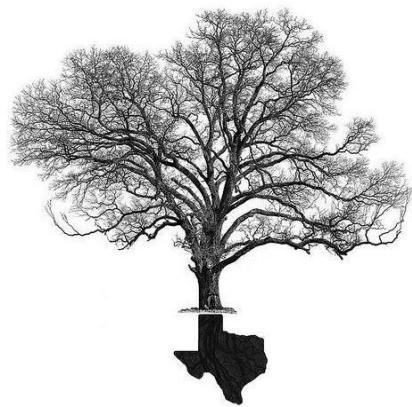


# The Fisherman's Wife

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Pecan Street Press  
LUBBOCK • AUSTIN • FORT WORTH

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Amazon edition

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ISBN: 9781072132028

THE FISHERMAN'S WIFE

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FADE IN

EXT. FISHING BOAT AND DOCK - SMALL FISHING VILLAGE - DAY

TITLE CREDITS

RAMON (19) is a relatively successful fisherman. He has a tiny boat but he brings in a healthy catch. He examines the catch and seems happy. He motors the fish to the dock. He unloads the fish into plastic containers and totes them to a small fish market and butcher shop. Several boys help bring the fish up to a market. Ramon gives each boy a small fish for their effort. The boys seem happy and run away. One boy brings the fish home to his mother, who greets him at the door. She takes the fish and waves to Ramon, thanking him.

EXT. FISH MARKET - SMALL FISHING VILLAGE - DAY

JAZZY (18) is Ramon's wife and operates the tiny fish market. She sells the fish that her husband catches. The first thing we notice is her energy and her skill with a butcher knife. They fish simply open up when she looks at them. She works hard and fast and has an appealing smile for the customers. She is actually the ultimate sales lady.

We see her sell several of the fish. Her clients like the price and they like her. She smiles even more when she sees Ramon approaching from the dock with tubs of fish to sell. She maneuvers to create more space in their tiny refrigerator. By the time Ramon and the boys arrive with the fish, she has some space available. It is a hot summer day and Jazzy throws some ice, from a tiny kitchen (counter-size) ice maker, on the fish she has on display.

Ramon's grandmother, GRACE (68) is there at the butcher shop. She has a chair that she rarely moves from. She has the beginnings of dementia. She is observing. RAMON hands over the fish and together they pack them away and display the rest.

Ramon and Jazzy have a humble butcher shop and a humble boat and a humble house in a tiny little fishing village on Luzon not far from Manila.

END TITLES

Ramon hugs his grandmother.

Ramon brings out a hand-cranked homemade ice cream machine. He pours in the cream, sugar, an egg, vanilla and berries. He mixes it all up and closes the lid. He pours in ice and rock salt in the outside compartment. He sits and turns the crank.

Jazzy deals with a customer.

CUSTOMER

Oh, you have so many nice fish.

JAZZY

Thank you. My husband is an excellent fisherman.

CUSTOMER

But you have so many.

CUSTOMER #2

I've heard the other villages are having problems.

JAZZY

I've heard that also. But not to worry.

CUSTOMER

That's right; this village has three fishing boats.

They look out into the tiny cove and sure enough there are three small fishing boats. The two other fisherman are loading their catch onto small trucks.

CUSTOMER

Well okay. I won't worry. I will take this one.

The customer pays and takes a fish.

JAZZY

Thank you and come back.

All the while she has been speaking to the client, Ramon has been turning the crank on the ice cream maker and watching Jazzy. When finished with the transaction, Jazzy looks at Ramon to.

JAZZY  
Are you ready yet?

RAMON  
It's ready.

JAZZY  
Well, lets' go.

RAMON  
(to his grandmother)  
You are okay to watch the shop?

GRACE  
Yes, yes. You two newly weds run along.

JAZZY  
We are going to get cleaned up for dinner. I'll come close the shop when we are done.

Grace chuckles.

RAMON  
Thanks, gran.

Ramon and Jazzy, with ice cream bucket in hand, run to their tiny home one block away.

