

#2211

HARDCASTLE AND McCORMICK

"You And The Horse You Rode In On"

by

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HARDCASTLE AND McCORMICK

"You And The Horse You Rode In On"

CAST

JUDGE MILTON C. HARDCASTLE
MARK McCORMICK

DAVID WAVERLY
PETER TRIGG
TOMMY
DEBBIE
MIKE DELANEY
CHASE
COP
WAITER

HARDCASTLE AND McCORMICK

"You And The Horse You Rode In On."

SETS

EXTERIORS

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
OFFICE BUILDING
 /REAR OF OFFICE BUILDING
LOS ANGELES COLISEUM
GULL'S WAY
CITY STREET
RESTAURANT
WAREHOUSE
CONVENTION CENTER
HIGHWAY
VARIOUS CAR CHASES

INTERIORS

CADILLAC
MERCEDES BENZ
GULL'S WAY
 /HARDCASTLE'S DEN
WAVERLY'S OFFICE
A FRENCH RESTAURANT
WAREHOUSE
CONFERENCE ROOM
POLICE STATION
WAITING ROOM (Office Building)
HARDCASTLE'S PICKUP TRUCK
UNMARKED POLICE CAR
CONVENTION CENTER

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"You And The Horse You Rode In On"

ACT ONE

FADE IN

1 EXT. THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES - DAY 1

An early morning sun breaks through a layer of coastal fog.

2 ANGLE - CADILLAC 2

As it pulls off a freeway ramp, turns on to a side street and WIPES CAMERA to reveal:

3 ANOTHER SEDAN 3

And this one is just a non-descript grey Ford that is parked along the roadside. At the wheel is a hard looking man in his forties dressed in a dark jacket and sunglasses. This man's name is CHASE...and as he pulls out and follows the Cadillac:

4 INT. CADILLAC - DAY 4

As HARLAN ADAMS steers up one of the many canyons that connect the city of L.A. to the Valley. Adams is a very handsome man, perfectly dressed and maybe a little nervous as he checks his rear view mirror and adjusts a sixty dollar neck tie...we can see the grey Ford pull into view.

5 EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY 5

The grey Ford makes its move and the chase is on as these two vehicles bash door handles and roar down the canyon... We play this for as much action as will hold and it should be clear that Adams is really out-matched as Chase wheels his Ford up next to the Cadillac and hangs a gun out the window... He pulls the trigger and:

6 NEW ANGLE - CAR CHASE 6

As the Cadillac careens out of control, crashing through the roadside shrubbery and flipping end over end into a ravine... On that:

CUT TO

7

EXT. OFFICE BUILDING - DAY

7

A brand new high tower job located somewhere in the center of downtown Los Angeles as a telephone rings and a receptionist answers:

RECEPTIONIST'S VOICE (OVER)
Good morning, Waverly
Water filter Systems.

And we:

CUT TO

8

CLOSE ON - DAVID WAVERLY

8

who sits at a desk in the center of an office. WAVERLY is an incredibly handsome man in his mid forties and just like everything in this office, he shines. Standing in front of the desk is another man of an almost equal amount of charm named PETER TRIGG. A large "W" hangs on the wall behind Waverly's desk and maybe both of these guys look a little tense... Waverly's desk phone buzzes and he snatches it up.

WAVERLY
(into phone)
Yeah...
(Beat)
No problems? Terrific.

Waverly hangs up and shoots Trigg a look.

WAVERLY
It's done.

Trigg shrugs, relieved.

TRIGG
Good.

WAVERLY
Look Peter, the next time we put a guy in place on a deal like this, let's make sure he's not gonna get scared and threaten to blow us into the cops.

CONTINUED

TRIGG

I'm sorry... But of all the guys we interviewed, Adams was the best candidate. He had a heck of a track record in sales, he was almost bankrupt, he needed the money. I thought he'd hold.

WAVERLY

But he didn't... C'mon man, I got a million dollars worth'a magazine ads on the news stands, the product's coming out in a week and I gotta have someone I can sell as a winner to these jerks, or they're not gonna trust us with a dime. Let alone buy a franchise.

There is a beat, and we can see Trigg is at a loss for a solution.

WAVERLY

Look Peter, let me tell you who I need. I need a guy who's got some style, goodlooking, maybe with a little dirt in his past we can use as leverage if we need it... Someone who's mature, with a fast rap and he's definitely got to be his own man.

On that:

CUT TO

as he carries one of those big corny football pennants, a large day-glo green "Nerf-Football", a toy monkey dressed as a halfback that hangs on an elastic string from a bamboo stick and he wears an "Official Junior Raider" football helmet. He feels of course like an ass. Then:

As Hardcastle and McCormick make their way out of grand-

CONTINUED

stands and maneuver through the post Raider game crowds. Hardcastle proudly wears his L.A. Raiders cap and smiles as he counts up a handful of singles.

HARDCASTLE

C'mon kid, cheer up. The Raiders won and you lost ten bucks. Big deal.

McCormick doesn't respond and in the b.g. we can see a bunch of kids playing catch with their very own "nerf-footablls".

MCCORMICK

I feel like a jerk, Judge.

HARDCASTLE

You bet on the Giants, what can I tell you.

MCCORMICK

It's not that, it's this stuff.

McCormick tosses his "very own nerf-football" in the air.

HARDCASTLE

(Re: nerf-football)

Yeah, pretty neat, huh. Tonight was free "nerf-ball" night.

MCCORMICK

Judge, it was free "nerf-ball" night for boys and girls under twelve... You hadd'a pay six bucks for mine.

HARDCASTLE

Don't mention it, kiddo. Back when my dad took me to see the Razorbacks I always wanted to buy that kind'a stuff, but we couldn't afford it... Sure wish you would'a come down to the end zone with me, might'a caught a field goal.

McCORMICK

(wise)

Oh, darn.

Hardcastle shoots McCormick a look as they continue to walk through the crowds toward the parking lot.

HARDCASTLE

Catching some pigskin and getting it signed by a big leaguer can be a heck of a thrill, McCormick.

There is a beat and McCormick takes off his "official plastic football helmet".

McCORMICK

Don't get me wrong, Judge. But sometimes you treat me like I'm about ten years old.

HARDCASTLE

Whatt'a you mean by that...? I do not.

McCORMICK

Yeah, you do... Look at this thing.

McCormick "puppets" the toy monkey up and down on the bamboo stick.

McCORMICK

I mean, what the hell does it do?

(Beat)

And, oh wow, I got an "official Junior Raiders" genuine plastic football hat.

HARDCASTLE

Helmet.

McCormick waves the pennant.

McCORMICK

An authentic felt pennant.

CONTINUED

HARDCASTLE

That happens to be an exact replica of the one that hangs in Al Davis' office, kiddo.

MCCORMICK

Blast-oh-keen, Judge...

(Beat)

I mean, c'mon. I feel like a poster child for Toys "R" Us.

Hardcastle's feelings are getting a little hurt here.

HARDCASTLE

Okay...okay, mister Bigshot. I'm sure I can find someone around here that will appreciate that stuff... Give it back.

There is a beat as they arrive at Hardcastle's pickup truck parked in the lot

MCCORMICK

See... Now I've hurt your feelings.

HARDCASTLE

Don't flatter yourself, kiddo. You did not.

Hardcastle grabs the toy monkey and waves it at a boy named TOMMY who runs past.

HARDCASTLE

Hey son...

(Re: toy monkey)

How would you like one of these for your very own?

