops* will be huge.

Jamie Right.

Ricky Do I have other lines?

Jamie I don't think so.

Ricky Arthur said I'd have a lot of lines.

Jamie It's a porno honey. That is a lot of lines.

Ricky Oh.

Jamie Besides, I thought you wanted to be a lawyer not a porn star.

Ricky Well I won't be a lawyer for eight years. I'm still doing under grad stuff.

Jamie How old are you?

Ricky Nineteen.

Jamie Oh.

Ricky I'll be twenty next month.

Jamie You don't look nineteen.

Ricky Everybody says that.

Jamie I was 19 once.

Ricky How old are you?

Jamie I don't remember.

Ricky Come on.

Jamie 24.

Ricky That's not that old.

Jamie I'm 32.

Ricky Oh.

Jamie Oh, he says.

Ricky So how long have you known Arthur?

Jamie Too long.

Ricky I thought you were married.

Jamie Well we don't celebrate anniversaries.

Ricky Oh.

Jamie So do your parents know their son is about to embark on a major porn career?

Ricky No they don't and no I'm not.

Jamie I hope your dad doesn't go to adult movies.

Ricky My Dad's a Mormon.

Jamie How do you know he doesn't cheat on his wives?

Ricky Very funny.

Arthur Those are the sweats?

Ricky Yeah.

Arthur No, no, no. You can't wear that color and say 'My girlfriends upstairs.' Is that all you brought?

Ricky I thought they'd be fine.

Arthur Honey, no these are , I'm sorry. Jamie you know he can't wear that color.

Jamie I thought they'd be OK.

Arthur Ray's ready to shoot.

Ray Do I look butch?

Arthur I wanted to shoot this scene now.

Jamie Well that's all we have.

Arthur No, no no. These are awful. I mean they're fine sweats but not for this scene. Jamie they need to be butcher, like cut off. Don't you have those gray sweats we used before?

Jamie I think so.

Arthur Yes or no?

Jamie Yes, I think so.

Arthur OK. You guys go get the sweats and come right back. In fact, put 'em on in the car because we're already behind and I need to shoot that scene the minute you get back. So would you please hurry back guys?

Jack *(Entering)*. Excuse me.

Arthur Can I help you?

Jack I'm looking for Arthur Mack.

Arthur That's me.

Jack Hi, I'm Jack Hawk. I got your number from Gino Colbert.

Arthur Oh Gino. How's he doing?

Jack Fine I guess.

Arthur He's a schmuck.

Ray I'll leave you two alone.

Arthur So how do you know Gino?

Jack I made a few films for him.

Arthur Oh.

Jack Nothing much.

Arthur Did you do those stupid greeting cards?

Jack No.

Arthur He's made a mint off those. That was my idea.

Jack I didn't do 'em.

Arthur Good. They're tacky.

Jack Well he's in Europe for six months and I'm kinda looking for work and he suggested that I call you.

Arthur That was gracious of him.

Jack He's a nice guy.

Arthur No he's not but anyway, What kind of stuff did you do for Gino?

Jack Mostly I'd just jack-off and then he'd intersperse other scenes as if I was having these fantasies.

Arthur But of course you weren't.

Jack What?

Arthur You're straight right?

Jack Actually.

Arthur You look straight.

Jack I am.

Arthur Are you married?

Jack Yup.

Arthur Does your wife know?

Jack No.

Arthur What if she found out?

Jack She won't find out.

Arthur But what if she did?

Jack That doesn't matter.

Arthur I don't want some crazed straight woman firebombing my house.

Jack She's not like that.

Arthur She has no idea that you make these films?

Jack No.

Arthur What if your career took off?

Jack It won't.

Arthur But what if it did?

Jack That's part of the deal, you can't put my picture on the cover of any video and you can't use my picture with any publicity or sales promotions.

Arthur I understand. So will you get fucked?

Jack Up the ass?

Arthur Do you have a hole I don't know about?

Jack No.

Arthur Of course up the ass.

Jack I'd prefer not to.

Arthur Will you fuck?

Jack Well I'd be more comfortable just jacking off

Arthur Yes or no.

Jack What kind of money are we talking about?

Arthur It depends on what you're willing to do.

Jack I can't just jack off?

Arthur Not in this film.

Jack I don't know about fucking some guy up the ass.

Arthur Do you know what kind of movie studio this is?

Jack Yes.

Arthur It's not MGM.

Jack I know.

Arthur We fuck in these films.

Jack I know.

Arthur So you fuck or get fucked.

Jack *(Exhales)*.

Arthur Most guys don't get their choice.

Jack I understand.

Arthur But you're cute.

Jack Thank you.

Arthur So I'll give you a choice.

Jack I'd prefer to do the fucking.

Arthur Fine.

Jack How much?

Arthur One scene of fucking and one jacking off.

Jack How much time are we talking about?

Arthur Well I usually shoot on weekends so we're probably looking at two weekends at the most.

Jack I can do that.

Arthur And I need to see you naked.

Jack I have a good body.

Arthur I need to see it.

Jack You can't tell?

Arthur I'll see it sooner or later.

Jack *(Exhales again)*.

Arthur Oh come on, do you think I'm being unreasonable?

Jack Fine. *(He undresses Dialogue does not continue until he is completely undressed)*.

Arthur Well You're right. You have a great body.

Jack I told you.

Arthur Oh my God. You should hustle.

Jack I don't think so.

Arthur You could make a fortune.

Jack That's OK.

Arthur I'd pay you to fuck me.

Jack How much?

Arthur A hundred bucks.

Jack That's OK.

Arthur Two hundred.

Jack I'd prefer just to make the movie first and see how that goes.

Arthur Fine. So how much do you want?

Jack Two thousand.

Arthur All right. But don't tell that to anybody else on the set because it's a lot more than anybody else is getting.

Jack No problem.

Arthur And I need to take a few Polaroids of you just to show my assistant.

Jack Can I get 'em back the day of the shoot?

Arthur No problem.
Jack OK.
Arthur Come with me. Say Cheese. *(they walk out)*

SCENE 11 TRYING ON SWEATS

Jamie Try these on. They're from *Summer School* with Luke Stunner.
Ricky Who?
Jamie Never mind.
Ricky They should fit.
Jamie I liked the pink ones.
Ricky Well he said bring sweats. He didn't say bring gray sweats.
Jamie It's no big deal.
Ricky Don't you get tired of him?
Jamie All the time.
Ricky I don't know how you do it.
Jamie Well if I wasn't working on Cops I'd never have met you.
Ricky I bet you say that to all the actors.
Jamie No. *(Pause)*. You're adorable.
Ricky Really?
Jamie Would you believe me if I showed you my hard-on.
Ricky You're hard?
Jamie Maybe.
Ricky I wanna see.
Jamie Come here.
Ricky But my girlfriends sleeping upstairs.
Jamie *(They kiss)* Oooo that feels good guy. *(They kiss again)*.
Ricky Oooo that feels good dude.
Jamie That feels good miss thing.
Ricky That feels good Mary. *(They laugh and kiss)*.

SCENE 12 JACK TELLS LINDA HE GOT A JOB

Jack Good news.
Linda You got a callback?
Jack I got a job.

Linda An acting job?

Jack An acting job!

Linda Jack!

Jack Two thousand dollars for two weekends.

Linda That's great.

Jack I'm happy.

Linda What's the job?

Jack It's a new script.

Linda What do you do?

Jack Actually it's an educational video.

Linda Oh.

Jack For elementary schools.

Linda Oh.

Jack But the money.

Linda That's great.

Jack I thought you'd be happy.

Linda I'm thrilled.

Jack What did I tell you?

Linda You told me.

Jack And once things start hitting.

Linda What's your role?

Jack I play a cop in one scene.

Linda Great.

Jack But there's other things too.

Linda This is fabulous.

Jack It's a great gig.

Linda Two thousand dollars.

Jack I already signed the contract.

Linda Will you get a copy of the video?

Jack I'm not sure.

Linda You have to get a copy to show people.

Jack I'll ask about it.

Linda We can show it at the family reunion next month.

Jack I don't think they finish 'em that fast.
Linda Well, you know what I mean. (*Beat*) And the winner is...
Jack Linda, it's an educational video.
Linda Well you have to start somewhere.

SCENE 13 Art tells Jamie about Jack and shows him the Polaroids.

Arthur So what do you think?
Jamie Not bad.
Arthur Not bad? He's perfect.
Jamie He just walked in?
Arthur Like a gift from the Gods.
Jamie He's definitely hot.
Arthur Tell me.
Jamie He'll sell videos.
Arthur And I smelled money the minute I saw him.
Jamie How much did you offer him?
Arthur Two thousand.
Jamie And he agreed?
Arthur Of course.
Jamie He's worth it I guess.
Arthur Oh please. I'd much rather pay two thousand for that than some tired queen from the Campus Theater.
Jamie Art.
Arthur This boy has star quality.
Jamie You say that about all of them.
Arthur No, but this one...
Jamie Can he act?
Arthur Who cares?
Jamie Did you read him?
Arthur It doesn't matter.
Jamie I guess you're right.
Arthur A little enthusiasm would be nice.
Jamie I'm excited.
Arthur We could make a fortune off this boy. He could be the next Jeff Stryker.

Jamie Jeff Stryker has a huge dick, a perfect body and a beautiful face.

Arthur And he doesn't?

Jamie Not like Jeff Stryker.

Arthur Oh fuck you. He's a god. He's a fucking cash cow waiting to be milked. And if we put him on the cover of *Cops* it's like money in the bank..

