

BLANKMAN

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1993 WIFE N' KIDS PRODUCTIONS

FADE IN:

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

SUPER: 1972. Apartment building in a poor but friendly neighborhood. Neighbors chat through windows. Kids' bikes are parked outside.

Kids swarm around an ice cream cart. Two brothers, DARRYL, age 6 and KEVIN, age 8, watch enviously, not having any money. Other kids tease them as they run off with treats.

DARRYL

When I grow up, I'm going to build a machine that will make rainbow pops for free and every kid in the world can have one whenever they want.

KEVIN

We never have money for ice cream.

Two rainbow pops appear. A NICE GUY hands them to the kids.

KEVIN & DARRYL

Thanks Mister!

NICE GUY

That's what it's all about kids, people helping people.

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

The kids rush into a small apartment. Their tongues and mouths are stained in a rainbow of food coloring. An old black and white television broadcasts the news with Walter Cronkite. A hanger substitutes for an antenna and a fork pokes out of a panel where the channel dial once was.

WALTER

And that's the way it is,
September 4, 1972. Good night.

A commercial runs. The kids sit on the floor and play with crayons. Darryl picks up a red one. Kevin snatches it away.

KEVIN

Here, you can use the green one
and I'll use the red one. Okay?

DARRYL

No, I don't want it. Give it
back or I'm going to tell
Grandma.

A fight erupts. Kevin, the larger of the two, assumes pseudo-karate stance. Darryl makes a feeble attempt to imitate his brother. But once hit, he abandons this technique and flails his arms in windmill fashion. He puts up a good fight, but is no match for his older brother. The opening theme to BATMAN brings the fight to an abrupt end.

KEVIN & DARRYL

Batman!

The boys dash to the window and pull down sheets that double for curtains. They tie them around their necks for capes.

DARRYL

I want to be Batman this time.

KEVIN

I told you, you have to be Robin 'cause you're little, okay?

They run to the TV. Snow fizzes on the screen.

KEVIN

Ahww, stupid old TV!

DARRYL

I'll fix it Batman!

Darryl runs to the kitchen like a child possessed, collecting various metal objects: pots, aluminum foil, serving spoons, etc. Arms full, he hustles back to the television.

KEVIN

Hurry up, or we'll miss it!

Darryl ties twine to the hanger antenna. He opens the box of aluminum foil and rolls it down the hallway. He wraps it around the twine. Next, he threads the aluminum wrapped twine through the pot handles and ties it around the spoons.

INT. BATHROOM

Darryl pulls the end into the bathroom and ties it to the pull chain of the toilet's overhead tank.

INT. APARTMENT

The reception clears.

DARRYL (O.S.)

Is it working?

KEVIN

It's getting better. Keep trying!

We hear the toilet flush.

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KEVIN

That's it!

Darryl flies into the room to watch the show, but as the toilet noise fades, so does the reception.

KEVIN & DARRYL

Ahwww.

Darryl gives a tug on the aluminum line. We hear the toilet flush once again. The picture clears.

KEVIN

There it is! Keep flushing!

The reception is good. But Darryl is tired of pulling on the string. He gets an idea. He connects the line to the blade of an old floor fan. He turns the fan on and as the blade swings round it pulls the line for him.

Meanwhile, Kevin is caught up in the TV show. As Batman and Robin fight the villains, Kevin imitates their moves. As the villains surround them, Batman and Robin stand back to back.

KEVIN

Back to back!

On cue, Darryl and Kevin both jump up and stand back to back. They fight at imaginary villains.

INT. BATHROOM

Water overflows out of the toilet and streams out of the bathroom into the hallway.

5
1

INT. HALLWAY

The water trails down the hallway to a closed bedroom door. The door opens to reveal a woman in her early 40's dressed in a bathrobe and slippers. She is the boys' GRANDMOTHER.

6
2

GRANDMA

What in heaven's name? Who's playing with the toilet? Kevin, boy, I'm going to peel the skin off your behind. You know better!

INT. LIVING ROOM

She walks into the living room and notices the fan pulling the toilet line. She shuts it off and turns to Darryl.

7
3

GRANDMA
What in the world? Boy, I swear,
one day you're going to blow up
something!

Kevin and Darryl, mouths agape, look at their angry Grandma,
then at each other. From the television we hear:

BATMAN (O.S.)
To the Batpoles!

The boys flee in opposite directions from their Grandma.

SCREEN GOES BLACK

Animated blotch appears with the word: POW!

8

GRANDMA (V.O.)
Didn't I tell you not to...

2

Animated word: OOOF!

GRANDMA (V.O.)
... play with...

BIFF!

GRANDMA (V.O.)
- my stuff...

THWACK! ZOWIE!

ROLL CREDITS: (SAME ANIMATED BLOTCHES)

INT. ALLEY - DAY

9

Super (present)

TWO SCUZZY PUNKS beat up on a VICTIM, viciously smashing him
into trashcans. GRANDMA, now a lot older, sticks her head out
of window and shouts down.

2

GRANDMA
Cut it out down there or I'm
going to call the police!

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

10

Same building, but the neighborhood has radically changed.
Pieces of stripped bicycles are chained to poles. Graffiti is
everywhere. Windows are either barred or boarded. A patrol
car is parked. Victim flies out of alley. Crashes desperately
into closed window of the patrol car. The officer glances
over.

3

OFFICER
Get off the car you bum!

VICTIM
Help me!

The officers glance at each other. Refuse to exit car.

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

Grandma prepares breakfast for her grandchildren. The products all have that bland no frills wrapping. We see MILK, then BREAD, EGGS, and finally just plain MEAT.

KEVIN, the adult, sneaks hastily dressed WOMAN behind Grandma's back and to the front door.

KEVIN
(whisper)
I'll call you.

He gives her a quick kiss and slips her out. Grandma hears something and turns. Kevin straightens.

KEVIN
Good morning, Grandma.

GRANDMA
You could have at least fed that little heifer. I'm sure she was hungry after sneaking in here late at night...

KEVIN
I'm trying to be respectful. I do pay the rent--

GRANDMA
Oh, you gonna to throw that in my face? Maybe I should just leave then.

KEVIN
No grandma, I didn't mean it that way--

He gives her a kiss on the cheek.

KEVIN
I don't know what we'd do without you.

GRANDMA
They were beating up some poor guy in the alley. The cops did nothing.

KEVIN

Who can blame them? They haven't been paid in two weeks.

GRANDMA

All that'll change when we elect Assemblyman Harris Mayor.

KEVIN

Don't get your hopes up. It's hard for one man to make much of a difference.

GRANDMA

One man can make all the difference. You'll see. What do you want for breakfast?

KEVIN

I'm fine. I'll just have some coffee and run.

Grandma takes him by the hand and sets him at the table.

GRANDMA

Baby, all you do is run. Now sit down and let Grandma fix her boys a nice well balanced meal.

KEVIN

Grandma, I'm not a kid anymore. We grew up, remember?

INT. BATHROOM

DARRYL stands in front of a mirror with an automatic wash cloth/toothbrush/Q-tip gizmo attached to his head like a walkman. After it brushes his teeth, he presses a button and a Q-tip pokes him in the eye.

DARRYL

Ah! Got to tighten that gyro.

He takes the gadget off of his head and puts on a pair of horned rimmed glasses. Heads out of the bathroom.

INT. APARTMENT

Darryl enters and kisses Grandma on the cheek.

DARRYL

Good morning!

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GRANDMA

Good morning. Baby, you didn't sleep well again. I heard you in there talking to yourself.

DARRYL

I was thinking about this idea for an automatic fly catcher.

GRANDMA

I swear you're going to blow yourself up one day with one of those crazy inventions.

Kevin finishes his food. Jumps up.

KEVIN

Okay, Grandma, I ate. Gotta go.

DARRYL

Wait! I've got something for you.

KEVIN

I'm in a hurry.

DARRYL

Don't worry! J5 will bring it!

Darryl uses a wrist watch joystick to activate a remote machine. As Kevin waits impatiently, we hear a whirl of electric motors and some banging in the hallway. J5, a trashcan with lights, wheels, and a steel wool Afro, teeters into the room and falls over. In its metal claw is a weird looking belt.

DARRYL

Darn! I need to oil its ball bearings.

KEVIN

Or throw it in the garbage where it belongs.

Darryl grabs the belt.

DARRYL

Here, try this on.

KEVIN

What is it?

DARRYL

It's a two way audio transceiver belt. You put this in your ear and speak into the buckle. It also has a radar tracking feature. Try it.

KEVIN
Get out of here. I'm not wearing
that piece of crap.

DARRYL
Please.

KEVIN
No!

GRANDMA
Babe, come here.

Grandma takes Kevin's hand and leads him into her bedroom.

INT. GRANDMA'S BEDROOM

Grandma shuts the door and looks at Kevin with soulful eyes.

GRANDMA
Now, you can't be treating your
baby brother like that.

KEVIN
He's twenty seven. Stop
sheltering him.

GRANDMA
I know, but the boy ain't wrapped
too tight. You're the only
brother he got. Promise me
you'll take care of him. Grandma
ain't going be around forever.
Is it too much to ask from the
woman that changed your funky
diapers and wiped your snotty
nose...

INT. APARTMENT

Kevin, completely chastised, steps out of the room and forces
a smile at Darryl. Grandma stands behind him.

KEVIN
Darryl, I was wrong. I'd love to
wear that belt to work.

Darryl perks up and runs over with the belt.

DARRYL
Really? You don't have to if you
don't want to.

14
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15
7

KEVIN
 (glancing at Grandma)
 No. I want to. I really want
 to.

DARRYL
 Are you really, really sure you
 really, really want to?

KEVIN
 Give me the damn belt!

He snatches it, sighs, and puts it on.

DARRYL
 Now we can talk to each other all
 day long!

Kevin winces, heads for door, picks up gym bag.

KEVIN
 Great. I'll be home late. I've
 got a Karate class tonight. Bye.

EXT. TV STATION - DAY

Kevin walks into a local TV station. AN ATTRACTIVE GIRL waves
 at him. He waves back casually.

16
 1

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

Kevin steps into the elevator. He's about to hit a down button
 when a beautiful woman, KIMBERLY JOHNS, looks in.

17
 4

KIMBERLY
 Going up?

KEVIN
 Uh... why yes I am.

Kimberly steps in and Kevin hits 2nd Floor button.

KEVIN
 Nice day, huh?

KIMBERLY
 (glances at newspaper)
 Let's find out. GM laid off five
 hundred more employees, a woman
 killed her crackhead son, and the
 police are threatening to walk
 out on strike.

KEVIN
 I meant the sun was out.

KIMBERLY

Well, you should have said so.

INT. HALLWAY

The elevator doors open. Kimberly strides off toward the News offices. Kevin admires her legs as she goes. STEVENS, a news cameraman, sees him.

STEVENS

Out of your league, Walker. Go back to your cave. She's the hot new anchor from Baltimore.

KEVIN

They're all out of your league, Stevens. I heard you won a toaster down at the sperm bank.

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

Kevin returns to elevator. Buttons read: 2nd Floor News Division, 1st Floor Station Management. Below that there is a series of buttons: Parking 1, Parking 2, Parking 3, Parking 4 and Basement. Written on faded tape next to the basement button is: Hard Edition.

Kevin hits that button. Elevator doors close.

INT. BASEMENT

Kevin steps out into the Hard Edition offices, a dank basement with leaky pipes. Mr. STONE, a Larry Flint type in a motorized wheel chair, barks at him.

STONE

Walker, you're late! The homosexual Siamese twins canceled the interview. God, that would have been a great story. They've been joined front to back since birth.

KEVIN

Why don't we do a fill piece on the big election?

STONE

BORING! No angle. No edge.

KEVIN

What about Mayor Gates' ties to Michael Minelli and organized crime?

STONE

Who cares about that? I want to know about his ties with little Vietnamese boys or HIV infected hookers... his favorite crack house... that's news... I guess we don't have time to set him up like we did with Marion Barry...

Stone sighs heavily.

STONE

Alright. We're desperate. Go see if you can get Minelli to incriminate himself.

KEVIN

Got it.

STONE

And keep the lights low during the interviews. I want that grainy, out of focus look. Edge. Remember it's not Hard Edition. It's...

KEVIN

(by rote)

... Hard Edge-ition

Stone spins the chair around and runs over Kevin's foot.

EXT. MR. CRUDD'S FIX IT SHOP

Establishing shot.

21

L

INT. MR. CRUDD'S FIX IT SHOP / BACK ROOM

A fly buzzes in a jar. Next to it is a small makeshift airplane made from a raid aerosol can, ruler for wings, and a beanie propeller, with one large fake hand covered with a glitter glove (ala Michael Jackson). The plane's engine comes to life. A hand unscrews the jar and releases the fly. As the fly takes off, so does the plane.

22

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The fly tries to escape by dipping and diving but the plane copies each maneuver, steadily gaining airspace. As the plane gets closer to its prey, its HAND waves at the fly. The plane suddenly disappears from the fly's sight. Then, out of nowhere, the plane reappears from above, swoops down and swats the fly with its hand.

Darryl applauds his new creation. The plane returns to him.

DARRYL

Oh, this is great!

Mr. Crudd enters with a WOMAN CUSTOMER, wearing sunglasses, and holds up a strange device.

MR. CRUDD

This was a toaster when Mrs. Reem brought it in. What is it now?

DARRYL

It's even better than a toaster. See, wasted heat from the toaster rises into this fry pan and cooks your eggs and then flips them out onto the toast.

WOMAN CUSTOMER

They missed the toast.

The woman takes off her glasses to reveal two red burn circles around her eyes. Pieces of egg are still caught in her eyebrows.

DARRYL

The spring must be too tight. I can adjust that...

MR. CRUDD

This is a fix it shop. Just fix things. Don't improve them.

DARRYL

But...

MR. CRUDD

Shut up and make it a toaster again. We're sorry Mrs. Reams.

She exits. Mr. Crudd is about to leave when another fly enters from a window. The airplane comes to life. BRRRMMM.

MR. CRUDD

What is that?

DARRYL

Oh, that's my aerodynamic flying insect predator.

The fly circles the room followed by the plane. It flies through the chemistry table and the plane crashes through after it. There's an explosion of test tubes. Darryl gets soaked by the chemicals. The fly then circles Mr. Crudd who tries to swat the fly and plane with his hand.

