

Hot Santa

By Catherine Weingarten

c. 2013 Catherine Weingarten

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CHARACTERS-

Jackie - 20s, a young actress, really into herself, never gets cast, really hot.

Rocco- 36, employee of "Not just another Holiday" shop, very manly and mysterious.

Baby Jonah- 3 years old, chubby, likes pancakes and chipmunks!

Gladys- 40, baby Jonah's mom, prissy.

SETTING

Generic glitzy holiday shop

TIME

The day before CHRISTMAS!!!

(We are in a holiday shop. Jackie is wearing a santa suit and doing intensive stretches in a corner. Rocco is dressed up like an elf and staring at Jackie and maybe smoking or doing something hip.)

ROCCO

You um nervous or something?

JACKIE

I Don't get NERVOUS!

ROCCO (*flirty*)

Ok then...

So you um have worked as a mall santa before?

JACKIE

Well um no,
This is actually my first time.

ROCCO

It's really f-in hard.

JACKIE

Hmm.

Well I actually played
A raisin in "raisin in the sun" and just had to like
Lie on the stage during the dinner scene
And like I had to lie there for like
30 minutes and it was like a really
Important Symbolic moment
So like I'm sure I can handle this.

ROCCO

Hmmm interesting.

So I take it your a um actress like full time?

JACKIE

Ya and like a part time model
And once in a while I make
Some extra bucks on a fishing boat or
Waiting tables at restaurants for babies.
But I'm pretty much an actress.
Are you a performing ARTIST as well.

ROCCO

Hmm no I mostly just work here.
I'm um Rocco by the way?

Not sure if we got officially introduced.

JACKIE

JACKIE!

(JACKIE intensely shakes ROCCO's hand.)

Have you um always been an elf during Christmas?

ROCCO

I once was a wild Christmas rat
But I wasn't that into it.
The elf costume's ok, like the ears are a little douchey
But I make sure my friends don't
Know I dress up
So they don't make fun of me or whatever.

JACKIE

God, being Santa is like a lot of responsibility though.
Like they told me I could be snow
Or like frozen hot chocolate
But like I went right for Santa, like I wanted it.

ROCCO

It's awesome though that they thought you were good enough
Like that's a hard gig to get.

JACKIE

Well I currently have a really good headshot
It's like of me at the beach and I have
Like this bikini on and I'm crying,
It's like really touching.

ROCCO

Wait, um a bikini?
Can I look at your um headshot?

(JACKIE sits on the ground.)

JACKIE

Ugh ok now I'm starting to feel a little nervous.
Santa is the main partttt!
Like no one cares about the elf
Or like the fricking snow!

ROCCO

Hey, it'll be ok.

Just say generic happy things like
"Yo ho ho little darling"
Or "I'm Santa and I'm friendly."

JACKIE

Yeah, yeah Ok I can do that
Right?

ROCCO

Just try it.
It'll make you feel better.

JACKIE (*intense*)

"Yo HOOOO HOOO
Little one."

ROCCO

Hmmmm ok.

JACKIE

That was bad wasn't it?

ROCCO

Well it wasn't good.

JACKIE

Excuse me?

ROCCO

You'll be fine.
You'll pick it up or whatever.

JACKIE

Yeah, yeah I better!

ROCCO

And I'll be right next to you,
Cause the elf is like Santa's assistant.

JACKIE

Oh awesome!
Wait so like if my throat hurts
Can you get me fraps from like
Local renowned coffee shops? Cause like
My throat gets soar pretty easily.

ROCCO

Yeah um sure.

JACKIE

You know I once tried out for a commercial
For a coffee maker for teenaged girl?
The coffee maker was like bright pink
And I played the teenage girl.
They told me to look really angry
But then they said I looked too
Angry and that I became too
Ugly for what they were looking for.

ROCCO

Acting sounds like a really hard profession.

JACKIE

It is
But like you should do it if there's NOTHING
ELSE you care for as truly
and passionately.
And that's my truth.

BABY JONAH (*off*)

WAHHHHHHHHHHH!!

ROCCO

Hmm well cool.
Umm we should probably get out there,
I think I see a kid.

JACKIE

OMIGOD Rocccco
Do you um think I have what it takes?

ROCCO

Yyeah, yeah you'll be fine.
(JACKIE throws her arms around ROCCO and ROCCO looks
happy.)
Here come on, let's go. It's only kids Jackie, kids are dumb
and like cute and whatever, they probably don't even know what's
happening.

JACKIE

Yeah, they're dumb, I like that.
I'm starting to feel better.
Wait, Rocco I need to tell you something!

