

THAT'S LIFE, BABY

Written by Joey Newfield

INT. COMMERCIAL SET - KITCHEN

JEAN walks up to the DIRECTOR, who is making sure the camera is set up to his liking.

JEAN

I'm grateful to finally be acting in my first paid gig! I studied acting in college and I knew my training would eventually pay off.

DIRECTOR

We need you to pour a bowl of Life Cereal. That's all. Family commercial, improvise a line.

JEAN

I wasn't trained in improv, but give me a script and I'm confid-

DIRECTOR

No script. Use your training to imagine you are getting breakfast ready for your boyfriend. Got it?

JEAN

(Thinking for a second)
Yeah, I got it.

DIRECTOR

Great! Aaaand, Action!

Jean begins pouring Life cereal into a bowl. The actor playing her boyfriend walks in, smiling.

JEAN

(Winking)
Last night was great, baby.

DIRECTOR

Cut!

JEAN

Did I do something wrong?

DIRECTOR

You alluded to sex. Don't allude to sex, ok?

JEAN
I won't *allude* to sex, got it.

DIRECTOR
Excellent. Aaaand, Action!

Jean pours the cereal into a bowl. The ACTOR playing her boyfriend walks in, smiling.

JEAN
That was some great sex last night, honey!

DIRECTOR
Woah! Ok, there was no great sex, got it?

JEAN
Got it.

DIRECTOR
Fantastic. Aaaand, Action!

The action of the commercial is repeated.

JEAN
This cereal should give you some energy, sweetie. You need it, because last night's sex was pretty miserable.

DIRECTOR
Dear God, cut! Look, there wasn't any sex, ok?

JEAN
My boyfriend slept over, but we didn't have sex?

DIRECTOR
No! There has never been any sex, got it?

JEAN
Never? Wow. Got it.

DIRECTOR
Excellent. Aaaand, Action!

The action of the commercial is repeated.

JEAN

Why aren't we physically intimate, baby? I think it's about time we fu-

DIRECTOR

GOD NO, CUT! There's been no sex or anything ever! Just pour a bowl of cereal for breakfast, ok?

JEAN

All I'm doing is pouring a bowl of cereal, in the morning, and nothing has been happening romantically in my life?

DIRECTOR

DEAR LORD, YES!

JEAN

Got it.

DIRECTOR

Aaaand, Action!

Commercial action is repeated. When the actor playing the boyfriend enters:

JEAN

Who the Hell are you?!?

Jean pulls out a pocket knife and holds the actor down.

JEAN (CONT'D)

What are you doing in my house? I will slit your throat, you pervert!

DIRECTOR

WHAT?! WHAT?! WHAT THE HELL?!? CUT!

JEAN

What's wrong?

DIRECTOR

What's wro-? Don't do it like that!

JEAN

Got it.

DIRECTOR

OH, DO YOU?! DO YOU GOT IT?!

JEAN

Yeah! I won't do it like *that*.

DIRECTOR
 (Hesitantly)
 Ok. Aaaand, action!

The action of the commercial is repeated. Jean does the exact same thing, but this time entirely in Spanish.

DIRECTOR (CONT'D)
 What the He- CUT! Did you just say
 the same thing, but in Spanish?

JEAN
 Si, you said "not like that" so I
 did it in Spanish instead.

DIRECTOR
 Look. Just pour the cereal. Don't
 say anything, just pour the cereal.

JEAN
 What's my motivation?

DIRECTOR
 You are hungry.

JEAN
 Ok. Got it.

DIRECTOR
 Excellent. Aaaand -

JEAN
 What accent should I use?

DIRECTOR
 YOU WILL BE SILENT, YOU DON'T NEED
 AN ACCENT!

JEAN
 It helps with my character and
 movement.

DIRECTOR
 FRENCH! FRENCH! DO A FRENCH ACCENT!
 Just, just, action!

The action of the commercial is repeated. Jean pours a bowl of cereal in a French accent, then the actor comes in. He eats a spoonful of cereal, smiling and looking straight into the camera.

ACTOR
 Mmmm! (Then, to Jean) I had a great
 time having sex last night, baby!

DIRECTOR

CUT! Wh... Wh... Wha... But...
What... Screw it, we'll use it.

BLACKOUT