

**INT./EXT. NEW YORK CITY - VARIOUS: AFTERNOON.**

The members of Himalayan Cats with AK-47s and Eating Disorders and their antagonists are at their day jobs when they realize it's time to head to the NYUCK Theater.

PHIL prepares a tray of artisanal popsicles at his Brooklyn storefront. A line of customers stretches out the door as he checks his watch, pushes everyone out the door and changes the sign from "come in" to "get out" as the crowd grows angry. He hops on his unicycle and pedals away.

DAN designs a floral arrangement using the Japanese flower art of ikebana. He sees the clock as he pricks himself on the thorn of a rose. He cries out in pain and leaves.

A sign in front of a car dealership reads "Kate's Mitsubishi." KATE is showing a car to A YOUNG COUPLE who are about to buy the auto. Kate realizes that she has to go and leaves the baffled couple on the lot.

CHRISTINE is giving massages at a strip club. She is rubbing the shoulders of A BUSINESSMAN who offers her money for a blow job. She thinks about it, checks her watch and shakes her head. The businessman appears disappointed. She leaves.

MATT is behind the counter of a laundromat. A CUSTOMER hands Matt a ticket in exchange for a bag of clean laundry. Matt notices the pristine towels and rubs one against his face. Disgusted, the customer grabs his laundry and storms out.

IGGY works the sandwich counter at Subway. He takes a loaf of bread, throws it into the air, waves his knife through it and numerous perfectly-sized slices of rye arrange themselves onto a plate. He takes the meat and the cheese, throws them into the air and catches the falling items so that they arrange themselves as sandwiches. He reaches for the water pistol in the holster around his waist and points it at the sandwich. Mayonnaise shoots onto the bread. THE CAMERA PANS OUT to reveal IMPATIENT CUSTOMERS checking their watches.

**INT. THE NYUCK THEATER - MAIN STAGE: EVENING.**

From the tech booth, BRAD watches the Himalayan Cats as they wrap up their debut performance. Below the windows of the tech booth is a digital clock with red numbers. It's counting backwards to zero from the one-minute mark.

On the stage, Christine square dances with Phil, who is also playing a game of tennis with Kate while she stands at the far end of the stage. Dan is on his hands and knees beside Kate as he mimes washing the floor.

DAN

The orange juice and blood stains seem to be coming out, your Highness. I'll start bathing the Dobermans as soon as I finish having sex with the cinnamon toast.

KATE

You're so helpful, Yin Wang. Soon I will control the fish oil market in Siberia.

CHRISTINE AND PHIL

*(Simultaneously)*

We are the soup eaters! Count a deck of cards while clipping your toenails!

The stage is blacked out as THE AUDIENCE breaks into wild applause. The lights come back up and the Himalayan Cats bow. Phil is hit in the face with a pair of pink boxers.

PHIL

Hey, what the fuck?

As the audience continues to give the team a standing ovation and the other Himalayan Cats smile, Phil removes the underwear from his head and throws them onto the floor. He notices Iggy and Matt in the audience. They are the only people still seated and not clapping. Phil frowns.

**INT. THE NYUCK THEATER - LOBBY BAR: EVENING.**

Phil storms over to Iggy and Matt at the bar.

IGGY

*(In mid-sentence)*

You cannot put tuna fish on a Reuben sandwich. It's sacrilege.

PHIL

*(Holding the pink underwear aloft)*

You think this is funny? I'm glad I booted you from the team.

IGGY

You need a boot to the face, mate. Those aren't mine.

Matt eyes the underwear lustfully, but shakes his head.

PHIL

You two meth-addicted man-whores are denying that you threw these?

MALE VOICE

I did it.

Phil turns around to find KIRBY DILL smiling debonairly.

Kirby Dill is a wealthy industrialist in his mid-fifties. He is handsome, sophisticated and well-educated.

KIRBY

I'm Kirby Dill, consummate fan of improvisational comedy and the CEO of Dill Artificial Sweeteners. We no longer test our products on bunny rabbits, you know.

PHIL

If you need involuntary test subjects, I know of an idiotic sandwich maker from New Zealand.

KIRBY

I do ardently admire the comedy of  
Phil Dayanghirang.

IGGY

*(To Phil)*

Your last name sounds like a  
special needs kid saying "dying  
orangutan."

PHIL

Go make a cyanide sandwich. *(To  
Kirby)* You threw the boxers at me?

