

THE PLAYER'S CLUB

ICE CUBE
An Original Screenplay

7/5/96

seventh

1 EXT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - MORNING.

1

We open on a big sign that reads "THE PLAYER'S CLUB." Then we crane down to discover a burnt out building. We see broken mirrors, charred bar stools and ashy beer bottle amongst the rubble. We comb through the remains of the club until we stop on a pair of black high heels shoes. We pan up to reveal a nice looking young lady, in a nice looking black suit. This is DIAMOND, she's staring at the ruins. We hold on her.

CU on Blue and Jamal in the car waiting for Diamond.

She kneels down and picks up a green light bulb. She's wipes off the ash.

DIAMOND (V.O.)

As a high school senior, I couldn't wait to graduate and attend one of Atlanta's Black colleges...easier said than done.

DISSOLVE TO.

2 EXT. MR. & MRS. ARMSTRONG'S HOUSE - NIGHT.

2

In this mostly black, lower middle class neighborhood sit a nice two-story home. This is "The Armstrongs", Diamond's parent's house. We slowly push in. It looks peaceful from the outside, but on the inside we can hear all hell breaking loose.

MR. ARMSTRONG

(O.S.)

(yelling)

You must think you grown? You think you got the whole world figured out, huh?!...If you that grown, you need to get the hell out my house and get one your own!

MRS. ARMSTRONG

(O.S.)

No Jimmy!

MR. ARMSTRONG

(O.S.)

Be quiet Betty! Go on and let that little boy take care of you! If you think you know so much! Go on!

MRS. ARMSTRONG

(O.S.)

No! No! Diana put your purse down! You ain't going nowhere!

(CONTINUED)

DIAMOND (O.S.)
(pissed off)
Naw! If he feels that way?! We gone, and
you ain't got to never worry about us
coming back! Ever!

Diamond storms out the front door, big stomach and all. Mrs.
Armstrong runs to the doorway.

MRS. ARMSTRONG
Diana!

DIAMOND
No momma! I'm gone!

Diamond jumps in her red Sentra and she's out of there.

DIAMOND (V.O.)
...and I was gone. I got me a little
apartment with my baby's father.

3 INT. DIAMOND'S FIRST APARTMENT - NIGHT.

3

Diamond sits at one end of an old sofa holding her 6 month
old son; **JAMAL**. Jamal's father sits at the other end. Both
look miserable. He gets up and walks out of frame.

DIAMOND (V.O.)
...Until he needed his space. Whatever
the fuck that mean.

We hear the door slam. Diamond has an instant attitude.

4 INT. WAFFLE HOUSE - NIGHT.

4

It's very busy at the Waffle House tonight. A sloppy looking
Cook slams a plate of food on the counter and hits a bell
like "Mel's Diner."

COOK
(with an attitude)
Pick up!

Diamond swoops into frame wearing a Waffle House uniform.

COOK
You slow as hell tonight, get the lead
out yo' ass.

Diamond grabs the plate.

(CONTINUED)

DIAMOND
(under her breathe)
Fat ass.

She walking the plate over to the awaiting customers.

DIAMOND (V.O.)
...So instead of checking into Clark that
semester...I had to deal with the real
world...

BOOTH 4

Two strippers are sitting down eating. It's **RONNIE**, a pretty
6 foot tall butch of a dancer; and her best friend **TRICKS**, a
36 year old dancer who's stripping days should've been over a
long time ago.

RONNIE
'Cuse me?

Diamond keeps on walking.

TRICKS
Ronnie, why you keep messing with her?

RONNIE
I didn't tell her to be no waitress. She
get paid to deal with people like me.
(yelling)
Excuse me, can I have some more coco?

Seconds later, Diamond walks over. She's carrying a pot of
coco.

DIAMOND
(pouring)
More coco?

RONNIE
It's about time...and could you wipe off
the table too? It's real messy.

Tricks giggles. Diamond takes a long look at Ronnie. Then she
pulls a towel from her apron, and starts to wipe. Ronnie is
watching her. So is Tricks.

TRICKS
We ain't trying to get into yo' business
or nothing, but can I ask you a question?

(CONTINUED)

DIAMOND
(still wiping)
What?

TRICKS
How much you make working here?

DIAMOND
I make enough.

RONNIE
Enough?
(smiling)
Enough to do what? Pay yo' bills and
that's it?...

They both laugh. Diamond feel embarrassed.

RONNIE
...Shit. You too fine to be waiting on
tables. You better use what you got; to
get what you want.

Diamond stops wiping.

DIAMOND
What's that suppose to mean?

RONNIE
Just what it sounds like. Don't be
stupid, use what God gave you.

Diamond looks at both of them.

DIAMOND
Ya'll some prostitutes, huh?

TRICKS
Hell naw, we dancers.

DIAMOND
Dancers? Where ya'll work at?

Ronnie and Tricks smile at each other.

RONNIE
The Player's Club.

Diamond frowns.

DIAMOND
The Player's Club.

5 EXT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - DAY.

5

Diamond sits in her car thinking. She checks her hair in her rear view mirror. On the mirror we see a baby picture of her son Jamal. She stares for a second.

As Diamond get out of her car we realize she's parked in front of The Player's Club. It's the middle of the day and the club looks dead. Diamond walks around the car and into the front door.

6 INT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - CLUB - SAME TIME.

6

Diamond is in the lobby waiting. It's kinda dark inside and totally empty.

DOLLAR BILL, the old school player that owns the club; walks up behind her.

DOLLAR BILL

What's up freak? You wanna dance?

DIAMOND

(turning around)

Uh, yeah. Are you Dollar Bill?

DOLLAR BILL

Yeah that me.

He's looking at her body up and down.

DOLLAR BILL

Damn, you fine as a mothafucka girl. You sounded ugly on the phone. What's your name, sweet thang?

DIAMOND

Diana.

DOLLAR BILL

Diana? What kinda name is that?

DIAMOND

That's the name my momma gave me.

DOLLAR BILL

Aw that's bullshit. You ain't gonna make no money wit that name. You gotta have a name like...Cinnamon...or ah, Pussy Willow...or

(a revelation)

I got it! Yo' name is Diamond..

(CONTINUED)

DIAMOND
(frowning)
Why Diamond?

DOLLAR BILL
(smiling)
Cause you look like a Diamond. Now turn
around let me see that ass.

She's stunned by his bluntness, but she turns around anyway.

DOLLAR BILL
Pull your dress up.

DIAMOND
What?

DOLLAR BILL
Come on girl, pull that dress up. I ain't
got all day.

Diamond hesitates but she does. Dollar Bill is pleased.

DOLLAR BILL
Oh yeah, you can start tonight if you
want to.

7 INT. PLAYER'S CLUB - DRESSING ROOM - NIGHT.

7

The dressing room is hectic. Women are everywhere changing clothes, talking and mingling. Diamond is in a corner by herself looking very nervous. She bends down to lace up her pumps; when SLAP!!! Ronnie slaps her on the ass.

RONNIE
How you doing rookie?

DIAMOND
I'm so nervous. I don't know if I can go
out there like this.

RONNIE
Yes you can, don't even think about it.
Here.

Ronnie hands her the drink she's drinking. Diamond takes it.

RONNIE
Now this is the "Rookie Trick." Don't
look at the customers, just look at
yourself in the mirror. Pretend your at
home in the bathroom by yourself.

(CONTINUED)

DIAMOND

That's it?

RONNIE

Yeah, and drink as much as you can handle. Go ahead, real fast.

Diamond does. She makes a face when the alcohol burns her chest. Ronnie starts to walk off.

RONNIE

Well let's go, hoe.

DIAMOND

What?

Ronnie turns around.

RONNIE

That's what they gonna call you upstairs, so you might as well get use to it. Now let's go...hoe.

Ronnie starts to walk upstairs. Diamond follows.

8 DIAMOND'S P.O.V. - SAME TIME.

8

Diamond is behind Ronnie. They walk up the stairs and reach the club. It's packed wall to wall with customers and dancers. We do a 360 around the club and end up back on Diamond's face. She goes to take another sip of her drink when a Customer grabs her arm. The drink falls on the floor and Diamond falls into the Customers lap.

CUSTOMER

You a new bitch, huh?

He's got Diamond by the waste she can't get up.

RONNIE

Let her go!

CUSTOMER

Why, you want her.

BOOM! Out of nowhere XL (the bouncer) hits the Customer in the back of the head. Diamond and Customer falls to the floor. He's knocked out.

RONNIE

Come on girl don't worry about him.

(CONTINUED)

She helps Diamond up. They start to walk deeper into the club. Another guy (Miron) grabs her hand. She snatches away.

DIAMOND

What?

MIRON

Can I get a dance.

Diamond looks at him and the 10 dollar bill in his extended hand.

DIAMOND (V.O.)

My first table dance was the most degrading and humiliating experience of my life. But after a few hours and a few drinks, who's complaining?...

9 INT. DIAMOND'S FIRST APARTMENT - BATHROOM - NIGHT

9

A wad of money hits the counter. Diamond walks over to the tub and turns on the water. She starts to undress.

DIAMOND (V.O.)

So my plan was working...

10 INT. CLARK UNIVERSITY - DAY.

10

Diamond is sitting in a class full of students. She's nodding off to sleep.

DIAMOND (V.O.)

...I would go to school in the daytime...and pay for it at night.

11 EXT. PLAYER'S CLUB - NIGHT.

11

Diamond walks out the club wearing a jogging suit. She looks about 4 years older with much more experience. She walks up to a Black Honda Accord, with her boyfriend LANCE in the passenger seat.

12 INT. DIAMOND'S APARTMENT - DAY.

12

The new apartment is much nicer than the old. Diamond is at her dining room table doing homework. Jamal is now four years old. He's watching girls work out on T.V. There's a knock on the door.

DIAMOND (V.O.)

For 3 in a half years I've kept my eye on the prize, without getting caught up with
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED:

12

DIAMOND (cont'd)
any bullshit the club had to offer. At
lease until...

Diamond gets up and opens the door. It's **EBONY**, with her
bags in hand. Ready for a hug.

DIAMOND (V.O.)
...my 19 year old cousin Ebony moved out
here from Tallahassee; and my momma told
my auntie I would keep her daughter out
of trouble.

Diamond gives her a fake hug.

DIAMOND (V.O.)
It only took Ebony three days to ask
could she work with me at the Player's
Club.
(a beat)
I should've straight said, "NO"

13 INT. DOLLAR BILL'S OFFICE - DAY.

13

Dollar Bill is sitting at his desk giving his stripper's
orientation speech.

DOLLAR BILL
Strippin' started back in Africa. A white
man went to Africa a long time ago, and
saw a Black woman there. She was singing,
dancing, working and living; all in the
nude. It wasn't no shame in her game. So
this same white man would go to different
villages and watch the women for hours at
a time. So when he got back to Europe, he
wanted his white woman to do the same
thing. Sing, dance, work and live in the
nude. But since that shit wouldn't work
in the city, the white bitch said the
most beautiful words known to our
profession.

Diamond and Ebony are sitting in front of Dollar Bill. Ebony
looks confused.

EBONY
What's she say?

DOLLAR BILL
The white woman looked at the white man
and said, "Fuck that, pay me."

Ebony's eyes light up.

(CONTINUED)

DOLLAR BILL

(O.S.)

And that why I get 30%.

DIAMOND (V.O.)

It only took her three days to ask me
could she work at The Player's Club...

(a beat)

I should've straight said, "no."

CREDITS ROLL...

14 INT. DOLLAR BILL'S ROOM - MORNING.

14

DOLLAR BILL lays asleep in his bed. The room is very dark, very peaceful. Suddenly a gangsta named **THE DOCTOR**, walks into our frame with a pistol-grip shotgun. Dollar Bill gets a rude awakening from The Doctor, who hits him in the stomach with the butt of the gun. He screams.

DOLLAR BILL

What the hell...

The Doctor racks the shotgun. (CLICK!, CLICK!)

THE DOCTOR

Open yo' mouth, nigga.

Dollar Bill has no choice. The Doctor sticks the barrel into his mouth. He holds it there for an uncomfortable amount of time. We don't know if he's going to pull the trigger or not. Dollar Bill is terrified.

THE DOCTOR

How you doing? My name is The Doctor; and usually at this time you'd hear a pop... and your brains would be all over your pillow. But you wouldn't like that would you?

DOLLAR BILL

(with a gun in his mouth)

No.

THE DOCTOR

We got a slight misunderstanding here, and there's no reason why we can't talk it out like civilized human beings right?

DOLLAR BILL

(shaking his head "yes")

Right.

(CONTINUED)

THE DOCTOR
Hold this.

DOLLAR BILL
(very confused)
Huh?

THE DOCTOR
I said, hold the damn gun!

Dollar Bill grabs the barrel of the gun. He holds it in his own mouth. The Doctor keeps one hand on the trigger, while he reaches into his back pocket and pulls out a piece of paper with the other.

THE DOCTOR
(reading the paper)
You own an establishment called The Player's Club. Ta remodel The Player's Club, you borrowed approximately \$60,000 dollars from a man named St.Louis. Am I lying?

DOLLAR BILL
(shaking his head "no")
No.

THE DOCTOR
You ain't made not one payment on that loan yet, and Mr. St. Louis is getting very inpatient wit you. So he's gonna come by the club tonight to pick up a \$10,000 dollar payment from you personally...Here is the reason you should pay Mr.St.Louis...see if you don't pay him, he don't pay me. And if I don't get paid, I'll be back to let you hear that pop. Do you understand me?

Dollar Bill shakes his head "yes." The Doctor slowly takes the gun out of his mouth. Then he suddenly hits him in the stomach again. The Doctor whispers into Dollar Bill's ear.

THE DOCTOR
(very serious)
I'm suppose to get some pussy tonight.
(a beat)
You need to make that payment.

The Doctor walks out leaving Dollar Bill scared shitless.

15 EXT. SPANISH GARDENS APARTMENT BUILDING - SUNSET 15

A Spanish-style apartment complex illuminates with an orange glow as the sun hits it just right. A few people walk into the 3 story complex.

We hear Miami Bass style music coming from apartment 3C.

16 INT. JAMAL'S ROOM - SAME TIME 16

Jamal stares in amazement at the television with his mouth open in a half smile. We realize he's watching the "Pop That Couchie" video by The 2 Live Crew. There's half-naked girls all over the screen. An alarm clock goes off. Jamal turns to see it's 6 o'clock. He gets up and runs out.

17 INT. DIAMOND'S ROOM - SAME TIME 17

The room is pitch-black. All we see is Jamal's little body walking in the darkness. He pulls the shade. It flies up letting the sunshine light the room.

JAMAL

Momma wake up.

A lump in the bed shifts. Jamal walks over to the other window shade. He pulls it; and it flies up too. Letting even more sunlight in. He shakes the bed.

JAMAL

Get up. You gotta go to work.

A sleepy voice comes from the lump.

DIAMOND

What time is it?

JAMAL

6 o'clock, so get up.

DIAMOND

I am up.

Jamal crawls across the bed to get face to face with his mother, Diamond. Her eyes remain closed.

JAMAL

You're not up. Your eyes ain't open.

