

THE BODYGUARDS

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FADE IN:

LOUD THROUGH OUR SURROUND SOUND SPEAKERS COMES A HORRIBLE GIRL-BAND POP SONG. It's the one we're going to have stuck in our head later.

EXT. LOS ANGELES - DAY

An AERIAL view of Los Angeles City, brings us to the infamous GRAUMAN'S CHINESE THEATRE where a RED CARPET is laid out.

EXT. GRAUMAN'S CHINESE THEATRE - DAY

A STRETCH LIMO pulls up on the RED CARPET.

The door opens and out steps a FOOT.

KENNITH KANE (40's), looks like a million of the tackiest bucks you ever saw. We think this is our guy... but then...

We keep moving... where are we going? Right over his shoulder? Oh...

BENNY MILLS (20's - 30's), Kane's BODYGUARD, steps into place behind the star. He wears DARK SUNGLASSES, A WHITE EARPIECE, and a SUIT.

A LARGE MOVIE POSTER READS: NIGHT STOP DOWN. On it is Kane with a tall, leggy, bombshell.

Enter The Bombshell, XAVIA BOSWIN (30's), walks towards Kane. As she leans in for a triple kiss, we see behind her is...

ZACK DENNIS (20's - 30's) her BODYGUARD, and Benny's best friend forever. They're dressed the same, but look nothing alike.

They sneak a SECRET BRO HANDSHAKE, equipped with finger guns. It's... special.

MONTAGE:

TABLOID MAGAZINE COVERS.

SHOTS of the stars in candid moments.

Upon closer look, behind them are always THE BODYGUARDS, who somehow we've never managed to notice before, until now.

In these photos, the bodyguards are always doing something slightly human and embarrassing: Ice cream dripping down the chin, picking up poodle poop, aggressive with paparazzi etc....

...whereas the celebs look like they were born without bad angles.

END OF MONTAGE.

XAVIA

(to Zack)

What did I tell you about that?
Don't embarrass me!

Benny rolls his eyes, Zach straightens up.

A FAN (18), PUSHES a BOUQUET of RED ROSES in Boswin's face. She accepts them but tosses them into Zack's arms.

Tucked in there is a CARD that reads: (TO)NIGHT. (HEART)STOP. (AND)DOWN(SHE GOES).

Zack doesn't see it.

EXT. RED CARPET - LATER

PAPARAZZI are wild.

Zane, Xavia and another actress, ALLIE (20's) stand for photos.

The MAN behind Allie seems too short and doughy to be a bodyguard, and yet, he is. His name is GILL (30's). If you didn't know it, you might mistake him for Zach Galifianakis.

He gesticulates something lude behind her. It's for Zack and Benny's benefit.

Zack grimaces.

BENNY

You're sick, you know that? Sick.

Gill laughs. FLASHES from photographer's cameras pop.

GILL

(misinterpreting)
I know, so sick, right?

INT. THEATRE - LATER

EVERYONE is seated.

A scene from "Night Stop Down" plays on the BIG SCREEN.

All SECURITY PERSONNEL are lined up against a far wall.

Zack and Benny stand beside one another.

ON SCREEN: Kane grabs a LITTLE GUN.

BENNY

(mock voice of Kane)

Look! A bang-bang toy. Same same size as my dick!

ON SCREEN: Boswin touches Kane's chest.

ZACK

(mock voice of Boswin)

I hate you and your unsatisfactory wiener! Wait! Don't go! Shtup me you fool!

BENNY

(mock voice of Kane)

Away with you, wench! I wouldn't touch you with a ten-foot-pole!

ZACK

(mock voice of Boswin)

I'll show you a ten-foot-pole!

On screen: Boswin wips out a MACHINE GUN and FIRES ROUNDS into Kane. Killing him.

They giggle. Someone SHUSHES them.

This movie is bad, so bad it's not even good bad. Gill however, is transfixed. Cries.

ZACK (CONT'D)

How's things with Action Man then?

BENNY

Steady. He's teaching me how to make sourdough bread. He's become obsessed with it. You?

Zack shrugs.

BENNY (CONT'D)

You shouldn't let her treat you like that, man. I sweat that woman just collects people. I doubt she even knows how to tie her own shoelaces.

ZACK

She doesn't own shoes with shoelaces.

The Audience CLAPS as the CREDITS roll.

A LIGHT FLICKS ON and a MAN walks on stage.

MAN

Could we have the cast come up, please?

Boswin side steps out of her ISLE.

She YANKS the rose bouquet out from Zack's arms, which causes the card to fall out.

Zack picks it up. Boswin gets up on stage, and the audience CLAPS loudly.

Zack looks at the card, opens it.

We can't see what's on it, we see only his reaction.

ZACK

WAIT! XAVIA!

Xavia looks down at the bouquet.

BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP-BEEP-BEEP-BEEP!

AN GRAND EXPLOSION!

Close on: Zack's shock as he realizes he's too late. Ash falls around his face. People FLEE. Chaos.

TITLE CARD: THE BODYGUARDS.

TEN YEARS LATER.

A whistle on the wind jolts us back into our story.

EXT. MADISON SQUARE GARDEN - ARENA - NIGHT

Building pop music blares in anticipation of the show starting. FANS SCREAM from all areas of the arena.

LIGHTS FLASH and MOVE in all shapes and colours, testing.

TICKETEERS guide late arrivals to their seats.

The excitement is ramping up as ever so often a flash of artistic video plays on the LARGE ERECTED CONCERT SCREENS of the artist, ZENICA SILVER (20's). She's beautiful with hypnotic eyes and a sweet friendly smile.

She wears an elaborate costume, with intricate beading and black lace. White paint pours over her body as a song with her voice in spoken word plays.

ZENICA (FILTERED)

Do you wanna be bold?
 Fierce?
 Famous
 and filthy rich?
 Do you wanna be brilliant?
 Wild?
 Free
 and filled with fire?
 Then follow me.
 Follow me.
 Follow [follow] Follow me.
 And scream.
 Scream.
 Scream.
 SCREAM!
 Let's go! [musical breakdown
 section]

SCREAMS. Excitement overload. From young to older, people adore her.

EXT. MADISON SQUARE GARDEN - GATE 10 - SECURE BACK ENTRANCE - NIGHT

Benny argues with a SECURITY GUARD at the entrance. They have to YELL over the music.

SECURITY GUARD

I'm sorry, Sir. You need a laminate to enter.

BENNY

That's what I'm trying to tell you, I don't have a laminate! My name is Benjamin Mills, I'm the new Bodyguard.

The Security Guard looks down on his clipboard.

SECURITY GUARD
I don't have clearance for a
Benjamin Mills.

A MAN passes behind the security guard, spotting Benny as he's walking. He stops. This is Zenica's manager, MITCH OVITZ (40's).

MITCH
Benny!

BENNY
Mitch!

Mitch approaches and speaks to the security guard.

MITCH
Don't you know who this is? This is
Benny Mills!

Security Guard shrugs.

MITCH (CONT'D)
Let him in. He's with me. And have
security make up a pass.

SECURITY GUARD
Yes, Sir.

Benny enters and hugs Mitch.

INT. MADISON SQUARE GARDEN - BACKSTAGE - CONTINUOUS

MITCH
Whoa. You never lose a pound of
muscle do you?

BENNY
Good to see ya, Mitch. How's it
lookin?

MITCH
Good. Team One did a round already
and reported that everything
checked out. It's almost time. I
don't think you'll have a chance to
meet her till after. Come on,
follow me.

They walk and weave through hordes of people, some crew, some back-stage pass fans, groupies, roadies and suits alike.