MR. CRUDD

TURN IT OFF! TURN IT OFF!

The fly stops buzzing and disappears. The plane circles.

MR. CRUDD

What happened? Where'd it go?

DARRYL

I don't know. Maybe the fly left the room. See, the plane is activated by the buzz of the fly.

The fly buzzes. It has landed on the bald head of Mr. Crudd.

Suddenly, the plane swoops down and brutally smashes the fly on Mr. Crudd's head. The hand continues slapping his bald skull. Darryl grabs the plane and shuts it off.

Mr. Crudd wipes the fly off his head with a handkerchief and exits the room in a huff. Darryl takes his lab coat off and lays it on top of the table. Unknowingly, he sets it on one of the Bunsen burners.

He goes to the sink and begins washing his face and hands. Looking through the mirror, Darryl sees the lab coat on the burner. He runs over to the table and lifts up the lab coat.

The lab coat is unaffected by the heat of the fire. Darryl checks the material. It feels different to him.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Darryl and Grandma watch TV. Kimberly finishes her newscast. Kevin has an icepack on his eye.

DARRYL

What happened to your eye?

KEVIN

I don't want to talk about it.

KIMBERLY

- city officials continue to negotiate with unpaid police and firemen, but it appears that nothing will be settled until after the mayoral election.

DARRYL

Boy, she's gorgeous!

KEVIN

She's out of your league.

As the news credits roll WE HEAR a voice over announcer.

ANNOUNCER

Next up, prostitutes, male strippers, and criminals on Hard Edition. Where journalism stops, Hard Edition begins.

23

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A23

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B23
2

Racy graphics and over the top music fills the screen as Hard Edition comes on. Kevin rushes and turns off the TV.

GRANDMA
What are you doing, baby? It's your show.

KEVIN
It's not very good tonight.

Darryl clicks the TV on with a makeshift remote.

DARRYL
Turn back, I like this show.

HARD EDGE JOURNALIST
First up on Hard Edition.
"Criminals on the Move." Tonight reputed Crime Boss, Michael "The Suit" Minelli struggles to keep his fingers in the city's money pie as scandal ridden Mayor Gates looks likely to be voted out of office.

EXT. DOCK - DAY

Dressed in a shark skin short set, with cigar in mouth, and terrible hair piece on his head, MINELLI THE SUIT descends off a very gaudy yacht flanked by a couple of henchmen. TONY THE MATCH and SAMMY THE BLADE follow behind him.

24
4

MINELLI
(into camera)
Hey, who is this guy? Get that damn thing outta my face, before I break your legs.

KEVIN (O.S.)
I want to ask you about your connections with Mayor Gates.

MINELLI
I'm a legitimate business man. I have dealings with Gates and I'll deal with the new Mayor. For me, it's business as usual. Tony, get him out of my face.

BAM! Kevin and the camera are knocked to the ground. Snow appears on the screen.

KEVIN (O.S.)
Ouch! My eye...

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Grandma is indignant.

GRANDMA
Business as usual my ass. Just
wait and see Minelli.

25
1

INT. HARRIS CAMPAIGN OFFICE - DAY

An old storefront is buzzing with activity and excitement. A giant banner reads "ONE MAN CAN." Phones are ringing and a couple dozen campaign workers frantically dart about. Grandma sits at a table stuffing hundreds of envelopes. Harris, tall, gray haired and honest looking, stands amidst his troops giving a pep talk.

26
13

HARRIS
I just got the latest poll and
we're five points up...

The crowd cheers and starts chanting, "One man can."

HARRIS
But we need today's fund raising
push if we're going to stay in
the game.

Suddenly, the front door opens and Minelli enters with Sammy and Tony.

HARRIS
What are you doing here?

MINELLI
I just came to congratulate you.
Where can we talk in private?

HARRIS
Anything you have to say to me,
you can say in front of my
people. We have no secrets.

MINELLI
Well then we'll keep it simple.
I like to put my money on a sure
thing. I heard you were
fundraising and I want to
contribute. Say a million
dollars?

HARRIS
You can't buy me, Mr. Minelli.
I know your game.
(more)

16.

HARRIS (Cont'd)

All the payoffs you receive through construction and labor contracts have bankrupted this city. I plan to put an end to that.

MINELLI

Oh, you're a good guy, huh? I don't like good guys too much. They're too... good. Don't say I didn't try to be friends.

HARRIS

I don't want your money or your friendship. Now, if you don't mind, I have a press conference to go to.

Harris exits past Minelli as his volunteers smile with approval. Minelli glances around.

MINELLI

Nice office. Hope you all don't work too hard. Life's short.

Minelli exits with his men.

EXT. CAMPAIGN OFFICE - DAY

Minelli steps out and watches as Harris climbs into a campaign car. Tony leans over.

TONY

Boss, you going to let him talk to you like that?

MINELLI

Don't worry, Tony. We just need to convince him it's in his best interest to work with us.

INT. KITCHEN SECOND FLOOR

Kevin steals a cup of coffee from the news room kitchen. Kimberly walks in.

KEVIN

Oh... hi... caught me stealing some coffee.

KIMBERLY

Yeah, I heard the stuff downstairs is horrible.

27

2

28

15News
BLDG.

KEVIN

Oh... then you know I work for Hard Edition.

Kimberly pours herself some coffee.

KIMBERLY

"Where journalism stops..."

KEVIN

Yeah, it's not something I'm proud of. But it pays the bills. Barely.

KIMBERLY

Have you applied to the news room?

KEVIN

Six times. But I doubt they'll hire me. They think if you work for Stone, you must be some kind of pervert.

KIMBERLY

Well, keep at it.

They smile and Kimberly exits.

A beeping sound goes off. Kevin looks around to see what it is. It gets louder and louder. Kevin opens his jacket and looks down at his belt. A red light is flashing on it. Kevin sighs, and puts a plug into his ear.

DARRYL (O.S.)

Kevin, are you there?

KEVIN

Yeah, but I'm busy right now.

DARRYL (O.S.)

What? Can't hear you. Talk into the buckle.

Kevin leans in closer. Kimberly re-enters the room.

KEVIN

I can't right now...

To Kimberly it appears as though he's talking to his penis. She watches in shock.

DARRYL (O.S.)

Why not?

KEVIN

Why not? Because this isn't the time or place. Look, I'd love to play with you, but I have to get some work done. Maybe after I finish, I can go into the bathroom and we can fool around in there, okay?

Kevin looks up to see Kimberly staring at him like he's a pervert.

KIMBERLY

I forgot the cream... but I think I'll just pass on it.

Kimberly backs out the door and quickly exits.

KEVIN

It's not what you think!

INT. HARRIS CAMPAIGN OFFICE - EVENING

Activity is winding down for the day but half a dozen volunteers, including Grandma, are still at it. Grandma is opening envelopes and counting small bills.

29
10

GRANDMA

Five dollars from the Johnsons'. They don't have two nickels to rub together yet they still chipped in.

ANOTHER WORKER gathers up all the cash.

ANOTHER WORKER

We'd better hurry and drop this off at the night deposit.

Suddenly the door opens and two thugs wearing ski masks burst in with guns drawn.

TONY

(under mask)

Nobody move. Give us your money. Now!

Terrified, the volunteers hand the small piles of cash to the thugs. Grandma holds onto a pile of checks.

TONY

That too. Hand it over.

GRANDMA

They're checks. You can't cash them. They're no good to you. They're for the campaign.

TONY
HAND IT OVER!!

Tony snatches the checks from her.

TONY
Thank you.

He turns to the door. Then pauses.

TONY
Oh, I forgot. Minelli sends his regards.

He starts FIRING rapidly at them.

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

Kevin reviews some video tape of a very ordinary looking man.

MAN
... I'm an alien from the planet Zotorb. I'm here to recruit earth women for interplanetary strip shows...

Stone wheels up.

STONE
Walker, you got an emergency call from the hospital. Something about your grandmother...

30

2

A30

1

INT. ST. CARL'S COUNTY HOSPITAL - NIGHT

Grandma, wrapped in bandages, lies unconscious in her bed, hooked up to a respirator.

Darryl stands at the foot of the bed crying uncontrollably, snorting and sniffing like a pig. Snot bubbles burst forth from his nose. Kevin holds Grandma's hand. Grandma is too weak to talk. She reaches out for Darryl. Takes his hand.

The two brothers hold on to their Grandmother. She takes Kevin's hand and places it over Darryl's. The message is clear, watch over him.

She fades away. The machines connected to her start to beep. Her heart stops.

Kevin cries. Darryl is strangely silent, his entire face is covered with mucus, a lone snot bubble rises and falls with the anger of his breath.

31

4

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - NIGHT

Kevin and Darryl talk to a POLICE OFFICER.

POLICE OFFICER
Unfortunately, these things
happen every day.

KEVIN
Did it happen to your
Grandmother!?

POLICE OFFICER
I'm not saying we won't
investigate it. But with no
witnesses and no leads, it'll
probably never be solved. We'll
file the report.

DARRYL
So what happens the next time?
You'll file another report? What
happens when you run out of file
cabinets?

POLICE OFFICER
I'm sorry that's all I can do
right now.

Darryl storms off upset. Kevin chases after him.

INT. TRAIN - NIGHT

On a crowded train, Kevin and Darryl stand on the ride home.
Darryl stares fixedly across the cabin.

KEVIN
Say something. You got to talk
these things out. All we have is
each other now.

Darryl's eyes are on an old lady being hassled by a PUNK. The
people around her ignore it. The old lady is frightened.

LADY
Just leave me alone.

KEVIN
Talk to me, Darryl.

Darryl explodes. He leaps over and shoves the punk off the
train. The punk falls into the station and the doors close on
him.

The train roars off. The lady looks at Darryl gratefully.

32
4

33
6

LADY

Thank you.

Darryl walks back over to Kevin.

KEVIN

What's gotten into you?

DARRYL

I'm tired of talking.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Darryl and Kevin walk home. Darryl seems keenly aware of the people and crimes being committed in his neighborhood.

DARRYL

Look what's happened to our neighborhood. They're gambling over there.

KEVIN

Yeah, they always do that.

DARRYL

That's a prostitute, isn't it?

KEVIN

Yeah, Crystal, she's always there.

DARRYL

No one has any respect for the law anymore.

A car drives by in a shower of sparks from a large orange parking book attached to its wheel.

DARRYL

They're selling drugs right there. Right across from our apartment.

KEVIN

It's a crack house. It's been like that for years.

Darryl storms across the street. Kevin chases after.

INT. CRACK HOUSE

Darryl marches in. Looks around. DRUGGIES sit on the floor.

34

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35

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DARRYL

Hey, do you people realize this is a residential neighborhood? Children walk to school right down this street. Do you know what that stuff does to your nervous system? Not to mention the evaporation of the moisture in your skin. Yellowing of the eyes. Acne. You look like one of the Adams Family.

A druggie who looks like an extra from the video passes a pipe.

DRUGGIE

Man, he's deep.

Kevin grabs Darryl and drags him out.

EXT. STREET

Kevin pulls Darryl out of the crack house.

KEVIN

What are you doing? You can't just walk into a crack house. Those people would sell their own babies for a hit. Do you know what they could do to you?

DARRYL

Somebody's got to close that place down.

KEVIN

Why? They'll just start another one. You can't go around like a vigilante...

DARRYL

Why not! Batman and Robin did.

They begin walking.

KEVIN

Look, you're not Batman. Batman had money. He had a costume, gizmos. We're not superheros.

DARRYL

Maybe we ought to be.

EXT. GRAVEYARD - DAY

Kevin and Darryl gather with family and friends to bury Grandma.

36

4

37

1

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - DAY38
10

News reporters, including Kimberly, are flashing pictures of Harris as he stands in the Mayor's office.

HARRIS

We're going to fix our schools, rebuild our infrastructure, and make our streets safe again. But first we must solve this budget crisis and that's going to take compromise on both sides...

KIMBERLY

Does that mean you're waffling on your campaign promise to appoint a new City Building Commissioner?

HARRIS

I'm not waffling, I'm trying to be realistic so we can get the city moving forward..

An ASSISTANT whispers in Harris' ear. He looks uncomfortable.

HARRIS

I'm sorry I have to cut this off early. An important situation has just developed.

The assistant clears out the room and leaves Harris alone. From a side door, MINELLI strolls in.

MINELLI

Congrats Mayor. I appreciate you seeing me on short notice. I trust those last minute contributions came in handy.

HARRIS

They were appreciated.

MINELLI

Yeah, after that terrible series of accidents... it was nice that you found my friendship helpful after all..

HARRIS

Just understand Minelli, I only did it because I want to help the city..

MINELLI

Yeah sure. We all want to help the city. The city makes money, we all make money. Now let's talk business..

Harris listens to Minelli uncomfortably. He's a man well aware he's been forced into a pack with the devil.

INT. MR. CRUDD'S FIX IT SHOP / BACK ROOM

Darryl mixes a combination of chemicals together. He pours the concoction over his lab coat, which is laying in a sink.

He dries the lab coat with a fan. A small TV broadcasts an editorial read by Kimberly. Darryl watches it as if she were talking directly to him.

KIMBERLY

In a surprise move, Mayor Harris has re-appointed to the City Building Commission Vinnie Mendosa who is closely linked with crime lord Michael Minelli. With no end to the budget crisis in sight, unpaid Police are beginning a city wide work slow down. Which raises the question, who will keep our streets safe as crime escalates?

Darryl picks up a blow torch. He turns it on and attempts to burn the fabric. It doesn't burn. Darryl takes a knife and tries to puncture the lab coat. After several attempts, the knife begins to bend. It breaks in half.

INT. MR. CRUDD'S FIX IT SHOP / STORE FRONT

Darryl sneaks Mr. Crudd's .38 special from under a counter.

INT. MR. CRUDD'S FIX IT SHOP / BACK ROOM

Darryl fires the gun at the lab coat which hangs on a coat rack. The bullet ricochets off the coat and around the room, barely missing Darryl. It cuts through his hair.

INT. KEVIN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Kevin lies asleep in his bed. Karate trophies and pictures of Bruce Lee decorate his room. A small MOTOR can be heard in the background.

INT. DARRYL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Darryl uses his grandmother's sewing machine to sew something. The beginnings of two Batman like costumes lie across Darryl's bunk bed.

