

COMPLIMENTARY WIFI

CHARACTERS

ALEX	Man, 30's-40's
BAILEY	Woman, 30's-40's
HOUSEKEEPING	Man, or woman, 20's
VOICEOVER	Man, any age

SETTING

Setting: An upscale, but small, hotel room, with a well-stocked minibar. A coat rack is hung with a fresh terry cloth robe, cinched tightly on a wooden hanger, with a pair of slippers wrapped in plastic below. Somewhere in the room, a goldfish in a bowl swims idly around.

TIME

5:30PM, at a time of year when the sun has already set.

At rise: ALEX is lying on the bed, with feet crossed and back against the headboard. The bed is strewn with takeout containers. BAILEY is standing at the minibar, facing away from ALEX.

ALEX

Why are you doing this to me? We paid for cable, and there's what, 19 channels?

BAILEY

What's the problem?

ALEX

You said you got a deal?

(BAILEY turns to ALEX, filling a plastic cup with two airplane-sized bottles of rum.)

BAILEY

Did you not get my email? I sent you five hotels -

ALEX

Ah, spousal Google docs. So romantic. Is there more chicken?

BAILEY

Help yourself, I thought it was disgusting.

ALEX

(Gesturing at BAILEY's drink.)

See, this is a perfect example. You know that costs, like, \$12, right?

BAILEY

And it's yummy.

ALEX

Why do that? Why pour out those little bottles? I'll go get you a big one.

BAILEY

I'm thirsty.

ALEX

(Putting the remote down, sitting up.)

Oh, is it time for us to have a talk? Fine.

BAILEY

Maybe I like the minibar. It's like a bar, only mini.

ALEX

You know they have sensors?

BAILEY

What are you talking about?

ALEX

You can't even pick anything up over there without them charging you. But why should you care?

BAILEY

I watch our money all the time. I'm never not watching our money. This is supposed to be vacation.

ALEX

(Digging into a takeout box with chopsticks.)

And we're having so much fun. Did you mine this chicken for all the pineapple?

BAILEY

I thought we could go out for once, but no, you wouldn't let me Yelp a restaurant. Even this weekend.

ALEX

Where's the pineapple? See, that's what I'm talking about.

BAILEY

The traditional gift for the tenth anniversary is aluminum.

(Loudly cracking open a coke can, and pouring into a cup.)

BAILEY (cont'd)

So, cheers!

(ALEX puts the takeout container down, and in standing, it spills on the floor.)

ALEX

Goddamn, it. Will you help me clean this?

BAILEY

Housekeeping picks up the rice, not me. I'm on vacay.

ALEX

(Exiting.)

And you said we weren't doing gifts, remember?

(ALEX goes to the bathroom, offstage. BAILEY steps over the mess, picks up the remote, and points it at the TV, pressing the volume button firmly. The sound of a helicopter is heard, and increases.)

ALEX (cont'd)

(Shouting from offstage.)

We have neighbors, you know.

BAILEY

(To self.)

I was hoping you'd surprise me.

ALEX

(From offstage.)

Will you at least mute that thing?

BAILEY

This is white noise.

ALEX

Can we just drop it?

BAILEY

Drop what?

ALEX

Where's the soap?

BAILEY

I put it in my suitcase.

ALEX

Why? We just checked in!

BAILEY

They want you to. And when you do, they give you more.

ALEX

How am I supposed to wash my hands?

BAILEY

Be resourceful.

ALEX

There's nothing in here!

HOUSEKEEPING

(Knocks. Then, from offstage.)

Housekeeping.

BAILEY

See? Here comes more soap.

ALEX

(Re-enters room, returns to his perch on the bed.)

I just tried to wash my hands with a make-up remover wipe.

BAILEY

I told you this place was nice.

HOUSEKEEPING

(Knocks again.)

Housekeeping. Turn down service.

ALEX

But it's 5:30.

BAILEY

You're the one who wanted to stay in. I wanted to go out.

And it's probably my pillows. I ordered pillows.

ALEX

Do you not remember saying, "No, it'll be nice. We'll be cozy and watch TV." Did you not say that?

HOUSEKEEPING

Housekeeping? Anyone in?

BAILEY

I can get any pillow I want. They come with the room.

ALEX

(Looks at the bed, points.)

They're already here!

BAILEY

These are more pillows. Better pillows. There was a menu.

HOUSEKEEPING

(Knocks again.)

Look, I can't bring these back downstairs. My manager says we gotta give them to you. Hello?

BAILEY

(Shows ALEX the pillow menu.)

I called down and said what I wanted for a restful night's sleep: One "Firm down substitute" and one "Body pillow".

ALEX

We already paid extra for the "view" you wanted. Now we have to buy pillows?

BAILEY

They don't cost anything! They're free! So if I didn't order them, it's like we're losing money!

ALEX

(Shouting to HOUSEKEEPING.)

We don't want 'em!.

BAILEY

Did you not hear me? They're free! All we had to do was ask, but no, you never ask. You never want to do anything nice, or fun, or spontaneous.

(Shouting to HOUSEKEEPING.)

BAILEY (Cont'd)

We do so want them. Just a minute!

ALEX

What are you doing?

BAILEY

I'm putting on my complimentary robe and slippers.

ALEX

Why?