DIAMOND

Yes I am, cause I heard you in there playing that 2 Live Crew video again. Didn't I?

(CONTINUED)

Jamal's busted, but he's trying to keep from smiling.

DIAMOND

Did Ebony ever come home?

JAMAL

No. Her bed is still made up.

DIAMOND

(disappointed)

That a crazy girl.

JAMAL

I know.

DIAMOND

You know?

JAMAL

Yeah.

DIAMOND

You know what I know?

JAMAL

What?

DIAMOND

I know you better go in there and turn off them nasty videos. That's what I know.

Jamal gets the message. He runs out the room.

Diamond sits up in the bed. She takes a long look at herself in the closet mirror.

18 INT. UNDERGROUND GARAGE - NIGHT.

18

The garage is poorly lit. Diamond and Jamal are walking towards the car.

JAMAL

It's too dark in here.

DIAMOND

I know.

Jamal starts to sing a elementary jingle. They continue to walk, she clicks the alarm on her Honda Accord LX. They both get in.

19 EXT. MR. & MRS. ARMSTRONG HOUSE - NIGHT. 19

Diamond's Honda pulls into the drive way. She blows the horn. Moments later the porch light comes on. Diamond's mother comes out the front door, this is **MRS. ARMSTONG**.

20 IN THE CAR - SAME TIME. 20

DIAMOND

See you later, man. You get your bag?

JAMAL

Yeah I got it, bye momma.

DIAMOND

Hey, don't tell your grandmomma Ebony didn't come home last night okay?

JAMAL

I know, I know; and don't tell her she works at the club, either.

DIAMOND

Very good. Give me a kiss.

Jamal give her a kiss. He jumps out of the car and gives Mrs. Armstrong a big hug.

Diamond looks at them for a second. Then she puts the car in gear and backs out the driveway. She takes off down the street.

21 EXT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - NIGHT. 21

We crane down to see a nice size club; with "THE PLAYER'S CLUB" written in neon lights on the outside. There's mirrors and red carpet by the front door. We hear music coming from the club. The parking lot is about half full with people still arriving.

A pint size brother with a big mouth and a cheap suit stands in front. This is **LIL MAN**, he's the doorman. He's talking shit to three well dressed male customers. The conversation is already in progress...

CUSTOMER #1

You trippin', you see us all the time, why don't you let us in?

LIL MAN

Ya'll freaky mothafuckas get in when I say you get in. Now, XL ain't here to search ya'll yet. And I ain't about to do

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED:

21

LIL MAN (cont'd)
it. That ain't my job. I'm above that.
So ya'll gotta wait. Now move.

They move back, giving Tricks a clear way to the door.

TRICKS
(walking pass)
Hi Lil Man.

LIL MAN
(stopping her)
Tricks, how old are you? About 35-40?
When you gonna retire?

TRICKS
Don't worry about it.

LIL MAN
Damn, yo' pussy must be dusty.

TRICKS
(going into the door)
Yo' boss like it.

Just then, a Black Benz V12 600 pulls up with a handicap sticker in the window. Two killers are in the front seats, **BROOKLYN** and **K.C.** Brooklyn yells.

BROOKLYN
Lil Man, bring yo' ass over here!

LIL MAN
(to himself)
Damn.

Lil Man walks over to the men in the Benz.

LIL MAN
Brooklyn, K.C.! What's up?

BROOKLYN
St. Louis wanna to talk to you.

Lil Man looks into the backseat. We see the silhouette of **ST. LOUIS**, a 70's gangsta with a hard rusty voice. We can't see his face.

BROOKLYN
You know the routine. Stick yo' head in.
Lil Man knows what's about to happen. He hesitates.

(CONTINUED)

LIL MAN

Come on man, I can hear you from here.

BROOKLYN

Stick yo' head in, midget.

Lil Man slowly sticks his head in the car window. Brooklyn rolls up the window just enough. Lil Man is stuck, he couldn't pull his head out if he wanted to.

LIL MAN

(a little nervous)

What's happen St.Louis?

St.Louis takes a long drag from his cigarette before he speaks.

ST.LOUIS

Where's Dollar?

LIL MAN

(lying)

Ah, ugh...he went to pick up his daughter from the airport. He should be back around...um...11...11:30.

ST.LOUIS

He ain't in there?

LIL MAN

Naw, he ain't in there.

St.Louis exams Lil Man for a moment.

ST.LOUIS

You bet not be lying. Cause I'd get out this mothafuckin' car and kick yo' little ass, myself.

LIL MAN

I ain't lying to you St.Louis, I'm serious. He went to the airport.

ST.LOUIS

Tell Dollar Bill he need to get at me. A.S.A.P.

LIL MAN

Alright I'll tell him, soon as he gets back.

(CONTINUED)

ST. LOUIS

(a beat)

Let 'em out.

The window is rolled down and Lil Man pulls his head out.

BROOKLYN

We'll be back, you little fucka.

They drive off. Lil Man is holding his neck.

22 INT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - DOLLAR BILL'S OFFICE - SAME TIME.

22

The music is loud. We dolly into a very small office. The walls are covered with 8x10 pictures of Dollar Bill posing with all the celebrities that visit the club. We hear Dollar Bill bitchin' as usual.

DOLLAR BILL

(O.S.)

You want what?!...a raise?!

BLUE, the slim 22 year old MC/DJ of the club is force to listen. We're tight on his face.

BLUE

Yeah.

DOLLAR BILL

(O.S.)

For what? Ta D.J.? Spin records? Who you think you is D.J. Quik?

BLUE

No.

DOLLAR BILL

(O.S.)

Kid Capri?

No answer.

We finally cut to DOLLAR BILL eating a fish sandwich.

DOLLAR BILL

Now if you that unhappy I can fire yo' ass and make you Terminator X.

(a beat)

Huh?

Blue has no win.

(CONTINUED)

BLUE

Naw, I'm cool.

DOLLAR BILL

(smiling)

Thought so. Now get the cuttin' and
scratchin' nigga. Fo' the record go off.

Blue gets up. As he's leaving Lil Man walks in.

LIL MAN

They came.

Dollar Bill eyes get as big as golf ball. He's nervous.

DOLLAR BILL

What?...When?...They still out there?

LIL MAN

No, They left. I told'em you went to the
airport.

Dollar Bill stands up quickly.

DOLLAR BILL

Okay...okay, that was good. Good
thinking. Make sure the back door is
unlocked. In case I have to get out of
dodge.

LIL MAN

Will do. You ever gonna pay'em?

DOLLAR BILL

What?! What kinda dumb shit is that? Get
yo' little ass back on the front door.

Lil Man leaves. Dollar Bill walks over to the door. He looks
out while he's closing it. We hear about 3 padlocks being
locked.

23 EXT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - PARKING LOT - NIGHT.

23

Diamond's Honda pulls into the parking lot. She parks the car
and gets out with her bag in hand.

24 IN THE BACK OF THE PLAYER'S CLUB'S PARKING LOT - SAME TIME

24

CLYDE leans against a car. He's Atlanta's trouble maker
No.#2. He's looking at Diamond. We hear the sound of someone
taking a piss, but it too dark to see.

(CONTINUED)

24 CONTINUED:

24

CLYDE

Yo Reggie, there go Diamond.

The pissing stops. We hear the sound of a zipper being zipped. Out of the darkness comes Atlanta's trouble maker No. #1, **REGGIE**. He has the stare and glare of ICE CUBE.

Diamond is walking in the distance towards the front of the club.

Reggie is still looking.

25 EXT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - FRONT DOOR.

25

The line is a little longer and brothers are getting tired of waiting. Lil Man could careless. Just then Diamond walks up. Lil Man puts on a smile.

LIL MAN

Hey now!

DIAMOND

(blushing)

What's up Lil Man?

LIL MAN

(grabbing himself)

Dick is what's up.

She smiles. He's checking her out as she walks inside.

INT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - LOBBY - SAME TIME

The music is pumpin'. We follow Diamond pass the lobby and into the club.

26 INT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - CLUB - SAME TIME

26

We can really see the club now. It's state of the art. Alot of **lights** and mirrors. Everything is modern. There's a nice stage with a D.J.Booth next to it. The V.I.P. Lounge sits in the back to the left.

MIRON, the creepy nerd-like regular is the only customer inside.

Diamond walks in. She waves at Blue, who waves back at her from the D.J.Booth. Their eyes meet. He looks away.

Miron is looking at Diamond at the same time.

MIRON

Hi Diamond.

(CONTINUED)

DIAMOND

Hi Miron.

She keeps on walking.

Somebody else is watching her too.- P.O.V.- SAME TIME.

It's Ronnie. She's sitting in the corner with Tricks.

TRICKS

There go Ms. Thang. She act like her shit
don't stink.

RONNIE

I know.

AT THE BAR

TINA, the sassy waitress is wiping off the counter. She calls
Diamond over.

TINA

Dee, come here. You want something to
drink?

DIAMOND

I don't drink no more.

TINA

Oh yeah that's right. Good for you.

Tina stops wiping off the counter.

TINA

You talk to yo' cousin, today?

DIAMOND

Naw, she didn't come home last night.
What happen?

TINA

I'll let her tell you. But, she needs to
watch the company she keeps.

DIAMOND

Ronnie and Tricks, huh.

Tina looks her in the eyes and continues wiping.

DIAMOND

Is she here yet?

(CONTINUED)

26 CONTINUED:

26

TINA

Downstairs.

Diamond walks off.

27 EXT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - FRONT DOOR - NIGHT.

27

The natives are getting very restless. Lil Man does not care one bit. Finally a Gray 325i BMW pulls up to the front. **VANILLA**, the White girl dancer that wants to be Black is driving; and **XL**, a Black 260-pound muscle-bound bouncer is in the passenger seat.

XL

So what you gonna do?

VANILLA

I'mma go over here to Gold Fingers first.
If them White boys ain't got no money,
I'll be back.

XL

Alright baby, I'll see you later.

They french kiss. We hear jeers from the crowd. "Oh man, Come on." etc. XL turns around to see who's complaining. The crowd goes completely silent. Vanilla pulls off. XL walks towards the door.

LIL MAN

You late and Dollar Bill is pissed.

XL

Shut up, Bushwisk.

Just as XL goes in the door, Reggie and Clyde walks up to the front of the line. Cutting everybody.

CLYDE

'Cuse us!

The brothers up front move out the way.

LIL MAN

Damn, here we go again. Clepto (to Clyde) and Maniac (to Reggie). Ya'll ain't got 3 strikes yet. What hell is the world coming too? Letting criminals walk the street free. Go on.

They just stare at Lil Man as they walk inside.

28 INT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - LOBBY - SAME TIME.

28

XL is standing there as Reggie and Clyde walk in. They try to walk pass him. He stops them.

XL

Hold up. Now you know I gotta search ya'll. We go though this every week.

REGGIE

Fool, you ain't search us.

It's a Mexican stand off. Neither one will blink. Then Reggie reaches into his jacket and pulls out a black 9mm, and hands it to XL.

REGGIE

I want my shit back when the club is over.

29 INT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - DRESSING ROOM - SAME NIGHT.

29

The dressing room is tight. It has a counter with mirrors and lights on one side. Lockers and a bathroom with showers on the other. There's about fourteen girls getting dressed; or should we say undressed. They're talking about the normal things women talk about. Three girls by the named of **ASS**, **HOLE**, **NAKED**, a strip club dance group; practice their moves. Dollar Bill comes in "cracking the whip."

DOLLAR BILL

What the hell ya'll doing? The club is almost full. Get yo' ass upstairs, cause if you bullshittin' down here, ya fucking wit my percentage. Where's Diamond?

ASS

In the bathroom changing.

DOLLAR BILL

Ebony. Tell her to get her funky ass on stage, she up first.

She shakes her head "yes." Everybody exits, leaving Ebony in the dressing room alone. Seconds later, Diamond emerges from the bathroom wearing a pink mini dress, stockings and 6 inch pumps. She walks over to Ebony with a attitude, but under control.

DIAMOND

What happen to you last night?

Ebony's surprised. She hesitates.

(CONTINUED)

EBONY

Well, they came up to me last week and asked if I wanted to make some extra money. I said yeah, how? They knew some people giving a party at the Radison...and they wanted some dancers.

DIAMOND

And?

EBONY

Well, the whole time we driving to the hotel, I'm thinking it's gonna be a bachelor party or something...but when we got there it wasn't no men...it was a room full of just women.

Diamond ain't surprised.

DIAMOND

So what you do?

EBONY

(shrugging her shoulders)
I danced for 'em. They was paying.

Diamond knows she not telling the whole truth. She gives a long stare.

DIAMOND

(putting on a earring)
All you did was dance? That's it?

EBONY

(lying)
Yeah.

DIAMOND

Whatever Ebony.

EBONY

What's that suppose to mean?

DIAMOND

I told you about them?

EBONY

Yeah, I know.

DIAMOND

You know?

(CONTINUED)

Diamond is so upset she drops her earring on the floor. When she bends over to pick it up: **SMACK!** someone slaps her on the ass. "You better watch that big ole thang." She looks up to see Ronnie, who keeps on walking.

RONNIE

Hi Ebony.

EBONY

(getting up to leave)

Hi.

Ebony grabs her drink and walks towards the exit.

EBONY

(to Diamond)

I'll see you upstairs.

Ronnie feels the tension. She turns around to discover Diamond staring at her. Ronnie stares back. Then she throws Diamond a smile and a wink. Diamond just turns and exits.

30 INT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - CLUB - SAME TIME.

30

We pan around the club. It's packed with brothers watching women and spending money. The music is blasting. The girls are table dancing all around. Blue is on the mic.

BLUE (O.S.)

We'll like to welcome ya'll broke ass niggas to The Player's Club...As you know, we got a 2 drink minium; and for a mere 10 dollars...you can have the lady of your choice...give you a personal table dance. So if you like 'em skinny with bee stings or Fat with stretch marks; we got 'em all here at The Player's Club.

Miron sits there sippin' on a Shirley Temple. He's sneaking peeks at other people's table dances. A Dancer walks up to him.

DANCER #1

Can I get just one dance, Miron?

MIRON

No thank you. I'm waiting on Diamond.

Tina is about to take **JOE's** order. He's the fattest regular at the club and sweatin' like a pig.

(CONTINUED)

TINA

What you want Joe, some slim fast?

JOE

Why you always gotta talk shit?

We catch XL doing a walking through, making sure everything is alright. Then we see...

Reggie and Clyde sitting way in the back; near the empty V.I.P. section.

REGGIE

These hoes is tired.

CLYDE

I know.

REGGIE

I'm sick of looking at'em

CLYDE

(still looking)

Me too.

REGGIE

Like her old ass. Still strippin'.

(yelling)

Tricks come here.

Tricks walks over.

REGGIE

Let me borrow a table dance. I'll pay you back tomorrow.

Tricks rolls her eyes and starts to dance.

TRICKS

Dang, I ain't gonna be supporting yo' habit. Ya'll going to Little Junior's party?

WE PAN OVER TO EBONY

...giving some guy her phone number. He takes it.

GUY #1

Why can't you leave with me?

