

EXT. SALT LAKE CITY STREET - 11:03PM

A young black man, TERENCE (mid -20s), is walking down the street toting a duffle bag. He looks far away as he walks, his gaze somewhere, but definitely not here.

VOICE OVER

I never thought I'd *actually* be homeless. But when I saw it coming, I felt the fear, I felt it all slipping through my fingers, my small savings drying up, the car payments and rent payments and the cheap ramen and toilet paper costs, until somehow here I was on this very night with all my belongings, leaving my apartment, trying to at least get a shower somewhere.

He turns the corner and walks into an obnoxiously brightly lit fitness center.

INT. 24 HOUR FITNESS STUDIO

Terence walks up to the counter. He tries to make eye contact with the guy at the front desk wearing a backwards hat, but the guy is too busy looking at his phone. Before Terence has a chance to speak up, the guy suddenly lets out a loud, obnoxious laugh and slaps his leg.

FRONT DESK GUY

NO WAY, NO WAYYYY BRO ! *Not the fat chick!!!*

Terence squints his eyes in confusion.

TERENCE

Uh..excuse me, can I get a gym membership?

The guy keeps looking down at his phone for a second after Terence says this, then says:

FRONT DESK GUY

Sup?

TERENCE

..I want to get a membership

FRONT DESK GUY

Ohh ok, lit. You want the mega buff or just the buff package?

TERENCE

I'll..just get the "buff" package...how much is that?

FRONT DESK GUY

\$29.99 per month.

Pause. The front desk guy looks back down at his phone, takes out a vape pen and inhales deeply, then coughs loudly while also laughing at the video he's watching.

Terence's brows furrow as he takes out his wallet, looks into it and thumbs through bills. \$30.00 even. He exhales and puts the wallet back in his pocket.

TERENCE

Hey I'm actually gonna-

Suddenly, a girl, SADIE (mid-20s), with a nose ring walks out of the dressing room, hair wet with a towel around her shoulders. The front desk guy puts his phone down for the first time since Terence has been there.

FRONT DESK GUY

So how was the workout?

SADIE

Good, thanks

She doesn't even glance at the guy, but sees Terence and smiles, Terence smiles back. The guy sees this and looks like he's noticing Terence for the first time. He interrupts.

FRONT DESK GUY

So bro,you gonna buy the buff pass or what

SADIE

Oh you're a new member?

Terence pauses. Then smiles.

TERENCE

-Yea! As of right now actually-!

Terence digs his wallet out again and hands the front desk guy the \$30.00.

FRONT DESK GUY

Oh it's actually \$31.40 with tax.

Terence looks back into his wallet. Empty save a jolly rancher wrapper. Pause.

TERENCE

Um...I don't have change and I, uh,  
left my credit card at home-

Sadie steps up.

SADIE

Here, how much do you need?

TERENCE

Oh, no it's ok-

Sadie hands the bills to the front desk guy. The guy looks at Terence.

FRONT DESK GUY

Soo..you cool with this chick payin  
for you?

Sadie shoots the guy a blank stare and then looks back at Terence.

SADIE

Oh I'm not just giving my dollars away  
for free! He owes me dinner..

She smiles at Terence and he smiles back feebly.

TERENCE

Haha, *of course!*

The front desk guy looks at them and takes a long hard hit on his vape. He rolls his eyes as he puts the money in the till.

Terence and Sadie walk out together.

FRONT DESK GUY

(to himself)

-What kind of *loser* doesn't have two  
dollars bro?? The *chicks these days!!*

EXT. SALT LAKE CITY STREET - 11:17PM

Terence and Sadie walk outside.

TERRENCE  
Hey, thanks again

SADIE  
No problem, but you owe me!(she winks)  
So what are you up to now?

Terrence shrugs.

TERRENCE  
I'm just..headin home.

SADIE  
Cool, well I'll see you tomorrow!  
Sleep well!

TERRENCE  
Thanks, yea! You too!

CUT TO:

Sadie walks away. Terence turns around and looks towards the empty, dimly lit streets beyond.

CUT TO:

Terence walks below a bridge and then sits down. He rests his head on his duffel bag and exhales.

V.O.  
And that was that. I'd spent my last stupid penny on a stupid gym membership. And now I was expected to take a girl out to *dinner*, right after I'd hit rock bottom--of course.

EXT. SALT LAKE CITY STREET - AFTERNOON

Sadie and Terence are walking together. Sadie laughs at something he says. Pause.

SADIE  
Man am I gettin *hungry*! Where we gonna eat?

Pause. Terence looks down.

TERRENCE  
So..um...there's something I gotta tell you..

SADIE

..Ok-? What, you're not hungry?

TERENCE

No..I am, trust me, but I'm broke.

SADIE

-Oh ! For real? I mean that's ok...so, you, like, don't have any money?

TERENCE

None until my next paycheck. I'm real broke. Like can't-pay-my-rent, slept-under-a-bridge-last-night broke.

Sadie pauses and looks him up and down.

SADIE

Wait, you're homeless too? But what about your family? Doesn't your family give you money?

Terence laughs.

TERENCE

Oh don't even get me started on my family. I never saw my dad and my mom's been in rehab since I was 10.I have a job, I just couldn't keep up with rent and with food and all this...stuff (he gestures to the high rise business buildings and mansions around him).

SADIE

But..you bought a gym membership?

TERENCE

Look, I'm just as confused as you are, I was just gonna maybe get it to shower and stuff for the next month while I figure shit out. I actually wasn't gonna even buy it until you came around,I guess I just wanted to keep the convo goin, you know?

Sadie looks over at him with a blank stare, then smiles.

SADIE

I guess..this is just a lot to take in...why didn't you tell me earlier?

TERENCE

I was gonna tell you, I just know it sounds kind of..bad. But I'm not all that worried, I'm stacking up some cash from my job, thinking I'll get another job too and find a new place soon.

Sadie nods and gives him a tight-lipped smile.

CUT TO:

We see them walking parting ways from a distance. Terrence goes in for a hug. They hug and then Sadie waves and walks away. Terrence looks after her.

V.O.

That was the last time I ever saw Sadie. I thought I'd see her at the gym sometime, but I never did. I'm still stacking up my money, I'm gettin my own place real soon. It's only been a couple weeks. Sleeping under the stars for now but I'm not worried.