



# The *LOADED* PIGEON

(A movie)

By  
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# The *LOADED* PIGEON

## CAST in order of appearance:

TONY.....40 and 80 years old. Old Italian  
butcher.

ANGELO.....39 and 79 years old. Italian,  
Old butcher.

LOUISA.....34 and 78 years old. Tony's  
wife, funny.

ROSA.....34 and 77 years old. Angelo's  
wife.

SONNY.....14 and 50 years old. Tony's son.

ANGELO Jr.....14 and 50 years old. Angelo's son.

BARBARA.....45 years old, attractive, Sonny's wife.

ANNA MARIA.....42 years old, pretty, Angelo's wife.

CHRIS.....21 years old, Sonny's son.

KIM.....19 years old, beautiful, Angelo's  
beautiful daughter.

MORRIS.....70 years old, conniving  
accountant.

IZZY.....68 years old, Jewish bar owner.

CHOOCH.....40 years old, weasel, trains  
pigeons.

LEWIE.....45 years old, bookie.

FRANKIE.....35 years old, shylock.

MOBSTERS.....Various ages.

XXXXXXXXXXXXX

At directors discretion, the enunciation of TONY, ANGELO, LOUISA and ROSA should be spoken with heavy Italian accent.

## The *LOADED* PIGEON

Little Italy. N.Y.C. INT: Afternoon: BUTCHER SHOP: 1950:

INT: Cutting up a chicken, 40 year old TONY MARCHESSE 1  
shakes his head in disgust as he looks through his window at  
his competitors butcher shop across the street:

His cousin ANGELO, who is putting sign in window, shakes 2  
his head in disgust and starts talking to self.

TONY

11 cents! How can he be so  
*stupido* and charge 11 cents  
for a chicken? He's nuts, that  
*sominabitch!* He's tryin' to  
put me out business, that's  
what he's doin', tryin' to put  
me out business! Well I fix  
his ass! Nobody fuckaround  
with Tony Marchesse.

TONY stops cutting chicken, gets black marker and 3  
makes sign on paper bag. "*Chicken, all you want, 10 cents a  
pound*" and puts it in his window and smiles.

TONY (cont'd)

How you like that, Angelo, how  
you like that? "*Es faschim!*"  
Is that how you pay me back  
for lending you the money to  
buy you building after I buy  
mine? I used to make lot money  
and then you open up a butcher  
shop cross the street from  
me... Why the hell you no open  
two blocks away?

CUT: INT: In his butcher shop across the street, seeing 4  
what has happened, ANGELO shakes his head, gets a black  
marker and rewrites his sign. "*The best chicken. Today only,  
9 cents a pound.*" HE laughs as HE puts sign in window and  
then gives the finger to TONY who's watching HIM. TONY gives  
him the finger back. Takes in his sign and lowers the price  
to eight cents.

TONY (cont'd)

(Loud, to self.)

"Bafongul," I drive you out business, Angelo. If that's the last thing I do. And if you think I gonna let my Sonny boy play with your Angelo Jr. you crazy. You hear, you crazy.

CUT: CONEY ISLAND: HOT AFTERNOON:

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EXT: TONY'S 14-year old son, SONNY and ANGELO'S 14-year-old son, ANGELO Jr., are swimming.

ANGELO gets a cramp and almost drowns, but fortunately TONY pulls him by the hair and saves him.

ANGELO JR.

(Spitting out water.)

You saved my life, Tony. I don't know how I'm gonna pay you back?

SONNY

Buy me two Nathan's hot dogs, fries and a large orange drink and we'll call it even.

ANGELO JR.

Wish I could, but I'm broke.

SONNY

Well, if that's the case, then I'll buy you two dogs, and we'll share the fries and the Orange, deal?

ANGEL

(Slaps Sonny five.)

Deal! Wonder what my father would say about us being such good friends?

SONNY

Before they became enemies, they were as close as we are... I guess shit happens?

ANGELO Jr.

Hope that never happens to us,  
I mean the shit part.

THEY both laugh.

INT: Back to the butcher shops: The price war continues, 6  
until it reaches two cents. With both looking through their  
window, they start to pull their hair, cry then laugh.

THEY open the doors of their shops and start to walk across  
the street.

Nearing each other in the middle of the street, menacingly  
they put their hands in their pockets as if to pull out a gun.

Coming face to face, they both smile and ANGELO offers TONY some snuff.

ANGELO

Want a little snuff,  
"cousina?" Here... And what  
you doin', Toni? You tryin'  
to drive me out business?  
Don't I have to take care of  
Rosa and my boy, "chadrul!"

TONY

You tryin' to drive me out of  
business, you *sominabitch!*  
How can you sell the chicken  
for two cents when it cost me  
seven cents a pound?  
"Manage". You want little  
snuff? It's very good.

ANGELO

Forget about you garbage.  
Here, this is snuff. Not the  
cheap shit you sniff. Here,  
try it, you gonna like it,  
'cause it's a "*Molto beine.*"

THEY both try each other's snuff.

TONY

You right, yours is much  
better. "*Cuanto costa,*"  
Angelo?

ANGELO

25 cents. But you got to know where and I ain't tellin, so there, "Skooch."

TONY

How the hell you like that? Even though you tryin' to drive me out business, we still "Cowsins," no? And how come Angelo Jr. no play with my Sonny boy no more? "Famiglia," Angelo, we always "famiglia."

CUT: EXT: DAY: ON OPPOSING ROOFTOPS: FLYING PIGEONS: 7

SONNY looks at new pigeon and yells to ANGELO JR. on roof across the street.

SONNY

Hey *douche bag*, one of your clinkers just joined my birds. By right, I should keep it,  
(Laughs.)  
but it's just like you, dumb and disgusting.

ANGELO JR.

Cheap shit. How many of your dumb birds did I give you back? You owe me, you owe me.

INT: That night: Having dinner with his wife ROSA and his Son Angelo Jr., Angelo is livid. 8

ANGELO

I'm tellin' you Rosa for the last time. I want you to stop goin' to church with Louisa. Toni, that *sominabitch* is drivin' me crazy and he's makin' me poor too! From now on, "Famiglia" or no "famiglia," I forbid my family to have anything to do with my "Cowsins" Tony's "famiglia" and that's it! That's final! When I die, then you can talk to that *sominabitch* and his

(MORE)

ANGELO (CONT'D)  
family. When I die and not  
before!

INT: That night: Having dinner with his wife LOUISA 9  
and His son SONNY, TONY is also livid.

TONY  
That *sominabitch!* He's makin'  
me give it a way! You know how  
much I was sellin' the  
chickens for? What sellin'?  
I was givin' them away. Three  
cents. I was busier than I  
ever was and you know what? I  
must lost a millions dollars  
today. From now on, I forbid  
my family to have anything to  
do with Angelo's "*famiglia!*"  
And that means you gonna have  
to find somebody else to go to  
confession with Louisa...

LOUISA  
But...

TONY  
I no wanna hear but, I'm tired  
of but, and that goes for you  
too, Sonny boy...

SONNY  
...But Angelo Jr. and me  
are...

TONY  
I no wanna hear no butts from  
you too, mister. When I die,  
that's when you can go to  
confession with Rosa, Louisa  
and that's when you can talk  
to Angelo Jr., Sonny boy.  
Not before! When I die, you  
hear? When I die and the way  
business is going, it feels  
like I'm dying.

CUT: 30 YEARS LATER: DAY: CEMETERY: 10

First we see ANGELO being buried.  
The family and many Italians are grieving.

A year later we see TONY being buried. BOTH 11  
Families are present and grieving. SONNY'S wife BARBARA and  
their SON CHRIS are standing apart from the rest of their  
family.

THEY appear to be annoyed and give dirty looks to ANGELO, his  
wife ANNA MARIA, because their four kids can't stop laughing.  
Upon the death of her husband TONY, much to the consternation  
of SONNY, his mother, LOUISA announces she's going to move in  
with ROSA, the wife of ANGELO, their archenemy.

Their families are present.

LOUISA

Now that Tony and Angelo no  
longer here to say but, I'm  
gonna move in with my best  
friend Rosa, and don't give me  
no buts.

WE hear lots of oohs and aahs.

ANGELO JR.

(Whispers)

Poor uncle Tony. Him and pop,  
may they rest peace were  
enemies for 40 years and they  
die six months apart. Looks  
like they couldn't live with  
or without each other. And we  
all knew their beloved wives  
were friends on the sly.

ANNA MARIA

Your father was right. That  
family was always fucked up.  
I mean they didn't even bury  
him yet and his wife is moving  
inwith Rosa. They're both  
gonna Turn over in their  
(To children.)  
graves... And all of you better  
stop this laughing. Even though  
we haven't spoken in years,  
they're burying your uncle. And

(MORE)



ANNA MARIA (Cont'd)  
you Kim, you're 19 years old.  
Why don't you show some  
decorum? Is that what I get  
for sending you to college?  
And stop ogling your cousin,  
Chris. Haven't I forbid you  
from seeing him And I know  
what you did with him you,  
that's what you are, "*Putan,*  
*Putan!*" But no more, I  
(Cries.)  
swear to Christ, no more.

KIM  
Stop crying and that's what  
you think I'm a "*Putan?*" And  
he's ogling me, so what do you  
expect. My professor taught  
me, when thouest are ogled,  
ogle back. Especially if he's  
gorgeous. And Chris is some  
hunk, I mean, what can I do,  
he's so gorgeous.

ANNA MARIA  
Sex, sex, sex. Is that what  
college is all about these  
days?

KIM  
Why don't you ask your beloved  
ex-President Clinton, Ma?

CUT: INT: CU: WE see 65-year-old MORRIS, who has been 12  
Both Family's accountant for 40 years, going over books.

EXT: Morris shows up at funeral with his young, gorgeous 13  
wife, Rivka, a cunning Israeli.

For some reason, both families never liked Morris and start  
muttering.

As Morris approaches THEM, they cover up their distaste and  
act as if they like him.

As preparations for the funeral begins, ANNA MARIA talks to  
her daughter, KIM.