39

4

A39

2

40

1

41

1

42

1

43

1

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

Darryl cuts two holes for eyes in a black sock. He holds it up to his face as a mask. He dips the sock into a tub filled with the chemical mixture. He hangs it next to other pieces of costumes drying on the towel racks.

44
1INT. KEVIN'S BEDROOM / APARTMENT- NIGHT

Kevin wakes up and wanders through the apartment looking for Darryl. He notices his bed hasn't been slept in.

45
1INT. HALLWAY

Kevin finds the bathroom door is locked. He knocks on it.

46
20

KEVIN

Darryl. Darryl. What are you doing? What's all that noise? Come out here and go to sleep.

DARRYL (O.S.)

Just a second! Hold on! Almost there! Ready?

Darryl throws open the door and leaps out in full costume. He poses like a superhero. He looks ridiculous. The spandex pants he wears are extremely tight everywhere but in the crouch area, which hangs down almost to his knees. From the back it looks like he shit in his pants. An extra sleeve is sewn on the front of his shirt. He wears what used to be a tool belt, filled with all kinds of gadgets. He has a mask over his eyes.

The two brothers look at each other. Darryl grins.

DARRYL

What do you think?

KEVIN

I think I'm having a bad dream.

He turns.

DARRYL

No! Don't you get it? We're going to be a crime fighting team.

KEVIN

Who? Jackass and Jerk-off-man?

DARRYL

No, this is real, Kevin, the costume is bulletproof.

KEVIN

What if they shoot you in the head?

Darryl ponders this but quickly dismisses it.

DARRYL

They never shoot you in the head.
And see, the belts are filled
with crime fighting devises.

Darryl shows Kevin their make-shift crime solving devises. He holds up two bicycle water bottle holders.

DARRYL

Hand cuffs.
(blowing into small
soda bottle)
Rape whistle.
(holding small blue
pellet)
Smell this. Concentrated
flatulence. I collected it last
night while you were sleeping.
Powerful!

KEVIN

This is a nightmare.

DARRYL

And guess what? I made a costume
for you too! J5, retrieve crime
fighting outfit.

Darryl grabs his wrist joystick and activates J5. J5 brings the extra costume from the bathroom and falls over. Darryl offers up the costume to Kevin. Kevin shakes his head.

KEVIN

You've flipped.

DARRYL

Remember you said Batman had a
costume and gizmos and...

KEVIN

No, I said Batman had money. And
I'm going back to bed so I can
wake up and make money.

Kevin starts for door.

DARRYL

Does that mean you're not going
to fight crime with me tonight?

KEVIN
 When I'm a millionaire like Bruce
 Wayne, then I'll go fight crime
 with you. Goodnight.

Kevin slams door behind him.

DARRYL
 I hope you hit lotto!

INT. BASEMENT - DAY

Kevin pours his heart out to an unsympathetic Mr. Stone.

KEVIN
 I was up all night with him.
 Since my Grandmother died he's
 just gotten worse and worse. I'm
 under all this pressure to pay
 the bills. Still trying to cover
 funeral costs. The rent's due.
 And on top of that, I've got to
 baby-sit my brother.

STONE
 So how's the lesbian necrophiliac
 story going?

Kevin is slapped with reality. Stone doesn't give a shit.

KEVIN
 Fine. I got four of them to
 really open up.

Suddenly the room falls silent. Kimberly has entered. The
 perverts at Hard Edition straighten up and hide porno
 magazines. Kimberly walks straight to Kevin.

KIMBERLY
 What are you doing tonight?

KEVIN
 I guess I'm having dinner with
 you, beautiful...

KIMBERLY
 Down boy. I need a cameraman.
 I'm interviewing a snitch at
 midnight who has incriminating
 information about Michael
 Minelli. My best cameraman is
 sick and our other is out on
 assignment. I'm desperate...

KEVIN
 So you thought of me, huh? And
 here I was hoping that you...

47
 10

KIMBERLY
You said you wanted to do real news. Here's your chance. In or out?

KEVIN
In.

KIMBERLY
Meet me in front of the station at 11 O'clock.

INT. APARTMENT - EVENING

Kevin bursts into the room practically dancing with joy. A wall on the clock reads 9:00.

KEVIN
Darryl! Great news! I've got a news assignment! A real job!

Darryl is nowhere to be seen. Kevin finds a note taped to the refrigerator: "I'm out there stopping crimes. Let your conscious be your guide. P.S. Wear your costume." An arrow points to the table where Kevin's costume is neatly laid out.

KEVIN
Oh God! I've got to find him.

Kevin remembers the belt. He glances down and opens the panel. Inside is a small four arrow tracking device. An arrow flashes indicating the direction Darryl is in.

EXT. BUSH - NIGHT

Close on Darryl crouched in a bush wearing headphones on his ears. They are connected to a modified toy transistor radio. He hears something and adjusts the frequency knobs.

POLICE DISPATCHER
Car 23 report to 425 West 129th street..

Darryl jumps out the bushes and snatches off the headphones, replacing them with a mask.

INT. POLICE CAR

Two cops sit in their patrol car asleep.

POLICE DISPATCHER
... disturbance in alley of building. Use caution.

48

3

49

2

SD

1

EXT. STREET

51
1

Darryl's cape blows in the wind as he runs into action. He leaps up and flies onto:

INT. BUS

52
5

A bus. Darryl shouts directions to the driver.

DARRYL

I need to go to 129th and Western on the double!

DRIVER

That's not my route. I'm going to the southside.

DARRYL

You don't understand. It's an emergency. I'm a crime fighter!

DRIVER

Of course you are. Back there we have a brain surgeon...

The driver point to the back of the bus where we see a collection of the strangest freaks the city has to offer. Including a bum wearing a surgical mask.

DRIVER

We got a cowboy, Elvis, Prince, and a world famous painter. They're all freaks just like you. So get in the back or get off.

DARRYL

Please! I need your assistance.

EXT. BUS

53
1

Darryl is shoved off. The bus drives off. Unflinching, Darryl jumps back into action.

EXT. STREET

54
2

Darryl, still in costume, rides on the handlebars of a delivery bike. He reaches the right street and leaps off.

DARRYL

Thanks! It's nice to have the cooperation of concerned citizens!

The bike rides off. Darryl bounds toward the crime scene.

EXT. ALLEYWAY

JOE slaps around a PROSTITUTE. A crowd of seedy people sadistically look on.

JOE
Minelli wants his money. He says
you've been holding out on him.

PROSTITUTE
I ain't been holding out... I
swear...

JOE
Give it up toots or I'm gonna to
have to slap you around.

DARRYL (O.S.)
I wouldn't do that if I were you!

Joe turns to see Darryl leap up and pose in costume.

JOE
Get your ass back to the circus
before I hurt you.

DARRYL
Let the lady go.

JOE
You want to take her place?

DARRYL
I will if I have to.

The two men square off.

JOE
I'm gonna beat you like you were
one of the girls.

DARRYL
Then slap me around and call me
Susan.

EXT. ALLEYWAY

SLAP! Darryl's face pancakes across Joe's hard hand.

JOE
I warned you, Susan.

SLAP! SLAP! Joe begins singing "Oh, Susanna." The crowd
joins in.

55
25

SLAP! Darryl falls over garbage cans trying to protect himself from Joe's merciless assault. He actually looks like a woman being beat up. He makes feminine squeals after each blow.

Even the seedy crowd begins to take pity on him.

SEEDY

Somebody should help that lady.

Darryl falls to the ground, unable to pick himself back up.

DARRYL

Give up yet? Cause I'm just about to get mad.

JOE

Oh, shit, my hands are getting sore. Why don't we just finish this?

Joe pulls a pistol. Darryl smiles and staggers to his feet.

DARRYL

Go ahead and shoot me!

Kevin appears at the end of the alley. He spots them.

JOE

Look, you jerk, you've got three seconds to get out of here. One, two, three...

Kevin runs to save his brother.

KEVIN

Noooo!

BLAM! BLAM! Joe shoots Darryl in the chest. Darryl flies into the wall.

Kevin arrives to see no blood on Darryl's chest. He is amazed. So is the crowd. Darryl jumps back up.

DARRYL

Want to try again, mister?

Joe fires two more shots at Darryl who has his hands resting on his hips like Superman. He falls back again, but the bullets bounce off. Darryl jumps up.

Joe takes a step back, for the first time a little afraid. Kevin also finds himself impressed with his brother.

ONLOOKER

Why don't you shoot him in the head?

PIMP
Yeah, the head.

Joe looks at Darryl and smiles. Darryl looks at Kevin annoyed.

DARRYL
Did you tell them that?

Kevin leaps in the way.

KEVIN
No. Look, he doesn't mean no harm. Let me just take him home.

JOE
Too late.

Joe shoves Kevin out of the way and whips up gun.

With the speed of light, Kevin kicks the gun from Joe's hand. He delivers a combination punch and knocks Joe out cold.

The sound of police sirens are heard in close proximity.

KEVIN
Darryl, let's get out of here.

DARRYL
(frantic whisper)
Don't call me by my real name!
You're blowing my secret identity.

KEVIN
OK, Loonyman, let's go.

He grabs him and drags him away.

INT. TRAIN

Darryl, upbeat, oozes blood as he rides the train with Kevin.

DARRYL
We're a great team. You laid that guy out while I distracted him with my face.

KEVIN
You could have got killed. Promise no more trouble till we get home.

DARRYL
You can't think about that. Did you see how the bullets bounced right off?
(more)

56
6

DARRYL (Cont'd)
 I created a substance that
 reconstructs the molecular
 structure of cloth... you know, I'm
 not crazy about the name,
 Loonyman. Too bizarre.

KEVIN
 How about Punchingbagman?

DARRYL
 To long...

A MACHO GUARDIAN ANGEL strolls through the train. Darryl and
 him make eye contact. Darryl winks assuredly. "We're on the
 same side."

The Guardian Angel quickly looks away.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Darryl whines like a girl again. Kevin applies an ice pack to
 his wounds.

KEVIN
 So now you know, you're not
 Superman. You can't do this
 anymore.

DARRYL
 What do you mean? We stopped a
 crime. The people need us.
 Together we can...

KEVIN
 Listen, I'm Realman. I'm not
 going to do this with you. I've
 got a special news assignment
 tonight. It could lead to things
 like more money...

DARRYL
 Wow... Kevin, that's great.
 Because I quit my job to devote
 myself to fighting crime.

KEVIN
 You what?

DARRYL
 I quit my job.

KEVIN
 I don't believe you... look, it's
 ten thirty. I've got to be there
 in half an hour. What am I going
 to do with you?

57
5

58
1INT. DARRYL BEDROOM - NIGHT

Darryl, out of costume, is tied to the bunk bed.

INT. ABANDONED CIVIC CENTER

59

Kevin is setting up his camera as Kimberly talks to SNAKE SEMEN, a nervous, profusely sweating snitch.

16

SNAKE

Wait a second! You can't video tape me. I'll be dead if Minelli finds out I squealed!

KIMBERLY

It's okay. We'll blot out your face and change your voice.

SNAKE

I guess I can trust you. You're legit. Not like those sleazy scumeaters at Hard Edition. They should line up all those bastards and shoot them..

KEVIN

Oh, it got hot in here..

Kevin discretely peels off his Hard Edition jacket and stuffs it in his camera bag. He begins filming.

KEVIN

I'm ready.

SNAKE

Don't forget, you can't show my face or I'm a dead man.

KIMBERLY

(to the camera)

I'm here at the abandoned Ronald Reagan Civic Center, one of the most notorious pork barrel public works projects in recent history. Despite the advice of experts the project was built on a shifting landfill and was condemned as unsafe only days after work was completed.

(more)

KIMBERLY (Cont'd)

The question has often been asked, why did the city approve the three hundred million dollar white elephant and why did the two most ardent critics of the project, city engineer Robert Siskel and councilman James Ebert, mysteriously disappear? With me, is a source from Michael Minelli's inner circle.

SNAKE

Okay, here's the scoop. Old Mayor Gates never wanted to do the project, he didn't even like the name, he thought Reagan was a loser, but Minelli wasn't having it because he wanted the project done because he was getting twenty percent kickbacks see. So what Minelli does is get pictures of Gates with a hooker and blackmails him. So he's got these pictures see. He forced him see.

Sweat rolls down Snake's face. He dabs it with a handkerchief.

KIMBERLY

Yes, but what happened to the two critics?

SNAKE

They kept fighting it and Minelli told them they needed to spend time in the building. They need to see it from the inside out. So that's what happened.

KIMBERLY

What do you mean?

Snake points at two concrete gargoyles over the entry way. One is fat with glasses and one is skinny.

KIMBERLY

No... he didn't...

Kevin and Kimberly stare in horror.

INT. MINELLI'S OFFICE

It's ornate and overblown. Minelli sits behind a giant desk eating from a large plate of food and screaming at Joe who is nursing his bruises.

60
6

MINELLI

I just want my money! I don't want to hear about no guy in tights!

JOE

Boss, he came out of nowhere!

MINELLI

Why didn't you just shoot him?

JOE

I did, but he had a bullet proof suit.

MINELLI

Look, I don't want to hear about this guy no more. Come here. Come here.

Joe comes over to Minelli.

MINELLI

No, here, closer. Closer.

As Joe leans in, Minelli pistol whips him on the head.

MINELLI

Now get out of here.

Minelli goes back to eating.

INT. NEWS ROOM - MORNING

Kimberly and Kevin watch the footage replayed on a TV Monitor. A technician is carefully placing dots over Snake's face.

KIMBERLY

I want it ready for the six o'clock news...

KEVIN

Well, thanks for giving me a once in a lifetime chance to do some real news.

Kimberly turns toward him.

KIMBERLY

I appreciate you bailing me out at the last minute. You did a good job.

KEVIN

Yeah, maybe sometime we could have dinner or see a movie...

6

6

Video

KIMBERLY

Let's keep this on a business level. Listen. I've been trying to get them to hire a new segment producer. But they're only willing to pay twelve hundred a week...

KEVIN

That's three times what Stone's paying me.

KIMBERLY

Oh. Then you've got a job.

INT. DARRYL BEDROOM - MORNING

Darryl, still tied, is asleep. He wakes up and realizes his situation.

DARRYL

Kevin! I got to get out of here.

Thinking.

DARRYL

J5!

He struggles to get his one hand over to the joystick on the other wrist. Makes it. Activates the robot.