ROCCO

What?
Cause I'm single if you were like
Wondering?

JACKIE

Umm no that wasn't it.

ROCCO

Oh...kkkk...sorry about that.

JACKIE

Rocco
This is my first PAID gig
Like as an actress
And like I've been training for sooo long
Like Meisner and Grotowski and like
Not proved methods my teachers created
And like I'm scared all of that training will not pour through me
Organically to create a rich and complex portrayal
Of dear Saint Nick.

ROCCO

Jackie, you'll be fine
It's just fricking Santa
It's not like Shakespearean Santa
In the park or whatever.

JACKIE

Yeah, yeah that's nice.

BABY JONAH(off)

SANTAAA RAAAAAA!

ROCCO

Now come on, I
Really think we should be
Out there, that baby sounds angry.

(ROCCO pushes JACKIE to the santa's sleigh area of the
store where there is a big Santa's chair. JACKIE
cautiously sits on Santa's chair and awkwardly smiles.
BABY JONAH is sitting on the ground next to his
mother, GLADYS.)

We should probably let that kid go first.

GLADYS

Yes, baby Jonah has been waiting for a while

So I really think it's only fair.

BABY JONAH

ME-ME-ME-mEEEEEE!

ROCCO

Come on, little one.
Hop up on Santa's fat lap.

JACKIE

Fat?

(ROCCO gives Jackie a look. And puts BABY JONAH on her lap and signals she should say something.)

JACKIE

Greetings young...child. What is your...name?

BABY JONAH

BABY JONAH! BABY JONAH!

JACKIE

Hmm interesting name.

BABY JONAH

NO!! THAT'S MEAN!

ROCCO

Santa was just...playing with you baby Jonah. That name is as perfect as all of his little reindeer combined!

BABY JONAH

YAYYY!

(I like pancakeesssss)

ROCCO

Now I think Santa wants to ask Baby Jonah
What he wants for Christmas?

JACKIE

(ughhh yeahhh, that's what I should ask him)
So Baby Jonah, what do you want

ROCCO

For christmass...?

JACKIE

For Christmas?

GLADYS

This santa is pretty bad.

ROCCO

Well I don't know what you're implying Miss, there is only one
santa and he cannot possibly be bad because he is a BELOVED
figure.

JACKIE

Thanks Rocco!

ROCCO

You mean um, Jenkins the Christmas elf!

JACKIE

Yes, yes I do mean that...Jenkins!

BABY JONAH

SANTA SUCKS

(BABY JONAH bites JACKIE.)

JACKIE

OW!

BABY JONAH

Can we go to the nearby
Competitor holiday shop
And see another Santa!

GLADYS

We sure can baby Jonah!
You two should be ashamed of yourself!

JACKIE

Excuse me, MISS
But I went to YALE school of DRAMAAA
And I have more emotions in me
Than you could ever feel or understand
Or even COMP-RE-HEND.
I was in the crucible
As the CRUCIBLE!

GLADYS

Well you clearly didn't bring any of

That to your role as Santa.

JACKIE

Omigod Omigoddd.

(JACKIE starts crying as GLADYS and BABY JONAH exit the store.)

ROCCO

You'll get better don't worry.

JACKIE

No, I won't!
My first acting gig and I forgot
That Santa asks for presents!
Who forgets that! I'm so stupiddd!

ROCCO

You're not stupid Jackie.
You just like care.
I've been working here for a while
And probably will work here most
Of my life and most Santa's
Don't care at all about their performances
They just sit there and smile.
You really want to breathe life into Santa,
And that's dope.

JACKIE

Thanks Rocco.
But I should probably quit.
And become like a carpenter or
Something else. Clearly I just SUCK.

ROCCO

Jackie, that's not true!
Not at all.
Baby Jonah was a loser.
There will be other kids who are nice to you.

JACKIE

Yeah baby Jonah sucks!
Like what kind of name is Baby Jonah?

ROCCO

It's like not a name right!
(pause)

JACKIE

Ugh and I can't believe he bit me!

ROCCO

And at least you have me right, like
I'll help you and I'm sure you'll
Get better with time,

JACKIE

That's really kind Rocco.

ROCCO

Hey Jackie...you're um single right.

JACKIE

Um yeah.

ROCCO

Cool well um can I buy you a
Christmas latte like next store?
Like I'll pay?

JACKIE

Yeah, yeah I think I'd like that.
Thanks Rocco!

ROCCO

And you'll um bring along your headshot of
You in the bikini...crying.

JACKIE

Oh sure, I carry it with me ALWAYS!

(ROCCO grabs JACKIE's hand and they walk out.)

END!