

OK

an original script  
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INT. MANNY'S BEDROOM -- DAY

In a dresser mirror, MANNY is in a suit but works on his priest's vestments. He is young, almost too young to be a priest. He fusses with his handkerchief, trying to get it right.

At last satisfied, he picks up his bible, opens the back cover to show a well worn 4x6 card, folded foursquare.

He picks it up, opens it, looks at it, refolds it, holds it to his forehead, his lips move and he puts it back in the bible.

EXT. SIDEWALK -- LATER

Manny is walking down the street, with an odd gait, as if he is practicing his walk.

Just as he passes a man in a car, the man empties his ash tray on the ground.

Manny stops and looks at the man with a puzzled look. The man gives him a hard look back and flips him off.

Manny looks shocked, then turns to see if there is anyone in back of him.

He sees no one, and the man in the car is ignoring him; Manny walks on.

EXT. SIDEWALK -- CONTINUOUS

Just down the street, an a woman in an SUV is trying to parallel park.

Manny is opposite her as she pulls out.

She pulls out and is going to repark when a small car slides into the space.

A young woman hops out, cell phone to her ear and runs across the street.

The woman in the SUV bangs the dash with her hand.

She sees Manny and looks at him with a pissed-off "what the fuck look", hands are palms up.

Manny smiles tentatively and pulls his bible closer to his chest.

She flips him off.

Manny looks behind himself again and the SUV lady roars off.

Manny walks on, tentatively.

INT. THEATER WAITING ROOM -- LATER

A 360 pan of the room shows posters of past productions on the walls, chairs with three actors waiting and two doors.

Only Manny is dressed as a priest.

Manny looks uncomfortable.

An assistant opens one door and Manny gets up to follow.

One of the other actors watches Manny and makes eye contact with another actor and they both grin.

INT. THEATER WAITING ROOM -- LATER

Manny re-enters through the door, held open by the assistant. He looks dejected.

The grinning actors make eye contact again and grin.

One of the actors flips Manny off behind Manny's back as Manny leaves the waiting room.

EXT. POST ALLEY -- CONTINUOUS

Manny leaves the Market Theater, where there is a sign for auditions for "MASS APPEAL".

He walks, head down, across to The Alibi Room.

INT. ALIBI ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

Manny walks into the restaurant.

It is mostly empty.

The waitress behind the bar nods at Manny and starts to make a coffee drink.

There is a couple at a table away from the door. Manny sees them.

Manny takes a table across the restaurant from them. He watches them.

The couple is about Manny's age. The man is dumping the woman. She is looking like doom is about to fall on her.

The woman is wrecked.

The guy is not.

Manny watches him.

The guy gets up and sees Manny. The look on his face turns to anger.

Manny turns away, doesn't see the man flip him off.

The man leaves.

The distraut woman sees Manny and tries to catch his eye.

The waitress brings Manny his coffee drink.

Manny breaks out a script and starts reading it.

Manny has his head down and he sees the woman leave; legs walking by in the edge of his peripheral vision.

Manny brings his head up slowly and looks for her.

She is gone.

Manny relaxes, goes back to studying the script.

Manny comes up and the woman is in front of him.

She plops down across from him and falls on her arms on the table, sobbing.

Manny looks at the top of her head. What to do?

Manny reaches out and touches her arm.

She comes up and she is wrecked. She collapses back in her arms.

What to do?

She comes up and blows her nose in a wadded up tissue. She balls it and Manny gives her his napkin.

She blows, and blows again, crumples it into a ball.

She snuffles, looking at his hankie in his jacket pocket.

Manny knows what she is looking at. He resists, looks for napkins on other tables, then takes the hankie out, hands it to her.

She blows her nose, blows it good. She uses the hankie to wipe her eyes, smears her eye make up.

She hands it back to him, a wadded up mess.

Manny looks at it, then pushes it back to her.

She nods in appreciation and wipes her nose again.

Manny bumps the bible with his elbow and the card slips out. Manny puts it back in the bible. What to do?

Manny opens his bible, tries to find something.

Closes bible, touches her on the arm, starts to talk, stops opens bible, looks frantically.

She comes up and looks at this activity, slumps back down, sobbing.

The card once again slips from the bible.

He touches her on the arm again.

She comes up, not quite as wrecked this time.

Manny puts the card on his forehead and closes his eyes. He is blissed.

She watches, skeptical.

He reaches out with the card. She looks dubious.

He puts the card against her forehead.

It isn't working for her.

Manny takes her hand and has her hold the card, has her close her eyes.

He wipes her eyes with his hankie.

Her eyes open and she looks better.

Manny looks pleased.

She takes the card down and Manny stops her and she closes her eyes again.

Manny looks like he has accomplished something.

He gathers his things.

She opens her eyes and, after a beat, tries to give him the card, but doesn't look serious.

He waves her off.

She hungrily puts it back on her forehead, closes her eyes.

Manny walks out.

She watches him go, lurches to her feet, card held against her forehead, goes to the door.

EXT. PIKE PLACE MARKET -- CONTINUOUS

She walks through the Market, card held to her forehead, throwing glances off at people as she goes.

INTERCUT WITH:

EXT. POST ALLEY -- SAME TIME

Manny is walking down the alley, gets to a break and looks out toward the waterfront.

He looks out at the water.

He opens his bible without looking, reaching for the piece of paper.

He closes his bible absent mindedly without retrieving it.

He opens the bible again, feeling for it.

He looks for it.

It's gone!

<flashback of him handing it to her>

Realization, morphing into panic, sets in.

He looks up Post Alley as if to run there.

He catches himself and starts to grin.

The grin changes to a laugh.

He looks up the alley, no longer in panic, but in firm determination.

He glances out the water and back up the alley.

He starts back up the alley with a confident stride.

EXT. PARK -- CONTINUOUS

She exits the market and crosses Western to take a seat in the little park there.

It mtakes her a minute, but she manages to relax on a park bench.

INT. THEATER WAITING ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

Manny walks in and the grinning actors are still there.

He passes by with an authoratitive step, opens the door to the theater, goes in.

The grinning actors are now close to laughter.

INT. THEATER -- CONTINUOUS

The director and producer are sitting in the fourth row.

Manny is standing in front of them and he has a calm and confident look on his face. He is expectant.

The director looks at the producer, who shrugs and the director waves Manny toward the stage and another waiting actor.

INT. THEATER WAITING ROOM -- LATER

The two grinning actors are now bored and anxious. It has been a while.

The producer and Manny come into the waiting room and the producer is garrulous. The other actor Manny worked with comes out also and is effusive toward Manny.

The producer gives Manny his card and a heartfelt handshake good bye, looks at the two formerly grinning actors briefly and goes back in the theater.

The two actors look at each other. What the fuck just happened?

Manny grins as he leaves the waiting room.

EXT. PARK -- LATER

The sun is down in the sky.

Her hand is a little tired and she goes to switch hands. The card slips from her fingers and opens a little on the ground.

She picks it up and, after a moment's hesitation, opens it. She sees four letters in the quadrants of the card. They are upside down:

K O

R U

She mouths "Are you okay?"

She turns the card right side up. We see

U R

O K

She laughs.

She laughs more, a giddy laugh.

She laughs so hard that she starts to cry.

She pauses, the tears are real now, but she looks at the card and grins.

She refolds the card, gets up and walks away, her face switching back and forth between a grin and heartache.