INT. APARTMENT

J5 comes to life. Rolls across the carpet. Teeters, almost falls over, but keeps going to kitchen.

INT. DARRYL BEDROOM

As Darryl manipulates the joystick.

DARRYL

J5! I need you to get me out of here! I'm counting on you! You can do it! Must get to kitchen!

We hear crashing sounds from the other room.

INT. KITCHEN

J5 knocks over chairs, dishes and appliances. Its metal claw reaches out and opens a drawer. It keeps opening until the drawer falls out. The contents scatter to the floor.

Among the contents are several sharp knives. The hand reaches down.

INT. DARRYL BEDROOM

Darryl manipulates the joystick.

DARRYL
Now bring it to me! You can do
it! This way! Almost here!

We hear more crashing sounds. J5 appears in the doorway. It is holding a spoon.

DARRYL
Oh, no.

Darryl uses the joystick to spin the robot back around.

DARRYL
A knife. Knife.

More crashing. Loud banging. Scattering of utensils.

More bumping sounds. Then it appears in the doorway. It's holding a knife.

DARRYL
Yes!

It knocks into the doorway and almost falls over. But it keeps coming. Closer, closer.

DARRYL
Now cut me free.

J5 starts to short circuit. The knife swings over Darryl's groin menacingly. Darryl frantically tries to control it with the joystick. J5 begins to teeter. It falls over.

But as it does, the knife catches on the ropes and cuts one loose. It's enough for Darryl to start to break free.

DARRYL
Good work, J5!

EXT. APARTMENT - DAY

Darryl bounds out of apartment, in costume, ready for action. Looks around. Debates what do. Sees a police car passing. Gets idea. Leaps off.

INT. POLICE STATION

Close on a big fat DESK SERGEANT laughing hysterically.

66
6

67

1

68

12

DESK SERGEANT
Stop it! You're killing me... I
can't breath...

Darryl, in costume, sits in front of the Desk Sergeant, with a
confused expression on his face.

DESK SERGEANT
Chuck! You have to hear this...

Chuck comes over. Desk Sergeant turns to Darryl.

DESK SERGEANT
Tell him! Go ahead and tell him
who you want to see.

DARRYL
I want to see the Commissioner.

DESK SERGEANT
Tell him why! Tell him why!

DARRYL
Because I'm a crime fighter. I
had a little run in with some
punks last night and I figure the
word is already out on the
street. I want the cooperation
of the police as I take these
guys down. Wait a second... I
don't see what's so funny...

DESK SERGEANT
Tell him about your name! What's
your name...

DARRYL
(defensively)
I don't have one yet... I'm leaning
toward Brotherman, but it sounds
too ethic... I don't want to type
myself. I feel the public should
name me.

OFFICER #1
I got a name for you. How about
Shithead?

As Darryl actually toys with the idea, they all laugh so hard
we almost think they're going to die. Finally, the Sergeant
pulls himself together.

DESK SERGEANT
Okay, kid, go home now. Thanks
for the laughs.

DARRYL
 (leaps to feet)
 This isn't a joke. I'm not
 moving until I get to talk to the
 Commissioner.

INT. CELL - DAY

Darryl stands behind bars. Prisoners laugh hysterically behind him. 69
6

PRISONERS
 How about Fairyman! Skinnyboy!
 Paroleman! Cellmate!

Kevin comes in with an OFFICER.

OFFICER
 We won't press any charges. But
 I recommend you take him to a
 shrink.

KEVIN
 Thanks officer.

Kevin looks at his brother behind the bars. Toys with the idea
 of leaving him there. The guard opens the door.

KEVIN
 Come on.

They walk out.

KEVIN
 Can you see how ridiculous this
 is? People are laughing at you.

DARRYL
 I don't care. If people want to
 laugh at me because I want to
 help them, then I hope to be the
 biggest joke in this city.

KEVIN
 You are.

INT. PSYCHOLOGIST OFFICE

A PSYCHOLOGIST holds up a card with an ink blot on it. Darryl
 sits in front of him. Kevin stands in the back. 70
15

PSYCHOLOGIST
 What does this look like?

DARRYL

It's the lower quarter of the
twitsue South American butterfly.

The Psychologist looks at it curiously. He goes to some
encyclopedias and looks it up. In the butterfly section is an
exact picture of the spot.

The Psychologist returns and shows Darryl some other cards.

DARRYL

Scrambled eggs. Smashed bug.
Rectal cavity.

He holds a card that is obviously a pair of woman's breasts.

DARRYL

Umm.. that's a tough one. Hmm.
I'll pass. Next card.

He holds up another card.

DARRYL

Stain on Gorbochav's head.

The Psychologist returns to the encyclopedia. In it is an
identical picture of Gorborschav's head stain. He crosses to
Kevin.

PSYCHOLOGIST

Not only does he seem quite
normal, he's actually rather
brilliant.

KEVIN

No, he's got problems. Tell him
about how you're a superhero.
He's a superhero.

DARRYL

I'm not a superhero.

KEVIN

(getting angry)
Tell him about how you fight
crime.

DARRYL

No. I'm just an ordinary
citizen. The police fight
crimes.

KEVIN

(agitated)
Look, he's a superhero. We were
out fighting crime last night.
(more)

KEVIN (Cont'd)

The bullets bounced right off him. I had to knock out a gangster who was calling him Susan. I can't get any sleep. It's driving me nuts. This girl thinks I'm a pervert because she caught me talking to my penis and I was really talking to him.

The psychologist starts taking notes.

KEVIN

I tried tying him to a bed but J5 just came by and cut him loose..

He leads Kevin over to a couch and lays him down.

PSYCHOLOGIST

Tell me about J5.

KEVIN

He's a garbage can with an afro.

PSYCHOLOGIST

Is he a superhero too?

EXT. HALLWAY - DAY

Kevin exits the office. The psychologist pulls Darryl aside.

PSYCHOLOGIST

He's what we call paranoid schizophrenic. If he gets any worse we'll put him on medication. Here's my card.

DARRYL

Thanks, Doc. I'll look after him.

The door closes.

KEVIN

Why did you do that to me! He thinks I'm crazy. Why didn't you tell him about being a superhero?

DARRYL

What? And reveal my secret identity?

KEVIN

So you're not giving this up.

71
14

DARRYL

This is my calling, I'm going to fight crime. I've got to make the world safe for my children.

KEVIN

Children, you don't even have a woman. You're still a virgin.

DARRYL

(defensive)

I'm a gentleman.

KEVIN

Okay. Okay. If this is something you have to do to work through Grandma's death then we'll do it together. But... we do it my way. Alright?

DARRYL

Alright, Karateman.

KEVIN

What's that?

DARRYL

Your crime fighting name.

KEVIN

I don't like it.

DARRYL

I'll think of something else.

INT. MINELLI'S OFFICE

Minelli paces with Tony angrily. A TV blares in the background.

MINELLI

When I get my hands on the rat bastard who fingered me I'm going to break his legs. I'm going to break his wife's legs. I'm going to break his baby's legs. And if he has a dog I'm going to break it's paws...

TONY

But they got those dots on him. We'll never figure out who...

TV ANNOUNCER

Next up on Hard Edition, Mothers who sleep with their sons for money...

72

14

A72

4

MINELLI
TURN THAT CRAP OFF!

TV ANNOUNCER
... and revealing video of the man
who fingered Michael Minelli!

MINELLI
Hold on...

Minelli watches as the picture shows the video of Snake with
dots over his face and voice distorted.

TV ANNOUNCER
... in a Hard Edition exclusive we
hired scientists from NASA to
decode the computer optics and
recreate the true identity of the
unknown informant on the evening
news.

Using flashy video the dots one by one disappear and Snake's
voice returns to normal.

SNAKE
... but Minelli wasn't having it
because he wanted the project
done because he was getting
twenty percent kickbacks see...

Underneath the video titles flash: Jimmy "the Snake" Lazzano.
The video glitches back to Snake wiping his sweaty face.

SNAKE
... don't forget, you can't show my
face or I'm a dead man... don't
forget you can't show my face or
I'm a dead man... a dead man... a
dead man...

Minelli clicks the TV off.

MINELLI
You son-of-a-bitch...

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

Kevin and Darryl stand guard outside their building. Behind
them is a table with a banner reading NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH.

DARRYL
(disgusted)
Housing patrol? You call this
crime fighting? Could we at
least wear our costumes?

73
13

KEVIN

No! You wanted to help out,
we're helping out. At least this
way we won't get killed.

DARRYL

But...

KEVIN

Don't but me. As far as I'm
concerned we can pack this thing
up right now...

Darryl sucks his teeth in disappointment. Suddenly a young
girl comes running down the street crying.

CRYING GIRL

Help me! You've got to help me!

KEVIN

What's wrong? Is someone
following you?

CRYING GIRL

No. No... it's, it's my mother.
She needs help.

Darryl jumps up. Punches his hand ala Robin.

DARRYL

HOLY DISTRESSED DAUGHTER!

KEVIN

Where is she?!

CRYING GIRL

She's trapped in the elevator.

KEVIN / DARRYL

(disappointed)

Oh...

CRYING GIRL

You are going to help her, right?

KEVIN

Yeah, sure. Which building is
she in?

CRYING GIRL

Down there. First building on
your right. Hurry.

Darryl runs up the stairs to the apartment building.

KEVIN

Where are you going?

DARRYL
I have to get something! I'll
meet you there.

INT. BUILDING - NIGHT

Kevin listens to cries for help echoing from an elevator stuck
between floors. A woman cries out in pain.

WOMAN (O.S.)
Someone get me out of here!
Help... is anyone there?

KEVIN
I'll have you out in a second.
Please, just be patient.

DARRYL (O.S.)
Step back, I'll handle this.

Darryl leaps over in full costume. He takes an egg beater
attached to a gynecological device and inserts it between the
elevator doors. As he cranks it, the doors spread open.

KEVIN
What's that?

DARRYL
The speculum of life.

The doors open wide enough for them to get through. The
elevator is stuck below them.

Darryl goes into action. He throws a modified plunger into the
wall above. An electronic pump activates and creates a tight
vacuum seal. Darryl swings out on the attached cable. He
activates a motor and slowly lowers down toward the elevator
below. He swings back and forth as he goes.

DARRYL
Quick, grab on to me. I'll lower
you down.

Kevin just sighs. He jumps the two or three feet down to the
elevator. He opens the trapdoor and sees the WOMAN below.
She's clearly pregnant.

KEVIN
Oh, no, she's pregnant. We need
an ambulance.

DARRYL
I'll radio for help.

WOMAN
I'm in labor. I'm going to have
this baby right now!

74
12

Kevin jumps down into the stranded elevator. Darryl, swinging on the cable, activates his belt and calls in.

DARRYL

Mayday, mayday. We have a pregnant woman trapped in elevator. Send an ambulance to one thirteen Filmore Street. Over.

RADIO (O.S.)

Who's calling? What are you doing on this channel?

DARRYL

A concerned citizen. Just send it. Over and out.

INT. ELEVATOR

Kevin assists the woman who is experiencing strong contractions. In the background, Darryl, dangling from his cable, continues to spin slowly down into the elevator.

75
10

WOMAN

It's coming!

DARRYL

Help is on its way. What should we do?

KEVIN

I guess we have to deliver the baby.

DARRYL

That means we're gonna have to see her thing! Hey, I don't know if I can do this, man.

Kevin lifts the woman's dress. Darryl's face freezes in shock.

DARRYL

It's so ugly.

The woman cries out in pain.

KEVIN

Look, keep breathing. Take my hand. Just grab on tight.

The woman's hands flail out. Kevin offers out his hand for her to take. She misses and grabs his groin.

They both scream out in pain.

WOMAN

You have a big finger!

Kevin is frozen. Darryl sees the baby starting to come. He jumps in to help it.

DARRYL

It's working! It's coming.
Whatever you're doing, don't
stop.

The woman's grip tightens. Kevin and her scream in unison.

DARRYL

Great! Great! It's a boy! I
delivered a boy. I'm a father!

INT. BUILDING - NIGHT

Medics have arrived and wait outside the elevator with the little girl. A ladder has been lowered and Kevin helps the woman climb up it. They step out.

A NEWSPAPER REPORTER and PHOTOGRAPHER arrive.

REPORTER

Where's the baby?

WOMAN

He's bringing it up. He
delivered it. He saved me.

Darryl slowly rises up on his motorized cable. In his arms is the baby, wrapped in his cape.

The photographer starts taking pictures. Everyone cheers.

REPORTER

Great photo! You're a hero!

The medics take the baby from his arms. They help steady Darryl as he swings out to the landing.

REPORTER

How's it feel to be a hero?

Darryl is a total blank. Stunned from the attention. Everyone smiles at him approvingly. The woman reaches over and gives him a big hug.

WOMAN

You were wonderful. Who are you?

DARRYL

I... I'm... I...

76
14

WOMAN
What?

KEVIN
He's blank, Mam.

WOMAN
Blankman. You're a true hero,
Blankman.

REPORTER
Blankman, huh? Great name.

DARRYL
(coming out of it)
Blankman, yeah.

EXT. STREET - DAY/NIGHT

Blankman posts handbills on various streets reading: This neighborhood patrolled by Blankman.*

77
L

EXT. STREET - DAY

A little girl runs up to Blankman.

LITTLE GIRL
Fe-fe's stuck under the house!
Please save her!

78
2

Blankman quickly follows after her. She points to the crawl space under a bungalow. Blankman bends over and sticks his head inside.

Instead of a kitten there is a vicious Pitbull underneath. It growls.

We see Blankman's body flailing.

INT. CONVENIENCE STORE - NIGHT

A CROOK holds up STORE OWNER with revolver. Suddenly, Blankman jumps from behind. He knocks the gun from the crook's hand with a heavy orthopedic shoe. Using the elastic strap he springs the shoe back into his hand and then flings it again into the crook's face. The crook is knocked out.

79
2

Cops come in and shake Darryl's hand. The store owner gives him a thumbs up.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Blankman lies on couch, bruised up and sore. Kevin walks by and drops an ice pack in his lap. Goes to bed.

80
1

INT. NEWS ROOM - DAY

Kevin purses Kimberly as she prepares to go on the air. She glances over stories coming out of the teletype.

KEVIN

It's just dinner. You know.
We'll just eat.

KIMBERLY

... I know you have a reputation to maintain, but you're not my type.

KEVIN

What is your type?

