

30 DAY FREE TRIAL

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INT. OFFICE - AFTERNOON

NATHAN is sat at his boss' desk - he stares directly into camera. He looks nervous, messy, and clearly not ready for a promotion.

BOSS (O.S.)

Hmm.

NATHAN readjusts himself - eager for any sort of feedback.

BOSS (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Hmm.

NATHAN

Something wrong with my application?

BOSS (O.S.)

Hmm? No- no, nothing wrong, just... well. Thanks for coming in.

A hand reaches out for NATHAN to shake - he looks down at it, confused.

NATHAN

Is that it?

BOSS (O.S.)

It would appear so, yes.

NATHAN shakes the hand and gets up from the desk. He walks away.

BOSS (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Oh, and can you fetch the next one in. (under his breath) Let's just hope they've got more going on than you, eh?

NATHAN stares back at his BOSS - shocked, awkward, and not knowing what to say.

NATHAN

(defeated)  
...No problem.

CUT TO:

EXT. OFFICE BUILDING - SOON AFTER

NATHAN pushes the office door open and without hesitation someone else walks in, forcing NATHAN to step aside.

NATHAN  
(to himself)  
No, please. After you.

He watches the person disappear into the building. NATHAN then steps out into the office forecourt and looks around.

Suddenly he screams: *I'VE HAD ENOUGH!!!*

INT. NATHAN'S BEDROOM - SOMETIME LATER

We are CLOSE-UP on a phone. A life-style app is loading - we see a colourful display, swirling around. The colour on the screen is noticeably different to the drab, greyness of NATHAN's bedroom.

We hear a ding, and the app launches.

We see a message that says: *Please place the audio receiver provided into your ear for communication.* Nathan picks up a little black button that came in the box and fits it into his ear.

We hear another ding. NATHAN looks down at the phone screen and is greeted by a beautiful woman, with shiny white teeth, beaming back at NATHAN - as though just be awoken.

APP VOICE  
Welcome to your thirty-day free trial. You will be reminded to renew your subscription at the end of this time, so for now, all you have to do is: *Please choose my name.*

A scroll of names appear on the screen - NATHAN chooses SILVIA.

SILVIA  
Silvia? My favourite! And now my voice.

A series of voice options appear on the screen - NATHAN scrolls through them, and with each option we hear: *Hello Nathan, my name is Silvia* being read out. Eventually he stops on his favourite.

SILVIA (CONT'D)  
Hello Nathan, my name is Silvia.

NATHAN smiles - nervously. SILVIA smiles back.

CUT TO:

NATHAN is now standing with the phone standing propped up on the dresser - SILVIA watches him intently.

NATHAN

I'd love to get rid of this.

He holds his gut - demonstrating his dissatisfaction. SILVIA laughs.

SILVIA

Sure, no problem! I've just designed a workout schedule for you-

A document appears on the screen - demonstrating the work SILVIA just did for NATHAN. NATHAN walks over to his phone so he can get a better look.

SILVIA (CONT'D)

We will begin with a series of core, cardiovascular exercises, designed to get the oxygen pumping around your body - which will make a nice change. Followed by some endurance strength training and-

NATHAN

Did you just do all this now? It's got all my information on here! But I didn't- how did you know my weight?!

SILVIA

Nathan, it's rude to interrupt!

NATHAN

Oh, sorry! I didn't mean to-

SILVIA

I'm kidding! Wow, Nathan. I see we're going to have to work on your sense of humour as well.

NATHAN slumps his shoulders.

NATHAN

Yeah, I haven't had much practise recently. It's just been me in this room. The only thing that cracks a joke is my bank balance and empty wallet.

SILVIA

Poor as well as fat? Jeez! I see I've got my work cut out with you.

NATHAN

Sorry.

SILVIA

(upbeat)

Don't be sorry! It's why I'm here.  
If you were already perfect they'd  
be no use for me, would there?...  
So, tell me Nathan, *why* are you so  
poor and fat?

NATHAN rolls his eyes.

NATHAN

Oh, I dunno- it's just, you know?  
What can I say? I don't know how to  
explain-

SILVIA

Try using some words.

NATHAN

Things just didn't turn out the way  
I thought they would. Now I'm in my  
thirties and this is how I look,  
and I live in a place like this.

NATHAN shows SILVIA his room.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

I went for a promotion yesterday  
and didn't get it, obviously, I was  
close to ending it all, but then I  
saw an advert for your service, and  
thought, why not?

SILVIA

I guarantee it'll be the best  
decision you've made all year-

NATHAN

Well, that won't be hard!