EBONY

Because, I'm suppose to leave with my cousin.

(CONTINUED)

30 CONTINUED:

30

Ebony observes his wedding ring.

EBONY
Ain't you married, anyway?

GUY #1
So what?

31 BACKSTAGE.

31

Diamond is watching Ebony. The Guy whispers something in Ebony's ear and suddenly they get up and leave together. Diamond is hot.

THE DJ BOOTH.

Blue is fading the current record. He flips on the mic.

BLUE
Coming to the stage is one of the finest women here at The Player's Club...She goes by the name of Diamond. Ya know she got bills ta pay...so ya'll cheap mothafuckas come out the pockets.

Blue puts on a slow jam, "I've been watching you (move your sexy body)" by Parliament. Some of the brother start to make there way closer to the stage.

IN SLOW MOTION...

Diamond walks out to cat calls from the audience, but she's as serious as a brain surgeon. She goes into a sexy strip tease and brothers are mesmerized.

Immediately they start giving her money. 1's, 5's, 10's. Miron even gives her a 20, she smiles at him. Then puts the money in her thigh-high stockings.

She looks so good, Clyde is ugly in the face. Reggie's not impressed.

CLYDE
(licking his lips)
I'd eat it up.

With that, off comes the dress. She has on a pink string bikini. Her body oiled from head to toe. She unties her top, revealing her round breast.

The crowd loves it.

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED:

31

Ronnie and Tricks look on with a slight hint of jealousy in their eyes.

Dollar Bill's even looking.

DOLLAR BILL

(yelling to the stage)

That's right. Make that money, girl!

She slides off the panties, slow and sexy. The lights are perfect and so is her body.

DISSOLVE TO.

32 INT. DIAMOND'S APARTMENT - UNDERGROUND GARAGE - LATE NIGHT. 32

The garage seems darker than before. Diamond's Honda Accord pulls into the parking garage and into her space. She gets out, hits her alarm and starts to walk. Suddenly she hears something. She turns around quickly...

33 DIAMOND'S P.O.V. 33

She sees nothing. Just parked cars.

Diamond turns and swiftly walks out of the parking lot.

34 INT. DIAMOND'S APARTMENT - SAME TIME. 34

The apartment is dark also. Moonlight silhouettes the furniture. The front door opens and Diamond walks in. She puts her bag down and turns on the lamp; and suddenly...She's startled by Lance sitting on the sofa.

DIAMOND

(grabbing her heart)

Got damn it, Lance. You scared me.

There's no apologies.

LANCE

I wanted to go out tonight.

DIAMOND

What you doing sitting in the dark? How'd you get in here?

LANCE

Ebony let me in...I told you last week that I wanted to go out tonight.

DIAMOND

Today is Saturday.

(CONTINUED)

LANCE

(instant attitude)

I know what day it is. I see you'd rather shake yo ass for some strangers, than spend one Saturday night with yo' man?

DIAMOND

It ain't even like that.

LANCE

You act like it. When you gonna quit working at that dumb ass club?

Diamond pauses for a moment.

DIAMOND

(instant attitude)

Was it a dumb ass club when I met you there?

There's nothing Lance can say. Just then, Ebony walks through to the kitchen.

EBONY

Hey Diamond.

She's only wearing a tight T-shirt and some panties. Diamond can't believe it.

DIAMOND

Don't you think you need to put some clothes on?

Ebony thinks nothing of it.

EBONY

For what? Lance? He ain't nobody.

Diamond takes a deep breathe, collects herself, then starts to make it to her room.

DIAMOND

Let's go to the room.

Lance stays put. Diamond looks back.

DIAMOND

Come on!

Lance tries to have an attitude, but he jumps up and follows her into the back anyway.

35 INT. CLARK UNIVERSITY - PROFESSOR MILLS CLASS - DAY.

35

The class is packed wall to wall with Black men and women of all shapes and sizes. Most of the women are paying close attention. Others doing what they do. We even see one young lady with her head down, she must be sleep.

A man lectures in the middle of the room. He's in his late 30's. This is **PROFESSOR MILLS**, he's teaching Journalism.

PROFESSOR MILLS

...Time magazine, Newsweek, Washington Post, New York Times, Los Angeles Times and even the Atlanta Journal & Constitution. All mainstream newspapers and magazines. America trust these forms of media to link them with the truth about any particular subject in the world, right?

(smiling)

Okay, then you have The National Enquirer, The Star, People, etc. All tabloid or gossip type magazines, where truth and fiction run hand and hand. So what do we do when our mainstream media quotes our tabloid media? What do we do?

There's no answer. Then one student raises her hand. Professor Mills spots her.

PROFESSOR MILLS

Yes.

STUDENT #1

Investigate the subject for ourselves. Don't trust anyone's research but your own.

The Professor slaps his hands together in excitement.

PROFESSOR MILLS

That's correct! Do not trust anyone's research or information. Not even mine. Always Question the Knowledge people.

(looking at his watch)

Alright that's it. I'll see you when I see you.

The students start to file out of the class. Some of them drop papers off at Professor Mills' desk, others just leave. In no time everyone's gone except the student with her head down.

(CONTINUED)

Mills looks up.

PROFESSOR MILLS
Ms. Armstrong.

No answer.

PROFESSOR MILLS
Ms. Armstrong! Wake up!

Diamond lifts her head.

DIAMOND
(with sleepy eyes)
I am up.

She starts to get her things together.

PROFESSOR MILLS
What do you do that keeps you up so late?

DIAMOND
I work.

PROFESSOR MILLS
I don't know how you do it. You sleep through my lectures almost everyday. Yet, you are one of the best students in the course. I'm beginning to think that your cheating.

DIAMOND
I'm not cheating.

PROFESSOR MILLS
And how do I know that?

DIAMOND
Because, I don't trust anybody's research but my own.

He's impressed.

DIAMOND
Told you I was up.

He smiles.

PROFESSOR MILLS
Try an get more rest.

DIAMOND
I will.

(CONTINUED)

35 CONTINUED:

35

Diamond has all of her belongings and she's gone.

36 EXT. CLARK UNIVERSITY - DAY.

36

Diamond is walking through campus minding her own business. She about to pass 3 guys sitting on a bench. They're from Morehouse. She's recolonized by one of them.

MOREHOUSE GUY

(jumping in front of her)

Hey. Yo name is Diamond, huh?

DIAMOND

Yeah.

MOREHOUSE GUY

You dance butt naked at The Player's Club, right?

His friends giggle. Diamond doesn't answer that question. Instead, she comes back with one of her own.

DIAMOND

May I help you?

He snaps a 10 dollar bill in front of her face.

MOREHOUSE GUY

(smiling)

Yeah, we was wondering if we could get a "lunch-table dance."

His friends have a even bigger laugh. Diamond keeps on strolling pushing him out the way. He looks at his friends.

MOREHOUSE GUY

Aw, she ain't nothing but a strip-hoe anyway.

Diamond's a little hurt by that comment, but she keeps on walking.

37 EXT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - LATE NIGHT.

37

Lil Man is out front trying to look tough. Two Black cops, **PETERS** and **FREEMAN** pull up in a squad car. They get out.

FREEMAN

Come on nigga.

Lil Man walks over and put his hand on the hood of the squad car. Peters starts pat him down.

(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED:

37

LIL MAN
Watch the nuts, now.

PETERS
Where's Dollar?

LIL MAN
(with attitude)
I don't know. He ain't in there.

FREEMAN
(suspicious)
You bet not be lying ta me, you little
half-pint son of a bitch. Don't make us
search the place.

LIL MAN
Ya'll search the place 3 or 4 times a
week anyway. Trying to see some ass for
free.

They look at each other. It's true.

FREEMAN
So what? Damn that. He got warrants.
Tell'em he better pay his shit, or will
be back.

Lil Man takes his hand off the hood. They start to get back
in the car.

LIL MAN
Was ya'll fags in high school? Or did you
wait till you join the police force?

They pull off. Lil Man's watching.

38 INT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - CLUB - SAME TIME.

38

It's slow tonight. But the crowd is all around the stage
watching Ronnie finish her act.

39 THE DJ BOOTH.

39

Blue fades the song. He teasing Ronnie.

BLUE
(singing)
"The lady was twisted - love of a man
won't do." Hey, that was my homeboy
Ronnie. What's up homie?

Ronnie gives Blue the finger.

(CONTINUED)

BLUE

My nigga...Okay everybody gather round.
Cause coming to the stage is a such
treat. She's been with The Player's Club
since we opened in 1983. Everybody knows
"tricks are for kids," and she got about
4 of them mothafuckas. It's Tricks ya'll!

Blue throws on a hit record.

There's a few murmurs from the crowd. They swiftly move away
from the stage into the back of the club. Leaving the front
of the stage completely empty.

Tricks hits the stage. She looks disappointed, but starts to
strip anyway. The only person paying attention is Joe. He's
having a good time. Tricks plays to him.

40 REGGIE & CLYDE IN THE V.I.P. SECTION

40

They both look at Tricks from a far. Reggie's disgusted.

REGGIE

These bitches stink up in here.

CLYDE

Smell like straight ass.

41 THE STAGE.

41

Tricks is giving Joe the show of his life. He's smiling from
ear to ear. Then he reaches into his pocket and pulls out a
dollar, handing it to her. She stops in mid-strip...

TRICKS

What's this?

(looking at the dollar)

That's all you got?

JOE

(smiling)

Yeah, I need fifty cents back.

She's pissed.

TRICKS

I'm up here working my ass off and all
you got is a dollar? And got the nerve to
ask for change.

(walking off stage)

Ya'll so damn cheap...I'm sick of this
shit.

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED:

41

She disappears backstage, mumbling to herself.

BLUE (O.S.)

Give it up for Tricks ya'll!

No one claps, but Joe.

Tina is walking through with a tray in her hand. Miron stops her.

MIRON

Excuse me Tina, is Diamond coming in tonight?

TINA

(attitude)

I told you three time Miron. I don't know.

Just then Diamond hits the door with her duffle bag on her shoulder. She looks around at the size of the audience. We follow her to the D.J. Booth to talk to Blue.

DIAMOND

It's slow, huh?

BLUE

Yeah. I didn't think you was coming in. Are you gonna dance?

DIAMOND

(looking around)

Naw, I don't think so.

BLUE

You lucky. You get to come to work whenever you feel like it. I have to come in everynight, and Dollar ain't paying nothing.

DIAMOND

Why don't you quit; and get a job at a regular club?

BLUE

I know, I need to do something...cause I'm sick of looking at these nasty ass, money hungry hoes in here everyday, anyway.

Diamond feels included in that statement.

(CONTINUED)

DIAMOND

Just because you dance, that don't mean
you nasty and money hungry.

BLUE

What does it mean, then?

DIAMOND

(defensive)

It means you working.

BLUE

Working? Showing the crack of her ass to
any nigga with 10 dollars. That ain't
working; and that ain't dancing. That's
strippin' and some of 'em even hoeing.

Diamond is getting a little upset.

DIAMOND

Not all of 'em, I'll talk to you later.

Diamond walks away. Blue watches her walk away.

42 DRESSING ROOM.

42

It's a few girls in the dressing room talking, but not like
before. Ebony is sitting on Ronnie's lap. She's drunk. It
could be perfectly innocent, but who knows. Tricks is
changing into her street clothes.

EBONY

What it look like?

TRICKS

Don't even waste yo' time. I'm about to
go to the motel with Dollar.

Tricks is reaching into her bag. Her and Ronnie lock eyes.
Ronnie **makes** a motion with her head, for Tricks to ask Ebony
something.

TRICKS

You doing Junior's bachelor's party, huh?

EBONY

Who is Junior?

RONNIE

My little cousin.

(CONTINUED)

EBONY

I didn't know anything about it...I shouldn't do no more bachelor parties, cause they get out of control, sometimes.

TRICKS

Who told you that?

EBONY

Diamond.

RONNIE

Girl, Diamond don't know how to make no money. That's why she ain't got shit. Bachelor parties are how you come up.

TRICKS

It's her cousin and his little friends. We gonna know everybody there.

EBONY

You gonna to do it?

TRICKS

Yep.

Ebony thinks about it.

EBONY

Okay, I'll dance. When is it?

RONNIE

I'll let you know. Thank you.

TRICKS

That's right girl, you make that money as long as you can. You ain't gonna have that body forever, trust me.

Ronnie and Tricks lock eyes again. Just then, Diamond walks in.

DIAMOND

Hi everybody.

Everyone greets her except Ronnie and Tricks. She looks at Ebony sitting on Ronnie's lap.

DIAMOND

You alright?

Ebony grabs her drink and stumbles to her feet.

(CONTINUED)

EBONY

Yeah I'm alright. Just the "Rookie Trick."

(she giggles to herself)

I'mma about to go out here and see if I can get a table-dance or something.

She makes her way out the door. Diamond and Ronnie stare at each other. Then Ronnie and Tricks get up and leave too. Diamond is left standing there.

Reggie and Clyde sit there drinking. Reggie is rolling a joint on the table. Ebony walks up tipsy.

EBONY

Let me get a dance.

Reggie and Clyde look up at Ebony.

REGGIE

Girl, I ain't gonna pay for no drunk ass table-dance from you.

Ebony puts her hands on her hips.

EBONY

Is that right?

CLYDE

That's right.

EBONY

Well then what will you pay for?

Reggie and Clyde look at each other.

CLYDE

We'll pay for some private shit.

EBONY

Wait a minute. You won't pay for a dance here, but you wanna take me home?

Reggie and Clyde look at each other again. Then back at Ebony.

REGGIE

Yeah. Dancing and Fuckin' is two different thangs.

44 BACK TO DIAMOND.

44

Diamond is walking out the dressing room looking for Ebony. She scans the club, but doesn't see her. She walks over to Tina.

TINA
She just left.

DIAMOND
With who?

TINA
Reggie and Clyde.

DIAMOND
What?!

She's on the move.

45 EXT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - SAME TIME.

45

Diamond hits the door.

LIL MAN
Yo' little cousin's a hoe.

DIAMOND
Which way?

LIL MAN
(pointing towards the lot)
That way...and I'm telling Dollar, too.

Diamond is on her way towards the parking lot.

46 ON EBONY, REGGIE AND CLYDE.

46

Ebony is so drunk Clyde has to hold her up.

EBONY
Ya'll ain't gonna do nothing to me are you?

CLYDE
Girl, what you talking about? We gonna take care of you. Huh Reggie?

REGGIE
(looking around)
Yep. You straight.

(CONTINUED)

They reach Reggie's car. He opens the door and they slam Ebony into the backseat. Clyde gets into the passenger seat and Reggie is behind the wheel. Diamond runs up to the window.

DIAMOND

(to Ebony)

No girl! Get out! They gonna rape you!

REGGIE

What you talking about? Ain't nobody gonna rape nobody. Get away from my car.

DIAMOND

Let her out!

CLYDE

Who are you, Captain Save a Hoe?

EBONY

It's cool Diamond.

DIAMOND

No it ain't, get out!

REGGIE

Girl you better move. Just because she ain't all stuck up like yo' ass...

Ebony comes to her senses.

