

THE MARK

I am here to pick up my check.

“I would prefer to pay you in cash. There would be no record.”

“What do you have in your purse?”

“Loads of cash. It is all spilling over.”

“You did it to him. Then you made sure it would happen to me too.”

“I passed the buck.”

“What can I take you home with me?”

“What do you call home?”

“Anywhere that I end up.”

“This is excellent.”

“That should take a week or so.”

“I am not only one in this situation.”

“I am looking for someone who can take care of me.”

“I am looking for someone to take care of my expenses.”

“Dusk, what are your ambitions?”

“I think that is pretty clear.”

“You are not allowed to say such things.”

“I need the right employer. And a place to stay.”

“You got all that.”

“I am looking for more money.”

“What can you afford in the deal?”

“What can anyone afford?”

“The cost of living is increasing.”

“That does not say it all.”

“I have all kinds of securities.”

“That is not much of a risk.”

“We are looking to get paid.”

“That seems like a wonderful place to start.”

“A game changer.”

“Where were you?”

“Not in the city.”

“You got a house.”

“I am trying to keep track.”

“You look great.”

“He already has his check book out.”

“And they all pass out.”

“Did you get what you needed?”

“Who can make it all a go?”

“I will find out at home.”

“If he takes a payment, he is going to expect something in return. What are you willing to give?”

“Is someone trucking in souls?”
“What would that be?”
“What is he offering?”
“I wish that you understood that.”
“There is an initial investment of two thousand. That is a drop in the bucket.”
“What else is in the bucket?”
“It’s the collection plate. You just can’t take mone out of there.”
“The minister is working for us.”
“Does it go beyond that?”
“What is he ministering to?”
“We are at home putting all the pieces in place.”
“I want to believe that he understands this on some deeper level.”
“He talks from experience. But it does not resonate.”
“What if it did?”
“It would be a bad marriage.”
“We walk down the altar together.”
“We could use a justice of the peace.”
“I do not get this.”
“I tell you what I need.”
“Another day on the floor.”
“I know next to nothing.”
“It all worked on paper.”
“I do not want to show you favoritism.”
“I do not ask for it.”
“This is going to turn into something wonderful.”
“Wonderful.”
“Pull out the check book.”
“You are going to make it that obvious.”
“What should I do?”
“He seem very interested.”
“I do not want to think about this?”
“You describe your life in a different way.”
“I am trying to make a deal.”
“This is a lot for me.”
“What do you expect?”
“She will come in.”
“She is ready to put all her cards on the table.”
“She has a resume.”
“What else is there?”
“What else do you need?”
“Will there be a call back.”
“That is going to take you far?”
“Do you think that you can make jokes about something like that?”

“I need enough money.”
 “I should leave now.”
 “I am dying on stage.”
 “This is super brilliant.”
 “I will not resort to the same shit.”
 “There is not even a script.”
 “Here is the script.”
 “You are creating a false crisis.”
 “Let them loose.”
 “Let the loose more.”
 “We are doing this to ourselves.”
 “I am looking for something particular.”
 “A particularity.”
 “This is an important abstraction.”
 “What are you talking about?”
 “Does it make any difference what you eat?”
 “You shove it in. A burger.”
 “I am in a hurry.”
 “Will she be here?”
 “If she is, she has the money.”
 “We are on the way?”
 “I have no idea what is the dispute.”
 “I am going to let you break the rules.”
 “That is not going to be worth enough.”
 “Where is that okay?”
 “Someone has it covered.”
 “This is my day.”
 “We are already way beyond to point of no return.”
 “What were you thinking on this day?”
 “I can’t follow how to put together all the bad days.”
 “With a trip to the grocery store.”
 “Is it worth considering?”
 “What are you considering?”
 “I know what you know what that means.”
 “Who could explain this?”
 “She could explain it until she couldn’t explain any more.”
 “She got the house.”
 “What is in the house?”
 “Dolls.”
 “We have been there before.”
 “We get locked in our lives.”
 “Or we love that tight lock.”
 “This is remarkable.”

“I arrived at this bar, the Pleasure Principle. And it was religious-themed. The spiritual aspirations of the psyche.”

“What would a therapist say?”

“Have a drink.”

“Have another.”

“What did you do after you touched it?”

“I needed to be germ-free.”

“Do not think that you can take my love from me?”