KIMBERLY

I want a man who stands for something. Someone who's not just out for himself. I want a...
a...

KEVIN

You want a superman.

Kimberly's looking at a story on the teletype.

KIMBERLY

Yeah, a superman.

A PRODUCTION MANAGER approaches Kevin.

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Kimberly, you're on in thirty seconds. Walker, here's your pay check.

Kimberly goes off. Kevin takes his check. Opens it. Closes his eyes. Looks at the amount. Is thrilled.

INT. MAYORS OFFICE - DAY

Harris sits behind his desk, his hair even whiter and his face troubled. A TV shows the evening news in the background. Kimberly is on the TV. Behind her is a picture of Blankman.

KIMBERLY (O.S.)

And our closing story is a hopeful one for a change. It's about a caped crusader, Blankman.

Harris takes note.

KIMBERLY

Numerous reports have come in from police and citizens about his heroic exploits. In a city where joblessness and lawlessness run rampant, it's refreshing to see goodness coming back in style. This reporter just wants to say thanks. Keep doing what you're doing. One man can make a difference.

Harris looks at the picture thoughtfully.

HARRIS

(to himself almost mockingly)

One man can.

His assistant enters.

ASSISTANT

Minelli wants to see you.

HARRIS

(beat)

Good. I want to see him too.

The assistant shows Minelli in. Minelli marches over and leans on Harris' desk.

MINELLI

Look, you got to talk to the D.A.. They're launching an investigation into the Civic Center thing. I want it shut down now. They aren't going to find any witnesses anyway. I'll see to that.

HARRIS

You should be careful what you say in front of me. My statement will carry a lot of weight in a court of law.

MINELLI

You threatening me? Let me tell you something Mr. Mayor. You want to end this labor dispute? You want the banks to approve the city loans so people can get paid? Then you need me and you'll do as I say. Stop the investigation.

HARRIS

Not only will the investigation continue, but I'm going to recommend to the D.A. that he issue a warrant for your arrest for attempted bribery and extortion.

MINELLI

You'll be dead before the ink dries!

HARRIS

Get out! Now!

MINELLI

No one crosses me! You're a dead man Harris!

Minelli storms out.

INT. BANK - DAY

Kevin cashes his check. The TELLER opens her drawer.

TELLER

You sure you want it all in cash?

KEVIN

Yeah, I'm going to take it home and roll around in it.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Kevin's wallet bulges in his pants. He's happily oblivious to the crime around him. A PORNO guy tries to get him to go into a strip show. He ignores him.

KEVIN

I'm gonna buy a car. Get a new place. Stereo. Yeah, a stereo.

He steps over a bum. A kid falls over on his bicycle and Kevin doesn't notice.

KEVIN

Big screen TV. Yeah.

Suddenly, a gun is pushed into his back.

ROBBER

Into the alley. Now.

EXT. ALLEY - NIGHT85
7

The ROBBER pushes Kevin in. The gun is firm in his back.

ROBBER
Give me your money or you're
dead.

KEVIN
I don't have any money.

ROBBER
Yes you do, I followed you from
the bank.

KEVIN
I'll split it with you.

The robber clubs him on the head with the gun butt and takes his wallet.

Two construction guys chase the robber away and go to Kevin's aid.

CONSTRUCTION WORKER #1
Hey, you alright buddy?

CONSTRUCTION WORKER #2
Yeah, we saw that guy, we came
over to help.

CONSTRUCTION WORKER #1
(enthusiastically)
Yeah, the whole Blankman thing's
got everyone chippin' in.

KEVIN
He got my wallet, did you get my
wallet?

CONSTRUCTION WORKER #2
No. But we saved your life.

KEVIN
I would have rather had my
wallet.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT86
6

The entire apartment is filled with tons of strange junk. Darryl works away on new crime fighting gear. Kevin, head aching, comes in. Looks around.

KEVIN
What is all this junk?

DARRYL
 Isn't it great! Lots of people
 have been thanking me. They keep
 giving me money.

KEVIN
 (excited)
 Yeah?! How much?

DARRYL
 One guy gave me five thousand
 dollars.

KEVIN
 That's great! Where is it?

DARRYL
 I gave it back. I give it all
 right back. But I told him he
 could give me old appliances
 instead. Aren't they great?
 Look at this... this is a twenty
 five horse power electric motor!
 And it almost works!

KEVIN
 ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND! No, we
 already know you are. I can't
 take it anymore. This isn't the
 Batcave! Get it out. Get all
 this shit out of our place. Now!

DARRYL
 (looks hurt)
 You shouldn't use four letter
 words.

EXT. LONELY STREET - NIGHT

Darryl's junk is piled high in three shopping carts. They are
 tied together and he drags them with a rope. J5 follows
 alongside. It pulls a little wagon with more stuff.

Darryl searches for a new home for his gear.

INT. ABANDONED HOUSE

Darryl and J5 stand in a filthy abandoned house.

DARRYL
 The Blankhouse.

J5 shakes its Afro "no."

87

L

88

L

EXT. LONELY STREET - NIGHT

Darryl and J5 continue to search. Darryl notices a big tree. 89
2

DARRYL
The Blanktree.

J5 shakes its head.

DARRYL
Yeah. It would be hard for you
to get up, wouldn't it?

INT. EMPTY STOREFRONT - NIGHT

Darryl and J5 look around. 90
2

DARRYL
What do you think? The
Blankstore?

This time J5 just looks at him.

DARRYL
Yeah... too obvious.

INT. ABANDONED TRAIN STATION

Darryl and J5 drag their junk into an old abandoned train
station. Darryl looks around pleased. 91
14

DARRYL
The Blankstation! Perfect. I'm
sure no ones been down here for
years.

A pile of dirty rags in a corner begins to stir. A scruffy old
WINO named AL emerges from the rags.

AL
(obviously drunk)
What the hell are you doing in my
house? Who are you? What do you
want? Give me a dollar!

DARRYL
Listen, friend. Will you work
for food?

AL
No, I work for money, like all
Americans.

DARRYL
Okay, I'll pay you twenty dollars
a month to share your space.

AL
 I'll have to think about it.
 (with out missing a
 beat)
 I'll need first, last, and a one
 dollar security fee, payable now.

DARRYL
 Okay, you got yourself a deal.
 What's your name?

AL
 Um, Um...I'm trying to remember.
 (beat)
 Al!

DARRYL
 (excited)
 Is that short for Alfred?

AL
 No, Aloysious.

DARRYL
 (disappointed)
 Oh...Well, anyway Alfred, we've
 got a lot of work to do. J5,
 music on.

Darryl throws a CD at J5 like a Frisbee. It lands into J5's
 slot and is activated. MUSIC pours out.

INT. ABANDONED TRAIN STATION / MONTAGE

MUSIC fills the station as they assemble all sorts of weird
 equipment. 92
2

Darryl drags in even more junk, including an old big wheel, and
 an old Harley. Al helps out, suddenly gets sick and throws up
 in J5. Darryl looks on disgusted.

INT. MINELLI'S OFFICE

The police burst into Minelli's office with guns drawn. No one
 is there. Everything is gone. 93
L

INT. NEWS ROOM - DAY

Kevin and Kimberly sit at a table with a bunch of other NEWS
 PEOPLE sorting through papers and picking stories. 94
7

KEVIN
 We should do a piece on the
 Minelli scandal.
 (more)

KEVIN (Cont'd)
 He's gone underground. And the
 FBI has frozen his bank accounts
 and assets...

KIMBERLY
 I want to concentrate on positive
 stories. I want to do an
 interview with Blankman.

Startled, Kevin spills his coffee on himself.

KEVIN
 Blankman? Why?

KIMBERLY
 He's great for the community. He
 appears out of nowhere, does a
 good deed, and disappears. He
 doesn't do interviews, he doesn't
 seek publicity, he doesn't...

KEVIN
 ... take any money.

KIMBERLY
 He's wonderful. But how can we
 find him? How can we get him to
 talk? Anyone know?

Everyone shakes their heads hopeless. Kevin leans back in his
 chair confidently.

KEVIN
 Let me handle it. I'll get you
 a one on one with Blankman.

KIMBERLY
 How?

KEVIN
 I'm a producer. I'll produce.

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

The place is back to normal. Kevin argues with Darryl.

DARRYL
 No. Nope. Can't do it.
 Blankman avoids the press. He
 doesn't do it for recognition.

KEVIN
 Then do it for me. I'm trying to
 make an impression.

95
4

DARRYL

Me, I'd do anything for you,
Kevin. It's Blankman. He's got
a code...

KEVIN

Don't give me that double
identity stuff! You'll do it or
Darryl and Blankman will be
living in that train station.

INT. NEWS ROOM - DAY

Kevin looks uncomfortable as he talks to Kimberly.

KEVIN

It's a little weird.

KIMBERLY

Like how?

KEVIN

Like Michael Jackson weird.
He'll only meet you. And you
can't bring a camera. You have
to wait at the Fourth Street
Station at Six PM sharp. And you
have to wear a carnation in your
hair.

KIMBERLY

He doesn't know what I look like?

KEVIN

He does. You just have to wear
a carnation. Don't ask...

KIMBERLY

No. This is great. Blankman...

INT. TRAIN STATION

Kimberly stands in a pretty dress with a carnation in her hair.
She looks all around the platform. Doesn't see any Blankman.
It's six o'clock.

Suddenly, from behind her, a loud roar of a motorcycle engine
is heard. A beat. A strange contraption WHIZZES up on the
rails and SCREECHES to a halt. It's a motorized Big Wheel with
a wagon sidecar.

BLANKMAN

(yelling over engine)
Quick, hop on! It's rush hour
and there's a train coming!

96

4

97

5

Kimberly spins. She stares at the strange vehicle. WE HEAR A TRAIN COMING.

BLANKMAN

Quick!

Kimberly hesitates a second and then leaps on. Blankman helps her into the wagon.

BLANKMAN

Hold on!

She grabs his shoulder for support and the Blankwheel ROCKETS out of the station.

A second later the TRAIN ROARS UP.

INT. BLANKWHEEL

The Blankwheel ROARS along at a frightening clip. Kimberly is terrified and excited. Blankman acts as if this is something he does everyday. On the handlebars is a display, made out of a Gameboy. It's programmed to reflect the layout of the tracks and the positions of trains. 98
3

DARRYL

Looks like the twelve is stuck in the station. We'd better switch tracks. Hold on!

The Blankwheel zips loudly onto a new track.

KIMBERLY

What is this thing?

DARRYL

It's the Blankwheel. The three is coming up behind. I'm going to have to pick up speed.

He guns it.

RAILS / MONTAGE

The Blankwheel roars through stations. Commuters stare at it as it goes past. A kid points. 99
14

KID

The Blankwheel!

Kimberly finds herself enjoying the ride. It's like a roller coaster.

KIMBERLY

(yelling over the noise)

Where are we going?

DARRYL
 (also yelling)
 What? I can't hear you.

KIMBERLY
 I said where are we going?

DARRYL
 Wait, I've got to turn the engine
 off.

Darryl turns engine off.

DARRYL
 What'd you say?

KIMBERLY
 Where are we going?

DARRYL
 Oh, to the Blankstation.

He starts up and they take off.

KIMBERLY
 (yelling)
 This is great.

DARRYL
 (also yelling)
 What?

KIMBERLY
 (louder)
 I said this is great.

DARRYL
 (louder)
 Wait, I can't hear you, let me
 turn off the engine.

Darryl turns off the engine again.

DARRYL
 Now, what did you say?

KIMBERLY
 I said this is great.

DARRYL
 Oh...

Darryl starts the wheel again and they take off. A train
 switches tracks in front of them.

KIMBERLY
 Wooooo....

DARRYL
What did you say?

KIMBERLY
Never mind.

Kimberly hugs Darryl as they continue their ride.

INT. BLANKSTATION

The Blankwheel SCREECHES to a halt inside the Blankstation. 100

KIMBERLY
Oh... I was starting to get dizzy. 5

BLANKMAN
I'm sorry. But I had to make
sure that you couldn't remember
the secret location of... the
Blankstation.

Kimberly looks around. It's completely changed from the last
time we saw it. It's filled with laboratories, strange
equipment and gizmos. A huge map is on the wall along with
assorted "Wanted" posters and police bulletins.

Blankman steps off and gentlemanly helps Kimberly out of the
cycle. She holds onto the carnation. J5 rolls up, with a note
from Alfred. It reads: Out looking for more junk, will be
back. Al.

BLANKMAN
Don't be afraid. It's just J5.

J5
Hel-lo Kim-ber-ly.

KIMBERLY
It talks.

BLANKMAN
That's all it can say. I don't
want to overload him. He's
already programmed to do so much.
Would you like a drink?

KIMBERLY
Yes... sure.

Blankman punches down on J5's head and two Cokes drop out into
a tray. Blankman hands Kimberly one.

INT. BLANKSTATION - LATER

Blankman and Kimberly sit on steps that have been cushioned for
comfort. The carnation is in her lap. She takes notes. 101
7

KIMBERLY

... it's almost like you live in a different world. Not that that's bad... I mean it's good. It's a better world. Are you happy?

BLANKMAN

How can I be happy when there's still so much to be done?

KIMBERLY

What do you think makes you so special?

BLANKMAN

I don't think I'm different from anyone else. That's what Blankman symbolizes. Everyman. Everyman who takes a stand.

KIMBERLY

What do your parents think about this?

BLANKMAN

My parents are dead.

KIMBERLY

Is that why... I mean... does this have something to do with what happened to them?

BLANKMAN

I don't remember them at all.

KIMBERLY

Do you have any other family?

BLANKMAN

... no.

INT. BLANKSTATION - LATER

Kimberly and Blankman return to the Blankwheel. JS waves good-bye.

KIMBERLY

I'm sorry for taking up so much of your time. This has been an amazing night.

Kimberly suddenly notices the carnation in her hand.

KIMBERLY

What was the carnation for?

BLANKMAN

A beautiful woman should have a carnation, that's all.

KIMBERLY

Well, I have something to give you on behalf of the city.

She leans forward and kisses Blankman on the mouth. His body shudders in an instantaneous orgasm.

DARRYL

(out of breath)

JS, what's happening to me?

(falling to the ground,

spent)

I feel so tired.

INT. NEWS ROOM - DAY

Close on monitor. It's broadcasting Oprah.

