

ANGELO'S

Written by

Erin Marszalek

212 East 47th Street, Apt 18A  
New York, NY 10017  
917-847-2654

EXT. BACK ALLEY TO RESTAURANT - EARLY EVENING

AMY, 33, with dirty blond hair and a slim figure, stands alone wearing a spring coat, black pants, and red heels. Uncomfortable and anxious, she's buried in her phone reading an email as she waits at the back door entrance to the restaurant under a single exterior light. A car drives by as she shifts awkwardly standing from leg to leg looking around. We hear the car turn off and two car doors slam quickly and the approaching of two people. CARMEN, 29, voluptuous young woman in a tight red dress with a leather jacket and heeled black boots and a black shoulder bag approaches pulling out a cigarette. EDDIE, 50, shorter man walks quickly behind her carrying a duffle bag.

CARMEN

You Amy?

AMY

Yes! You're Carmen?

Carmen nods in confirmation and she puts a cigarette in her mouth and lights it.

EDDIE

You shouldn't smoke, CARMEN!

He pulls the cigarette out of her mouth.

CARMEN

What the hell, EDDIE! You're not my Dad.

EDDIE

You sure?

She glares at him. He turns to Amy.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

Hi, I'm Eddie. You must be the new girl. You get the email from MIKE?

AMY

Yeah... I had a couple questions maybe you could help clear up for me-

CARMEN

Biggest thing's to not get in Mike's way. He wants to be the star and the only one in charge. Let him... and you'll be fine.

AMY

The star? Ok... and what about -

EDDIE

The "briefing"? Yeah... you can basically think of that as a loose outline for whatever goes down. He's a huge David Foster Wallace fan, so he adds an extraneous amount of details that are insanely unnecessary. And then Mike likes to just go with the "energy in the room" while on the job so all plans are pretty much meaningless. I don't even read that shit anymore. These jobs are all the same. There's a target. We're in, we're out. Boom. Done.

CARMEN

If you can, you want to "die" first. Then you sit in the coat check and play on your phone or whatever til we split.

AMY

How long have you guys been doing this?

CARMEN

It's my 3rd year. Super easy gig. And you get to eat dinner and be a part of the party before the whole thing goes down. It's a great perk. This place has great food. We were here years ago. It's Mike's ex-father in law's place.

AMY

Oh... That seems like it could be awkward. And probably a stupid place to return to.

EDDIE

Ha. Yep! The ex, Angela's a total bitch and she still waitresses here. I know all the stories. Believe me, I've been doing jobs with Mike for 17 years.

AMY

That's a long time. You must like working with him.

EDDIE

Not really. But this kind of work  
you don't really advertise. Know  
what I mean?

EDDIE shrugs as the door opens to the restaurant behind them.  
MIKE, 62, fit older man with grey speckled hair slightly  
balding steps out wearing a police badge around his neck  
while holding a manila folder.

MIKE

Let's go. Room's ready. Here.

He hands out a gun to each of them.

AMY

Oh, in the briefing it didn't say -

MIKE

Everyone gets guns. It's protocol.  
Put it in your handbag and keep it  
on you. Guests try to steal them.

Amy nods her head and the group steps inside.

INT. HALLWAY TO KITCHEN OF ANGELO'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT

Mike walks while talking back to the group as they follow  
behind him through the hallway, through a working kitchen and  
into another hallway.

MIKE

Ok. Let's go over the plan again so  
everyone's up to speed. Eddie, you  
didn't confirm again over email.

EDDIE

I don't think you sent it to me.

MIKE

Yeah, I did. You just didn't get it  
because you have an AOL address.

EDDIE

I get other emails just fine.

MIKE

Yeah... keep telling yourself that  
and then take a minute to think  
about where your careers at.

He turns away from Mike who scoffs at him from behind but follows along as the group continues walking through the back end of the restaurant.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Now, Carmen you're "Erica". EDDIE, your "Brad", her husband. Tonight is Erica's "parents" anniversary party, Frank and Laura Apuzzo. Here's your "parents". They've already been briefed earlier today on the plan.

