

I'll Do Anything

(Session Runner walks MATT in with headshot)

Session Runner

This is MATT Hobbs. This is John Earl McAlpine our director and this is BURKE our producer.

(Session Runner exits)

BURKE

So...what have you been doing with yourself? The last few years?

MATT

Look, if you don't mind, I'm really bad at interviews I'd really prefer just to read first.

BURKE

That's the way you'd like to do it?

MATT

Yes.

BURKE

I see. OK. I'll tell you what. Why read at all? Why don't I just give you the role? OK? You want the part? We don't have to read.

(MATT takes it in then laughs.)

BURKE

No no, I'm serious. Really.

You know there are all different ways. Do you know Bear Lucci never reads actors? Just looks at them, feels around a little bit and then he decides. Doesn't read a word.

Well I also have a way. I like to interview first, then I like to read maybe come back the next day do it all over again. I'll call people up the actors worked with, I'll check him out if he's famous I'll do an opinion survey to see if people like him. If he's not famous I'll put him on tape, grab anybody I can find and show em the tape. That's the

way I like to do it. I believe in screen tests! I believe in cutting people out if the dailies are bad. I believe in replacing people if the previews aren't there. Because I don't make movies for theaters that serve cappuccinos in the lobby. I make popcorn movies!

You want to know what I like come to my house and look at my lamps. That's what I like. But you're not going to find it in my movies. In my movies you'll see what I know. And what I know is detail and what I don't know I discover.

I'll tell you something. Yesterday we're mixing this last scene in the movie, right? Huge field of windmills. Big windmills. now they blow up. The propellers come loose, they slice through the air, one of them hits this four-story tank of propane gas. There's a humongous explosion. Now I'm sitting there going louder! It's got to be louder! Louder! Louder! Louder! They're saying to me we can't make it louder there's too much distortion. We went louder. See they discovered the thing, the filter, I don't know what they did, but the fact is we did it. I don't question I just do it. So if you're asking me can you do it differently, you don't want to talk, you just want to read, I say ask him he's the director.

DIRECTOR
Whatever.

BURKE
Okay, good. Let's go. Any questions?

MATT
They only gave me two pages. And I really want to give this my best shot. So if I could read the script and then come back?

BURKE
The part works tomorrow.

MATT
Okay. Who will I read with?

BURKE

I'll play Wendy. Over there. Okay?

(Session Runner walks in.)

BURKE

What is it. Whadda ya want?

Session Runner

They need John for a physical. They won't wait.

Director

Okay. (He leaves.)

BURKE

Alright. Go ahead.

MATT

Go ahead? The director just left.

BURKE

So. He trusts me. Anyway, we're just doing the first page.

(MATT gets ready.)

BURKE

Let's start with, "I've been so messed...

(MATT stops him.)

MATT

God, I've been so messed up. Maybe, uhh, all the bad stuff was in my mind? Right?

BURKE

OK, darling, here it is. If someone were breaking up with me I'd like it short and sweet. What about you?

MATT

Incredibly drawn out.

BURKE

I can't take care of you right now. What am I your mother?

MATT

What am I your duck? You know, we've been together for two years and you act like you're blowing away some feathers. So what I'm asking you now...

BURKE

You didn't do the quack.

MATT

Huh?

BURKE

The stage direction says for him to quack. You didn't do it.

MATT

Oh yeah, but, you know...why would he quack when somebody is breaking up with him?

BURKE

Well hopefully because it's funny.

MATT

But this isn't a comedy.

BURKE

Then we're in a lot of trouble. Because they're already fall down laughing at the teaser trailer in 52 hundred and 35 theaters! Yes, it's a comedy.

MATT

Comedy? I think I need to make an adjustment here.

BURKE

No. You know what? You're not right for this. But, MATT, I like you. I wanna bring you back for something else, okay?

MATT
Sure. Thank you.

BURKE
Bye