

The Last Celebrity

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EXT. STREET - DAY THAT WE ALL KNOW IS COMING

OBLIVIOUS PEDESTRIANS fixated on their MOBILE DEVICES, crowd a busy sidewalk.

DANNY (30's), aka "Rat Tail Boy", decked out in a dated track suit, blows through the riff raff, pinballing off their shoulders, his beady eyes buried in the TEXTSPEAK APP of his MYPHONE.

DANNY  
I said "ayight!"

Danny's phone responds.

ROBOTIC DANNY VOICE  
(well annunciated)  
Alright.

Gripping the phone as if he were choking it.

DANNY  
Nah man, AHHH...IIIT.

ROBOTIC VOICE DANNY  
Alright.

Danny steps into the cross walk and starts across the street.

DANNY  
Respect the tail, man.

A couple of people jog past Danny, trying to make it to the other side of the street.

ROBOTIC VOICE DANNY  
Respect the tail, man.

DANNY  
That's my line!

SPLAT!!

Like a freight train screaming over a field mouse, a city bus PLOWS over Danny, his MyPhone scuttles down the street.

To add insult to injury, a funeral procession following close behind bounces over him one car at a time...hearse...follow car...THUMP THUMP...THUMP THUMP.

Bewildered and bemused pedestrians pull out their camera phones.

BEMUSED PEDESTRIAN  
Oh my god!! Check it out!

BEWILDERED PEDESTRIAN  
Isn't that that guy??

Within moments dozens of phones are put to use. People trying to get a good angle on what's left of the poor guy.

A YOUNG GIRL tweets at lightning speed.

INT. STARBUCKS - CONTINUOUS

ON PHONE: "OMG. I THINK I JUST SAW DANNY D. DIE!!! :x"

A DIFFERENT YOUNG GIRL looks up from her phone, mouth agape, and shows it to her FRIEND.

The friend whips out her phone and starts typing furiously.

MONTAGE

--tweets upon tweets spreading the news

--videos and pics flood the WWW

--ZMT.COM post: "Rat Tail Boy Flattened By Funeral Procession"

--USMAGAZINE.COM post: "Former Child Star Dies...Just Like Us!"

--INFOWARS.COM post: "Danny Dietermeyer Dead From Overdose!"

--NYTIMES.COM NEWS-GOSSIP VIDEO JOURNALIST MANDA BILLINGSLEY:

MANDA  
And today's "OMG Minute: MidTown Edition" - Horror on the west side today as has-been Danny Deitermeyer, known as the star of the fleeting smash hit show "I Once Had a Rat Tail," was smushed by rush hour traffic.

INT. NY TIMES - OMG MINUTE MIDTOWN DESK - CONTINUOUS

MANDA (mid 20's) hip and headstrong, in front of her webcam.

MANDA (CONT'D)

In a cruel twist of fate for down and out Danny, he had just joined the 21st century by setting up the TextSpeak app on his phone when he was run over by a funeral procession for someone with a lower Q rating than him. TTYL, Danny. This is your favorite girl Manda, signing off.

Manda clicks off her cam.

Next to her, HOLDEN (20's) the office snark, bounces on his SWISS BALL over to ADAM KLEIN (20's) another young reporter who tries hard and fails harder.

HOLDEN

Change your headline to "Cat Ordained As Priest". You're writing for pet lovers, you gotta dumb it down. That should be easy for you.

ADAM KLEIN

You're right.

Manda slides over in her chair and looks at Klein's monitor.

MANDA

Don't listen to Holden, you're first instinct was correct, "First Feline Frocked as Father Whiskers". Remember Klein, we hold ourselves to high standards. We're the New York Times News Gossip section.

ADAM KLEIN

Gee, thanks Manda.

MACNAMARA (60's), a fast talking old warhorse from a bygone era comes in, MyPad in hand.

MAC

Stellar reporting on Rat Tail Boy Manda, stellar!

He gives her a slap on the back.

MAC (CONT'D)

C'mon, got a crack assignment for you.

She follows after him through the newsroom.