

HENCHMAN - ASHCAN SCRIPT

Written By  
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**PAGE 1B (4 PANELS)**

PANEL 1 (WS): EXT. JUNKY SEDAN - EVENING

ROSE CRANTZ (30) drives down a sleepy city street. GIL STERN (28), Rose's capricious cohort, sits in shotgun.

GIL

No, see, that's the problem --  
he never leaves the apartment.

ROSE

But what does he do all day? He  
has a job, right?

PANEL 2 (MS): INT. JUNKY SEDAN - CONTINUOUS

Inside, Gil looks at himself in the vanity mirror as he smears black makeup around his eyes. (Both he and Rose are also wearing black-and-yellow-striped outfits.)

GIL

He's a local news blogger, so he  
works from home.

ROSE

Ugh, gross.

GIL

I know.

PANEL 3 (CU): CONTINUOUS

His eyes now blackened, Gil puts on a small black mask, concealing his cheeks and nose.

GIL (CONT'D)

Honestly, I'm starting to  
rethink this whole roommate  
situation.

PANEL 4 (EWS): EXT. PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

Rose has parked the car in front of an abandoned auditorium. Gil leans against the passenger door as Rose fiddles with the trunk.

GIL (CONT'D)

(beat)

I mean, we lived together in college, but -- have I told you about this new thing he does with the peanut butter? It's unreal...

SFX: CLICK! (From trunk.)

**PAGE 2A (3 PANELS)**

PANEL 1 (WS, over shoulder): CONTINUOUS

Rose pops the trunk open, and inside we see a beautiful DAMSEL (20s) zip-tied at the wrists and ankles with duct tape over her mouth. She looks more bored than terrified.

ROSE  
Heeeey, girl.

PANEL 2 (MS): CONTINUOUS

Rose and Gil lift the damsel out of the trunk.

GIL  
Upsy-daisy!

PANEL 3 (WS): CONTINUOUS

Rose and Gil start walking the damsel over to the auditorium.

ROSE  
This is one-hour parking, right?

GIL  
Eh, you're fine.

**PAGE 3B (6 PANELS)**

PANEL 1 (EWS): INT. BACKSTAGE DRESSING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Rose and Gil, each of them still clutching the damsel on either side, stand in line behind seven other people, all of them dressed in identical striped outfits. They're waiting to pick out one of numerous melee weapons set out on a table.

GIL  
The other thing, too, is he's always watching TV for his work

or whatever, so I never get to watch any of my shows.

ROSE  
You're caught up on Hannibal though, right?

GIL  
I'm three weeks behind!

PANEL 2 (CU): CONTINUOUS

Rose looks over at Gil.

ROSE  
Just catch up online.

PANEL 3 (CU): CONTINUOUS

Gil shrugs.

GIL  
Nah, I don't like watching TV on my laptop. I can never find a good way to sit, you know?

PANEL 4 (MU): CONTINUOUS

Rose and Gil reach the front of the line, but all that's left are a measly chain and switchblade on the table. Rose looks at the weapons in disgust.

PANEL 5 (WS): CONTINUOUS

Rose whips around to address everyone else in the room:

ROSE  
Okay, JUST ONCE I'd like to get the goddamn baseball bat with a nail through it -- how hard is that!?

PANEL 6 (MS): CONTINUOUS

The guy holding the baseball bat with a nail through it looks terrified.

**PAGE 4A (5 PANELS)**

PANEL 1 (EWS): INT. CONCERT HALL - MOMENTS LATER

Standing on center stage, Rose happily swings her bat around, as Gil ties the damsel to a chair. The same masked people from before now casually idle.

PANEL 2 (MS): CONTINUOUS

Rose looks down her bat, one eye closed, and appears satisfied.

ROSE  
Have you tried talking to Danny  
about any of this?

PANEL 3 (MS): CONTINUOUS

Gil struggles to get the knot right, and Rose looks to Gil for his response (albeit only half-interested).

GIL  
No. Obviously. That's bush  
league.

ROSE  
Oh, yeah?

GIL  
I told you about the peanut  
butter thing, right?

ROSE  
Twice.

PANEL 4 (WS): CONTINUOUS

ROSE (CONT'D)  
Why don't you just move out?

GIL  
I already signed a six-month  
lease. Plus, I kinda feel bad.  
His girlfriend was living with  
him, but she dumped him, like,  
two weeks ago...

ROSE  
Yikes.

PANEL 5 (CU): CONTINUOUS

Gil's face gets a little more contorted as he recalls Danny's girlfriend:

GIL

She was terrible though. I mean, she wasn't what you'd call a "bad person," just bland as fuck, you know? I only met her twice, but goddamn. Just awful taste in music, TV, fashion... She had the worst bangs.

ROSE

That bad, huh?

GIL

Like if Monday were a person.

