

RENT IS DUE

By

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INT. BANK - MORNING

The early morning brings in a slew of visitors to the bank, looking to finish errands before the day truly begins. A baby cries, an old man argues, it's a normal day at the bank.

NICK walks in. He's an average white guy, dressed as if he just fell out of bed. He's followed by WILL. Athletic, black, and dressed in a nicely tailored suit. They see the long line and Nick trails off towards the doors.

WILL

Whoa, where do you think you're going?

NICK

Come on man, this is ridiculous. Look at all these people! I'm going to take a nap in the car.

WILL

Uh, no, you're the reason we're even here! Your share of rent, which you never seem to have.

NICK

Here's the thing-

WILL

(interrupting)  
Are you serious?

NICK

Listen, there's like... five people who owe me money. If I total it all up in my head it's... more than enough.

WILL

Well rent is due today. How about you make a facebook group to invite all of those people who owe you and have them send it to you via paypal. We need it today.

NICK

You've got jokes.

WILL

No, I've got broke friends. Does Donny have his rent?

(CONTINUED)

People pass them to get in line.

NICK  
Haven't talked to him since I slept  
with Rebecca.

WILL  
His sister?!

NICK  
Yes! It was a mistake, but I'm a  
terrible liar. He sees right  
through me. He's got that DeNiro  
gaze where he can just tell if  
you're lying. I'm afraid to talk  
to him at all.

WILL  
I hope for your sake he doesn't  
have that DeNiro temper when he  
finds out you boinked his sister.

NICK  
Boinked?

WILL  
Yeah, boinked.

NICK  
Is that some kind of ebonic slang  
I'm unaware of? Listen, we smashed  
all night long, and it might have  
been worth it. We were like two  
wooly mammoths on the brink of  
extinction with only one instinct-

WILL  
(interrupting)  
Enough, I just ate breakfast! We  
can figure something out I guess...  
Maybe sell your coin collection on  
eBay. I still need to get my half,  
so why don't you stand next to me  
and learn how grown ups do  
things. I'll even show you how to  
make a deposit!

NICK  
Never. I'm going to wait in the  
car.

The doors to the bank fling open. A ROBBER, masked and  
carrying an assault rifle bursts through, firing off some  
warning shots in the air.

(CONTINUED)

ROBBER  
Everyone get on the fucking ground,  
right now! NOW!

Nick screams and pulls Will down awkwardly.

NICK  
Oh my god! This isn't happening!

WILL  
Get off of me!

The robber moves to the front of the bank walking around,  
looking at everyone laying on the ground.

ROBBER  
If anyone decides to move... or  
even fucking breathe! I'll kill  
you!

Nick and Will lay next to each other, whispering.

NICK  
He knows we can't stop ourselves  
from breathing right?

Nick glances at Will, who is holding his breath. He nudges  
Will who exhales.

WILL  
What!

NICK  
I'm pretty sure you can still  
breathe Will! What are we going  
to do?

WILL  
I have no idea, but...

Will scans the bank, craning his neck. He frowns and looks  
at the ground, shaking his head.

NICK  
What? What is it?!

WILL  
I'm the only black guy in here  
man.

NICK  
What? So?

WILL

So I'm fucked! Dude sees a successful looking black man... Maybe he wants to make an example out of me? This can't be happening... I had my interview to go to... damn it.

NICK

Your interview? The Lions are finally going to make the playoffs and I'm going to die before I see it. Way more important.

WILL

That's more important? Than my interview?

NICK

Let's be real Will... No one cares about your damn promotion.

WILL

That's not what you were saying at the party held in my name!

NICK

Booze makes me say and do things I normally wouldn't say or do...

WILL

Oh that's right. Donny's sister. Listen, don't talk to me, you're going to get me shot.

NICK

The black guy always dies first anyways.

WILL

Very reassuring.

SAME DAY - LATER

Will and Nick are now leaned against the wall as they look exhausted over the situation. The Robber paces throughout, shouting randomly.

NICK

I can't do this. The police have been outside for hours and this dickhead here is still walking around all G.I. Joe and shit.

(CONTINUED)

WILL  
So what, just be cool.

NICK  
Fuck cool. We need to take him  
out.

WILL  
I'm sorry, "we?"

NICK  
Yes! Are you serious bro? We can  
take this guy.

WILL  
He has an assault rifle. I have...

Will checks his pockets.

WILL (CONT'D)  
I have my iPhone. Is there an app  
for killing bank robbers?

The Robber runs over and grabs the phone, smashing it in  
front of Will.

ROBBER  
NO PHONES!

The Robber walks off as Will stares blankly at his crushed  
phone.

WILL  
Well... I *had* an iPhone.

Nick stifles a slight chuckle.

WILL  
Oh you think this shit is funny?

NICK  
Maybe with your promotion you can  
get a newer one.

WILL  
That was the newest one. At least I  
can afford to get a phone.

They stare ahead, Nick checking his watch.

NICK  
Listen, we can take him. Just hear  
me out.

WILL

No.

NICK

(ignoring Will)

I'll go up and ask to use the restroom. I'll say I have to pee. When I distract him, you come up and... just beat the shit out of him.

WILL

Oh, just like that?

NICK

Yeah. It'll be over before you can say boinked!

WILL

Hmm. You're right man, but I've got an idea too.

NICK

Yeah? Shoot!

WILL

We sit here right? And then we just... wait. Maybe play the silent game? And then when the police come, we leave and figure out how we can get rent paid for this month.

Nick shakes his head.

NICK

Wow. How original. Ever hear of John McLane? Time to pull a *Die Hard* up in this piece.

