

Bingo Night

By

Jordan Liebowitz

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AXFL

Whatever you say boss.

He loudly stomps off.

CLERK

Kids these days. Cash or trade?

ETHEL

Cash.

He writes a number down on a small notepad and hands it to Ethel.

CLERK

What I can give you for it.

Ethel hesitates, then looks down at the number.

ETHEL

That's it?

CLERK

Afraid so.

EXT. PAWN SHOP - DUSK

Ethel walks out the front door holding the jewelry box.

She turns to walk down the street when a purple light flickers on.

She stops and looks up to see a bright flashing neon sign.

It reads "WE SELL GUNS"

She looks down at the box.

And back at the sign.

Then turns around and walks back into the store.

INT. "DOJO" - DAY

In the front of the room is a Tae Kwan Do/Korean Flag that has been modified to have MASTER KEN's face in the center. At the bottom of the poster are the words "KEN KWAN DO".

A group of elderly men and women in martial arts uniforms stand in an awkward "ready position" as MASTER KEN addresses them.

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Next to master Ken is his KARATE SIDEKICK who stands completely still with his fists at his sides.

Ethel stands in the back row, clearly out of place. She keeps looking over at VIVIAN, another woman in the class.

MASTER KEN

Welcome to Ken Kwan Do. I am your Sensei, Master Ken and for the next 25 minutes, I own you.

KARATE SIDEKICK

HE OWNS YOU.

MASTER KEN

This is no place for babies.

KARATE SIDEKICK

NO BABIES

MASTER KEN

There will be no complaining

KARATE SIDEKICK

NO COMPLAINING.

MASTER KEN

Don't even think about saying something like: "Master Ken, I'm tired"

KARATE SIDEKICK

TOO BAD!

MASTER KEN

"Master Ken, my knees are sore."

KARATE SIDEKICK

BUCK UP!

MASTER KEN

"Master Ken, I have a plastic hip and if I fall I could die"

KARATE SIDEKICK

GROW A PAIR ALREADY!

MASTER KEN

I don't care. Because you know who else doesn't care? Serial Rapers.

KARATE SIDEKICK

RAPERS

MASTER KEN

After this class, they will only
care about one thing. What you can
do... with your FISTS. HIYAH!

Master Ken throws several awkwardly elaborate punches.
Karate sidekick imitates his moves, then runs over to a boom
box in the corner and hits play.

Cheesy 80's workout music fills the room.

MASTER KEN

Fists up! And one and two, and one
and two...

Ethel follows along half-heartedly. She glances over at
Vivian.

ETHEL

(loud whisper)
Vivian...Vivian!

MASTER KEN

Ken Kwan Do is not a time to
socialize.

ETHEL

Sorry.

Other members of the class turn and glare at Ethel. Ethel
goes along with the class momentarily before she works up
the courage to...

ETHEL

(loud whisper)
VIVIAN

Vivian turns and looks

VIVIAN

WHAT?

ETHEL

Can we talk after class?

MASTER KEN

Alright that's it. You've
disrespected Master Ken AND the Ken
Kwan Dojo. Get Out.

Vivian gives Ethel a death stare.

INT. LADIES LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Ethel stands by the showers. One shower is running, curtain closed. Towel hanging near by.

ETHEL
(yelling over the sound of the
water)
I FIGURED OUT A WAY TO GET THE
MONEY

VIVIAN
(o.s.)
OH YEAH? HOWS THAT?

ETHEL
WELL I'LL NEED YOUR HELP.

The water turns off. A hand reaches out from behind the curtain to grab a towel. A moment later the curtain opens. Vivian stands there in a towel.

VIVIAN
What do you mean?

Ethel looks around nervously. Then steps into the shower stall.

VIVIAN
What are you...

ETHEL
SHHH!!

Ethel closes the shower curtain.

ETHEL
Before I tell you. I need to know
if you're in.

VIVIAN
Well that's not really fair.

ETHEL
I'm asking you, as a friend. As my
best friend.

Vivian hesitates.

VIVIAN
OK

(CONTINUED)

ETHEL

We'll need one more person. Someone who won't talk.

VIVIAN

Ruth.

ETHEL

Not Ruth.

VIVIAN

Who else do you know who won't talk?

ETHEL

FINE. RUTH.

EXT. LAKESIDE PATH - DAY

RUTH, an elderly woman w/ thick glasses and a contemplative stare, sits on a mobility scooter next to a park bench.

Pigeons anxiously scramble on the ground in front of her picking up bread crumbs.

VIVIAN

(c/s)

Hi Ruth.

Ruth turns her head slightly, just enough to see Vivian and Ethel standing behind her. Ethel is holding a cake.

Vivian nudges Ethel.

ETHEL

Hi.

Ruth's scooter makes a pronounced electronic whir as she turns around and reveals she is holding up her middle finger.

ETHEL

Really?

VIVIAN

Go wait in the car Ethel

Frustrated, Ethel shoves the cake into Vivian's hands and storms off.

Ruth watches her go as Vivian sits down on the bench.

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