Jamie I thought you said he wouldn't allow that.

Arthur He did but fuck him. How will he know.

Jamie Arthur.

Arthur He'll never find out.

Jamie He might.

Arthur You wanna make money?

Jamie Yes.

Arthur Then get over it.

Jamie I thought you told me you agreed...

Arthur "Oops".

Jamie I wouldn't risk it.

Arthur "Sorry Jack. We screwed up".

Jamie I think you're asking for trouble.

Arthur Don't get moral on me Jamie.

Jamie It's not about morality, it's about keeping agreements.

Arthur That's why you're not the producer.

Jamie It's a shitty thing to do.

Arthur No. It's shitty to make porn and not tell your wife.

Jamie What if she finds out?

Arthur She'd cut his dick off. But what would we care, we'd be rich and we wouldn't need it anymore.

Jamie You're a shit Arthur.

Arthur Oh I'm bored with this conversation.

Jamie I have to go.

Arthur Where are you going?

Jamie I'm meeting Ray for a drink.

Arthur Oh I want to go.

Jamie I'd prefer to go alone.

Arthur What's wrong with you?

Jamie Nothing.

Arthur You're so down all the time.

Jamie No I'm not.

Arthur I hit the jackpot and you're like "OK well that's nice".

Jamie I'm excited.

Arthur So let's go out and celebrate.

Jamie I don't really want to go out tonight.

Arthur Yes you do. You just really don't want to go out with me.

Jamie We had dinner last night.

Arthur We're married.

Jamie Fine.

Arthur We should have dinner every night.

Jamie I need to go.

Arthur Have fun.

SCENE 14 JAMIE & RICKY "YOU WERE GREAT"
(Ricky is in his dorm room when Jamie knocks on door).

Jamie I heard you had a problem with your plumbing? I'm the plumber.

Ricky Jamie.

Jamie Hi.

Ricky What are you doing here?

Jamie I wanted to get the notes from today's lecture.

Ricky What a great surprise.

Jamie I wanted to see you.

Ricky I was just thinking about you.

Jamie What were you thinking?

Ricky I love my new lines.

Jamie I thought you would.

Ricky I do.

Jamie I told Arthur 'he's a star, give him more lines'.

Ricky You really think I'm good?

Jamie You're great.

Ricky I feel like I suck. I'm not too queenie to play a cop?

Jamie You're perfect.

Ricky I love doing 'em.

Jamie You look great on video.

Ricky I don't look fat?

Jamie No.

Ricky I feel like I look fat.

Jamie Ricky you look fine.

Ricky Thank you. So how are you?

Jamie I'm fine.

Ricky How's Art?

Jamie Still an asshole.

Ricky Where did you tell him you went?

Jamie Just to a bar.

Ricky He doesn't suspect anything?

Jamie Fuck him.

Ricky What if he found out?

Jamie I don't care.

Ricky I don't want any problems.

Jamie It's fine, I promise.

Ricky OK. So. You just came over to borrow some sugar?

Jamie Something like that.

Ricky How's your plumbing. (*They kiss*)

Jamie Fine now. (*They kiss*).

Ricky Have you been working out?

Jamie No.

Ricky Let me see. (*He takes off Jamie's shirt. They begin to tear each others clothes off, kissing passionately the whole time. It should be very sweet. They undress each other and get into bed.*)

SCENE 15 ART CALLS RAY

Arthur Ray? Hi its Arthur. You sound different. Oh, I'm sorry. I thought you kept late hours. It's three o'clock? Oh my God. I didn't realize. I'm just looking for Jamie and I thought maybe he was with you. You haven't seen him at all tonight? No, it's OK. I'm just worried that's all. I'm sure he's fine. No. Go back to bed. It's no big deal. He'll probably walk in the minute I hang up. Go back to sleep honey. I'll see you on Sunday. You're doing great by the way. Yes, you're the perfect plumber. You're welcome. OK. Bye.

SCENE 16 JAMIE LEAVES RICKY'S

Jamie I should go, you have classes in the morning.

Ricky You can stay.

Jamie I want to.

Ricky Stay.

Jamie I can't

Ricky I want to wake up with you.

Jamie I'd love that.

Ricky Then stay.

Jamie I can't.

Ricky Arthur?

Jamie He'll be waiting.

Ricky Call him.

Jamie He'll want to fight.

Ricky Then don't go home.

Jamie I have to go.

Ricky OK.

Jamie But I'd love to stay.

Ricky It's all right.

Jamie Ricky, you have no idea how much I want to stay here tonight.

Ricky I know.

Jamie No you don't

Ricky I do.

Jamie I just have to deal with this Arthur mess.

Ricky Don't tell him about me.

Jamie I won't.

Ricky He'll fire me.

Jamie Don't worry.

Ricky Do you have sex a lot?

Jamie No. Do you?

Ricky Yeah, but not like us.

Jamie What do you mean?

Ricky It's just different with you. It feels more important.

Jamie Really?

Ricky Does it for you?

Jamie Yes.

Ricky You can't stay?
Jamie I'd love to.
Ricky Kiss me.
Jamie I really have to go.
Ricky Just kiss me.
Jamie I really can't.
Ricky Come on.
Jamie Ricky.
Ricky Fine. Just leave.
Jamie You're impossible.
Ricky And you're gorgeous.
Jamie I'm not.
Ricky I'm hard again.
Jamie Ricky.
Ricky Get in here.
Jamie You're awful.
Ricky Come on.
Jamie Ricky, God I love you.

(Interlude... Art walks across stage with cup of coffee. He is brooding. Then Ricky and Jamie sit back up and resume scene. It is post sex).

Ricky Oh my God.
Jamie Ohhh (*exhales*).
Ricky God.
Jamie OK that's it. I have to go.
Ricky OK, you can go now. Oh God that was fabulous.
Jamie You're shameless.
Ricky I know.
Jamie You have no self-control.
Ricky I don't care.
Jamie OK. I'm going.
Ricky So, Sunday right?
Jamie Yes.
Ricky You really think I'm good on film?

Jamie You're fabulous.

Ricky No. Really?

Jamie You're perfect.

Ricky You're just saying that.

Jamie I predict an Oscar for *Cops*.

Ricky For me?

Jamie For you.

Ricky Could you imagine winning an Oscar.

Jamie No.

Ricky Wouldn't that be fabulous.

Jamie I'm sure you'll win one.

Ricky Shut up.

Jamie I'd vote for you.

Ricky OK, it's time for you to go.

Jamie I'm going.

Ricky Gimme a kiss.

Jamie No.

Ricky Come on.

Jamie No. You'll molest me again.

Ricky I won't.

Jamie I have to go.

Ricky Go.

Jamie I'll talk to you tomorrow.

Ricky I'm done at three.

Jamie I'll call you.

Ricky Thanks for stopping by.

Jamie Thanks for having me.

Ricky Thanks for having *me*.

Jaime I'll talk to you tomorrow.

Ricky Goodnight.

Jamie Bye.

(*We hear the opening bars of the Gypsy Overture. Ray enters in some get up with an Oscar and says*

The Nominees for Best Actor in a pornographic film are:

Jeff Stryker for *Power Tool*

Ray Tanner for *Body Shop*

Kevin Costner for *Dances with Wolves*

Bea Arthur for *Golden Girls - The Movie!*

and

Ricky for *Cops*.

And this years Oscar goes to... Ricky for *Cops*.

Ricky Oh, where to start. Wow. I don't know what to say. I wasn't expecting this. I really wasn't. When I was a little boy, I used to keep a journal and I wrote that when I grow up I want to be in a porno movie and maybe go to college. Making *Cops* was a culmination of a lot of dreams for me and this award just makes the whole experience so much richer. I have a lot of people I need to thank but mainly I need to say thank you to my High School Drama teacher who cast me in my first play, *Curtain Call for Clifford*. It was then that I was bitten with the acting bug. Anyway I need to thank him for getting me into acting. Oh, and I'd also like to thank my parents who couldn't be here tonight because they don't know I'm gay or that I'm a big ol' porn star. which is ironic because I wouldn't be here tonight if I didn't have such a big dick and of course I got that from my Dad who's hung even bigger than me. So thanks Dad, and finally, I'd just like to say to my fellow nominees, Jeff, Ray, Kevin, Bea.... I share this award with you. God bless the academy. (*exits*)

SCENE 17 JAMIE & ART FIGHT

Jamie (*Jamie enters.*) Did I wake you?

Arthur No.

Jamie OK.

Arthur So, what's his name?

Jamie What?

Arthur Where did you meet him?

Jamie What are you talking about?

Arthur Where'd you go?

Jamie I was having a drink with Ray.

Arthur The bars close at two.

Jamie We went to his house.

Arthur Then Ray's a liar.

Jamie What do you mean?

Arthur He said he hadn't seen you all night.

Jamie When did you talk to him?

Arthur An hour ago.

Jamie You called him at three in the morning?

Arthur So what's his name?

Jamie I'll be sleeping on the couch.

Arthur Where did you meet him?

Jamie I don't want to fight with you tonight.

Arthur Too late.

Jamie I'm not fighting with you tonight.

Arthur Then why did you come home?

Jamie I should have stayed out.

Arthur Do I know him?

Jamie I'm not gonna do this.

Arthur Did you tell him you're married?

Jamie I'm not married.

Arthur What is this?

Jamie A big fucking mess.

Arthur I'm not the one having an affair.

Jamie I'm not having an affair.

Arthur Lie to me Jamie, that's real mature.