“There is money.”

“What else is there?”

“There is hope.”

“There is convincing.”

“Pay for this.”

“Pay for all of this.”

“Help me out.”

“You have done nothing.”

“We divested.”

I needed to explain these financial transactions more thoroughly. This was more than good will. This was a more lasting transaction that was based on a creative understanding. The money had its own justification. It became an excuse. It allowed people to have a level of flexibility that they never had before.

“What is the deal here?”

“What do you mean?”

“I feel as if someone is fucking with me.”

“And where does that start?”

“I am leaving, but I will come back.”

“Do you work in investment banking?”

“I do the legal work on securitization.”

“What do you have for me?”

“I made a lot of money in a weak market.”

“How did you do it?”

“I went to people who had a lot of capital. They could take advantage of a bad situation.”

“This has gone beyond anything real.”

“We need to delay this.”

“I am looking.”

“Do not believe me.”

“No one does.”

“This is the humor.”

“This is not funny.”

“What about the them?”

“I cannot answer for any of this.”

“Who can?”

“I probably should leave.”

“Just leave.”
“That is all that it takes.”
“We accept.”
“We love.”
“We stop loving.”
“And the money flows.”
“Is that a job.”
“You do care.”
“I can’t rescue you.”
“I cannot even open the vault myself.”
“I have more than you know.”
“You took another risk.”
“I can hold this in.”
“That would be wonderful.”
“This is where I start. And this is where I end.”
“Who can explain?”
“These are not things that are explainable.”
“That is so much.”
“That is less than too much.”
“I will not eat.”
“Not today.”
“I lost my money.”
“Hold there. You will get everything that you want and more.”
“So much more.”
“Let me explain it in simple terms.”
“What do you call that?”
“I need to forgive and bless everyone.”
“You have been evil.”
“That is our world.”
“I will flower.”
“I give up.”
“You do care.”
“This is controversial.”
“I will get the check.”
“You will not be able to cash it.”
“This is how I can do this legally.”
“Follow the money.”
“It is not just money.”
“This is a special kind of belief.”
“Like blood.”
“Like gold.”
“This is all falling apart.”
“What are you really telling us?”

“They feel powerful.”
“The body tells you things.”
“I feel as if I am giving myself away.”
“He has a full explanation.”
“Maybe a house and a car.”
“She is looking for big things.”
“A house.”
“A sport.”
“They will call us back.”
“A life.”
“Two sides of nothing.”
“Laugh in my face.”
“Is that insulting?”
“I cannot go anywhere with this.”
“And you are here.”
“I could be somewhere else.”
“None of that matters.”
“That is worse than embarrassing.”
“I am dealing with a fucking walking encyclopedia.”
“Does that work at the firm?”
“What dropped?”
“That is worse than embarrassing.”
“I am way beyond that.”
“Do you have to explain this?”
“They have bankrupted ten countries in that time,”
“Cruelty abounds.”
“What are you eating?”
“Peanuts.”
“None of that makes any difference.”
“I am the one with the accounts.”
“What did you spend?”
“They interfered.”
“I thought that you were the guy.”
“No, you are looking for someone with more money.”
“What is in the envelope?”
“I am going to succeed.”
“How can you do that with so little money?”
“I have partners.”
“I want to be nice.”
“We do not want you.”
“These are my people.”
“I get it.”
“We all do.”

“I do not want to interfere.”
“I think that I get it.”
“We all do in one way or another.”
“So many ideas.”
“Coming at me all the time.”
“I cannot keep track.”
“I came here to meet someone with money.”
“You want it both ways.”
“I am throwing my life away talking with you.”
“He seems hurt.”
“I am in a good conversation. And he needs to jump in.”
“You are right in.”
“How does this work?”
“We are are across the threshold.”
“And that is all that we get.”
“Spend the money.”
“Not here, not now.”
“What more do you need?”
“Not here, not now.”
“Pay up.”
“How much are you paying?”
“I am buying more drinks.”
“Are you talking about Lincoln?”
“No, these two investments bankers.”
“They are not the ones.”
“Who is supposed to meet you?”
“This angel investor.”
“What is he investing in?”
“My being?”
“A total being.”
“How does that work?”
“They will never get it.”
“They think that is it.”
“That is it.”
“I need something more.”
“We all do.”
“You are going to have to do a lot more to expect them to talk to you.”
“I can change your chemistry.”
“That stuff is really messed up. Some personality-changing stuff.”
“I need something special.”
“Genetic transformation shit.”
“What does that really mean?”
“Are you trying to get someone from a bio-tech firm to invest in your shit?”