EBONY

Naw, let me out.

CLYDE

I thought you was going with us?

DIAMOND

She said she wanna get out. So let her out before I call the police.

REGGIE

Cock blocking Bitch!

Diamond opens the back door and pulls Ebony out. Reggie and Clyde drive off. Diamond blows up at Ebony.

DIAMOND

What's wrong with you? Why you leaving the club with these fools?

EBONY

They just wanted me to dance for them.

(CONTINUED)

DIAMOND

They can see you dance inside. Your all drunk and shit. You was gonna let them run a train on you?

EBONY

No, that wasn't even the plan. You are over reacting as usual.

DIAMOND

I'm not over reacting. How the hell am I supposed to watch you; and you leaving the club all the time?

EBONY

Watch me? You suppose to be watching me, now?

(pissed off)

Who told you to watch me, my momma?

DIAMOND

Yeah.

EBONY

Well for you and my momma's information, I'm grown; and I don't need nobody to watch me. I've been watching myself for a long mothafuckin' time now. And if I wanna make some extra money on the side that's my business, not yours.

This is true, and Diamond excepts that. She calms down.

DIAMOND

You right, it is yo' business. But what you trying to do? Make it a career?

EBONY

Maybe. You got to use what you got to get what you want?

DIAMOND

Please...do not tell me none of Ronnie's hoe quotes. Just be professional. You only been here 3 weeks and you already gettin' sucked into this bullshit life style.

EBONY

I'm getting sucked in; and you already in so what's the difference? I know what happen between you and Ronnie, they told me.

(CONTINUED)

Diamond looks surprised. Ebony knows she's hit a nerve.

EBONY

I'm going back inside...and don't worry
I'll get a ride home.

Ebony starts to walk back to the club. Diamond yells out to her.

DIAMOND

Ebony!

She stops and turns around.

DIAMOND

Make the money, don't let it make you.

Ebony keeps on walking towards the club.

47 ON DIAMOND

47

She has a blank look on her face, then she turns and walks to her car.

48 INT./EXT. DIAMOND'S HONDA - LATE NIGHT.

48

Diamond is driving, she's in deep thought.

49 FLASHBACK: INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT.

49

Two business-like white men sit inside the room having a drink. One of them calls for Tricks. She walks over to him. He whispers something in her ear. She nods "yes."

TRICKS

How is she?

We pan over to see Ronnie wearing a string bikini. She looks down to the bed.

RONNIE

She's drunk.

TRICKS

Is she awake?

RONNIE

Barely.

Diamond is laying on the bed wasted. She's about two seconds from passing out.

(CONTINUED)

TRICKS

He wants you to go down on her.

RONNIE

How much?

Tricks bends down again. The man whispers a figure into her ear. Tricks turns to Ronnie.

TRICKS

600.

RONNIE

No problem.

Ronnie bends down out of frame.

50 EXT. MR. & MRS. ARMSTRONG'S HOUSE - NIGHT.

50

Diamond pulls up into the driveway.

51 INT. MR. & MRS. ARMSTRONG'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME.

51

The house is very clean, but the furniture is a little out dated. Mr. Armstrong is on the couch reading a paper. Mrs. Armstrong is reading a book. Jamal's playing Mortal Kombat 3 on his Sega. The front door opens and in comes Diamond.

DIAMOND

I'm back. I didn't feel like working tonight.

MRS. ARMSTRONG

Is Ebony working at that club with you?

Diamond is shocked.

DIAMOND

No. Who told you that?

MRS. ARMSTRONG

Jamal.

Diamond cuts Jamal a look.

MRS. ARMSTRONG

He told me Ebony was dancing.

MR. ARMSTRONG

You call that dancing?

Diamond cuts Mr. Armstrong a look too.

(CONTINUED)

DIAMOND

She came up there a few times momma, but she don't work there.

MR. ARMSTRONG

You call that work?

DIAMOND

Daddy, don't even start with me.

Mr. Armstrong gets up and walks into the kitchen.

MRS. ARMSTRONG

I hope you ain't got that little girl working at that bar. My sister would have a fit.

DIAMOND

So, I'm getting tired of Ebony momma. She's in my way. We don't see eye to eye at all. That's way she should get her own apartment.

MRS. ARMSTRONG

No, no. no. That's not a good idea. She's too young to handle an apartment by herself.

DIAMOND

She tells me she grown.

MRS. ARMSTRONG

Well she's not grown. Now you know, Ebony is very naive. That's why you need to keep an eye on her.

Diamond sighs.

DIAMOND

I'd wish you'd ask me next time you volunteer my house to yo' sister's kids.

MRS. ARMSTRONG

You'll be alright. Family has got to help family sometimes. Just keep her away from that bar. I don't want her in that bar.

DIAMOND

I can't keep her from doing what she wanna do, momma. Come on Jamal let's go.

He gets up. On their way out the door Diamond gives Jamal a good thump in the head.

52 EXT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - BACK DOOR - LATE NIGHT.

52

The club is closed. The neon sign is turned off. There's one car in the parking lot. Dollar Bill walks out the back door and towards his car. He's looking around. He gets to the car. Fumbling with his keys he drops them on the ground. As he bends down to pick them up. Two pairs of Stacey Adams walks into view. He looks up, discovering Brooklyn and K.C. looking down on him.

K.C.
Keys please.

Dollar Bill stands up speechless, he hands him the keys.

BROOKLYN
We sick of playing with you nigga. You
dying tonight.

Brooklyn hits Dollar Bill two times in the face.

53 DOLLAR BILL'S P.O.V.

53

Dollar Bill wobbles, and on the last hit he's out.

PITCH BLACK

54 INT. DOLLAR'S CAR - BROOKLYN & K.C. - SAME TIME.

54

Brooklyn and K.C. are riding in the car. Stone face. All business.

K.C.
Are we suppose to torture him and
kill'em? Or just kill'em?

BROOKLYN
I don't know. What did St. Louis say?

K.C.
I thought he told you.

BROOKLYN
Hell naw...let me call him.

He reaches for his phone. Suddenly they hear something.

BROOKLYN
What's that?

K.C.
I don't know.
(looking in the rear view
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

54 CONTINUED:

54

K.C. (cont'd)
mirror)
I think we got a flat.

55 EXT. HIGHWAY - SAME TIME.

55

Dollar's car is still rolling, but definitely on a flat.

56 INT. DOLLAR'S CAR - BROOKLYN & K.C. - SAME TIME.

56

Brooklyn & K.C. don't know what to do.

K.C.
Should we pull over, or keep driving?

BROOKLYN
Keep driving...No, pull over.

57 EXT. HIGHWAY - SAME TIME.

57

The car pulls to the shoulder. They both get out and look at the back tire.

K.C.
What we gonna do?

BROOKLYN
Grab the trunk key. We gonna see if he got a spare.

K.C. takes the keys out of the ignition. They both walk to the trunk.

K.C.
What if he's up?

BROOKLYN
What you think? We gonna knock'em out again. Just open the trunk.

K.C. sticks the key in; and the trunk pops open.

INSIDE THE TRUNK - SAME TIME.

Dollar Bill is in the trunk knocked out.

BROOKLYN
Good, he still out. It's another tire under him. Help me lift him up.

K.C. starts to help Brooklyn lift Dollar Bill out the way. But they're having a little trouble.

(CONTINUED)

BROOKLYN

(straining)

Got damn this nigga heavy. You hold him
up and I'll grab the tire.

As they both try to get the tire out; a police car pulls up
behind them. K.C. spots the police getting out of the car.
It's Peters and Freeman.

BROOKLYN

Stop fuckin' around and help me.

K.C.

Aw shit.

K.C. starts to slam the trunk.

BROOKLYN

(head still in the trunk)

Hey, man what the fuck doing?

K.C.

Look.

Brooklyn looks.

BROOKLYN

Aw shit!

PETERS

What ya'll doing with Dollar Bill's car?

Brooklyn quickly slams the trunk.

BROOKLYN

Nothing!

FREEMAN

It don't look like nothing.

K.C.

We on our way to pick Dollar up and we
caught a flat.

PETERS

Is that right?

K.C.

Yeah.

Peters and Freeman look at the two very suspiciously.

(CONTINUED)

PETERS

(walking towards the car)

Let's get the spare out the trunk, then.
We'll help you fix it.

BROOKLYN

No!

PETERS

Why?

BROOKLYN

It ain't no spare, we just looked. If you
give us a ride to a pay phone we can call
my brother-in-law.

FREEMAN

You don't wanna call triple A?

BROOKLYN

Naw, my brother-in-law will come get us.
He got a tow truck.

The officers think for a minute.

PETERS

Alright come on. We wanna run warrants on
ya'll anyway.

They start to walk back to the patrol car.

BROOKLYN

Thanks Peters. I use ta think you was a
bitch ass nigga in high school, but you
pretty cool, huh K.C.

K.C.

Yep.

Peters looks at Freeman. Freeman looks at the trunk.

FREEMAN

Hold up.

Freeman turns around and starts to walk towards the trunk.

BROOKLYN

Yo' man where you going? It ain't no
spare in there.

58 INT. DOLLAR'S CAR - TRUNK - SAME TIME.

58

Dollar Bill is starting to wake up.

(CONTINUED)

BACK ON THE SHOULDER - SAME TIME.

Freeman walk up to the trunk and...takes the key out the trunk. He turns and walk towards the others.

FREEMAN

You left his keys.

Brooklyn and K.C. have a look of relief on their face.

K.C.

Thanks.

59 EXT. HIGHWAY SHOULDER - SAME TIME.

59

The four walk back to the patrol car. They get in and drive off. Leaving Dollar Bill's car on the side of the road. We hear something coming from the trunk.

DOLLAR BILL (IN
TRUNK)

Hey man I'm sorry! I was gonna pay
St.Louis next week! Don't kill me ya'll!
Come man, let me out! I'll do anything!
Please man! Please!

(a few beats)

I gotta take a shit!!!

60 INT. RONNIE'S CAR - OMNI UNDERGROUND PARKING GARAGE - NIGHT.

60

Ronnie and Ebony are sitting in Ronnie's mustard yellow Vett. They're passing a joint between them.

RONNIE

This ain't the same thing. I've worked
with these people before; they're cool.

Ebony is thinking about it.

RONNIE

So what's up rookie? You wanna make some
money or what?

EBONY

Yeah.

RONNIE

Well what you waiting on? The Player's
Club?

No answer.

(CONTINUED)

RONNIE

It's cool, making niggas pay 10 dollars to look in your window...And don't get me wrong, if you work real hard...and stick out yo' ass out real far...in about four years you might be able to get a Honda Accord, maybe.

Ronnie hit the joint. She blows out the smoke.

RONNIE

I'mma tell you the truth. In this business, close legs...don't get fed.

She looks at Ebony, who's looks back at her.

61 INT. OMNI HOTEL - SIXTH FLOOR HALLWAY - SAME TIME.

61

The elevator opens. Ronnie and Ebony exit both carrying duffle bags.

EBONY

It's men in here right, no women?

RONNIE

Just men.

They walk up to room number 613 and Ronnie starts to knock. Moments later the door flies open. Ronnie walks in greeting the guy who open the door. Ebony stays in the hallway.

RONNIE (O.S.)

Hey baby, how you been doing?

GUY (O.S.)

Great, I can't complain. Tricks is here already, but the guys have been waiting for you all night.

RONNIE (O.S.)

I hope they brought some money; cause I have a new friend with me.

(to Ebony)

Come in girl.

Ebony walks in.

62 INT. OMNI HOTEL - SUITE 613 - SAME TIME.

62

Close-up on Ebony: As she walks in her mouth drops. She can't believe her eyes.

(CONTINUED)

We finally reveal the whole suite. It's a room full of Nazi Skinheads. Young and old. They're having a party. Nazi flags and pictures of Hitler are everywhere. Ebony is in shock. Ronnie's not, she's obviously done this before.

RONNIE

Hey everybody.

They all greet her.

RONNIE

This is my friend Ebony.

"Hi Ebony" is heard from the crowd.

RONNIE

Where can we change?

NAZI #1

In the restroom.

Ronnie and Ebony walk into the bathroom.

63 INT. BATHROOM - SAME TIME.

63

They're both in. Ebony closes the door behind her. Ronnie start to undress.

EBONY

Girl what the fuck is this!

RONNIE

(changing clothes)

The party.

EBONY

No shit. They from the Klu Klux Klan!

RONNIE

No they not. They're Nazis.

EBONY

So what? They don't like niggas.

RONNIE

See, that's where your wrong. They love niggas. Who cares if they white? Their money's green. And if you don't believe me, change clothes and come out here.

64 BACK IN THE SUITE.

64

The Nazis Skinheads stand around eagerly awaiting the show.

(CONTINUED)

Ronnie emerges from the bathroom wearing a black leather bikini. She has a big paddle in her hand. It's red, black and green with the continent of Africa carved in the middle. She hits the paddle against the wall. (CRACK!)

RONNIE

Okay you white mothafuckas! All eyes on me! If I catch you looking at anything other than me, I'mma whip yo ass like a fuckin' slave!

The crowd goes wild. The music kicks in. Ronnie starts to dance in front of a giant Nazi flag.

Ebony sticks her head out of the bathroom. The whole scene is very, very bizarre. Nazis and Skinheads are giving Ronnie 20's and 50's. It's a stripper's dream come true. Then she looks down the hallway and sees Tricks going into the room with one of the other Skinheads.

An older man get up from his chair and walks up to Ebony. He whispers something in her ear. She looks at him real strange.

EBONY

500 dollars?

He nods, "yes." Ebony looks him up and down. Then she looks around.

EBONY

Come on.

They walk into the bathroom and Ebony closes the door behind her.

65 BACK TO RONNIE

65

Ronnie's still dancing and everyone's having a good time. Until...

RONNIE

Stop the got damn music!

The music is stopped. Ronnie spots a Nazi at the punch bowl; and he's not paying attention. Ronnie grabs her paddle off the floor. She walks over to the man.

RONNIE

Didn't I say all eyes on me, you Honky mothafucka?

(CONTINUED)

NAZI #2
(half-smile)

Yes.

RONNIE
You think you special or something?

NAZI #2
Yes.

RONNIE
You think you better than everybody else?

NAZI #2
(getting excited)
Yes.

RONNIE
You think you too good to watch me.
Right?

NAZI #2
(very excited)
Yes.

RONNIE
So you know what that means?

NAZI #2
(about to explode)
Yes.

RONNIE
(dead serious)
You're always starting trouble. Everytime
I come over here. Assume the fuckin'
position.

The Nazi waste no time in pulling down his pants and bending over. He's done it before and more than happy to do it again. The white moon is shining bright in the room. Ronnie moves into position behind him.

RONNIE
And you better sound off, too.

She holds the paddle like a baseball bat.

RONNIE
SAY IT LOUD!

She swings the paddle and smacks the Nazi on the ass. He screams in pleasurable pain.

(CONTINUED)

65 CONTINUED:

65

NAZI #2
I'M BLACK AND I'M PROUD!

RONNIE
SAY IT LOUD!

Swing ----- Smack!