OPRAH

...not only has he inspired a city to stand up for itself, but now there's Blankmania. With merchandising estimated at over one-hundred-million dollars, none of which goes to Blankman; You too can now have your own; Blank-t-shirts, Blank-comic books, and Blank-video games. Now, this sudden craze is bringing other "super people" out of the woodwork.

She is interviewing five want-to-be superheros.

OPRAH

Midgetman, what inspired you to become a superhero?

MIDGETMAN

Well, I think Blankman was an important influence on all of us.

The other superheros nod.

MIDGETMAN

... but it's a big world and we all have to do our part.

OPRAH

What kind of super powers do you have?

103

24

A103

7

INT. OPRAH
SET

MIDGETMAN

Mostly, because I'm small, people don't see me coming.

OPRAH

And Gayman, you mostly work out of San Francisco?

GAYMAN

I wanted to be in the Army, but they discriminate. And since I do a lot of cruising on streets anyway...

FATGIRL

That's so true about discrimination. I'm Fatgirl and there's enormous pressure on all Superheroes, especially women, to be thin...

GAYMAN

Excuse me, Fatty, I think the enormous pressure is on your chair. Now, as I was saying...

Pull back to reveal NEWS ROOM. Kimberly prepares to go on the air. A MAKEUP PERSON powders her face. Kevin, obviously hung over, stands nearby whispering, upset.

KEVIN

So how'd it go? He's a bit queer, huh?

KIMBERLY

No. He's the most wonderful man I've ever met.

KEVIN

You're kidding?

KIMBERLY

But he seems so lonely. His parents died when he was young and he has no other family.

KEVIN

No family? He said that?

KIMBERLY

Yes. Isn't it sad?

A PRODUCTION MANAGER calls over.

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Kimberly, in five. Five, four...

Kimberly sits at her news desk and the program begins.

KIMBERLY

Blankman does it again. Saying he was inspired by his hero, Mayor Marvin Harris has come up with a plan to stop the impending police and city worker strike...

Screen cuts to Harris.

HARRIS

I've worked out a deal with the city and state so that we can honor the IOU's. On Friday of this week, any worker can turn them in at our local bank. Special Armored cars will bring in the necessary cash. And I ask Blankman, wherever you are, to be on hand to receive a special award.

B103
2

INT. DARK WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Minelli and a dozen of his men have taken over a dark warehouse hideout. Torch holds a tied up Snake. Minelli lectures him.

104
1-

MINELLI

Did you think you could just cross me? Where did you think you could run? Even if you ran up your mother's ass I'd crawl up there and find you. Look what you started. I'm wanted by the police. I'm hiding in a stinking warehouse. People have stopped making payoffs, some guy in tights is putting stupid ideas in everyone's head, and the mayor has turned his back on me. But my problems are few compared to yours. I got a plan to rebuild my organization. But for your problems there's no solution.

Sweat drips off of Snake.

SNAKE

I'm sorry boss. I don't know what go into me. It's like they gave me some kind of truth serum or something. I couldn't stop talking.

MINELLI

Oh, you're going to stop talking. You may say ouch a few times, but right after you stop screaming, you'll stop talking. Let me introduce you to some friends of yours. Show him.

Torch opens a large canvas bag. Inside are several rattle snakes.

SNAKE

Please, please Minelli. Don't do me this way.

MINELLI

Snakes for the Snake.

They shove the bag over the upper half of Snake's body and tie it around him. Snake screams.

MINELLI

No one crosses me. No one.

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

J5 has an apron on and is frying eggs. Darryl follows Kevin around. Kevin isn't speaking to him. He pours a cup of coffee and gathers his things for work. 105
3

DARRYL

You've got to have a balanced breakfast... Kevin. Kevin.

KEVIN

I'm not talking to you. You said you didn't have a family. Now you don't.

DARRYL

Blankman said he didn't have a family.

KEVIN

Well, neither does Realman.

Kevin walks out and slams the door.

EXT. STREET - EARLY MORNING

Tony and a gang of thugs leap out of several Con Edison Trucks and open a manhole. They put out a MEN AT WORK sign and lower heavy equipment down below. 105
1

107
14EXT. BANK - MORNING

A dozen police squad cars escort several Armored trucks.

They pull up in front of the bank. GUARDS are everywhere with shotguns.

A line of city workers has already formed, waiting for the bank to open. In their hands are white IOUs. They cheer and wave as the money is unloaded and carried into the bank.

Sammy and two other hoods wearing raincoats, are the first in line.

As the press photographs them, Mayor Harris hands Blankman the award. Kimberly and Kevin are at the scene with a camera crew. So are some of Stone's people.

HARRIS

I present this award to the one man who stood up for what is right, and inspired an entire city and nation.

They shake hands.

BLANKMAN

I'm not much for words, but this means a lot to me. I also want to give a special thanks to someone really special in my life, who believed in me...

Kevin watches with growing emotion.

BLANKMAN

... it's rare to have a friend like this, someone close, who you feel in your soul, and understands who you are...

Kevin realizes he's talking about him.

BLANKMAN

... someone who is as beautiful on the inside as they are on the outside: Kimberly Johns.

Kimberly blushes. Kevin fumes. Harris steps toward the crowd.

HARRIS

Well, you people have families to feed, so it's time to open the bank. Let's not have any pushing or impatience, everybody will be paid.

Guards open the door and Sammy and the two thugs shove everyone aside and run in. Harris follows after them.

INT. BANK - DAY

Sammy and the hoods spread out inside. Harris berates them.

HARRIS

Now, now... let's...

Suddenly they open their jackets to reveal they are wired from head to toe with dynamite.

SAMMY

Anybody moves and we'll blow you all to hell. Put down the weapons.

The guards lay down their guns. The hoods grab them. They take Harris aside.

SAMMY

Everybody else outside.

They shove them out. Harris remains.

HARRIS

Look, there's a hundred police officers out there. You'll never get through those doors.

SAMMY

We're not planning to.

Suddenly the floor near the vault shatters from a small blast. It caves in. Minelli steps out in a miner's helmet.

EXT. BANK

The bank doors are locked and chaos ensues.

GUARDS

Terrorists are inside! They're wired with dynamite. They're holding Mayor Harris hostage.

The police surround the building. They move the crowd to a safe distance. Upset city workers hold their IOUs.

CITY WORKER

Somebody's got to do something. My kids are starving.

ANOTHER

Blankman! Blankman will do something!

108
4

109
15

CITY WORKER
Blankman's never let us down!

Blankman's name spreads through the crowd like a mantra.
Before long they are all cheering.

CROWD
Blankman! Blankman! Blankman!

Kevin and Kimberly stand near Blankman. We can see from his face that for the first time, he's a little frightened. The attention's too much, the crowd's expectations too great.

Kevin puts a hand on Blankman's shoulder.

KEVIN
This isn't your problem. You can't go in there.

KIMBERLY
He's right. The police are here. They'll handle it.

The Police Commissioner GAINS walks over.

GAINS
Blankman, I'm Police Commissioner Gains. How do you want to handle this?

Darryl just stares at the building. He hasn't a clue.

DARRYL
(unsure)
... I'll go see if I can reason with them.

GAINS
Great, we'll be right here.

Darryl starts off, but Kevin grabs him.

KEVIN
I won't let you go in there.

The Police grab Kevin and pull him away.

POLICE
Blankman knows what he's doing. Everyone else stay out of it.

They hold Kevin off.

Darryl slowly walks toward the building, looking more like a frightened kid on a dare than a Superhero.

He tries the door. It's locked. He knocks softly on it.

DARRYL
Hello... it's Blankman. Would you
guys like to talk this over? No?
Okay, I tried..

He turns away quickly and is about to sneak off when suddenly
the door opens. Darryl peeks through the door nervously.

MINELLI
Hello, Blankman. Come right in...

INT. BANK

Minelli takes Blankman by the arm and leads him in. Tony aims
a gun at Blankman's head. 110
23

MINELLI
So you're the great Blankman,
huh? Frankly, I don't get why
everyone is so excited about you.

The vault door is open, and Minelli's men are stuffing money
into sacks.

MINELLI
Look at this. Michael Minelli
reduced to robbing banks. Can
you believe it?

DARRYL
You can't take that money. It
isn't right.

MINELLI
It would just be destroyed in the
explosion anyway.

DARRYL
What explosion?

Minelli swings around the vault door to reveal: Mayor Harris is
chained to the front with heavy steel chains on his feet, hands
and neck. He is wired with dozens and dozens of sticks of
dynamite. A small digital detonator completes the picture.

MINELLI
Say hello, Mayor. You see, they
sent in the troops for you.

HARRIS
It's me you want. Let him go.

MINELLI
No, I'm starting to think that
he's the bigger problem. He's
putting crazy ideas in everyone's
head, like he did yours.
(more)

MINELLI (Cont'd)

People think he's some kind of superhero. But what's so special about you Blankman? Can you fly? Sammy see if he can fly.

Sammy grabs Blankman by the seat of his pants and the top of his cap and throws him into the air. Blankman crashes face first on to the cold marble floor.

HARRIS

No!

MINELLI

No, can't fly. How about see through walls? Tony.

Tony pulls him up. He takes him by the back of the head and slams his face into a brick wall. Blood streams down Blankman's face.

MINELLI

Can't see through walls either. Maybe he can catch bullets in his teeth.

Minelli shoves a pistol into Blankman's face, right up to his mouth. He cocks the hammer. Harris and Blankman sweat out the moment.

MINELLI

No... I don't think you can. Besides, I want the mayor to have company as he goes out. Chain him up.

Tony attaches a manacle to Darryl's leg. A chain holds him to the counter.

MINELLI

I know it will take the bomb squad ten minutes to defuse a bomb like this. So I'll set it for five.

Minelli hits a button on the detonator. It starts clicking down the seconds. 4:59... 4:58... 4:57...

MINELLI

Grab the money boys, I've got an appointment with the new Mayor.

Minelli goes down to the tunnel. The other hoods walk to the vault and swing the door back open, almost shoving Harris into the wall.

Darryl takes several stink bombs from his belt and throws them into the vault. They explode in a puff of blue smoke.

The intensity of the smell causes the hoods to run out coughing.

TONY

Oh! What's that horrible smell?

As the hoods struggle for a moment against the horrible smell, Harris kicks his legs against the wall and the vault door swings shut. The tumbler spins and it is sealed.

The hoods recover and realize what has happened. They try to open the door but it's hopeless.

SAMMY

We'll never get the money out now! The bomb's going to go in three minutes!

Tony pistol whips Darryl.

TONY

You son of a bitch! Let's get out of here!

They run down the tunnel. The detonator says 2:40.

DARRYL

Good thinking, Mayor.

HARRIS

At least they won't get the money.

Blankman works feverishly. He uses a homemade blowtorch to cut the chain holding him.

INT. TUNNEL - DAY

Sammy and Tony have joined up with Minelli.

MINELLI

What do you mean you don't have the money! Without that money we've got nothing!

TONY

Blankman stopped us! They locked the vault. There wasn't time!

INT. BANK

Darryl frees himself and runs to Harris. He begins cutting his chains. He cuts one off, but there are dozens to go. The detonator reads 1:40.

111
2

112
5

HARRIS
It's hopeless. There are too many chains. If I hadn't gotten in business with Minelli I wouldn't be here. There's no time to free me, save yourself.

DARRYL
No. I've got to try.

HARRIS
But promise that when the bomb gets down to a minute, you'll leave.

DARRYL
Maybe I can deactivate it.

1:29... 1:28... 1:27... A trickle of sweat rolls down his forehead. He removes a piece of dynamite to get to the wires below. He puts it in his belt. He works on the wires.

EXT. BANK

113
3

Police Commissioner Gains calls out to the tense crowd through a P.A. system.

GAINS
Everyone please stay calm!
Blankman has the situation under control!

Behind the police line, Kimberly looks at a sweating Kevin.

KIMBERLY
You really think Blankman can handle it?

KEVIN
(shaking head)
I know he can't.

Suddenly Kevin leaps over the police line. An officer tries to stop him but Kevin fakes him out with a Karate move.

He runs to the bank and dives up against the brick wall, anticipating gunmen inside. He eases the door open with his foot and cracks the door. He glances inside. Throws the door open and leaps in.

INT. BANK

114
14

Kevin rolls in and onto his feet, ready for action. The room appears empty.

KEVIN
Hello? Hello?

DARRYL (O.S.)
(from behind vault
door)
Kevin?

Kevin runs to the sound of the voice.

DARRYL (O.S.)
Go away, it's not safe.

Kevin sees Harris, the explosives and Darryl. Darryl is literally drenched in sweat. The detonator is now at :30 seconds. :29... :28...

KEVIN
Does that clock mean what I think it means?

HARRIS
Just get him out of here! Both of you go now!

Darryl is gently disconnecting wires one at a time.

KEVIN
Do you know what you're doing?

DARRYL
I have no idea.

... :18 ... :17.

KEVIN
Darryl, we can't save him.

DARRYL
We've got to... he's got a wife and three children.

HARRIS
Please just go...

DARRYL
I got it! I got it!

The timer is frozen at :13. Everyone sighs.

KEVIN
You did it! You did it! It's still ticking! Still ticking!

Kevin follows the sound to a large tarp. He pulls the tarp. Underneath are ten more bombs all with separate timers and ticking down from :10 seconds. Darryl sees it too.

HARRIS

You've got to get out of here!
You did what you could! Run!

:8... :7 Kevin grabs Darryl, but Darryl breaks free and runs back to Harris.

DARRYL

My grandmother was Eleanor Walker. She believed in you...

HARRIS

She was a good woman. I'll tell her you said hi. Go.

Kevin grabs Darryl and drags him to the door. :3... :2...

EXT. BANK

Kevin and Darryl come running out. The crowd cheers.

CROWD

Blankman!

DARRYL

Under my cape! Fast!

Darryl throws his cape around Kevin and they run side by side.

BOOOOOOOOM!!!!!!!!!!

The bank blows sky high. Flames and broken glass blast over Darryl and Kevin. The force of it knocks them to the ground.

A horrible hush falls over the crowd.

Kevin and Darryl glance back, stunned. The entire bank is reduced to rubble.

Kimberly runs to them.

KIMBERLY

That was the bravest thing I've ever seen anyone do.

Kevin looks up to her and holds out his arms. Kimberly grabs Darryl and hugs him.

DARRYL

He's dead.