KIRBY

I apologize if you consider my act  
of admiration to be transgressive.  
But I'm sweet on you. And my  
gaydar is more accurate than NORAD.

PHIL

You must've purchased your gaydar  
from Poland. Because it doesn't  
work. I'm not gay.

KIRBY

When did you last have a lady love?

Phil mulls it over, but doesn't say anything.

KIRBY (CONT'D)

Who was your favorite character on  
"Friends"?

PHIL

Joey.

KIRBY

Joey wasn't anybody's favorite  
friend. Except for the gays.

PHIL

I'm not interested.

KIRBY

I don't want to harass you. Would it make you uncomfortable if I came to see your next show?

PHIL

*(Handing Kirby a business card)*

Shoot me a message and I'll add you to the list.

KIRBY

*(Taking the card)*

And here's my card. Until next time, I'll remain sweet on you like Dill's Artificial Sweetener in a mug of Irish breakfast tea.

PHIL

In the words of Obi Wan, these are not the balls you're looking for.

Kirby chuckles at Phil's lame joke and then leaves.

IGGY

Hey, mate, looks like you might get your cock wet for the first time since I met you six years ago.

PHIL

Why don't you go sneak over the border in reverse and plague Mexico with your useless ass?

Christine comes up and puts her arms around Matt, who flinches. Christine notices, but Matt composes himself.

CHRISTINE

Hi, lover. Thanks for coming.

MATT

I wouldn't miss your show. I put my towels on an extra long dryer cycle so I could come see it.

CHRISTINE

*(Muttering under her breath)*

So creepy. *(To Matt)* So, what's  
the game plan for tonight?

Dan arrives and situates himself between Christine and Matt.

DAN

Hey, everyone. That was a  
fantastic show tonight. It almost  
made me forget my hiatal hernia.

CHRISTINE

You're the most annoying person  
I've ever met.

DAN

But you once told me I was your  
favorite person in New York City.

CHRISTINE

*(To Matt)*

Let's grab that drink you promised.

Reluctantly, Matt lets Christine lead him away. Iggy winks  
at Matt, who forces himself to smile in return. Phil notices  
the gesture. Dan appears downcast and Phil comforts him.

PHIL

Her body will probably start to sag  
in a few years.

DAN

But I love her.

Dan starts to cry and Phil pats his shoulder.

IGGY

I'm married to him. That's my job.

PHIL

It's a fake marriage. Go find Mel Gibson so you can go to a Holocaust denial conference together.

Iggy frowns as Phil continues to comfort Dan.

**EXT. NEW YORK CITY - SIDEWALK: EVENING.**

Christine and Matt walk along in the darkness. She tries to snuggle up to him, but he instinctively moves away from her.

CHRISTINE

You're not very romantic. Do you even like me?

MATT

I guess. You're kind of cute.

CHRISTINE

I think we're done here.

MATT

No, wait. I like you a lot.

CHRISTINE

I'm not asking to be serenaded on top of the Empire State Building. But put a little effort into it.

Matt appears unsure of what to do next.

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)

Oh, for fuck's sake. Do I have to do everything? Why don't you take me out for a nice, romantic dinner?

CUT TO: Iggy watching Matt and Christine on a rooftop through a pair of binoculars. He is speaking into a walkie-talkie.

IGGY

Stop thinking about having sex with your laundry for two minutes. Do you want this plan to work?

CUT TO: Matt listens to Iggy through his earpiece.

CHRISTINE

Are you paying attention to me?

MATT

Sort of. I guess. Yes, I'll take you out to dinner.

CUT TO: Iggy appears relieved upon hearing that. He relaxes, unaware of THE BUILDING SECURITY MEN approaching from behind.

CUT TO: Christine has a big smile upon her face.

CHRISTINE

Where should we go?

MATT

Somewhere cheap and quick.

CUT TO: On the roof, Iggy becomes annoyed.

IGGY

You dope. Her favorite restaurant is Zen Palate. Take her there.

CUT TO: Matt is listening to Iggy and not paying any attention to Christine as he turns back to her.

MATT

Somewhere elegant and vegan. I once heard you say that Zen Palate was your favorite restaurant.

CHRISTINE

Oh, yes. It'll be wonderful.

MATT

Sure. Tomorrow night?

Christine smiles and takes Matt's arm. He flinches again, but eases up and they walk down the street arm-in-arm.

