

REALITY SHOW: THE MOVIE

(Excerpt)

Written by

Benjamin Deeb & Graham Towers

Benjamin.Deeb@gmail.com
GrahamTravist@gmail.com

EXT. LOS ANGELES - MORNING

WILL rides an old road bike down the middle of the street. He's scruffy and better-looking than he should be (since this is a movie). Also, he's sipping from a mug of coffee and wearing a bathrobe. It's flowing beautifully behind him as he rides through the city, happy and carefree. CREDITS PLAY over a happy-and-carefree-type song.

His phone starts ringing. Will stops, dismounts, and answers it, walking his bike down the street.

WILL

Starz Tours by Will. Speak on it.

(beat)

Nope, everything's on schedule, leaving in fifteen. Just let me double-check... Judy! Good to go in fifteen?

Judy does not exist.

WILL (CONT'D)

Judy says we're good. Your driver will be there shortly.

Will hangs up and walks his bike into a parking lot as he gulps down some coffee. Six TOURISTS stand around Will's tour van, a beat-up old VW Microbus with a sign in front of it that reads: "STARZ TOURZ: (Legally distinct from Disney's Star Tours)".

WILL (CONT'D)

You all here for the tour?

There are some nods.

WILL (CONT'D)

Bitchin'.

Will wheels his bike around the side of the bus. He emerges, sans bathrobe. We see that his shirt has an iron-on "Starz Tourz" logo on the breast pocket.

WILL (CONT'D)

Hi, I'm Will, your conductor on the Hollywood Express (T.M.). Sorry, our office manager was supposed to be here to greet you. But what can you do, she's Spielberg's niece.

There are a variety of "oohs" and "aahs" from the group. Will opens the door to the microbus and grabs a captain's hat from inside. He slaps it on his head.

WILL (CONT'D)

Hop on! She may not look like much,
but she's got it where it counts.

They start to enter. He stops one of the female tourists.

WILL (CONT'D)

Wait, why are you on my bus?

She's confused.

WILL (CONT'D)

Aren't you Scarlett Johansson?

She laughs. Will's made her day.

INT. PRODUCTION OFFICES - MORNING

DANA (30), stands in front of a conference table. She's almost always the most intelligent person in the room, but that's rarely recognized. She's got an air of professionalism that masks an oddball personality. Also, she's super pretty (because this is still a movie).

Sitting at the far end is HOPPER (30's). He's the obnoxious rich kid who grew up without ever struggling for anything in life. He's rocking a beer belly and a diamond earring.

Surrounding him are four CORPORATE SUITS from the studio. Dana speaks passionately and with poise, getting more excited as she goes.

DANA

So, I started with this studio six years ago as an intern. Since then, I've been a PA, a coordinator, and associate producer. I've learned a lot in that time, and I really think I'm ready for this next step.

Hopper stares at her, stoic and silent. She looks at him for some sort of cue, and not finding it, goes on.

DANA (CONT'D)

Unscripted TV is my passion. I want to craft honest stories about real conflict and real people. I find people most fascinating when they let the curtain down and show their true selves, and I'd love to share that with audiences. I guess that's why I think I'd be a perfect story producer for "Adventures Abroad."

Hopper exhales loudly.

HOPPER

Do you think I can hold my breath
for over three minutes?

Dana pauses, perplexed.

DANA

Sure? Yeah.

HOPPER

Trick question. I just held my
breath for three minutes and twenty
one seconds. New personal best. And
your personal best is what I'll be
asking of you each and every day.

Hopper pauses to wheeze heavily.

HOPPER (CONT'D)

Can you deliver, the way I just
delivered with that killer breath-
holding thing I just did?

DANA

I think I can manage that.

He stands up.

HOPPER

Welcome to "Adventures Abroad,"
Story Producer.

He extends his hand, and Dana, in disbelief, stands and
shakes it.

DANA

I can't tell you how excited I--

HOPPER

I'm kind of the idea man, so I'll
be handling the big picture --
where we'll be traveling, what
challenges we'll be doing -- that
crap. You'll be executing my ideas
as my number one... executioner.
You'll also be doing all the...

He mimics jacking off.

HOPPER (CONT'D)

..."human interest".

Dana is both confused and disgusted, but forces a smile.

DANA

Thank you. I won't let you down--

He snaps his fingers.

HOPPER

We've got work to do. Network placed a six episode order. First one starts shooting on Monday.