“What would that be about?”
“This is all over.”
“I am trying to follow along.”
“And what is following that?”
“What is going on out there.”
“Gold.”
“Do you have gold?”
“It’s you.”
“What other kind of investments are you considering?”
“How long have you done this?”
“All day long.”
“I am going to hold my breath and not think about it.”
“What can I go?”
“Ouch.”
“I need a helper.”
“That is not going to be good for me.”
“How much money does he have available?”
“What is the deal?”
“That is hardly fair.”
“Look in the envelope. Fill out all these papers.”
“You could do it online.”
“I don’t want a record.”
“What else is involved?”
“He wants more information.”
“What else could be involved.”
“We could wait for someone to love us.”
“I really love you.”
“I need to explain the whole operation.”
“I could care for the goats.”
“I should try to be nice.”
“Do try.”
“That is hilarious.”
“Amazing.”
“My body is made of gold.”
“How is that?”
“I am worth my weight in gold.”
“Of course, it is.”
“I am not that bad.”
“We are reduced to nothing.”
“I do not need the money.”
“I can do it on my own.”
“How do you do that?”
“What does any of that mean?”

“I want them to open the door for me.”
“There is an added charge.”
“How much do you take from the bank?”
“I am slipping down.”
“I know that.”
”There is a lot of energy involved.”
“The triumph of the schmucks.”
“How can this even work in a positive way?”
“There are all these negative experiences.”
“Why do I need to complet this?”
“He is such a cool guy.”
“When does he ever shit up?”
“He is the lecturer.”
“He will never shut up.”
“I grasp it.”
“What is a freak show.?”
“That turns me on.”
“I can perform.”
“Did he bring the envelope?”
“I would like to explain what is really occurring.”
“He is so deep in my head.”
“NO ONE FUCKING CARES.”
“I gave so much of myself, and I got so little back.”:
“What is this really about?”
“Voice over.”
“Do not touch me.”
“I feel touched.”
“Don’t try it.”
“It is science.”
“It works from afar.”
“Why should I care?”
“You cannot explain a joke.”
“How much money is involved?”
“More than you can imagine.”
“They did it all over again.”
“I cannot hold on.”
“Do you feel tough?”
“Tougher than you. A lot tougher than you.”
“Why does that even work?”
“That is worse than embarrassing.”
“I have friends everywhere.”
“What do you even care about?”
“What should I care about.”

“We are making our own world.”
“This has been going on forever. And you act as if it is something new.”
“You could quit right here.”:
“Quit.”
“I do not want to watch.”
“I pass.”
“There is some kind of exchange.”
“He will not be able to pay.”
“The voice is so grating.”
“Why should I bother?”
“Presentation.”
“What should I give you?”
“He will close.”
“Close on the lot.”
“Then the payment is due.”
“There are records.”
“He can hide it all.”
“Gulp it down.”
“And the money did not arrive.”
“How can I get it to you a little faster?”
“You do not even know.”
“I am doing anthro.”
“Where does that lead?”
“More strife.”
“I like it like that.”
“Claim the land for your team.”
“What is really happening?”
“Call this worthwhile.”
“We make things happen.”
“We will throw you a cut.”
“I think that we really have different goals.”
“You are all idealists.”
“That describes these crazy relationships.”
“I will wait until they come back.”
“We are tight.”
“You do not understand.”
“I am trying to understand.”
“We are playing house.”
“And that is all that I want.”
“Freak show.”
“I am the freak.”
“How much money is involved?”
“I did not think that it would take so long.”

“It is pretty much the same thing.”

“And this works for you.”

“That was all strategic.”

“He is too stupid to know.”

“I know.”

“Get out while you can.”

“I took the money.”

“What else did you take?”

“A compliment.”

“We all accept it.”

“We come back to the same point.”

“That is brilliant.”

“Can I borrow some clothes?”

“Give me some time.”

“I was here.”

“And it will end.”

I cannot explain it.

“I expected my payment.”

“Dusk, what will they give me.”

“Everything.”

“And the genius ended.”