Tommy shoots a suspicious look at the monkey and then back to Hardcastle.

TOMMY

What the hell does it do?

HARDCASTLE

Forget it.

CONTINUED

Tommy takes off and McCormick tries not to smile. There is an awkward beat.

MCCORMICK

Hey Judge, I'm sorry. Really, I am... But, I'm a man... an adult. I can even get into an "X" rated movie without showing any proof.

There is another beat and Hardcastle softens a bit. He looks at McCormick, then to the toy monkey and back to McCormick.

HARDCASTLE

Yeah, you might be right...
Sorry.

MCCORMICK

(warm)

Thanks.

Then, Hardcastle squints, looking closely at McCormick.

MCCORMICK

What?

HARDCASTLE

Hold still.

Hardcastle pulls out a handkerchief and wets it.

HARDCASTLE

You've got some mustard on
your face.

He moves in to wipe it off McCormick's chin and McCormick backs away.

MCCORMICK

Judge, I'm thirty years old
and I don't care if I've got
mustard on my face.

HARDCASTLE

I do... Hold still.

CONTINUED

CONTINUED - 5

McCormick pulls away and grabs the handkerchief out of Hardcastle's hand.

MCCORMICK

Cut it out!

Then these two guys just stand and stare at each other.

MCCORMICK

(softer)

Okay?

Hardcastle nods and McCormick hands back the handkerchief.

MCCORMICK

Good.

There is a beat as Hardcastle shrugs a little embarrassed.

HARDCASTLE

Sorry, Mark, but I guess from up here you all look like kids to me.

MCCORMICK

(warm)

Ah, that's all right, Judge.

(Beat)

Say, why don't you let me drive us home, you can relax.

Hardcastle scans the traffic jam in the parking lot.

HARDCASTLE

Nah, I'd better do it, kiddo. This post-game traffic can get kind'a tricky.

Off McCormick's look:

DISSOLVE TO

EXT. GULL'S WAY - DAY

It is a couple of days after the game and the Covote is parked out in the front drive. We can hear a television blasting out some MTV, then:

A shirtless McCormick sits at the dinner table with his bare feet propped up on the back of a chair and he reads a newspaper while alternately watching the tube. There is a beat and then Hardcastle enters carrying a tray of food. Without saying a word, he slaps McCormick's feet off the chair, clicks off the television and pulls the newspaper from McCormick's hands.

McCORMICK

Hey...

HARDCASTLE

And when you're eating dinner under my roof you wear a shirt to the table.

McCORMICK

(Southern drawl)

Wouldn't want to offend Miss Scarlet now would we Ashley.

HARDCASTLE

Them's the rules, kiddo.

Hardcastle tosses McCormick a shirt and serves up the food, passing over a couple of plates. McCormick slips on the shirt and returns to his newspaper.

HARDCASTLE

And this is a dinner table, not a library.

Hardcastle grabs the newspaper again.

McCORMICK

What is it with you, huh?

HARDCASTLE

A man's home is his castle, and considering I pay the freight around here, it's my castle.

(smiles)

Gimme your plate, you're gonna love this.

McCormick hands over his plate and Hardcastle lays on a mound of food.

CONTINUED

HARDCASTLE

Did you pick up that new valve we needed for the pool filter today?

MCCORMICK

No... I'll get it tomorrow.

HARDCASTLE

That's what you said yesterday, Mark. I mean, we need that thing. The water's gonna turn green on us.

MCCORMICK

I forgot.

HARDCASTLE

Don't forget.

MCCORMICK

Does this mean I can't use the phone?

HARDCASTLE

You do your chores and you can use anything you want.

There is a beat and McCormick regards his meal.

MCCORMICK

What do you call this?

HARDCASTLE

Liver'n onions, one'a my favorites.

MCCORMICK

I hate liver.

HARDCASTLE

Good. And when you start kicking in for the groceries, you get to have one'a your favorites.

MCCORMICK

That's it, huh?

Hardcastle nods and eats his dinner. It's getting tense.

HARDCASTLE

That's it.

CONTINUED

MCCORMICK

We don't get to talk about it?

HARDCASTLE

Talk...

MCCORMICK

I mean, I'm not your slave,
Judge.

HARDCASTLE

Nope... You're a guest.

MCCORMICK

That's nice. Thanks.

HARDCASTLE

You're welcome... And
considering your living
here on a Milton C. Hardcastle
grant, I get to call the shots.

(smiles)

More liver?

There is a long beat as McCormick toys with his food, then:

MCCORMICK

Judge, the last couple of weeks
I've been thinking about some-
thing a lot...and I don't want
you to get angry. But now seems
like a good time to bring it up.

HARDCASTLE

(nods)

Bring it up.

MCCORMICK

I wanna move out on my own.

Hardcastle reacts and then starts to chuckle: not taking
McCormick seriously.

MCCORMICK

There's nothing funny about this,
Judge. And I'm getting a little
sick and tired of you treating me
like I'm some kind of punk teen-
ager... I gotta life.

CONTINUED

HARDCASTLE

Yeah, and a pretty easy one
if you ask me.

MCCORMICK

No one's asking you...

Hardcastle stops eating and shoots a look to McCormick.

HARDCASTLE

Mark if you want to move out on
your own, that's great. But,
it's not gonna be as easy as
you think. I mean, seeing as
until now it's either been up
to me or the State Pen to wash
your clothes and wipe your nose.

(Beat)

It's a real tough world out
there, kiddo.

MCCORMICK

I don't need a lecture from
you about how tough the real
world is.

HARDCASTLE

I think you do... Gonna need
a car, an apartment, clothes...
a job.

MCCORMICK

I can get a job.

HARDCASTLE

Good luck. You can't even
remember to pick up a valve
for the pool filter.

And on that McCormick stands up: angry.

MCCORMICK

There... That's it. That's
exactly the kind of cheap
shot response I'm pretty
damn sick of...

HARDCASTLE

You are, huh?

CONTINUED

MCCORMICK

Yeah, I am. And if you could climb off that self righteous mule you've been riding on, you'd see that living with you hasn't exactly been a walk in the park either.

Hardcastle leans forward.

HARDCASTLE

It hasn't?

MCCORMICK

No. It hasn't.

HARDCASTLE

You don't like it kiddo, there's the door. But remember one thing, it's my door, so when you walk out of it, make sure you mean it.

MCCORMICK

You asking me to leave?

Hardcastle shrugs.

MCCORMICK

You want me out, huh?

Hardcastle shrugs again.

MCCORMICK

Okay, I'm leaving. And don't try'n stop me, Judge. 'cause this is it.

HARDCASTLE

No one's gonna stop you.

MCCORMICK

Good!

HARDCASTLE

Go!

These guys are leaning over the table nose to nose: so angry they have nothing more to say... OVER THIS we hear, "GET A JOB" by the Silhouettes.

CONTINUED

#2211

14.

12

CONTINUED - 5

12

"Sha da da da
Sha da da da da
Yip yip yip yip yip yip yip
Mum mum mum mum mum mum mur
Get a job..."

and we:

CUT TO

13

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

13

The music continues over a busy morning of nine to five traffic: the legions are on their way to work.

"Sha da da da
Sha da da da da
Every morning about this time,
She get me outta bed...
Crying get a job..."

14

ANGLE - McCORMICK

14

Dressed in a sport coat and tie, freshly shaved and scrubbed and trucking down the sidewalk like Tony Marinaro from "Saturday Night Fever". He holds the want ads in his hand and we can see that he's pumped, strutting his stuff.

