

Truth In Advertising

by
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FADE IN:

INT. BUS - DAY

It's pouring rain like Morton's Salt and a man, CHRIS, is sitting in a bus. The driver has left to fulfill his calling for Cheez-Doodles or some such other life affirming repast.

Chris listens to the rhythm of the rain and tries to pick out a song he likes. He nods glumly as he recognizes the song. The only song he can put a hook to is the 80's schlock song, 'Cum On Feel Da Noize'. He'd feel much more comfortable with 'I'm Henry The 8th I Am' or anything from his childhood because he doubts the rain is up on today's music but, alas, that is not to be.

He tries to shake the song out of his head and the resulting crackles of his shaky vertebra force the offending 'Noize' from his head. But, being the overzealous type, only because of the excruciating pain that has replaced it. He actually prefers this. Wouldn't you?

Chris looks around begins to read the advertisements. He stares at a picture of a beautiful woman. That's all. Just a beautiful woman. For the life of him he can't figure out what she's selling. It could be the symmetry of perfect cheekbones but he doubts it. He figures that people who take public transportation aren't big clients of plastic surgeons.

He tries to find Jane Siberry's 'Can't Chop Down Symmetry' in the rain to no avail. He begins reading the other ads. He's seen them all in his public transportation travels for years and starts to grow bored.

He looks out the window for the driver but all he sees is rain. The song, 'Someone Left The Cake Out In The Rain' starts to creep into his head but he quickly head bangs back to 'Cum On Feel Da Noize'. Choosing the lesser of two evils has always been a good trait of Chris'.

All of a sudden he notices a new ad. He's pretty sure he's never seen this one so he leans in slightly and begins reading. The sign says,

'One person in this bus has a mental illness.'

Chris leans back and, trying hard not to draw attention to himself and begins to check out his fellow passengers. After a quick visual inspection he says, soto voce,

CHRIS
I'm the only one here.

Chris sits up straight and stares ahead.

FADE OUT.