

STAN

I don't know. Sometimes it's as if she can't stand me.

RAY

What are you still doing with her? There's a vast sea of beautiful women just like this pretty lady.

Ray gestures toward the Cute Player and winks. She smiles at him then looks away shyly.

STAN

Are you kidding me? I can't do better than her. First, she's hot. Second, she's rich. Third, and most importantly, without her I'm just a middle aged loser living above my parent's garage.

RAY

Here's a bit of wisdom my grandfather told me when I was a boy: when you turn them upside down, they all look the same.

STAN

Brilliant.

RAY

Pretty God damn amazing from a guy who spent his life in prison.

The waitress returns with the drinks, handing Stan his, and Ray the other two. When Ray turns around to put the tip on her tray, the dealer grabs the gin and dumps it in his water bottle. He takes a long drink, making a face as he swallows.

DEALER

(checking his watch)
Whoo, I better take it easy, I've got another five hours yet.

STAN

They let you drink here?

DEALER

Who lets me drink here?

STAN

The casino.

DEALER

Who did you say you were with?

The dealer and Stan stare at each other momentarily until the cards are dealt. Stan gets seven.

DEALER (CONT'D)
 (to Stan)
 That's... uh...
 (he counts on his fingers)
 Seven?

Stan pulls a blackjack strategy card out of his shirt pocket, and looks at it. He looks back up in thought, all the while flicking it around between his fingers and spinning it on his fingertip. He flips it up and it lands back in his pocket. No one, including himself, seems to have noticed his tricks.

STAN
 The card says hit, but I got a feeling. I'm gonna stay.

DEALER
 (burps)
 Oookay.

Dealer turns to Ray.

RAY
 Give me a hit.

Dealer gives him a queen.

DEALER
 25.

RAY
 (thinking he busted)
 Shit!

The dealer is still looking at Ray.

RAY (CONT'D)
 What? You gonna keep giving me cards?

Dealer takes a swig from his bottle, then gives him a nine.

DEALER
 34.

RAY
 I'll stay on that.

Dealer flips up 7 cards in front of him. He then looks at the cards lost.

STAN
That's 27.

DEALER
27!

He picks up Stan's chip, then gives it to Ray.

RAY
Finally I won something. Thanks,
blotto! For you...

He flips a chip to the dealer as a tip. The dealer picks it up and flips it to Stan.

DEALER
And thank you!

Stan takes it, taps it twice on the table, and puts it in his pocket.

DEALER (CONT'D)
I need another drink.
(Looking suddenly flushed)
Uh oh, I'm goin' down.

The dealer passes out onto the chip rack.

The pit boss walks over and checks his pulse. He signals to someone off screen. Another dealer grabs him by the collar and pulls him onto the floor, then deals without missing a beat.

Stan looks over his shoulder. SLOW MOTION as a waitress with the name tag LUCY walks by, her hair blowing as if she's standing in a wind tunnel. She is a slender blonde in her mid 30s. Stan stares straight at her until she stops and looks back at him.

LUCY
I'm sorry, do you need something?

Stan speaks nervously.

STAN
Lucy? Lucy Delafield?
(she looks at him puzzled)
It's me, Stan Archer.
(she still looks puzzled)
Remember... Addison High
cheerleading? Equipment boy?

LUCY
(her eyes light up)
Stanley Bear! It's you!