"After breakfast every day,
She throws the want ads right my way
And never fails to say, get a job..."

We play this beat, and:

CUT TO

15

CLOSE ON - A DOOR

15

and on it we can read:

JOHNSON EMPLOYMENT AGENCY
EXECUTIVE PLACEMENT OUR SPECIALTY

The door opens and McCormick exits the building. His coat is off and we can see he's a little whipped, as he loosens his tie and walks off the music continues:

"Sha da da da
Sha da da da
Yip yip yip yip yip yip yip
Mum mum mum mum mum mum mum
Get a job..."

and we:

CUT TO

#2211

15.

16

EXT. OFFICE BUILDING - DAY

16

and in the window we can see a sign that reads:

ACE EMPLOYMENT
- We Can Place Anybody -

A beat, then McCormick exits the building. His tie is off now and it's clear that Ace Employment couldn't place him... As he walks off:

"Sha da da da
Sha da da da da
And when I get the paper I
read it through,
And she never fails to say
if there is any work for me,
And when I go back to the house,
I hear the woman's mouth
preaching and crying,
Tell me that I'm lying 'bout
a job
That I never could find..."

CUT TO

17

EXT. RESTAURANT - DAY

17

A sign hangs in the front window and reads:

BARTENDERS AND WAITERS WANTED
- Experienced Only Need Apply -

The door opens and McCormick walks out and tosses his want ads in a trash can, almost beaten. As he walks off:

"Sha da da da
Sha da da da da
Yip yip yip yip yip yip yip yip
Mum mum mum mum mum mum mum mum
Get a Job...!"

And we:

CUT TO

18

EXT. GULL'S WAY - DAY

18

A telephone rings.

#2211

16.

19

INT. HARDCASTLE'S DEN - DAY

19

The telephone continues to ring on Hardcastle's desk and after a beat he enters, a triumphant smile on his face. He lets the telephone ring another time or two, then he snatches it up: checking his watch.

HARDCASTLE

(into telephone)

Okay McCormick, the game's over. I'll come and pick you up. Where are you, the soup line?

His expression changes.

HARDCASTLE

No... There's no Paul Klien here. Wrong number.

Hardcastle hangs up.

HARDCASTLE

Damn.

(sotto voce)

It's been almost a week, kid. Where are you.

and on that, we:

CUT TO

20

CLOSE ON - AN OPEN MAGAZINE

20

This is one of those glossy three dollar jobs and we can see a full page high powered advertisement in three colors and very fancy print that reads:

ARE YOU SPECIAL?
DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO
EARN A HUGE INCOME?
ARE YOU A SELF STARTER?
DO YOU COMMAND RESPECT?
ARE YOU A WAVERLY MAN?

MCCORMICK'S VOICE (OVER)

(sotto voce)

Apparently not.

On that:

21

PULL BACK TO INCLUDE - INT. PLUSH WAITING ROOM - DAY

21

McCormick sits in a delicious leather couch, dressed in his best suit and nervously fondling the magazine. Everything in this room is first rate and a beautiful blonde receptionist sits at an oak desk and smiles at McCormick. Her name is DEBBIE.

DEBBIE
(to McCormick)
Excuse me?

McCormick looks up from the ad.

MCCORMICK
Huh?

DEBBIE
Did you say something?

MCCORMICK
No, ah...
(Re: magazine)
Talking to myself. Kind'a
psyching up the ol' sales
pitch, y'know... Sorry.

Debbie smiles.

DEBBIE
Relax, they're gonna love
you.

MCCORMICK
(sotto voce)
I hope so.

Off this:

CUT TO

22

INT. WAVERLY'S OFFICE - DAY

22

David Waverly sits at his desk and under the large "W" and scans a RESUME as Trigg stands next to him.

*

WAVERLY
This is McCormick's resume, huh?

*

And we can see McCormick's RESUME with a picture of McCormick and etc.

*

CONTINUED

WAVERLY

(a little incredulous)

He's the best of the bunch?

Trigg shuffles, a little conspicuous and awkward. He really wants to impress his boss.

TRIGG

Yeah, what'd you think?

Waverly waves the resume...

WAVERLY

I think it stinks... The guy's got no corporate track record whatsoever. No college, no sales experience, nothing.

TRIGG

He needs a job bad, David. He told me.

WAVERLY

(Re: resume)

What's with the two year section referred to here as "skills out of service". Working on his tan, was he?

TRIGG

(smiles)

Two to five in San Quentin for grand theft auto. If we need to bend him a little, I figure we can use that. He's unemployable, man, check out his resume.

(beat)

Okay, maybe he's a little green. But he's got a good look, a slick style, probably a fast talker. And he's desperate. I say we go with him.

WAVERLY

We had to kill the last guy you wanted to go with.

CONTINUED

#2211

19.

22

CONTINUED - 2

22

TRIGG
McCormick's the guy, David,
trust me.

There is a beat and then Waverly hits the button on his
desk intercom.

WAVERLY
Debbie, send in Mister McCormick,
please.

Play the beat and:

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE

#2211

20.

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

23 EXT. OFFICE BUILDING - DAY

23

McCORMICK'S VOICE (OVER)
Mister Waverly?

Then:

24 INT. WAVERLY'S OFFICE - DAY

24

As Waverly comes from around his desk, McCormick nervously straightens his tie and checks out the surroundings.

WAVERLY
(smiling)
David....

He extends his hand.

McCORMICK
No. Ah, it's Mark. Mark
McCormick. I thought this
was Mister Waverly's office.

Waverly laughs, very charming, and he immediately puts McCormick at ease.

WAVERLY
It is... I'm David Waverly.

They shake hands and McCormick nods: trying to smile.

WAVERLY
Terrific suit.

McCORMICK
Terrific office.

Waverly motions McCormick to a chair and leans against his desk: smiling. There is a beat and we can see that this guy is a real pro... slick, warm, charming and funny. McCormick likes him immediately.

WAVERLY
Mark, the first thing I'd like
to do is congratulate you...
(MORE)

CONTINUED

WAVERLY (cont'd)

(beat)

Congratulations.

MCCORMICK

Thank you... Why?

WAVERLY

Your resume. It was, well, I guess "impressive" covers it.

McCormick starts to sense something funny going on here.

MCCORMICK

No offense, Mister Waverly, but--

WAVERLY

David.

MCCORMICK

David... But in the last week that resume has gotten me exactly zero interviews, no call backs, fourteen turndowns and a job offer as a short-order cook at Bernie's Burgers on Third Street.

WAVERLY

But you didn't give up, did you? You knocked on that door out there. You put on your best suit, you came in here like a man. Shook my hand, looked me right in the eye and asked for a job. I like that. It's courageous... No, it's more than courageous. It's the mark of a good salesman. Are you a good salesman, Mark?

MCCORMICK

I don't know.

WAVERLY

That's my guess... I can spot a good man from forty thousand feet. Okay, so your resume is unique at best, no track record,
(MORE)

24

CONTINUED - 2

24

WAVERLY (cont'd)
no sales experience and probably no credit, right? But hey, I'm not concerned 'cause you're looking at a man who was turned down for a department store revolving charge account two years ago.

(Beat)

And now I'm worth somewhere in the neighborhood of sixteen million dollars.

McCormick is having a little trouble fielding all of this.

MCCORMICK

(smiles)

I just wanted to be up front with you, Mister Waverly.

