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#107
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Story" Final Shooting Script 8/08/06 22.

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F/F Comedy

①

LILLY
(calling out)

We're gonna play some ~~rock and roll~~ out here, the cast is wrapped for the night. Staggered calls in the morning, check your call sheets.

People have been dispersing and LILLY continues calling out instructions for what will be a tech-in for the musical guests.

MARTHA's been watching the rehearsal from a tunnel and calls to HARRIET as she comes by--

MARTHA

Harriet?

HARRIET

Hi.

presence

MARTHA

You got a minute?

HARRIET

Sure. It's a little late.

MARTHA

Well I'm gone for the next two weeks, I'll be covering some of the House races.

HARRIET

Which ones?

MARTHA

A couple where there are stories. A couple where there are just good jokes.

HARRIET

I know the feeling.

HARRIET and MARTHA have headed--

To cross pull in

7 INT. BACKSTAGE CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

MARTHA

The Nancy Grace sketch is funny.

Start

HARRIET

Thank you. They've got very special timing and Matt knows how to get it in their strike zone.

(CONTINUED)

MARTHA

I've spent most of the week with Matt and I wanted to talk to you before I left. This'll be the first of many conversations so we don't have to do everything now, I know you want to get to sleep.

HARRIET

Well everyone here's a big fan of yours, Martha.

MARTHA

Really?

HARRIET

Yeah.

MARTHA

How would I be referred to in your parents' house?

HARRIET

The devil's whore from Washington.

MARTHA

(smiling)

Yeah. I'm actually the devil's whore from Bethesda.

~~SUZANNE passes--~~

~~SUZANNE~~

~~Harriet? The News 60 run-down's being moved to 10, so they'd like to do the still photo shoot at 8.~~

~~HARRIET~~

~~Well, 8 in the morning's my best look so count me in.~~

~~SUZANNE~~

~~Thank you.~~

~~HARRIET~~

~~You know, you wanna talk to somebody you should talk to her, talk to the PA's. First ones here, last ones to leave, 350 dollars a week.~~

~~MARTHA~~

~~I will.~~

7
3

~~HARRIET~~
And the interns.

MARTHA
I was thinking that Harriet's an unusual name.

They start down--

TO
CARESS

8 INT. STAIRWAY/BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

8

HARRIET
Yeah?

MARTHA
It's from another generation.

HARRIET
It's my middle name. I'm Hannah Harriet Hayes. My mother named me after Hannah in the old testament, who prayed to God that if He gave her a child, she would give the child back to God. My mother had had six boys before she had me so she was pretty psyched.

MARTHA
Why did you change it?

HARRIET
There was already a Hannah Hayes in the union.

MARTHA
And you're presbyterian.

HARRIET
Martha, hasn't enough been written about my religion?

MARTHA
As a matter of fact I've done a lot of searches and hardly anything has. Sort of generic references are made to your being Christian but in a tabloid context.

They go into--

9 INT. HARRIET'S DRESSING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

9
4

HARRIET

Listen, you work in Washington and I work in Hollywood but you'll have to take my word for it, in most other parts of the world, the fact that I believe in God wouldn't be noteworthy.

MARTHA

Yeah, but you do work in Hollywood.

HARRIET

I'm not the only one at my church on Sunday morning and ours isn't the only church in town.

MARTHA

Yeah, but you're the only one who stars on a late night sketch comedy show whose staple is attacking the religious right.

HARRIET

That's an overstatement.

MARTHA

"Crazy Christians", "Science Schmience", the weather with Pat Robertson.

HARRIET

I'm sorry, Pat Robertson has taken to predicting the weather and boasting of being able to leg-lift a Lincoln Navigator. That's not attacking religion, that's attacking preposterousness.

MARTHA

Would you have a problem doing a sketch about pre-marital sex?

HARRIET

I don't have a problem having pre-marital sex. It might be the only sex I ever have. And I just gave you your pull-quote so can I go home?

MARTHA

Two more minutes, okay?

HARRIET

You're not gonna get me to talk about Matt.

(CONTINUED)

9
5

HARRIET

Roughly. I got an academic scholarship to study music at Rutgers and I'd come into the city a lot and go to the comedy clubs. Then I got another scholarship to get a masters in music at Kansas State, but I went to Chicago instead and swept the floors at Second City. Then I came to LA and started interning with The Groundlings. I started getting some stage time and one night a guy came up to me and said, "My name is Danny Tripp, I'm a segment producer at Studio 60 and I think you should come in and audition for Wes Mendell."

MARTHA

It was Danny who found you.

HARRIET

Yeah.

MARTHA

Not Matt.

HARRIET

Hang on.

HARRIET turns up the volume knob on the speaker in her dressing room. We HEAR a LUTE PLAYING--

MARTHA

What's that?

HARRIET

It's a lute.

MARTHA

A lute?

HARRIET

The instrument. They're doing Sting's soundcheck. He's got a classical album coming out and he plays the--

MARTHA

Sting is in the building right now?

HARRIET

He's onstage.

9

6

MARTHA
Sting is upstairs playing a lute.

HARRIET
You wanna go watch?

MARTHA
Harriet, you're interesting but get outa
my way.

CUT TO:

END

10 INT. STAGE - NIGHT

10

STING is playing and his levels are being checked by CAL and a
SOUND CREW.

HARRIET and MARTHA appear at the back of a tunnel. They listen
for a long moment...

HARRIET
That is a beautiful instrument.

MARTHA
Sting or the lute?

And the music abruptly stops.

MARTHA (CONT'D)
(quietly)
Oh come on.

CAL
Thank you.
(to STING)
Thank you, sir.

STING
It was painless as always, Calvin.

CAL
I'll tell you, I'm a little tired of you
lute players gettin' all the great women.

STING
Why do you think I took it up?

CAL
I've got 31 dollars on me right now. If I
give it to you, will you play Roxanne on
that thing?