ANNA MARIA

Look at Sonny's wife. How could he marry such a *floozy* and she's not even Italian.

KIM

Neither is the Pope, Ma.

MARIA SPEAKS TO Kim, as she looks at Sonny's wife.

ANNA MARIA

I'm sorry Kim, she's the '*Putan*,' not you, sweetheart. Look at her dyed blonde hair and she's not even Italian.

KIM

You said that already...

ANNA MARIA

Uncle Tony never liked her, may he rest in peace and me too. She's a disgrace to our whole God damn family.

SONNY'S wife, BARBARA comes over to ANNA MARIA and kisses her.

BARBARA

Hi ya, Anna. How ya doin'?

ANNA MARIA

I've done better, thank you.

BARBARA

Gee, Kim, you look beautiful. How's school?

KIM

I love it Aunt Barbara. How's Uncle Sonny and Chris.

BARBARA

Uncle Sonny's a little depressed, distraught, as usual he's still nuts, and you know how Chris is, don't you?

INT: SONNY speaks to his son, Chris:

SONNY

If I were you Chris, I'd forget about Kim. She's your cousin, she's your cousin.

CHRIS

Haven't you heard of kissin' cousins, Pop?

SONNY

Don't be such a wise-ass, please and besides, you're only 21. Tell me you're not in love with her.

CHRIS

Weren't you 21 when you married Mom?

SONNY

Those days everybody got married when they were wet behind the ears. You're going to become a doctor, aren't you supposed to be smarter than your old man?

ANGELO wanders over, looks at SONNY and extends his hand.  
POV: Having been pissed all those years, after a beat SONNY, shakes it.

ANGELO

Sorry about your old man, Sonny.

SONNY

Thanks Ang.

ANGELO

And how the hell is my favorite Doctor doing?

CHRIS

I'm doing fine, Uncle Angelo... How's Aunt Anna Maria and...

SONNY

...Kim. Ask him about Kim, not that you have to ask him, right Chris. We know you see each other, don't we Angelo?

CHRIS

We talk. Any way, I'm going to go and smoke a cigarette. See you later, fellas.

CHRIS walks off and we see KIM warily follow him.

INT: RIVKA appears to argue with MORRIS: 15  
Obviously, this has been an ongoing hassle between them.

MORRIS

This is neither the time nor the place to ask me for a new diamond wedding band, damn it! Buy me, buy me and buy me. What is it with you, damn it?

RIVKA

Well, what else is there, damn it?

MORRIS

I just bought you a Mazeratti that I don't know how to drive. This is crazy! The month before, a sable. What the hell do you think I'm made of, money? I'm into Frankie and the mob for a lot of bread, and it's all because of you, damn it! Buy me shit.

RIVKA

Why do you think I married you? It's certainly not your good looks and if you're thinking of a divorce, well be my guest, "Buhby." There must be a million guys that want my body and I just might take you for all you got, handsome.

MORRIS

All you Israeli's are nothing more than gold diggers.

RIVKA

You better believe it.

INT: SONNY and ANGELO commiserate.

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ANGELO

Gee, I'm real sorry about your old man. Even though I haven't talked to him in years, I loved Uncle Tony. What a guy, he was my favorite uncle.

SONNY

He was your only uncle, wiseass.

ANGELO

Picky, picky, picky.

SONNY

And your father died, what six months ago?

ANGELO

Yeah, guess they couldn't live with each other or without each other, right...?

SONNY

... Be it that they're buried along side of each other looks like they'll bust their balls even in...

ANGELO

Now, it's just me-and-you Sonny. I took over my old man's business but not you right?

SONNY

I make too much bread cutting hair, I'm a barber and last year was great and this year looks even better. Ya know, after they put Pop in the ground, how's about me and you going over to Izzy's, and hoist a few...?

ANGELO

Sounds good to me. We'll talk about "*The good old days.*"

SONNY

If you insist?

ANGELO

I insist.

SONNY

Me too, so there.

WE see the lowering of the casket.

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SONNY

Listen Barb, you go home, I'm gonna have a few with Angelo at Izzy's.

BARBARA

Have six drinks on me, Sonny.

ANGELO

Anna, I'm gonna have a few beers with Sonny. I'll be home after I have a little chat with my cuz, if that's okay with you?

ANNA MARIA

A few beers and how many vodka gimlets? Just don't throw up on your new suit, Angelo. Our cleaning bills are high enough.

SONNY

Where's Chris?

ANGELO

And where's my daughter?

BARBARA and ANNA MARIA

Guess!

We see CHRIS and KIM in a sports car driving away.

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SONNY and ANGELO enter IZZY'S bar. Lots of Mafioso Types are there.

19

ANGELO

How ya doing, Iz?

IZZY

(Laughs.)  
Everyone once and the easy  
ones twice.

SONNY

Same old corny Izzy. Guess  
that's why I love you man.

IZZY

Hi ya Sonny. Sorry about your  
dad. Just came home from the  
funeral?

SONNY

You got it.

IZZY

Good to see my two favorite  
kids back together.

ANGELO

We're both pushin' 50 and he  
calls us kids.

IZZY

To me, 50 is a kid. What can  
I get you guys?

ANGELO

How's about a vodka gimlet.

SONNY

Sounds good, make that two.

IZZY

(Fixing drinks.)  
Be my pleasure. Hey Sonny, is  
it true what Morris told me?

SONNY

What's that?

IZZY

Your mother's moving in with  
Angelo's mother. I thought  
they were enemies?

SONNY

I can't believe it myself. I  
guess when you believe in  
Jesus, shit happens, and you  
know; you could use a trim Iz.

IZZY touches his hair and then gives them drinks.

ANGELO

...Yours and my father's  
vendetta don't mean "ugatz,"  
when it comes to religion.

SONNY

(Drinks.)  
Ain't that the truth?

ANGELO

(Drinks.)  
It "soitenly" is.

SONNY

Not that I'm complaining, but  
that fuckin' accountant of  
yours got some big mouth.

ANGELO

If I remember correctly  
cousin, and I use that term  
loosely, he's your number man,  
too.

SONNY

Must you tell everyone, damn  
it?

IZZY, SONNY and ANGELO laugh.

IZZY

It's so good to see the both  
of you together. When you  
were kids, the two of you were  
inseparable.

ANGELO

Yeah, we were, weren't we?

SONNY

You don't say. Hey, Ang,  
let's sit at a table in the  
back, 'cause what ever this  
blabbermouth hears, he's sure  
to tell your accountant,  
'cause  
we know they're best friends.

SONNY and ANGELO move to a table.

ANGELO

Want another one?



SONNY

Need you ask?

Because they are cousins and have always really loved each other, they get nostalgic.

ANGELO

(Loud.)

Make that two more, Izzy... Lot of water under the bridge, *amigo*. Both our dads are gone, our mothers are gonna live together, we got kids and I feel like an old man.

SONNY

You look it too.

ANGELO

Thanks for reminding me.

SONNY

Don't mention it... Bet you think I'm gonna take over my old man's butcher shop like you, "*Strunz?*" Not a chance.

ANGELO

You're a big time barber, I knew you wouldn't, but me, hey, it beats selling bicycles and I'm not complaining. It's doing better than I thought it would. I never realized it, but Pop was some businessman. Ya know, he sold some of the biggest hotels and restaurants in the city, and now that it's mine, I'm making a bundle, and I just got some real nice filets. Stop by and I'll give you a couple of steaks on the house.

IZZY brings drinks and THEY drink.

SONNY

There was a time, way back, when the both of them came on like they were paupers. My old man left my mother over a

(MORE)

SONNY (Cont'd)  
million bucks in stock. Not  
bad for a guinea butcher from  
Sicily, huh?

CUT: EXT: Going back in time we will see what will be 20  
described as in Scene 1 and the games they played.

ANGELO  
Remember when they had those  
price wars?

SONNY  
Will I ever forget...?  
Remember when we used to play  
Johnny-on-the-pony?

ANGELO  
Kick-the-can?

SONNY  
Three feet to Germany.

ANGELO  
Potsy?

SONNY  
You played Potsy. To me it  
was a sissy game.

ANGELO  
Remember the birds we used to  
fly?

SONNY  
I loved those pigeons.

ANGELO  
Me too. Man, I remember  
running home from school and  
straight up to the roof.  
Greatest time I ever had.

SONNY  
Some kids had dogs or cats, we  
had birds. Beautiful homing  
pigeons.

ANGELO  
Those sure were the days.

SONNY and ANGELO

(Sings.)

"Those were the days my  
friends, I thought they'd  
never end. Those were the  
days, oh Yes those were the  
days."

SONNY

Let me tell you Ang, now I'm  
married, got my boy Chris, I  
make a small bundle cutting  
hair, but what I wouldn't give  
to have my birds back.

ANGELO

Me too Sonny. Remember how we  
used to bust each other's  
balls about who had the  
fastest and the smartest  
birds?

SONNY

It was known on Mulberry  
Street, when it came to birds,  
me, big Sonny had the best  
birds.

ANGELO

I hate to tell you this, my  
good man, but everyone in the  
neighborhood used to drool  
over my birds. Why do you  
think you stopped hanging  
around with me and don't blame  
it on our fathers. You were  
jealous of my homers and, me  
so admit it you *cocksucker*,  
admit it.

SONNY

That will be the day that a  
Marchese is ever jealous of a  
fuckin' Galucci, namely one  
Angelo Galucci. If I remember  
correctly, you had the  
ugliest, the slowest and the  
dumbest homing pigeons that  
ever flew the coop.

ANGELO

OH YEAH?!

SONNY

YEAH!

ANGELO

Says who, *douche* bag, says who?

SONNY

Blow it out of your ass, will  
(Loud.)  
you Angelo? Hey Izzy, two more  
and make it snappy! Ya know,  
if I were you, I'd start  
taking some of that Ginko  
shit. It supposed to improve  
your memory. In fact if I was  
you I'd take a whole bottle.  
You need it man... I don't  
believe it, this *schmuck*  
thinks his birds were faster  
and smarter  
than mine.

ANGELO

If your birds were so smart,  
how come they landed on my  
rooftop and not yours?