Jamie Fuck you,

Arthur If you're gonna fuck around at least you can have the decency to be honest about it.

Jamie Since when have you been interested in honesty.

Arthur I've always wanted an honest relationship.

Jamie You can't deal with the truth.

Arthur Try me.

Jamie I don't like you.

Arthur Well I don't like you either so now we're even.

Jamie This is a logical conversation.

Arthur I know you don't like me Jamie, you haven't liked me for a long time but you're the shit in all this because you continue to live a lie. I do want honesty. The truth is I still care about you.

Jamie Well, I don't care about you.

Arthur But you still come home. You still sleep in my bed and you still take my money.

Jamie Our money, our bed.

Arthur Bought with money from films I wrote and I directed.

Jamie They wouldn't have happened if it wasn't for me.

Arthur I was making films long before I met you and if you weren't here I would continue to make films. Because I'm not as stupid as you think I am and I'm not as helpless as you think either.

Jamie When was the last time you did a load of wash?

Arthur That's irrelevant.

Jamie You're not helpless?

Arthur No.

Jamie Good. Then you can get yourself up in the morning, you can start your own shower and you can make your own coffee and you can pick out your own clothes and find your own keys and drive your own car to the shoot because I'm through picking up after you.

Arthur Fine.

Jamie You say you're not helpless but when I look at you I see a 40 year old mess with one talent.

Arthur I'm only good at making films?

Jamie Treating people like shit, that is your one talent.

Arthur I treat you like shit?

Jamie Yes.

Arthur When?

Jamie All the time.

Arthur When?

Jamie When don't you treat me like shit?

Arthur I think I treat you pretty damn good.

Jamie Well guess what? You don't.

Arthur I treat you very well.

Jamie Then why don't I want to come home? I put the key in the door and I get sick to my stomach knowing that you're sitting up waiting for me, ready to give me the third degree. Where did you go? What did you drink? Did you eat anything? How much did you tip the waiter? Did you get any gossip? Did you use all the gas? Did you run into anyone we know?

Arthur I can't ask you questions?

Jamie You don't get it.

Arthur I'm interested in your life. I thought we had a life together, I thought we were partners.

Jamie Arthur, I don't like you and in fact I probably hate you and I definitely don't consider you my partner.

Arthur What am I then?

Jamie A person I never want to see again.

Arthur Well that hurts me.

Jamie Good.

Arthur That's why you're having an affair, to hurt me?

Jamie No I'm having an affair because I want to be touched by someone who doesn't repulse me.

Arthur Who is he?

Jamie A wonderful, wonderful person.

Arthur What's his name?

Jamie It doesn't matter.

Arthur What's his name Jamie? What's his name Goddamnit!

Jamie I'm not talking to you anymore tonight. *(He exits)*.

Arthur Just tell me his name. Goddamnit. *(He gets out of bed and follows Jamie offstage. As he leaves, Jack & Linda enter and get into bed)*.

SCENE 18 LINDA & JACK IN BED

Linda Do you want to run lines?

Jack No, I want to sleep, I'm exhausted.

Linda Well can I see a copy of the script?

Jack No.

Linda Why not?

Jack They didn't give me a script.

Linda Why not?

Jack They give 'em to you the day of the shoot.

Linda But don't you have to learn lines?

Jack It's not like a play.

Linda Don't you speak?

Jack Yeah but you learn 'em right before they shoot so they'll be fresh.

Linda Oh.

Jack They want it to be real.

Linda Is that how it's always done?

Jack Yeah.

Linda They don't give actors scripts?

Jack Well sometimes they do?

Linda When?

Jack I don't know.

Linda How can you decide if you want to be in the movie if you can't see the script?

Jack The script's not important.

Linda It seems like it would be.

Jack It's not like Shakespeare.

Linda Well I know that.

Jack You only need a script if you're the star.

Linda So Meryl Streep would get a script but nobody else would?

Jack Not exactly.

Linda I don't understand.

Jack Don't worry about it.

Linda Can I go to the shoot?

Jack No.

Linda Why not?

Jack It's closed. No visitors.

Linda That's not very fun.

Jack It's not supposed to be fun.

Linda Couldn't you tell 'em I was your assistant or something?

Jack No.

Linda I could carry your costumes.

Jack There are no costumes.

Linda You're naked?

Jack No, I mean they give 'em to you. You don't carry 'em.

Linda Well that's good.

Jack Listen , I'm very tired. I've had a long day and I need to get some sleep.

Linda OK. (*He turns over, she thinks.*) Oh my God!

Jack What?

Linda I just had this awful thought.

Jack What?

Linda What if you wake up in the morning and you have a huge pimple on your face?

Jack Why would I have a huge pimple on my face?

Linda I'm just saying, what if you did? Could they edit it out?

Jack They have make up.

Linda But what if it's really big?

Jack Linda I have to get some sleep or I'm gonna have bags under my eyes.

Linda Well you can cover that up with make up. That's easier to cover than a pimple.

Jack Linda!

Linda I'm sorry.

Jack I need to sleep.

Linda I'm just excited.

Jack I am too.

Linda This is very exciting. (*Pause*). Jack?

Jack What?

Linda I always knew things would take off. I always believed in you, you know that?

Jack Uh huh.

SCENE 19 SATURDAY MORNING

Ray Well I felt terrible for him and everything but give me a break, like I'm gonna go to the hospital and say 'Hi, this guy paid me seventy-five dollars to shove a clock up his ass but it got stuck.

Jamie What kind of clock was it?

Ray Timex. It took a licking and kept on ticking. (*alarm rings, Linda and Jack get out of bed and exit*)

Jamie What a kidder.

Ray It was round. I don't know, it was a round clock. He said it felt like a the huge head of a dick when it was going in.

Jamie So he'd done it before?

Ray Apparently.

Jamie And it never got stuck before?

Ray I guess not.

Jamie How'd they get it out?

Ray I don't know. I put him in the cab and left.

Jamie He could sit down?

Ray No, he had to kind of like crawl into the back of the cab and keep his butt in the air.

Jamie That is so sad.

Ray People are stupid.

Jamie Why do you always get the weird ones?

Ray Doesn't anybody want a blow job anymore?

Jamie I guess not.

Ray Can you imagine having a clock shoved up your ass?

Jamie People put all sorts of things up their asses these days.

Ray I don't.

Jamie I've heard worse stories than that.

Ray Don't tell me.

Jamie You know about gerbils don't you.

Ray That's not true.

Jamie Yes it is.

Ray People do not put gerbils up their asses.

Jamie I'm telling you it's true.

Ray I can't even imagine it.

Jamie This hustler told me how they do it...

Ray I don't want to know

Jamie First you put a sock up your ass...

Ray Stop. (*They laugh. Ricky and Jack enter carrying cop uniforms*).

Ricky Does Arthur want us to put on the cop uniforms now or after the rehearsal.

Jamie I don't know. Why do try them on now and see how they fit.

Ricky OK (*Jack stays behind a moment, unsure of what to make of the ass shaving, then leaves.*)

Ray & Jamie Fag.

Ray Tanner right? This guy was following me around in Safeway last night and I finally said 'Can I help you?' and he goes 'Ray Tanner right?'

Jamie You always get recognized.

Ray He goes *Body Shop* is my favorite porno. I've seen it eighty-four times.

Jamie These queens are obsessive.

Ray Well he told me he'd pay me anything to recreate one of the scenes.

Jamie Which scene?

Ray The one in the classroom after school where I fucked the teacher on the desk.

Jamie That was the best scene.

Ray Thank you.

Jamie Did you guys do the actual dialogue?

Ray He knew every line. (*Ray laughs*). In fact I couldn't remember every line and he kept correcting me.

Jamie These people. What did he look like?

Ray You know, forty, balding.

Jamie Where did you guys do it?

Ray In his classroom in Oakland.

Jamie He's a real teacher?

Ray Yep.

Jamie You did it in his real classroom?

Ray Well, it was nine o'clock at night.

Jamie How much did he give you?

Ray Two hundred.

Jamie Two hundred?

Ray Yeah.

Arthur *(Entering carrying two dildos)* Good morning

Ray According to who?

Arthur Oh cheer up, you look fabulous.

Ray Fuck you Arthur.

Jamie What a cheery morning this will be.

Arthur Actually I need to talk to you.

Ray What?

Arthur When you're jacking off, I told you that this would be the dildo but can we use this one instead, I think it'll look better.

Ray No!

Arthur Hold on.

Ray No.

Arthur I really think...

Ray No.

Arthur Ray.

Ray No fucking way.

Arthur Ray...

Ray That is way too big.

Arthur It's not that big.

Ray You want me to shove that up my ass?

Arthur It's not much bigger Ray.

Ray No.

Arthur Ray.

Ray No Arthur, No. What don't you understand?

Arthur I'll pay you extra.

Ray With a hot check.

Arthur I have cash.

Ray Why do I always show up when I know the plans'll change...

Arthur How about a hundred extra?

Ray How 'bout you realize I didn't even want to make another film with you? Do I live to serve you? No. But that's a word you don't understand.

Arthur What word?

Ray No.

Arthur You don't have to do it.

Ray You're right I don't have to do it and I'm not doing it.

Arthur I was just suggesting.

Ray Go fuck yourself, that's my suggestion.

Arthur Ray.

Ray Let me shave your ass at eight o'clock in the morning and then shove a huge dildo up there.

Arthur I understand.

Ray You don't Arthur because one of the reasons I don't like making films with you is because you always change the plans and here you go changing the plans.

