

DANNY V THE BULLY

"Extra, Extra"

written by

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Series created by

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&

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Made in Highland

INT. FIRST R8 REAL ESTATE - OFFICE - DAY

Close up on a legal document as a pair of hands quickly sign on the dotted line. JAKE and NICK (the bestest friends) look up with big smiles and slide the paper over to a REAL ESTATE AGENT sitting across from them.

REAL ESTATE AGENT
Excellent.

INSERT - LEGAL DOCUMENT

The document has the word "deed" at the top. Jake's first and last name signature at the bottom is a study in exquisite penmanship. Nick's says "nick" in simple print.

REAL ESTATE AGENT
It looks like that'll about do it!
Congratulations to you both, what
an exciting opportunity.

She stands and extends her hand to shake.

JAKE
Thanks a bundle, Cindy. We really
couldn't have done it without you.

NICK
Yeah, you're like a low income
housing pimp!

CINDY
I'm just happy to help. I like to
think I'm in the business of
making dreams come true.

NICK
Well, when we successfully flip
this run down building we've just
purchased into appropriately
affordable accommodations, it
won't just be our dreams you're
making come true, but the dreams
of our community's
disenfranchised.

Jake pounds his fist on the table.

JAKE
Vive le proletariat!

EXT. CONDEMNED BUILDING - DAY

Nick and Jake walk down the sidewalk in a bad part of town. In the background, sirens blare, gun shots ring out, fire crackles. A stretch of highway that's under construction looms in the near distance. Nick and Jake lick ice cream cones.

JAKE

This is our best idea yet, Nick. Flipping a condemned apartment building into affordable low income housing for the betterment of our community? And then once it's up and running hocking it for a profit? We couldn't cook up a better scheme if we had a scheme cooking up cookbook!

NICK

And how, Jake! Not only did we snag it for a song because the brokerage company failed to recognize the seeds of potential in the surrounding community, but our decision to combine profit and progressivism represents a forward thinking business outlook that in my opinion ought to be more pervasive a practice nowadays.

JAKE

You really hit the nail on the head there, Nick. Once the highway is finished, this neighborhood will be bustling with people looking to rent, and businesses looking to take advantage. We really got in on the ground floor on this one.

They round the corner and stop in their tracks when they see DANNY V THE BULLY spray painting a building in their path. The balls of ice cream fall out of their cones.

DANNY V THE BULLY

Well, well, well.

NICK

Oh no! Our bully, Danny V!

JAKE

Oh no! Our bully, Danny V!

NICK

And he's spray painting our building!

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DANNY V THE BULLY

You geeks better pony up some coin
before I introduce you to my
friends:

(raising his right hand)

Knuckle.

(raising his left hand)

And Sandwich.

JAKE

You named your left hand
"Sandwich"?

Nick brushes slightly past Jake.

NICK

You know what, Danny V?

Nick reaches into his pocket and retrieves a plastic baggie
full of loose change labeled "Lunch + Parking" in sharpie. He
tosses it to Danny V, who snatches it out of the air.

NICK

Here. Nothing can make me feel bad
today because I can rest assured
that in my own small way I'm
lending a helping hand to this up-
and-coming community.

JAKE

Yeah!

NICK

Jake and I may have invested all
of our money into this roll of the
dice, but we're confident our
ambition will pay off in
dividends.

JAKE

Enjoy your pennies, Danny V.
Once the highway is finished,
renters will be tripping over
themselves to populate this once
struggling part of town and slowly
but surely, after the introduction
of businesses and crowd pleasing
restaurant chains, we'll flip our
soon to be bustling low income
housing project for much more than
we paid for it and we'll be
rolling in a favorable profit
margin!

NICK
Come on, Jake. Let's get out of
here. We have utility companies to
low ball.

Nick and Jake lock arms and fast walk away, still a little scared that Danny V might follow. Zoom in on Danny V's face as his eyes narrow in hate and we FADE TO WHITE.

EXT. BUS SHELTER - DAY - TWO YEARS LATER

CHYRON: Two Years Later.

Close on a hand in fingerless gloves extending a tin cup as a passerby tosses a dime into it. Reveal the hand is a homeless Jake's. He's sitting on a curb next to a bus shelter, draped in a blanket with newspaper sticking out of it for insulation. There are a couple people sitting on the shelter bench with newspapers up to their faces, engrossed in their reading. Jake holds a cardboard sign that says "be woke, help a bloke."

Nick rounds a corner with an armful of newspapers and sits down next to Jake.

NICK
Good news. Some huge story broke
today so everyone's just reading
and tossing papers left and right.
We're gonna sleep like kings.
How's the profit margin?

Jake rattles his tin. Only one coin rolls around.

JAKE
I thought my clever sign would
attract more business but people
aren't really biting.

NICK
Let's try my idea.

Jake nods and turns the cardboard sign over to reveal a drawing of a marijuana leaf accompanied by the message "Let's be blunt. I need one." Almost instantly a few passersby toss several coins and a dollar bill his way.

JAKE
Wow, Nick. You were right. Nick?

Nick is glued to one of his newspapers, shocked.

NICK
The big story! It's about
Congressman Blowhole!

Jake scoffs.

JAKE

You mean that slippery politician who prevented the appropriating of funds to the highway expansion project that would have breathed new life into the community our old low income housing building was situated in, thus destroying any chance for its revitalization and along with it our hopes of flipping it for a profit and recouping our investment?

NICK

Uh huh.

JAKE

He's the reason we're homeless!

NICK

It says here he's involved in a scandal because he only voted against the highway to get back at the congressman who's district the highway would have been in!

JAKE

But why would he do such a thing?

DANNY V THE BULLY

Extra, extra.

Suddenly, we RACK FOCUS and WHIP ZOOM to Danny V The Bully, who has been one of the people reading newspapers in the bus terminal next to Nick and Jake. He snaps his newspaper down.

NICK

Oh no! Our bully, Danny V!

JAKE

Oh no! Our bully, Danny V!

DANNY V THE BULLY

That's right. You dorks on your high horse showing off your business acumen two years ago made me sick. So I got my just desserts.

Nick stares at Danny V in rage while Jake snatches the newspaper out of his hands and whips it open. He reads the paper out loud as Nick and Danny V continue to hold each others gaze.

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JAKE

Oh my God. You mean to tell me you bet on the emotional and psychological shortcomings of man and successfully engineered an affair between the wife of the chairman of the California state House of Representatives Appropriations Committee and the congressman of the district where our low income housing project was just so you could sow party discord and cause the death of an important revitalization bill that would have spread the wealth of progress and made our city a better place, just so we could lose our sizable investment and end up destitute on the street?

DANNY V THE BULLY

Uh huh.

Nick and Jake stare at Danny V for a beat, then slowly put their hands on their hips and shake their heads as if they're disappointed.

NICK

Danny V! You bully!

JAKE

Danny V! You bully!

Danny V puts a hand in his pocket and retrieves a five dollar bill. He extends his hand. Jake smiles and goes to take it, but Danny V shoots his hand back up to his hair and smoothes it over in a classic "gotcha."

DANNY V THE BULLY

Psych!

Freeze frame over the last syllable of "psych!" as we abruptly cut to the first few bars of the theme song.

THE END

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