NAZI #2
I'M BLACK AND I'M PROUD

RONNIE
SAY IT LOUD!

Swing ----- Smack!

NAZI #2
I'M BLACK AND I'M PROUD!

RONNIE
SAY IT LOUD!

Swing ----- Smack!

NAZI #2
I'M BLACK AND I'M PROUD!

The Nazi loves it and so does the crowd.

RONNIE
You lucky it's Black History Month. Now
who else wants some!

They all raise their hands. "Me!"

66 EXT. DIAMOND'S APARTMENT - MORNING.

66

We push in to the window and we hear an argument between
Diamond and Lance.

DIAMOND
I'm tired of it Lance! I'm tired!
Everybody and they momma got something to
say about my job!

LANCE (O.S.)
Well that should be telling you
something!

DIAMOND (O.S.)
Telling me what?! Ya'll know what's best
for me and Jamal?!

67 INT. DIAMOND'S APARTMENT - SAME TIME.

67

We dolly pass Ebony who's listening to the argument continue. We end up outside of Diamond's closed bedroom door.

LANCE (O.S.)

No! But I'm your man and I know what's best for you!

DIAMOND (O.S.)

What?! Don't nobody know what's best for me! My got damn daddy don't even know what's best for me and my son!

LANCE (O.S.)

You got my homeboys clownin' me and shit!

DIAMOND (O.S.)

So! Fuck yo' homeboys! They don't pay no bills around here! And you don't either!

LANCE (O.S.)

(calming down)

So what you gonna do?

DIAMOND (O.S.)

Why you keep asking me, "what I'm gonna do?" What's that suppose to mean?

LANCE (O.S.)

Just what it sounds like? What you gonna do? Either you stop stripping... or I'm gone.

There's a long pause.

DIAMOND (O.S.)

Bye.

Lance storms out the door. He walks right pass Jamal who standing in the hallway.

JAMAL

Bye Lance.

Lance says nothing as he storms through the living room pass Ebony. She's watching him leave. The door slams, we hold on her face.

68 EXT. HIGHWAY SHOULDER - MORNING.

68

Dollar Bill's car is still on the side of the road.

69 INT. DOLLAR'S TRUNK - SAME TIME

69

Dollar Bill is in the trunk sleep.

Suddenly it opens. The sun silhouettes two men looking inside the trunk. It's Freeman and Peters. They both have smiles on their faces.

FREEMAN

Jackpot, baby!

PETERS

Something told me Brooklyn and K.C. where full of shit.

Peters pulls out his nightstick and starts to poke Dollar Bill with it.

PETERS

Wake up Dollar...wake up, man.

He wakes up, happy to be alive.

DOLLAR BILL

Peters. Freeman. Oh man, you just don't know how happy I am to see you.

FREEMAN

Yeah, We happy to see you too. You under arrest, player.

DOLLAR BILL

For what?

FREEMAN

You got warrants, big baby.

Dollar Bill is in shock. This ain't his day.

70 EXT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - NIGHT.

70

We crane down to see St. Louis' Benz driving slowly around the parking lot. Lil Man has his head caught in the window again, and he's forced to walk with the car. The customers are looking and laughing in the background.

71 INT. SLOW MOVING BENZ - SAME TIME.

71

Lil Man is scared to death; and his head is definitely caught in the window. St. Louis is in the backseat. (we still can't see his face) He has a sawed-off shotgun pointed at Lil Man's head.

(CONTINUED)

ST. LOUIS

(very calm)

Do you want me to blow off your fuckin' head, Lil Boy?

LIL MAN

No man, I swear I'm telling you the truth. He got arrested today by Freeman and Peters. Tricks went to go pick him up about 10:30 this morning.

ST. LOUIS

I think you lying.
(to the K.C.)
Speed up.

The car speed up slightly.

The Customers are in tears.

BACK INSIDE THE BENZ

Lil Man is at a slow trot now.

LIL MAN

(desperate)

I put that on everything I love, he's not in there! I swear to God.

ST. LOUIS

Brooklyn, put that fuckin' cigarette out.

BROOKLYN

My bad.

Brooklyn takes his cigarette out of his mouth. We hear Lil Man scream. "Aw man stop!"

ST. LOUIS (O.S.)

Tell black ass Dollar Bill., he don't want me to have to get out the car.

Brooklyn rolls down the window releasing Lil Man's head. They pull off. Lil Man is holding his nose. He's definitely in pain. Customers are giving him shit.

CUSTOMER #4

That's what you get you little sawed-off bastard.

Lil Man removes his hands.

(CONTINUED)

LIL MAN

Fuck ya'll.

He has a red cigarette burn on the tip of his nose. The crowd falls out in laughter.

Tricks Landcruiser pull up to the front of the club with Dollar Bill in the passenger seat. She stops the car and he jumps out.

DOLLAR BILL

We gonna finish talking about your retirement later.

TRICKS

(sad)

Okay.

Lil Man goes to greet him.

LIL MAN

St.Louis came back; and look what Brooklyn did.

(showing his nose)

Burnt me with a cigarette.

DOLLAR BILL

Damn.

LIL MAN

Blue was late. I had to start the music.

DOLLAR BILL

Okay.

Dollar Bill is in a hurry. He walks inside. Lil Man yells to him.

LIL MAN

You need to hurry up and pay St. Louis, man!

72 INT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - SAME TIME.

72

The club is three-quarters full. Most of the regulars are there. Blue is on the mic as usual.

BLUE

The Player's Club is pride to present. One of our premiere attractions. A trio of dancers that's better than S.W.V., T.L.C. and the Pointer Sisters-put together. Please welcome to the stage,

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

72 CONTINUED:

BLUE (cont'd)
coming straight out of East Point, our
very own Ass-Hole-Naked!

72

Blue throws on the jam. Ass-Hole-Naked walks out on stage dressed alike. They go into their routine. All three are doing the same strip moves at the same time. The crowd loves it.

Dollar Bill enters the club area. Blue spots him. He gestures for Blue to come to his office.

73 INT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - DRESSING ROOM - SAME TIME.

73

Diamond is in the dressing room by herself. She looks depressed. Tina happens to walk in to drop off some towels. She sees Diamond.

TINA

What's the matter Dee?

Diamond takes a deep breath.

DIAMOND

Nothing, I'm just getting sick of this place.

TINA

What happen?

DIAMOND

Me and Lance broke up this morning.

TINA

I knew that was gonna happen. You can't keep a relationship working here.

DIAMOND

Why is that?

TINA

You already know why? Don't nobody wanna turn a hoe into a housewife, Diamond.

DIAMOND

You know I ain't like that.

TINA

It ain't what you are. It's what they think you are. You wanna know my motto?

Diamond looks up at her.

(CONTINUED)

TINA

My motto is this...niggas can come and
niggas can go...but ain't no nigga
stoppin' me from getting my doe.

Diamond takes that in with a slight smile.

DIAMOND

It's not just that. My family got
something to say. People at school got
something to say. And I'm just tired of
everybody...

TINA

(cutting her off)

Don't quit. Go ahead and do what you got
to do; and forget what people say.

Diamond thinks about it for a moment.

DIAMOND

Okay.

TINA

Alright. I'mma go back upstairs...where's
Miss Fast Ass?

DIAMOND

She didn't wanna come tonight.

TINA

Maybe she's starting to listen.

She heads back upstairs.

DIAMOND

Maybe, thank you Tina!

Diamond collects herself and start to go upstairs. On her way
up she bumps into...

Ronnie and Tricks coming down the stairs. They won't move.

DIAMOND

Excuse me.

RONNIE

No, excuse me.

They give her room to get by.

(CONTINUED)

RONNIE

Oh yeah, tell Ebony to let me know if she's still doing Junior's bachelor party.

Diamond keeps on walking. Ronnie and Trick watch her walk up the steps, both with smirks on their faces.

TRICKS

(under her breathe)

Bitch.

74 EXT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - FRONT DOOR - SAME TIME.

74

Reggie and Clyde are drunk. They're giving Lil Man shit.

REGGIE

What the fuck wrong with your nose, punk!

CLYDE

He musta caught that shit, kissing Dollar ass so much.

LIL MAN

Do ya'll alcoholics wanna go in or not?

REGGIE

Don't rush me toddler. Before I step on you.

CLYDE

Out here in your little brother's suit.

REGGIE

Looking like a Bitch.

They laugh and stumble inside. Lil Man's not in the mood tonight.

75 INT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - DOLLAR BILL'S OFFICE - SAME TIME.

75

Dollar Bill is having a meeting with Blue.

DOLLAR BILL

I heard through the grapevine you trying to leave me. Get a job at V 103, huh?

BLUE

(reluctantly)

Yeah.

Dollar stares at Blue for a moment.

(CONTINUED)

DOLLAR BILL

I ain't mad at you. Not at all. The Player's Club needs some free radio advertisement. If you get the job you can plug us in and come D.J. everynight. You know I still got that contract.

The door opens. Vanilla sticks her head in.

VANILLA

Hi Dollar.

DOLLAR BILL

What you doing here, Vanilla?

VANILLA

I'm working.

DOLLAR BILL

Oh, the white boys must not be paying enough. So you bring your funky ass back down to the ghetto, huh?

VANILLA

You know what's up. Them devils don't appreciate this White Chocolate like the nigga in here do.

76 V.I.P. LOUNGE

76

Tina is looking at something horrible. She yells for help.

TINA

XL come here!

XL walks over and takes a look.

XL

Damn. How long?

TINA

I don't know. He was like this when I walked in.

Joe is drunk. He's out cold on the floor of the V.I.P. Lounge.

XL

You try to wake him up?

TINA

Yeah, he won't move.

(CONTINUED)

76 CONTINUED:

76

XL grabs a Long Island Iced Tea off of Tina's tray and throws it in Joe's face. He doesn't budge.

XL

Let's try to pick him up.

TINA

You must be crazy.

Tina walks out leaving XL stuck.

XL

Tina!...Tina!

77 EXT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - DRIVEWAY - SAME NIGHT.

77

A long white limo pulls up front. A Bodyguard type jumps out the passenger seat and walks over to Lil Man.

LIL MAN

Ya'll can't park there.

BODYGUARD

Hold on. I got Luke and the 2 Live Crew in this limo. They wanted to attend your club tonight.

LIL MAN

So.

BODYGUARD

We got about six guys with us. So we trying to see if it's cool to come in.

LIL MAN

I don't care what you do. As long as ya'll pay.

BODYGUARD

You gonna make us pay?

LIL MAN

Hell yeah, ya'll paying.

The Bodyguard is stunned.

LIL MAN

Look man, I don't give a damn about who you got in the car. That don't mean nothing to me.

(a beat)

Who's in the limo, again?

(CONTINUED)

BODYGUARD

Luke and The 2 Live Crew.

LIL MAN

Well I'm Lil Man. Ask around about me. They know me all through Jacksonville and Tampa. I been working the door at The Player's Club since '83. We have stars come through here everyday. And nobody gets in free. So, Mr. Luke's boy or Mr. Bodyguard, you can't park there; and you can't get in free.

BODYGUARD

Can I speak to the manager?

Lil Man gives him a long stare.

LIL MAN

Oh you trying to go over my head, huh?
(smiling)
No problem. Could you step back behind the line, please.

The Bodyguard backs up behind the line. Lil Man walks inside the club.

78 INT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - CLUB - SAME NIGHT.

78

Blue is making an announcement.

BLUE

It's starting to smell like Aqua Boogie in this mothafucka. Tart, Fishy, kinda like Chicken of the Sea. So you know what that mean? The Ladies will be back in fifteen minutes. They gotta go air them asses out.

The girls start to move downstairs to take their nightly break.

Diamond stays up. She's dancing for Miron and we can tell she's feeling a little better about herself.

79 EXT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - SAME NIGHT.

79

Dollar Bill is outside with Lil Man and the Bodyguard.

DOLLAR BILL

Yeah you gotta pay. Gotta pay. Everybody gotta pay.

(CONTINUED)

BODYGUARD

How much?

DOLLAR BILL

10 Dollars a piece.

The Bodyguard gives Dollar Bill the money.

DOLLAR BILL

Plus 50 for V.I.P. action.

The Bodyguard give Dollar Bill another 50 bucks. Then he walks back to the limo.

DOLLAR BILL

He was trying to go over your head, huh?
He thought I was going to let they ass in free?

LIL MAN

Yep.

DOLLAR BILL

Shiiit, only nigga I'll let in my club free is Ike Turner, baby.

80 AT THE LIMO

80

The Bodyguard opens the door. Out steps Luke and The 2 Live Crew. They walk to the front.

DOLLAR BILL

How everybody doing? Welcome to The Player's Club, one of the finest ladies club in Atlanta, G A. I'm Dollar Bill, the owner. What's up Luke?

Dollar Bill shakes the wrong guy's hand.

DOLLAR BILL

I listen to your music all the time. Big fan, big fan.

LIL MAN

That ain't him.

Pointing to the real Luke.

LIL MAN

That's him.

(CONTINUED)

DOLLAR BILL

(shaking Luke's hand)

What's up Luke? We play yo' music all the time. What you been up too?

LUKE

Nothing much. Out here shooting a video, just trying to see some hoes.

DOLLAR BILL

Well we got 'em. Come on in. Anything you see you like; just let me know.

81 INT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - LOBBY - SAME TIME.

81

Dollar Bill leads Luke and The 2 Live Crew into the club.

DOLLAR BILL

XL! show them to the V.I.P. Lounge.

(to Luke)

We got the V.I.P. Lounge hooked up, so ya'll can have some privacy. I'll be right with you gentlemen in a minute.

Dollar walks off.

82 INT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - CLUB - SAME TIME.

82

Vanilla is on stage dancing.

Reggie and Clyde are looking at Luke and his crew walk in.

XL leads them to the Lounge, where Joe is still sleep.

BODYGUARD

Hold up, who is this?

XL

Aw, he's cool. That's Joe. He got a little too drunk and we can't wake him up. But ya'll have a seat, man. Make yourself at home. Just push him out the way.

They start to sit down. Joe is in the way. He's pushed over by one of Luke's boys. Others put their feet on top of him.

83 INT. DOLLAR'S OFFICE - SAME TIME.

83

Dollar walks over to push a green button on the wall.

84 INT. DRESSING ROOM - SAME TIME.

84

The girls are relaxing. Having conversation as usual. Suddenly a green light comes on and starts to buzz. Everybody looks at the light.

TRICKS

Alright girls, you know what time it is.
It's somebody upstairs with some money.
So let's go.

It's like a drill. The girls start to get themselves together like firemen going to a fire. It's frantic. Every girl wants to be the first upstairs. Ronnie stops Ass-Hole-Naked.

RONNIE

You guys wanna do my cousin's party?

ASS

Hell no. Get somebody else to do it.

RONNIE

I'm trying to. Everybody's busy.

NAKED

Well we busy too.

They keep walking.

85 IN THE CLUB - SAME TIME.

85

Diamond is still dancing for Miron. He gives her another 20.

MIRON

You even sparkle like a Diamond. I can watch you all night.

She starts to wiggle in front of his face. As she turns around she looks over to the V.I.P. Lounge.

