

## THE JUICE - CLIMAX

FRANK

*(clearing his throat)* All right. Listen up everyone. Thank you for coming to the first meeting of MISSION TAKE DOWN BREAKFAST.

CANDI

Oh my, I thought this was just a party.

FRANK

Circumstances have changed. All, right. Gather in.

*The group huddles together near the juice counter. Herman continues chasing his tail. Frank looks down at the dog.*

FRANK

*(to Herman)* I said 'gather in.'

*Herman stops chasing his tail and jumps on top of the counter, joining the circle of Gary, Frank, Ben, and Candi. He sits at attention.*

CANDI

That's strange. He never listens. You'd think he was deaf and not blind.

FRANK

I speak blind dog. Actually, I speak deaf dog too, but that's neither here nor there. Anyway, he knows this is important, don't you Herman?

*Herman cocks his head to the side as if in affirmation. The Juicebar door chimes. Todd Hamilton Schumaker and EMILY GRANGER, mid-20s and beautiful, walk in arm and arm.*

GARY

*(to Frank)* This is going to be awkward.

BEN

Guys. What is Emily doing here with HIM?

FRANK

We kind of set them up together. You know, since it wasn't working out with you and her.

GARY

*(to Ben)* I tried to talk Frank out of it. I'm sorry, dude.

*Ben nods at Emily and Todd. Herman licks Ben's sullen face.*

CANDI

*(to Herman)* So empathetic.

FRANK

Welcome, Schumaker. Welcome Emily. You're just in time.

TODD

Just in time for what?

EMILY

*(to Ben)* Hey.

*Ben nods at Emily again, his face vacant.*

FRANK

Gather in. Okay starting over. Welcome to the first meeting of MISSION TAKE DOWN BREAKFAST.

EMILY

Oh Breakfast! We just came from there. It's so good.

FRANK *(angrily)* Are you in or are you out, Emily? You decide.

EMILY

Um . . . in?

FRANK

Okay, starting over one more time. Welcome to the first meeting of MISSION TAKE DOWN BREAKFAST.

*The door chimes again. A nice friendly family enters and looks around expectantly, waiting for service.*

FRANK

Get out! Can't you tell this is a private meeting?!?!

GARY

*(to Herman)* There goes our first ever real business.

*The family leaves, stunned.*

FRANK

Okay, one more time. Welcome to the first meeting of mission TAKE DOWN BREAKFAST.

*Frank looks toward the door and to the group, surprised nothing/no one has interrupted him.  
Herman barks.*

FADE OUT