KIMBERLY

(comforting him)

You did what you could. No one else would have gone in there.

Kevin looks at her blankly. What about me?

115
15

The crowd begins to take in what has happened.

CITY WORKER

The money! The money is gone!

Commissioner Gains looks at the angry crowd nervously.

GAINS

Blankman let us down!

ANOTHER

He's a coward! He ran away!

GAINS

Yeah... I told him not to go in there.

LITTLE OLD LADY

Murderer!

The crowd starts to scream. Gets really ugly. The police try to hold them back.

CROWD

Get him! Kill him! He lost our money!

Kevin grabs Darryl.

KEVIN

We've got to run.

He drags him off. They run away. The crowd breaks through the lines and chases them.

CROWD

Run you coward! Run!

Gains looks at the police officers.

GAINS

Maybe you'd better stop them.

OFFICER

If we're not getting paid, we're walking out.

OTHER OFFICERS

No pay, no work! No pay, no work!

All hell breaks loose. The crowds begin looting and rioting. The striking police sit back and watch them destroy the city.

EXT. ALLEY - DAY

The mob runs past a big dumpster. After a few moments Kevin peeks out.

KEVIN

I think we're safe. You'd better get out of that costume as fast as you can.

DARRYL

Believe me, I will.

116
2

INT. BLANKSTATION - NIGHT

Darryl in street clothes, shuts off the power to the Blankstation. J5 watches.

DARRYL

I'm not coming back. I'm sorry Al. I'm sorry J5.

AL

(drunk and sobbing)
You can't go. We need you.
You're a hero. Look what you've done for me. I would have been a nothing, a loser, a drunkard...
(beat)
Well two out of three ain't bad. Besides you can't go, or you forfeit your security deposit.

DARRYL

It's okay. You can have it. I'm not coming back.

Darryl walks away. J5 follows for a moment and then stops. It watches him go. Its lights dim and go out.

117
4

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Darryl sits blankly in front of the TV. It's replaying the bank blowing up and close-ups of Blankman running away.

TV BROADCAST

-- in an act of amazing cowardice, supposed hero, Blankman saved his own ass while killing Mayor Harris. Police Commissioner Gains squarely put the blame on Blankman's shoulders.

118
1
A118
1

GAINS

... Blankman assured us he could handle it alone. If we made any mistake it was in trusting him. We never imagined he would act so irresponsibly and set off the bomb...

Kevin turns off the TV.

KEVIN

Will you stop watching that? It wasn't your fault.

DARRYL

All I wanted to so was help people. Not hurt them.

He sits on the couch and stares. Kevin talks to him.

KEVIN

Don't be so hard on yourself. You tried. That's more than the police did. People don't really want heroes, Darryl.

DARRYL

Good, because from now on, I'm just going to be normal.

KEVIN

Okay...

DARRYL

What do I do?

KEVIN

Um... normal huh. Well... I don't know... you just... you might get a job... a girl... your own place...

DARRYL

What kind of job?

KEVIN

Anything. Just something normal.

INT. MCDONALD'S - DAY

Darryl stands in a McDonald's uniform.

DARRYL

Would you like some fries with that, sir?

CUSTOMER

No thanks.

119
4

DARRYL
How about a hot apple pie?

CUSTOMER
No.

DARRYL
How about some McDonaldland
cookies?

CUSTOMER
(snatching the bag)
Just give me my damn burger.

Darryl, almost like a zombie, hands him the order on a tray and makes change.

DARRYL
Thank you for coming to
McDonald's. Please come again.

INT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

MINELLI and his boys meet with PEUGEOT a drug supplier who has several of his own men with him.

PEUGEOT
A deal's a deal, Minelli, if you don't have the cash you don't get the merchandise. You promised you'd have it today.

MINELLI
I had a minor setback. But the city's wide open with the police strike, which I remind you was my doing. We'd be fools not to take advantage of it.

PEUGEOT
Oh, I'm going take advantage of it alright. I'm eliminating the middle man and dealing directly with Jacko. We're going to flood the streets.

MINELLI
You trying to cross me! I'll kill you! I'll kill Jacko.

PEUGEOT
You're washed up Minelli. You don't have the muscle anymore. You're a bigger joke than Blankman.

He laughs and he and his boys exit. Minelli has a fit.

120
10

MINELLI

You see that! They don't respect me anymore. When you lose the respect you lose everything.

TONY

What are you going to do, Boss?

MINELLI

I've got to vindicate myself by killing Blankman.

TONY

How are you going to find him?

MINELLI

He's a crime fighter. We'll commit some crimes.

INT. LIQUOR STORE - NIGHT

Tony has a gun on a LIQUOR STORE OWNER. Sammy and several boys wait by the entrances with guns. Minelli watches.

121

3

MINELLI

Try again.

Tony pokes the liquor store owner with the gun barrel.

OWNER

Help! Blankman! Help!!

They all wait for a second. Minelli sighs.

MINELLI

Oh, well, take his money, hit him in the head, and lets get out of here.

INT. SUBWAY - NIGHT

Darryl, in his McDonald's uniform, sits reading a McDonald's Employee handbook as various criminal acts are committed around him.

122

2

KIDS openly graffiti the train. A PUNK grabs an old woman's purse and runs right past Darryl. Darryl completely ignores it.

EXT. CHEMICAL WAREHOUSE

Minelli and his boys are sitting around a black sedan with guns. In the background a warehouse is burning.

123

4

SAMMY

Boss, I don't think he's coming.

MINELLI

He's Blankman, damnit! He'll be here. Give him just five more minutes.

SAMMY

Boss, maybe you should just let go...

MINELLI

Maybe I should let one of these bullets go in your head!

INT. NEWS ROOM - DAY

Kimberly argues with Kevin.

KIMBERLY

I want to do a piece on Blankman. Nobody's heard from him in over a week. He got a bum rap..

KEVIN

Just leave it alone. Why dig it all up again? No one wants to hear it.

KIMBERLY

I can't believe you won't stick up for him after he saved your life at the bank.

KEVIN

I went in there after him!

KIMBERLY

Yeah, and he had to stop what he was doing to drag you out!

KEVIN

Did it ever occur to you that Blankman might want to be left alone?

KIMBERLY

You don't have the right to speak for him. This city has gone to the dogs. We need him, he represents hope.

124
10

KEVIN

You raised everyone's expectations so high that he was bound to fail. You're just as bad as Stone. He exploits the negative and you exploit the positive. Either way it's a lie. We're all imperfect humans. Blankman was just a man. And he wants to be left alone.

KIMBERLY

How do you know?

KEVIN

He's my brother, okay?

INT. MCDONALD'S - DAY

125
4

Darryl works the shake machine. Kimberly comes in hesitantly. She stares across the counter at him. Is it really possible? Is this Blankman?

Darryl notices her and starts to get nervous. He pours shake all over himself. He runs to the back, knocking down boxes of frozen French fries, bumping into SEVERAL WORKERS and creating total chaos.

An EMPLOYEE behind the counter looks at Kimberly.

ANOTHER EMPLOYEE

Did you want anything?

KIMBERLY

No.

She quickly exits.

INT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

126
16

Minelli sits behind a desk, depressed. Tony comes in.

TONY

Hey boss, there's a guy in a wheelchair to see you.

MINELLI

Get rid of him.

TONY

But he says he can help you get Blankman.

MINELLI

Then wheel him in!

Tony bring Mr. Stone in.'

MR. STONE

Mr. Minelli, I'm Larry Stone from
Hard Edition.

MINELLI

How did you find me?

MR. STONE

How did we get the pictures of
Whitney Houston's after birth?
We're tabloid television. We
know everything. But I'm here to
talk about Blankman. I
understand you're after him.

MINELLI

I want to kill him. You know
where he is?!

MR. STONE

Maybe.

MINELLI

Don't smart mouth me! I want to
know where Blankman is.

MR. STONE

We have to have a deal first.

Minelli grabs the wheelchair and bangs it into the wall.

MINELLI

No deals! I want to know where
Blankman is now!

MR. STONE

First a deal.

Minelli bangs him into the wall again.

STONE

You're wasting your time. I'm
paralyzed from the waist down.
Look, I'm in the business of
ratings. Last year, David
Koresh, fifty two days number one
in my time slot. That's ratings.
But he was smart, he listened to
me. He started out running a
summer camp. I said, why be a
counselor when you can be the
messiah? Dahmer, now that guy
had a gimmick, but he listened
too. Originally he was just
throwing away those bodies.

(more)

STONE (Cont'd)
I told him, Jeff, babe, freeze
that ass.

MINELLI
Alright, I'm listening.

MR. STONE
Look, the police are on strike.
You want Blankman, I want
ratings. I say we combine the
two like that Bud Light
commercial. I happen to know
that Blankman has the hots for a
certain female reporter...

MINELLI
Go on...

INT. APARTMENT - MORNING

Kevin looks sadly at a photo of their Grandmother on the
mantle. Darryl enters in McDonald's uniform. Pours himself a
cup of coffee.

127
10

KEVIN
Hey, why don't we have J5 make us
some breakfast?

DARRYL
J5's gone.

KEVIN
Oh, right. I miss him banging
around.

DARRYL
Here's my paycheck. I made two
hundred and thirty five dollars
this week. I got ten hours of
overtime.

KEVIN
Oh, thanks. How's it working
out, huh? Have you rebuilt the
fry machine?

DARRYL
No, it's fine the way it is.

KEVIN
I bet you drive your new boss
crazy like Mr. Crudd.

DARRYL
I'm employee of the month. Good-
bye.

He heads for door.

KEVIN

Listen, you should eat something.
Let me cook you a nice balanced
meal...

Kevin puts on the apron.

DARRYL

I'm fine. I'll have a Big Mac
later. Don't wait up.

KEVIN

You know, I miss the old Darryl.

Darryl doesn't say anything. He exits. Kevin stares after his
brother.

EXT. NEWS BUILDING - EVENING

A truck pulls up outside the newsroom. Minelli's men unload
explosives and weapons and head into the building. Stone rolls
down a ramp. 128
2

STONE

Come on, lets move it. We've got
to be ready for primetime!

INT. NEWS ROOM - EVENING

Kimberly is editing a Blankman piece. On the screen a little
old lady talks about him. 129
6

LADY

All I know is that he was the
only one that would help me. Now
that Blankman's gone, I don't
feel safe anymore. I think he
got the shaft... A129
1

Tony and Sammy suddenly burst into the room. Minelli enters
behind them.

KIMBERLY

Michael Minelli...

Sammy grabs at her. Kimberly goes into action, she slams her
heel into his foot.

KIMBERLY

(by rote)
Heel to foot. Elbow to stomach.

She elbows him in the stomach. Sammy screams, she turns and
punches him in the Adam's apple. Sammy falls over in pain.

KIMBERLY
Thrust to Adam's apple.

Minelli places a pistol to her temple.

MINELLI
Gun to head. Sit down.

INT. MCDONALD'S - DAY

Darryl, in uniform, waits on a line of customers.

DARRYL
The happy meal is a real value
considering all you get...

Kevin frantically enters and runs to Darryl.

KEVIN
Darryl! Minelli has taken over
the news station! They...

DARRYL
I'm sorry, sir, but you'll have
to wait your turn in line.

KEVIN
But there isn't time...

DARRYL
I'm sure these other customers
are in a hurry too. Please step
to the back of the line or I'll
have to call the manager.

Kevin runs to the back of the line and impatiently waits as
Darryl takes care of the other customers.

Kevin finally gets to the front.

DARRYL
Welcome to McDonald's. Can I
take you order?

KEVIN
I don't want anything! I need to
talk to you!

DARRYL
I can't talk until my break. I'm
on Ronald's time now.

KEVIN
You don't understand! They've
taken Kimberly hostage!

130

22

DARRYL
Kimberly?!

KEVIN
Minelli says he'll blow up her
and the station if Blankman
doesn't show up in thirty
minutes! The police are doing
nothing! You've got to save her.

DARRYL
It's not my problem. I don't
want to get involved. I'm just
Darryl Walker, assistant crew
chief...

KEVIN
I'm not talking to Darryl! I'm
talking to Blankman! He's a
hero. He won't sit by and let
Kimberly die. Because he's
special. And when the chips are
down, you can always count on
Blankman!

DARRYL
(getting confused)
I... would you like fries with
that... how about a chocolate shake
sir... your order will be ready...

Kevin slaps him.

KEVIN
Stop it! You're Blankman!

DARRYL
You told me to grow up. I'm just
trying to be what you wanted me
to be.

KEVIN
I was wrong. We need you to be
what you were.

DARRYL
I'm afraid. I can't do it alone.

KEVIN
You don't have to. Because this
time I'm with you.

Darryl looks at him hopefully.

DARRYL
Will you wear the costume?

Kevin rips open his jacket. Underneath is a very tight, goofy looking costume.

KEVIN
I've already got it on, Blankman.

DARRYL
Wow!
(eyes widen, the old
Darryl returns)
Let's go. To the Blankstation!

They to the door. Darryl stops.

DARRYL
Wait! I've got to go punch out.
As Kevin rolls his eyes, Darryl runs back.

INT. BLANKSTATION - NIGHT

Darryl, in costume, slides down a twisting shoot to the Blankstation and lands on his feet. Kevin, also in costume, slides down after and lands on his ass. He looks around awed.

J5 lights up and bounces when he sees Darryl.

DARRYL
Quick J5! We have to convert you into a bomb disposal unit!

Darryl hits a button and a panel spins open. Inside are four specialized J5 accessory packs: Anti-Terrorist, Bomb Disposal, Kitchen Helper, General Maintenance.

J5 patters up and Darryl quickly snaps various accessories into place.

KEVIN
What can I do?

DARRYL
Say a prayer.

KEVIN
Oh great. That makes me feel useful. Look, we're walking into a trap. We've got to figure out how to get the jump on them.

Blankman fills Kevin arms with all sorts of garbage.

BLANKMAN
We're bringing everything we've got. They're expecting us to come through the front door. But we'll come in from the roof!

131
12

KEVIN
What are you going to do? Fly?

BLANKMAN
Exactly!

Blankman hits a button. A skylight in the station opens above them. He hits another button. A trapdoor opens and up rises the Blankbird. It looks like an ordinary chair with a pole rising up the back from a strapped on motor. At the top of the pole is what looks like a ceiling fan.

BLANKMAN
The Blankbird!

KEVIN
You've got to be kidding.

