

Announcement

written by

INT. THE NEWS ROOM. NIGHT. 9:15 P.M

We are on the stage of a news show. There is a woman seated on the front desk and alongside her is a man in a suit with jeans. The crew are moving around setting everything up. The man in the suit appears to be a guest on the show, he is laid back on he chair and appears very comfortable. The woman on the desk, who is the host, is on her phone, a sour expression on her face. She is texting with someone.

DIRECTOR

(To crew)

Okay then, 30 seconds to roll

The crew takes their places and the director counts down to rolling time. The cameras roll and the female announcer puts on a big smile on her face, this mildly spooks the guest once he looks up at her.

ANNOUNCER

Hello everyone welcome back to the show where we are joined by a guest today, here promoting his new book, The Age of Innocence, in bookstores now, please welcome, John Davis. John thank you for being here.

JOHN

Thank you, I'm uhhhh, happy to be here.

ANNOUNCER

Now tell us about this book, what went through your mind when you thought to write it.

JOHN

I suppose I was at a very strange place in my life where I was dealing with some things, and so I decided to write about it hoping that it might take my mind off it and it ended up being this transformative experience for me.

ANNOUNCER

Interesting--interesting. And it has become quite the title, as all books are it was a bestseller, so tell us about how you're feeling about it.

JOHN

Buck wild if I'm being honest. I truly did not expect this kind of rea--

ANNOUNCER

And do you think the book itself might have been a reference to your previous incident with the police when you were 21?

John pause, taken aback by the question.

JOHN

Hmmm, that might--umm- I suppose that-- how did you know about that, it wasn't even a-- I wasn't even arrested--not that that makes it-- how did you even--

ANNOUNCER

(Looking at her notes)

We have our methods Mr. Davis--now, tell us more about the situation the character in the book finds himself with the Serbian family, was this in fact a reference to your other incident with a home invasion some years back, I believe you were intruding--

JOHN

(Leaning closer to the female announcer)

Can you please stop? I'm here to talk about a book, can you stop that, how do you even--

ANNOUNCER

Pardon me but aren't these things related to your book? They are apart of your life no? And the book is semi-autobiographical as you have said.

JOHN

Well these are all things that happened a long time ago, and I've put them all behind me, so I think it's reasonable for me to ask for some questions relating to--

ANNOUNCER

That Mexican family you invaded
however may not--

JOHN

(Angrily shouting)

Now don't start with those fucking
Mexicans again!! I cannot be held
accountable for what happened, I
was in a daze because of my
medication--

(Calming himself now)

And I have already apologized to
the family, they however could not
speak English and so we cannot know
if they accepted my apology. Hell
we can't know if they understood it
was and apology.

John panting heavily after the outburst of emotion. He remembers he is on television in front of a live audience and begins to sweat. He shifts around his seat uncomfortably.

ANNOUNCER

(Undeterred by the
outburst)

Now, it's interesting that your
outburst very much mirrors the
outburst witnessed by the character
in the book when approached about
his string of murders around the
state, is this related to your
allegations of manslaughter in--

John abruptly stands up and begins fiddling with his microphone. He rips it out and slams it on the ground and walks away.

JOHN

(Pointing to an audience
member)

You!! What the fuck are you stating
at---fuck you you fucking cunt!!

He walks towards the audience member in an attempt to start a fight but is caught by the security and escorted outside. The audience watches as he is dragged outside, kicking and screaming. Once outside they all look back at the female announcer at the front. Without missing a beat she picks up with the same friendly smile on her face.

ANNOUNCER

Ladies and gentlemen thanks for turning in tonight, if you'd like to purchase the book by Mr. John Davis who has had something come up, you can find it in a bookstore near you. Goodnight folks.

CUT TO BLACK.