

ETHAN

All Private Cars are entirely capable of driving on their own, without the rider's slightest input.

DOTTY

Great. I'm riding in the back.

ETHAN

Voice recognition receptors are largely centered in the front of the vehicles --

DOTTY

Black woman finally got someone driving her ass around --

ETHAN

-- but we're working on it.

JAGUAR

Arrived at Bagelstein's Deli.

The car stops, and the door opens.

50

INT. BAGELSTEIN'S DELI - DAY

50

Bagelstein's is North Dallas' only traditional New York deli. Glass counters filled with cold cuts, cheeses, and smoked fish.

DOTTY

I see white people.

Ethan laughs and looks around. Sure enough, there isn't one person of color in sight.

Sc. 1 Start

An OLD HOSTESS (early 80's, oversized red glasses) -- greets them with a warm smile.

OLD HOSTESS

Welcome back, Ethan. Right this way.

DOTTY

(whispering)

You're the only person in this room wearing a suit.

ETHAN

You want to be a big stepper, you gotta' step big.

DOTTY
It ain't the clothes, honey, it's
the *hangar*.

51 INT. BAGELSTEIN'S DELI - CORNER TABLE - MOMENTS LATER 51

Ethan and Dotty sit down.

DOTTY
I get to cut the line once I'm CEO,
too?

ETHAN
(smiles)
This was my mother's favorite deli.
Been coming here since I was a kid.

(Cont.) The hostess still stands there. Ethan looks up.

OLD HOSTESS
(to Ethan)
#23, no toast.

ETHAN
(nodding to Dotty)
Yes - but just give her a second.

DOTTY
I'll have what he's having.

The hostess nods and walks off.

Sc. 1 End

DOTTY (CONT'D)
You grew up in Highland Park?
Well, that explains it.

ETHAN
My mother was a housekeeper.
Changed our last name to hide the
fact that we were Jewish.

Dotty can't believe that.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
Insisted on working for all the
fanciest people in town. She hoped
seeing those types of folks in the
flesh might somehow rub off on me.
(then, with a grin)
I think it worked.

Beat.

DOTTY

It's nice how often you come to see her.

ETHAN

Least I can do.

DOTTY

You pay them bills then, too? That place ain't cheap.

Beat.

ETHAN

Isabella will do the same for you one day.

DOTTY

She better increase that inventory.

(then)

She's a good one, though. She sees a good in people that, hell, I'm not even sure exists.

ETHAN

Where'd she learn that?

Dotty pauses.

DOTTY

Izzy was a foster child. Took her in after I lost my husband.

Beat.

DOTTY (CONT'D)

Charles Foster Bolden. One of a kind. Wanted to fight injustice everywhere he found it. Had a real special sparkle.

(She pauses, then goes on:)

Was studying journalism on a full ride! Went to cover one of them Middle Eastern conflicts.

(steels herself)

Never came back.

Sc.2 Start

The hostess comes back over.

OLD HOSTESS

Two #23's, no toast.

Dotty looks at the plate of a thick BROWN GLOB in one white dish, and an equally thick WHITE GLOB in another dish. She grimaces.

OLD HOSTESS (CONT'D)
One scoop chopped chicken liver,
one scoop whitefish salad. No
toast.

DOTTY
Right, 'cause if you eatin' the
liver of a chicken and the head off
a whitefish, the main thing you got
to worry about is that gluten.

The hostess laughs and walks off.

Sc.2 End

ETHAN
Bon Appétit.

Ethan digs in.

52 INT. BAGELSTEIN'S DELI - CORNER TABLE - A LITTLE LATER 52

Ethan has finished both bowls, Dotty hasn't touched hers.

ETHAN
You didn't even try it.

DOTTY
Boy, I'm 71 years old. You know
what they say about teachin' old
dogs new tricks.

He smiles.

ETHAN
Well, we're gonna' try.

He pulls out a HEAVY BLACK AMEX CENTURION CARD and places it
on the table. Slides it over to her.

She looks at it, looks at him, then touches it slowly --
almost like she's handling some strange article from a
different planet.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
The AMEX Black card. Subject of
gold digger fantasies the world
over.

She picks it up, bangs it against the table. It clangs.