He pulls two poorly color printed photos that were printed on regular paper out of his folder. The photos are very difficult to determine who the people are.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Now, their code names are "Frank" and "Laura".

He starts to laugh. Amy tries to register the joke. EDDIE catches her glance. He darts his eyes back to Mike and starts laughing forcibly in an awkward manner.

EDDIE

That's a good one, Mike.

MIKE

I know... You're pretty pathetic, Eddie. Took you a second to compute that one, huh? You're a lovable moron. Playing that card's probably the only way you get laid, eh?

Eddie quickly drops his forced happiness and just sullenly stares back at Mike.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Ah... there he is! Misery looks a lot better on you, Edward.

Mike starts to chuckle and punches Eddie in the arm very hard. Eddie slouches from the pain.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Relax, Eddie. I'm just screwing with an old friend. Right? Now, Amy, you're "Carol". You're best friends with "Erica", but you're having a secret affair with "Brad".

Amy glances again at EDDIE who is smiling broadly with hungry eyes. He's easily 7" shorter than her.

MIKE (CONT'D)

When the guests arrive mingle with them. I'm gonna make an announcement that I've been called in as special forces to the restaurant because there's been an anonymous phone call. Therefore, I'm on hand to monitor. Then during appetizers, "Erica's",

Mike points to Carmen.

MIKE (CONT'D)

gonna work the room. Flirt, wink, wiggle. Get the intel about who's with who, that shit. Now, Amy, she's a pro. Just watch her and do what she does.

Amy nods.

CARMEN

It's so easy. All these guys are married to their high school girlfriends so just lookin' at 'em give's them a heart attack. And the wives are super lonely so they're just an open book.

MIKE

Then "attempted murder" shot, rooms on lockdown.

CARMEN

I die first!?

MIKE

No. Then comes the main course. Amy, "Carol", you're then on. Work it like Carmen. Try to throw them off what's going on. Then the three of you's tussle.

AMY

Tussle?

MIKE

The agency recommended you because they said you're a trained professional. I trust the agency. You can do this.

(MORE)

MIKE (CONT'D)  
Just ya' know, improvise! Knee him  
in the balls and pull her hair.

AMY  
Sure. Yes, ok.

INT. ANGELO'S PARTY ROOM

Mike has pushed open door to the small private dining room and the group steps in as their conversation continues. Two waiters, ANGELA, 73, Mike's ex-wife with the face and demeanor of an evil witch, and NEETOL, 22, young Indian/American man who's only working this job to help pay for college, are placing salads at table settings. Three long tables are set up in an open horseshoe with long table clothes, table settings, and glasses on each. A microphone stand and a small side table with flowers and a speaker system are at the front of the room. Cheap and low fitting flower arrangements with tea light candles are at each table.

MIKE  
Dessert comes and Eddie's on. Black out,  
shots, standoff and we're out. Ya got it?

CARMEN AND EDDIE  
Yes!

AMY  
I think -

MIKE  
Great!

BLACK TITLE  
SCREEN COMES UP  
SAYING  
"APPETIZERS"

INT. ANGELO'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT PARTY ROOM - 10 MINUTES  
LATER

A group of guests have now filed into the room, are sitting and have begun to eat their salads. A group of nurses, already very rowdy and drunk sit at the end of one of the tables. They are out celebrating the retirement of their friend and fellow nurse, GRANDMA HEIDI, who's wearing a white feather boa and a crown. Amy is seated at the nurses table. The women are laughing, clearly incredibly drunk and grilling Amy for "clues". FRANK and LAURA APUZZO, a middle aged African American couple, sit at the head of front table. They are wearing Mardi Gras beads and drinking Manhattans. A paper name holder saying GUESTS OF HONOR sit in front of them both.

They are surrounded by other friends laughing and drinking. They also have notepads and pencils in front of them to "take notes" of the evenings events that could be clues. EDDIE and CARMEN are seated together at this table and are working their seated audience with smiles and somewhat crude jokes. At the third table RACHEL and MATT, a young early 20's couple hold hands and stare at each other, saccharine and affectionately in love. Other patrons roll their eyes as the two feed each other and drink arm in arm, holding each others gaze. Mike heads to the microphone at the head of the room with a fake detective badge around his neck. He eyes the crowd and steps into his "spot light".