**PAGE 5B (5 PANELS)**

PANEL 1 (MS): CONTINUOUS

Gil stands up and gestures to the chair.

GIL (CONT'D)

Sorry, can you get this knot?  
It's not sticking for me.

PANEL 2 (CU): CONTINUOUS

Rose reties the knot. Gil peels off the damsel's face tape.

GIL

(to damsel)

Is that too tight?

PANEL 3 (CU): CONTINUOUS

The damsel spits in Gil's face.

PANEL 4 (CU): CONTINUOUS

Gil wipes his face.

GIL (CONT'D)

Right.

PANEL 5 (EWS): CONTINUOUS

Out of nowhere, a voluptuous woman dressed in a sexy bee costume, QUEEN BEATRIX (30s), comes up onstage and claps her hands.

QUEEN BEATRIX  
Drones, PLACES!

**PAGE 6A (5 PANELS)**

PANEL 1 (WS): INT. CONCERT HALL - MOMENTS LATER

Gil, Rose and the other drones peer through the backstage curtain and watch the events unfold onstage.

Queen Beatrix stands next to the helpless damsel, a single spotlight beaming down on them both.

ROSE  
(whispering)  
Here he comes.

PANEL 2 (WS): CONTINUOUS

A ruggedly handsome superhero, CAPTAIN COSMOS (40s), smashes through the far back door on the other side of the hall. He hovers just above the ground.

CAPTAIN COSMOS  
Honey, I'm home!

PANEL 3 (WS): CONTINUOUS

Queen Beatrix turns a wicked grin.

QUEEN BEATRIX  
Captain Cosmos, so good of you  
to join us!

PANEL 4 (MS): CONTINUOUS

Captain Cosmos flies closer and dramatically points.

CAPTAIN COSMOS  
All right, Queen Beatrix.  
Release Miss Greene and nobody  
gets hurt!

PANEL 5 (WS): CONT'D

Captain Cosmos now hovers a mere several paces from the stage. Queen Beatrix touches her chest, feigning emotion.

QUEEN BEATRIX  
That stings, Captain. I thought  
we were having fun!

CAPTAIN COSMOS  
The only fun you'll be having is  
buzzing behind bars in Black  
Wharf Prison.

**PAGE 7B (5 PANELS)**

PANEL 1 (MS): INT. BACKSTAGE - CONTINUOUS

As Queen Bee and Captain Cosmos exchange hokey one-liners, the drones huddle around the back curtain, waiting for their cue.

ROSE  
Doesn't that guy usually have a  
sidekick?

GIL  
He used to, yeah.

ROSE  
What was his name?

GIL  
Star-Lad, I think?

PANEL 2 (MS, same shot): CONTINUOUS

ROSE  
YES, Star-Lad! Thank you. That  
was driving me crazy.

DRONE #1  
He's actually a superhero now.

GIL  
What? Get out of here!

DRONE #1  
Yeah, he goes by Star-Man now. I  
heard he's even starting his own  
super-team in Herald Heights.

PANEL 3 (MS, same shot): CONTINUOUS

GIL  
Pff, Herald Heights? Good luck.

DRONE #1  
Right?

DRONE #2  
Wait, I thought Star-Man was  
based out of Crimson Cove.

PANEL 4 (MS, same shot): CONTINUOUS

GIL  
Pretty sure that was a different  
Star-Man. That one faked his own  
death a couple years ago and  
came back as "Mister Jupiter."

DRONE #3  
Jupiter Prime or Jupiter Alpha?

DRONE #1  
There's two?

PANEL 5 (MS, same shot): CONTINUOUS

The drones are suddenly silenced when:

QUEEN BEATRIX (O.S.)  
(shouting)  
I SAID, "Let's see how you fare  
against my DRONES!"

**PAGE 8A (5 PANELS)**

PANEL 1 (WS, over shoulders): CONTINUOUS

Rose pulls the curtain all the way open to reveal Queen  
Beatrix holding a dagger to the damsel's neck. The  
villainess gives the drones a "Hurry it up!" look. Captain  
Cosmos is poised to attack.

DRONE #1  
That's our cue.

PANEL 2 (EWS, overhead): INT. CONCERT HALL - CONTINUOUS

Gil, Rose and the other drones fan out across the platform.

PANEL 3 (WS): CONTINUOUS

The drones now have Captain Cosmos surrounded. They brandish their weapons, much to the Captain's amusement.

PANEL 4 (MS): CONTINUOUS

Rose nudges Gil.

ROSE  
Hey, Gil. Break a leg.

GIL  
Count on it.

PANEL 5 (MS): CONTINUOUS

Queen Beatrix throws her arms in the air with glee.

QUEEN BEE  
Attack, my drones! ATTACK!

**PAGE 9B (FULL-PAGE SPREAD)**

PANEL 1 (WS): CONTINUOUS

Title credits overlay a shot of Gil getting super-punched in the face by Captain Cosmos.