INT. TINY HOME - DAY

Ramon and Jazzy strip down on the path to the shower. They are kissing and removing clothes the entire way. Clothes leave a trail from the door to the shower. They are in the shower kissing and cleaning. She takes an inferior soap and scrubs Ramon all the while kissing him and smiling. Ramon does the same.

They leave the shower for bed. They are rolling around in the bed and are about to make love, but Jazzy stops. She smells Ramon, so Ramon smells her in return. She jumps up and hand in hand they reenter the shower. They repeat the process.

They leave the shower and roll around in the bed. Tight shot on their faces.

RAMON  
Are you ready?

Jazzy nods, yes.

JAZZY  
Oh, oh. That tickles.

Jazzy wiggles around a bit.

RAMON  
Just lie still for a second, I'll be done in a minute.

JAZZY  
But, it feels funny. And, it's cold.

The camera pulls back and we see Ramon with a spoon eating ice cream off her stomach.

JAZZY  
Well? Can I have a bite?

Ramon takes a spoonful and gives it to Jazzy.

JAZZY  
Hey, that's pretty good.

RAMON  
Best batch yet.

JAZZY  
I'm glad.

EXT. FISH MARKET - SMALL FISHING VILLAGE - DAY

Clients arrive and select fish. Grace doesn't get up from her chair. She just points to the counter.

GRACE

Just put the money on the table  
and take the fish. I'm too old for  
this.

CUT TO minutes later...

Ramon rolls off of Jazzy. Both have a satisfied look on their faces. They stare up at the ceiling.

They get up and get in the shower again.

Jazzy dries herself off, dresses and goes to the kitchen to prepare dinner.

Ramon dries himself off, dresses and goes to the butcher shop. Grace is asleep in the chair. Ramon collects the money off the table. He throws the remaining fish in an ice chest and throws some ice in there as well.

He gently wakes his grandmother.

Ramon

Gran, it's time for dinner.

Grace rises with difficulty; she seems to be arthritic. Ramon helps her up.

Grace exits and begins to walk to Ramon's home.

Ramon closes and locks the shop.

Ramon returns to his home.

INT. KITCHEN - TINY HOME - DAY

When Ramon gets to his house. The table is set. Grace is sitting and Jazzy is at the stove. Ramon washes his hands at the kitchen sink. Ramon and Jazzy whisper while washing their hands...



RAMON  
This afternoon was sure good.

JAZZY  
Yes, it was.  
(half beat)  
What was that flavour?

RAMON  
Churros Con Leche.

JAZZY  
Very good.

RAMON  
Thank you.

JAZZY  
No, thank you!

Jazzy gives him a sexy wink and brings a gourmet meal to the table. Ramon follows her.

INT. KITCHEN TABLE - TINY HOME - DAY

Grace is already sitting at the table. She is exhausted.

Jazzy brings the platter to the table.

Ramon  
And people say I married you for  
your cooking!

JAZZY  
You did, didn't you?

Ramon  
Well there are a few other  
qualities.

JAZZY  
Glad to hear it.

INT. FISHING BOAT - DAY

Ramon has caught many fish in his net and he brings them on board. He is motoring back to the dock and throws in a sport fishing line. He slowly trolls the boat and something big grabs the line and pulls. Ramon shuts off the engine and returns to the fishing pole.

Later...

Ramon has returned with something incredible - a fish so large he can't get it out of the water. It is a 1000 lbs swordfish. It is lashed to the side of the boat. Slowly word is spread and soon everyone from the village is down at the dock.

A youth with an ancient and grainy video camera records nearly everything - dragging the fish out of the water, the hoisting and weighing it, the butchering it and then the meal the fish makes.

The other two fishermen come to look. They organize an effort to get the fish out of the water and on the deck. The entire village helps drag the fish out of the water. One FISHERMAN motions the others to just hang on. The village stand around looking at the fish.

Later, the fisherman returns with a scale not entirely suitable for recording a world record.