WAVERLY

David... And I respect that.

McCormick nods.

WAVERLY

Mark, do you know what the most important thing in sales is?

MCCORMICK

(thinks)

Selling?

WAVERLY

People... Salesmen are in the people business, Mark. I love people and I'll bet my best commission that you do, too. Am I right?

McCormick nods.

MCCORMICK

I guess I do, yeah.

WAVERLY

Of course you do, or you wouldn't be here.

He smiles.

CONTINUED

WAVERLY

Now, I know you're sitting there, just like I did two years ago, thinking that I'm some kind of hotshot who's gonna try'n sign you up for fifty thousand cases of birdseed that you'll never be able to sell just so I can take your last dollar... But I'm not. And even though this may sound to you like a lotta crap, it's not.

MCCORMICK

Then what exactly is it?

WAVERLY

Excellent question.

Waverly motions to the large "W" that hangs on the wall behind his desk.

WAVERLY

Do you know what that stands for Mark?

MCCORMICK

(Re: the "W")

Waverly?

WAVERLY

(smiles)

I'm flattered... Thank you.

(serious)

Water.

MCCORMICK

Water?

WAVERLY

Ninety percent of this planet is made up of water... You and me, eighty-six percent water... We drink it, mix it with Scotch, bathe in it. It nourishes the plants we eat and cools the fevers of disease... But the one thing we don't do is respect it... There's no respect in the world for water, Mark.

CONTINUED

24 CONTINUED - 4

24

Waverly pours a clear glass of water from the pitcher on his desk and holds it up.

WAVERLY

(revering the glass)

And the reason this glass of water is absolutely free of impurities is a direct result of the Waverly Water Filter System.

There is a beat and McCormick is catching on: disappointed.

MCCORMICK

You want me to sell Waverly water filters, is that what this is all about?

Waverly shakes his head.

WAVERLY

You're very humble, I like that... Not just sales.

(Beat)

No. I want you to be regional director of Waverly Water Filter Systems.

MCCORMICK

This is a joke, right?

WAVERLY

Hardly.

MCCORMICK

(incredulous)

Regional director of Waverly Water Filter Systems?

WAVERLY

For the entire west coast.

McCormick goes to say something but Waverly stops him.

MCCORMICK

Look, I ah--

CONTINUED

WAVERLY

Let me finish... Then, you can walk out that door, no hard feelings... But, I'm willing to take the chance if you are. I think you might have what it takes to inspire a first rate sales force. I think you've got what it takes to be a Waverly Man.

MCCORMICK

Are you offering me a job?

WAVERLY

No. I'm offering you a career.

MCCORMICK

Look David... Thank you very much.

McCormick starts to leave.

WAVERLY

(smiles)

You get a company car, an expense account, a wardrobe allowance and we have an excellent health plan.

McCormick turns back to Waverly. There is a beat.

MCCORMICK

Why me?

WAVERLY

Why not you?

(Beat)

Hey Mark, maybe you look to me like a guy who wants to be somebody.

(smiles)

How's five grand?

MCCORMICK

A year?

CONTINUED

WAVERLY

A week.

McCormick is flabbergasted.

MCCORMICK

Look David, I'm down to my last six bucks. I've got bills to pay, I need to find an apartment and...

WAVERLY

... You need a source of income, am I right?

MCCORMICK

Yeah... So, what's the catch?

WAVERLY

No catch. No strings. No obligations... It's up to you Mark, and if it's not your kind of career, there's the door. No hard feelings.

There is a beat as McCormick thinks it over and then starts to smile.

MCCORMICK

Water filters, huh?

On his look, we:

DISSOLVE TO

25 EXT. GULL'S WAY - DAY

25

It's been a couple of weeks since McCormick has moved out and maybe we can see that the place is becoming a bit overgrown, papers and etc. on the front lawn, trash cans still out by the street... Then, we see something moving in a row of tall bushes and OVER THIS the sound of hedge trimmer slicing with a vengeance, and the telephone continues RINGING from inside the house.

HARDCASTLE'S VOICE (OVER)

All right, I'm coming, already.

There is a beat and then Hardcastle steps out from inside the bushes, slicing the hedge trimmer like mad as he seemingly attacks the shrubbery... He storms off toward the house, rubbing his scratched arms and brushing off about a million little branches and etc. Play this, and:

26 INT. HARDCASTLE'S DEN - DAY

26

Hardcastle enters and holsters the hedge trimmer into his belt like a gun as he grabs up the telephone.

HARDCASTLE

Hello!

McCORMICK'S VOICE (OVER TELEPHONE)

Hi, Judge?

HARDCASTLE

(he knows)

Who's this?

McCORMICK'S VOICE (OVER TELEPHONE)

C'mon, Judge, it's me.

HARDCASTLE

(not happy)

Well, it's been over three weeks since I've seen or heard from you, kiddo. What the hell's going on here, you could'a called. Where the hell are you?

On that:

CUT TO

27 CLOSE ON - A MERCEDES BENZ 27

As this gorgeous 450 SL convertible wipes CAMERA.

MCCORMICK'S VOICE (OVER)

Guess.

28 INT. MERCEDES BENZ - DAY 28

McCormick is at the wheel and on a car telephone.

MCCORMICK

C'mon, Judge. Guess.

29 INTERCUT - HARDCASTLE AND MCCORMICK AS NECESSARY 29

HARDCASTLE

I'm mad as hell at you McCormick!
I don't want to guess.

MCCORMICK

Look, you were worried about
me, I'm sorry. But--

HARDCASTLE

The hell I was worried. You
walk out of here three weeks
ago without a goodbye and, and,
and... Look kiddo, if you're
back in jail or something. Don't
expect me to bail you out.

McCormick holds the telephone away from his ear for a
beat, letting Hardcastle rant and rave. Then:

MCCORMICK

(warm/serious)

Judge, I'm very sorry. Look,
I had to find out some stuff
about myself. But now, I
really want to see you.

HARDCASTLE

You wanna come home, right?
Well, I don't know about that--

MCCORMICK

Ah, not exactly. Look, meet
me for dinner tonight, okay?

(MORE)

CONTINUED

29 CONTINUED

McCORMICK (cont'd)

How about one of those elegant little French places?

HARDCASTLE

Now what the hell would you know about one of those elegant little French places?

On that:

CUT TO

30 INT. LE SERRE - NIGHT

30

Just as Hardcastle and McCormick sit down at either end of an elegant table - FAVOR McCormick, immaculately dressed.

McCORMICK

(bad accent)

Le canard auxcerises est magnifique.

Hardcastle is not impressed.

HARDCASTLE

"Le" what?

McCORMICK

The duck with the oranges is pretty good.

In the b.g. we can see just how plush this place is and Hardcastle looks around, toying with the silver and then settling on McCormick: nodding to his suit.

HARDCASTLE

Looks like you've really turned into a bigshot. Fancy suit, silk tie, French cuffs.

McCORMICK

How do I look?

HARDCASTLE

Like a pimp.

McCORMICK

Judge.

CONTINUED

A WAITER approaches and McCormick motions him away: "Not yet".

HARDCASTLE

Judge nothing... Look kiddo, three weeks ago we have a very ordinary argument, not even one of our best arguments, and you throw a tantrum and walk out on me.

MCCORMICK

It wasn't a tantrum.