Luke is watching her. He gestures for her to come into the Lounge with him. Diamond politely smiles and shakes her head "no." He turns away.

MIRON

You wanna go in there.

DIAMOND

Naw, I'm cool right here with you.

The Girls herd from the dressing room into the club like wild buffalo. Each one taking a different route to get to the

(CONTINUED)

85 CONTINUED:

85

V.I.P. Lounge. They're all over Luke and The 2 Live Crew. Tricks walks up and sits on Luke's lap.

TRICKS

Aw, me so horny!

LUKE

Damn, you so heavy too. Get yo' big ass off me.

All Luke's boys start to laugh. Tricks gets up keeping a fake smile.

Diamond's looking. She turns to the right to see...Blue looking dead at her. She smiles and then turns to the left to see...Professor Mills coming into the club with a couple of friends. Their eyes meet. Diamond is embarrassed. She gives Miron his 20 dollars back.

DIAMOND

Sorry Miron, I got to go.

Diamond is making a B-line to the dressing room. She's very upset.

Professor Mills is watching her exit. Blue is watching Professor Mills. Ronnie is sitting at a table watching everything.

86 INSIDE THE DRESSING ROOM.

86

It's empty, everyone's upstairs. Diamond runs in there feeling very a shame.

87 INT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - REGGIE & CLYDE'S TABLE - SAME TIME.

87

Reggie is sippin' on his drink. Clyde is scopin' out the Lounge area. He's excited.

CLYDE

Man, that's Luke!

Reggie looks over.

REGGIE

So?

CLYDE

You don't understand. That's Luke Skywalker!

REGGIE

So what?

(CONTINUED)

CLYDE

That's my dog. I got all his tapes. From "Throw that D" to "Pop that Couchie"; and his new shit.

Reggie looks over.

REGGIE

Fuck that nigga. I don't care about no Luke. I make money just like he make money.

CLYDE

I'mma go over there and say "what's up?"

REGGIE

Clyde, you bet not go over there.

Clyde stands up and starts to go over there.

REGGIE

You worst than them females.

We follow Clyde through the club to the V.I.P. Lounge. He's about to walk in when the Bodyguard stops him.

BODYGUARD

(sticking out his arm)

Wait a minute. Where you going?

CLYDE

I'm going to say "what's up?" to Luke.

BODYGUARD

Naw man. No autographs, he just trying to relax.

CLYDE

I don't want no mothafuckin' autograph.

All I'm trying to do is speak.

(yelling to Luke)

Yo Luke! What's up?! I can't holler at you for a minute?!

People start to look. Luke isn't paying Clyde no attention. He's whispering into a girl's ear. She's smiling.

BODYGUARD

(starting to push)

You gonna have to move, partner. Luke's busy.

(CONTINUED)

CLYDE

Man fuck that! I buy that fool's records!
He can say, "what's up" to me.

The Bodyguard has had enough. He gives Clyde a harder push.

BODYGUARD

Get yo ass out of here.

Clyde is pissed.

CLYDE

Don't put your hands on me, fool.

They start to square off. Everybody's getting excited.

BODYGUARD

Look man, he ain't trying to meet nobody?
We just came to Atlanta to have a good
time that's all. We don't want no
trouble.

Clyde takes a long stare at the Bodyguard.

CLYDE

I know ya'll don't want no trouble.
Fuckin' Miami niggas!

Clyde turns to walk away. The Bodyguard takes this
opportunity to sucka punch him in the back of the head.
BOOM!!! He hits the deck.

The 2 Live Crew cheers in approval. The Bodyguard turns to
them with a half smile on his face. Suddenly Reggie comes out
of nowhere and hits him in the back with a chair. **BOOM!!!**
The Bodyguard goes down.

The girls start to run and scream. Customers begin to stand
up.

Now Reggie is forced to fight the whole 2 Live Crew by
himself. He hangs with one or two of'em, but they begin to
over take him. Some of the Customers jump in on Reggie's
side. It quickly turns into a bar room brawl.

88 IN THE DRESSING ROOM

88

CU on the door being shut.

It's fairly quiet. We can only hear the music from upstairs.
Diamond is still in there by herself. She's crying with her
head down. Ronnie walks up behind her and starts to rub her
back.

(CONTINUED)

RONNIE

What's the matter baby?

Diamond jumps up.

DIAMOND

Don't touch me, Ronnie!

RONNIE

Diamond, didn't we start off as friends?

DIAMOND

Yeah.

RONNIE

Well don't you think we should be a little closer by now?

Ronnie walks up on Diamond.

DIAMOND

Back up, Ronnie.

RONNIE

I know you like it. Sooner or later bitch...you gonna give it to me, or I'mma take it like I did last time.

Diamond is backing up; she's very intimidated by Ronnie.

DIAMOND

I ain't like that.

Ronnie tries to pull Diamond's bikini bottoms down, but Diamond is holding them up.

RONNIE

You'll learn to like it. I did.

DIAMOND

No Ronnie, come on stop.

Suddenly all the girls rush downstairs into the dressing room with them.

TRICKS

They're fighting upstairs!

Tricks looks at Ronnie & Diamond, then she cracks a smile.

89 BACK TO THE CLUB

89

Dollar Bill runs in like Superman trying to stop the fight. He takes one on the chin. Blue is looking in disbelief from the D.J. Booth. Luke is even fighting. Joe is still sleep. Everybody's either fighting or running for the exit. Reggie and Clyde are also in the mix.

90 EXT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - SAME TIME.

90

People are running out of the club. The 2 Live Crew is going for their limo. Some bloodier than others. Luke is running to his limo. They get in and drive off. The parking lot is total chaos.

DISSOLVE TO.

91 INT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - LATER.

91

The club is trashed. Dancers are dressed and making their way out the door. Joe is still sleep. Dollar Bill's pissed, he holding his jaw. Reggie and Clyde are sitting on the stage handcuffed. They look a little beat up.

REGGIE

Why we getting arrested? We didn't even start the fight.

Officers Freeman and Peters are on the scene again.

PETERS

Well who did, Reggie?

REGGIE

Clyde went over there to get a autograph. Next thing I know, one of them guys with Luke hit him in the head.

PETERS

(looking to Clyde)

That's it? For no reason? They flew all the way to Atlanta, just to hit you in the head.

CLYDE

That's what happen.

Diamond, Blue and Dollar Bill are looking on. Freeman turns to them.

FREEMAN

Did you see what went down?

(CONTINUED)

BLUE

I was deejaying, I didn't really see how it started. I just saw the commotion.

FREEMAN

What about you?

Diamond hesitates for a second.

DIAMOND

I was in the dressing room. I don't know what happen.

FREEMAN

So we don't know who actually started the fight?

Peters looks at Dollar Bill.

PETERS

It's yo' call.

Dollar Bill's thinking.

FREEMAN

Study long, study wrong.

DOLLAR BILL

Take they ass to jail. They some got damn trouble makers anyway. If he didn't go over there fuckin' with'em in the first place, nobody would've hit him in his nappy ass head. He probably said something to'em.

REGGIE

Man, we didn't start the fight!

FREEMAN

So you do wanna press charges?

DOLLAR BILL

Yes I do. I wanna press full charges to the extent of the law. Look at my establishment. It's all messed up because to them. I wanna press full charges.

The Cops grab Reggie and Clyde. Diamond and Blue look on.

REGGIE

Fuck you Dollar.

(CONTINUED)

DOLLAR BILL

Ya momma, you little fake ass gangsta.
I'mma gangsta boy, take a good look. I
don't want to see yo' little punk ass at
my club no more, neither. You and yo'
faggot ass friend.

Reggie and Clyde are escorted out the club.

BLUE

We open tomorrow?

Dollar Bill says nothing, he just storms towards his office.

Diamond and Blue are left standing there.

BLUE

Guess not.

DIAMOND

Can you walk me to my car?

BLUE

Come on.

Blue grabs her duffle bag and they're on their way.

92 EXT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - SAME TIME.

92

The parking lot is empty, there's only a few cars left. We
dolly with Diamond and Blue.

BLUE

At lease we get to go home early.

DIAMOND

Yeah, but it was turning out to be a good
night.

BLUE

For me too. I had a dinner meeting with
the people from V 103 tonight.

DIAMOND

Oh yeah, how did it go?

BLUE

It went real cool.

DIAMOND

That's good. I hope you get it, and get
away from this place. I know I am.

(CONTINUED)

They reach her car. Diamond clicks the alarm.

DIAMOND
Thanks for walking me.

She gets in.

DIAMOND
Alright, I'll see you later.

She's about to close the door when Blue stops her.

BLUE
Wait a minute. I was wondering if I can
get your phone number. So we can talk
sometimes, without screaming over music.

Diamond is caught off guard.

DIAMOND
I thought you didn't like money hungry
strippers?

BLUE
Just because you a stripper don't mean
you money hungry.

Diamond smiles. So does Blue.

DIAMOND
Is that right?

BLUE
That's right. So what's up?

DIAMOND
I can't really give you my number right
now.

BLUE
Why not?

DIAMOND
Cause I just broke up with my boyfriend
today and...you know how that go?

BLUE
I know.

DIAMOND
But give me yours.

(CONTINUED)

Blue has his number already written down on a piece of paper. He pulls it out of his pocket.

BLUE

Here you go.

Diamond laughs as she takes the number.

DIAMOND

That was quick.

BLUE

Time is money.

DIAMOND

(closing the door)

Bye Blue.

BLUE

Give me a call.

He walks away. She starts the car and she's gone with a big smile on her face.

93 RONNIE & TRICKS P.O.V. - SAME TIME.

93

Ronnie and Tricks are looking at Diamond pull off.

94 INT. DIAMOND'S APARTMENT - UNDERGROUND GARAGE - NIGHT.

94

It's very dim. Diamond's Honda pulls into the garage and into her space. She gets out and grabs her duffle bag. As she's walking she hears something. It startles her. She turns around quickly.

She sees nothing. She starts to walk off.

We follow her all the way towards her apartment. She's walking very fast and looks a bit scared.

We see a pair of shoes walking behind her.

She finally gets to her apartment.

The shoe are getting closer.

Diamond goes for her keys.

The shoe are right up on her.

Diamond's trying to find the right key when...

(CONTINUED)

MALE VOICE (O.S.)

Hey.

She spins around quickly with fear in her eyes....

It's Miron. He looks threatening.

MIRON

Is this your apartment, Diamond?

DIAMOND

(upset)

Miron, what do you want?

MIRON

Can I come in?

DIAMOND

Hell no! Don't you ever come to my house again...Get out of here. I'mma call the police on you!

Miron is standing there confused.

MIRON

Why? I always make sure you get home safe.

DIAMOND

Oh my God!

Diamond gets herself into the house.

MIRON

May I come in, please.

95 INT. DIAMOND'S APARTMENT - SAME TIME.

95

She slams the door and starts locking all the locks. Then she runs towards Ebony's room.

DIAMOND

(very upset)

Ebony! Ebony!

96 INT. EBONY'S ROOM - SAME TIME.

96

The door flys open.

DIAMOND

(excited)

Somebody followed me...

(CONTINUED)

She stops in her tracks. Her mouth drops open. This is the surprise of her life. What does she see?

Ebony and Lance are in the bed together with the same look on their faces.

They stare at her. Reality hits like a brick. All three are speechless. The moment last for what seem like eternity.

Next thing we know, Diamond is going after Ebony. Lance jumps up and grabs her. She's swinging like a wild woman. She can't get to Ebony and it's killing her.

DIAMOND

(trying to get away)

Let me go! Let me go! Don't touch me!
Don't you ever touch me! Ya'll ain't
shit! Both of ya'll!

Ebony runs into the bathroom and slams the door. Diamond and Lance struggle for a second, then he let's her go.

LANCE

Baby wait a minute! Calm down! Can I
explain, I can explain everything! It
ain't what you think!

DIAMOND

It is what I think! I think you was
fuckin' my cousin! In my house! That
ain't what I think?!

Lance tries the calm approach.

LANCE

Calm down. Okay, baby just calm down. Let
me explain. Can I explain to you?

DIAMOND

(dead serious)

I want you out my house right now!

LANCE

I actually came over here to make up with
you. Now listen, cause I ain't going no
where til you talk to me! Just talk to
me, Diana!

Diamond can't believe what she just heard. She stops to
listen.

(CONTINUED)

LANCE

Now I came over here to make up with you.
Ebony let me in. She had a crook in her
neck and I told her I would help her get
it out....

She turns and makes a quick exit. Lance stands there for a moment, then he realize what's going on. He grabs his clothes off the floor and run out the room.

97 INT. DIAMOND'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME.

97

Lance runs into the living room, wearing just his underwear and carrying his clothes. He's headed for the door. Diamond emerges behind him with a .357 magnum. **BOOM!, BOOM!, BOOM!** The T.V. explodes - windows break and bullets hit the wall. Lance ducks out the door in the nick of time.

98 INT. DIAMOND'S APARTMENT - BATHROOM - SAME TIME.

98

Ebony is terrified. She's huddled up in a corner next to the toilet. It's too quiet. All we hear is Ebony crying. She doesn't know what just happen or what is about to happen. Then we hear...

DIAMOND (O.S.)

Open the door, bitch.

EBONY

(crying)

I'm sorry! I'm sorry!

DIAMOND (O.S.)

Shut up. You ain't sorry. You always with
somebody's man. Just open the door.

EBONY

No.

99 OUTSIDE THE BATHROOM.

99

Diamond is standing there. She knocks on the door with the gun.

DIAMOND

You know what? I ain't even mad at you.
You a hoe. I knew you was a hoe before
you moved in here. I should've never let
you live in my house; and I should've
never brought Lance around you anyway.
That's my fault. The only reason it hurts
so much, cause I though you was my
family. And I thought you loved me.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

99 CONTINUED:

99

DIAMOND (cont'd)
 (a few beats)
 I'll be over my mother's house til I find
 another place to stay.

Diamond walks away.

100 INSIDE THE BATHROOM

100

We hear the front door slam. Ebony is left sitting there looking ashamed. She gets to her feet and slowly walks to the door. She opens the door and...SLAP!!! Ebony is slapped in the face. She falls to the ground. Diamond is standing over her.

DIAMOND
 (looking down on Ebony)
 Bitch! Did you think I was going to miss
 that? Now get yo' shit and get the fuck
 out my house!

Ebony is on the ground holding her face.

FADE TO BLACK.

DIAMOND (V.O.)
 Sometimes blood ain't no thicker than
 water...All this drama...and finals is
 coming up.

Superimposed on the screen is "ONE WEEK LATER"

101 EXT. ATLANTA COUNTY JAIL - DAY.

101

We pan pass a few police cars and end up on the side of the County Jail. A big metal door opens. Reggie and Clyde step out into the free world. We hear a guard yell, "See you later." They start walking.

REGGIE
 Dog, I can't wait to see Dollar Bill.

EXT. CLARK UNIVERSITY - DAY.

A few students are walking to class. Others are on the grass relaxing.

Diamond is under a shade tree reading a book. She's interrupted...

PROFESSOR MILLS
 (O.S.)
 That's a rowdy place you work at.

