

THE CABLE MEN

(Not a porno.)

A Short Comedy

By

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FRED sits shotgun and goes over his PAPERWORK as BARNEY finishes his bean burrito and tries to makes sense of things he does not understand.

BARNEY

Why'd he even go?

FRED

It's his job.

BARNEY

He got a crap job.

FRED

We got a crap job. Speaking of which, don't forget we're putting in fiber that complex on Warner Ranch next week.

BARNEY

That blond dude...the good lookin fella is kind of a dick.

FRED

Which one?

BARNEY

The one humpin his sister.

FRED

Yeah, he's a dick.

BARNEY

And so she's...married to...

FRED

King Baratheon...

BARNEY

(tries)

King Bara...

FRED

Baratheon.

BARNEY

Dude from *Still Standing*...

FRED

(confirming)

Yes...

BARNEY

Okay and he wants to kill the hot blonde chic who was starin at them dragon eggs when she was gettin it from behind cuz she's knocked up?

FRED

That is correct.

BARNEY

Huh. That's weird.

FRED

Chug that burrito. We got a repair and two installs before six.

Barney shoves the rest of the burrito in his mouth and starts the truck.

BARNEY

I bet their undercarriage is outta control.

He puts it in drive and they take off.

2

INT. CINDY'S HOUSE - DAY

2

The camera moves through the beautiful, upscale home. We hear a WOMAN TALKING ON THE PHONE. It seems she's been drinking a bit.

There are SEVERAL PICTURES above the fireplace of a happy and loving young couple. We focus on these and similar images as she finishes the call.

CINDY (O.S.)

...July of twenty-nineteen.
Okay...Uh you mean the little code thingy on the back? Yuppers, it's uh...022. Okay...So, we're all good here? Should I do anything on my end, loosen up my jaw or any kind of special stretches you recommend? I don't want to injure myself because I'm not properly warmed...

She was hung up on.

CINDY (O.S.) (CONT'D)

...up. Okay.

We hear WINE BEING POURED INTO A GLASS as we continue traveling over pictures of the couple on their first date, that time at the lake, kissing at the baseball game, the engagement, wedding pictures etc...

CINDY (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 This'll be fun. This'll be...this
 is good. Holy shit I'm nervous...
 And excited... And nervous. No,
 this is just what I need...

Then, some shots of HIM, out with the boys, WITHOUT his wife. He seems a little drunk.

CINDY (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 Sometimes you gotta just step
 outside of your little box, your
 comfort zone...and he's an asshole
 so...

We continue over pictures of HIM and his buddies...and now, a young, hot GIRL. We then see some CREDIT CARD RECEIPTS sitting on the dining room table, close up on **CREDIT CARD CHARGES FOR DINNERS** and HOTEL ROOMS. These charges are CIRCLED IN RED PEN with NOTES next to them such as, "WTF", "Bastard" and "Cock sucker".

CINDY (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 No, that's not...I'm being ugly and
 I'm being that girl and I don't
 wanna be that girl...It just,
 didn't work out. And that happens,
 right? It happens and I wish him
 the absolute best. I do. I wish him
 the absolute best gonorrhoea money
 can buy in hell.

We move to a PICTURE SITTING ON A CUTTING BOARD that shows HIM with his arm around the GIRL. They look happy. The picture has a KNIFE STUCK IN IT WHERE HIS CROTCH IS and the note, "Die whore die!", hand-written on it.

We see the recently delivered DIVORCE PAPERS on the counter next to an almost empty glass of wine. Focusing on the documents, we see the glass getting topped off and picked up.

CINDY (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 He's gonna regret the day he walked
 out on all of this...

We finally meet "CINDY" as she takes a sip. She's a mess. A broken down version of the happy wife from the wedding pictures.

It appears she just got back from her yoga class and her hair is up in the volcano poof made popular by MTV, back in the 80's. It's clear she's been doing a little drinking and a lot of crying or maybe the other way around. Probably both.

CINDY (CONT'D)

It's time for me to take care of me for a change... Feel like a woman again, because god knows gerbil dick couldn't do it. Yes, this'll be... This'll be...

She pauses with a temporary moment of sanity.

CINDY (CONT'D)

Completely insane... Okay, stop the presses. What the hell am I thinking?! I can't...

She searches for something in the mess of loose paper in front of her. A slight panic starts to creep in as she can't find what she's looking for.

CINDY (CONT'D)

Do this...I have to cancel...

Bingo! She finds it with a huge sense of relief. She holds up an ADVERTISEMENT FOR 'MEN AT WORK: THEME BASED MALE ESCORTS AND ADULT ENTERTAINERS'. The ad features hot looking, buff guys dressed as construction workers, cops and the like.

CINDY (CONT'D)

Oh thank god.