HARDCASTLE

Yeah, it was... So, sometimes I'm maybe a little hard on you, and sometimes you're hard on me. Big deal... But if you think I'm gonna apologize you've got--

MCCORMICK

I didn't ask you out to dinner to apologize for anything. I asked you out to dinner because I wanted to tell you something.

HARDCASTLE

Oh yeah, what?

MCCORMICK

Thank you... Thanks, Judge. Thanks for being the one person in my life I could look up to and thanks for giving me the kind of foundation I needed to become my own person.

This beat is both warm and awkward.

MCCORMICK

I really want to make you proud of me, and I think what I'm gonna tell you will... I'm doing real well for myself now.

McCormick motions to his brand new Rolex.

CONTINUED

McCORMICK

Three grand.

(re: suit)

Custom made silk and I'm driving a 450 SL all because you had the guts to throw me out on my can and make me get a job.

Hardcastle is a little skeptical and slightly suspicious. The waiter approaches again and this time Hardcastle motions him away.

HARDCASTLE

Just what is your job, Mark...

I mean, three grand for a "watch"? I hope you haven't done anything stupid.

McCormick smiles proudly and hands Hardcastle one of his business cards. Hardcastle reads it.

HARDCASTLE

(re: card)

I'm too late, you already did.

(sarcastic)

Mark McCormick, executive in charge of West Coast Distribution for Waverly Water Filter Systems. Gimme a break.

McCORMICK

You could be a little impressed, Judge. It's a hell of a job.

HARDCASTLE

Not if it's with David Waverly it isn't. It's still David, right? Has to be, the guy's burned up all of his other aliases.

McCORMICK

(smug)

Aliases? Please.

(beat)

You can't know everybody, Judge.

CONTINUED

HARDCASTLE

Anyone who's ever worked with the Bunko squad knows Waverly. I met him when he was selling solar fire alarms, then he did time for a bond fraud deal, and I'll bet you the check that this water filter gig is a pyramid sales scam. I just can't believe you're this dumb... Water filters?

Again, the waiter approaches the table and they both wave him off.

MCCORMICK

Boy, I love this. I'm here to express a little gratitude and you're raining all over me. And, Waverly is no bunko artist, he happens to be a merchandising genius.

On that,

CUT TO

EXT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

A couple of semi-trailers pull in and out of the docks.

WAVERLY'S VOICE (OVER)

No I'm not... I'm just someone who knows--

INT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Trigg and Waverly walk down the docks as a couple of teamsters unload pallets of the Waverly water filter system.

WAVERLY (cont'd)

--how to put together a sales team. You're a good man, Peter... and McCormick, he's gonna work out just fine.

CONTINUED

TRIGG

You think so?

WAVERLY

The kid's terrific.

(to a teamster)

Make sure you break these orders down by zone. Circle the district in red and label them with the distributor's name and sales route.

TRIGG

We have enough of the brochures left? Our presentation went through the roof.

As they continue to walk the docks.

WAVERLY

Yeah, it did. And what have we learned from that, Peter?

Trigg goes to say something, but Waverly stops him.

WAVERLY

I'll tell you what we've learned. You take a guy like McCormick. A real loser, but someone people can really cheer for. You gotta get them to cheer for your guy, Peter. It's essential. You take that guy, put a couple of dollars in his pocket and make his success appear available to the man on the street...and you got them.

Waverly pulls a stack of checks out of his pocket.

WAVERLY

So far McCormick has only done one seminar and already I've got seventy-six clients buying the rights to the Waverly Water Systems. We're gonna have to double book the territories.

(shrugs)

Two hundred and thirty-nine thousand dollars... and what did it cost us?

32

CONTINUED - 2

32

HARDCASTLE'S VOICE (OVER)

Okay, how much is it costing
you to become Waverly's West
Coast executive?

33

RESUME - INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

33

Hardcastle and McCormick are still seated at the table.

MCCORMICK

He's paying me, Judge...
and quite well I might add.

HARDCASTLE

How much?

MCCORMICK

I don't think the particulars
of my financial arrangement
with the Waverly Corporation
are any of your concern.

HARDCASTLE

Let me guess. You're a
likeable kid with a lotta
charm and a nice rap. So,
I'd say that he's put you
on the payroll for about
five grand a week, gave you
a fancy company car and
enough cash for the snazzy
watch and all the silk suits,
right?

McCormick tries not to react: cool.

MCCORMICK

Okay, for the sake of argument,
let's say he "is" the same
David Waverly, and maybe he
has done some time. I've done
time, too, big deal. But the
deal's legitimate, Judge, and
the Waverly water filter system
is a hell of a product.

CONTINUED

HARDCASTLE

How many have you sold?

MCCORMICK

I, ah, I'm not in direct sales. I'm management.

HARDCASTLE

You're a shill, McCormick.

MCCORMICK

(angry)

How about if you give me a little support with this? I mean, I've latched onto a real opportunity for once in my life and you're spitting in my soup just because you want me to come home and start kissing your feet again. Well, I'm not gonna.

HARDCASTLE

I don't care if you come home, but I do care if you start screwing your life up. Look, kiddo. You're a shill. Waverly takes a guy like you, pays him a lot of money to make him look like a Nelson Rockefeller and then uses him to sucker in a bunch'a jerks willing to spend their life savings for a chance to sell his phoney water filter.

MCCORMICK

You're wrong, Judge.

HARDCASTLE

Am I? Look Mark, doesn't it seem funny that a guy like yourself who on a good day, is maybe qualified to be a repo-man at a carwash next to a race track, is makin' five grand a week? It's an old scam, kid.

McCORMICK
I've had about enough of
this...

HARDCASTLE
Mark, I just--

McCormick finally motions for the waiter.

McCORMICK
Waiter?

The waiter arrives from his station: finally.

WAITER
You're ready to order
dinner Mister McCormick?

McCormick stands.

McCORMICK
I'm not hungry... Give
him the orange duck and
send the check to my
office.
(to Hardcastle)
It's been nice knowing you,
Judge. Have a nice life.

*

McCormick walks out of the restaurant, play the beat off
Hardcastle's look and:

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN

34

EXT. CONVENTION CENTER - DAY

34

A large sign now stands on the front steps that reads:

THE WAVERLY WATER FILTER SYSTEMS
WELCOME
THE WAVERLY MEN OF THE FUTURE

Over this:

WAVERLY'S VOICE (OVER)

There is no respect in the
world for water.

an audience cheers and:

35

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

35

About a hundred future "Waverly men and women" are seated in this room and on the dais, David Waverly works his magic as Peter Trigg and a slightly embarrassed and depressed McCormick smile out toward the crowd: each with a large pitcher of water in front of them.

WAVERLY

(heavy)

None... Not for a drop
of rain, a glass of water
or a raging river.

Someone from the audience yells "right on" and McCormick rolls his eyes skyward: he can't take much more of this.

WAVERLY

But, for a mere three thousand
dollars each one of you here
today can earn the mark of a
Waverly man...and the opportunity...
no... the privilege to sell the
inalienable right of clean water
to your fellow Americans.

CONTINUED

The crowd cheers.

WAVERLY

And now, I'd like to introduce Mark McCormick, our most recent addition to the Waverly team.

McCormick tries to smile: uncomfortable.

WAVERLY

Mark had his last six bucks in his pocket when he applied for a position with this company a little over three weeks ago, and now he drives a Mercedes, rented a condo in Beverly Hills and he's grossed over fifteen thousand dollars in salary alone. Not bad, huh, for a guy who couldn't even get into a trade school.