BAILEY

Because they're here. Because I can.

(BAILEY puts on the white terry cloth robe
and floppy disposable slippers.)

HOUSEKEEPING

Housekeeping. I am entering. This is me, officially
announcing that I'm entering.

BAILEY

(BAILEY stuffs robe's pockets with minibar
snacks, staring at ALEX.)

Just a minute!

ALEX

If we can hear the maid, how can the maid not hear us?

BAILEY

They prefer to be called 'Housekeeping'. It is so like you
to not know that.

HOUSEKEEPING

Please God, don't be naked.

ALEX

Oh, sure, they like to be called 'Housekeeping', but you
don't mind leaving this giant mess for them.

BAILEY

(Gesturing to the robe and slippers.)
I know I look great.

(BAILEY goes to the wings at SR or SL.)

BAILEY (cont'd)
Thank you so much!

(BAILEY pulls one fat pillow onstage,
followed by a body pillow, then a hardback
book. We don't see HOUSEKEEPING.)

BAILEY (cont'd)
Oh, sorry, I don't have any cash. (to ALEX) Do you? No? (to
HOUSEKEEPING) Well, here. Have some cookies. They're eight
dollars.

ALEX
Did you just tip the maid with minibar Chips Ahoy?

(BAILEY closes the door, turns back to ALEX,
hugs body pillow to self.)

ALEX (cont'd)
Do you have any idea where that thing has been?

BAILEY
(Holding up the book.)
And I ordered you the I'Ching.

ALEX
Probably between someone's thighs. Like, regularly.

BAILEY
I ordered the I'Ching from their Faith Menu.

ALEX
Faith menu.

BAILEY
I'm only trying to help. You seem like you need guidance!

ALEX
Why can't you just order a steak and a hot fudge sundae and
eat it in bed in your underwear, watching porn, like a

normal person?

BAILEY

You used to love me for me! A free spirit, an untamed pony! Well, you know what, I could give two shits about our 401 K plan, or our mortgage interest rate or the way that we can save money on every purchase by using our platinum card. We're all going to die, honey, in case you hadn't noticed, and in this short, fleeting time on earth that we have, I am going to make the most of my new pillows!

(BAILEY pushes the takeout containers out of the way, and lovingly places the pillows on the bed.)

ALEX

I'm happy for you.

BAILEY

You really should read that book, Mister Nowhere Man, Mister Spreadsheets, Mister Excel, Mister Powerpoint!

(BAILEY crosses to the mini bar/desk, still channel surfing, with the sound of a variety of TV programs heard under the dialogue. BAILEY opens a can of nuts, and begins eating them.)

ALEX

How much are those?

BAILEY

Nature shows are the best. Did you know chickens can count?

ALEX

Well, this is less than I'd hoped for.

BAILEY

Maybe you should have some chips. (Offers the bag to ALEX.)

(A VOICEOVER is heard, booming.)

VOICEOVER

He whose truth is accessible, yet dignified, has good fortune.

ALEX

What the fuck was that?

BAILEY

It's a service they provide, they call it Spiritual Atmosphere. It came as a package deal.

ALEX

With what?

BAILEY

Free parking, and that fish.

ALEX

We have a fish?

BAILEY

How did you not notice the fish?

VOICEOVER

If you are sincere, you have success in your heart, and whatever you do succeeds.

ALEX

Jesus. Does this room come with free earplugs?

BAILEY

There are some in the minibar. Six bucks.

(BAILEY crosses to the bed, and attempts to fit too-big takeout containers into a tiny hotel garbage can.)

BAILEY

Why do they make these things so small?

ALEX

Why can't you just sit still for five seconds?

VOICEOVER

It is only when we have the courage to face things exactly as they are, without any self-deception or illusion, that a

light will develop out of events, by which the path to success may be recognized.

(BAILEY pushes the containers onto floor and flops down on the bed, flipping channels.)

ALEX

The thing is, I miss you. We never get a minute together.

BAILEY

What? would you even do with a minute? You want a minute, here's a minute. Here's ten, here's an hour. Let's eat gross Chinese food and watch TV and stare at the darkness and be full of regret!

ALEX

Can you please come over here?

BAILEY

Even our fights don't have a climax! Fight me, asshole! Fight me! Like, really, call me names or complain about the government. Just tell me it's all worth it, that you still love me. Tell me I still matter. Just do something!

ALEX

Come here, next to me.

BAILEY

There's not enough room for me next to Kevin.

ALEX

Who's Kevin?

BAILEY

My new body pillow. I named him. We're close.

ALEX

Kevin's going on the floor. Come here.

BAILEY

No.

VOICEOVER

When the way comes to an end, then change.

ALEX

Please? Just try lying here, and if you don't like it, you can move. I just want to feel you next to me. A little.

BAILEY

What do I get if I come over there?

(ALEX gently takes the remote control, and turns off the TV. The background noise stops. ALEX puts the remote down.)

BAILEY

I'm sorry you don't like the hotel.

ALEX

It's fine. I like our fish. And I like this.

BAILEY

I can't talk anymore. You're such a -

ALEX

I can think of an activity that doesn't require talking.

BAILEY

But what about our fish? Feels kinda weird, him watching.

ALEX

He's seen worse.

(Lights out.)