

7/13/15

WYATT  
Billy Wilder, John Huston, Preston Sturges, all started out as writers.

TOM  
I have Nate Reynolds on this.

WYATT  
You mean Nate Reynolds the novelist?

TOM  
What are you talking about?

WYATT  
Word around the lot is Nate's been writing a novel and not your script. So I took a shot myself, in case you ever got a chance to make it.

Tom appraises Wyatt once more. This little cocky bastard.

TOM  
You didn't oversleep today. You wanted me to find you when I came in to watch the rushes.

WYATT  
Would I be in trouble if that was the case?

TOM  
No.

WYATT  
Then, okay, yeah, that was the case.

Wyatt exits. PRE-LAP: The DRONE OF AN AIRPLANE ENGINE...

EXT. METROPOLITAN AIRPORT - VAN NUYS - DAY

Tom squints into the sun as a PIPER CUB touches down. The cockpit opens. Movie star CHARLIE SANDERS (30s) climbs out, puckish grin, leather bomber's jacket, goggles on his head.

CHARLIE  
Is it true? Did Holtz finally give you the keys to the big car?

TOM  
Whattaya say, wanna go for a spin?

A YOUNG MAN exits the cockpit. Charlie kisses him, snakes a hand into his pants. A moment later, he stops, grins at Tom.

1/4

Paradise Pictures Pilot

I START

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\*  
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\*  
\*

TOM (CONT'D)  
You trying to scare me off? I know  
who you are, Charlie. \*

CHARLIE  
According to Shayne, I'm the best  
handjob in Southern California. \*

TOM  
Just so we're clear, I plan on  
using some of your other talents.

Charlie gives the Young Man a nod. Wants a moment with Tom. \*

CHARLIE  
I thought Braddock Loman was the  
guy at your studio.

TOM  
Braddock's a pond. Look close  
enough, you see all the way to the  
bottom. But Charlie, you're an  
ocean. You have untold depths. \*

CHARLIE  
I like that. But I don't think  
Harry Cohn would agree with you... \*

TOM  
Then he won't know what he's  
losing. But before I talk to him  
about loaning you out, I wanna make  
sure you want this. It won't be  
easy. But it'll be worth it. \*

CHARLIE  
You think I want easy? You wanna  
know why I'm not on set right now? \*

TOM  
Assumed you had the day off. \*

CHARLIE  
No. We're finishing a Civil War  
picture. When I showed up this  
morning, my firearm was a Colt  
Single Action revolver. They  
didn't have anything else for me. \*

TOM  
What, you wanted a rifle? \*

CHARLIE

That Colt wasn't designed until  
1872. If we're not gonna do it the  
right way, why do it all?

Charlie Sanders holds Tom's gaze. Birds of a feather. \*

TOM \*

I think we're gonna have a good  
time together, Charlie. \*

CHARLIE

I hope so, but I don't know.  
Cohn's an asshole and doesn't like  
to share with others. \*

TOM

Let me worry about Harry Cohn.

14 EXT. PARADISE PICTURES LOT - DAY - LATE ← **STOP** 14

Tom parks. He sees Holtz climbing into the back of a Chrysler  
Crown Imperial Limo. Tom approaches the open back window.

TOM

Hey Joe, I wanna get your  
permission on something.

HOLTZ

If you're asking for permission, it  
must be something bad.

TOM

I plan on pissing off Harry Cohn  
like no one's ever pissed him off  
before. You okay with that?

HOLTZ

Harry Cohn and I came up in this  
business together. So... if you  
piss him off so much he has a heart  
attack? Make sure I don't miss  
that prick's funeral.

15 INT. NATE REYNOLDS' WRITER'S BUNGALOW - DUSK - LATER 15 \*

Writer NATE REYNOLDS (40s) is typing when he sees, through his  
blinds, Tom approaching. Shit. He grabs his jacket -- \*

16 EXT. ROW OF WRITERS' BUNGALOWS / INT. NATE REYNOLDS' BUNGALOW 16 \*

-- and opens the door, intercepting Tom. Tom regards him. \*

ACT FIVE

43 EXT. THE POLO LOUNGE AT THE BEVERLY HILLS HOTEL - DAY - LATER 43 \*

A celebration of the life of Stanley "The Sheriff" Whalon. Everyone from the funeral is here, packing the patio. There are PHOTOS OF STANLEY in various spots. Maybe even a LOOP OF HIS FILMS playing against a white screen in the background. Tom finishes a conversation with the actor Charlie Sanders.

**II  
START**

TOM

Listen, Cohn was making noise about outing you. You think he'd do that?

CHARLIE

Harry Cohn's a son of a bitch. He's liable to do anything.

TOM

Then I'm gonna need your help.

CHARLIE

What's her name?

TOM

Isabelle Yates.

CHARLIE

Oh, I like Isabelle. She's nuts, but aren't we all? So, what, the standard fall in love on set, give the papers a few juicy rumors?

TOM

If Cohn plays dirty, I'll need more than an on-set fling, Charlie. I'm gonna need a marriage, too.

Charlie drains his drink. Puts a hand on Tom's shoulder.

CHARLIE

Then I'm gonna need another drink.

Charlie walks off. Then Tom sees... Gretchen entering.

**STOP**

44 INT. UNION STATION - DAY 44

Luciana Delgado walks along the terra cotta tiles, walking away from the counter, with the TICKET home she just bought.

45 EXT. THE POLO LOUNGE AT THE BEVERLY HILLS HOTEL - DAY - LATER 45

Tom stands with Gretchen in a corner, away from the crowd.

**4/4**