

Morning Coffee

By

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Original Comedy Screenplay

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EXT. RESTAURANT - DAY (NOON) - ESTABLISHING

Cars pass on a city street in front of a Deli restaurant.

TITLE - MORNING COFFEE

INT. RESTAURANT - SAME

A group of female office coworkers, CLAIRE(26), STEPHANIE(32), JANET(33), and BRENDA(30), are having lunch at the restaurant, gossiping about people at their workplace.

JENNY(29), a coffee addict who works with them, shows up, late, walking through the doors in a hurry. She walks over to their table.

JENNY

Hey guys! Sorry I'm late. My Starbucks order took forever to make.

STEPHANIE

Nothing out of the ordinary for you.

JANET

(to Jenny)

Why didn't you just get coffee here?

JENNY

Janet honey -- you know I have to get my triple shot of espresso made just right.

Janet rolls her eyes with a half-smirk.

CLAIRE

Jenny, it's like you're addicted to that stuff.

JENNY

No I'm not-

BRENDA

Yeah -- I bet you couldn't even go a day without coffee!

JENNY

Yes I could!

(CONTINUED)

STEPHANIE

How much do you guys think she  
spends on coffee, let alone  
Starbucks, a year?!

BRENDA

A few hundred, maybe?

JANET

No, it's definitely in the  
thousands.

They all laugh. Jenny half-laughs along with them.

CLAIRE

Jenny, how 'bout we make a bet. You  
guys up for it?

OTHER GIRLS

Sure!

CLAIRE

Alright -- we'll all chip in \$25  
and give you a Benjamin if you make  
in through a whole day without  
taking a single sip of coffee.

JENNY

(slightly frustrated)

Please, I can go three days without  
coffee -- heck, I could go an  
entire week!

The other girls laugh at her declaration.

STEPHANIE

Okay, we'll make it five-hundred  
then.

The other girls look at Stephanie slightly wide-eyed.

BRENDA

Steph, really?

STEPHANIE

Please, she can't go thirty minutes  
without huffing a coffee bean.

The girls all laugh again, one snorting in laughter.

JENNY

(wincing)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

JENNY (cont'd)  
Alright, alright -- I accept. I'll  
prove to you all that I can go a  
whole week without coffee!

JANET  
It's settled then. Now what were we  
talking about?

Jenny sits down to eat with them.

JANET (CONT'D)  
Oh yes -- so I think Alexander has  
a thing for Trisha because I heard  
them flirting in the breakro-

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - DAY (NEXT MORNING) - CLOSE ON ALARM-CLOCK

Jenny's alarm-clock changes from 6:59AM to 7:00AM and begins  
to BEEP. Jenny's hand hits the snooze button.

CLOSE UP - JENNY SITS UP IN HER BED AND TAKES A DEEP BREATH

Jenny stretches, puts on her slippers, and begins to leave  
the room.

INT. KITCHEN - SAME

Toast pops out of a toaster and Jenny retrieves it. She  
takes a bite while reaching for a coffee mug.

Jenny pauses, and then puts down the mug, remembering the  
bet. She pours a glass of orange juice instead.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY (MOMENTS LATER)

MONTAGE - JENNY GETS READY FOR WORK

A.) She buttons up her shirt.

B.) She brushes her teeth.

C.) She heads out the door.

END MONTAGE

EXT./INT. OFFICE WORKPLACE - DAY - ESTABLISHING

Jenny walks inside the office where her coworkers are whispering about her.

CLAIRE  
(whispering)  
There she is.

JANET  
She looks good.

STEPHANIE  
Still sane.

JENNY  
(walking toward them)  
Morning y'all!

BRENDA  
Hey Jenny -- how 'ya holding up?

JENNY  
I've never felt better! Maybe  
skipping coffee is going to be a  
good thing for me.

INT. JENNY'S OFFICE CUBICLE - DAY (HOURS LATER)

Jenny is propped up and asleep at her desk, head beginning to fall to her keyboard. Suddenly, Brenda comes and KNOCKS on her cubicle. Jenny awakes in haste.

JENNY  
Who! What?

BRENDA  
(chuckling)  
Hey Jenny, you seem quite tired.  
Need a cup of coffee?

JENNY  
No! I'm good. I don't need it.

Jenny's coworkers around the corner are looking over to see the conversation. They are laughing softly.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT (LATER THAT EVENING)

Jenny drops her work-bag and falls onto her bed. She closes her eyes for a brief second.

CLOSE UP - JENNY'S FACE AS SHE FALLS ASLEEP

MATCH CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - DAY (NEXT MORNING) - CONTINUOUS ANGLE ON JENNY

Jenny awakens to BIRDS CHIRPING. She looks out the window and sighs.

INT. JENNY'S CAR - DAY

Jenny is on her way to work. Her eyes are heavy, her hair's a mess, and she's wearing the same clothes as the day before. She looks out her window to see pedestrians on the sidewalk.