McCormick slowly gets up and makes his way to the microphone and the crowd cheers for him as Waverly shakes his hand.

WAVERLY

Ladies and Gentlemen, may I proudly present Mark McCormick, our executive in charge of franchise distribution for the Waverly Water Filter Systems on the entire West Coast.

(nods)

Mark...

The crowd cheers wildly as Waverly turns over the microphone with a huge grin... McCormick feels horrible, not sure what he's going to say to his audience.

MCCORMICK

Ah, a lotta what David Waverly told you about me is true, but to be really honest I must say--

Waverly interrupts here with a huge smile.

CONTINUED

WAVERLY

The key word here is honesty,
ladies and gentlemen...
Honesty is the mark of a
Waverly Man.

He shoots McCormick a hard look...and then claps, getting
the crowd to cheer.

WAVERLY

(nods)

Mark...

MCCORMICK

And, ah, here at Waverly, we
are confronting the very im-
portant issue of clean water head
on... But, y'see, I haven't
actually seen--

Waverly interrupts again and McCormick is struggling.

WAVERLY

Mark, let's not confuse these
friends here with the
particulars...

(smiles)

Just tell our future Waverly
distributors what can be in
for them.

HARDCASTLE'S VOICE (OVER)

To start with, maybe three
to five for merchandizing
fraud.

and:

CUT TO

Hardcastle is with MIKE DELANEY and he holds a file,
reading it over as Delaney sips coffee and leans on
his desk.

CONTINUED

DELANEY

Maybe, maybe not... There's no hard evidence on this case yet, Milt. Look, it's a free country. Waverly's filed a D.B.A. with the federal trade commission. So far it's legit.

HARDCASTLE

The guy's done nine years on different pyramid sales deals like this. Mike, look at his record, Waverly's sold everything from breast enlargement cream to magic soap.

DELANEY

And he's paid his debt... Okay, I can understand why you're so upset, Milt. I mean, yeah, he pumped a lotta smoke up your buddy McCormick and he got him sucked into this thing. But, until we get a complaint, we can't make a move. No laws have been broken.

HARDCASTLE

Yet.

DELANEY

Witch hunts aren't your style, Hardcase.

HARDCASTLE

But keeping a friend from getting burned is... Look Mike, let's say I can prove that there's really no such product as the Waverly Water Filter. Then that's fraud, right?

MCCORMICK'S VOICE (OVER)

I'm not saying it's fraud, David.

CUT TO

INT. WAVERLY'S OFFICE - DAY

Waverly and McCormick are in the office.

WAVERLY

Then what are you saying,
Mark?

(warm)

C'mon, spit it out, I run
an open company. I want you
to know that.

MCCORMICK

Then how come every time I
tried to tell that roomfull
of "future franchisers" just
exactly what my situation
here is, you interrupted me
with a song and dance about
your magnificent product.

WAVERLY

Our product...and even though
you're very good at this, you're
still very new... Look Mark,
the only reason I helped you
with your presentation was so
you could benefit from my many
years in the business.

MCCORMICK

Do I look like an idiot to you?

Waverly shakes his head and smiles.

MCCORMICK

Then if you want me to rep
this water filter system....

(shrugs)

I just want to see one.

WAVERLY

I'm surprised at you, Mark.
Here I am giving you a
terrific opportunity and--

MCCORMICK

And all I want to do is see
what I'm selling. I'm an
honest guy, David. What can
I tell you.

CONTINUED

WAVERLY

The systems are still in development, we'll have our first shipment here in a week or so.

MCCORMICK

Ah, c'mon, don't give me that.

WAVERLY

Do you think I'm lying to you, Mark?

MCCORMICK

Maybe...? All I know is that you're waving me around like some kind'a flag in front of a bunch of poor slobs who are throwing a lot of their money into this deal... It's very simple, show me the water filter or I'm out the door.

There is a beat and then, Waverly smiles and presses his intercom: smug.

WAVERLY

Debbie, would you please bring in the Waverly water filter prototype please, the dash nine model.

(to McCormick)

Okay?

McCormick nods and then after a beat, Debbie appears through the door with a box and puts it on the table in the room.

WAVERLY

Thanks Debbie.

She exits and Waverly nods to the box.

WAVERLY

Open it.

McCormick opens the box and pulls out something that

CONTINUED

37

CONTINUED - 2

37

looks like a cheap imitation of a coffee filter...
It's obviously just a prop: worthless.

MCCORMICK

(laughs)

This is it?

WAVERLY

That's the dash nine model,
yeah.

MCCORMICK

You're joking... It's a coffee
filter... Three grand for this
piece'a junk?

WAVERLY

(hard)

I'm paying you too much
money to joke, McCormick.

MCCORMICK

Well, don't sweat it David,
'cause I just quit.

WAVERLY

It's probably the best paying
job an ex-con like you is ever
gonna get.

There is a beat and McCormick reacts to Waverly's knowledge
of his background.

MCCORMICK

That wasn't on my resume.

Waverly shrugs.

WAVERLY

I didn't hire you off'a your
resume, Ace... I gotta lot
of money sunk into you and
a roomful of people who want
to shake your hand and invest
in the Waverly system just
because of your instant success.
If that's against the law,
you've broken as many of them
as I have...

CONTINUED

#2211

43.

37

CONTINUED - 3

37

MCCORMICK

Tell you what, David Baby.

McCormick slips off his Rolex and drops it on Waverly's desk along with the keys to his Mercedes.

MCCORMICK

Call the cops.

McCormick exits and we:

CUT TO

38

EXT. OFFICE BUILDING - DAY

38

McCormick storms out the front door and down the steps. As he walks off and disappears around a corner, we can see Hardcastle's pickup truck pull up and park. Then:

CUT TO

39

INT. WAITING ROOM - DAY

39

Hardcastle walks up to Debbie at the reception desk.

HARDCASTLE

I'd like to see Mister McCormick, please.

DEBBIE

I'm afraid Mister McCormick has left for the day. If you're interested in purchasing a franchise, I could make an appointment?

HARDCASTLE

No thanks. How about Waverly, is he in?

Hardcastle walks off toward Waverly's office.

DEBBIE

In conference, but I, ah, could--

CONTINUED

#2211

44.

39

CONTINUED

39

HARDCASTLE
Relax, we're old friends.

And:

40

INT. WAVERLY'S OFFICE - DAY

40

Just as Hardcastle barges in. Waverly recognizes him immediately.

HARDCASTLE
Hi, David.
(smiles)
It's still David, right?

WAVERLY
What the hell are you doing here?

HARDCASTLE
Looking after an old roommate'a mine.
(smiles)
You look good, how've you been.

WAVERLY
You want me to call security, Hardcastle? You've got no right to be in here, unless you gotta a warrant?

HARDCASTLE
I just want to talk about your new scam. Might even wanna invest some of my dough.

Hardcastle goes over to the water filter and picks it up.

HARDCASTLE
This is it?
(laughs)
The solar fire alarm was a better idea, David.

CONTINUED

WAVERLY

You're makin' a big mistake,
Hardcastle.

HARDCASTLE

No. You did, Waverly. When
you went and sucked McCormick
into this sick deal and
figured you could use him as
some kind of shill. He's
real important to me, kind'a
like a best friend... And
nobody gets to put the hustle
on my best friend.

WAVERLY

Relax, McCormick quit.

HARDCASTLE

I figured he would. But that
still doesn't make it legal.