BLANKMAN
I haven't had a chance to fully test it. In fact, I haven't tested it at all. But, by George, it's got to work!

EXT. CITY SKYLINE - NIGHT

132

In a beautiful, but inexpensive to shoot optical, the Blankbird 4 whizzes across the city with Kevin, Darryl and J5.

DARRYL
Ahoh. We're losing altitude fast. I knew I should have tested it.

KEVIN
We better get rid of some of this junk.

DARRYL
Good idea, Blankbrother..

KEVIN
What's that?

DARRYL
Your superhero name.

KEVIN
(tossing stuff
overboard)
I don't like it.

The Blankbird begins to lift back up.

INT. NEWS ROOM - NIGHT

Kimberly is chained to a pillar as Minelli's boys stand guard. She looks tense but professional. 14

Minelli is being interviewed by Stone.

STONE

We're back with our live one on one with fugitive Michael Minelli. So Mike, we're halfway into the program and Blankman hasn't shown up. Are you still planning to blow up the building end of this broadcast?

A small disclaimer appears under screen.

HARD EDITION IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE OPINIONS OF ACTIONS OF ANY CRIMINALS APPEARING ON THIS PROGRAMS.

The image cuts to Kimberly's face.

MINELLI (O.S.)

Absolutely.

STONE

I know I'm on the edge of my seat. But let's probe a little deeper into the sick side of Mikey. The killing, the extortion, the drug dealing. Do you have any regrets. Do you sleep well at night? Do you ever worry that you'll wake up with a bullet in your head?

MINELLI

Yeah, that crosses my mind sometimes. But it's part of the job.

STONE

We're you abused as a child?

MINELLI

Look, I'm getting tired of this. You set me up. You said Blankman would be here. He hasn't shown up. No only am I going to kill her, but I'm going to kill you too.

He takes out his gun.

STONE

No! Wait until we've run all the commercials!

Suddenly Blankman and Kevin come crashing into the room through the bank of windows.

KIMBERLY

Blankman! You shouldn't have come! It's a trap!

MINELLI

Blankman... well well well. And... who the hell are you?

Kevin and Darryl look at each other. They aren't sure.

KEVIN

Um.. I don't know yet. But I'm leaning toward Realman... or...

MINELLI

I got one... how's about Deadman. That's got a ring to it. You guys like that? Get them.

Minelli's men rush them and a fight erupts in typical Batman style.

EXT. STOREFRONT - NIGHT

A crowd has gather in front of a TV store. They watch the broadcast and cheer for Blankman.

CROWD

Go Blankman! We love you!

134
1INT. NEWS ROOM - NIGHT

The fight continues. Just as it looks like our heroes might prevail, Minelli puts a gun to Kimberly's head.

MINELLI

Alright, enough horsing around. You try anything else and the girl gets it.

Kevin and Darryl stop fighting. The hoods grab them.

DARRYL

You can't just shoot us. You're too evil for that. I'm sure your fiendish mind can think of something more cruel and clever than just a bullet.

135
23

STONE

Yeah, besides we still have seven more minutes of air-time to fill.

MINELLI

You're right. I want you to die slowly. Put them in the tank boys.

They grab Kevin and Darryl and take them to a giant draped object. As the cover is removed we see that it is a large glass tank. They toss them in and seal it off. The tank begins to fill with water.

KEVIN

I would have took the bullet.

DARRYL

Wow... this is neat. We'll never get out of here.

MINELLI

That's the plan Blankman. While you're trapped in there, I've got a hidden a bomb rigged to go off in five minutes.

DARRYL

Holy double Jeopardy! You're good, Minelli. Now that you've won, you don't need Kimberly anymore. Why don't you let her go?

The water has risen to Darryl and Kevin's chest. He whispers.

KEVIN

While you're at it, see if you can negotiate me out of this too...

MINELLI

The broad stays. And honey, just in case you get any smart ideas: You're chains are wired so if you so much as move, the bomb goes instantly. Adios Blankman.

STONE

This is great television. But there's something missing. A button. A little piece of business at the end.

MINELLI

You mean like a twist?

STONE

Yeah. Something that pulls at the heart strings.

MINELLI

How's this?

He wheels Stone over to the pillar Kimberly is chained to. He chains one wheel of Stone's chair to it.

STONE

No... I was thinking of something a little more upbeat...

MINELLI

I like this. It's ironic. Good-bye. We'll keep the camera running. Come on guys.

Minelli and his boys go out the door.

STONE

You can't leave me here like this. You'll never work in this town again!

They slam the door. Kimberly looks at Stone.

KIMBERLY

Stone! We're in this together now. You've got to help Blankman get out.

STONE

I'm sorry. The program is still on.

He pulls himself out of the chair and falls to the floor. He belly crawls to the door. He opens it and slides outside.

KIMBERLY

You slimy snake!

The water has risen to Kevin and Darryl's neck.

KEVIN

Come on, Blankman, don't you have any gizmos to get us out of here?

DARRYL

We tossed everything overboard.

KEVIN

Then we're dead.

DARRYL

Don't be such a party pooper. We still have J5!

Darryl activates his wristwatch.

INT. STAIRWAY

136

J5 tumbles down a flight of stairs. Piece break off of him, but it lands on it's feet and rolls off.

1

INT. HALLWAY

137

A wobbly J5 rolls toward the studio. It reaches the door but can't open it with his bent robot arm. It keeps struggling.

1

INT. NEWS ROOM - NIGHT

138

The water has risen over their heads. They stand on their tiptoes to try to get the last of the air. Kimberly looks on concerned. Kevin stares back at her sadly. She calls out.

2

KIMBERLY

Blankman! I love you!

Kevin looks at her annoyed.

DARRYL

J5, you've got to do it! You've got to do it!

INT. HALLWAY

139

J5 backs up down the hallway to get a running start. He rolls toward the door at full speed.

1

INT. NEWS ROOM - NIGHT

140

J5 crashes through the door. It immediately heads for the tank. The water has reached the top and Kevin and Darryl float helplessly.

6

KIMBERLY

Hurry J5!

J5

Hel-lo Kim-ber-ly.

A drill bit comes out of J5 and cuts into the glass. As it pierces the glass it comes frighteningly close to Kevin's groin. J5 drills another hole next to it. The glass cracks around the holes.

Water starts to pour out of the tank. From the right angle it almost looks like Kevin and Darryl are peeing. The water level starts to go down and Kevin and Darryl get air.

DARRYL

The holes have weakened the glass. Let's do it, Kickman.

KEVIN

I don't like it.

Simultaneously, Kevin and Darryl kick at the glass with all their strength. It shatters and the two roll out with the water.

INT. STAIRCASE

Stone crawls down the stairs one at a time.

141

1

INT. NEWS BUILDING - NIGHT

A dripping wet Darryl and Kevin run to Kimberly.

142

3

DARRYL

Don't touch the chains!

KEVIN

We've got to find the bomb!

KIMBERLY

There's no time. It could be anywhere. The broadcast ends in three minutes. Save yourself. It doesn't make sense for all of us to go.

DARRYL

I'll be back, my love!

Kimberly and Darryl kiss again. Darryl shakes with delight.

KEVIN

This is making me sick.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Blankman, Kevin and J5 run into in a hall filled with doors.

143

4

KEVIN

How can we find the bomb in this huge building?

BLANKMAN

We can't, but J5 can.

Blankman pulls out a Nitendo like cartridge and plugs it into J5. The cartridge reads: "Bloodhound." He pulls the stick of dynamite out of his belt.

BLANKMAN
Smell it, boy! Smell it!

J5 barks excitedly like a dog.

BLANKMAN
Find the dynamite! Go!

J5 darts off barking. Blankman runs after. Kevin does a double take.

KEVIN
I don't believe this.

INT. DOOR TO WOMEN'S BATHROOM

J5 rolls up to door. Barks. Uses robot hand to scratch at door. Starts to whine. 144

Blankman and Kevin run up. 2

BLANKMAN
That's the women's bathroom! The fiend! He knew it's the one room we can't go in...

Kevin grabs him by the back of the head and tosses him through the swinging door. He follows him inside.

INT. WOMEN'S BATHROOM

They come in and see a stack of dynamite. 145

KEVIN
The bomb! 5

DARRYL
J5, it's up to you.

J5
Hello, Kimberly.

J5's head folds back and reveals a large opening.

Darryl slowly pick up the bomb and slides it into J5. He has to move the sticks around gently to get it all in. J5's head closes back over it.

BLANKMAN
I hope this works. His bomb shield is only certified for five sticks of dynamite. I put over twenty in there...

J5 heads out.

DARRYL
 Hurry, J5. Out to the street!
 Kevin, you can go free Kimberly
 now!

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Blankman follows J5 as it whizzes to the front door.

146

EXT. NEWS BUILDING - NIGHT

Crowd has gathered to cheer Blankman on. J5 rolls out.
 Blankman appears.

147

BLANKMAN
 Everyone! Get back! Get back!
 Cover you ears!

J5 rolls out into the middle of the street. The crowd runs for
 cover. Darryl looks on, like a worried mom.

KABBOOBOOBOBOM! There is a deafening explosion. Smoke and
 flames envelope J5. When it clears, J5 stands shakily.

J5 falls over. Cracks in two. Darryl runs to him.

DARRYL
 J5! Speak to me.

J5
 Hel-lo... K... K...

Darryl falls on his knees. He holds J5's shattered head in his
 arms. He looks into its sensors. There is nothing stronger
 than the bond between a boy and his robot. J5 looks at him.

J5
 Good-bye... Darryl...

Its lights go off for the last time. Darryl lowers its head
 gently to the asphalt. He stands and looks up in the sky. A
 primal scream of injustice comes from his lips.

DARRYL
 NOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!

He shakes for a moment. Then his face becomes steel.

DARRYL
 Minelli, you're going down!

INT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Minelli and his gang come in.

148

16

MINELLI

I did it, I destroyed Blankman on national TV. Now no one can stand in my way!

He turns on a television. Kimberly is announcing.

KIMBERLY

In one of the highest rated broadcasts in television history. Blankman heroically saved the life of this reporter and our broadcast studio. In a last minute...

A148
1

Minelli kicks the TV over.

MINELLI

How the hell did he get out of that! I can't believe it!

DARRYL (O.S.)

You'd better believe it Minelli.

Darryl and Kevin stands far above them in the rafters.

MINELLI

Blankman! How did you find me.

Stone is also up in the rafters in his wheelchair and a camera.

STONE

I've got a story to finish.

KEVIN

You'll have time to figure it all out in sing-sing.

MINELLI

Shoot them boys!

The gang pulls out submachine guns and sprays fire at Darryl and Kevin. They raise their capes to cover their faces. The bullets bounce off. Once the guns are empty they grab ropes and swings down to the crooks.

They smashes into all of them and land in a pile.

The hoods jump to their feet and a big fight begins. Kevin kicks and punches with graceful Karate action. Darryl finally has his act together and fights with almost equal skill. They bang into crates, smash chairs over each other, all in classic Batman style.

Things start to look bad for the heroes. Badguys come at them from all directions. Suddenly, Kevin gets an idea.

KEVIN
Back to back!

DARRYL
Good thinking!

They jump back to back. Kevin fights off the badguys from one side, Darryl the other. They knock the badguys off one by one. The tide turns.

Minelli decides to bail out.

MINELLI
Keep fighting, I'm going to get away!

He runs for the door.

Kevin and Darryl finishes off the last of the badguys.

KEVIN
He's getting away.

DARRYL
Not by the hair of my chinny-chin-
chin!

Darryl presses a button on his belt. Hydraulic wheels lift him up from under his soles. Small rockets emerge from the sides. The rockets ignite and blast him toward the door.

Darryl, totally out of control, smashes into Minelli and they both crash through the door.

EXT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

They tumble outside where a crowd is waiting. As Blankman shakes his head and recovers from the fall he notices the police are there. They grab Minelli.

POLICE
We thought you could use some help, Blankman, but it seems you have the situation under control. Come on Minelli, we've got a nice cold cell waiting for you.

Kimberly runs up and helps Blankman up. Kevin joins them.

INSERT - TELEVISION

Kimberly reads a newscast over shots of a big parade. Kevin Darryl and ride in costume in the back of a convertible. Crowds cheer and throw confetti.

149
2

150
5

A150

KIMBERLY

... the entire city turned out to cheer on the our new heroes.

A large CROWD fills the streets and steps surrounding City Hall. Gains, Kevin and Darryl, stand by the new mayor as he gives a speech behind a podium.

NEW MAYOR

On behalf of the citizens of this great City, I present you, Blankman, and you... um... the other guy... with the Harris award for community service.

DARRYL

Thank you.

KEVIN

Yeah.

PULL BACK TO REVEAL:

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Kevin and Darryl stand in the bar watching the broadcast.

KEVIN

What are you nervous about?
She's madly in love with you.
Why, I don't know...

DARRYL

No, she's in love with Blankman.
But me, Darryl, I'm nobody. Just a nerd.

KEVIN

Then tell her you're Blankman.

DARRYL

Oh, yeah, and really break her heart.

Kimberly enters and waves to the two of them. She comes over and joins them.

KEVIN

Um... Kimberly, this is my brother, Darryl.

KIMBERLY

And it's nice to finally get to meet you, Darryl.

151
15

AIS.
VIDEO

A Matr'd leads them all to a table. Kimberly sits down. Kevin has to push the nervous Darryl to sit next to her. Kimberly teases him.

KIMBERLY

I can't get over this feeling
that I've met you before.

Darryl nervously pushes his glasses back up on his nose.

DARRYL

Oh, I don't think that's
possible.

Kimberly smiles at Kevin. Kevin shrugs.

KIMBERLY

So, this is going to be an
interesting night.

DARRYL

Maybe I should go find out what
time the movie starts...

KEVIN

Seven thirty, I checked.

KIMBERLY

Oh, look! Over there! Four
suspicious looking guys just
walked into that liquor store.
Looked like they were carrying
guns... oh well... let's eat...

Darryl glances anxiously across the street. He starts to slide under the table.

DARRYL

Um... excuse me. I think I need
to... powder my nose!

Darryl slides under the table and darts away. He runs out the restaurant. A beat later he comes back sheepishly to Kimberly.

DARRYL

- you know?

KIMBERLY

Well, there's only one way to be
sure.

She stands up and kisses him. He reacts on cue.

FADE OUT.

THE END