IZZY

(With drinks.)

Gentlemen, gentlemen, what are  
you arguing about.

SONNY

He's trying to give me some  
shit that his stupid clinkers  
were smarter than mine.

IZZY

What's a clinker?

ANGELO

Pigeons, Iz, don't you  
remember, when we were kids we  
used to fly pigeons.

IZZY

They used to shit all over the  
place. I hate pigeons.

SONNY

How could an intelligent man like you hate pigeons? They like you Izzy, they really do. And me, I love them. Always have, always will, my birds were the fastest and smartest birds there ever was.

ANGELO

What a crock of shit. Don't believe him, Izzy. He's getting older and his mind is playing tricks on him.

SONNY

Oh, yeah?!

ANGELO

YEAH!!!

SONNY

FUCK YOU!

ANGELO

WHERE YOU BREATHE!

IZZY

You guys just started talking and now...

ANGELO

...Now I'd like to break his fuckin' head.

SONNY

Where are you going to get ten men in a hurry?

IZZY

You're grown men. This is ridiculous.

ANGELO

This whole thing is ridiculous.

SONNY

Yeah, I'm sorry for losing it, Ang... Hey, I just got an idea.

ANGELO

Lay it on me.

SONNY

Why don't we get a couple of birds, you fly them from your mother's roof and I'll fly them from my mother's roof. We'll train them and then we'll have a little race.

ANGELO

The loser has to admit to both families...

SONNY

...And the neighborhood...

ANGELO

...That the Galucci's birds are the fastest...

SONNY

...You mean the Marchese birds are the fastest...

ANGELO

...And smartest homers this side of Houston Street...

SONNY

...And how's about we make a small wager just to keep it interesting.

ANGELO

Name it.

SONNY

How about five thou?

ANGELO

How about ten thou?

SONNY

15...

ANGELO

20...

SONNY

30...

ANGELO

Make it 50 big ones and you  
got a bet.

SONNY

Let's shake on it.

SONNY and ANGELO shake hands.

IZZY

You guys are actually going to  
bet \$50,000?

ANGELO

And you are going to hold the  
money, my man.

SONNY

And I second the motion.

SONNY and ANGELO write checks and give them to IZZY.

ANGELO

Please give these dated checks  
to the winner, Izzy, which  
will be me of course and when  
shall that date be, *Cuz?*

SONNY

Next month okay with you?

ANGELO

Sounds perfecto.

CUT: EXT: LITTLE ITALY: Street: Night:

21

ANGELO is walking and talking to FRANKIE, a Mafia shylock on  
street.

ANGELO

Frankie, all I need is 50gs to  
cover the bet. What's the big  
deal, you know I'm good for  
it, I got my butcher shop and  
you know how good I do, so  
what's the big deal, Frankie?

FRANKIE

I'll give you my answer in a  
minute. First I have to make  
a stop in Luigi's shoe store  
over here. Come on, watch me  
say hello.

THEY enter LUIGI'S shoe store and HE looks scared when he sees FRANKIE. 22

FRANKIE menacingly grabs LUIGI by the shirt.

FRANKIE (Cont'd)  
Luigi, you little, fuckin'  
skeeve bastard. Where's my  
fuckin' money, where's my  
(Smacks Luigi.)  
Fuckin' money?

LUIGI  
(Frightened.)  
I'm sorry Frankie, business  
not so good. I'll give you  
your money in two days,  
please, just two days.

FRANKIE  
Two days, two days, I ain't  
got two days and neither do  
(Pulls out gun.)  
You. You see this rod, I'm  
gonna stick it up your ass and  
blow your brains out, you dumb  
fuckin' wop.

LUIGI  
I'm sorry Frankie, I'm sorry.  
Don't I always pay you? On my  
mother's grave, I pay you this  
Friday.

FRANKIE  
Okay *deuchebag*, I'll see you  
Friday at 12 sharp, '*gapish?*'  
Lets go Angelo; I gotta get  
out of here before I loose my  
temper.

CUT: EXT: A couple of hours later. LITTLE ITALY. Street. 23

SONNY is talking to FRANKIE, the same Mafia mobster.

SONNY  
What are you busting my balls  
for? All I'm asking for is 50  
grand, and you guys, I mean  
that's what you do, isn't it  
Frankie? You lend money to  
people who need it, and I need  
it.



MOBSTER

Yeah, that's what I do, I shy,  
but keep it down will you, and  
come on; I gotta pay a call on  
Murray the Jew. We'll have a  
couple of hotdogs, maybe a  
knish, a bottle of celery  
soda.  
These fuckin' Jews, own every  
kosher deli, can you believe  
it?

Cut: THEY enter MURRAY'S kosher deli. MURRAY is behind 24  
the counter tending to a customer.

POV: When he sees FRANKIE, he gets frightened and hurriedly  
finishes with customer.

MURRAY

Frankie, how nice to see you,  
what can I get you, a little  
corn beef, pastrami?

FRANKIE

How about a couple of dogs,  
with mustard and sour kraut,  
two knishes with mustard and  
two bottles of celery soda,  
for me and my *gumba*.

MURRAY

Why don't you have a seat and  
I'll bring it over to you.

FRANKIE and SONNY sit at table.

FRANKIE

I'm gonna kill this fuckin'  
Jew, I swear to God.

MURRAY brings food to table.

MURRAY

(Gives money)

Listen Frankie; I have half of  
what I owe you, the rest I'll  
give you in two days.

FRANKIE

Two days, two days, what is  
this some kind of a fuckin'  
conspiracy? Everybody I'm  
(MORE)

FRANKIE (Cont'd)  
talkin' to gives me this  
bullshit, two days. Listen,  
you Jew bastard, I want my  
(Shows gun.)  
Money or... You know what  
happened to Hong the Chink,  
Don't you?

MURRAY  
You don't have to get tough  
with me; You'll have all your  
money in two days, including  
your interest, you 'gonnif.'

FRANKIE  
Okay get out of here; can't  
you see my friend and me are  
eating? What do you want to  
give me indigestion? Get out  
of here.

MURRAY leaves and eating, FRANKIE talks to SONNY.

FRANKIE (Cont'd)  
These fuckin' Jews, you can't  
live with them and if it  
wasn't for these dogs, you  
can't live without them, now  
what were you sayin', Sonny?

SONNY  
I need 50 big ones to cover my  
bet with my fuckin' cousin,  
Angelo, and come on by and  
I'll give you a trim on the  
house.

FRANKIE  
Okay Sonny, I'm givin' you the  
(Gives money)  
bread, not because of the free  
trim, anyway here. But  
remember, a week after the  
race, which is in one month  
right, its 50% interest every  
week there after, and that's  
only because I love you,  
*gapish?*

CU: INT: We see SONNY and ANGELO buy pigeons, feed and 25  
equipment.

CUT: Becoming so involved they begin to disregard their 26  
Careers for their newly resumed passion, racing Homing  
pigeons.

INT: BARBARA is letting SONNY have it for not working. 27

BARBARA

Sonny, you better stop with  
this ridiculous pigeon  
bullshit of yours. You  
haven't been to your  
barbershop all week! And  
what's this I hear you betting  
Angelo 50 large, are you crazy  
or what, and where are you  
going to get that kind of  
money?

CU: INT: Having dinner, ANNA MARIE is lambasting 28  
ANGELO.

BARBARA

And what have you become  
'toozy baths?' You have a  
freakin' butcher shop  
remember, that's how we eat,  
remember? Forget about your  
fuckin' pigeons, and if you  
bet 50 grand, I'm leaving you!

POV: Despite the warnings, they become like two little boys,  
sending away for literature and calling in experts, which  
they each secretly do.

CUT: INT: MORRIS speaks to IZZY in his bar. 29

IZZY

Those two crazy bastards bet  
50 grand on whose pigeon is  
going to win. "Nu?"

MORRIS

50 grand, on pigeons? That's  
"Meschugeh."

IZZY

And I'm holding the 'gelt,'  
two checks for one hundred  
thou.

MORRIS

How interesting.

CU: INT: BARBARA and CHRIS are chastising SONNY for spending so much time with his pigeons. 30

BARBARA

You're going to blow your whole fucking business, you lunatic! What man, at your age flies pigeons and bets all that money no less?

CHRIS

She's right pop. The whole neighborhood is laughing that you're trying to relive your youth and you're going to go broke doing it.

CU: INT: ANNA MARIA is arguing with ANGELO in his butcher shop. 31

ANNA MARIA

So, I see you finally remembered you have a business.

ANGELO

What are you talking about? I'm here, ain't I?

ANNA MARIA

It's the first time you've been here in two weeks.

ANGELO

So what, Pascale and Michael, they can take care of things. I'm busy damn it!

CU: INT: MORRIS and IZZY in his bar. Mobsters are present. 32

MORRIS

So, you won't believe it. Sonny and Angelo are going to have a pigeon race in six months and they want me to take three of their pigeons to Philadelphia and then they want me to release them. They said I have to call them the minute I do.

IZZY

Interesting, very interesting.

MORRIS

(Whispers.)

So I was thinking. The whole neighborhood knows about their stupid bet, right?

IZZY

Lewie the book, Frankie the shylock, they're all saying everybody's betting a ton of bread. Lewie told me, he himself has booked over a half mil and Frankie has shyed twice as much. Seems everybody's betting on those two Italian *schmucks*.

MORRIS

You know how much I'm into that shylock bastard Frankie for? Over a 300 big ones, and before, Rivka's through, who knows how much more? So, what would happen if by accident I release Sonny's birds two hours before Angelo's? Maybe I should bet a zillion dollars on that guinea, Sonny and maybe Morris the accountant is going to make back ten times what he owes those cocksuckers. I am going to bankrupt Lewie the book once and for all.

IZZY

You're gonna take him for a million bucks? Fantastic. I always hated that *Wop*.

MORRIS

You ain't the only one.

IZZY

Fifty, fifty.

MORRIS

You put a couple of dollars down, like maybe your bar and we'll be fifty-fifty.

CU: EXT: Various locals: Different times of day: 33

We see MORRIS and IZZY placing large bets with various bookies.

POV: Excited about the resumption of the life long feud between the MARCHESE'S and GALUCCI'S, we see the entire meat market, the shopkeepers and all of Little Italy making exorbitant bets.

CU: EXT: DAY: SONNY on rooftop kisses his red pigeon. 34

SONNY

Daddy loves his little pooh-

(Gives food, tosses bird.)

Pooh. Want something to eat sweetheart? Here, now I want you to fly away and teach your brothers and sisters to fly back to papa.

SONNY watches birds fly away.

SONNY (cont'd)

(Screams.)

No! You have to come back you stupid bastard! I told you to tell them to fly back! Where are you going? Don't leave me... Please don't leave me.

CU: EXT: DAY: ANGELO on rooftop is singing to his pigeons. 35

ANGELO

*"Angelo loves his beautiful ba-bies. Now I want you all to fly away and when I whistle I want you all to come back to pa-pa."*

ANGELO opens cage and all the pigeons fly away.

ANGELO (cont'd)

(Screaming.)

COME BACK! COME BACK! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?! Come back. Please come back.

CU: INT: ANGELO'S living room:

36

POV: Depressed, ANGELO is talking to his wife, ANNA MARIA.

ANGELO (cont'd)

So, what the hell am I supposed to do, baby? My freakin' birds flew away. I owe Frankie the shy 50 grand and I'm gonna lose to that asshole cousin of mine.

(Loud.)

I HATE YOU, YOU FUCKIN' MARCHESE!

ANNA MARIA

How could you borrow from Frankie the shy? You know what he does to people that can't pay, anyway, relax, relax. Stop acting like a fucking "Chadrul." Go see that asshole, Chooch and buy a couple of birds from him. He has millions of them, remember?

ANGELO

What a great idea! I knew I married you, for a good reason.

ANNA MARIA

It's not the head I give you, right?

CU: EXT: The next morning: CHOOCH'S roof top:

37

ANGELO, devious, is going to try and buy CHOOCH'S best birds.

ANGELO

I want a couple of your best Homers, Chooch. Seems me and my cousin have a score to settle.

CHOOCH

Yeah, I heard about your bet and you're a little bit late, Angelo.

ANGELO

What do you mean I'm a little bit late? It's eight o'clock in the morning.

CHOOCH

Sonny was here six o'clock this morning and bought six of my top birds and it cost him a bundle.

ANGELO

Sonofabitch!

CHOOCH

But don't worry. I gave HIM a few of my good birds, but the best I kept for you, *paisan*. If Sonny was here, I knew you'd be here soon enough, "*Capish?*"

ANGELO

I knew you wouldn't let me down.

CHOOCH

Hey, we've been friends for years, but it's gonna cost you.

ANGELO

How much?

CHOOCH

How many birds are we talking about?

ANGELO

I want at least six birds that are winners, that won't let me down. That will come home to Papa, know what I mean Jellybean?

CHOOCH shows pigeons.

CHOOCH

Here are my six best birds. Sylvia, Rebecca, Carie, Janet, Genna and my number one bird, Leslie. Smartest and fastest

(MORE)



CHOOCH (Cont'd)

Homers I ever saw. Let them smell and see a pair of red bloomers and they'll follow you forever. These six beauties are going to cost you a thou, cash on the barrel.

ANGELO

A thousand bucks for six pigeons? What are you out of your fucking snap?

CHOOCH

Hey, I know how much you bet Sonny and I hear you borrowed 50 big ones from Frankie, hey, everybody does and I'd say a thou is cheap, I mean you're loaded.

ANGELO

(Writes check)

Here, don't spend it all in one place.

CUT: CU: EXT: SAME ROOF TOP: AN HOUR LATER:

38

Having climbed six flights of stairs, SONNY appears winded.

SONNY

Jesus, Chooch, guess I'm not as young as-I-used to be. How ya doing, *goombah*?

CHOOCH

Not bad. What a nice surprise.

SONNY

Surprise my ass. You knew I was gonna see you. I need a half a dozen of your best birds.

CHOOCH

Sorry brother, but you're a little late.

SONNY

Late? It's nine o'clock in the morning. What kind of late?

CHOOCH

Your cousin Angelo was here an hour ago and bought six of my top birds for 1500 *smackeroos*.

(Laughs.)

Seems his birds flew the coop and you?

SONNY

Mine did too. And don't tell me that cocksucker bought your top birds? Please don't tell me.

CHOOCH

I knew you'd be here, Sonny, so, because we've been friends all these years and you gave me that tip on Microsoft remember, that's why I saved my best birds for you, but it's gonna cost you.

SONNY

How much?

CHOOCH shows SONNY pigeons.

CHOOCH

How does a deuce sound? 2,000 for six of the best birds I ever raised? This here is Sylvia, Rebecca, Carie, Janet, Genna and my number one bird, Leslie. Let them smell and see a pair of red bloomers and they have to be your wife's, because they love the smell of snatch, and they'll follow you anywhere. So?

SONNY

2,000 bucks for six pigeons? That's highway robbery!

CHOOCH

Take it or leave it, take it  
or leave it and the whole  
neighborhood know you borrowed  
50 big ones from Frankie.  
He's a mean son-of-a-bitch, so  
be careful. So, you want  
them, or what?

SONNY

(Counts money.)

I only have 300. I'll give  
you the rest in an hour or so,  
but you have to meet me down  
stairs, 'cause I can't take  
these steps.

CHOOCH

(Counts money.)

I'll be down stairs at eleven  
o'clock, but don't be late. I  
hate waiting for my bread.

CHOOCH, acting quite benevolent, puts pigeons in cage and  
gives them to SONNY.

CHOOCH (cont'd)

And just to show that we're  
friends, I'm not charging you  
for the cage.

SONNY

(Leaving.)

Gee thanks.

CUT: Embarrassed, SONNY enters lingerie shop and 39  
awkwardly asks for and buys red bloomers.

CUT: We see ANGELO looking through his wife's underwear 40  
Drawer and much to his amazement cops her red bloomers.

CUT: We see an excited SONNY and ANGELO with their birds 41  
on their respective rooftops rubbing the red bloomers in  
their pigeons faces.

SONNY plays rock and roll music and ANGELO sings opera to the  
pigeons.

Day turns to night and we still see them at it. 42

CU: INT: NIGHT: BARBARA'S APARTMENT facing the Hudson River: 43

Getting drunk, and liking each other, BARBARA commiserates with ANNA MARIA.

BARBARA

I'm telling you Anna, Sonny's lost his freakin' marbles. He leaves here six in the morning and where does he go?

ANNA MARIA

To see those disgusting pigeons, right?

BARBARA

Angelo, too?

ANNA MARIA

What's that they say about birds-of-a-feather? And his butcher store is going to pot. He's never there.

BARBARA

Want another?

ANNA MARIA

Might as well.

BARBARA pours two scotches and gives one to ANNA MARIA.

ANNA MARIA

I'll show that pigeon loving bastard how to drink!

BARBARA

ME TOO! And as far as I'm concerned, he can move in with his mother. That way instead of running out of here in the Morning, he can just walk up six flights. So, how serious do you think they are?

ANNA MARIA

Pretty serious.

CUT: INT: SAME NIGHT: ROSA'S LIVING ROOM:

44

ROSA

I like that I see Angelo everyday, but Louisa, he no go to the butcher shop no more. "Que corsa?" And he smell like, you know pigeon shit is the worst shit.

LOUISA

You think my Sonny any different? All he talk about is his pigeons and he stink too. I tell him, you barber, no? How can you cut hair when you with your disgusting birds all time? I ask him if he want to eat some *vongole*, fresh clams, I tell him and you know what?

ROSA

Angelo no eat nothing too. All he does is, you know, he move a cot on my roof.

CUT: NIGHT: ROOF TOP:

45

SONNY has set up a slide projector and is trying to teach his pigeons the various landmarks.

SONNY

Now, you see, that's the Major Deegan highway. You follow that all the way up to the East River. Then you go all the way down town and you cut cross-town. That's Houston Street, and that's Mulberry Street. And these are the red bloomers, Bloomers, you understand? So, Rubs bloomers in pigeon's beaks. here smell them, because you have to find them. Now remember, all you have to be concerned with are these red drawers, "capish?" And just remember, the Marchese's reputation is at stake.

Rooftop: Daybreak: ANGELO is cooing with his Pigeons 46  
and waving the red bloomers.

ANGELO  
(Singing opera.)  
"Vidi pag-li-acho, resta ju-  
ba..." Now you see these red  
bloomers? When you see them  
blowing-in-the-wind, you come  
to Papa and Papa will sing  
"Aida" for you. Now, I want  
you to show Papa how smart  
you are.

CU: HE releases birds. They fly away and HE becomes  
disappointed.

CU: Desperate, he begins to wave the red bloomers frantically  
and the birds, one by one return.

ANGELO  
I knew I could count on you.  
Let Papa give you a little  
(Kisses pigeons)  
Kiss. You love Papa, don't  
you?

CU: INT: CHRIS'S APARTMENT: 47

KIM is walking around in pajamas.

KIM  
So, what are we going to do?

CHRIS  
What do you mean, what are we  
going to do? We'll get  
married and have the baby,  
that's what we'll do.

Kim  
I don't want to have a baby.  
I'm only 19. I want to get my  
degree, I want to go to  
Europe. There are a million  
things I want to do before I  
settle down, and it's not  
you Chris, I love you and I  
think I want to spend the rest  
of my life with you, but not  
now, not yet.

CHRIS

Did you say you think you love me?

KIM

THAT'S RIGHT, I THINK, I THINK!

CU: EXT: 7 A.M.:

48

Having exited from their building, on the way to church a pigeon shits on LOUISA.

LOUISA

*SOMINABITCH!* That pigeon shit right on my new hat. I'm gonna fix that Sonny boy once and for all.

Much to her dismay, ROSA can't help but laugh.

LOUISA (cont'd)

And what the hell are you laughing about, you old witch?!

ROSA

(Can't stop laughing)

I only saw that in the movies. I'm sorry, but I think that's funny.

On cue, a pigeon shits on ROSA nose and LOUISA starts laughing.

LOUISA

Now that's funny, eh. That pigeon shit right on your nose. How does it smell, Rosa?

ROSA

That's got to be Angelo's pigeon, no?

LOUISA

(Laughing)

How can you tell that's Angelo's pigeon?

ROSA

(Wipes nose and sniffs)  
Smell like Angelo.

THEY both laugh and continue to church.

CU: INT: SONNY'S apartment:

49

Speaking to BARBARA, SONNY'S apprehensive about his bet with ANGELO.

SONNY

I'm bananas and everybody tells me Angelo's cool as a cucumber. Why is he so confident?

BARBARA

Maybe your so-called good friend, Chooch gave him smarter and faster birds than you?

SONNY

Think so?

BARBARA

His mother told your mother that Angelo's back at his butcher shop and he says that the race is in the bag.

SONNY

I gotta get that no good Chooch to do a little spying for me.

BARBARA

What's he going to charge you this time?

INT: ANGELO'S kitchen: Speaking to ANNA MARIA, he is 50 nervous.

ANGELO

My mother's worried that I am going to make a laughing stock of the Galucci name. She got a phone call from her brother in Sicily and he told her he heard that Sonny Marchese is going around bragging that Chooch sold me shit birds and he got the best.

(MORE)



ANGELO (Cont'd)

In fact he's going to call me up and want to increase our bet to a 100 grand. Sonny's a cheap sonofabitch. What's he doing betting a 100 grand? I MEAN WHERE THE HELL IS HE GOING TO GET THAT KIND OF BREAD?

ANNA MARIA

Do you believe that shit? Your uncle Carmine, hasn't called your mother in years.

ANGELO

That's what I mean. I have to find out if Sonny's birds are really faster than mine.

ANNA MARIA

And how are you going to do that, Mr. Genius?

ANGELO

I'm going to call up the "skooch," Chooch and ask him to double check on the birds he gave me.

We see SONNY sweating as he climbs the steps to visit CHOOCH on his rooftop.

51

CHOOCH

Why fancy meeting you here.

SONNY

Hey, Chooch, fuckin' steps are murder. So, I got to ask you something and I know it's gonna cost me. Did you give my fuckin' cousin Angelo faster and smarter birds than me.

CHOOCH

You want the truth? Cost you a yard.

SONNY

(Gives \$100)

Okay, now let me have the truth.

CHOOCH

What do you take me for a skieve, an ungrateful bastard. You turned me on to Microsoft, man. I told you, you got the best birds.

SONNY

Scouts honor.

CHOOCH

On my mother's freakin' grave.

EXT: An hour later on CHOOCH'S rooftop, ANGELO appears. 52

ANGELO

Chooch, you low-life sonofabitch.

CHOOCH

Did somebody call my name?

ANGELO

You didn't tell me that you sold Sonny, birds as fast as mine!

CHOOCH

Does Macy tell Gimbels?

ANGELO

Don't give any of your wise-ass shit. Who did you give your best birds too, Goddamnit!

CHOOCH

Since there's so much money involved in this here bet, information like that is expensive. Why, I bet if everybody that's betting on the Race knew who had the fastest and smartest birds, one might make a bundle.

ANGELO

Okay, okay how much?

CHOOCH

How does a deuce sound?

ANGELO

(Gives \$200.)

Here! Now tell me.

CHOOCH

I cannot tell a lie. You got the smartest and fastest birds I ever trained.

ANGELO

(Hugs Chooch.)

You swear?!

CHOOCH

On my mother's freakin' grave.

EXT: SONNY'S mother's rooftop: SHE is watering basil: 53

LOUISA

SHIT! WHEREVER I LOOK, PIGEON SHIT! I want you and you disgusting pigeons off my roof, you here?

SONNY

I can't Ma. I need two more weeks. Then I'll get rid of them, I promise Ma.

LOUISA

You know your birds shit on my new hat.

SONNY, finds it funny and tries not to laugh.

SONNY

Really? I'll buy you a new hat, Ma. I promise.

LOUISA

Rosa, that sominabitch laughed at me. Can you imagine how I felt?

SONNY

So laugh at her.

LOUISA

Oh, I laugh at her, good too.  
One of your birds shit right  
on her nose. And boy, it must  
stink pretty good.

SONNY

(Laughing.)

You mean the both of you were  
hit by...

LOUISA and SONNY

...Pigeon shit.

SONNY

I don't believe it, but listen  
Ma, don't be mad at me. Those  
were Angelo's birds. My birds  
would never do such a thing.  
Chooch told me he gave me the  
fastest and smartest birds  
this side of Delancy Street.

LOUISA

Are you sure they were  
Angelo's pigeons?

SONNY

Would I lie to you? Now, give  
me a kiss and when I come  
down you can make some *pasta  
fazul*.

INT: IZZY'S BAR:

54

MORRIS and IZZY are placing bets with Lewie the book.

LEWIE

(Writes.)

That makes it a cool three  
quarters of a mil on Sonny,  
Morris. What do you know that  
I don't?

MORRIS

I gotta hunch, that's all  
Lewie.

LEWIE

Seems your best friend got the same hunch as you. I mean putting up your bar, Izzy. You gotta be pretty damn sure, don't you?

IZZY

What the hell? You only live once, right Mo?

MORRIS

Only once, Iz, only once and next week Lewie, you're gonna owe me everything you got.

LEWIE

Pretty confident, aren't you Mr. Accountant?

MORRIS

(Laughs.)

I have to be or my wife Rivka will leave me.

LEWIE

Yeah, That's what I hear.

EXT: 1 A.M. ROOFTOP:

55

SONNY is showing pigeons slides as door opens and he is startled as BARBARA enters.

SONNY

Oh, it's you honey. You just scared the shit out of me. What are you doing here?

BARBARA

Checking up, that's all.

SONNY

And what are you checking up on, may I ask?

BARBARA

You. Glad to see you're with your birds instead of some blonde floozy.

SONNY

You're the only blonde floozy I love.

BARBARA

Promise?

SONNY

Get over here, you.

SONNY amorously kisses and starts to make love to her.

BARBARA

Sonny, what are you doing?

SONNY

You know what I'm doing, I'm horny and I've wanted to do it to you for weeks.

BARBARA

What about your pigeons?

SONNY

(Laughs.)

They won't tell a soul, I promise. They may shit on somebody, but they won't tell a soul and did you happen to talk to Chris?

BARBARA

He said I shouldn't tell you, but he's in love with Kim.

SONNY

So, what else is new?

EXT: Night: Rooftop:

56

ANGELO is rambling and will sing to his birds

ANGELO

Now remember girls, when you're flying back I don't want you to stop for nothing and that includes any clinkers. You Understand.

(Sings loud.)

*"Some enchanted evening, you will meet a Stranger. You will meet a stranger across a crowded room."*

SONNY and BARBARA hear ANGELO.

57

BARBARA

Oh, my God, that's Angelo.

SONNY

Don't I know?

BARBARA

Do you think he heard us?

SONNY

No, but I sure can hear that  
(Yells across roof)  
Loud mouth bastard. Hey,  
Mario, how's about keeping it  
down!

People that are annoyed, because they are sleeping and start yelling from their windows. 58

MAN 1

STOP MAKING THAT RACKET  
GODDAMNIT! I'M TRYING TO  
SLEEP!

MAN 2

IF YOU DON'T SHUT UP, I'M  
GOING TO CALL THE COPS!

WOMAN 1

WHO THE HELL IS MAKING ALL  
THAT NOISE?

SONNY

(Yells.)  
IT'S ANGELO GALUCCI, THAT'S  
WHO IT IS!

MAN 1

DID YOU SAY ANGELO GALUCCI?

BARBARA

YES HE DID!

ANGELO

(Yells.)  
BARBARA? Is that you?

BARBARA

You recognized my voice.

ANGELO

What the hell are you doing on  
the roof so late?

BARBARA

Just got laid, Ang, but don't  
tell Anna Maria, unless you  
want to do it to.

WOMAN 2

RIGHT ON FOR GETTING LAID  
BARBARA.

MAN 3

SOCK IT TO HER SONNY.

ANGELO

(Sings.)

"THIS IS THE MOMENT..."

ALL including tenants sing:

59

ALL

(Sing.)

"I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR."

MAN 4

WILL YOU ALL CUT THE SHIT AND  
GO TO SLEEP? AND STOP FUCKING  
AROUND!

BARBARA

(Laughing, whispers.)

Did you hear what the man  
said? Stop fucking around.

SONNY

I would if I could, but I  
can't. Now, get over here,  
will you please.

BARBARA

If you insist, lover.

INT: CHRIS'S APARTMENT:

60

HE wants to make love:

CHRIS

You're not in the mood, huh?



KIM

How can you tell?

CHRIS

Want to talk about it?

KIM

Not really.

CHRIS

Please, pretty please. I'll cut your toenails.

KIM

Don't you understand? I went to N.Y.U., to learn how to make films. I want to be the next Scorcese, not Scorcese's mother.

CHRIS

Would you really have an abortion?

KIM

In a second.

CHRIS

What would your Nauna say? You know how your religious Grandmother is AGAINST ABORTION AND SO IS MINE.

KIM

You got that right. She's religious, not me, remember? I am not going to be a mother at my age, and for your edification, I told my mother.

CHRIS

You what?!

KIM

She didn't even get excited. The only thing she did was moan and groan about you. She said my father, would flip. I mean, a Galucci marrying a Marchese.

CHRIS

Hey, incase  
you've forgotten? Marchese is  
not a Fitzgerald or Rosenberg.  
I mean we're both Italian.

KIM

Rosenberg or not, She thinks  
he'll still disown me.

CHRIS

Your father loves you more  
than life itself and she  
really thinks you should marry  
me? Fantastic, I always  
loved your mother, now your  
father, Angelo, I mean my  
father in-law is some tough  
guy. But after his grandson  
is born, I'm sure he'll come  
around. Now, *my father's* the  
one I have to worry about.

KIM

And if it's a girl you won't  
love her? And your father  
loves you more than life  
itself.

CHRIS

Didn't I just say that about  
you?

KIM

And hasn't your father always  
called me the most beautiful  
girl he ever saw.

CHRIS

That's when you were a little  
girl, and now, like me, his  
retarded son, he just calls  
you gorgeous... You sure you  
aren't in the mood?

KIM

Well, now that you think I'm  
gorgeous. I'll think about  
it.

CHRIS

Again you're going to think about it? Your thinking about it is driving me crazy! DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

KIM

YES, YES, YES I UNDERSTAND!

CHRIS

Well, you can think about it all you want without me, because I'm going to think (Opens door and leaves.) about it too! Goodbye!

KIM

Chris, please don't go, I'm (Cries.) Sorry.

EXT: ROSA'S ROOFTOP:

61

ROSA and LOUISA are sweeping:

ROSA

What are you sweeping over there? Sweep over here, where the pigeon shit is.

LOUISA

I no like to sweep pigeon shit. You sweep the pigeon shit, this is your roof, no? When you come to my roof, I sweep the pigeon shit and you no have too, "capish?"

ROSA

And look at my basil. Looks like it's dying, no?

LOUISA

Pigeon shit kill everything, and look at you oregano. Looks like it's a dying too. Tell me, you use the Miracle Grow?

ROSA

Miracle Grow, *ugatz!* Miracle Grow cannot work when there's a pigeon shit.

LOUISA

Maybe you shoulda write a letter to Miracle Grow?

ROSA

What I'm gonna tell 'em? Miracle Grow no work with pigeon shit. They laugh in my face.

LOUISA

You remember when I laugh in you face? Pigeon shit right on you hat.

ROSA

And then pigeon shit on you nose.

LOUISA

You remember that?

ROSA

No, only you remember.

LOUISA

You know what C- R- P- S is? Can't remember pigeon shit.

BOTH laugh.

ROSA

And did you hear about?

LOUISA

They split up, *manage*, they split up.

EXT: A WEEK BEFORE THE BIG RACE: CHOOCH'S ROOF:

62

SONNY arrives.

SONNY

(Winded.)

Why can't they have a roof on the ground floor? These steps are fuckin' murder! Now that I hired you, you keep your eyes open and your rod packed when I'm not on the roof, *cappish?*

(MORE)

SONNY (Cont'd)

If anyone comes snooping,  
around my birds, especially my  
fuckin' Cousin Angelo, you're  
gonna do what?

CHOOCH

Let 'em have it, right Sonny.  
Ya know, I ain't packed a  
rod since I said goodbye to my  
"Goombahs." This is gonna  
cost you, big time, mister. A  
thou a day. It's a week  
before the race that means  
seven big ones, up front.

SONNY

How does a check sound?

CHOOCH

Well, I prefer cash, but since  
it's you, start writing.

SONNY, begrudgingly writes check, gives it to CHOOCH and  
starts to exit.

SONNY

Now remember, that means  
anybody, Chooch. By the way,  
do you have a cell phone?

CHOOCH

A man of my stature, of  
course.

SONNY

Well give me the number.

CHOOCH

(Gives card.)

My card *senor*.

SONNY

For the prices to charging me,  
just to make sure I'm getting  
my money's worth, I'll call  
you.

CHOOCH

Would you mind telling me  
when.

SONNY

Just be there Chooch and  
(Exits.)  
you'll find out.

CU: EXT: An hour later on CHOOCH'S roof, ANGELO appears: 63

ANGELO

Well fancy meeting you here.  
How ya doing, "paisan?"

CHOOCH

Not bad, Angelo. How you  
doing and how's Sylvia,  
Rebecca, Carie, Janet, Genna  
and Mabel doing?

ANGELO

Mabel? You didn't give me any  
Mabel. You gave me a Leslie.  
Who the hell is, Mabel.

CHOOCH

Mabel just happens to be a  
homer I came across last week.  
Fastest bird I ever saw in my  
freakin' life and does she  
have a memory, unbelievable.

ANGELO

That fast, huh?

CHOOCH

Smart, and guess what, she  
loves red bloomers.

ANGELO

Okay, okay, how much are you  
going to soak me for this  
time?

CHOOCH

For you, cheap. How does 500  
bucks sound?

ANGELO

Now you swear Mabel is that  
fast?

CHOOCH

And smart. You're paying  
because she's fast and smart  
as a whip.

ANGELO

(Gives money.)

Okay, we got a deal, but that's not why I came here.

CHOOCH

Lay it on me brother. I'm all ears.

ANGELO

I remember when you used to be a lookout for the family. Well, I want you to do a little looking out for me and I'm prepared to pay you real good. Ya see, Anna Maria been busting my balls about not going to my shop and I'm real scared that cock-sucker of a cousin I have might try to do something to my birds, because I'm sure he found out how fast and smart they are. So, I would appreciate if you would watch my winners.

CHOOCH

Hey, everybody this side of Houston Street knows about the winners I sold you.

ANGELO

Just tell me how much you're going to soak me for and I'll be out of here.

CHOOCH

You're talking about seven days, right? How does 1200 a day sound. 8400 bananas to be exact.

ANGELO

I'll give you a check, okay?

CHOOCH

Check sounds fine.

ANGELO

(Writing, gives phone.)

Here, I'm going to give you my cell phone. In case anything goes wrong or I want to call you. Oh, by the way, for protection, I would appreciate you carry.

CHOOCH

If I have to blow someone away it's going to...

ANGELO

...Cost me more. I know. Listen I have to run. I'll probably call you on the hour, so make sure you're there, "capish?" On the hour, Remember and that could mean  
(Exits.)  
two in the morning.

EXT: Early morning:

64

ROSA and LOUISA are about to go to church.

LOUISA

I no wanna hear nothing. This time you go first. Pigeon shit. I told my Sonny, after the race I wanna his pigeons out here.

ROSA

You forgot? I went first yesterday. It's your turn, Louisa. Get going or we be late for mass.

LOUISA

I will not go first until your Angelo and my Sonny are gone.

ROSA

Does that mean you no go to mass today? Have you forgotten why I invite you to live with me?

(MORE)



ROSA (Cont'd)

So we can go to see Father  
Minelli together. Have you  
gotten so old that you forgot?

LOUISA

I no forget nothing and you  
are older, remember?

ROSA

I older, you crazy. You  
always been a "Botso." How  
old are you Louisa, you  
remember?

LOUISA

I think I'm 79.

ROSA

That's right and I'm 78. So,  
who's older?

LOUISA

I think you right, Rosa. I'm  
older, maybe that's why I feel  
so rotten.

ROSA

Why you no tell me what's the  
matter?

LOUISA

You mean you no hear what my  
Chris do to Kim? "Manage,"  
she's pregnant and they not  
together.

ROSA

Go on! Not my beautiful Kim.

LOUISA

Chris, he no tell his parents,  
he tell me. He say he can  
only tell his Nauny. I'm the  
only one he tell, because he  
love his Nauna.

ROSA

So...?

LOUISA

He say he wanted to get a married, but he say Kim wanted to think about it, that's why they can no tell their parents and I think its because of that *stupido* pigeon race and the vendetta between the Marchese and the Galucci. So you know what I tell my beautiful Chris, I tell him, his Grandma Louisa and Kim's Grandma Rosa are going to make wedding for our grandchildren, as soon as they get back together, which has to be two weeks after the race. Because since Kim is carrying, it no look too good if we wait too long. That's why you have to go first. We have to tell Father Minelli that he has a wedding in three weeks. So, you ready, Rosa?

ROSA

You always can talk me into anything, can't you, Louisa.

LOUISA

That's because you older.

ROSA peeks out of door. Looks up to see if there are any pigeons and hoping there aren't any, starts running.

ROSA

It's all clear! Hurry up before they start shitting!

LOUISA runs and catches up to ROSA.

ROSA

Remember Louisa, next week you go first!

INT: NIGHT: IZZY'S BAR:

65

POV: MORRIS and IZZY are disturbed, because LEWIE the bookie is smiling, because he confident that he's going to win the bet, sizes up the bar that he thinks soon will be his.

LEWIE

Tell you the truth, I'm gonna redo the whole place, from top to bottom. Little paint job, new bar, maybe bring in a band, a few hookers.

IZZY

Dream on, Lewie. When I spend the 400 grand you give me, I'll laugh when I tell everybody that the cruise I'm on is compliments of none other than Lewie the book himself.

LEWIE

And where you gonna get the mil you bet on Sonny, Morris? Hope you know what you're doin', 'cause you know what happens when you don't pay.

MORRIS

Never mind me, Lewie. If I was you I'd start rounding up all the loose change I could find.

LEWIE

(Exiting.)

See ya around, boys. Hope not in the cemetery, 'cause I hate to see your beautiful wife, Rivka wearing black. Gee, she has some beautiful ass.

INT: CHRIS'S apartment: KIM is modeling wedding dress, quite flirtatiously:

66

CHRIS

I'm so glad you thought about it, honey.

KIM

Don't be such wiseass, you knew I would and do you like it?

CHRIS

It's gorgeous, but you know it's bad luck.

KIM

Bad luck my ass. This was my  
Grandma Rosa's wedding dress.  
Isn't it gorgeous?

CHRIS

Must be 60 years old.

KIM

Exactly. Look at the lace. I  
just love it.

CHRIS

My grandmother told my father  
and mother and my mother said  
she knew all along it  
would happen.

KIM

And your father?

CHRIS

At first my father was pissed  
because I didn't tell him, but  
when my mother reminded him  
that they eloped, he smiled  
and said except for my new  
father in-law, he said I could  
never find anyone more  
beautiful, than you, and you  
know what my mother did? She  
gave me her engagement ring.  
Said I should give it to you.

KIM

You, mean her beautiful two-  
and-half carat ring, she got  
from her Grandmother?

CHRIS

The very same one and here, I  
love you and don't think about  
it, just put it on.

KIM

(Puts ring on.)

Oh, Chris, I can't believe it.  
I always loved that ring.  
It's so big and so beautiful,  
it gorgeous.