(Re: water filter)

So, I'm gonna run this over
to the Federal Trade Commission
and maybe get McCormick to
testify about what he knows
of your operation here... Figure
we should be able to come up
with something to take you off
the board again.

(smiles)

We're a heck of a team.

On that Hardcastle turns and leaves. There is a beat and
then Waverly snatches up his telephone.

WAVERLY

Peter?

(Beat)

We've got trouble.

CUT TO

Hardcastle's pickup truck streaks past CAMERA and:

42 ANGLE - GREY FORD SEDAN

42

As Chase (the same man from the top of Act One) pulls out and follows.

43 INTERCUT - INT. HARDCASTLE'S PICKUP TRUCK - DAY

43

He sees the grey Ford closing up in his rear view mirror and speeds up.

44 EXT. CAR CHASE - DAY

44

The grey Ford pulls up next to Hardcastle and Chase tries to force Hardcastle's pickup off the road. We play all the action we can as Hardcastle does his best to keep the pickup on the road... Then, Chase blows out a front tire and Hardcastle's pickup truck careens off the road and tumbles through a row of trees, exploding through a fence and coming to rest against a steel guard rail. Chase skids up in the grey Ford and piles out with his gun drawn just as Hardcastle jumps out of the pickup, reaching for his gun.

CHASE

Drop it!

There is a beat and then Hardcastle drops his gun. Play it, and:

FADE OUT

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN

45

EXT. GULL'S WAY - DAY

45

The Coyote is parked out in front and then after a beat we can see McCormick hauling the empty trash cans up the driveway. He feels a little conspicuous, maybe picking up a stray piece of trash and etc.

McCORMICK
(calls out)
Don't shoot, Judge.
It's me.

Of course there is no reply.

McCORMICK
Hey Hardcastle, I'm home!

McCormick goes to the front steps and sees a couple of newspapers, one from today and one from yesterday. It's clear that Hardcastle hasn't been home for awhile. McCormick picks up the newspapers and checks the dates. On that, he tries the door and it's open...as he enters:

McCORMICK
(concerned)
Judge?

46

INT. HARDCASTLE'S DEN - DAY

46

McCormick enters and looks around:

McCORMICK
Hardcastle?

Then he goes to the phone machine and plays back the messages.

McCORMICK'S VOICE (ON MACHINE)
Hi, Judge, ah, it's me...
McCormick. Look, can, I, ah,
come home... Is that okay?

CONTINUED

46

CONTINUED

46

Another message:

MCCORMICK'S VOICE (ON MACHINE)

It's me again... C'mon, Judge.
I've been trying to reach you
for two days. Where are you?
I wanna come home.

*

McCormick flips off the machine.

MCCORMICK

(sotto voce)

What's goin' on here?

On that, the telephone rings and McCormick picks it up.

MCCORMICK

(into telephone)

Judge?

47

INTERCUT - DAVID WAVERLY AS NECESSARY

47

in his office and in the b.g. we can see Trigg holding
a gun on Hardcastle.

WAVERLY

Hi, Mark. It's David Waverly.

*

McCormick reacts.

MCCORMICK

I told you, man. I quit.

WAVERLY

Yeah, but I got a lotta of
future distributors who are
waiting to hear you give another
seminar on our new product.

MCCORMICK

Let me tell you where you
can put "our" product--

WAVERLY

Mark, if you ever want to see
Hardcastle alive, I think we
better have a meeting on this...
now.

CONTINUED

47

CONTINUED

47

Waverly holds the telephone over to Hardcastle and Trigg nudges him with the gun.

HARDCASTLE
It's me, kiddo.

WAVERLY
(into telephone)
You go to the cops, he's
dead.

Waverly hangs up.

48

RESUME - INT. HARDCASTLE'S DEN - DAY

48

There is a beat as McCormick reacts and then exits.
Then:

CUT TO

49

EXT. OFFICE BUILDING - DAY

49

As McCormick squeals up in the Coyote. He gets out and makes his way up the front steps, disappearing into the office building.

MCCORMICK'S VOICE (OVER)
You were right about this,
Judge. I'm sorry.

CUT TO

50

CLOSE ON - HARDCASTLE

50

as he sits in a chair and maybe we can see that he's been knocked around a bit.

HARDCASTLE
When you figured out that
it was an illegal deal,
you quit.
(smiles)
That's all I care about.

51

PULL BACK TO INCLUDE - INT. WAVERLY'S OFFICE - DAY

51

Waverly leans against his desk as Trigg holds the gun on Hardcastle and Chase frisks McCormick.

WAVERLY

This is real touching
guys, anybody mind if
I cry?

McCormick lounges at Waverly and Chase flips him to the ground and puts a gun in his ribs.

CHASE

Don't.

He pulls McCormick to his feet.

McCORMICK

Nobody's been murdered yet,
Waverly. Don't do anything
stupid.

HARDCASTLE

Yeah, there has, Mark.
The guy you replaced.

WAVERLY

(to Hardcastle)

Shut up!

On that:

52

INTERCUT - MIKE DELANEY

52

as he sits in an unmarked POLICE CAR and listens to a small transmitter.

WAVERLY'S VOICE (OVER TRANSMITTER)

All right, Mark. Now, you
and me, we're going over to
the Convention Center and
you're gonna get another
chance to tell an audience
just what a privilege selling
Waverly water systems is,
or I push the button on your
friend here.

Play this, then:

#2211

51.

53 RESUME SCENE - INT. WAVERLY'S OFFICE - DAY 53

Hardcastle shoots a look to McCormick.

HARDCASTLE

Do it, Mark.

McCormick nods and:

CUT TO

54 EXT. OFFICE BUILDING - DAY 54

Waverly holds a gun on McCormick and they climb into the Coyote as Trigg and Chase push Hardcastle into the grey Ford sedan. The Coyote drives off and:

55 ANGLE - MIKE DELANEY - INT. UNMARKED POLICE CAR - DAY 55

flicking on his radio.

DELANEY

(into radio)

Let's stay on Hardcastle in the sedan.

56 ANGLE - SEDAN 56

As Chase drives it off in the opposite direction and rounds a corner... Then about four squad cars surround it, causing it to skid to a stop and bash over a curb. Chase leaps out and draws his gun just as about four cops pull down on him.

COP

Freeze!

MCCORMICK'S VOICE (OVER)

There is no respect in the world for water.

On that:

CUT TO

57 INT. CONVENTION CENTER - DAY 57

Signs and posters are everywhere beseeching the need for the Waverly Water Filter Systems and we can see hundreds of would-be distributors filling the rows. McCormick stands at a podium and makes his pitch.

CONTINUED

MCCORMICK

Not for a drop of rain, a glass of water or a raging river.

(Beat)

And before I became the executive in charge of the west coast for the Waverly Water Systems, I had no respect for myself... I was a loser, with six bucks in my pocket, bad credit and a resume that couldn't get me a job as a used car salesman.

(he points to Waverly)

But that man over there... That man, gave me the opportunity, no, the privilege, to become a member of the Waverly team...

Waverly smiles as the crowd cheers and nods to McCormick.

MCCORMICK

And, ladies and gentlemen, for a mere three thousand dollar investment you can earn the mark of a Waverly man and the honor of selling the inalienable right of clean water to your fellow Americans.

The crowd cheers again and:

as he enters the convention center with Delaney and a couple of cops. He waves to McCormick.

CONTINUED

McCORMICK

But first, let me tell
you a little bit about
David Waverly.