Arthur I'm not changing the plan.

Ray The fact is that no, I will not put that dildo up my ass and if you keep pushing me nothing's going up there because I'll walk.

Arthur Fine.

Ray Got it?

Arthur Fine.

Ray Is my ass done?

Jamie Here look.

Ray Fabulous. (*Ray exits*)

Arthur What's up his ass this morning?

Jamie Shaving cream.

Arthur Fucking actors.

Jamie How'd the cop uniforms fit guys?.

Ricky Fine. We look like Charlie's Angels before Bosley rescued them from the Police Academy. Once upon a time there were three little girls who went to the police academy. Each was assigned very hazardous duties. Now they work for me.

Arthur No, you work for me and we're an hour behind. Can we rehearse now?

Jamie Whatever you want Arthur.

Arthur I want to block the sex part first, then we'll go back and shoot the undressing. Jamie can you please go shoot Ray's jack-off scene please? Thank you I really appreciate it(*Jamie takes the smaller of the two dildos and exits*). OK. Now since it's a dream sequence you'll both be oiled up and the acting needs to be almost stoic, well not stoic but, well, yes stoic. So no laughing. It needs to be animalistic. Kind of robotic. I want it very dream like. No speaking, just two cops going at it like you're in some guys head.

Ricky Whose?

Arthur Ray's actually. Ray's' gonna be jacking off and then we'll cut to you guys intermittently. So let's block it out. Now the scene takes place on the hood of a squad car and we'll use this as the squad car for now, and the first thing we'll see is you'll be getting a blow job.

Jack Me right? I get the blow job?

Arthur Oh yes, you get the blow job. So let's block it out. (*They move into position*). Now the first thing I want you

to do is fuck his face really strong in and out. Excuse me I think I said really strong in and out. Fabulous yeah. Now I', gonna pan around with the camera and when I get over to this side I want to have a really romantic moment, you look up, you look down. Great and remember do not look into the camera.

Jack Where do you want my hands?

Arthur Actually, when the camera's over there keep 'em on your hips but when I get to this side put 'em on the back of his head and fuck his face even harder. Yeah real nasty. Oh that's nice. Now when I say go, take your dick out of his mouth and hit him in the face with it. We'll work on that. Now the next thing I want you to do is grab the back of his head really rough so he goes to his back. And now your legs are gonna... (*Ricky's legs are in the air*) You're a quick learner. Except I need those little legs to spread. Now You are gonna jack off for a minute and then slowly insert it and remember to go really slow 'cause I want to see it going in inch by inch. Fabulous yeah. Now when you get all the way in, I want you to fuck him as hard as you possibly can. Excuse me I think I said as hard as you possibly can. Harder. Fuck the shit out of him for chrissake. Harder. Harder. Great let's run that from the top. And remember this time I want to do it with no cuts so no stopping. And action. And romantic moment. And go. And grab the back of his head and legs spread. And slowly jack off slowly jack off and slowly insert, slowly insert and fuck the shit out of him don't make me say it twice. Harder, harder, dirtier, nastier, harder, harder perfect and cut.

SCENE 20 JAMIE TELLS RAY

Ray (*Jamie and Ray enter from the opposite side of the stage. Ray is naked and Jamie is carrying the dildo. During the scene Ray dresses in leather gear putting his day clothes into a bag.*) So what are you gonna do?

Jamie I don't know.

Ray You have to do something.

Jamie I know.

Ray Does Art know?

Jamie He knows I'm seeing someone but he doesn't know it's Ricky.

Ray He'll find out.

Jamie I know.

Ray Better sooner than later.

Jamie I'm not so sure.

Ray What does Ricky say?

Jamie Ricky says I need to do what I want to do.

Ray Are you sure you're in love with him?

Jamie Definitely.

Ray It's not just the change of scenery?

Jamie Why do you think it's so fucked up? I'm really in love with him.

Ray You've only known him a month.

Jamie Yeah, but when Art and I got together I never felt in love with him. It's more like I recognized the value of a relationship with him. The adventure of it was interesting to me.

Ray Well the one thing I'll say in your defense is that you don't fall easily.

Jamie When have I ever fallen?

Ray That guy from *Body Shop*.

Jamie That lasted four hours, and then I went home, jacked-off and I was over him. This is completely different.

Ray Is it?

Jamie The first time Ricky and I had sex I had to bury my face in the pillow because I was crying so hard and I didn't want him to know.

Ray Why were you crying?

Jamie I shouldn't have brought this up.

Ray Why?

Jamie I was just so happy. Art and I never make love, we just get off together but every time Ricky and I have sex it is so powerful.

Ray I hear violins.

Jamie Ray it is. You know I'm not sentimental.

Ray God forbid.

Jamie I'm not, but it's just so different with him.

Ray Yeah, he's 19.

Jamie But when we're together I feel like he's the older one. I'm so tired of feeling like an old man. Arthur makes me feel old. Everything with him is hard. There's always stress involved. We're having dinner and he'll cough and he won't cover his mouth and I get so enraged I want to jump across the table and beat the shit out of him.

Ray That's not good.

Jamie And we'll agree not to spend any money for the week because the account's empty and he'll go and write ten bad checks behind my back and then make me go to the bank and clean up his mess. It's like taking care of a child. I can't do it anymore.

Ray See I think this is less about Ricky and more about Arthur.

Jamie How so?

Ray Well even if nothing comes of this Ricky thing, you still have to get out of your relationship with Arthur.

Jamie We're so tangled together.

Ray I didn't say it would be easy.

Jamie I've invested every dime into this partnership.

Ray That's a problem.

Jamie Plus I worry about him.

Ray He's an adult.

Jamie But I worry about leaving him. I feel sorry for him.

Ray Arthur's a mess, everyone feels sorry for him but he's still an adult.

Jamie It's very complicated.

Ray Un-complicate it.

Jamie How?

Ray Just walk.

Jamie I can't

Ray You have to.

Jamie I can't though.

Ray You have no choice.

Jamie I can't just walk out.

Ray What other options are there?

Jamie None.

Ray So...

Jamie It's just not that easy. We have an apartment.

Ray So maybe you don't really want to go.

Jamie No, I do.

Ray So fuck the apartment. Start over.

Jamie You make it sound so easy.

Ray I don't get attached to things.

Jamie It's not just things, it's my whole life.

Ray Your life is not about couches and track lighting. What do you really need?

Jamie I don't have the money for a deposit.

Ray Move in with Ricky.

Jamie He lives on campus.

Ray I hear you saying you have to get out of this situation and then I hear you give me a million reasons why you can't and why you won't.

Jamie How did this happen?

Ray The only thing that matters is what's going to happen and I really urge you not to make decisions based on what you think will or won't happen with Ricky. You don't know where he'll be in three years.

Jamie But I do. He's gonna graduate and he's gonna go to law school and I'm gonna support him and we're gonna have two kids and a puppy and a nice house in Marin.

Ray He's 19.

Jamie Stop saying that.

Ray Just remember.

Jamie That's how old I was when I met Arthur.

Ray There ya go.

Jamie I worry that I'm gonna turn into him.

Ray You'll never turn into Arthur.

Jamie I think what if I turn into Arthur and Ricky turns into me?

Ray Arthur is not you. You are not Arthur. That's the problem with this couple bullshit. I will never understand why people do it. I have never been in a relationship. I've never even had a roommate and I'm telling you it's bliss.

Jamie You don't get lonely?

Ray That's why God gave us anonymous sex, so we wouldn't get into these miserable relationships. What's with you relationships queens. You're worse than heterosexuals. I met this guy last week and he goes 'anonymous sex is for people with a fear of intimacy' and I didn't even have the energy to disagree with him. I just shook my head and said 'whatever, I see your point' because he was so wrong and he knew he was wrong because what he really wanted to do was suck my dick but he didn't have the balls to just ask me. I wanted to say conversation is a fear of intimacy. Anonymous sex is a fear of inconvenience. That's all I fear.

Jamie Inconvenience?

Ray Yes. And Arthur has greatly inconvenienced you. He's gotten in the way of your life and that's why you need to drop him, because he's taking more than he's giving. I believe in give and take but Arthur takes and takes and he gives very little back. That's why I can't be around him.

Jamie He's not all bad.

Ray Did I say he was all bad. I didn't say that. You're not listening. I didn't say he was all bad. He's just bad for you, but he's not all bad. I didn't say he should be executed. I just don't think he has anything left to offer you and if you stay you're an idiot.

Jamie But what do you really think?

Ray I think I have to go. I'm beating the shit out of someone at seven o'clock.

Jamie Who?

Ray Just a client.

Jamie Is he cute?

Ray Compared to what?

Jamie I don't know. *(Art opens the door and pokes his head in.)*

Arthur How did it go guys?

Jamie Great.

Arthur OK. We're ready to shoot the scene with Ricky and Jack. So can we set that up please? Thank you I really appreciate it. *(Art exits.)*

Ray The happy idiot. I gotta go. *(Ray picks up his bag and exits. As Ray is exiting, Jack and Linda slowly enter and slowly cross to the bed. As Jack and sits on center blocks, Jamie rises and exits.)*

SCENE 21 JACK TELLS LINDA

Jack I went to an open call for greeting cards and when I got there they told me that they were for nude cards, you know the ones that fold out and the guy's naked?

Linda No.

Jack They fold out, like there's three or four sections like a playboy centerfold.

Linda Anyway. Go on.

Jack So I told them I wasn't interested but they gave me their card and said if I changed my mind to call them. So after three weeks of no prospects I called them up and asked about money and they told me how much I could make.