(CONTINUED)

Diamond looks up to see Professor Mills. She's embarrassed all over again.

PROFESSOR MILLS

How have you been doing Ms. Armstrong?

DIAMOND

Alright.

PROFESSOR MILLS

I haven't seen you in my class all week. Is there a problem?

DIAMOND

No there's not a problem. I just took a week off to clear my head.

PROFESSOR MILLS

Yes, Journalism can clog your head. But now I'm a little jealous. Because you we're able to make all your other classes. Everyone except mine.

Diamond knows she's busted.

PROFESSOR MILLS

Do you hate your job that much?

DIAMOND

How do you know I hate my job?

PROFESSOR MILLS

(smiling)

If you could have seen the look on your face when I walked in...I might as well been your father, cause you we're outta there.

Diamond starts to laugh, so does the Professor.

DIAMOND

I'm sorry.

PROFESSOR MILLS

Don't be. I understand.

He pulls out a card and hands it to Diamond.

PROFESSOR MILLS

I talked to my friend at CNN. When you graduate, give him a call.

(CONTINUED)

101 CONTINUED:

101

DIAMOND

Aw, thank you Professor.

PROFESSOR MILLS

Your welcome. Now I'mma let you get back
you your book. See you tommorrow.?

DIAMOND

Yes, I'll be there.

He walks off. She looks at the card one more time.

102 INT. COMFORT INN MOTEL - ROOM 306 - NIGHT.

102

We pan through the motel room. It's a bachelor party packed
with young horny men. The music is loud. Pornos are playing
on the T.V. Liquor is everywhere. Everyone's socializing and
having a good time. There's a knock on the door. All the
brothers get excited. **JUNIOR**, the groom-to-be and Ronnie's
cousin; goes to answer the door.

JUNIOR

This must be the hoes.

He opens the door to discover Reggie and Clyde.

CLYDE

Where the hoes at?

They all look disappointed. Reggie and Clyde step in. Junior
turns and makes a B-line to the bedroom.

103 IN THE BEDROOM.

103

Tricks is on top of the dresser eating a giant pickle. Ronnie
is sitting on the bed talking on the phone.

RONNIE

Are you coming?

Junior storms in.

JUNIOR

What's up with the hoes? Everybody's
getting restless!

RONNIE

Hold on.

(covering the receiver)

I'm talking to her right now. She trying
to get a ride over here.

(CONTINUED)

JUNIOR

Well tell her ass to hurry up.

RONNIE

You want Tricks to start it off?

Junior looks at Tricks. He fronds.

JUNIOR

Hell naw, we cool. Well wait.

He turns and exits. Tricks continues to eat. Ronnie gets back on the phone.

RONNIE

So what's up? Catch a cab.

(listening)

Yeah, Tricks is here already. We just waiting on you.

(listening)

Cool. Okay, I'll see you in a minute.

Ronnie hangs up the phone.

TRICKS

She on her way?

RONNIE

Yep.

TRICKS

Good. I'm going back to the club, then.

RONNIE

You ain't dancing?

TRICKS

Are you crazy?

104 INT. MR. & MRS. ARMSTRONG'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - NIGHT.

104

Diamond is dressed real nice. She's in the mirror putting on her make-up. Jamal is sitting on the counter.

JAMAL

Momma, why you getting dressed over here?

DIAMOND

Because, I don't want this guy to know where I live, yet.

(CONTINUED)

104 CONTINUED:

104

JAMAL

Oh. Can I stay up and wait for you to get home from work.

DIAMOND

No you cannot stay up...and I am not going to work.

105 THE LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME.

105

The front door opens. Blue is standing there looking casual and clean. Mr. Armstrong is smiling.

MR. ARMSTRONG

How you doing? Blue, right?

BLUE

Yeah.

MR. ARMSTRONG

I'm Diana's father, Jimmy. She's in the back getting dressed.

Mr. Armstrong grabs a black briefcase.

MR. ARMSTRONG

Come on outside with me.

They start to walk towards the backyard.

106 EXT. MR. ARMSTRONG'S BACKYARD - SAME TIME.

106

Mr. Armstrong and Blue come out the back door. They walk over to an old tree stump.

MR. ARMSTRONG

You work with Diana, right?

BLUE

Yeah, I D.J.

He sets his briefcase on the stump.

MR. ARMSTRONG

(opening the briefcase)

They pay you to play records?

Blue looks into the briefcase and immediately gets nervous.

BLUE

Ugh, Yes sir.

(CONTINUED)

Mr. Armstrong pulls out a chrome .45 caliber Desert Eagle. Blue's eyes get as big as golf balls. Mr. Armstrong cocks the weapon and firers one shot. **BANG!**

The shot hits a white target with a black silhouette on it.

MR. ARMSTRONG

So where you taking her tonight?

Blue is scared.

BLUE

Ugh...out to eat...and maybe a movie.

BANG! another shot.

MR. ARMSTRONG

Out ta eat and maybe a movie? Where else?

BLUE

Ugh...

BANG! another shot. Blue almost jumps out his shoes. He's extra nervous now.

BLUE

That's about it, Mr. Armstrong.

MR. ARMSTRONG

Call me Jimmy.

BLUE

That's about it...ugh, Jimmy.

MR. ARMSTRONG

That's it? You sure ya'll ain't going to the...you know. MOZI-WOZI.

BLUE

What's the Mozi-Wozi?

MR. ARMSTRONG

Motel boy, don't play dumb with me.

BANG! He let's off another shot.

The target is getting hit in all the vital places.

BLUE

(super scared)

No sir! For what? I ain't even sleepy?

Mr. Armstrong turns to Blue.

(CONTINUED)

MR. ARMSTRONG

Blue. Whatever you do to my daughter.
I'm doing to you. It's as simple as that.

He turns to the target and shoots. **BANG!** Blowing off the area where the "family jewels" are located.

Blue's defiantly getting the message.

DIAMOND (O.S.)

Da-ddy.

They turns to see Diamond standing in the door.

DIAMOND

Leave him alone. Come on Blue.

Blue is outta there.

MR. ARMSTRONG

We was just having a man to man. Ain't that right?

BLUE

Yep, let's hurry up.

MR. ARMSTRONG

(smiling)

Now ya'll have a good time. Remember what we talked about Blue.

...And with that, they're gone.

107 INT. COMFORT INN MOTEL - ROOM 306 - NIGHT.

107

The door flys open and Ebony is standing there.

JUNIOR

(drunk)

Yo baby what's happen? It's about mothafuckin' time.

EBONY

Where's Ronnie?

JUNIOR

She in the room. What's yo name?

EBONY

Ebony.

(CONTINUED)

JUNIOR

How you doing Ebony? My name Junior, I'm getting married tomorrow. So you gotta be nice to me. Come on in.

Ebony walks into a room full of drunk brothers. The music is still blasting. Junior makes the announcement.

JUNIOR

Everybody say, "what's up" to Ebony!

Everybody says, "what's up." Ebony walks towards the bedroom. Brothers are trying to cop feels on her. Reggie and Clyde jump in her face.

REGGIE

Say baby, you ready to finish what we started back at the club?

EBONY

No.

REGGIE

No?

EBONY

N-O mothafucka can't you hear.

Reggie's pissed.

REGGIE

What you say?

Ronnie comes to the rescue. She pulls Ebony away and into the bedroom.

JUNIOR

Hold up. Where ya'll going?

RONNIE

(pushing Junior back)

She gotta change clothes. Wait a minute.

She slams the bedroom door. Locking it.

108 INSIDE THE BEDROOM - SAME TIME.

108

Ebony's uneasy.

EBONY

Damn girl, they some hounds.

(CONTINUED)

RONNIE

Tell me about it. They been asking about you all night, though.

EBONY

(looking around the room)

Where's the rest of the girls at?

RONNIE

You the only one showed up so far, but they're coming.

EBONY

What? You dancing with me, right?

RONNIE

No, that's my peoples out there. They don't wanna see me. Vanilla is suppose to be on her way.

EBONY

What happened to Tricks?

RONNIE

She went home to change clothes. She'll be back in a minute.

EBONY

(worried)

She better hurry up, cause I ain't about to dance by myself.

There's a loud knock on the door.

RONNIE

Why not? It's some ballers in there. They got money.

EBONY

I don't know, I feel funny about being out there by myself.

RONNIE

I'mma be with you. Do the "Rookie Trick."

The knocking continues. Even louder.

RONNIE

(yelling towards the door)

Wait a got damn minute, she's getting dressed!

(back to Ebony)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

108 CONTINUED:

108

RONNIE (cont'd)

Come on Ebony do me this one favor. They
ready to pay, trust me.

Ebony doesn't know what to do.

EBONY

You got a joint?

RONNIE

No, but here.

Ronnie grabs her drink off the nightstand and hands it to
Ebony. She starts to cug-a-lug.

RONNIE

That's right.

The knocking starts again.

EBONY

Give me 10 minutes and another drink.

RONNIE

Okay, let me go calm these fools down.

Ronnie gets up and walks out the door.

RONNIE (O.S.)

Dang, ya'll act like ya'll ain't never
seen no pussy before!

The door slams. We stay with Ebony.

109 INT. RED LOBSTER RESTAURANT - NIGHT.

109

A few couples are having a late dinner. Diamond and Blue are
at a booth eating also.

DIAMOND

...I wouldn't worry about it. He does
that to everybody I go out with. Don't
you think he over protective.

BLUE

Hell yeah he over protective, with that
big ass foe-five.

Blue looks at his watch.

BLUE

Maybe I should get you back.

(CONTINUED)

DIAMOND

(smiling)

Stop looking at your watch. My daddy is a pussy cat. Treat me right and he'll treat you right.

BLUE

That's exactly what he said.

Diamond laughs.

DIAMOND

Did he say,

(mocking Mr. Armstrong)

"Anything you do to my daughter; I'mma do to you?"

BLUE

Yep.

(serious)

He didn't mean it, did he?

DIAMOND

I think so.

Blue looks worried. Diamond's cellular phone starts to ring. She reaches into her purse and pulls out her ringing phone.

DIAMOND

Hello?

(instant attitude)

Why you keep calling me? I ain't got nothing to say to you.

Diamond hangs up the cellular phone.

BLUE

Who was that?

DIAMOND

Ebony. I ain't been to work all week so she keeps calling me trying to apologize.

BLUE

She a trip. You gotta watch family more than your friends nowadays.

DIAMOND

I know.

The phone rings again. Diamond answers.

(CONTINUED)

DIAMOND
(same attitude)
Hello?

NOTE: THE CONVERSATION SHOULD CUT BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN DIAMOND AND EBONY.

Ebony's is on the phone trying to whisper.

EBONY
Diamond don't hang up. Please help me.

DIAMOND
Help you do what?

EBONY
Come and get me. I'm at Junior's party;
and I'm the only girl here; and I don't
really wanna dance.

DIAMOND
Where you at?

EBONY
I'm at the Comfort Inn. I think it's the
one by the airport. Room 306.

DIAMOND
I don't know if I can come get you
because I'm eating, right now.

There's a knock on the door.

EBONY
Okay, If you can please come.

DIAMOND
Whatever.

Click!

Ebony hangs the phone up. She gets up and answers the door.
It's Ronnie. She comes in with another drink.

RONNIE
Here. How long you gonna take?

EBONY
I'm almost ready.

RONNIE
What you wanna dance too? Something fast
or slow?

(CONTINUED)

109 CONTINUED:

109

EBONY

Ugh...slow.

Ebony cug-a-lugs the other drink. Ronnie is back out the door.

110 INTO THE LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME.

110

Junior walks up to Ronnie.

RONNIE

Don't say nothing, she's coming.

Reggie and Clyde are up to something.

REGGIE

Tell Ronnie to go downstairs with you.

CLYDE

Okay.

Clyde jumps up.

CLYDE

(smiling)

Hey Ronnie. Come down to the car with me.

RONNIE

For what?

CLYDE

I'm trying to show you something.

RONNIE

Show me what?

Clyde shows her a 20 sack of weed.

CLYDE

Just come on.

RONNIE

What about Ebony?

CLYDE

She ain't drunk enough to dance yet. Come on.

They make their way out the door.

Reggie gets up and walks over to Junior.

(CONTINUED)

REGGIE
She'll let you fuck.

JUNIOR
Is that right?

REGGIE
Hell yeah, me and Clyde ran a train on her about 2 weeks ago. You should go in and lock the door. See what's up. You about to get married tomorrow, this your last day as a free man. You better make the most of it, player.

JUNIOR
I know, huh?
(thinking about it)
You got a rubber?

Reggie slides his hand into his pocket and pulls out a condom. He gives it to Junior.

JUNIOR
Thanks homie.

REGGIE
Go on in there.

Junior makes his way to the door.

111 INSIDE THE ROOM - SAME TIME.

111

Ebony is checking her G-string in the mirror, when the door opens. It's Junior.

EBONY
I'll be out in a minute.

JUNIOR
(locking the door)
Why? The real party's in here.

EBONY
Hold on, I don't roll like that. I just came to dance for ya'll.

JUNIOR
We'll let's dance.

Junior turns off the light. IT'S PITCH BLACK. WE CAN ONLY HEAR WHAT'S GOING ON.

(CONTINUED)

EBONY

(sobering up)

Come on man, turn on the light.

JUNIOR

For what?

We hear Junior grab Ebony.

EBONY

Come on Junior, let me go.

JUNIOR

Give me a kiss first.

EBONY

No, I'm not going to kiss you. You getting married tomorrow. Don't do this, please.

We hear struggling.

JUNIOR

Bitch! I said give me a kiss.

EBONY

(scared)

No.

(yelling)

Ronnie!

JUNIOR

Girl you better shut the fuck up.

More struggling, more yelling.

EBONY

Ronnie come get your cousin!

Junior hits Ebony. SMACK!!!

JUNIOR

Shut up!

We hear a one sided fight and things being knocked over.

112 IN THE LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME.

112

Reggie and a few other guys are at the door listening.

REGGIE

Turn down the music!

(CONTINUED)

A brother turns down the radio. They continue to listen. We hear a violent struggle from inside the room.

EBONY (O.S.)

(crying)

Stop Junior! No! Don't! Please!

JUNIOR (O.S.)

Bitch this my party. You gonna give me some pussy. You think nigga just gonna pay to see you dance? Fuck that!

EBONY (O.S.)

Please, please I'm sorry!

More hits, more screams. That's enough for one of the brothers.

GUY AT THE PARTY

(looking at his friend)

Ah dude, it's time to go.

He starts to leave. Pretty soon others start to leave also.

Reggie is still listening. We can hear Ebony scream and mown in pain as she gets brutally raped.

Clyde and Ronnie come back just in time to see the party goers filing out.

RONNIE

Why you leaving?

No one has anything to say. They're just outta there. Reggie turns towards Clyde.

REGGIE

Let's raise.

RONNIE

Reggie, why ya'll leaving?

REGGIE

Ask Junior...and tell Ebony I understand,
NO means NO.

Reggie and Clyde are out. The party is now empty. Ronnie walks to the bedroom. She tries to open the door, it's locked. She knocks.

RONNIE

Ebony!

