

Magnolia Scene

He greets Gwen, the interviewer.

FRANK: Hello, hello, I'm a bit out of breath from all this work --

GWEN: That's fine. It's nice to meet you.

FRANK: Are we gonna tape some stuff now?

I swear to fucking-god, when I do one-a-my seminars, I'm Superman! I'm Batman! I'm like a fucking action hero the way I feel afterwards, like I could walk out this door, down the street, pick up any fuckin' pootie I can get it in one second.

GWEN: All it takes is one second?

FRANK: Just one look, one hesitation, one subtle gesture for me to know -- And Bing-Bam-Boom.

GWEN: I'm gonna start --

FRANK: Go, go, go. I'm givin' u pearls here. And I'll tell you something else: I'm not succeeding in the bush because I'm Frank TJ Mackey. If anything, there are women out there that want to destroy me -- it makes it twice as hard for me, I run into some little muffin, knows who I am, knows my schemes and plans -- shit, she's gonna wanna fuck around, prove to her friends, say, "Yaddda-yadda-yadda, I saw that guy, he wasn't anything, didn't get me." But I'll tell you this: The battle of the bush is being fought and won by Team Mackey. Can I have a cigarette?

GWEN: Ok. So, lemme just ask you a couple questions to start

Frank's man hands him a cigarette and lights it. He exhales.

FRANK: What do you want to know?

GWEN: Where are you from originally?

FRANK: Around here.

GWEN: The valley?

FRANK: Hollywood, mainly.

GWEN: See, I thought you grew up here in the valley

FRANK: Like I said, yeah

GWEN: And you went to Van Nuys High, right?

FRANK: I don't know how much I went -- but I was enrolled. I was such a loser back then. I was -- misguided, pathetic -- I was very fat. Not even close to what I am today. Not the Frank TJ Mackey you're eager to talk to.

GWEN: Where does that name come from?

FRANK: What name? My name?

GWEN: Mackey. It's not your given name, right?

FRANK: My mother's name, actually. You've done your research.

GWEN: And "Frank?"

FRANK: "Frank" was my mother's father.

GWEN: Ok. That's why. I had trouble locating your school records at Berkeley and UCLA. Your name change -- they had no official enrollment.

FRANK: Oh, yeah. No, no, no. They wouldn't...

GWEN: They wouldn't?

FRANK: No, no, no. I wasn't officialy enrolled, that's right. Was that unclear?

GWEN: Kind of.

FRANK: I wouldn't want that to be misunderstood: My enrollment was totally unofficial because I was, sadly, unable to afford tuition up there. But there were three wonderful men who were kind enough to let me sit in on their classes, and they're names are: Macready, Horn and Langtree among others. I was completely independent financially, So what we're looking at here is a true rags to riches story and I think that's what most people respond to in "Seduce," And At The End Of The Day? Hey -- it may not even be about picking up chicks and sticking your cock in -- it's about finding What You Can Be In This World. Defining It. Controlling it and saying: I will take what is mine. You just happen to get a blow job out of it, then hey-what-the-fuck- why-not? He.He.He.

GWEN: Let's talk about --

FRANK: I just realized this is for television, isn't it? I can't swear up and down like I just did.

GWEN: It's fine. I'll just bleep it out.

FRANK: I warned you -- I get on a roll...

GWEN: Let's talk more about your background --

I'm confused about your past is the thing.

FRANK: Is that still lingering?

GWEN: Just to clarify -- I would just like to clear some things up

FRANK: Funny thing is:

This is an important element of, "Seduce and Destroy:" "Facing the past is an important way in not making progress," that's something I tell my men over and over --

GWEN: Do you remember a Miss Simms?

FRANK: I know a lotta women and I'm sure she remembers me.

GWEN: She does. From when you were a boy.

FRANK Mm. Hm.

GWEN: She lived in Tarzana.

FRANK: My old stomping ground --is this the "attack" portion of the interview?

GWEN: No, this is about getting something right and clarifying one of your answers to an earlier question.

FRANK: Go ahead and waste your time.

GWENOVIER: I was told that your mother died. That your mother died when you were young..

FRANK: And that's what you've heard?

GWEN: I talked to Miss Simms. Miss Simms was your caretaker and neighbor after your mother died in 1980.

BEAT. Frank goes silent.

GWEN: In my research I have you listed as the only son of Earl and Lily Partridge. And what I learned from Mrs. Simms is that your mother passed away in 1980. It's my understanding that the information supplied by you and your company and answers to questions I've asked are incorrect, Frank. And if I'd like to get to the bottom of who you are and why you are then I think your family history -- your accurate family history...well this seems important...Frank...?

Frank lights his cigarette.

FRANK: Are you asking me a question?

GWEN: Well I guess the question is this: Do you remember Miss Simms?

BEAT. HOLD, THEN:

GWEN: Frank...Frank... Are we having a staring contest? Do you have anything to say?

GWEN: I'm not trying to attack you, Frank. I think that if you have something that needs to be cleared up...Well, then... I was told that your father, that he left you and your mother and you were forced to take care of her during her illness...that you took care of your mother as she struggled with Cancer.... And Miss Simms became your caretaker after your mother died...Frank, can you talk about your Mother?

HOLD, THEN:

GWEN: C'mon, Frank. What are you doing?

FRANK: What am I doing?

GWEN: Yeah.

FRANK: I'm quietly judging you.

He looks at his watch, then:

FRANK: Time's up. Thank you for the interview.

GWEN: So you sat it out, that's what you did?

FRANK: You requested my time and I gave it you, you called me a liar and made accusations. I gave you my time, Bitch. So fuck you.