They hang the fish from the flag pole at the village school but it bends (ruins) the pole.

The one fisherman disappears again and returns with a truck with a large hoist on the back. He attaches the scale to the hoist and they lift the fish into the air. The fish about pulls the truck over backwards. The sound of the hoist motor straining to pull up the fish is key to the scene.

The scale is crude. The one fisherman gets a tall ladder and must stand on top of that to read the scale.

One fisherman  
Over 1000 pounds. It is one notch  
over; lets call it. 1020 lbs.

SECOND FISHERMAN

It is a world's record.

One fisherman

Maybe a record for the  
Philippines. But I'm not sure  
about the entire world.

SECOND FISHERMAN

But perhaps right?

FISH MONTAGE

A WOMAN in the village has a cell phone and she takes a photo of Ramon and the two other fishermen posing with the fish. She sends it to her cousin, who sends it to their cousin, who sends it to their cousin, who sends it to a journalist for a newspaper in Manila.

Before the fish is cut down, the photojournalist is on the scene. He takes some more photos of the fish. They drive the truck over to Ramon's fish market, for scale. They take some more photos. The journalist climbs the ladder and photographs the scale. First the three fishermen, and then they take a photo of just Ramon with his fish.

The village lets down the fish and butchers it on the dock. The blood in the water draws what seems to be 100 of sharks.

The village has a feast. All the village get all they can store in their small refrigerators and ice chests. The two fishermen with trucks make phone calls; they pack the trucks full of swordfish and drive to their buyers.

The innards of the swordfish are pitched out to the village dogs and soon they have eaten so much they all lay down with their bellies stuffed. They actually look miserable.

The reporter documents everything and remains for the meal.

The village gathers for a real spread. There are tables out at the school and everyone brings the cooked fish back on platters.

END FISH MONTAGE

The journalist and Jazzy are sitting next to each other at the table. Everyone is chatting. Ramon is still being congratulated. Ramon is on top of the world.

JOURNALIST

This will be in the Sunday morning newspaper.

JAZZY

Okay.

JOURNALIST

There will be other reporters, television maybe and radio. You might even have some tourists and bloggers who want to interview your husband. It's good for tourism and to draw sport-fishermen to the islands.

JAZZY

I understand.

JOURNALIST

Running a business, I figured you would.

JAZZY

Okay, I see. I will go to Manila and get some new clothes.

JOURNALIST

It looks like you have a successful business.

JAZZY

It's okay.

JOURNALIST

It's going to get better after Sunday.

JAZZY

Oh, thank you. Ramon is a serious fisherman. He takes feeding this town seriously.

The journalist makes a note of Jazzy's "serious" comments. It will end up in the story.

JOURNALIST

Well, he should get some recognition.

INT. SCHOOL - DAY

The young person with the crude video camera uses the school's internet to upload the video to Facebook.

EXT. FISH SHOP - VILLAGE - DAY

Ramon and his mother are at the butcher shop. Grace is in her chair. No one is coming by to buy fish (their refrigerators and ice chests are full of swordfish) but many in the village walk by smiling and waving. Many congratulate Ramon again.

Ramon notices at least five groups of tourists - both Filipino and foreigners - walking around the village. They are looking at the fishing boats at the dock. They examine the huge severed fish head; a dog is licking it but is still too stuffed to eat on it.

The tourists spend most of the time watching the sharks that are still swirling about under the dock.

They are at the school looking at the bent flagpole. They look at Ramon in the butcher shop and point.

VISITOR

You are the fisherman who caught the record swordfish?

RAMON

Yes. Hello, my name is Ramon.

VISITOR  
Congratulations.

GRACE  
This is my grandson, the world  
famous fisherman!

VISITOR  
Well, wonderful. You should be  
very proud.

GRACE  
Thank you.

INT. JEEPNEY TO MANILA - DAY

Jazzy is riding the Jeepney to town.

INT. MALL OF ASIA - MANILA - DAY

Jazzy picks out a new shirt and pants for Ramon. She is about to leave but she catches a smell in the air. She follows it around a corner or two. She finds the soap and cleaning aisle.

There are the Western made soaps - Dial, Dove, Irish Spring, Zest. She turns her back to the shelf and smells each through the packaging. Clearly, Jazzy's olfactory system is highly developed.

At the bottom of the shelf, there is a fictional soap manufactured in the Philippines. The brand is "Real".

Jazzy bends over picks it up and smells it. She prefers it. She reads the packaging and decides to purchase it.

EMPLOYEE  
Can I help you?

JAZZY  
Why is this brand at the bottom?

EMPLOYEE  
The Western brands pay for the  
shelf space.

JAZZY

What?

EMPLOYEE

They pay to be here in the middle  
at eye level. The brands that  
can't pay, we put at the bottom or  
at the very top.

Jazzy looks at the top shelf and the bottom shelf. She gives the store employee an uneasy look.

JAZZY

Thank you.

Jazzy reaches down and pulls up four more bars of "Real".

INT. JEEPNEY TO VILLAGE - DAY

There are some uptight and worried people on the bus with Jazzy. Jazzy returns to the village with one of the bars of soap holding it on her chin. Her eyes are closed. She doesn't know anything about "scent therapy" but has invented something near it. The wind is entering the window and blows over the soap. Pretty soon the entire bus is relaxed.

INT. FISH MARKET - BUTCHER SHOP - DAY

Grace is asleep in her chair. Some tourists walk buy but don't stop.

INT. BATHROOM - TINY HOME - DAY

Jazzy is bathing the next-door neighbor's kids. There is a BOY (6) and a GIRL (5). The children are grumpy.

GIRL

I know we don't have a daddy, but  
why isn't my mommy giving us a  
bath?

JAZZY

She is busy working in Manila.

GIRL

I don't want to have a bath here.

JAZZY

Please, I don't have time to  
wrestle with you.

GIRL

Your soap smells funny.

The little girl points to the old soap.

GIRL

It makes me smell like Mr. Ocampo.

JAZZY

It does?

Jazzy thinks and smells the old soap. The little girl seems  
to have a point.

JAZZY

Well, Mr. Ocampo drinks a lot of  
beer and that is what you smell.

GIRL

I don't want to smell like beer.

Jazzy has put the good new Real soap in the shower. She  
resists using the good soap on children. But the kids are  
just so cute and convincing.

JAZZY

I have a surprise for you.

Jazzy gets up and opens the Real soap bar from the shower.

The little girl smells and she likes it. Jazzy begins to  
soup up the little girl.

The little boy wants to use the new soap also.



BOY

I don't want to smell like beer  
either.

JAZZY

Good for you.

Jazzy soups him up too. The children are happy.

EXT. TINY HOME - DAY

The children's mother has returned from Manila and is walking toward the village. Jazzy opens the door and the children run into their mother's arms.

Ramon has been cranking on the ice cream maker again all the while staring at the house. He sees the children leaving. He takes the ice cream and walks toward the tiny house.

INT. TINY HOME - DAY

Ramon and Jazzy are in the shower again. They are using the new soap. Kissing and they leave the shower for the bed.

Ramon is eating ice cream off her stomach again, but...

They are interrupted by a tourist, who is knocking on the door. Ramon gets out of the bed and dresses. By the time he gets to the door, the tourists are now over at the butcher shop trying to talk to Grace. They are pointing to the boat down at the dock.

Jazzy gets dressed very slowly, thinking Ramon might return. Ramon looks worried about Grace talking to strangers.

RAMON

She doesn't like to answer  
questions. And she especially  
doesn't like to be woken up.

JAZZY

What?

Ramon dresses and exits the house and walks over to the butcher shop.

GRACE

He wants to know if you will take him out fishing.

TOURIST

Where you caught the big one.

RAMON

\$100 dollars per day. All day or until you become tired.

TOURIST

Tomorrow?