JENNY'S POV - PEDESTRIANS APPEAR TO BE MOVING IN SLOW MOTION

JENNY

What the...

A CAR HONKS at Jenny and she snaps out of her trance and brings her car to a halting stop in front of a BICYCLIST(21) just short of hitting him.

JENNY

(to Bicyclist)

Sorry!

BICYCLIST

What the heck lady!

JENNY

I'm so sorry!

INT. OFFICE WORKPLACE - DAY (NEXT DAY)

Jenny is falling asleep on her desk. Her lipstick is smeared, her eye-bags are drooping, and she's staring off into space. She dozes off and her head hits the desk.

Her BOSS(43) walks past her cubicle. He makes a double-take and walks back to her cubicle to see Jenny unconscious.

(CONTINUED)

BOSS  
Jenny -- Jenny!

Jenny awakens quickly with bloodshot eyes.

JENNY  
What? Um -- yes, yes sir!

BOSS  
No sleeping on the job -- please  
get back to work.

JENNY  
Yes sir -- sorry.

The Boss walks off. Jenny stares off into space, her mouth agape.

EXTREME CLOSE UP - JENNY'S CRAZED EYES

Jenny looks around. The SOUND of the dialogue of coworkers around her AMPLIFIES to simulate drug-like euphoric withdrawal symptoms.

She looks the other way to more coworkers. They appear to be dancing in clown costumes and making fun of her. She looks the other way again. Her boss's head is huge and he's laughing maniacally.

JENNY'S POV - HER COWORKERS IN A SPINNING ROOM

Which shows the colors of her vision change to blooming bright greens. The SOUND of her fellow coworkers talking becomes even louder and muffled.

Everything seems to slow into super slow-motion. Jenny, not affected by the slow-motion, begins to panic and bite her nails as she looks back and forth at the chaos she sees around her.

CLAIRE (O.S.)  
(muffled)  
Jenny -- Jenny? Jenny!

BACK TO SCENE

Jenny snaps out of her trance to see Claire standing in front of her desk.

CLAIRE  
(staring at Jenny)  
You... okay?

Jenny pauses for a moment before replying.

(CONTINUED)

JENNY

What? Yeah -- yeah, I'm fine. Just thinking.

CLAIRE

I don't know about this bet... maybe you should have a coffee.

JENNY

No, no... I don't need coffee. I'm fine. I'm totally fine... I promise. I'm going to win this bet.

CLAIRE

The Boss thinks you should take the rest of the day off.

JENNY

What? Oh, okay... sure.

Jenny begins to get up and grab her bags as Claire walks off.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT (ONE NIGHT LATER)

Jenny is laying in her bed on her back, staring at the ceiling. Her eyes are wide. She is shaking, sweating, and she cannot sleep.

INSERT - JENNY'S CALENDAR

Which shows the days she's marked off without drinking coffee. The days are marked up all the way until the night of day five, which is the day she's on now.

BACK TO SCENE

Jenny turns over and shuffles in her covers.

MONTAGE - JENNY IN BED

- A.) She shuffles in her covers.
- B.) She looks out the window.
- C.) She turns over on her stomach.

END MONTAGE

Jenny pauses for a moment, then gets up and leaves the room.



INT. KITCHEN - SAME

Jenny pours a glass of water and chugs it down. She hears DRIPPING. She looks over at her coffeemaker.

JENNY'S POV - HER COFFEEMAKER DRIPPING EXCESS COFFEE INTO THE POT

Jenny looks at the coffeemaker. Her mouth waters. The DRIPS become louder.

EXTREME CLOSE UP - JENNY'S BLOODSHOT EYES WATCHING THE COFFEEMAKER

Jenny then walks to the coffeemaker and starts to turn it on. She grabs a mug.

Suddenly, she pauses, and then she begins to pick up the coffeemaker. She throws it away in the trash. She heads back to her bedroom to sleep.

EXT./INT. OFFICE WORKPLACE - DAY (NEXT MORNING) - ESTABLISHING

Jenny, chirpy and lively, walks into the office, seemingly back to normal.

JENNY  
Morning all!

The whispering coworkers all look as Jenny proceeds to head to her desk. Jenny sits down and begins to type on her computer.

BRENDA  
(walking to Jenny's cubicle)  
Wow, you seem to be over your coffee withdrawals. Can't believe you've made it this far!

JENNY  
Yeah, I guess it just took me a few days to snap out of my routine. I've never felt better!

BRENDA  
Well, I commend you. Just hold out today and you'll get your five-hundred tomorrow.

(CONTINUED)

JENNY

Told you I didn't need coffee!  
Those five Benjamins will be mine!

BRENDA

(chuckling)

Yeah. Hey, you joining us for lunch  
later?

JENNY

I'll be there!

BRENDA

(smiling)

Great -- see you at the usual spot.

Brenda walks off.

Jenny looks around for a moment. She then reaches in her  
purse, pulls out a small spill-less mug, and sips on some  
coffee secretly. She continues working happily.

CUT TO: BLACK

**THE END**