THE DOOR BELL RINGS. She reacts to the doorbell in disbelief. She just called them a few minutes ago. There's no way they got here that fast.

CINDY (CONT'D)

Oh shit.

3

EXT. CINDY'S HOUSE - DAY

3

Cindy opens the door to find Fred and Barney all ready to work. She's drunk and emotional, but the nervousness has sobered her a bit.

CINDY

Hi...

FRED

Hello.

CINDY
That was fast.

FRED
Well good... we were close...

BARNEY
Taco Shack.

Looking them over.

CINDY
(to herself)
They sent the "B" Team.

FRED
(looks at clipboard)
Uh... Ms. Johnson?

CINDY
I'm sorry?

FRED
Are you, Ms. Johnson?

She pauses for a second and stares at them in a complete daze. She is on the verge of a nervous breakdown and a mid-life crisis at the same time. Is this really about to happen?

FRED (CONT'D)
Is everything okay?

CINDY
Yes! Uh...I'm fine... everything's fine.

FRED
Okay, great...

CINDY
Cindy.

FRED
What's that?

CINDY
Uh...Cindy, call me Cindy.

FRED
Okay, Cindy... Well, I'm Fred and this here is Barney...

BARNEY
What's up.

CINDY
Fred and Barney...

FRED
Yes ma'am. You called in a service order?

CINDY
Okay... *yes*, I called in a uh... *service order*. You guys are coming to...
(looks at their outfits)
To fix my...*cable*?

FRED
Yes ma'am.

BARNEY
We work with Koks.

CINDY
Of course you do...
(to herself)
Oh god.

BEAT

FRED
Can we come in?

She pauses for a moment. She's on the verge of closing the door on the guys.

CINDY
Uh...Yes. Yes you may.

4 INT. CINDY'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

4

Cindy nervously follows Fred and Barney into the living room. They place a tool box on the floor near the television.

CINDY
You brought *tools*?

FRED
Yes ma'am. Everything we need to make sure you get done right.

CINDY
Okay, wow uh...So, how does this work?

FRED
Well, first things first, we gotta
check out yur box...

CINDY
My box?

BARNEY
Yes ma'am...

FRED
Make sure everything is connected
as it should...

BARNEY
Our cables are plugged in all nice
and tight...pushed all the way in.

CINDY
Okay...

FRED
In both holes...

CINDY
(Holy shit)
Both what?

FRED
Input and output...

CINDY
Out...

BARNEY
Might need to open it up. Get in
there with my tools and my magic
fingers.

CINDY
Okay.

FRED
All that said, sometimes, your box
is just a little dusty and needs a
good banging...

CINDY
A good banging...

BARNEY
Yeah, just bang it a few times. On
both ends...

(MORE)

BARNEY (CONT'D)
(motions)
Bang bang bang bang...

FRED
(motioning)
Pop pop pop pop.

CINDY
Okay.

FRED
And sometimes the power button just
needs a little TLC.

CINDY
Power button?

BARNEY
Yeah, you know that little button
on the top that turns everything
on?

FRED
It's real sensitive. Sometimes, you
gotta play with it for a few
minutes.

CINDY
Oh, okay. That sounds nice...

BARNEY
Bit one, one time...

CINDY
What?!

BARNEY
Was stuck...had to pull it up with
my teeth...

Barney is demonstrating as Cindy reacts to the horror.

FRED
At's a pro move.

CINDY
I...I don't think... my button is
stuck.

FRED
So uh, we're gonna go ahead and get
started, take a look at what's
going on with your TV.

Cindy relaxes a bit, realizing that they're actually going through with the theatrics of their 'Cable Men' routine. The men start working on the cable box. The actual cable box.

CINDY

Oh okay, so you're going to go through with the whole...okay. Probably a good thing.

The guys aren't really listening.

CINDY (CONT'D)

(Can barely get the words out)

Uh, I'm not sure if this is important or not, but um...I'm... Uh, I'm not...I'm not... wearing any panties.

The guys turn and look at her.

BARNEY

What's that?

CINDY

(Back pedalling)

What?

FRED

You just said something...

CINDY

When?

BARNEY

Second ago.

CINDY

No...

FRED

Yeah, I think so.

BEAT

CINDY

(No)

Uh uh...

BARNEY

Bout panties or somethin?

BEAT

CINDY

Oh, I uh... have a dog, uh... stuck in the pantry so... Had... Had a dog stuck in the pantry. He got out...

BARNEY

Where's he go?

She goes to sit down.

CINDY

I don't know. You know what? I'm just going to take a deep breath, finish my wine, and let you guys get on with your uh... your little song and dance routine here.

She takes a large gulp of her wine and observes the men. She's starting to get into this as she watches the men work. The wine is also working.