CHRIS

And I was thinking about us going to Europe for our honeymoon. Thought I'd buy you one of those digital cameras and maybe you could do a little filming. They say, practice makes perfect.

KIM

Oh, Chris... I think I love you.

CHRIS

If you love me so much, how about a *little*?

KIM

Are you talking about nooky?

CHRIS

Took the words right out my mouth, she did.

EXT: DAY: CU:

67

CHOOCH is on ANGELO'S roof speaking on to SONNY on cell phone.

CHOOCH

Of course everything's all right Sonny. I'm guarding your birds with my life. You're coming over...? You'll be herein twenty minutes? Great. Shit I have to get

(Hangs up.)

over to his roof.

CUT: We see CHOOCH running down six flights of steps, 68  
across the street and then panting, up six flights of steps.

HE wipes the sweat from his brow and waits for SONNY.

CHOOCH (cont'd)

Fuckin' guys are driving me crazy. They don't stop calling me. From all this running I'm gonna get a heart attack.

Feeds pigeons.

Hello girls, remember me?

SONNY enters apprehensive and winded.

SONNY

Anybody spying on my birds,  
Chooch?

CHOOCH

It's been quiet as all hell.

SONNY

You sure Angelo wasn't here?

CHOOCH

I've been here all day. He  
sure as shit wasn't here, man.  
And if he was, I'd blow him  
away. It's gonna cost you big  
time but I'd blow him away.

SONNY lights cigarette and absentmindedly puts lighter down,  
which he will forget.

SONNY

Glad you're on the job...  
Okay, I just came by to make  
sure everything was in order,  
and I see you fed my birds.  
*Muchas gracias.* Anyway, I got  
to get going. Barbara's going  
with me to rent a tux. I'll  
either see you later or  
tonight.

As SONNY exits CHOOCH'S cell phone rings.

CHOOCH

Angelo? I knew it was you...  
Yeah, everything's peachy...  
You'll be over in 15 minutes?  
Great and how's about picking  
me up a beer? Thanks. See ya  
in 15.

CUT: CHOOCH runs down six flights of steps, across the street and panting, up six flights of steps. 69

CHOOCH

Those motherfuckers are going  
to kill me.

Exhausted, He sits, closes his eyes and dozes off. A beat  
later ANGELO enters.

ANGELO

What are you sleeping on the job, asshole? I'm paying you to watch my birds. What happens if that sneak, Sonny comes up here, poisons my birds and you're a sleep. Hey, I'm paying you big time to keep an eye on things. For the amount of bread I'm paying you, I could have hired Brinks.

CHOOCH

Listen, Ang, I was taking a little nap, because I was bored, know what I'm saying? If you had a T.V. up here, then I wouldn't be so bored.

ANGELO

I personally don't give a shit if you're bored. I want you to stay awake, you hear? Stay the fuck awake! Now, I only came over to make sure everything was okay. I have to go with my old lady. She wants to buy a gown and I have to pick up a tux. Maybe I'll come by, but I'll definitely call you in an hour, "*capish*?"

CHOOCH

Yeah I "*capish*," I "*capish*."

ANGELO

(Exits.)

Remember, stay awake.

After a beat, cell phone rings and CHOOCH answers it.

CHOOCH

Hello... What...? you forgot your lighter...? Are you sure...? Your in the car and will back in five minutes? Great, I'll see you in five minutes.

CUT: Panicked, again CHOOCH runs down six flights of 70  
steps, across the street and near exhaustion runs up six  
flights of steps and collapses.

Sprawled out on the roof, SONNY enters a beat later and 71  
annoyed, tries to wake CHOOCH up.

SONNY

Hey Chooch, Chooch, wake up!

CHOOCH

(Opens eyes.)

Oh, hi ya Sonny. What's going on?

SONNY

That's exactly what I want to  
know. I'm not paying you to  
sleep, ass hole. What happens  
if my fuckin' cousin sneaks up  
here and does my birds in? Are  
you going to pay him the 50 grand  
or am I. I mean, this is fucking

(Picks up his lighter.)

ridiculous. Now I'll call you  
in an hour and I expect you to  
be awake. We have two more  
days to D-day. So hang in  
there *botchagaloop*, hang in  
(Exits.)

there.

Near exhaustion, CHOOCH collapses.

CUT: EXT:

72

We see SONNY and ANGELO on their respective rooftops from  
morning until night. 1 A. M. BARBARA and ANNA MARIA bring  
food and sort of hang out with them. ANNA MARIA picks up red  
bloomers and laughs.

ANNA MARIA

So, this is where my red  
bloomers went. Did you take  
anything else? And by the  
way, Barbara told me she  
balled Sonny on the roof.  
What is she better than me?

ANGELO

(Excited)

You mean you want to do it  
here?



ANNA MARIA  
Got anything better in mind,  
lover boy?

THEY start to make love.

CU: EXT: We see SONNY and BARBARA making love. 73

CU: When ANGELO finishes he starts singing and SONNY and BARBARA respond. 74

ALL will yell. 75

SONNY and BARBARA  
(Yells.)  
ANGELO?

ANNA MARIA  
(Yells.)  
AND ME.

BARBARA  
ANNA?

ANNA MARIA  
YOU WERE RIGHT, IT WAS  
FANTASTIC!

BARBARA  
TOLD YOU. DID YOU GET A GOWN?

ANNA MARIA  
LIGHT BLUE, WITH FLOWERS.  
GORGEOUS!

BARBARA  
1500 SMACKEROOS, 1500  
SMACKEROOS. MINE'S LILAC.  
EXCITED ABOUT BECOMING A  
GRANDMA? I AM.

MAN  
WILL YOU SHUT UP?! I'M TRYING  
TO GET SOME SLEEP! AND BLOW  
YOUR GARNDMA OUT OF YOUR ASS!

WOMAN  
AND I DON'T GIVE A SHIT ABOUT  
YOUR GOWN EITHER, GRANDMA!  
NOW SHUT THE FUCK UP

ANNA MARIA  
I'LL TALK TO YOU AFTER THE  
RACE.

EXT: THE DAY OF THE BIG RACE: 6 A.M.: 76

SONNY and ANGELO each delicately place their pigeons in the back seat of MORRIS'S car.

MORRIS is off to the side, confidently whispering to IZZY. 77

MORRIS  
Now, the minute I let Sonny's bird go I'll call you.

IZZY  
I can't wait Mo. This is going to be the biggest payoff in my life and it's all because of you. I love you Morris.

MORRIS  
Hey, we've been best friends for 40 years. Who else would I include if not you? I'll call you.

IZZY  
I'll be waiting Mo, I'll be waiting.

MORRIS nonchalantly walks over to his car.

MORRIS  
Well gentlemen, I guess it's that time.

SONNY  
Now, you have plenty of time, so I want you to drive nice and slow.

ANGELO  
Keep the windows shut, because I don't want my birds to catch a draft, Morris. And take it nice and easy and make sure you call me the minute you get there.

SONNY

I don't give a shit when you get there, I just want you to call me when you release the birds, "capish?"

MORRIS

(Gets in car - drives off)  
I'm off! I'll call you girls... Tooodle loo.

CUT: EXT:

78

The morning sun rises as SONNY and ANGELO go to their respective roofs and tie red bloomers to T.V. antenna. BARBARA is with SONNY and ANNA MARIA is with ANGELO.

Nervous they wave to each other.

After a while, SONNY yells to ANGELO.

SONNY

HEY ANG, WANT TO GO TO IZZY AND HOIST A FEW?

ANGELO

THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER ASK. RACE YOU DOWNSTAIRS!

SONNY

Listen, baby, I'm too nervous to hang around here. I love you and I'm going with Ang to have a drink.

CHRIS

It's only seven o'clock, Pop.

SONNY

Don't tell anybody that your dad's a lush. Especially,  
(Laughs and exits.)  
your new in-laws.

ANGELO

Listen, sweetheart, I'm going with Sonny to Izzy. I'll be back in a few.

ANNA MARIA

I'll let you go on one condition, we do it again on the roof tonight.

ANGELO

You are such a sex maniac.

ANNA MARIA

Are you complaining?

ANGELO

Not a chance... See ya baby,  
love you.

EXT: SONNY and ANGELO meet, in the street. 79

CU: Apprehensive, THEY look at each other. After a beat.

ANGELO

You know, now that our kids  
are going to get married, and  
we're both going to be  
grandparents, I have to tell  
you something...  
I love you, you big galoot.

SONNY

Even if my birds kick the shit  
out of yours?

ANGELO

And will you love me if my  
birds kick the shit out of  
yours?

SONNY

Can I plead the fifth...?  
Love you Ang. Always have,  
always will. Now, give me  
kiss. On the lips. I want a  
kiss on the lips, damn it!

THEY kiss and embrace.

ANGELO

This is worst than those soap  
operas.

SONNY

(Looks at watch)

Hey, it's a quarter past  
seven. Far as I'm concerned,  
we should be blitzed. Race ya  
to Izzy's.

BOTH get down on knee ala start of race.

ANGELO

On your mark, get set, go!

BOTH start running and are winded as they arrive in a tie at IZZY'S bar. 80

IZZY appears nervous to see them so early.

WE see him tell them each separately, that he hopes they win.

CUT: EXT: 9:00 A.M.: 81  
MORRIS, driving, passes sign that says, "PHILADELPHIA 1 MILE."

CUT: INT: 9:15 A.M.: 82

LEWIE enters bar:

LEWIE

(To Sonny and Angelo.)  
Gentlemen. Tell you the truth, I haven't seen so much action since the last (Walks over to Izzy.) Ali-Frazier fight. Can't wait, can you Iz?

IZZY

I can't wait to wipe that disgusting smile off your face.

CUT: EXT: 9:30: 83

In an empty parking lot, gloating because he thinks he's conning them, MORRIS releases SONNY'S pigeons, but not ANGELO'S.

CUT: INT: IZZY'S BAR: 84

A rowdy drunk walks into bar and a nervous IZZY deals with drunk and ultimately pushes him outside, unaware that the telephone rings and SONNY, nonchalantly answers it.

POV: MORRIS, thinks that IZZY answered it, speaks.