CUT TO: Iggy is being hauled away by building security.

IGGY

Hey. You blokes like sandwiches?  
I make a hell of a hoagie.

The guards haul Iggy away despite his protestations.

**INT. THE NYUCK THEATER - PRACTICE ROOM: AFTERNOON.**

Christine reads a newspaper while waiting for the rest of the team to arrive. Dan enters and brightens upon seeing her. She looks at him, frowns and returns to studying her paper.

DAN

Hey, notice anything different?

CHRISTINE

The tumor in your brain is bigger?

DAN

Don't be mean. You know we're  
meant to be a couple.

CHRISTINE

I'm with Matt now. We're in love.

DAN

Give me a chance. I'm going to  
lose one-hundred pounds for you.  
I'm on a Melba Toast diet.

Dan takes out a box of Melba Toast and removes a cracker. Christine watches as he takes out a tub of butter and slathers a huge glob onto the cracker before devouring it.

CHRISTINE

You dim-bulb, you can't eat butter when you're on a diet.

DAN

Most people only lose water weight when they try to slim down through exercise.

CHRISTINE

I saw that infomercial. It's bullshit to get you to buy diet pills that don't do anything.

DAN

If it didn't work, it wouldn't be endorsed by Scott Baio.

CHRISTINE

Listen, Dan, I appreciate what you're trying to do. Losing weight to impress me is very sweet, but I have a new boyfriend. You and I are just friends now.

DAN

Then why aren't you treating me like one?

Christine scowls at Dan as her cell phone rings. The caller ID shows that it's her agent Abdus O'Malley. She answers.

CHRISTINE

*(On the phone)*

Abdus, I'm going into rehearsal.

ABDUS

*(On the phone)*

Listen, sugar tits, I got you an audition for a Lava Life commercial in Union, New Jersey in an hour. Can you make it?

CHRISTINE

*(On the phone)*

I'll be there. Leaving now.

Christine hangs up and looks at Dan.

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)

I've got to go. I should be back  
in time for rehearsal.

Christine leaves while a downcast-looking Dan dips a piece of Melba Toast into the tub of butter and takes a large bite.

**INT. WANKY MCSTRIPPERSON'S STRIP CLUB - MAIN AREA: AFTERNOON.**

Phil is seated alone at a table near the front as A MALE STRIPPER gyrates to bad techno. In front of Phil is a banana split that resembles a penis and testicles. Phil tastes the whipped cream, closes his eyes and moans in ecstasy as he takes a bite. He turns to see Kirby across the room, staring at him. Phil is puzzled, but Kirby smiles and joins him.

KIRBY

You insist you're straight, but  
you're devouring a banana in the  
gayest strip club in the city?

PHIL

Out magazine calls the Cock and  
Balls the best banana split in New  
York. It got three used condoms.

KIRBY

Why are you reading Out magazine if  
you're not gay?

PHIL

Their food editor has won the James  
Beard award six years in a row.

KIRBY

*(Sitting down)*

Phil, old chum, you're not fooling anyone but yourself with this "metrosexual who eats phallic desserts" routine.

PHIL

If you're hinting that deep inside I want a man deep inside, you're wrong.

KIRBY

I don't care if you're a top or a bottom. Maybe you want to be deep inside someone's juicy rump roast. And mine's the juiciest as denoted by the logo on my pants.

PHIL

I'm disgusted by your metaphors.

KIRBY

At least allow me to try to pry you out of the proverbial closet. Let me buy you dinner tonight.

PHIL

I plan to treat myself to a footlong hot dog in a pillowy bun.

KIRBY

I'd buy that.

PHIL

Maybe BBQ? Pulled pork exploding its natural juices in a fluffy roll might be good.

KIRBY

Right. Straight guy food.

PHIL

Just anything that's a metaphor for me finally having some hot, delicious gay sex. I mean, yeah, manly food. Meat and potatoes.

KIRBY

Let's take it slow tonight. Meet me at Zen Palate at nine.

Kirby smiles and walks away as the male stripper approaches Phil, who mulls it over and then stuffs a hundred-dollar bill into the stripper's g-string. Enticed by the money, AN ARMY OF SCANTILY-CLAD MALE STRIPPERS descends upon Phil, who allows himself to vanish beneath the mountains of flesh.

**INT. POLICE STATION - FRONT DESK: AFTERNOON.**

Dan sits by THE DESK SERGEANT as TWO OFFICERS bring Iggy out.

OFFICER #1

You're free to go, bub. Lucky for you, someone paid your bail.

IGGY

Don't you know who I am? You can't arrest the greatest improviser in the history of the art form.

DAN

*(Getting up from the bench)*

I paid your bail. Because that's what married couples do. They look out for each other.

IGGY

Thanks, mate. Prison was rough. No sandwiches.

DAN

Let's go to Katz's and get you a nice pastrami on rye with mustard.

IGGY

Katz's is a metaphor for life.

DAN

Now that you're free, maybe we can do something as husband and husband? You can buy me dinner.

IGGY

I'm flat broke. I still owe Matt fifteen dollars for karaoke the other night. And I should pay him back before anything else.

DAN

I'll buy. I've been wanting to go to Zen Palate. It reminds me of someone I care about more than anyone else in the world.

IGGY

You mean me?

DAN

Our marriage is a loveless one. Which doesn't make me any less devoted to you. Because I am, Iggy, I really am.

Iggy nods at Dan and the two men walk out of the police station with their hands clasped tightly together.

**INT. PHIL'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM: EVENING.**

Christine gets ready for her date as Phil tries on blazers. He looks in the mirror, frowns and changes again.

CHRISTINE

It's fun getting ready for our dates together.

PHIL

I don't have a thing to wear.

CHRISTINE

I think it's great that you're exploring your sexuality.

PHIL

I'm worried about what he might explore.

CHRISTINE

It's a big night for me and Matt.

PHIL

You're going to sleep with that loser?

CHRISTINE

Maybe. Will you sleep with Kirby tonight?

PHIL

No. Because I'm not gay.

CHRISTINE

So why are you going out with him?

PHIL

Because I like eating big pieces of meat in the presence of other men.

CHRISTINE

Right. You're obviously not gay.

PHIL

Where are you going on your date?

CHRISTINE

Out for vegetarian. Too bad we're not double dating. That'd be fun.

PHIL

It would. We're going out for Chinese, so we couldn't possibly be going to the same restaurant.

CHRISTINE

That would be too contrived. We clearly won't see each other.

Dan enters with a big pile of clothes.

DAN

Phil, I brought over some outfits for your date. Hi, Christine.

CHRISTINE

So glad I won't be seeing you tonight during my date with Matt.

DAN

That's too bad. I'm going out with Iggy and it'd be lovely to see you. We're going out for dim sum.

PHIL

I hope you're not paying for that deadbeat scumbag fake husband of yours. Again.

DAN

I promised to have and to hold for richer and for poorer.

PHIL

He's always going to be poor. Now help me with my eyeliner.

Dan and Christine shrug and help Phil apply his makeup.

DAN

I wonder what Kate's doing tonight.

Everyone envisions the possibilities in a dream sequence.

Phil imagines Kate rubbing suntan lotion on the bare chests of some naked men while he licks it off of them.

Christine envisions Kate serving as a waiter while she and Matt have a romantic dinner at a fancy restaurant. Dan is in a cage at Christine's feet while she yanks his leash.

Dan imagines Kate serving as a waiter while Christine and Matt have a romantic dinner at a fancy restaurant. Dan is in a cage at Christine's feet while she yanks his leash.

Dan, Christine and Phil shrug and return to getting ready.

**INT. ZEN PALATE - MAIN DINING ROOM: EVENING**

Christine and Matt enter the restaurant arm-in-arm. She is smiling as he looks at their linked arms in disgust. They approach THE MAITRE D' at the reservations desk.

CHRISTINE

Hi, we have a reservation. Matt and Christine, party of two.

MAITRE D'

Hi, mismatched couple. Is this a set-up or an Internet date?

CHRISTINE

We'd like to be seated, please.

MAITRE D'

And I'd like to fuck Jessica from "True Blood." Looks like we're both going to be disappointed. There are no available two-tops.

CHRISTINE

Matt, handle this.

MATT

We have a reservation and we want to sit down.

MAITRE D'

My only free table is for six and I have to keep that open in case a busload of drunken sorority girls arrives from Long Island.

MATT

*(To Christine)*

Oh, well. I tried.

CHRISTINE

Ugh. How long is the wait?

MAITRE D'

For two? Close to an hour.

Phil walks in with Kirby and pretends that he doesn't see Christine and Matt as he approaches the Maitre D'.

PHIL

We don't have a reservation, but we'd like a table for two.

MAITRE D'

There's an hour wait.

Kirby slaps a hundred-dollar bill down on the desk.

KIRBY

If you can seat us now, there's more where this came from.

MAITRE D'

*(Pocketing the money)*

If I could oblige, I surely would.

KIRBY

My good man, I expect results for that hundred-dollar bill.

MAITRE D'

I've bumped you up to the top of the list for a table for two.

CHRISTINE

Hey! Wait. We were here first.

MAITRE D'

And you paid the least. Welcome to New York.

Kirby turns to Christine and smiles arrogantly. She recognizes Phil and punches him in the arm.

CHRISTINE

Phil, is this jackass your date?

PHIL

*(Rubbing his arm)*

I'm not sure what this is.

Dan and Iggy walk in and are sidetracked by Phil.

PHIL (CONT'D)

Dan. Don't bother. There's an hour wait for two people and we both know you won't last that long.

IGGY

Let's just bail and go to Quiznos.

DAN

But you promised me romance and a nice meal. Even if I am paying.

CHRISTINE

Dan, if you followed me I swear I'll make sure no one ever sells butter to you again.

MAITRE D'

The six of you seem friendly.  
Might I suggest you share a table?  
I can seat you immediately.

PHIL

I wouldn't touch a doorknob that  
Iggly so much as looked at.

IGGY

I wouldn't use dental floss because  
you would've used it in your mouth.

PHIL

Nobody would. That doesn't make  
any sense, you ignorant jackass.

IGGY

I'm going to make a jackass  
sandwich out of your face, mate.

DAN

Hang on, everybody. I hate it when  
my best friend and husband fight.

PHIL

Would you shut up? He's just using  
you so he doesn't get deported.

KIRBY

This situation is intriguing. (*To  
the Maitre D'*) We'd like that  
table for six, please. And you may  
even keep the hundred dollars.

MAITRE D'

For a hundred dollars, I'll fight  
the busboy to the death for your  
amusement. Right this way.

There's some confusion over seating as Dan tries to sit next  
to Christine while Matt heads for the other side where the  
tablecloth is hanging down unevenly.

After a shove from Iggy, Matt ends up next to Christine, with Dan on the other side of her. Iggy, Phil, and Kirby complete the circle.

MATT

This place has nice linens. I wonder where they get them cleaned.

IGGY

*(Whispering to Matt)*

Focus on Christine.

MATT

Christine, you look lovely under these neon lights. Like a stripper in a recently deloused corset.

DAN

Yeah, Christine, you look like a Victoria's Secret model.

Christine looks at Dan disapprovingly and turns to Matt.

CHRISTINE

You think I could make it as a high-class model? That's so sweet.

Dan leans across Iggy to speak to Phil.

DAN

*(To Phil)*

Matt plays Christine like a fiddle.

PHIL

But his fingering's about as subtle as a toddler playing "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star." He's up to something. You're not smart enough to figure it out, but I'll get to the bottom of things.

KIRBY

This is a momentous step for us.  
Meeting your lover's friends is  
nothing at which to scoff.

PHIL

Whoah. We haven't even kissed yet.

KIRBY

Ah, you're pondering our first  
tender moment as a couple. Shall we  
share our first kiss?

IGGY

Don't be ashamed about liking guys.

PHIL

You're married to one, dimwit.

MATT

You're married?

IGGY

I married Dan so I could stay in  
the country. I didn't know gay  
marriages weren't eligible.

DAN

But we do share a special bond.

IGGY

*(Whispering to Matt)*

Just concentrate on winning over  
Christine so you don't fuck up our  
plan, you laundry-loving freak.

DAN

Marriage is always a great idea.

IGGY

Just do what I tell you.

MATT

*(Getting confused)*

What? Huh? OK.

Matt takes Christine's hand as she looks at him in surprise.

MATT (CONT'D)

Christine, will you marry me?

Dan shrieks in a high, girlish voice as everyone gasps in surprise. Christine is taken aback as she smiles at Matt.

CHRISTINE

Yes. I will, Matt whatever-your-last-name-is. I will be your wife.

A look of horror spreads over Matt's face as Christine hugs him. As everyone stares at the couple, Iggy meets Matt's gaze and gives him the thumbs up sign. Matt looks confused.

- The End -