CINDY (CONT'D)

This is good. I'm liking this whole *bit* you guys are doing.

FRED

Alrighty then.

(Looking at his clip board)

And it says here, you're lookin to get more HD?

CINDY

I want more, *HD*?

(to herself)

Hard *Dicks*? Oh god.

She takes a swig of the wine and tries to get brave.

CINDY (CONT'D)

Uh...Yes...I do... actually. I want all the um...*HD* you guys can give me.

FRED

Not a problem...

CINDY

In every channel.

BARNEY

Not sure PBS or ESPN3...

CINDY
I want all of my channels just
stuffed with HD!

FRED
Bill's going to go up just a bit...

CINDY
I don't care. Just cram it all in
there!

This chic is nuts.

FRED
Well, it'll take us a few minutes
to get started. Just sit back, put
your feet up and we'll get to it
here in a minute.

CINDY
Okay...

She puts her feet up on the coffee table.

CINDY (CONT'D)
Like this?

The repairmen stand near the TV, fondling tools, coax cable, the actual cable box etc. She's eyeballing several body parts of the men.

FRED
Okay, let's see what we got here.

CINDY
I like this. The whole *cable*
thing... The analogies are a little
confusing but yeah. Gives me time
to ease into the moment.

The men start moving in slo-mo with a musically driven Carl's Jr-esque fantasy sequence. We see tight shots of the men's bodies, but now they are all rippling muscles and for what ever reason their shirts are open. Their pecs flex as they handle the tools, cable box, coax cable etc. Their butts tighten in their jeans seemingly for no reason at all. We cut back and forth to Cindy's reactions. She is all but salivating and is about to bust!

At the end, we come up on Barney's face as he lets out a loud BURP, ENDING THE FANTASY SEQUENCE.

BARNEY
 (Re: Burp)
 Taco Tuesday.

Fred turns the TV on.

FRED
 It'll getcha.
 (to Cindy)
 Okay. Couldn't really find a
 problem. Everything seems to be
 connected properly, Miss...

Fred and Barney turn around and flinch as the overheated vixen is all up close and personal on them in lightening speed.

CINDY
 Johnson?

She appears to rubbing the men in personal places below the frame. The men are being jolted back and forth by her tugging, pulling and rubbing. She's getting more turned on but they're clueless.

CINDY (CONT'D)
 Would you like to connect
 things...properly?
 (to Barney)
 What about you, Magic Fingers?

BARNEY
 Uh, yeah...

FRED
 It's our job, ma'am...

CINDY
 I bet it is...Oh yeah...and I can
 tell, you boys like your job, don't
 you? I think I just found the HD I
 was looking for...

FRED
 Ma'am, uh, you're tuggin on our
 tools kinda rough.

CINDY
 Oh, am I?

We hear a metal 'clink' sound and this stops her.

She lifts a SOCKET WRENCH and a BALL-PING HAMMER into frame. For whatever reason, this makes her hotter.

She tosses the tools over her shoulder, jumps up and WRAPS HER LEGS AROUND FRED, while GRABBING BARNEY. She is all ready to unleash her lady passions. Fred is scared and Barney is still clueless.

CINDY (CONT'D)

You know what, the TV in my bedroom is causing me all kinds of problems and I think you men need to check out my box in there.

BARNEY

Okay... but I'm gonna need that wrench.

He motions to the wrench she just tossed behind her.

Still on Fred, she grabs Barney and kisses him as we cut.

CUT TO:

5 INT. CINDY'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER 5

From the bedroom door, we hear mayhem, moaning, things being broken etc as we travel through another montage of images around the house. Perhaps the pictures are rattling? We're not sure what kind of sex they're having, but we're both envious and scared for Fred and Barney.

6 EXT. CINDY'S HOUSE - DAY 6

The front door opens and the two men stumble out. Barney has a limp. They are disheveled with torn clothes, lipstick marks, maybe a black eye and some minor cuts. The door slams behind them.

They stand there for a moment in a daze, trying to process the recent happenings.

BARNEY

Kinda drafty.

We move back to see among the mayhem, Barney's PENIS is still hanging out, but is pixilated. Completely exhausted, they hobble away from the home. Fred glances down at his clipboard then stops.

BARNEY (CONT'D)

What?

Fred realizes something tragic and turns around and looks back towards the house.

BARNEY (CONT'D)
What is it?

FRED
We went to the wrong address.

BEAT

MODEL
(Maybe with a German
accent)
Excuse us gentlemen.

Two very BUFF MODEL TYPES IN CONSTRUCTION OUTFITS walk up
behind the cable men en route to Cindy's place and pass them.

FRED
(To Models)
Sure thing.
(to Barney)
Some big fellas

BARNEY
Yeah.

CUT TO BLACK: