

THE MAKING OF
by
Matt St. Charles

Sides for
TOM

Tom approaches the poet and shakes his hand.

TOM

Hi, I'm a producer with several projects in various stages of development, and I'm looking to get a screenplay written.

POET 1

Oh, I don't like movies.

Tom approaches POET 2.

TOM

Hi, I'm a producer with several projects in various stages of development, and I'm looking for someone to help me write a---

POET 2

Are you from Hollywood? Boo! Boo!

Tom speaks with Poet 3.

TOM

Hi, I'm looking to get a screenplay written.

POET 3

I only write in iambic pentameter.

Tom looks into the camera awkwardly.

INT. TOM'S APARTMENT

Tom tidies- fluffing couch cushions, dusting etc.

TOM

(to camera)

In about 10 minutes, we're going to have "dentist meeting, take two." And this time, we've got a Class A Director of Photography. His reel is all ready to go, and we are feeling good.

A knock at the door.

TOM

Ooh, someone's early, they must be eager!

He answers it. It's UNCLE MARV, wearing a nice three-piece suit and slicked back hair.

TOM

What? Uncle Marv? What are you doing here?

UNCLE MARV

Hi, Tommy. Word on the street is you're having an investor meeting for your big movie.

TOM

Uh, well yeah.

UNCLE MARV

You should've invited me, you know I'm made of money!

Marv pushes his way in. Tom looks at the camera awkwardly. Marv sits on the couch.

TOM

We're just waiting for a couple more people before we-

UNCLE MARV

Tom, I gotta say, I'm definitely interested in backing this film. The screenplay is hilarious! All the banana and monkey jokes? Brilliant. So. The money's yours. Just one thing though- you've never done a feature before, so I'll need to retain creative control.

TOM

Hmmm, no, I don't think that's going to work out.

UNCLE MARV

I'll probably just sprinkle my input here and there occasionally.

TOM

Okay, why don't we wait for the other investors to-

UNCLE MARV

Write up the paperwork, make sure I retain creative control, and I'll start cutting the checks.

He gets up to leave.

TOM
Marv, that's not going to work for me.

UNCLE MARV
End of discussion, Tom.

He opens the door.

TOM
There are other investors. I don't need-

UNCLE MARV
End of discussion.

TOM
Marv, listen to me. I'm not interested.

UNCLE MARV
Alright. Suit yourself.

He exits and shuts the door.

EXT. STREET

Tom walks and talks to the camera.

TOM
So, we found the perfect guy to play Justice Man. Byron Stocum, amazing body. Totally ripped. Couldn't really act, but he looked like a real superhero. And he was so into it. There's a scene in the movie where the heroes learn a new form of martial arts- Kong Fu. Based on King Kong. Anyway, Byron apparently signed up for a stunt choreography class, without my knowledge, to learn how to slip on banana peels. And he broke his ankle. He's going to be in a cast for the next month. We're shooting in three days.

Tom's cell phone rings. He answers it.

TOM
Hello? (Sigh.) Yes, Marv, I heard.
I know. I know! What?! Since when
does Jeff want to be an actor? ...
Marv, we need professional actors
here! You're the one who won't
settle for less than perfect! Look,
we can find a new Justice Man. I'm
on my way to the gym right now-...
I, Marv! Ugh!

Tom hangs up.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET

Tom walks in the opposite direction.

TOM
(to camera)
Well, apparently, Marvin's teenage
son, my cousin Jeff, a total loser,
will be playing the lead role of
superhero Justice Man. "End of
discussion."