DANA

Monday?! I--

Hopper holds up a finger and inhales sharply. Dana looks at him expectantly. He doesn't say anything for a moment, then exhales.

HOPPER

Sorry, thought I had a good breath just now.

INT/EXT. VW MICROBUS, BEVERLY HILLS - DAY

The van clunks along through sunny-ass Los Angeles. Will is happily leading the tour from the driver's seat. His bike is mounted to the back.

WILL

If you look to your left you can see where adorable moppet Shirley Temple grew up. And on your right is where famous gangster Johnny Stompanato was stabbed to death.

FEMALE TOURIST

(motioning out the window)
Who lives in that house there?

WILL

(without looking)
No one. That's a fake house.

She gives him a quizzical look.

WILL (CONT'D)

And up that hill you'll see Greystone Mansion, which has been used as a location in a number of Academy Award winning films and also National Treasure 2: Book of Secrets.

OLD WOMAN

Where's Orson Welles? I want to see
where Orson Welles lives.

WILL

Fun fact, Orson Welles died before
I was born... oh god, am I the
first person to tell you that?

The van struggles up a hill. It's making horrible grinding
noises. The tour group looks worried, but Will is calm.

WILL (CONT'D)

Don't worry, folks. She does this
from time to time. We'll be fine.
We'll just--

There's a loud CLUNK and the transmission literally drops
from the bottom of the van. They start rolling backwards.

WILL (CONT'D)

--FUCK!

Will jams on the emergency brake and the van skids to a halt.
The tourists all stare at him, scared. He forces a calm
demeanor.

WILL (CONT'D)

Well folks, looks like it's going
to be a walking tour for the last
few blocks.

He gets out of the van and the tourists start to follow. Will
watches in despair as parts of his van tumble down the hill.
The van is clearly beyond fixing. He struggles to keep up his
enthusiastic veneer, though he's devastated.

WILL (CONT'D)

If you look to your left you'll see
Carney's, the famous hotdog-joint-
in-a-train-car!

Will gets out his key and starts to scratch the VIN from the
driver's side door. The group stands around.

WILL (CONT'D)

Down the street is the Comedy
Store, operated by 'The Weasel'
himself, Pauly Shore.

Will walks to the front of the van and tries to pry off the
license plate. The rusty screws snap and the front plate
breaks off into his hand. He walks around to the back, and
angrily yanks off that plate.

WILL (CONT'D)
 Let's head up to Chateau Marmont
 and see how long it takes them to
 kick us out.

They follow him up the street.

INT. DANA'S APARTMENT - THAT NIGHT

Dana dances around her apartment, celebrating her victory. She sings to herself over the tune of Dr. Dre's "The Next Episode" on the jam box.

DANA
 La da da da da. It's the
 motherfuckin D-A-N-A. Producing
 story, motha fucka!

She grabs a bottle of wine from the counter and swigs it.

DANA (CONT'D)
 La da da da da. You know I'm gonna
 make good TV. Yeah yeah yeah yeah!

Her phone rings. She picks up right as Dre orders the listener to "blaze the weed up, then." She fumbles to turn the stereo off.

DANA (CONT'D)
 Hello?

Hopper's voice comes through the phone.

HOPPER (V.O.)
 Dana, it's me. Stop what you're
 doing.

DANA
 (flustered)
 Hey Hopper! What's up?

INT. OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Hopper walks around with a Bluetooth earpiece.

HOPPER
 You'll never believe who I just
 signed to host our show.

INTERCUT WITH DANA

DANA
Yeah?

HOPPER
Guess who it is.

DANA
Uhh--

HOPPER
Shut up. It's Chip Summers! CHIP
GODDAMN SUMMERS!

DANA
(wary)
Isn't he in prison?

HOPPER
Not anymore!

DANA
Are you sure that's a good idea?
His public image is kind of...
unsavory.

HOPPER
We'll chat tomorrow at casting.
This show's gonna rule.

Dana hears a man's throat clear on Hopper's end.

DANA
Where are you?

Pull back to reveal Hopper's in his therapist's office. His therapist stares at him, annoyed.

HOPPER
At my therapist's. He's looking
kind of pissy. I should probably
go.

INT. DANA'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Before the line goes dead, Dana hears Hopper's voice through the phone.

HOPPER (V.O.)
Hey, is it weird to cry six times
during the movie Face/Off?

Dana hangs up, takes a deep breath, sits on the floor, and pulls from her bottle of wine.