

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Joyce and Doug sit at a coffee shop booth.

DOUG

So, we're up in Lake Havasu, and we're shooting these two chicks for the cover of "Asian Asses," and I got this really sexy kind of Vietnam rice paddy angle and my makeup boy, Richie, knocks the bag of film right into the water.

JOYCE

Mmhmm.

DOUG

So we got to shut down as he goes into town, and the chicks start bitching, you know?

JOYCE

They do that.

DOUG

"Doug, how long is this gonna take? It's so cold out here." So guess what I did.

JOYCE

Re-evaluated your entire existence?

DOUG

I gave them the only thing that I had to read in my car, which was your magazine.

JOYCE

Your centerfolds read "The Matriarchy Awakens"?

DOUG

Also not illiterate.

JOYCE

Did they like it? (Beat.) Not that it matters. I'm just curious if they--

DOUG

It blew 'em away.

JOYCE

It did?

DOUG

It did. It's been three weeks, and they're still talking about the article and one of 'em even hit me up about a raise because of something that you wrote about the pay gap.

JOYCE

Well--

DOUG

I mean, she's not gonna get it. Look I got a lot of readers. Men. And they write to me all the time and they say, "Doug, shit's changing." You know, "Chicks are changing." So I got to figure out, you know, what to do with that, what's next. And then I start thinking maybe I gotta stop talking to the men. Maybe-- maybe I should be talking to the women.

JOYCE

You want to talk to women?

DOUG

Well, there's a lot of you out there, I'd like a piece of that pie.

JOYCE

Oh, you're not suggesting that you publish "The Matriarchy Awakens."

DOUG

(Laughing.) Oh, God no. I mean, not in its current form. Hey, don't get me wrong, it's good. It's just you got a challenge. And the tone, it comes across as shouty. When I'm reading it, I feel like a fucking teacher is yelling at me.

JOYCE

Well, who cares how it makes you feel? It's suppose to make people think.

DOUG

You got to hide the medicine. It's like when you give a pill to a dog you dip it in peanut butter first. So my question is, what's o ur peanut butter?

Beat.

JOYCE

I'm sorry, are you waiting--

DOUG

It's nude men.

JOYCE

(Laughing.) Did you say nude men?

DOUG

Not like a schvantz, right in the face, you know, classy. With your modern, you know, lady point of view.

JOYCE

Are you mentally ill?

DOUG

You're the one who came up with the idea.

JOYCE

No-- that was a conversational bon mot. Do you even understand what it is I'm trying to do here?

DOUG

Of course, I do--feminism. Making shit fair and equal for the chicks. So tell me this, how is it fair and equal that a guy has twelve places to go to see a pair of titties, but a gal has no place to go to see a dong?

JOYCE

Gals do not want to see a dong.

DOUG

Oh, they don't? Now how do you know?

JOYCE

Because I am one, so.

DOUG

Mm. Well, would you like to put  
money on it?

JOYCE

What, you mean, like a bet?

DOUG

No, honey. Like a magazine.

END.