MIKE

Good evening, folks, it's me again  
Detective Patrick O'Flannigan still  
on the grounds for your protection.  
Frank and Laura, your daughter  
"Erica", would like to get up and  
say a few words as this is your  
anniversary party.

CARMEN and EDDIE look at each other and roll their eyes. She stands and takes the microphone from MIKE.

CARMEN

Thank you, Officer O'Flannigan.

Mike quickly grabs back the mic.

MIKE

DETECTIVE O'Flannigan.

She grabs the mic back and walks over to the couple, whom she looks absolutely nothing like, and affectionately puts her arms around them as music starts to play.

CARMEN

Mom and Dad, happy anniversary. You  
found a great man in my father,  
Mom. I only wish my husband was  
half of who he is.

EDDIE jumps to his feet.

EDDIE

Hey!

She starts to sing. She works the room, playing with different men's hair and sitting in one man's lap.

CARMEN

Good men, are hard to find. Even  
harder to keep.  
(MORE)



CARMEN (CONT'D)

Bad men who you should've left  
behind. Will haunt you in your  
sleep. I want a real man, to hold  
me tight. A real man, to love me  
through the night. A real man, so  
hard to find. Gonna leave the bad  
men far behind.

The song ends and EDDIE jumps up. The lights go out and a the  
sound of a recorded gun shot plays. Lights up, EDDIE is  
holding his arm, his sleeve dripping in fake blood.

EDDIE

Someone just tried to shoot me!

MIKE

Ah-ha! A killer is on the loose!

The crowd all laughs and starts writing notes onto their  
pads.

GRANDMA HEIDI

It's the wife! She don't look  
satisfied!

MIKE

Ok... ok. Let's not jump to any  
quick conclusions. Just cause he  
looks like a wimp, don't mean he  
can't deliver. But... it probably  
does.

He gives her a wink. The restaurant bursts into laughter.

BLACK TITLE  
SCREEN COMES UP  
SAYING "MAIN  
COURSE"

INT. ANGELO'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT PARTY ROOM - 5 MINUTES LATER

Main courses are served. Neetol and Angela refill wine  
glasses. Angela looks annoyed. Neetol has a strained smile on  
his face. He passes Amy.

NEETOL

You're new right?

AMY

Yeah... is it that obvious?

NEETOL  
You just look like you actually  
care.

AMY  
Oh...

NEETOL  
I'm just here to pay for college.  
These are people are probably just  
here because they honestly have  
nothing better to do. Like that guy  
up there.

MIKE is back at the front of the room again at the  
microphone.

MIKE  
Woooooweeee!! What a whirlwind  
folks, right?!?! But we won't let  
some "attempted murder" ruin the  
evening. He's fine.

He pats Eddie on the shoulder. He winces in fake pain.

MIKE (CONT'D)  
"Carol", the childhood best friend  
of "Erica", would like to make a  
toast.

Amy steps up as the nurses as her table start to whoop and  
cheer.

GRANDMA HEIDI  
You go get it, Carol!

She bursts into laughter.

GRANDMA HEIDI (CONT'D)  
Hey! I need another Cosmo! Pronto!

Amy takes the microphone.

AMY  
Mr. and Mrs. Apuzzo it's such an  
honor being here for your  
anniversary party.

Music starts to play.

AMY (CONT'D)  
I just hope one day I would be able  
to find a love as lasting as yours.

She starts to sing.

AMY (CONT'D)

Seems like a dream to find.  
Something so endearing. One of a  
kind. A life long pairing. I've  
searched from town to town. But  
never found a love so true. Once I  
was close but lost, and I still  
search. The ghost of lovers lost, a  
passing fancy. I call to angels now  
with one prayer only... For lasting  
love... My one and only. Lasting  
love...

Walking around the crowd awkwardly trying to flirt with the  
men, ending the song, swings her arm around EDDIE and looks  
him in the eyes. Carmen jumps up and throws her arm off him.

CARMEN

Carol! Get off! He might not be  
much, but he's mine!

CARMEN gives Amy a fake stage slap. The crowd boos and  
cheers. EDDIE jumps up.

