



**PLOT TWIST**

By J. Gordon

INT. MOVIE THEATER SEATS - NIGHT

During the previews, DREW and HARLEY sit and chat. Drew is bubbling with excitement. Harley eats popcorn, sort of jaded.

DREW

Thanks again for coming.

HARLEY

Are you kidding me? Of course.

DREW

This is so exciting. I decided not to read the whole script so I could be surprised.

HARLEY

What? You didn't read the script of the movie that *you're in*?

DREW

I read *my* scene, but once I new there was gonna be this crazy twist, I thought - Spoiler Alert, better stop there.

HARLEY

Aren't you in the very first scene?

DREW

Yeah.

HARLEY

So you literally read ONE scene in the entire script?

DREW

You seem like you don't approve.

HARLEY

I'm just astonished, that's all. Like how could you know about what kind of effect you're character has on the plot if you don't even know what the story is? How can you build any arc or motivation for your character off of just one scene?

DREW

Didn't need to. (THEN) It's so weird just sitting here knowing that in a few minutes my face will be on that screen. I wonder if people will recognize me in the lobby after.

HARLEY

I'm sorry -- Weren't you curious who the other characters were? Or why your character was sad and crying?

DREW

Not really. The description said 'sad and crying', so I gave 'em sad and crying. Watch...

Drew drops into a VERY INTENSE SAD FACE. Then SNAPS out of it.

DREW (CONT'D)

See, I can drop into that whenever I want.

HARLEY

That's not acting.

DREW

It got me the job. Just sayin'.

HARLEY

What's that supposed to mean?

DREW

Look, you're super talented, we both know that, but maybe the reason you're not booking is because you're overthinking it.

HARLEY

As opposed to turning it on and off like an emotional faucet? You're right - I should really try to make my characters more ONE dimensional. Look at me, I'm acting!

Harley starts SNAPPING between emotions like a robot.

DREW

Like you're always quoting that book from that lady --

HARLEY

- Stella Adler's The Art Of Acting.

DREW

- instead of just trusting your instincts and letting yourself be surprised.

HARLEY

I have moments when I'm surprised --

DREW

Shh. It's starting.

The lights dim and we hear dialogue start. They watch for a BEAT.

DREW (CONT'D)

Wait, this isn't my scene. They skip it. It must have been...cut.

HARLEY

See? Surprise. [Alt: That is a twist.]