Linda How much.

Jack It was decent.

Linda How much.

Jack Five hundred for the shoot and a percentage of cards sold. But they said that a lot of them get sold in mainstream stores and that people might recognize me. So I told them about you and they said that a lot of young actors can make more money doing porn films and since it was a specific market, I could probably keep a low profile. So I thought about it and I agreed to make one.

Linda When?

Jack About a year ago.

Linda Oh my God. This is a nightmare.

Jack I'm sorry.

Linda Go on.

Jack So that's when I got the nine hundred for the day's shoot. Remember?

Linda You said it was for educational videos Jack.

Jack What was I supposed to tell you?

Linda Educational videos?

Jack I'm sorry.

Linda How many have you made?

Jack Four.

Linda Oh my God.

Jack For the money Linda. I did it for the money. I thought my acting career would get going and that would be it.

Linda Didn't you play Hamlet at C.U.?

Jack Laertes

Linda actor. Whatever. The point is that I married an actor. I agreed to support an actor not a porn star. I married an actor.

Jack There was no work Linda.

Linda I don't see how that justifies making pornos.

Jack What was I supposed to do?

Linda Not make pornos.

Jack It was good money.

Linda All that money over the last year for acting was for porno films?

Jack Yes.

Linda You didn't make one educational video?

Jack No.

Linda I'm gonna be sick.

Jack I'm sorry.

Linda Don't talk. *(Long pause)*. OK listen. I'm gonna go throw up and then I'm gonna take a shower, and then I'm gonna come back here and I'm gonna cut your dick off. I'll be 20 minutes. *(She crosses to the door.)*

Jack Linda.

Linda Shut up. *(Turning back.)*

Jack Linda.

Linda Shut up. Please shut up. Don't go anywhere. *(She exits through the door, slamming it behind her. Jack sits for a moment and then exits out the door.)*

SCENE 22 WAITING FOR JACK

(Jamie enters and crosses to the ladder. He climbs it and fixes a light. Ricky enters in a towel opens it and dances around for Jamie. Ray enters startling them, Ricky quickly closes his towel and Jamie goes back to work. Ray sits at the desk. Art enters and crosses directly to Jamie.)

Arthur Did Jack call and say he'd be late?

Jamie No.

Arthur No one's heard from him?

Ray He didn't call me.

Arthur Goddamnit.

Jamie He'll be here.

Arthur This is fucking great. The last fucking day of the shoot and he doesn't fucking show up. I knew he was gonna flake out. I could tell he was flakey.

Jamie I thought you said he was a gift from the gods.

Arthur *(Ricky laughs as Art speaks.)* Shut up! *(Art looks at Ricky who stops laughing and offers a weak smile. Art exits.)*

SCENE 23 "I'M GOING WITH YOU"

(Jack enters from upstage right carrying a gym bag. He crosses downstage left but is stopped by Linda who has entered from downstage left.)

Linda Let's go.

Jack What do you mean?

Linda Let's go. I'm going with you.

Jack I can't take you anywhere, I have to be there by nine.

Linda I'm going with you to the shoot.

Jack What?

Linda Isn't that where you're going?

Jack Yes.

Linda Well I'm going.

Jack No you're not.

Linda Yes I am.

Jack You can't go.

Linda Why not?

Jack You can't

Linda Why not?

Jack Because you can't. Because it's a closed set and because I don't want you there.

Linda If you can go, I can go.

Jack What are you talking about?

Linda You say it's just a job.

Jack Yes.

Linda It's not like you're going on a date. If it's just a job, I want to watch you work.

Jack It's not just a job.

Linda You told me it was just a job.

Jack You know what I mean.

Linda No I don't and that's why I'm going.

Jack You're not going.

Linda You can either take me or I'll show up and pound on the door.

Jack You don't know where it is.

Linda Ten twenty-four Folsom.

Jack Did you look in my address book?

Linda I wasn't supposed to?

Jack No.

Linda Are there any more secrets you're hiding from me?

Jack No.

Linda Then what's the big deal?

Jack Goddamn you Linda.

Linda No. Goddamn you Jack. It's a miracle I don't have VD. We're supposed to be a couple. We're supposed to have a partnership. We're not gonna have any more secrets. You know what I do don't you?

Jack Yes.

Linda What do I do?

Jack I'm gonna be late.

Linda What do I do Jack?

Jack You're a legal secretary.

Linda And have you ever gone to my office?

Jack Yes

Linda So you know for a fact that I am a legal secretary don't you?

Jack Yes.

Linda But I don't really know what you do.

Jack I told you what I do.

Linda I want to see it for myself.

Jack This is unbelievable.

Linda So, do we go together as a happy couple or do I take a cab and pound on the door.

Jack I can't believe this.

Linda Which do you want?

Jack *(Looking at watch).* I have to go.

Linda Give me an answer first.

Jack Why are you doing this to me?

Linda That's not an answer.

Jack You're not going.

Linda I'll call a cab. *(She exits).*

Jack *(Alone on stage).* Oh my God. *(He runs after her.)*

SCENE 24 JACK SHOWS UP WITH LINDA

Arthur If he doesn't show up in ten minutes we're gonna have to cancel. *(Linda enters slowly from upstage right. She crosses behind the door and circles to downstage center. Arthur, Jamie and Ray all stare at her dumbfounded. Ricky quickly covers his chest with his hands. As Linda gets to downstage center, Jack runs into the room and stands beside Linda.)*

Jack Hi, sorry I'm late.

Linda Hi.

All Hi.

Jack This is my wife Linda.

Linda I just wanted to watch.

Jack Is that OK?

Arthur Uh, yeah uh sure. *(Jack begins to get undressed. He hands his clothes and his bag to Linda and wraps a towel around his waist.)*

Ray I love your skirt.

Linda Thank you.

Jamie Just make yourself at home.

Linda Thanks.

Jamie Sure, no problem. *(Jamie motions to Ray who stands and offers his chair. Linda sits and all eyes go to Art.)*

Arthur All right. OK. So The first thing I want to shoot today is gonna be the uh...the um... the ejaculation section. So let's set that up OK. *(Jamie and Jack place two of the blocks through the door. Ricky and Ray take the remaining block*

and place them at the sides of the stage. Then actors get into position. Ray lays on the blocks with his feet downstage and his head through the door. This is the part where everybody stands over Ray (Ricky had crossed to behind the door and hung his towel over it. He peeks his head through and then climbs onto the blocks with his feet on either side of Ray's head covering his dick with his hands. He smiles shyly at Linda and then on a whim flashes his penis at Linda. Art glares at him and recovers himself back up.) and um, well basically they come on his chest. But I think you'll love it. (Jack straddles Ray facing upstage and Jamie goes behind the door. Art stands opposite Jamie and waits for everyone to be still.) And action. (Lights go to red Ricky, Ray and Jack build to a climax and say things like 'yeah shoot that load' typical stupid faux sexy lines) And cut. (The men freeze. Spotlight on Linda who turns out thinking about what she is seeing. Lights restore and the actors come to life.) Great, take five. (Jamie exits right, Art, Ricky and Jack exit left, leaving Linda at the desk and Ray still lying on the blocks.)

Ray Could someone throw me a towel please. (Linda looks around timidly.) Preferably a wet towel. Hello. Goddammit. Could one of you please throw me a... (A towel flies on from offstage. Jamie enters from Right, Arthur from left.) Thank you.

Arthur Did we get it .

Jamie I don't think so.

Arthur What do you mean you don't think so.

Jamie Well it was hard to tell because of the black and white playback but Ray was the only one who actually shot in a stream. Everyone else dribbled.

Jamie & Arthur (Arthur looks at Linda, then at Jamie. They both turn to her.) Hi.

Arthur Goddammit.

Jamie See and with that angle it was harder because I couldn't do close ups on their dicks and keep Ray's face in the shot like you wanted.

Arthur But each guy was in the shot when he came right?

Jamie Yeah , I just don't think the cum is gonna show up the way you want it to .

Arthur Fuck.

Jamie So what do you wanna do?

Arthur (Art sees Linda drinking out of a carton of milk) Get the guys back.

Ray Please tell me were not shooting this scene again.

Arthur Were shooting this scene again.

Jamie Guys!

Ray I wasn't fabulous ?

Jamie Yes you were fabulous .

Ray Thank you. (Ricky and Jack enter and cross to the door.)

Jamie Guys come on we need to do another take.

Arthur Listen guys we had a little problem with the cum shots.

Ray They looked fine from down here.

Arthur This is the climax of the movie, it's about the cum shots.

Ray I thought it was about cops.

Arthur Shut up Ray.

Ray Well no one can accuse me of not delivering.

Arthur You were fine, but everyone else dribbled.

Arthur So listen guys we need to take it back right before the cumshots. And I need you to make sure you're in the exact same spot as before and you don't need to get hard or anything but what you need to do is um... *(He turns to Linda.)* May I? *(takes milk)* Thank you. What you're going to do is pass the milk to each other and when you pretend to cum you need to shake the milk toward Ray's face and Ray of course you need to really get into it because the camera's gonna be pointed at your face the whole time. I'll demonstrate. *(He straddles Ray's legs, facing downstage.)*

Ray This oughtta be lovely.

Arthur *(Holding the milk at stomach level, Art mimes jacking off.)* Oooh yeah, Oh God yeah I'm gonna cum. Oh I'm cumming, I'm cumming. Oh God yeah. *(Arthur tosses some milk up in the air.)*

Ray OK, that is way too cold.

