

INHERENT VICE

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Based on "Inherent Vice" by
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EXT. DOC'S OFFICE -- DAY.

CAMERA on DOC SPORTELLO...walks down the sidewalk to his office. Passes a long line of people. Chain-smoking, sliding one by one into the LOBBY of a cinder-block building. On the glass pane we see letters painted; DR. BUDDY TUBESIDE, VITAMIN B12..

Doc continues through a turnstile... where we find PETUNIA LEEWAY, in a sexy nurse uniform. She holds a clipboard, checking them in, deals with a toasted OLD MAN, mumbling his words.... Petunia looks at Doc sensually.

PETUNIA
Hey Doc, love your fro.

DOC
Gotch your handsful.

PETUNIA
Everyday.

DOC
No... I mean, the little bundle of joy.

REVEAL her swollen, pregnant belly.

PETUNIA
... you got someone waiting for you Doc.

DOC
Yeah?

HOLD... Doc waits for an answer, Petunia deals with the toasted old man....he zones out for a beat... then--

CUT TO:

DOC SLUGGISHLY ENTERS... STOPS, HOLD FOR A LONG BEAT...

REVEAL, A black man, eying Doc's afro. TARIQ KHALIL

DOC
(fist)
What it is my brother-

TARIQ KHALIL
Damn man you aint got a secretary?