RAMON

Tomorrow is Sunday.

The tourist hands Ramon an early edition of the Sunday newspaper.

TOURIST

Well, how about after church?

Jazzy arrives at the butcher shop with five bars of the old soap and puts them on the shelf with a sign "10 pesos".

Several village women come by the shop to buy spices.

VILLAGE WOMEN

What spice is best for this?

The lady points to a fish for sale on the table.

JAZZY

Hawaiian ladyfish?

(half beat)

Try this.

Jazzy hands the ladies a container of her home made mix off the shelf.

VILLAGE WOMEN

What's in it?

JAZZY

Basil, rosemary, parsley, sea salt, black pepper, sage, thyme, marjoram, oregano, celery salt, and garlic powder.

VILLAGE WOMEN

Oh, okay. That sounds wonderful.

They make the transaction.

VILLAGE WOMEN

Thank you.

JAZZY

Your husband, he'll love it.

INT. NEWSPAPER SUNDAY - DAY

On the front page of the features section is a large photo and the headline reads, "Serious Fisherman Lands 1,000 lbs."

It is a feature article with information about the catch, the village, and Ramon. There are subheadings in the article, "The Catch", "the village", "the feast", "butcher shop" and about "Ramon" and his boat "The San Pedro".

On the map in the article, the name of the tiny village is "Patrona Por El Mar".

EXT. JEEPNEY TO MANILA - MORNING

Jazzy walks up the road to the highway and catches a bus again to town. She has with her a \$100 bill and a bar of soap. She again places the bar of soap on her chin and lets the wind through the window diffuse the smell throughout the bus.

EXT. ROAD TO MANILA - MORNING

A millionaire, VIRGILIO REAL (68) is standing by his luxury car, which has broken down. He has called a tow truck and it is being hooked up. Real waves to the Jeepney and the bus stops. He gets on the bus with the common people. He isn't happy and is already sweating through his suit. Real sits miserable until he smells the soap. He looks around and notices Jazzy meditating with the bar of soap on her chin. Real smiles confidently; it's his product.

Real takes a cell phone shot of Jazzy and the soap. It is actually a great publicity shot. It is clearly on a jeepney. It is hot; people are wearing summer clothing and we can assume that they are smelly.

A woman interrupts Jazzy. Real is near enough to hear the conversation.

WOMAN

Excuse me; can you tell me what I'm smelling?

JAZZY

Oh, well I'm sorry. It's soap. Is it disturbing you?

WOMAN

No, no. It is very nice.

JAZZY

It relaxes me on these trips. I don't like the bus and I think a nice smell transports me away. You know what I mean?

WOMAN

I will have to try that. Can you tell me what soap it is?

JAZZY

Certainly it is 'Real'. I highly recommend it. My husband is a fisherman and I bath him in this and then he smells like 'Leonardo DiCaprio' if you know what I mean.

WOMAN

The soap is that good?

JAZZY

It's that good.

REAL

Excuse me. Young lady how would you like to go on television and tell the viewers what you just told this woman?

JAZZY

Why?

REAL

Because I'm the manufacturer of Real soap.

JAZZY

But why me?

REAL

I like you. And what you said is what I like to hear on the television and it's real and... You are better, more real, than those anorexic actresses we usually hire.

JAZZY

Well, what are you saying?

REAL

How about next Friday you come to my offices?

Real gives her a business card.

REAL

We'll pay you \$300 for one commercial. Cash.

Jazzy looks at the card and seriously considers the \$300.

REAL

Really, I'm not that clever but I can see that the ultimate endorsement would be from a fisherman's wife.

JAZZY

I don't think I can do it. I'm not a professional.

REAL

That dear, only helps your case.

JAZZY

I'd like to say you're wasting your time and \$300.

REAL

I'd like you to try.

JAZZY

Well, maybe I could give it a try.

REAL

Wonderful.

They pass a high-rise building in Manila.

REAL

Here, here. This is my building. Can you please let me off?