Arthur Everybody got it.*(they moan yes and move back into position to shoot.)* OK here we go. And Action. *(Lights to go red, Ricky, Ray and Jack Pretend to jack off and as each pretends to come, they throw milk high in the air.)* And cut. *(Lights restore, Jack grabs his towel and exits followed by Ricky and Arthur. Jamie comes from behind the door drinking whats left of the milk and exits. Ray, soaked with milk stands, spits a little milk form his mouth, looks at Linda, looks back at himself and exits in a huff. Linda stands and looks around. Jack enters crosses to her and begins to dress.)*

Linda Well, that was no big deal.

Jack What?

Linda I expected to be shocked.

Jack You weren't?

Linda Not really.

Jack You weren't repulsed?

Linda Not especially.

Jack You're kidding.

Linda Well some of the guys weren't particularly attractive, *(She crosses stage left.)* but other than that I was fine.

Jack I don't understand you.

Linda I just expected something else.

Jack What?

Linda I'm not sure. I thought it would feel dirtier.

Jack It feels dirty to me.

Linda Oh lighten up.

Jack What?

Linda It's just a job, you were right.

Jack Well, sort of.

Linda What if your acting career had taken off and you had played murderers and rapists.

Jack Yeah.

Linda There's no difference. It's all performance.

Jack Not for everyone. Some of the guys really get into it.

Linda Yeah, probably the ugly ones.

Jack You're awful.

Linda I think you may have found something here.

Jack What do you mean?

Linda I think you could make some real money here.

Jack What?

Linda First of all, you're not getting enough.

Jack It's good money.

Linda You could make more.

Jack I'm not planning on doing it much more.

Linda Why not?

Jack I'm hoping to get legitimate acting work.

Linda Nothing's happened yet.

Jack But it might.

Linda Jack, listen to me honey. You could make a fortune as a porn star. (*She crosses to him.*)

Jack I don't want to be a porn star.

Linda But you're already on your way.

Jack No I'm not. (*He crosses center stage.*)

Linda With a little publicity you could be huge.

Jack You're not listening to me.

Linda There's this gay guy who works in my office and he's obsessed with straight men. If people found out you were straight, Jack, we could make so much money.

Jack Linda.

Linda Jack in three years you haven't gotten one acting part. Not one. What does that tell you?

Jack It takes time.

Linda How much time Jack? Five years, eight years ten years? How much time to you want?

Jack I don't know.

Linda Exactly.

Jack That doesn't mean you give up though.

Linda You could be a major star.

Jack That's what I'm hoping for.

Linda No, a major Porn star Jack.

Jack That's not what I want.

Linda It's all you have right now.

Jack I've been to a lot of important callbacks lately. If it came out that I made porn everything would be over for sure.

Linda Over? You can't end something that never started. This is all you have Jack, I say let's go for it. Let's exploit it. Let's make some money. What are you afraid of?

Jack You.

Linda No one made you do this. You started this on your own. And all I'm saying is that if you're gonna do em, let's do 'em right. Let's make some real money!

Jack This is not what I expected from you.

Linda You've done the starving artist thing. It's not interesting anymore. Let's try something else..

Jack Porno's interesting?

Linda The potential is interesting. What you could become is very interesting to me.

Jack It's not interesting to me.

Linda Then get a real job because it's ridiculous to make porno and not make the kind of money you could make if you did it right.

Jack You want me to give up my acting career and focus on porno.

Linda Jack. Honey. You don't have an acting career. You have an audition career. You have a callback career, but you do not have an acting career. So honestly what are you really giving up?

Jack I want to be an actor.

Linda And I wanted to be a ballerina but I'm not. I'm a legal secretary. And do you know why I'm a legal secretary?

Jack Why?

Linda Because I can't dance. Think about it. *(She crosses to the desk and gets her purse.)* I'll be in the car. *(She exits. Music plays, Lights fade to a single spotlight on Jack and then fade to black.)*

End of Act I

Act II

SCENE 25 "LOOK AT THESE REVIEWS"

(A spotlight comes up on Jack who is standing center stage as he was at the end of act one. More lights come up and we see Linda enter and crosses to the door, opens it and enters. She is carrying a stack of porn magazines.)

Linda Listen to this "After a year of uninspired, uninteresting and run of the mill porn, *Cops* bursts onto the video market with an intensity that is quite simply breathtaking. Jack Hawk's performance alone is heart-attack inducing. The scene where he pounds his rookie assistant on the hood of the squad car requires multiple viewings. This film lifts erotic filmmaking to a new high."

Jack I can't hear anymore.

Linda There's more.

Jack I don't care.

Linda Raves.

Jack I don't care.

Linda I haven't read one negative review.

Jack Do I care?

Linda And that's not even the best one, listen to the one in *Inches*.

Jack Linda.

Linda Jack you haven't gotten reviews like this since you played Hamlet at C.U.

Jack I didn't play Hamlet, I played Laertes.

Linda Well the show got good reviews.

Jack I didn't get mentioned.

Linda Well you're a star now.

Jack Great.

Linda And Arthur wants to make a sequel to *Cops* starring you and that'll put us over the top.

Jack No thank you.

Linda And The Trocadero called. They want you to make an appearance Saturday night.

Jack A gay dance club?

Linda They'll pay you fifteen hundred.

Jack To do what?

Linda Show up.

Jack And?

Linda Well they really want you to strip.

Jack No.

Linda Oh Jack.

Jack No way.

Linda Fifteen hundred to get undressed.
Jack No.
Linda You don't even have to take it all off. Just down to a g-string.
Jack No way.
Linda Oh get over yourself.
Jack I'll be back later.
Linda We need to talk about this.
Jack Tell 'em no.
Linda Jack.
Jack No. I said no.
Linda Goddamn you.

SCENE 26 RICKY TAKES RAY TO DINNER

Ray What are you doing here?
Ricky I'm taking you to dinner.
Ray Why?
Ricky Haven't you seen the reviews?
Ray I heard about 'em.
Ricky They're saying we're the best gay film of the year.
Ray The best gay porn.
Ricky Same thing.
Ray Honey, *All About Eve* is a gay film, *Cops* is a gay porno.
Ricky What's *All About Eve*?
Ray God, you are young.
Ricky And *Colt* magazine called you a gay Robert DeNiro.
Ray Honey, I'm not a gay Robert DeNiro. I'm a Robert DeNiro who happens to be gay.
Ricky What?
Ray Forget it. Just forget it.
Ricky Aren't you excited?
Ray I'm thrilled.
Ricky And I heard that Arthur wants to make a sequel to *Cops* and bring back all the originals so, I'm taking you to dinner to celebrate.
Ray You don't have to buy me dinner.
Ricky If it wasn't for you I'd never have been in the movie.

Ray Don't forget me when you're famous.

Ricky Come on, let's go.

Ray Hold on. I have to get dressed.

Ricky Just go like that. It'll be good promotion for *Cops*.

Ray I don't think so.

Ricky Well hurry.

Ray Come on. (*They go*).

SCENE 27 JAMIE MOVES OUT LAST BOX

Arthur You don't have to do this.

Jamie No, I do.

Arthur No you don't.

Jamie Art.

Arthur Just listen to me.

Jamie Art please.

Arthur Will you listen to me? I'm gonna miss you.

Jamie I'll miss you too.

Arthur No you won't.

Jamie Yes I will.

Arthur Then stay here.

Jamie I can't.

Arthur Just stay tonight.

Jamie I can't

Arthur How can you leave now when things are going so well.

Jamie What's going well?

Arthur *Cops*. We're making money, I'm gonna make a sequel. Everyone's coming back.

Jamie Please Arthur. I can't talk about this.

Arthur I don't want you to go.

Jamie You're making this worse.

Arthur I don't.

Jamie You know it's for the best.

Arthur I know.

Jamie So I'm gonna go now.

Arthur Are you sad?

Jamie Yes.
Arthur No you're not.
Jamie I am.
Arthur You don't seem very sad.
Jamie Arthur I have been sad for the last five years and I don't want to prolong this another five minutes so I'm gonna go now OK?

Arthur Fine.

SCENE 28 JACK STRIPS

Linda You were great.
Jack That was humiliating.
Linda You were fabulous. They loved you.
Jack Is this why I studied acting at S.F. State for four years?
Linda Jack.
Jack Fuck you. (*He goes off*).
Linda Jack.
Jack Fuck you.
Linda Jack come back here.

SCENE 29 JAMIE SHOW'S RICKY HIS APT.

Jamie OK, hold on.
Ricky It smells like paint.
Jamie Just hold on. OK, you ready?
Ricky I'm ready (*Jamie takes off Ricky's blindfold*). Oh my God.
Jamie What do you think?
Ricky I didn't know they made apartments this big.
Jamie You like it?
Ricky I love it. It's gorgeous.
Jamie I thought you'd like it.
Ricky It's so big.
Jamie Look at the windows.
Ricky Oh my God.
Jamie Fabulous huh?
Ricky I could stand here forever.
Jamie (*Hugging him from behind*). Be my guest.

Ricky Wow. It's so quiet.

Jamie And you can move in anytime you want. There's no rush.

Ricky I want to move in now.

Jamie Whenever you want.

Ricky It's so beautiful.

Jamie It's all yours.

Ricky I love you.

Jamie But you don't have to move in right away. It's not going anywhere.

Ricky It's a little bigger than my dorm room.

Jamie Just a bit. Do you want to see your room?

Ricky Is there a bed in there?

Jamie Yes.

