

SILK

by Taylor Buckley

[Feature screenplay excerpt]

INT. SKY BAR, BOOTH - NIGHT

Angela sits relaxed with a smile - legs crossed, one arm on her lap, the other holding up her drink. Rudy attempts to match her confidence.

ANGELA

How much experience do you have working with models?

RUDY

I've shot a few artsy music videos, some showreels and headshots for actors-

ANGELA

Anything a bit more outlandish? Maybe some boudoir work or... explicit material?

FLASH TO:

EXT. COUNTRY HOUSE GARDENS - NIGHT

Rudy holds his camera to his face, snapping photos of famous actress Aurora Vane in the window of the country house. She is joined by a suave man - both completely nude. Rudy lowers the camera.

RUDY

Fuck.

BACK TO PRESENT:

INT. SKY BAR, BOOTH - NIGHT

RUDY

(A beat)

Sort of. By explicit, you mean-

ANGELA

Nudity, yes.

A waiter stands over the table, looking unimpressed.

ANGELA (CONT'D)

What's your drink, Rudy?

RUDY

Whisky.

ANGELA

(To Waiter)

What are your best whiskies?

WAITER

The bar tab includes a choice of
either Jameson or Jack Daniels,
ma'am.

ANGELA

Fuck that free shit. What's your
finest? I'm buying.

She glances to Rudy and winks. He smiles back at her.

RUDY

You really don't need to-

ANGELA

(Gesturing to Rudy)

With a smile like this, how can I
not?

(To Waiter)

Right?

The waiter looks awkwardly over to Rudy, then back to
Angela, uncertain of how to respond.

ANGELA (CONT'D)

What is this? Are you a statue?

WAITER

We do pride ourselves in our whisky
selection, ma'am.

ANGELA

Ah! The statue talks.

Rudy grins. The waiter forces a smile.

WAITER

The Glenfiddich 30 is superb - very
refined. There's a rather rare
Macallan as well, and a Dalmore 50
that's wonderfully-

ANGELA

The Macallan. Neat.

WAITER

Of course, ma'am, but I must point
out that this is one our more
expensive-

ANGELA

Perfect! Make it a double.

WAITER

Of course. And for yourself, ma'am?

ANGELA

Another Aperol, darling.

WAITER
Right away.

The Waiter exits.

RUDY
Where were we?

ANGELA
Nudity.

RUDY
Nudity... Are you sounding me out
for a personal project here,
Angela?

ANGELA
If you're lucky.

She winks, before taking a sip of her drink.

ANGELA (CONT'D)
Okay, I'm going to cut to the
chase, Rudy. You caught my eye
tonight, and I like the way you
work. I might have an opportunity
for you if you think you're up for
it. You said you like to shoot
films, yes?

RUDY
I do. What are you after?

ANGELA
It's all quite confidential, but
we're a little production company
that specialises in commissioned
projects for private clients.

RUDY
Okay... what sort of projects?

ANGELA
We deal in fantasies. Our clients
present their idea, and our founder
decides on the medium, whether that
be fashion, photography, film...

RUDY
Fantasies? Interesting. So you're
not the big boss of organising
these fantasies?

ANGELA
I could be yours.

RUDY
(Smirking)
My fantasy?

ANGELA
No... well, maybe.
(Winking)
But, no. I mean I could be your
boss. I'm the exec producer, but
the creative vision comes from our
founder.

RUDY
So he's your boss?

ANGELA
(Laughing)
Oh, he'd like to think so. Orso
thinks he's the boss of everyone.

RUDY
Orso?

ANGELA
Sì, Orso Brassoli.

Rudy freezes.

RUDY
You're joking.

ANGELA
I see you've heard of him.

RUDY
Yeah, of course. I've seen some of
his exhibitions. His work is
fascinating.

ANGELA
That's one word for it. Would you
like to meet him?

RUDY
Meet Orso Brassoli? Um, I think so.

ANGELA
Perfect. I'll arrange a meeting for
next week. You can come by the
studio and see the kind of work we
do. That'll be far better than me
describing it to you.

RUDY
Sorry, are you being serious with
all this?

ANGELA
Do I look like I'm joking?

RUDY
But, why me?

ANGELA

Because everyone else was exactly
what I expected tonight.

RUDY

And I wasn't?

ANGELA

No.

Angela leans in. Her eyes drop to his mouth for a fraction
of a second before meeting his gaze.

ANGELA (CONT'D)

You surprised me. That is not easy
to do. Most men in your position
get flustered around beautiful
women, Rudy. They stutter, or they
gawk. But you? You have this wicked
confidence.

Rudy's skepticism melts into a slow, knowing smile.

ANGELA (CONT'D)

Orso needs a camera guy who doesn't
blink when things get intense.
Someone who knows how to control a
room, and isn't afraid to get
exactly what he wants. Some of the
work we do can be quite... unusual.

RUDY

I like unusual. And I'd be happy to
meet him. Working for a guy like
that must be insane.

ANGELA

Try being married to him.

Rudy's smile sinks into pure disbelief.