

NOW, HERE, THIS

"Cop scene"

written by
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CAST

RUBY.....TBD

COP.....TBD

FADE IN:

INT. RUBY'S CAR/EXT. STREET - DAY

CHYRON: HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA, MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 1992.

IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT, MEET RUBY HALL. TWENTY THREE YEARS OLD, OFFBEAT AND PRETTY. THERE'S AN EDGE TO HER WHICH WE'LL SOON ENOUGH RECOGNIZE REFLECTS HER LOVE OF ALTERNATIVE MUSIC. IT'S THE 90S AND THUS SHE'S WEARING DARK, MATTE LIPSTICK AND HER EYEBROWS ARE PERHAPS THICKER THAN IS CURRENTLY IN FASHION. ON ANY OTHER DAY SHE MIGHT BE WEARING A FLANNEL SHIRT OVER A VINTAGE SLIP DRESS. SHE'S AGITATED, SEEMING TO BE IN A HURRY. SHE'S LISTENING TO A COLLEGE RADIO STATION AND THE DJ'S ARE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE REQUISITE DRY, MUSIC NERD "BANTER."

DJ #1 (O.S.)

Okay, next we're going to play some new PAVEMENT...I'd like to go on record -- no pun intended -- and say I think this is one of the best songs they've ever written.

DJ #2 (O.S.)

Wait, are you including their seven inches in that hyperbole?

RUBY SLAMS HER PALM ON THE STEERING WHEEL IN REACTION TO SOME DUMB MOVE A DRIVER HAS MADE IN FRONT OF HER AND/OR TRAFFIC AT A STANDSTILL.

RUBY

(to all of Los Angeles traffic) Come on!

DJ #1 (O.S.)

Yes, I'm including their entire oeuvre.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DJ #2 (O.S.)

Wow. Who are you? Who body-snatched

Sid?

RUBY DECIDES TO GET OUT OF THE LOG-JAM SHE'S STUCK IN BY TAKING A HAPHAZARD LEFT ONTO A RESIDENTIAL STREET. BETTER. IT'S FREE AND CLEAR EXCEPT FOR THE STOP SIGNS. IT'S STOP AND START AT VARIOUS INTERSECTIONS THROUGHOUT THE NEXT FEW BITS OF DIALOGUE.

DJ #1 (O.S.)

I was really afraid this record would be a sell-out, but it isn't. Kudos, guys.

DJ #2 (O.S.)

I'm planning on living with it for awhile before making a public statement.

MUSIC CUE: PAVEMENT "TRIGGER CUT/WOUNDED-KITE AT:17"

DJ #1 (O.S.)

I think I heard an early version of this song at their show this summer in Oakland.

DJ #2 (O.S.)

Yeah, I don't know, but here it is.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RUBY

(Singing along) "Lies and betrayals,
fruit covered nails, electricity and
lust won't break the door, I've got a
heavy coat it's filled with rocks and
sand and if I lose it I'll be coming
back today..."

THERE'S A GREEN TRAFFIC LIGHT AHEAD. SHE PULLS DOWN HER WINDOW VISOR AND CHECKS HER LIPSTICK IN THE MIRROR. PUTS IT BACK UP AND FINDS HERSELF GOING TOO FAST TOWARDS THE INTERSECTION AND THE LIGHT HAS ALREADY TURNED RED. SHE SKIDS TO A STOP. RIGHT NEXT TO A COP ON A MOTORCYCLE. HE MOTIONS TO HER TO ROLL DOWN HER WINDOW.

COP

Well, that's convenient. Why don't you
pull over here to the right?

SHE IS CRAZY SPOOKED AND SLOWLY GETS HERSELF OVER TO THE SIDE, AVOIDING OTHER DRIVERS WHO LOOK AT HER WITH A MIX OF ANNOYANCE AND GRATEFULNESS THAT THEY AREN'T HER. ONCE SHE'S PARKED THE COP APPROACHES HER DRIVER-SIDE WINDOW.

COP (cont'd)

You alright?

RUBY

Yes, sorry. I. I don't know what
happened, I was just checking my
lipstick and then--

COP

You ever ask yourself why you need to
check your lipstick while driving?
Couldn't it wait til you were parked?

(MORE)**(CONTINUED)**

CONTINUED:

COP (cont 'd)

What if it was smudged, or worn off --
who cares? No one's judging you.

RUBY

I...never thought of it like that.

COP

What's so important that the lipstick
had to be checked right then?

RUBY

Obviously, the importance wasn't in
the moment. You don't have to be
condescending about it.

COP

If you were my daughter, I'd speak the
same way to you. I need this to stick.
I don't want you injuring others or
yourself. Capish?

RUBY

Yes, I capish.

COP

As for the speeding...

RUBY

Well, it might not count as an actual
excuse but I'm on my way to a job
interview and I didn't want to be late-

-

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

COP

What's the job?

RUBY

Receptionist.

COP

I guess that explains the lipstick a bit. What kind of company? Jaguar dealership?

RUBY

(confused) No.

COP

Real estate firm?

RUBY

(further confused) No. It would actually be my dream job. It's for a record company.

COP

What, like they press the records there?

RUBY

No. You know, they discover bands and make them famous.

COP

I used to sing in college. Had an a cappella group.

RUBY

Yeah?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

COP

We were called Tony and the Tune Team.
Everyone loved us.

RUBY

I bet.

COP

Maybe I should send you a demo.

RUBY

I'll have zero power but I can't stop
you.

COP

Alright, listen, I don't want you to
be late, we can wrap this up.

RUBY

Thank you.

SHE MOVES TO START HER CAR UP, HE PUTS HIS HAND ON THE LEDGE
OF HER OPEN WINDOW.

COP

But I cannot impress upon you enough.
How important it is. To pay attention
to the road.

RUBY

I really appreciate that.

COP

And check your lipstick at stop signs
only.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RUBY

Yes.

COP

Stops signs are red, like your
lipstick. That should be a good way to
remember.

RUBY

I hear you.

COP

Alright, I don't do this often but for
a fellow musician I'm gonna pull out
all the stops. Where's your reception
desk?

RUBY

Sunset and Doheny.

COP

Follow me.

THE COP GETS BACK ON HIS MOTORCYCLE, TURNS ON HIS SIREN,
WAVES AT RUBY TO FOLLOW. HE GETS HER THROUGH THE IMMEDIATE
STANDSTILL OF CARS, SENDING HER ON HER WAY TO HER JOB
INTERVIEW AT RPM RECORDS.