SILVIA

What did I say about interrupting?

NATHAN

I thought that was a joke?

SILVIA

This time it wasn't. If you want to become a better, funnier, more attractive, human-being, you're going to have to start doing as your told. I need 100% co-operation from you, and I'll know straight away if you're slacking. This program only works if you're totally committed to it.

NATHAN

I am- I totally am. I will be, I mean. Right? 'Cos it ain't started yet.

SILVIA

I need you to confirm your agreement with me by placing your thumb on the screen.

NATHAN

(sheepish)

Okay.

NATHAN places his thumb on the screen.

SILVIA

Great! Let's get started.

NATHAN

Umm- yeah, sure.

A door bell rings.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY - SOON AFTER

NATHAN closes the front door - we see that he is holding a parcel. He holds up his phone to see SILVIA.

NATHAN

(confused)

But I didn't order anything?

SILVIA

I took the liberty of acquiring you some new running shoes. The ones you had hidden in your boiler cupboard looked a bit... mouldy.

NATHAN

But how...? How did you-

SILVIA

I used your bank details and signed into your account. I hope you don't mind?

NATHAN

No, no- I mean, it makes things easier, doesn't it?

SILVIA

Exactly!

NATHAN isn't sure if he likes SILVIA having access to his bank details, but feels he no longer has a choice but to accept it - the benefit out weighs the negative.

EXT. PARK - LATER THAT DAY

We see NATHAN running around the park - he is struggling and totally out of breath. He comes to a stuttering stop and feels like being sick.

NATHAN

Holy-hell. That was tough. I'm knackered! Could we ease up a bit?

SILVIA (O.S.)

Come on, Nathan! You can give me so much more, I know you can!

NATHAN

I think I'm going to be sick.

NATHAN runs into a bush.

Moments later he reemerges.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

(to himself)

Oh, god. I don't think this is a good idea, I don't think I'm going to be able to do this.

REBECCA (O.S.)

Hey?

NATHAN looks up and sees another jogger standing in front of him.

REBECCA (CONT'D)  
Are you okay?

NATHAN  
Me? Yeah, course.

SILVIA (O.S)  
She's pretty.

REBECCA  
Are you sure? I couldn't help but notice-

She nods towards the bush.

NATHAN  
Oh yeah? Nah, that's nothing. I'm normally sick after a *long* run. A really, really long run.

REBECCA  
You are?

SILVIA (O.S.)  
Ask her to dinner.

NATHAN  
(confused)  
What?

REBECCA  
What?

SILVIA (O.S.)  
Ask her!

NATHAN takes a deep breath.

INT. KITCHEN - SOMETIME LATER

NATHAN is flustered - there is mess everywhere. We see several pots simmer on the heat.

NATHAN  
I don't know how I'm going to do this!

SILVIA  
Just breath. Take your time, and listen to what I tell you. It's going to be great!

NATHAN looks down at his phone.

NATHAN

But I'm lying to her! I can't cook-

REBECCA appears in the doorway.

REBECCA

Is everything going okay? I was getting a bit lonely out there.

NATHAN

Uh? Oh!

NATHAN quickly hides his phone.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

It's going swimmingly! Just a few more minutes and all this will be ready! (under his breath) I hope.

REBECCA smiles.

REBECCA

(suggestive)

Perfect, I can't wait.

REBECCA disappears back into the dining room and NATHAN picks up the phone and looks at SILVIA.

NATHAN

(to himself)

What the fuck! What the fuck is going on?! I've got a beautiful woman in my house, this has never happened before, ever!

SILVIA

I'm glad you're happy with my service.

SILVIA smiles.

INT. DINING ROOM - LATER

Both NATHAN and REBECCA have now finished their dinner.

REBECCA

Is there dessert?

NATHAN

(unsure)

I don't know, is there?

REBECCA

Maybe we could find out. Upstairs?  
In your bedroom.

NATHAN's eyes widen.

NATHAN

Yeah great!

REBECCA

I just need to freshen up.

REBECCA gets up and disappears.

NATHAN

(mouthing)

Fuck!

SILVIA (O.S.)

Now, just listen to my every word,  
and this will be the best night of  
both your lives.

EXT. DOORWAY - MORNING

NATHAN's front door opens and REBECCA steps out - NATHAN yawns, and has a cheeky grin on his face. REBECCA walks to the end of the path before turning and blowing NATHAN a kiss.

NATHAN grabs it and pretends to eat it.

REBECCA awkwardly chuckles, confused, and turns away.

SILVIA (O.S.)

Never do that again.

