

CHAD is sitting on the couch in his living room smoking a cigarette and watching TV.

CHAD

- Who is it?

HOWARD

- It's me.

CHAD

Hey

HOWARD

Hi

CHAD

What's going on, Howie? It's almost 1:00.

- At my home.

HOWARD

- Yeah. Sorry. Couldn't sleep. Nice. It's a little smaller than your last place.

CHAD

Yeah, but it's a great old building. Plus the park.

HOWARD

- No...Right. Yeah. It's terrific.

CHAD

- Still doing a little touch-up.

HOWARD

Yeah Looks like you got a new frame there for the "Gigolo." It looks good. It's almost got...and I mean this the right way...a woman's touch.

CHAD

Thank you, Howard.

HOWARD

Sure.

CHAD

So what is it?

HOWARD

I don't know. I mean...Shit! The last couple of days, I'm getting maybe three hours a night. I cannot eat. Couldn't hold down rice pudding. Yesterday, I bought some at lunch. Threw it up like 30 minutes later.

CHAD

- Fascinating.

HOWARD

- I'm just illustrating my point. I'm sick, Chad. I'm dying here. I mean, this whole... Fuck!

CHAD

I know! It puts me in a shitty position too. I didn't ask for this thing. And then they move you downstairs with that new dude. I mean, goddamn.

- I told you to watch out.

HOWARD

- No, Chad...

CHAD

Want that corner office? I can say something...

HOWARD

Look! It's Christine. I'm here. Gotta talk, because of her.

CHAD

- You did it, right?

HOWARD

- Did what?

CHAD

- Told her.

HOWARD

- Yeah. It just sort of...

CHAD

Kind of caught me off guard, you know? Might of said something to me first. I thought it was an unwritten that we'd keep the mechanics of it to ourselves. So she said that you told her everything.

HOWARD

- Yes.

CHAD

- And?

HOWARD

- Come on, Chad.

CHAD

- What, Howard? I'm just curious. I think I'm allowed that. So how did it feel?

HOWARD

Lousy, okay?

- Jesus. She just fell apart.

CHAD

- You told her that l...

HOWARD

Yes, I told her, and I'm watching this...

God! I can't believe it!

CHAD

- Man, I wish I'd been there.

HOWARD

- I've never done anything like that.

CHAD

I did it short. Over in a second. Left her sobbing in the hotel room. Then I walked over to Pizza Hut. It was your hotel room actually.

HOWARD

What?

CHAD

See, I knew you'd be late wrapping stuff up, so I took the liberty. I got a maid to open up, and l...Well, I did the same thing when I first fucked her. I thought that you might find her there,so...

HOWARD

- Chad.

CHAD

- What?

HOWARD

I'm trying to tell you I'm in love with her. Jesus Christ! I mean, you know...It's a game and all. It's funny. First to agree with you, but shit!

CHAD gets up and moves to a door.

HOWARD

What?

HOWARD follows CHAD off to another room and then they silently come back to the living room.

HOWARD

- When did she get here?

CHAD

- What do you mean?

HOWARD

What do you mean, what do I mean? That's Suzanne, right? She's sleeping in the middle of your king-size. So what the hell? I mean, when did she crawl back?

CHAD

This is what? Friday?

HOWARD

- Yeah.

CHAD

- So, Friday. Three days...  
- Never.

HOWARD

- Huh?

CHAD

She never left, Howie. You're getting all weepy on me here, and I gotta get some sleep. We're gonna go to the beach in the morning, so, let you in on the truth. She never left. She's always been right there.

HOWARD

But l...Well, then...Then why?  
Why, Chad?

CHAD

Because I could.

HOWARD

Oh, my God.

CHAD

So how does it feel, Howie? How does it feel to really hurt someone?

HOWARD

Oh, my God.

CHAD

See you Monday.