Ricky Let's go. (*They go off*).

SCENE 30 PHONE MADNESS

Arthur Did you get the proposal for the sequel?

Linda I got it?

Arthur And?

Linda It's not enough money.

Arthur He's only in two scenes.

Linda That doesn't matter. He's worth more.

Arthur He's already getting a thousand more than everybody else.

Linda It's still not enough.

Arthur How can you say that?

Linda You put him on the Video cover for *Cops*.

Arthur Yeah.

Linda His image sold that movie.

Arthur I sold that movie. I wrote it, I directed it, I produced it.

Linda Jack sold it.

Arthur Bullshit.

Linda You got my husband to make your video and you paid him half of what he's worth.

Arthur He was unemployed when he met me.

Linda That was yesterday. If you didn't think Jack was a good investment why would you offer him a thousand more than everyone else? Why would you put his picture on the box? You know Jack can make big money for you.

Arthur It's a fair offer.

Linda It's bullshit and I'm telling you Jack's not working for free anymore.

Arthur I've paid him.

Linda Peanuts. You've paid him a fraction of what he's worth. You lucked out Arthur, Jack doesn't know anything about money, but I do and I'm managing him now. So if you want him for this project, it's gonna cost you.

Arthur How much?

Linda Six thousand.

Arthur What?

Linda Six thousand.

Arthur That's ridiculous.

Linda Then we have nothing to talk about.

Arthur I have never paid anyone six thousand dollars.

Linda Jack's different and you know it.

Arthur Six thousand is out of the question.

Linda Then we have nothing more to talk about.

Arthur Wait, wait, wait. Three thousand.

Linda Six thousand.

Arthur Four thousand.

Linda I'm not negotiating.

Arthur Four thousand is very reasonable.

Linda Six thousand or count us out.

Arthur Linda I have actors I've worked with for five years and they don't get the kind of money you're asking for.

Linda I don't care about them.

Arthur The point is...

Linda Jack's straight Arthur.

Arthur I know.

Linda That's worth more.

Arthur That's irrelevant.

Linda It's not and you know it. Jeff Stryker is a perfect example.

Arthur How do you know about Jeff Stryker?

Linda I've been watching quite a few educational videos.

Arthur Jeff Stryker is a very special case.

Linda Well I think Jack could be that big.

Arthur Jeff Stryker has a huge dick, a perfect body and a beautiful face.

Linda I'm not gonna sell you on Jack. If you don't think he's worth six thousand then don't pay it but I know for a fact that your sales were shit before you made *Cops*.

Arthur You don't know what sells and what doesn't.

Linda I'm not stupid Arthur.

Arthur Yeah but you don't know when I make money and when I...

Linda I know a lot more than you think I do.

Arthur Not if you think Jack could be the next Jeff Stryker.

Linda You think everyone's stupid but you.

Arthur What?

Linda Jamie worked his ass off for you and you treated him like shit.

Arthur Did Jamie tell you that?

Linda I saw it.

Arthur You went to one shoot.

Linda And I saw plenty. Is that your phone?

Arthur Let me put you on hold.

Linda Just call me back.

Arthur No, let me just get this call.

Linda I'm not gonna hold on, just call me back.

Arthur Linda just hold on I'll be right back (*He clicks phone*). Hello?

Ray Arthur?

Arthur Ray, what's up?

Ray I need to talk to you right now.

Arthur Did you read the script for the sequel?

Ray I have a serious problem.

Arthur What?

Ray Did you pick up the B.A.R. today? (*Pronounced 'bee - a - are'*)

Arthur No.

Ray There's an article that says that they think it's spread by anal sex so I'm not sure about fucking in this film.

Arthur Ray.

Ray You understand don't you?

Arthur There's a different article every fucking week, nobody knows anything. Last week I read that they thought it was poppers, so I don't think we need to jump to any...

Ray I don't mind other things I'd just rather not be involved in fucking. (*Linda exits and her light goes out*).

Arthur Yeah but that may not be possible on this shoot.

Ray Well then are we using condoms?

Arthur Actually...

Ray Are we?

Arthur Well actually

Ray Arthur what if I have it?

Arthur You don't have it.

Ray Oh please Arthur.

Arthur Do you have any signs?

Ray No.

Arthur So you don't know if you have it.

Ray Arthur what planet are you living on?

Arthur Nobody wants to watch a video with guys wearing condoms.

Ray I don't see any alternative.

Arthur They say that if you pull out...

Ray No, that's not what they say.

Arthur They say if you pull out...

Ray Oh my God, give me a...

Arthur Ray if we use condoms there is no point in even making the goddamn movie because no one, repeat no one is gonna buy a porn flick...

Ray Why can't we just make one movie with condoms, see how it goes.

Arthur That is not an option.

Ray Well I don't feel comfortable.

Arthur Ray.

Ray What if I've passed this on to other people?

Arthur I don't know what to tell you. I can't make a porno with condoms.

Ray Would you let me fuck you without a condom on?

Arthur Ray.

Ray Would you let me fuck you up the ass without a condom on? Hello?

Arthur I'm here.

Ray Well?

Arthur Let me get back to you all right?

Ray Oh, you don't want me for the shoot now.

Arthur I didn't say that.

Ray You don't want me for the shoot.

Arthur I want everyone back for the shoot.

Ray You just don't care about anyone's health.

Arthur Listen, I have someone waiting on the other line.

Ray They can wait.

Arthur They've been waiting.

Ray Well we need to settle this.

Arthur I'll call you back.

Ray You never return your calls.

Arthur Just hold on, I'll be right back. *(He clicks phone. Light goes out on Ray and he exits).* Linda. Linda. Linda? Fuck! *(He clicks phone).* Ray? *(He clicks phone).* Ray? *(He clicks phone).* Ray? *(He clicks phone).* Fuck!

SCENE 31 RICKY TESTS POSITIVE

Jamie This doesn't mean anything.

Ricky I think it means something.

Jamie It doesn't mean anything.

Ricky They said false positives are very rare.

Jamie Bullshit.

Ricky Jamie.

Jamie No. Bullshit. How come I tested negative? This doesn't make any sense.

Ricky I don't know.

Jamie I'm telling you it doesn't mean anything.

Ricky What am I gonna tell my parents?

Jamie You don't have to tell them anything because there's nothing to tell them.

Ricky Jamie.

Jamie Do you feel sick?

Ricky No.

Jamie You don't look sick.

Ricky I know.

Jamie So it doesn't matter. We'll get tested again and you'll be negative, so don't worry.

Ricky I am worried.

Jamie Well don't be because it's gonna be fine. This test has nothing to do with getting sick. I know a lot of people who are positive that aren't sick.

Ricky I feel sick now. (*Ricky exits*)

Jamie It's gonna be fine.

SCENE 32 I GOT THE CONTRACT"

Linda I got it.

Jack Really? Let me see.

Linda Un unh. Kiss my ass first.

Jack Linda.

Linda Kiss my ass.

Jack Just let me see the paper.

Linda Manhole Video agrees to pay Jack Hawk six thousand to appear in *Cops II*. He agrees to appear blah blah
blah.

Jack Wow.

Linda I didn't even negotiate. I said this is his price. He's on the verge of becoming a major star. I said if you want him it's six thousand dollars. Three thousand up front and fifteen hundred two hours before each scene.

Jack Wow.

Linda Is that all you have to say? Wow? If it wasn't for me you'd still getting two thousand bucks a film.

Jack It's fine.

Linda Don't act so put upon.

Jack I'm not.

Linda Six thousand dollars.

Jack I know.

Linda That's good Jack.

Jack I know.

Linda A little enthusiasm would be nice.

Jack I don't want to do it anymore.

Linda We're not talking about that today.

Jack Well we have to talk about it sometime because I don't know how much longer I can do this with you.

Linda I don't want to talk about this.

Jack Why can't we quit while we're ahead.

Linda We haven't even started yet.

Jack How far do you want to go?

Linda Far.

Jack How far?

Linda As far as we can.

Jack Well that's not what I want.

Linda And what do you want to do?

Jack I want to act.

Linda Then go act.

Jack I really want to focus on acting for awhile.

Linda Fine. Focus on acting but we still have bills to pay.

Jack Why don't you find other people to represent or team up with other producers? There are other people out there Linda.

Linda Yeah, but we're a team.

Jack Well I don't want to do this anymore.

Linda I'm signing contracts.

Jack Well don't.

Linda The Trocadero wants you back, there's other film offers...

Jack I can't do it anymore.

Linda I'm making agreements.

Jack Then you do it.

Linda I need you to respect these agreements.

Jack I need you to respect me.

Linda I've always respected you.

Jack If you respected me you wouldn't push me into this bullshit.

Linda You're the one who started all this. You made the first four films.

Jack I made mistakes.

Linda And

Jack Now I want out.

Linda We're making money.

Jack And now it's over.

Linda How can you just turn your back on this after spending a year building this up?

Jack Because I hate making porn and I think I hate you.

Linda Excuse me?

Jack I don't like what you've become.

Linda Successful?

Jack If that's what you want to call it.

Linda If it wasn't for me you'd still be spending all our money on pictures and résumé's that end up in garbage cans and those stupid 'how to be a working actor' books.

Jack I have nothing more to say to you.

SCENE 33 TIE SCENE #2

Ricky Jamie?

Jamie Yeah?

Ricky Which one do you like best?

Jamie Let me see. (*Ricky holds up various ties*) No, no, yeah that's good.

Ricky This one?

Jamie No the other, yeah that.