McCormick finally sees Hardcastle and smiles.

McCORMICK

(hard)

Yeah, let me tell you about
David Waverly... He's done
time for selling fake fire
alarms and bad soap in a
pyramid sales scam. The
Waverly water system is
nothing but a phoney
coffee filter and I think
he murdered the guy I replaced.
He's a stiff, and if any of
you people are dumb enough
to give him any money, you'll
never see it again.

(turns to Waverly)

Care to say anything, David?

Waverly stands and sees Hardcastle and Delaney leading
the cops down the isle... He pulls a gun, fires and
bolts backstage as McCormick dodges a bullet and gives
chase. The crowd panics and:

CUT TO

Waverly explodes out the back door and runs into the
parking lot with McCormick hot on his ass. He pulls
a man out of a sedan and jumps in, squealing around in
a corner and guns the motor as he tries to run McCormick
down... McCormick rolls for cover and the sedan roars out
of the parking lot.

as he sprints to the Coyote and jumps in, starts the

CONTINUED

61

CONTINUED

61

motor and burns out after the sedan.

CUT TO

62

EXT. CAR CHASE - DAY

62

The sedan blasts down a side street and we see the Coyote pull up from the rear... They're side by side now, cutting through traffic and fighting for position. The sedan takes a hard left and slices across the front lawns of a row of houses and McCormick has to hit his breaks and pulls off a wheel-smoking U-turn... Roaring after the sedan.

63

NEW ANGLE - SEDAN

63

As the Coyote catches up and the chase continues. We play this for as much action as will hold, then:

64

ANGLE - SEMI-TRAILER

64

backing out of an alley way and blocking the street.

65

RESUME - CAR CHASE

65

The sedan and the Coyote are door handle to door handle, neither of them giving an inch... and screaming toward the semi-trailer. We play this, and then at the last minute the sedan swerves, hits a guard rail and launches itself into the side of the trailer as the Coyote roars underneath with less than a fraction to spare.

66

REVERSE ANGLE - SEMI-TRAILER

66

The sedan comes blasting through the other side and the Coyote sneaks past the undercarriage and spins to a stop as the sedan flips end over end and comes to a bone crushing pile in the center of the road.

CONTINUED

66 CONTINUED

66

McCormick is out of the Coyote in a flash and he sprints to the sedan, hauling Waverly out.

67 NEW ANGLE - McCORMICK

67

As he flips Waverly up on the hood of the sedan and frisks him, removing a hand gun from the shoulder holster under Waverly's three hundred dollar suit.

McCORMICK
This is one deal I'm
glad I was able to
close, David.

In the b.g. we can see some squad cars pull up.

68 ANGLE - HARDCASTLE AND DELANEY

68

as they make their way to McCormick and a couple of cops come up, cuff Waverly and lead him off.

HARDCASTLE
Nice work, kiddo.
(smiles)
You okay?

McCORMICK
Yeah.
(to Delaney)
How'd you guys get to
Hardcastle?

DELANEY
He's been wearing a wire
ever since he left my
office two days ago.

McCORMICK
And nobody told me?!

CONTINUED

HARDCASTLE

We needed some hard evidence
on Waverly, kiddo.

(smiles)

Anyway, we all wanted to
hear that hot shot sales
pitch of yours.

(Beat)

"There's no respect in the
world for water"... Where
do you get that stuff,
McCormick, it's terrible.

Off McCormick's lock.

McCORMICK

(a little hurt)

Judge?

*

HARDCASTLE

Okay, okay... Welcome home,
kiddo.

*

FADE OUT

END OF ACT FOUR

#2211

57.

TAG

FADE IN

69

EXT. GULL'S WAY - DAY

69

Hardcastle's pickup truck and the Coyote are parked in the front drive and once again we can see something moving in the tall row of bushes as the sound of a hedge trimmer slices away. Then:

HARDCASTLE'S VOICE (OVER)
Hey, McCormick?!

70

REVERSE ANGLE - HARDCASTLE

70

as he walks up the front drive with a handful of mail.

HARDCASTLE
You gotta'a lotta mail here.

And on that:

71

ANGLE - McCORMICK

71

stepping out from the center of the bushes, holding a hedge trimmer and covered with about a million tiny branches. He brushes them off:

McCORMICK
What?

72

WIDEN TO INCLUDE - SCENE

72

as Hardcastle shuffles through the stack of letters and etc.

HARDCASTLE
Mail, you got a ton of it.

McCORMICK
May I take a break and read it "M'Lord"?

CONTINUED

Hardcastle checks his watch and smiles.

HARDCASTLE

Yeah, I guess you can punch
out for ten minutes.

McCormick puts down the shears and shakes his head.

MCCORMICK

You're a real prince
Ackley-kid.

HARDCASTLE

(smiles)

Just make sure you add ten
minutes to the end of your
shift.

Hardcastle hands over McCormick's letters one at a time.

HARDCASTLE

Okay, let's see here...
Ah... got something from
Master-Charge...

MCCORMICK

(takes letter)

What?

HARDCASTLE

Diner's Club...

MCCORMICK

You're kidding...?

HARDCASTLE

American Express... Visa
Card International... And
you gotta couple of Gas
credit card bills here...

Hardcastle hands them over and McCormick tears them
open.

MCCORMICK

I can't believe this...

CONTINUED

HARDCASTLE

Believe it...

(reads letter)

Los Angeles Executive Auto
Lease.

(hands over letter)

A mobile phone invoice...
Michael's French Cousine...
Harmens Fine Clothes For
Men...

Hardcastle hands over the rest of the bills and etc.

HARDCASTLE

Looks like you hadd'a a heck
of good time, kiddo.

MCCORMICK

There's about eight or nine
thousand dollars worth of
bills here.

HARDCASTLE

Maybe there's a movie in it.

(waves hand)

"One Month In The Life Of
A Young Executive". Ah,
life in the fast lane.

MCCORMICK

This isn't funny, Judge.
Waverly was supposed to
pay all of these. It was
covered on my company
expense account.

HARDCASTLE

'cept, Waverly's in jail...
And there never even really
was a company, Mark. I told
you that.

There is a beat.

MCCORMICK

I don't have to pay these,
Judge... It's not legal.

CONTINUED

HARDCASTLE

It's legal.

(from memory)

Any United States citizen twenty-one years or older with requisite capacity can act as his or her own agent in any contractual obligations and thus renders any recognized signature, initial and or notarized mark legally binding... In other words, you sing the song you pay the band.

McCORMICK

How am I gonna pay off all of these?

HARDCASTLE

Well, I've been giving that a lot of thought...and yeah, you're right, a guy as responsible as you should have a chance to make his own way in the world, pay his own bills and be his own man... I'm proud of you, kiddo. You did good.

McCormick smiles.

McCORMICK

Thanks Judge.

HARDCASTLE

So, I'm gonna raise your allowance.

They exchange looks and then Hardcastle picks up a hose and hands it to McCormick, motioning to his pickup truck.

HARDCASTLE

The pickup needs a wash...
(smiles, Re: hose)
And remember, there's no respect in the world for water, kiddo.

CONTINUED

#2211

61.

72

CONTINUED - 4

72

Hardcastle walks off and McCormick regards the hose in his hand... He can't resist.

MCCORMICK

Hey, Judge?
(smiles)
You're right.

And as McCormick pulls the trigger on the hose nozzle and hits Hardcastle with a stream of water...

FREEZE FRAME

FADE OUT

THE END