

BREWED

written by

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FADE IN:

INT. BREW HOUSE - DAY

The Brew House is a small yet moderately busy coffee shop.

CHUCK (30s), the overweight baffoon and manager of the Brew House, is holding up a journal.

CHUCK

This is your cold beverage journal.

He picks up three more journals.

CHUCK (CONT'D)

And your pastry journal, and your tasting journal, and your African coffee journal, or as I like to call it, your "urban" journal.

He chuckles awkwardly.

HENRY (late teens), boyish and full of nerves, reluctantly joins the awkward chuckle.

Chuck graduates from a chuckle into uproarious laughter, slamming his fist down on the table, shaking it. Henry looks concerned. Chuck's laughter subsides as he wipes away a tear.

CHUCK (CONT'D)

Oh, that was good.

Chuck picks up another journal.

CHUCK (CONT'D)

And finally, your most important journal. The opprotunity journal.

He hands it to Henry.

CHUCK (CONT'D)

I want you to jot down any time you size an opprotunity.

HENRY

...Size..?

CHUCK

Yeah. Is the opprotunity big? Is it small? Is it medium size or slighly fluffy?

Henry nods his head, confused.

CHUCK (CONT'D)

Wait here, I'm gonna grab Zoe.

Chuck gets up and walks into the back.

Henry looks at the journals stacked beside where Chuck was sitting. There must be close to fifty of them. He breathes a heavy sigh and looks off in a daze.

At the counter, ROBERT (50s), a homeless gentleman in camo cargos and a ponytail, is pleading with JUDE (20s), the misanthrope behind the register.

ROBERT

Come on, man, I just gotta take a piss.

JUDE

(Apathy on the verge of annoyance)

Restroom's for customers only.

Robert walks away from the counter in a huff and stops in front of Henry, yanking him from his daze.

ROBERT

Change?

HENRY

Oh, um...

Henry rummages through his pockets and produces a dollar, placing it in Robert's hand.

HENRY (CONT'D)

There ya go.

ROBERT

Small's two bucks.

Henry looks at Robert, sort of amazed. He reaches back into his pocket, pulls out another dollar and hands it to Robert.

Robert walks away.

PAUL

(O.S.)

First mistake.

Henry turns around to face PAUL (60s), a bearded gentleman wearing two sets of eye glasses, drinking from a ceramic mug and holding open a book, Factotum.

HENRY

Excuse me?

PAUL

Jude's gonna be mad at you.

HENRY

Sorry, um... Are you..?

PAUL

First day?

HENRY

How'd you--?

PAUL

I've been coming to the Brew House for seven years. You see a lot of strange stuff, all walks of life: bums, businessmen, commuters, teens, hippies, hipsters, wanna-be writers, wanna-be intellectuals, druggies, psychos, stressed out mothers, cat ladies and creeps. And they all want the same thing.

HENRY

...Coffee?

PAUL

The bathroom key.

Robert walks back up to the counter.

ROBERT

Bathroom key.

JUDE

Restroom. Is for customers. ONLY.

Robert slams the two dollars down onto the counter.

ROBERT

Boom! Large coffee!

HENRY

(To himself)

Large?

Jude just stands there a moment, scowling. Begrudgingly, he takes Robert's money and hands him a large coffee and the bathroom key.