MONSTER'S BALL

ORIGINAL VERSION

Pre-sex scene, scene #158

158 INT. LETICIA'S LIVING ROOM

Leticia sits next to Hank on the couch. Plastic quart bottle of Jack Daniels sits on coffee table. They sip whiskey from glasses.

LETICIA

I love Jack Daniels...

SILENCE

HANK

It's a good drink. Something about the way it's distilled, blended.

LETICIA

Excuse me.

Leticia gets up and closes the curtains. Sits back down next to Hank.

LETICIA (CONT'D)

I bought them curtains on credit.

I think they're pretty.

Hank nods.

LETICIA (CONT'D)

I wasn't sure if I could afford it, but the man offered a good deal, so I figured I'd work with him.

She shrugs, takes bottle and starts to pour herself a drink, then quickly offers Hank first.

HANK

Thank you.

She pours. A lot for her and a lot for him

LETICIA

My husband loved Jack Daniel's.

MOMENT

Leticia gets up. Legs a bit wobbly.

Exits into bedroom.

Hank sips his whiskey.

Leticia returns with stack of papers.

CONTINUED:

LETICIA (CONT'D)

My husband drew these.

Shows Hank different drawings. Sketches of prison life.

HANK

Knows these drawings.

LETICIA (CONT'D)

Larry was executed in Jackson.

LONG MOMENT --

HANK

I'm very sorry...

Leticia shows Hank another stack.

LETICIA

These are Tyrell's.

Hank looks over the drawings.

HANK

Had his father's talent.

LETICIA

Yeah, he did. He was a sweet boy. He just love to eat.

Leticia starts laughing.

LETICIA (CONT'D)

Oh, how my baby just loved to fill his belly full of junk. Couldn't stop.

She takes another sip of whiskey.

LETICIA (CONT'D)

You, me, should go on a talk show. I'd love to do that. We could just talk about our problems, and the audience would help us get better. And when we leave the show, we'd feel good.

Leticia cries.

Awkward moment.

Hank puts his hand on Leticia's breast.

CONTINUED: (2)

He pulls back.

HANK

I'm sorry.

Leticia takes off her blouse. Undoes her bra. Leticia pulls him to her.

LETICIA

Please.... Please....

HANK

I can stop.... I don't want to hurt you...

LETICIA

I know...

Hank puts Leticia against the couch. He takes her from the rear and starts pumping her. Leticia turns, eyes meet.

HANK

I'm sorry...

Love making ensues...

MONSTER'S BALL -- FILMED VERSION

Scene #158 (after our changes)

MONSTER'S BALL REWRITTEN VERSION

158 INT. LETICIA'S LIVING ROOM

LETICIA

I like these curtains. I got these here curtains on credit.

HANK

I never heard of anybody getting curtains on credit before, not that I know of.

LETICIA

What you think? They cute... ain't they cute. I love these curtains.

HANK

They good and red, alright.

LETICIA

I got... I got these curtains on credit. And the man told me I really wasn't suppose to get this deal. I think he really kinda liked me and he told me I could have these curtains on credit. I say "Hey what the hell... some red curtains would be great for my place." So I say, "Hey I take it." I got me some red curtains.

HANK

Damn straight, huh? Just--- Boy you sure sucked that whiskey down though, I mean... Lord have mercy!

LETICIA

My husband used to love some Jack ...Daniel's.

HANK

All I have to say this ... that's a good drink.

LETICIA

You wait right here. I'm gonna show you something.

HANK

Okay.

LETICIA

Sit right...

HANK

Whatcha got there? Some kinda... some kinda annual... school annual or something?

LETICIA

No...these pictures... these pictures right here, these are my husband's drawings, right here. Lawrence, my husband he drew those. He got himself electrocuted over there in Jackson. He got himself --- These right here, these are my son's... Tyrell's. He drew these. He drew all these right here.

HANK

Yeah. He got his talent from the old man then, I guess...didn't he.

LETICIA

That's the only thing that Negro ever gave that boy was some cheap drawing. He taught him how to draw.

HANK

It runs in the family I see.

LETICIA

(she snatches them)
Yeah. No. He was a good kid. Ya
know, he was a really good kid, he
was so good. He was... he

really...he loved me...he really...he really did love me---

HANK

I understand.

LETICIA

He...he was so fat. You see how fat he was? I don't care what I brought into this house, he just eat it up. I don't care what it

(MORE)

CONTINUED: (2)

LETICIA (CONT'D)
I bring some Popeye's Chicken.
That boy'd eat the whole thing
before I even get me a chance to
me a bite of chicken... he'll just
eat it up. He would eat his lil
ass off. You haven't seen
nobody... eat like... He would eat
candy, gumballs... He'd make me
take him over... up there to the
Super-Kmart and he'd put those
quarters in the gumball machine,
he had to wait until he get the
red gumball... he always had to
get the red gumballs.

HANK

He sounds like a character, I quess.

LETICIA

He'd get that red gumball and he'll just eat on that red gumball---

HANK

Hey...

LETICIA

I was a good mother. I did every single thing I could think to do. I was... I was really good. I was really good. I was really good. I was a good moth... I was... I didn't want him to be fat like that, I didn't want my baby to be fat like that. Because I know, a black man in America you can't be like that. I tried to... always trying tell him...you can't be like that... you can't be like that... in America... a black man... I was just...

HANK

I'm not sure. I'm not sure, what you want me to do?

LETICIA

I want, you know what I want you to do... I want you, I want you to make me feel good... I want you to make me feel good. I want you to make me... Can you make me feel good can you make me feel good...