Ricky Which one?

Jamie This one, no the last one.

Ricky This one?

Jamie Yeah.

Ricky Really?

Jamie Yeah.

Ricky You like this one?

Jamie Yeah.

Ricky I like this one.

Jamie Then wear that one.

Ricky But you like this one.

Jamie Ricky.

Ricky What?

Jamie You don't need to wear a fucking tie.

Ricky You can't say fucking around my parents.

Jamie Oh my God, like I would.

Ricky And you can't say Oh my God.

Jamie Oh my God.

Ricky That really offends my Dad.

Jamie Ricky

Ricky He hates that.

Jamie Ricky.

Ricky What?

Jamie Honey.

Ricky What?

Jamie It's gonna be fine.

Ricky No it's not.

Jamie Listen to me, it's gonna be fine.

Ricky You don't know my parents.

Jamie They're not stupid Ricky.

Ricky I know.

Jamie They can handle it.

Ricky I can't handle it.

Jamie It'll be fine.

Ricky Maybe this isn't a good idea.

Jamie You want to stay home?

Ricky No.

Jamie Are you sure?

Ricky They have to know.

Jamie Yes.

Ricky I have to tell them.

Jamie You do.

Ricky They're gonna die.

Jamie They won't die.

Ricky They're gonna die. Let's practice again.

Jamie No, we're fine.

Ricky Let's run through it again.

Jamie Ricky, honey. You're gonna make yourself sick.

Ricky Don't say that word.

Jamie You know what I mean.

Ricky I feel like I'm gonna throw up. (*They stare at each other*). Okay, let's go. I'm fine.

Jamie You sure?

Ricky I'm fine.

Jamie Do you want me to get the car?

Ricky Yeah. (*Jamie exits, comes back with gift in hand*)

Jamie I'll be in front. (*He goes*).

Ricky Wait! Are you sure this tie?
Jamie You look great.
Ricky OK. I'll be right out. (*He ties tie, looks in mirror, goes off.*)

SCENE 34 "AIDS IS RUINING MY BUSINESS"

Arthur Well, so much for my sequel.
Linda *Cops II* would've made so much money.
Arthur I'm running out of actors.
Linda What are you gonna do?
Arthur I can't even imagine.
Linda I talked to a guy who's making a film right now for FALCON and he says they're using condoms.
Arthur No one's gonna buy that.
Linda Maybe they will.
Arthur Who wants to watch two guys fucking with condoms on. Would you want to watch that?
Linda Well.
Arthur Nobody wants to watch that.
Linda Well I had this idea.
Arthur What?
Linda What if you shot the video like the guys were gonna fuck without one and you have the guy lube up his dick and then lube up the other guy's ass and right before it goes in you cut to the face of the fuckee and he can say 'fuck me' or something, you're the writer. And then you cut back to the guy fucking him and he has a condom on.
Arthur How did he get it on?
Linda Well they're flesh colored, maybe people wont notice.
Arthur That is the stupidest thing I have ever heard.
Linda Maybe not.
Arthur People would laugh.
Linda Well you can't have guys fucking without condoms.
Arthur So you're saying the condom magically appears on the guy. You don't think that would be comical?
Linda What else can you do? (*Long pause*).
Arthur So you really think people would buy a video with condoms in it?
Linda I don't know Arthur, I guess the only way to find out is to make one.
Arthur I can't afford to lose any more money.
Linda You can't afford to lose any more actors either.
Arthur God, that's true.

Linda So I don't see what options you have unless you wait for the vaccine.

Arthur You know I've had this recurring fear my whole life, that one day I would understand film making and I would understand the business and something would happen and I wouldn't be able to make films any more. But I always thought it would be like I'd go blind or get in a car wreck and lose my limbs or something, but I never could have dreamed up this. A killer disease hits San Francisco that only affects Gay men. That's like bad science fiction writing or something. Why couldn't it have been a disease that only affected fundamentalist Christians?

Linda Yeah, but then who'd buy your videos.

Arthur That's true huh?

SCENE 35 FLYING TO WISCONSIN

Ray You don't have to do this.

Jamie Yes I do.

Ray No you don't.

Jamie Ray, you promised you'd be supportive.

Ray Jamie, who do you know in Wisconsin?

Jamie No one, which is exactly why I'm going.

Ray Oh Jamie, you know you'll meet people.

Jamie Not if I can help it. I'm gonna get rid of my TV, I won't subscribe to newspapers, I'll stay out of the bars...

Ray You won't stay out of the bars.

Jamie Believe me, I'll stay out of the bars.

Ray Jamie you need a vacation.

Jamie No, I need thirty more years and I'm probably not gonna get 'em.

Ray What is moving to Wisconsin...?

Jamie Have you walked down the Castro lately?

Ray So going to Wisconsin will make it go away?

Jamie I can't be here anymore. I just can't be around it. Half the people we did films with are dead. Can you even imagine how many people were infected on our sets?

Ray Don't you think I know that? I feel responsible for Ricky's death. I'm the one who got him into it.

Jamie You can't blame yourself, Ricky was very strong headed.

Ray I don't know what to say.

Jamie Just say you'll come visit me.

Ray Jamie you just need a vacation. San Francisco wears on you. It's hard being around so many queens all the time. I was at the Eagle last night and this huge leather queen screams out "But ya are Blanch, ya are". And I thought if I hear that one more time. You just need a change of pace. I'm telling you, a month in Hawaii...

Jamie I'm going to Wisconsin. Period. You can visit, I'll send you postcards. We'll have long expensive chats on the phone but nothing you can say will change my mind. I just can't be here anymore. OK? OK?

Ray OK.

SCENE 36 LINDA PITCHES IDEA

Linda OK.

Arthur OK.

Linda OK, so this is my idea.

Arthur OK. OK.

Linda OK, so we shoot a bunch of films called *Cops*, *Cops Two*, *Cops Three*.

Arthur A series?

Linda Exactly. And they follow this cop through his daily routine. And he gets seduced by detectives, district attorneys, his lieutenant. There's even a scene where he gets gang banged at the Policeman's Ball, get it?

Arthur I love it.

Linda I thought you'd like that and we can keep changing the locations, L.A.P.D., N.Y.P.D. ...

Arthur Nice.

Linda The possibilities are endless.

Arthur You're right.

Linda Fuck Jack, fuck Ray, fuck Jamie.

Arthur Linda.

Linda Fuck 'em, they don't know what they had.

Arthur Yeah, but be nice.

Linda Don't get moral on me Arthur.

Arthur You're a bitch.

Linda And you're an asshole.

Arthur What a team. So have you heard from Jack?

Linda Oh, I think he's in some production of *Macbeth* at a Shakespeare festival in Sonoma.

Arthur Sonoma?

Linda It's his life.

Arthur Shakespeare in Sonoma?

Linda He wants to act.

Arthur Knock yourself out.

Linda So whaddya think?

Arthur I think you have something.

Linda Are you in or out?

Arthur I'm in.

SCENE 37 JAMIE CALLS RICKY'S PARENTS

Jamie Merry Christmas. I'm fine. I miss you guys. Wisconsin's fine, how's Bakersfield? Good. It's actually foggy here today but it's beginning to clear. Uh huh. Did you get the photos I sent you? Well I was cleaning out an old drawer and I found 'em and I thought you'd like 'em. No you don't have to send them back, I have plenty of pictures. That's right. Two years in January. It just goes. How's your hip doing? Good, good. It doesn't cost too much to call Bakersfield from Wisconsin. Besides its after five o'clock. Don't worry about it. I just wanted you to know I was thinking about you. (*Listens for a while*). I agree. I agree. You're right, he would've been a great lawyer. I miss him too.

SCENE 38 "WE HAD A VERY GOOD YEAR"

Linda Well we had a very good year.

Arthur How good?

Linda How does two hundred thousand in profits sound?

Arthur Sounds good.

Linda Sounds great. The videos alone did a hundred and twenty thousand, the *Cops* calendar did fifty thousand and the Billy-club dildo did thirty thousand.

Arthur And we did it without Jack.

Linda Or Jamie. I brought champagne.

Arthur You didn't

Linda I did.

Arthur Did you bring cups?

Linda What do you think (*Pulling cups from purse*)

Arthur You're fabulous.

Linda I know.

SCENE 39 JACK AT REHEARSAL

Jack I'm sorry I'm just unclear on something. Do I bow before or after I give the letter to Macbeth? Really? OK. And should I go to one knee or just bow from the waist? I can do that. From the beginning? All right.

SCENE 40 JAMIE & RAY ON PHONE

Ray How's Wisconsin?

Jamie Boring.

Ray How 're you?

Jamie I'm fine. Congratulations on your award.

Ray Thank you. Where did you hear about it?

Jamie Advocate.

Ray I thought you weren't subscribing to magazines.

Jamie I broke down.

Ray You probably have tabs at all the local bars too huh?

Jamie Not quite.

Ray So have you talked to Arthur?

Jamie No. Have you?

Ray No, he didn't want me for his little *Cops* series.

Jamie I heard they're making money.

Ray Good for them.

Jamie At least they're using condoms.

Ray That's true. They still don't use 'em in straight ones though.

Jamie So how's your health?

Ray Still testing negative.

Jamie Yeah, me too. It's bizarre huh?

Ray I still don't understand it.

Jamie I don't either.

Ray Have you heard from Ricky's parents?

Jamie We keep in touch.

Ray That's nice huh?

Jamie So how's the weather?

Ray It's San Francisco, it's beautiful.

Jamie I really miss it.