

STERLING AUDITION SIDES

Scene 2

(DENNIS and STERLING, in a coffee shop.)

STERLING. I don't believe you.

DENNIS. I saw it.

STERLING. You saw it.

DENNIS. Yes. I touched it.

STERLING. You touched it.

DENNIS. (*firm*) Yes I did.

STERLING. I don't believe you.

DENNIS. I don't care if you believe me or not. I half don't believe it myself.

(*They think for a moment.*)

STERLING. It's a fake.

DENNIS. It's not a fake.

STERLING. You only saw it for a second.

DENNIS. He was right over my shoulder! What was I supposed to do?

STERLING. Shit. Fuck. I don't believe you.

DENNIS. Fuck you.

(*Beat.*)

STERLING. So this person just walked in, opened a book, and showed it to you.

DENNIS. Yes!

STERLING. What kind of shape was it in?

DENNIS. Uncanceled, It's mounted on one of those old Dennison things, the really good ones that peel right off? There might be the barest memory of an older mount along one of the borders but other than the sliver of a suggestion of that previous mount, I would have to say it is ... pristine.

STERLING. Fuck, that's...

DENNIS. I saw it!

STERLING. And then she went home?

DENNIS. She did.

STERLING. She walked in, and walked out, you let her just walk out with it?

DENNIS. Well, I followed her.

STERLING. Where'd she go?

DENNIS. She went home.

STERLING. Where?

DENNIS. Oh no no. No no no.

STERLING. This story is shit. You think I don't know when I'm being played?

DENNIS. I think you do know when you're being played, Sterling, which is why you're still sitting here.

STERLING. Fuck you, you little piece of shit. You bring me this fucking preposterous story about some girl with a - fuck you. *Fuck you*. Life is short my friend, and it's getting shorter, you bring stories like this to the table. You ask yourself, what do you want out of life? I advise you. At moments like this, you are stepping out over the abyss, for what? How much money is it worth to you, Dennis, to risk what will befall you, I don't say possibly, I say certainly, what will befall a person like you, stepping onto the highwire of complete bullshit that just came out of your mouth.

DENNIS. How much do I want? Is that what you just asked me? How much money do I expect you to pay me to make this happen?

(*beat, happy*)

A lot, Sterling. Really, quite a lot.

(*Beat.*)

STERLING. You're lying, or she is.

DENNIS. I'm not lying. And she doesn't know how to lie.

STERLING. Since you spent so much time with her. And you know her so well.

DENNIS. She reads comic books, Sterling. This girl is a lamb.

(A beat, while STERLING considers.)

STERLING. I don't believe you. I'm leaving.

(He stands to go. DENNIS leans back in his chair, lets him get all the way across the room, then calls after him.)

DENNIS. I didn't tell you everything.

(STERLING stops, but doesn't turn.)

DENNIS. *(continuing)* There are two of them. The one penny and the two penny.

STERLING. Oh you motherfucker.

(STERLING turns and looks at DENNIS. DENNIS shrugs, laughs. He is very happy. Blackout.)

END.