The Jeepney driver stops the bus.

Real exits the bus.

INT. BATHROOM - TINY HOME - DAY

Jazzy is in her bathtub with bubble covering her nakedness.

There in the tub she is posing in front of the mirror. She is practicing her lines.

JAZZY

Hi my name is Jazzy and I'm gonna  
be a big television star.

Jazzy is probably the most humble woman in the Philippine Islands and says this line with a fake or bogus satirical tongue-in-cheek and she shakes her head and scoffs; as if to say 'no it probably won't happen'.

Ramon comes home from work but isn't heard.

Ramon pauses outside the bathroom, holding the ice cream and listening.

JAZZY

Hello. My name is Jazzy and  
naturally I'm wearing nothing  
under all these bubbles. Really.

She is far too sexy (out of character) and something near Marilyn Monroe. It's over done. It doesn't come across to Jazzy as the right approach she thinks contemplates.

Ramon knocks and enters the bathroom.

RAMON

Oh, you have a bath today.

JAZZY

We have a bath; come on get in.

Ramon strips and climbs into the tub. Ramon feels around under the bubbles. Jazzy smiles and giggles at his touch.

RAMON

Hey you really are wearing nothing  
on under here.

Later...

INT. BEDROOM - TINY HOME - NIGHT

The television is on.

Ramon and Jazzy have just had great sex.

RAMON

I want to tell you what an excellent wife you are.

JAZZY

Thank you.

RAMON

An ideal wife. We have a great life and are you are always cheerful even when I'm not.

JAZZY

And never a harsh word is spoken, by either of us.

RAMON

I'm particularly happy.

JAZZY

I appreciate you saying that.

RAMON

And, do you know I am a great fisherman?

JAZZY

And how do you know this?

RAMON

They've been trying to catch that monster fish for years and I am the one that caught him.

JAZZY

I know.

Long beat.

JAZZY

I had an interesting conversation on the jeepney today.



RAMON

Who with?

JAZZY

A millionaire soap manufacturer.

RAMON

Really what about?

JAZZY

About making a soap commercial.

RAMON

Who?

Ramon is sceptical; he's a typical man.

JAZZY

Me, of course.

RAMON

Why?

JAZZY

He seemed sincere.

RAMON

Are you going to?

JAZZY

Probably not.

(half beat)

Oh, I might take the \$300 and just make the one commercial.

Ramon pauses to think.

RAMON

\$300? That's ridiculous.

JAZZY

It will probably never work out there are much prettier girls.

RAMON

They're all too skinny, if you ask me.

Something occurs to Ramon and he climbs on top of Jazzy again.

Later... the television is still on.

Ramon is drifting off to sleep. Jazzy is watching the television when one of the soap commercials come on.

On TV, there is a very sexy MODEL in a bathtub and the idea of the commercial is to sell soap using sex. The model is covered in suds.

MODEL

I'm really thinking of getting out of this tub.

The model sits up a bit (and a few suds fall off) and she contemplates.

MODEL

No. I think I'll stay a while.

JAZZY

I'm not going to make that commercial; do we need the money?

RAMON

You can if you want.

JAZZY

I'm just not comfortable with the sexy approach.

RAMON

I thought the idea of her getting out of the tub was pretty good. If I were them, I'd stick with the model and not upset our happy home.

Jazzy looks like she might want to make the commercial.  
Ramon however is oblivious.

JAZZY  
I might want to do it.

RAMON  
Okay. Honey. Good night.

INT. BEDROOM - TINY HOME - DAY

Ramon is down at the butcher shop.

Jazzy is out of the tub, clothed and standing in front of the mirror. The mirror has been moved from the bathroom into the bedroom.

She tries another approach in the mirror this time it is more realistic and far improved.

JAZZY  
Hello. My name is Jazzy and I'd like to tell you something that happened in my home the other day.

INT. TELEVISION STUDIOS - MANILA - DAY

Jazzy can't remember or mispronounces the dumb lines they give her so she will just ad-lib the commercial.