(CONTINUED)

112 CONTINUED:

112

No answer. She knocks again. Moments later, the door opens and out walks Junior. He's calm, cool and collected.

JUNIOR

What's up big cuzz? Thanks for the party.

RONNIE

Where's Ebony?

JUNIOR

She sleep.

RONNIE

Sleep?

Ronnie looks inside the room. She turns on the light. Then she FREAKS OUT!

RONNIE

Oh my God!...What you do, boy?! Why you do that, to her?!

(she doesn't know what to do)

Oh my God!...Get yo' stuff and let's go!...Right now!

(pushing him)

Come on Junior! Hurry up! Let's go!

Junior quickly picks up a few of his things and they're out the door.

DISSOLVE TO.

113 INT. COMFORT INN MOTEL - LATER.

113

The door is cracked. The room looks like a hurricane hit it. Beer bottles and food are everywhere. The television is playing snow. It's very quiet. We hear a knock on the door. It opens.

DIAMOND

Hello...Hell-looo.

No answer. Diamond pushes the door all the way open. They step in.

BLUE

I thought they was having a party?

DIAMOND

Me too. It looks like they had a party.

(calling out)

Ebony!

(CONTINUED)

113 CONTINUED:

113

No answer. They're looking around.

DIAMOND

Oh well, I guess she got a ride home or something. Ain't no telling with her. You ready to go?

BLUE

You want me to check the bedroom, real quick?

DIAMOND

Go ahead.

Blue walks towards the bedroom. He looks in and quickly turns back to Diamond.

BLUE

Come here!

She runs over and takes a look.

DIAMOND

Oh my God! Ebony no! No!

She runs in the room.

114 INSIDE THE ROOM

114

Ebony is unconscious. She lays on the bed naked. Both eyes are black, and her mouth is busted. A big spot of blood is on the mattress near her vagina. Diamond runs to her side.

DIAMOND

Call an ambulance, Blue! Call a ambulance!

(ad lib)

What did they do! Ebony! etc...

She's crying and holding Ebony in her arms.

DISSOLVE TO.

115 EXT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - LATE NIGHT

115

Lil Man is standing out front with a band-aid on his nose and a neck brace on. Blue and Diamond drive up and stop right in front. They gets out the car and starts to walk towards the front door.

LIL MAN

You know you can't park there..

(CONTINUED)

115 CONTINUED:

115

They walk right passed Lil Man and into the club.

LIL MAN
It's getting towed.

116 INT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - LOBBY - SAME TIME.

116

Diamond and Blue are walking through the lobby on a mission.
XL speaks.

XL
Ya'll almost look like a couple?

No reply, still walking.

117 INT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - CLUB - SAME TIME.

117

Diamond and Blue hit the club. It's slow. They go straight to the bar. Tina is there as usual.

DIAMOND
Where's Ronnie?

TINA
In the dressing room.

They're off.

118 DRESSING ROOM - SAME TIME.

118

A few girls are in there. Ronnie and Tricks are in the corner talking very low. Ronnie's smoking a cigarette looking nervous.

TRICKS
Don't keep worrying about it.

RONNIE
I'm not worried. I've been here all night. This is my alibi.

Diamond and Blue hit the door. The girls are shocked to see Blue in the dressing room. Tricks is surprised.

TRICKS
Oh shit.

RONNIE
(turning around)
What?

Ronnie spots them looking at her.

(CONTINUED)

DIAMOND

Ebony got raped at that party tonight...and you left her there, didn't you?

RONNIE

I don't know what you talking about.

The room goes dead silent. Ronnie knows she's busted. It's nothing she can say. Diamond makes an announcement.

DIAMOND

I want everybody to leave the dressing room, please.

The girls are confused. No one moves. Diamond pulls her .357 out her purse. **BOOM!** She shoots a shot into the ceiling.

DIAMOND

I said, I want everybody out this mothafucka!

With no hesitation the girls are getting the hell out of there. Even Tricks, she turns to Ronnie.

TRICKS

See you later, girl. Call me tonight.

Pretty soon there's only three people left in the room. Diamond, Ronnie and Blue. Ronnie looks very scared. Diamond hands Blue the gun.

DIAMOND

Stand outside the door and make sure nobody come in.

BLUE

(taking the gun)

Okay.

He walks out the door. Diamond turns to Ronnie.

DIAMOND

(taking off her pumps)

I'm about to wip yo' ass.

Ronnie gets a look of relief on her face.

RONNIE

Oh, you wanna fight me? Okay.

Ronnie stands up. Her 6 foot frame towers over Diamond.

(CONTINUED)

RONNIE

After I kick yo' ass. Maybe I'll do you
like Junior did Ebony.

(touching Diamond's hair)

You know, Diamonds are a girls best
friend.

SMACK! Diamond hits Ronnie in the face. She flies backwards.
SMACK! Diamond hits her again. **SMACK!** With the third hit
Ronnie is about to fall, but the wall holds her up. She's
dazed, but she's still able to rush Diamond grabbing her
around the waist. Diamond flies back and slams into a full
length mirror. It shatters. Ronnie picks her up off her feet
and body slams her on the floor. Diamond's hurt. Ronnie jumps
on top of Diamond and start to choke her. Diamond knees her
in between her legs. Ronnie smiles.

RONNIE

Ain't no balls there baby!

DIAMOND

Could've fooled me.

SMACK! Diamond knees her again. She fly off.

119 OUTSIDE THE DRESSING ROOM DOOR - SAME TIME.

119

Blue can hear the commotion inside but he doesn't move.
Dollar Bill, Lil Man, XL, Tricks and a few other dancers rush
downstairs.

DOLLAR BILL

Get yo' ass out the way.

BLUE

Can't do that, Dollar.

We can still hear the fight going on inside.

DOLLAR BILL

Either you get out the way or I'mma rip
yo' little ass out the way.

BLUE

(lifting the .357)

Okay...

Dollar Bill looks at the barrel, then he comes to his senses.

DOLLAR BILL

We'll wait.

120 BACK INSIDE THE DRESSING ROOM - SAME TIME.

120

The Dressing Room is a mess. Diamond and Ronnie are still going at it. Both are very tired. They're wrestling around the room, knocking everything over. After a few moments of this, Diamond finally gets Ronnie in a head lock.

DIAMOND

I got you now, bitch.

With her free hand Diamond swings and hits Ronnie in the face. **SMACK!** Ronnie is too tired to fight back. Diamond takes a second to catch her breath.

DIAMOND

This is for Ebony.

She gives her another **SMACK!**

DIAMOND

...and this ones for me!

With this last **SMACK!**, Ronnie falls to the floor. She's on her hand and knees bleeding like a pig. Diamond is standing over her. They both look like shit. Diamond sits down and starts to put on her pumps.

DIAMOND

It's hoes like you; that make it hard for women like me.

She stands to go, but first. **SMACK!** She kicks Ronnie in the face. Ronnie falls over and Diamond is on her way out the door.

121 OUTSIDE THE DRESSING ROOM DOOR - SAME TIME.

121

Blue still has control of the hallway. Diamond steps out.

DIAMOND

Let's go.

They start to walk out. As Diamond and Blue stroll pass Tricks, Diamond drops her with one punch. She keeps on walking. Dollar Bill goes after her. Blue sticks the gun in his face.

DOLLAR BILL

Diamond you fired! and Blue...!

BLUE

What?!

(CONTINUED)

121 CONTINUED:

121

DOLLAR BILL

I no longer need your services here.

DIAMOND

Dollar, fuck you and this club.

They turn and leave. We follow them through the club. People are looking. Tina is wiping the counter with a smile on her face again.

DIAMOND

Bye Tina.

TINA

Give me a call.

They keep on walking out the door.

122 EXT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - FRONT DOOR - SAME TIME.

122

As Diamond and Blue exit, Peters and Freeman are running in. We can see Junior handcuffed in the backseat.

123 INT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - DRESSING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER.

123

Dollar Bill, Lil Man, XL, Tricks and a few other dancers are trying to wake up Ronnie.

DOLLAR BILL

Get her to her feet.

XL and Lil Man pick her up. She's dazed.

TRICKS

(holding her jaw)

You alright?

RONNIE

I thinks so.

LIL MAN

Damn you look like you got your ass kicked.

DOLLAR BILL

Shut up Lil Man.

Peters and Freeman walk in.

FREEMAN

(smiling)

Ronnie and Tricks; just the two girls we wanted to see.

(CONTINUED)

123 CONTINUED:

123

PETERS

We need to talk to ya'll, come on.

The looks on their faces tells us how they feel.

124 EXT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - SAME TIME.

124

The cops are putting Ronnie and Tricks in the backseat of the police car with Junior. Dollar Bill's talking shit.

DOLLAR BILL

I'm suing ya'll bastards. You ain't got no search warrant. Much pussy I done hook ya'll up with over the years. Fuck ya'll.

They pull off. Dollar Bill is still screaming.

125 ST. LOUIS, K.C. & BROOKLYN'S P.O.V.

125

St. Louis, K.C. and Brooklyn are in the car parked across the street. They watch Dollar Bill walk back inside the club.

126 INT. ST. LOUIS BENZ - SAME TIME.

126

We can see Brooklyn and K.C., but we still can't see St. Louis.

BROOKLYN

He's there. You want us to get him?

ST. LOUIS

Naw. Park on the side of the building, I want to get him myself.

They're stunned.

BROOKLYN & K.C.

Yourself?

St. Louis leans up into the light. We finally get to see his face.

ST. LOUIS

Yeah, myself.

127 INT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - CLUB - NIGHT.

127

The whole mood of the club is different. Dollar Bill is feeling sorry for himself. He's at the bar having a drink. Telling Tina about all his problems.

(CONTINUED)

127 CONTINUED:

127

DOLLAR BILL

You know, I'm thinking about closing this place down. It ain't nothing but trouble. Business ain't like it use to be. People can't have a good time without acting a fool. It's just turned into one big problem. So I'm thinking about getting out while I still got my health, you know.

128 INT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - LOBBY - SAME TIME.

128

Suddenly the front door bust open. Brooklyn is pushing St. Louis. We realize he's in a wheelchair. He has a shotgun in his lap and the attention of everybody in the lobby.

ST. LOUIS

Whoever don't wanna get murdered, get the fuck out!

(racking the shotgun)

CLICK! CLICK!

IN SLOW MOTION: People drop what they're doing and run for the exit. Brooklyn begins to push St. Louis in the wheelchair. He start to shoot up the lobby. People are running faster to the exit. More shooting. More running. It's pandemonium.

129 THE CLUB - SAME TIME.

129

Customers look alarmed as St. Louis and Brooklyn enter delivering more shots. They begin to scatter. Tables are being knocked over. Brothers and Sisters are diving out the way. Mirrors are being broken. Dollar Bill starts running. St. Louis is shooting; shots are barely missing Dollar. He's running for the back exit. St. Louis is still shooting.

130 EXT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - BACK DOOR - SAME TIME.

130

People are running to their cars. The back door flies open and out comes Dollar Bill. Before he could take two steps he's grabbed by Reggie and Clyde. The Doctor comes out of nowhere, he's walking a pit bull on a leash.

THE DOCTOR

We got yo' ass now. You ready to hear that pop?

An old Cadillac is waiting with the trunk open. It's laced in plastic.

(CONTINUED)

DOLLAR BILL

Let me get two minutes to explain.

Reggie and Clyde throw Dollar Bill into the trunk. All three look in at him. Reggie puts on a pair of brass knuckles.

REGGIE

Dollar, are we still some fake ass gangstas?

Reggie starts to viciously beat up Dollar Bill. It's too uncomfortable to watch. Blood is spraying all over Reggie's face. He's talking to Dollar Bill the whole time. (ad lib)

Then, Clyde picks up the pit-bull and puts him in the trunk too. He slams the trunk. We hear Dollar Bill screaming and fighting with the dog. The Doctor jumps in the car.

REGGIE

Can we roll with you.

CLYDE

We just wanna watch.

REGGIE

See how the pros do it.

THE DOCTOR

Come on. I would love to show some young up and coming killas like yourselves my techniques.

CLYDE

What'cha gonna do to him?

THE DOCTOR

Probably cut off his hand and pour itching powder all over him. It's fun to watch'em shit on themselves.

Reggie and Clyde jump in with him and they're gone.

St. Louis and Brooklyn watch from the back door.

131 INT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - THE DRESSING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER.

131

It's empty and trashed from the fight. We see sexy clothes abandon by it's owners.

132 THE CLUB

132

It's completely empty too. The music is still blastin'. The lights are still flashing colors. Broken glass is everywhere. Chairs are knocked over. The place is a wreck.

133 THE LOBBY

133

More of the same.

134 DOLLAR BILL'S OFFICE

134

Just as he left it.

135 EXT. THE PLAYER'S CLUB - SAME TIME.

135

The parking lot is empty. We hear sirens approaching in the distance. St. Louis' Benz is driving out the parking lot.

136 INT. BENZ - SAME TIME.

136

K.C. is driving. Brooklyn is in the passenger and St. Louis is in the back.

ST. LOUIS

Stop the car.

K.C. does.

BROOKLYN

What's the matter?

ST. LOUIS

You forgot to get my money.

BROOKLYN

Oh;

(smiling)

my bad.

K.C. pops the trunk. Brooklyn gets out. We follow him to the trunk. He reaches in and pulls out a army green military issued Bazooka. Brooklyn snatches it open, he puts it on his shoulder. He pulls the trigger. A missile is launched into the front door of The Player's Club. **KA-BOOM!!!!!!** The Player's Club explodes into a burst of flames. Brooklyn enjoys his work for a moment, then he hops into the car and there out. We hold on The Player's Club, engulfed in flames.

DISSOLVE TO.

137 INT. WAFFLE HOUSE - EARLY MORNING.

It's crowded inside the Waffle House. Two young strippers sit at a table waiting to order.

STRIPPER #1

Why don't you just wait?

STRIPPER #2

We been sitting here five minutes already.

(yelling out)

Excuse me. Can we get some service.

Seconds later a waitress walks up. It's Ebony.

EBONY

May I take your order?

STRIPPER #2

It's about time.

(looking at the menu)

I don't know what I want, now. It took you so long to get over here.

Stripper #1 is embarrassed.

STRIPPER #1

How do you put up with this job?

EBONY

I don't know, same way to put up with yours. Where ya'll work?

STRIPPER #1

Club Rolex.

EBONY

So ya'll are strippers? How do you put up with that job?

STRIPPER #2

(with attitude)

We just use what we got, ta get what we want.

EBONY

If that's all you got. Then you don't want very much. Call me when your ready to order.

(CONTINUED)

Ebony walks away. We follow her over to another booth. Diamond is sitting at that booth with Jamal and Blue. They're just finishing breakfast.

EBONY

Sorry I can't make your graduation. I gotta stay here.

DIAMOND

That alright. I'll call you tonight.

We hear Stripper #2 yelling.

STRIPPER #2

(O.S.)

I'm ready to order now.

EBONY

I gotta go.

DIAMOND

Hey, make the money.

EBONY

Don't let it make you.

Ebony smiles and so does Diamond. (FREEZE FRAME)

The End.

(CONTINUED)