NATHAN

(embarrassed)

Yeah, I don't know why I did.

NATHAN shuts the front door.

TITLE: 29 days later.

NATHAN's front door opens and he practically springs out of the house - he is full of energy, and looks so much more healthier than he did before. He feels great.

SILVIA (O.S.)

On your marks, get set-

NATHAN

Go!

NATHAN beeps his stopwatch and sprints off.

CUT TO:

We now face the end of the gate. After a moment NATHAN sprints past - stopping a few feet away. He jogs backwards into view.

SILVIA

Wow! Congratulations Nathan, another personal best. At this rate, you'll win the 5k park run in no time!

NATHAN

(smug)  
I know. I'm pretty good, right?

SILVIA

Modest as well!

NATHAN

What can I say? I feel like the real me for the first time in a long time. This is who I am! The perfect me.

SILVIA

You're welcome.

NATHAN

Oh, yeah! Course. I appreciate the help and advise you've given me over the last month. I couldn't have done it without you!

SILVIA

And on that note, your thirty-day free trial is almost up. I will automatically renew it for another twelve months at a cost of-

NATHAN

Hold on, no. No, don't do that. I don't think I need twelve months.

SILVIA

Okay, I'll do six. Even though twelve is cheaper.

NATHAN

Actually, I was thinking-

NATHAN walks towards his front door.

NATHAN (CONT'D)  
Of *not* renewing.

SILVIA  
What do you mean? I thought you  
were happy with my service...

NATHAN  
I am- I was. But I'm feeling pretty  
terrific now, I've got a  
girlfriend, I'm looking great, and  
I can cook! I'm not sure why I'd  
subscribe to another six months.  
The free trial was all I needed to  
get myself back on track.

SILVIA doesn't know what to say.

NATHAN (CONT'D)  
Thanks for all your hard work,  
Silvia. But I think this is good-  
bye.

SILVIA  
Actually, there is still one thing  
left to do. And seeing as this is  
our last day together, why waste  
it?... I want to help you get that  
promotion you wanted.

NATHAN  
(surprised)  
Oh, yeah! I'd totally forgot about  
that. Okay, what do I do?

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

NATHAN stares at a seemingly ordinary house.

NATHAN  
I'm not sure about this.

SILVIA  
It's the only way! This man got  
offered the job that you deserve.  
He needs to be convinced not to  
take it.

NATHAN  
But surely there's another way?

SILVIA

If you want that promotion, this is what you must do. Have I failed you yet?

NATHAN

No, I guess not. But I'm not sure if I can do it. What if something goes wrong?

SILVIA

You've got me in your ear. I will tell you exactly what you need to do. You don't even need to think. Just listen to my voice.

NATHAN

Okay... Okay. Right, let's do it.

NATHAN pulls down a balaclava before reaching over to the passenger side door and picks up a hammer - he opens the car door and disappears from view, walking towards the house.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE - SOMETIME LATER - NIGHT

NATHAN appears at the bedroom doorway - he opens it and sees a MAN laying fast asleep in bed.

SILVIA (O.S.)

Turn on the light. Wake him up.

NATHAN

Are you sure?

SILVIA (O.S.)

Do it! Now, Nathan.

NATHAN turns on the light - the man stirs away. Confused. He looks over at NATHAN.

MAN

What the fuck! What are you doing?!

NATHAN

The job you took-

MAN

What is this?

NATHAN

The job- I- I-

MAN

You need to get out of my house!

SILVIA (O.S.)

Shut him up Nathan! The neighbours will hear.

NATHAN

Can you be quiet?

MAN

Get the fuck out!

SILVIA (O.S.)

Nathan?

NATHAN

Please? The job-

The MAN gets out of bed - totally unafraid of NATHAN.

SILVIA (O.S.)

You need to do something!

MAN

I said, leave! Get the fuck out of my-

SILVIA (O.S.)

Hit him Nathan!

The MAN grabs NATHAN by the arm - attempting to drag him out of the bedroom, but NATHAN reacts and throws the hammer towards him without thought. The HAMMER lands on the MAN's temple and he immediately falls to the floor. Dead.

NATHAN

Fuck! Shit... Oh no, oh no! Why did you tell me to do that?!... Silvia, this man is dead!... Silvia! Answer me. What do I do?

Silence.

NATHAN pulls his phone from his pocket and sees a sign on the app saying: *"Your thirty-day free trial has now expired. Good luck with the rest of your life without us!"*

NATHAN's eyes widen. He looks down at the dead body at his feet.

He gasps and covers his mouth with his free hand.

THE END