Nick stands up, drawing attention from the Robber. He approaches with his hands raised. Will stares on in disbelief.

NICK

I don't want any trouble, I just need to use the restroom.

ROBBER

Restroom?

(CONTINUED)

NICK

Yes sir, I really have to piss.

Nick tries to signal with his arm some sort of motion to attack, but Will just shakes his head.

ROBBER

You have to piss you say?

NICK

Uh... yes.

ROBBER

So piss.

Nick tilts his head in confusion.

NICK

I'm not sure... I don't know where the restroom is...

ROBBER

No restroom. Piss here.

NICK

What?

ROBBER

You piss right here in front of everyone.

NICK

Ahh yeah, uh, I actually don't think I need to go anymore. Craziest thing...

ROBBER

No. You piss right here, right now.

The Robber points vigorously at the ground.

NICK

I can hold it. Sorry, I don't need-

The Robber lifts his assault rifle, pointing it at Nick.

ROBBER

Piss now!

Nick shrieks and pisses himself in front of the Robber. The Robber laughs hysterically.

(CONTINUED)

Nick sulks back near Will, defeated. Will stifles chuckles of his own.

NICK  
Oh, this is funny to you?

WILL  
Don't sit so close to me.

NICK  
I almost died Will. His finger was on the trigger. What if I didn't drink last night? What if I didn't have any fluid in me... I could be dead.

WILL  
Yeah I guess binge drinking finally paid off for you after all those DUIs.

NICK  
Fuck man. You were supposed to have my back right there. You could have taken him down.

WILL  
You said we were doing the whole *Die Hard* thing right?

NICK  
Yeah!

WILL  
Okay, so I'm the black cop that's moral support and you're John McLane! I think I did everything I was supposed to do.

NICK  
I see how it is. Fine.

SAME DAY - LATER

Nick sits in his underwear, his wet pants thrown aside. Will plays with the parts of his destroyed phone, attempting to put it back together. The Robber pays little attention to the hostages, working on some kind of project on the other end.

NICK  
That bank teller over there sure is cute.

(CONTINUED)

WILL  
(uninterested)  
Cool.

NICK  
Seriously. What a love story to  
tell our kids. We met during a  
bank robbery.

WILL  
And you pissed yourself right in  
front of her.

NICK  
Man, fuck you.

WILL  
Just saying.

NICK  
Whatever. I did what I had to do  
to survive. I don't even know what  
the police are doing anymore.

WILL  
I'm sure they're working on saving  
us.

NICK  
Yeah, that's what they want you to  
think... What's this guy even  
doing? He doesn't take any money,  
he just walks around with his gun,  
acting all tough.

WILL  
Who cares. I'm over it.

NICK  
We have to do something. That old  
man over there is dying. He  
probably had a heart attack.

An old man across the room is sitting, reading a book,  
eating some crackers.

WILL  
He's fine. What's the big deal  
with you man?

NICK  
Listen, you're always telling me  
you're the best wingman there is  
right?

(CONTINUED)

WILL

Yeah.

NICK

So I need you to be the ultimate wingman right now.

WILL

What?

NICK

Help me rush this guy and take him down. I swear that girl has been checking me out man. She digs me.

WILL

You're not wearing pants Nick. I doubt she's interested in you.

NICK

Whatever man. We can do this.

WILL

Nick, no offense, but you're not exactly in the most impressive state right now.

NICK

So what? If I can take this guy down, that's more than impressive. That's legendary. We can do it. Haven't you seen Point Break?

WILL

I've seen every bank robbery movie there is Nick, and never is there a random bystander without pants that saves the day. Ever. Just chill the fuck out. The SWAT truck is out front. I'm not getting myself in harms way for pussy I'm not even going to get!

NICK

You're hopeless. As soon as he comes over-

Suddenly, a young scrawny teenage kid, BILLY, tackles the gunman and disarms him. People scatter as some help to hold the Robber down.

(CONTINUED)

NICK  
Noooooooo! No!

WILL  
Lets go, come on!

Will pulls Nick towards the doors as Nick looks back at Billy who has his knee on the neck of the Robber, victorious.

EXT. BANK - NIGHTTIME

Billy stands with a REPORTER who is in front of a camera. The girl who Nick had been eyeing stands beside Billy.

REPORTER  
We are here live at the North Union Bank with Billy Niles! Billy, what you did is one of the most courageous things this town has ever seen. What motivated you to such heroic acts?

BILLY  
I want to say I'm brave, but I'm not. In fact, I really wasn't going to try and do anything but... The robber, he made one of the hostages stand in the middle of the room and urinate himself, and that was just horrific to me. To degrade someone like that... It was terrible.

REPORTER  
Wow! That is terrible! Who is the person that was made to urinate on themselves? Point them out.

Billy points at Nick who is talking to police, a blanket wrapped around his waist.

The reporter takes the camera man over to Nick, who turns and smiles.

NICK  
Well hello!

REPORTER  
Hi, what is your name young man?

(CONTINUED)

NICK

Nick Leslie.

REPORTER

Nick, such a brave day for you, you have gone through so much. How are you doing?

Nick smiles, basking in his fifteen minutes of fame.

NICK

I'm surviving. I mean, it was so rough to be put in that position, but I told myself, I have to be strong. Not for myself, but for my friend, Will. He was crying the whole time... Will Cannon is his name. So sad. He was so weak, but I was there for him. For everyone.

REPORTER

Yes, sad indeed, but surely nothing can top what happened to you. Being forced to urinate yourself in front of the whole bank. How did you overcome such embarrassment?

Nick's smile fades as he stares at the camera, airing live.

NICK

Fu-

END.