

**VICTORIA DE SANTOS**

written by  
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Black:

Denzel Washington (v.o)

I found that nothing is worthwhile, unless you take risks;  
NOTHING!

### **1.Ext.Leiden**

We see a blue sky, the camera pans down and we see the city. We see a couple of monuments and a train passes by.

Denzel Washington (v.o)

Every failed experiment is one step further to success.

We focus on one specific street. That street has a Turkish Restaurant and an apartment complex. In one of those apartments live's VICTORIA.

### **2.int. Appartement. 12**

VICTORIA is comfortably lying in bed, drinking wine and smoking a joint. VICTORIA is 21 and she is Peruvian. She is concentrating on Denzel Washington's speech. She feels inspired. The room is messy; books, dvds and clothes are lying on the floor.

DENZEL WASHINGTON (v.o)

You will fail at some point in your life. Accept it. You will lose, you will embarrass yourself, you will suck at something; there is no doubt about it. Embrace it, because it is -  
inevitable.

Suddenly her phone rings. Scared she drops the joint and gets out of bed. She quickly tries to clean up the bed and then starts looking at the phone, but can't find it. She gradually gets nervous and desperate.

Eventually, she finds the phone under the bed and answers it. At the other end, there is a RECEPTIONIST. Her desk is clean and organized, so is she. Her tone of voice is arrogant, disinterested and yet soft and sweet.

RECEPTIONIST

Good morning, is this Victoria De Santos?

VICTORIA

Yes, that is me.

RECEPTIONIST

I am calling on behalf of Margaret Thatcher International Middle School. You apply as an English Teacher. We would like to make an appointment for a job interview.

VICTORIA

Sure, when?

RECEPTIONIST

Are you free tomorrow?

VICTORIA

I am sorry I can't tomorrow. What about Thursday?

RECEPTIONIST

Thursday is not possible. We have a talent show on Thursday. What about Friday?

VICTORIA

Friday? I am busy on Friday.

RECEPTIONIST

So, if whatever you are doing Friday is more important than the interview I guess i'll have to hang...

VICTORIA

Wait, what about next week?

RECEPTIONIST

Next week is Easter, young lady.

VICTORIA

The week after?

RECEPTIONIST

The vacancy would have been filled by then.

THE RECEPTIONIST is running out of patience.

VICTORIA

Is there really no other time?

RECEPTIONIST

Today at one. If you can make it.

VICTORIA thinks in silence. She looks at her hello kitty watch, it is 12 o'clock.

VICTORIA

It is twelve. Can it be a little bit later?

RECEPTIONIST

Later we are close.

VICTORIA keeps thinking.

RECEPTIONIST

If you can't make it then I'll have to...

VICTORIA

NO WAIT!... I'll be there.

Cut to title:

VICTORIA HAS A JOB INTERVIEW

Music starts playing:

VICTORIA fastly gets into the shower. Then has no time to dry her hair properly, picks up a few clothes and her purse. VICTORIA doesn't realize that the t-shirt she picked has a stain on it. She is out of the house in seconds.

### **3.ext. Street. 12:10 am**

With stain in her shirt and bad hair VICTORIA runs to her bike. Her bike is old and rusty. She looks for her keys in the purse, she can't find them, she gets nervous and desperate. She gets so desperate that she decides to drop all the things in the purse on the floor. In the purse there are used handkerchiefs, a lighter, some cards, a copy of Heart Of Darkness and a box of cigarettes. Immediately she finds the keys. She takes the keys and hastily tries to pick up the rest, but leaves her ov-chipkaart behind.

She gets on the bike and starts to pedal as fast as she can. Pedaling is hard, the bike is heavy and it makes cracking noises. While biking the handlebar falls apart, VICTORIA painfully falls into the concrete. In her hello kitty watch she sees it's 12:10. With difficulty and pain, she stands up and starts running towards the station. She limps and holds one arm with the other. She is in pain, she is furious.

#### **4.Ext. leiden station. 12 15**

Two trains arrive at the same time. Victoria takes the one on the right.

#### **5.Int. Train. 12 17**

VICTORIA desperately tries to connect with the internet, but the connection fails every time. She sees the conductor.

VICTORIA

Pardon! Gaat deze trein naar Amsterdam Centraal?

CONDUCTOR

Nee, je bent in de verkeerde trein. Dit trein gaat naar Amsterdam Zuid. Je moest de trein van spoor vier hebben, dat is aan de andere kant.

VICTORIA

You gotta be kidding me! Puta Madre!

CONDUCTOR

Even rustig, je kan gewoon in het volgende station uitstappen...  
Mag ik jou vervoerbewijs!

VICTORIA searches for her ov-chipkaart. She gets scared because she can not find it. She then remembers that she left the ov-chipkaart on the floor.

VICTORIA

Die heb ik niet, het spijt me!

CONDUCTOR

Je krijgt een boete dan, van 57 euro.

VICTORIA

Nee, alsjeblieft! Ik heb geen geld!

CONDUCTOR

Regels zijn regels.

VICTORIA

Kan je niet een uitzondering maken?

CONDUCTOR

Helemaal niet, dan moet ik een uitzonderingen voor iedereen maken.

VICTORIA

Fuck!

#### **6.Ext. Sassenheim Station. 12 30**

The train leaves VICTORIA at Sassenheim station. Sassenheim is a small station in the middle of nowhere. Nothing to see but green countryside, cows, and a few windmills; as far the eye can see.

