

INT. APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

FABIO quietly opens door and tiptoes in, mail in his hands. He turns and closes door as silently as possible, when...

DARESE (O.S. - FROM BEDROOM)

That you, honey?

FABIO

(sotto)

Like a frickin' bat.

(to her)

Yes, honey. Just me.

(to himself)

The failed cat burglar.

DARESE

(from bedroom)

Okay - don't say anything til I come out.

Fabio starts to reply, then catches himself and gives a thumbs up gesture toward the bedroom. He puts the mail on the table and then takes off his coat and hangs it on the back of a chair.

DARESE (CONT'D)

(from bedroom)

And hang that in the coat closet, please.

Fabio reacts and then dutifully moves coat to closet as DARESE enters.

DARESE (CONT'D)

Well? Did you get the job?

She sees the look on his face and moves to him.

DARESE (CONT'D)

Ohh, baby. I'm so sorry.

As she reaches him she sees the new bills on the table.

DARESE (CONT'D)

I'm really sorry. Did they give you any reason?

FABIO

It's... complicated.

DARESE

They gave you a Facebook status update as a reason they wouldn't hire you?

FABIO

No. No, the job is... complicated.

DARESE

Managing a supermarket is complicated? Is that still the place where people give you money and you give them groceries?

FABIO

Pretty much.

DARESE

Oh, baby. You know I'm kidding.

FABIO

Oh, it's funny.

DARESE

I just don't understand how they could not want you. You're smart, you're polite, you're very good in bed. Okay, that last part better not be on your resume.

FABIO

I don't think you understand.

DARESE

How am I supposed to understand? You managed the Piggly Wiggly for 5 years before we moved here. That's got to count for something.

FABIO

It does.

DARESE

So what's their problem. Oh. Don't tell me it's a race thing. If it's a race thing we're gonna call us some Johnnie Cochran!

FABIO

Honey, Johnnie Cochran's dead.

DARESE

Then what's he doing on my TV?

FABIO

That was an actor playing him.

DARESE

So that other lawyer didn't just happen to look like John Travolta doing him some kabuki.

FABIO

Afraid not.

DARESE

Well, fine. We're just gonna call us the NAACP. (off his look) Or the ACLU.

FABIO

Okay, before you get yourself in any more of a tizzy --

DARESE

I am getting a bit tizzy Fahbey.

FABIO

I got the job.

DARESE

You...? Well what do you have me going all Norma Rae here for?

She grabs and hugs him.

DARESE (CONT'D)

Honey, congratulations! I'm so proud of you! (THEN) You didn't tell them how good you are in bed?

FABIO

But there's one small problem.

DARESE

Honey, don't you even fret. We will --

FABIO

The owner thinks I'm Chinese.

DARESE

Honey...? Just because you're not black doesn't mean you're white.

FABIO

No. You don't get it. He thinks I'm...

Fabio pantomimes politically incorrect behavior of a migrant Chinese laborer.

DARESE

He thinks you're a coolie?!

FABIO  
Pretty much.

DARESE  
Sorry, you go ironing his shirt for him  
during the interview or something?

FABIO  
That's really racist.

DARESE  
Of course it is! That's why I said it!  
You're the one telling me whitey thinks  
you're fresh off the boat.

(to camera)  
Not that there's anything wrong with  
that.

(to Fabio)  
So what happened?

FABIO  
I went to shake his hand and he dropped  
his pencil.

DARESE  
He doesn't know you grew up in Texas  
cause he dropped his pencil.

FABIO  
Well...

FLASHBACK - OFFICE - DAY