MORRIS

Iz, is that you, is that you Iz?

SONNY, trying to fool MORRIS, tries to impersonate Izzy.

SONNY

Of course it's me, *schmuck*.  
It's my place isn't it? Who's  
it gonna be, the mad Russian?  
So, so, what happened, Mo?

MORRIS

Sonny's birds are off to the  
races and we're in like Flynn.  
I'll let Angelo's go in an  
hour or two and we're gonna be  
rich, you hear, we're gonna be  
rich! See you when I get back,  
Mr. Rockefeller, we are gonna  
be filthy rich.

MORRIS and SONNY both hang up simultaneously.  
SONNY is stunned by what he has accidentally heard.

HE casually waves goodbye to IZZY and HE nears ANGELO.

ANGELO

What the hell is the matter?  
You look like you saw a ghost.

SONNY

Let's have a couple of quick  
ones and let's get the hell  
out of here before I throw up  
and I thought you were going  
to come by for a trim, what  
happened?

THEY drink and depart. Walking in the street ANGELO  
84 stares at SONNY.

ANGELO

What is it...? It's the  
wedding, isn't it?

SONNY

It's not the wedding.

ANGELO

Everything will work out fine.  
The two of them, like they  
were made for each other...  
And hey, so you're gonna be a  
Grandpa, and am I not going to

(MORE)

ANGELO (Cont'd)

be one too? And I'm younger than you and you don't see me complaining, do you...? And if your worried about losing the 50 grand? To show you how generous you're new in-law can be... I'll rip up your check and I won't tell a soul. Promise. All you have to do is admit to my old lady that the Galucci's are better than the Marchese's. That's all. What the hell is it Sonny...? Will you please tell me before I bust a freakin' gut?!

SONNY

You don't want to hear.

ANGELO

Unless you tell me the President's gay, I want to hear, I got to hear. This silence is driving me "Botso!"

SONNY

Okay man, you asked for it. You know what I accidentally heard when I picked up the phone at Izzy's...?

ANGELO

I'm waiting, mister, I'm waiting.

SONNY

It was Morris in Philadelphia. I did an Izzy, you should of heard me, and I flipped, because he thought it was really him that answered, and you won't believe what he said...

ANGELO

Will you please spit it out?!  
I mean, you are ridiculous.

SONNY does his best impersonation of Morris.

SONNY

"I just released Sonny's birds. In an hour or two I'll let Angelo's go."

ANGELO

What?! Why that cocksucker is pulling a scam and I can't believe it, you sound just like that *skieve*.

SONNY

And Izzy is in on it too. The both of them must of bet a bundle on me.

ANGELO

And all these years that sonofabitch has been doing the books for your father, my father and now us. Wonder how much he beat us for? What a fuckin' low life. When he comes back I'll break his and Izzy's fuckin' head.

SONNY

Let's call the whole thing off.

ANGELO

We can't do that. Then Morris and the *douche* bag will know, we know. I got an idea. Just leave it up to your new in-law, *cuz*.

EXT: 11:00 A.M.

86

We see SONNY'S pigeons flying:

Two hours later MORRIS releases ANGELO'S pigeons, gets in car and races back to New York.

INT: BARBARA'A LIVING ROOM: NIGHT:

87

BARBARA and ANNA MARIA are drinking:



BARBARA

What do they think they're the only ones that can drink in the morning...? I can't wait 'til this fuckin' race is over and we can concentrate on the wedding. I mean putting this whole thing together in two weeks. Give me break, will you please?

ANNA MARIA

Did we have a choice... Ya know, I was also knocked up when I married Angelo. I never told anybody, but, hey, Anna Maria understands, and I have to thank you, Barb. Getting laid on the roof, "EXCITING!"

BARBARA

Glad I could be of some service, madam. Wonder when Sonny's pigeons will get here?

ANNA MARIA

What makes you think that Sonny and not Angelo's disgusting birds will get herefirst?

BARBARA

Promise you won't tell?

ANNA MARIA

(Raises hand.)  
Scouts honor.

BARBARA

Chooch told Sonny that he sold him the fastest and smartest birds.

ANNA MARIA

(Laughs.)  
Guess what? Chooch gave the same line of shit to my old man.

They both laugh.

ANNA MARIA and BARBARA  
GENIUS'S!

EXT: HALF-AN-HOUR LATER: 88

We see SONNY and ANGELO smiling as they walk out of pet store:

SONNY  
(Smiles)  
Have no fear, Marchese is here. Everything's under control, Ang. What's that saying about "*He who laughs last?*"

EXT: 12:30 P.M.: 89

Anxious, people start to gather outside of respective buildings.

Much tumult and arguing about who's going to win is heard. Some last minute bets occur.

From his roof top, SONNY waves to ANGELO who waves back.

EXT: 1:00 P.M. SONNY'S ROOFTOP: 90

ANGELO comes to SONNY roof.

ANGELO  
I felt lonely with out you.

Sonny smiles. THEY look through binoculars off into the horizon.

ANGELO (cont'd)  
See anything yet?

SONNY  
What do you mean anything?  
We're going to see my bird's first, *nummy*.

ANGELO  
(Smiles.)  
Wanna bet?

SONNY gives ANGELO a friendly punch.

SONNY

For an in-law, you're an awfully big wise ass.

ANGELO

What are we going to do about Morris and Izzy?

SONNY

Didn't I tell you before, that everything's under control? Well, it is.

Apprehensive, looking through binoculars, they spot a pigeon in the distant.

ANGELO

I think I see one.

SONNY

It's my bird, Ang.

ANGELO

How can you be so sure?

SONNY looks at ANGELO in amazement.

SONNY

Did you really graduate kindergarten...? And now my good man, even though it is going to kill me, I believe it is that time.

Full of remorse, SONNY goes to cage and takes out a pigeon hawk and gives it to ANGELO.

SONNY (cont'd)

You do it Ang, I love my birds too much.

ANGELO

You're sure it's your bird?

SONNY

(Wipes tear.)

Will you please get on with it?

CUT: We see LEWIE, FRANKIE and Mobster grinning, and hear 91 the crowd roaring as ANGELO throws hawk and we see it fly straight towards the unsuspecting pigeon.

As hawk nears SONNY'S pigeon, SONNY turns away and sobs. WE see and hear more tumult from crowd.

The hawk, in mid flight, kills the pigeon and flies away with it in its mouth.

ANGELO

(Hugs Sonny.)

I'm sorry, but it's over.  
Anna Maria said he was going  
to meet me at around one. So,  
I gotta get going. I'll wave  
(Exits.)  
to you, cuz.

SONNY

See ya around, cuz.

AFTER a beat, a confident and euphoric MORRIS and IZZY appear.

MORRIS

Congratulations, congratulations!

IZZY

And I bought a bottle of  
Piper. So let's drink and have  
a party.

IZZY opens champagne and MORRIS embraces SONNY.

MORRIS

Knew you would win Sonny. I  
just knew it! HIP, HIP HOORAY  
FOR MY BOY SONNY, THE WINNER!

IZZY gives cups of champagne.

IZZY

I propose a toast!

SONNY

I think you guys are a little  
bit ahead of your selves. I  
didn't win the race yet. My  
birds haven't come home yet.

MORRIS

What...? I don't believe it.  
How could that be?

IZZY

(Whispers to Morris.)

What, the fuck happened, what happened?!

CU: EXT:

92

We see ANGELO excitedly waving red bloomers as we see two of his pigeons in the distance.

In reaction to ANGELO'S excitement, the crowd begins to roar.

ANGELO

(Yells to Sonny)

I love you, you sonofabitch, I LOVE YOU!

MORRIS and IZZY, dejected because of ANGELO'S enthusiasm, 92 looking below at crowd below, THEY cower as they see Frankie, LEWIE and MORRIS'S wife, RIVKA, cuddling as THEY and his henchman wave to them.

Waving the red bloomers frantically, to tumultuous applause 93

two of ANGELO'S pigeons arrive simultaneously.

At that precise moment, MORRIS and IZZY try to jump off roof, but SONNY prevents them.

SONNY

You guys can't do that, I believe there are some people waiting for you down stairs.

The crowd roars as ANGELO, holding red bloomers and his two pigeons waves triumphantly to the crowd below.

Cut: WE SEE MORRIS GIVE CHRIS TWO CHECKS:

95

CUT: WE SEE ANGELO AND SONNY REPAY FRANKIE:

96

CUT: A WEEK LATER: THE WEDDING - ALL ARE PRESENT:

97

Sitting at table, ALL are eating, drinking and having a good time.

ROSA

So tell me Sonny, how does it feel to have to admit that the Gallucis is much better at flying pigeons?

LOUISA

My Sonny boy no have to admit anything. You forget that it was my Tony, who lend you Angelo the money to buy your house that I live in now? If you won't admit that your house is really my house, then my Sonny boy, no have to admit nothing.

SONNY

All I want to admit is this is the happiest day in my life. I wish my son Chris and my beautiful daughter in-law a beautiful a life together and a beautiful family. *TUTTA LA FAMIGLIA!*

ANGELO

(Toasts.)

I'll drink to that, *TUTTA LA FAMIGLIA!*

ALL

SPEECH! SPEECH! SPEECH!

CHRIS

Well, I have to thank my generous mother for giving my beautiful wife her engagement ring and making this beautiful wedding with my new mother in-law, Aunt Anna Maria, who I will always love for giving me her beautiful daughter.

KIM displays ring. ALL applaud.

CHRIS

And I have to thank my father for the love and integrity he has taught me. Pop, uncle Angelo told me what you did and I think you're quite a guy, and you know what I have

CHRIS proudly displays checks.

in my hand, the two checks you gave to Morris, and I am going to rip them up right now, because father in-laws don't bet against each other.

ANGELO and SONNY

Don't!

CHRIS

And may I ask, why not?

ANGELO

Because it's yours...

SONNY

...And Kim's...

SONNY and ANGELO

...It's Sylvia, Rebecca,  
Carie, Janet, Genna and  
Leslie's wedding present to  
you. Hip, hip, hooray!

Very happy, ALL applaud and dance.

THE END