

**MAGNOLIA**

INT. HOTEL SUITE - MOMENTS LATER

Frank is getting his mic put on, Gwenovier has a small VIDEO CREW with her. They both get touched up for the interview, Frank's talking away;

FRANK

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

GWENOVIER

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

FRANK

Are we gonna tape some stuff now?  
I swear to fucking-god, I do one-  
a-my seminars, I'm Superaman! 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 see that has even  
one second to stop -

Gwenovier gives a little snap and finger gesture to her  
CAMERAMAN to start rolling;

GWENOVIER

All it takes is one second?

FRANK

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

GWENOVIER

I'm gonna start rolling -

FRANK

-- go, go, go. I'm givin' pearls  
here. And I'll tell you somethin'  
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, "Yadda-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?

GWENOVIER

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

Captain Muffy hands Frank a cigarette, lights it for him.

He exhales;

FRANK

What do you want to know?

GWENOVIER

Where are you from originally?

FRANK

Around here.

GWENOVIER

The valley?

FRANK

Hollywood, mainly.

GWENOVIER

And what did your parents do?

FRANK

My father worked in televison. My mother - She's retired. Was a librarian.

GWENOVIER

Are you close?

FRANK

She's my mother.

GWENOVIER

She is a woman too. What does she feel about, "Seduce and Destroy."

FRANK

"Go Get 'Em, Honey."

GWENOVIER

And your father?

FRANK

He passed away.

GWENOVIER

I'm sorry. I wouldn't have brought it up --

FRANK

People die. Not a problem.

GWENOVIER

According to your book you ended up at UC Berkely. Psychology major. Do you have your masters?

FRANK

...this close...

Frank and Gwenovier doing the interview, CAMERA DOLLIES IN SLOW ON EACH:

GWENOVIER

-- see, I thought you grew up here in the valley --

FRANK

Like I said, yeah --

GWENOVIER

And you went to Van Nuys High, right?

FRANK

I don't 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.

GWENOVIER

Where does that name come from?

FRANK

What name? My name?

GWENOVIER

It's not your given name, right?

FRANK

My mother's name, actually. Good question. You've done you're research.

GWENOVIER

And "Frank?"

FRANK

"Frank" was my mother's father.

GWENOVIER

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

FRANK

Oh, yeah. No, no, no. They wouldn't --

GWENOVIER

They wouldn't?

FRANK

No, no, no. Certainly not. I wasn't officially enrolled, that's right. Was that unclear?

GWENOVIER

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. 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 -- 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.

CAMERA DOLLIES IN SLOW ON EACH:

GWENOVIER

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.

GWENOVIER

It's fine. I can bleep it out.

FRANK

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

GWENOVIER

-- let's talk more about your background -- I'm actually confused about your past is the thing.

FRANK

Is that still lingering?

GWENOVIER

-- 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 --

GWENOVIER

Do you remember a Miss Simms?

FRANK

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

GWENOVIER

She does. From when you were a boy.

FRANK

Mm. Hm.

GWENOVIER

She lived in Tarzana.

FRANK

An old stomping ground --is this the "attack" portion of the interview?

GWENOVIER  
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?

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

BEAT. Frank goes silent.

GWENOVIER  
In my research I have you listed  
as the only son of Earl and Lily  
Partridge  
(beat)  
And what I learned from Mrs. Simms  
is that your mother passed away in  
1980.  
(beat)  
See: It's my understanding that  
the information supplied by you  
and your company and answers to  
question's 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 -- you're  
accurate family history... well:  
this seems important...Frank...?

VIDEO CAMERA POV - THAT MOMENT

Frank lights his cigarette. CAMERA zooms into CU.

FRANK  
Are you asking me a question?

GWENOVIER  
Well I guess the question is this:  
Why would you lie, Frank?

BEAT. HOLD, THEN:

GWENOVIER (OC)

Frank...Frank...what are we gonna do here? Are we having a staring contest?

(beat)

Do you have anything to say?

(beat)

I am not trying to attack you here, Frank. I think that if you have something that needs to be cleared up... Well, then...(beat) I was told that your father, your father Earl Partridge, 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...

(beat)

And Miss Simms became your caretaker when your mother finally passed away... Frank... Frank...

(beat)

Frank, can you talk about your Mother?

(beat)

Frank... can you?

HOLD, THEN:

GWENOVIER

C'mon, Frank. What are you doing?

FRANK

What am I doing?

GWENOVIER

Yeah.

FRANK

I'm quietly judging you.

He looks at his watch, then:

FRANK

Time's up. Thank you for the interview.

GWENOVIER

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 now.