EDDIE

Erica, you've got anger management  
issues. Nothing has been going on  
between us.

CARMEN

My ass, that's true!

GRANDMA HEIDI

Ooooooooo!!!! That bitch don't play!

AMY

You witch! You witch!

Amy gives Carmen a stage slap. The crowd goes wild. MIKE  
stands between the women.

MIKE

Wow... let's cool this cat fight!

Mike gives Amy a wink. She turns back to Eddie and knees him  
in the nuts. He falls to the floor in real pain. She bends  
down next to him apologizing profusely. CARMEN sitting at her  
table takes a sip of water from her glass and begins to fake  
choke.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Hey! What's happening here?

He steps over Eddie writhing in pain and pulls Amy up and back towards her seat.

MIKE (CONT'D)

A poisoning?

CARMEN lies face first onto the ground pretending to wiggle and then flips over with a fake blood capsule broken in her mouth. She continues to over dramatically fake cough and gag.

CARMEN

I've been poisoned! It was.. It was...

MIKE

Who was it? Who was it??

She "dies". Micheal bends down next to her and grabs her wrist to take her pulse but he's just holding her wrist awkwardly. He drops her hand to the floor. Some of the guests are scribbling clues on their notepads.

MIKE (CONT'D)

She's dead! You're all witnesses here. Was it the best friend? The cheating ugly husband?

He points to Eddie and then swings his arm over to Neetol.

MIKE (CONT'D)

HEY You! Busboy. Get the cart. We can't have this body just lying around here.

Neetol deeply sighs and rolls over an empty food cart.

NEETOL

I'm not a bus boy. I'm a waiter.

MIKE

Yeah, whatever. Just get the cart and grab that body.

Neetol and EDDIE lift CARMEN on and Neetol rolls her away. She's peeks open her eyes and winks at Amy. The crowd is laughing.

BLACK TITLE  
SCREEN COMES UP  
SAYING "DESSERT"

INT. ANGELO'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT COAT CLOSET - 1 MINUTE LATER

Carmen sits surrounded by coats eating a Twizzler playing Candy Crush on her phone.

INT. ANGELO'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT PARTY ROOM - 3 MINUTES LATER

Slices of cake have been delivered to every table along with coffee cups. Neetol and Angela circle the room filling the cups with coffee. MIKE once again goes to the center microphone.

MIKE

Wow.. What an anniversary party,  
huh? Laura, Frank, I'm sorry about  
the poisoning of your daughter by  
that scum bucket over there.

Mike points to Eddie who looks incredibly offended.

EDDIE

Me? You can't prove that.

LAURA

It's ok. We have other kids.

The crowd bursts into laughter.

FRANK

Who we like better!

The crowd's laughter grows even louder.

MIKE

Well, your son in law, "Brad" wants  
to say some words. Not suspicious  
at all...

EDDIE comes forward and gets the microphone.

EDDIE

Frank, Laura, I loved your daughter  
very much.

Disco music starts to play similar to "Macho Man" in tempo and beat.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

But I'm a single man now!

He steps away from the mic and starts stripper dancing around the room. Moving his butt up in the air. The drunk nurses start to scream in delight.

He starts to unbutton his button up shirt, taking it off and swinging it around his head. He makes his way around the room. Suddenly the lights are off again and the sound of a gun shots ring. The lights come back on revealing CARMEN standing in the doorway with a gun pointed towards the center of the room. Amy stands with her fake gun pointed at EDDIE. EDDIE standing with a real gun pointed at the center of the room. And waitress Angela standing with a real gun pointed at the center of the room. Mike is lying in the center of the room. His wounds are real from actual gun shots.

AMY  
OH, MY GOD!

She runs over to MIKE who's bleeding out on the floor.

AMY (CONT'D)  
Someone call 911! He's dying! He's  
really dying!

The crowd explodes with laughter and hoots.

GRANDMA HEIDI  
BEST MURDAH' DINNAH' EVAH!

She cheers the other nurses.

AMY  
This is real! This is not part of  
the show!!!

The crowd continues to jeer and laugh. Amy wipes her face with her bloody hands as with her

END OF FILM