VICTORIA lights a cigarette. At the station, there is only one other person. A young man who is close to the rails. He is looking at them. He has a bad posture, an ugly haircut, and seems dirty.

VICTORIA sees him and does not think much of him, she keeps smoking. Until the sprinter approaches. VICTORIA gets very worried and scared. He carefully gets closer to him, while the sprinter is getting closer and closer.

VICTORIA

Whatever you do... please do not jump.

The sprinter is alarmingly getting closer.

VICTORIA

If you jump... I am going to be... very... very... late.

When the sprinter arrives the young man jumps and his blood is splattered all over Victoria's. VICTORIA is in shock, she can not scream, she can not move. She doesn't know if she should still go to the interview. She looks at her watch and sees that there is not much time. She made up her mind, furious and still limping; she ran to a bus.

#### **7.EXT. Bus. 12 45**

VICTORIA is in the back of the bus. Behind her there is a kid. The kid (15-17) is sitting next to Victoria. He isn't bad looking. He is blond, clean and well dressed, but he is not VICTORIA'S type. He tries to get Victoria's attention by making sexy looks,

sending her kisses and even licking his lips. VICTORIA does not like this and ignores him.

Frustrated, the young man starts singing la Cucaracha. This triggers VICTORIA. VICTORIA hits him and she hits him hard.

VICTORIA gets off the bus.

#### **8.EXT. STREET 12 55**

VICTORIA wants to cry, but there is no time. She sees in her hello kitty watch that is 5 minutes for 13. She will never make it on time, she calls the school to cancel.

RECEPTIONIST

Good morning, Margaret Thatcher International Middle School. How can I help you?

VICTORIA

I'm calling for the interview.

RECEPTIONIST

You aren't going to make it, are you? Don't worry we have other applicants.

VICTORIA

No!... I'll be there.. on *time*. I just want directions. I am at Verdistrat.

RECEPTIONIST

Oh! Unless you have a bike that's 10 minutes from the school, you won't be able to make it on time.

VICTORIA sees a bike.

VICTORIA

Don't worry, I'm going to be there on time.

VICTORIA gets on the bike and starts paddling. A man sees her and runs after her.

MAN

Hey, where are you taking my bike?

VICTORIA

I am so sorry. I'll give it back.

Man

Are you insane?

VICTORIA

It's an emergency.

The Man stops running, he can not keep up with VICTORIA's speed.

MAN

Jesus Fucking Christ!

#### **9.EXT.SCHOOLYARD. 12 58**

VICTORIA abandons the bike, unlocked, behind and enters the school as fast as she can. A kid steals the bike, VICTORIA does not notice this.

#### **10.INT.SCHOOL. 12 58**

With blood all over her, bad hair, covered in sweat VICTORIA approaches to the receptionist. The receptionist in shock recognizes VICTORIA immediately.

VICTORIA

Hallo.

The RECEPTIONIST always talks down at VICTORIA.

RECEPTIONIST

You must be VICTORIA... You are lucky, the principal had some kind of problem and now is running late. Please take a seat. I don't have time for you, I need to talk with a student first... He got accepted to Cambridge.

While waiting VICTORIA realizes she has a stain in her shirt. The kid from the bus arrives and heads directly to the receptionist.

He has a blue eye and blood on his nose. He sees VICTORIA but coldly ignores her, like if nothing had happened.

RECEPTIONIST

Oh my god! What happened to you?

Kid

A girl in the bus... she hit me.

RECEPTIONIST

Why?

KID

She was mentally ill.

All of this hits VICTORIA and she feels defeated.

To make things worst; the man on the bike arrives and approaches directly to the reception. He does not see VICTORIA. His name is WOUT.

WOUT

Het spijt me! Ik ben te laat omdat iemand heeft mijn fiets gestolen.

RECEPTIONIST

Jou fiets? Wie?

WOUT

Volgens mij een asielzoeker.

RECEPTIONIST

Waarom?

WOUT

Volgens mij ze was laat voor een noodgeval. Haar Engels was niet te verstand.

RECEPTIONIST

Arme meisje.

WOUT

Is de sollicitant al hier?

RECEPTIONIST  
Ja, achter jou.

WOUT  
Oh! Hi you must be VIC...

WOUT is surprise to see VICTORIA.

WOUT  
...RIA...Shall we start?

**11.INT.wout's office 10 00**

They both sit in silence for a while until...

WOUT  
Is that blood?

VICTORIA  
Yes.

WOUT  
Animal Blood?

VICTORIA  
No, human blood.

WOUT  
Your blood?

VICTORIA  
Unfortunately not.

There is another long silent pause.

VICTORIA  
The reason why I applied...

WOUT  
Can you explain why you stole my bike?

VICTORIA  
I am so sorry. I wasn't planning it to keep it. I really needed it. It was an emergency.

WOUT  
What was the emergency?

VICTORIA  
I was late and didn't want to miss this interview...

WOUT  
You were late? Being on time is very important as a teacher.

VICTORIA  
I know... I can return the bike, it is outside.

**12.EXT.SCHOOLYARD. 10:10**

VICTORIA and WOUT are outside where VICTORIA parked the bike. The bike is nowhere to be found.

VICTORIA  
I left it right here.

WOUT  
It's not here.

VICTORIA  
I am so sorry! I'll pay for it. This month I am short on money but  
if I get the job I could...

WOUT  
Please leave!

The end