JAZZY  
Hello, I'm not your ordinary fisherman's wife. I'm..  
(half beat)  
Oh I forget.

DIRECTOR  
Cut. Try it again.

JAZZY  
Hello, Hello, I'm not your ordinary fisherman's wife. And I can tell you in no...

Awkward beat...

JAZZY

I can tell you in no certain...

DIRECTOR

Cut, cut. Give her the script again.

Jazzy reads it again.

JAZZY

I can't do this.

DIRECTOR

Okay we are done here. That's a wrap.

The crew moves to pack.

JAZZY

I don't mean that.

(half beat)

I can do the commercial, but just can't do this.

DIRECTOR

What exactly can you do?

JAZZY

Well I can just tell you what happened.

Long beat.

DIRECTOR

Okay, let's try.

She hands the script to the director who wads it up and pitches it aside.

Jazzy isn't smooth like the professional actresses; the crew laughs at her. But the commercial is recorded. We will see it later on TV.

INT. MEETING - ADVERTISING AGENCY - DAY

There are four advertising executives in a meeting room. The television and DVD player is set up. They have been reviewing Jazzy's commercial. We see the last three seconds of Jazzy's commercial, just the part where she is waving goodbye.

EXECUTIVE #1

The old man has lost his marbles.

EXECUTIVE #2

The company is in financial trouble and he is going for the rural customers.

EXECUTIVE #3

He should know the money is in the cities.

EXECUTIVE #2

This girl is far too country.

EXECUTIVE #4

I saw him yesterday and his point of view is that rural people are doing the work and getting dirty.

EXECUTIVE #3

He feels that the urban dwellers aren't dirty? They have the money.

EXECUTIVE #4

No, he just said the rural people are doing 'the' work and I think that implies they need the soap.

EXECUTIVE #1

Okay, I see. I don't think it's going to work.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Again satisfying sex, all around. Ramon and Jazzy are lying in bed. Beside the bed is an empty ice cream canister. Ramon is half asleep when Jazzy's commercial comes on.

Jazzy eyes get big and she glances at Ramon. Ramon sits up in bed like a rocket. His jaw drops and he doesn't move until the commercial is over.

JAZZY

(on television)

Hello my name is Jazzy and I'm just a simple fisherman's wife. I'd like to tell you what happened the other night but I can't they won't let me say. I can tell you that those fish can be really smelly and well ... my husband and I we don't get into bed until we've had a long and very soapy bath. I feel a bit embarrassed but I thought there... I'll just tell you and get it over. This is the best soap I have ever come across and I told my friend that it makes Ramon smell like Leonardo DiCaprio; so I know the people who make it and they make a good product.

(half beat)

Oh, I forgot to say you can also shower with the soap and we know that works okay too. Bye. We know it's good for that, bye.

EXT. VILLAGE - NIGHT

After the commercial airs the villagers are all out on the street and casually walking by Ramon and Jazzy's small home. The lights are out but the TV is on inside; people are trying not to eavesdrop or be peeping toms but the curiosity seems to be killing them. They walk three or four times casually by the home hoping to see or hear or see something.

INT. MEETING - ADVERTISING AGENCY - DAY

The millionaire is in the office of the chief ad executive.

REAL

You heard me. You know exactly what I said. I want that fisherman's wife.

AD MAN #1

But we already have a commitment with the actresses in bikinis 34 more spots at \$3000 each.

REAL

Tell those actresses they're washed up.

(beat)

And don't tell me no; you are afraid to cut them off for fear they will cut you off.

AD MAN #1

Sir.

REAL

I run a soap company, not a brothel for your personal amusement.

AD MAN #1

Sir, I think you're being a little premature.

REAL

Can't you read?

Real pulls out a copy of the Manila Business Journal and reads...

REAL

The experts said, 'This new commercial is a realistic appeal to the people that actually get their hands dirty.'

(half beat)

That's exactly what I want.

(half beat)

And they said, 'We are elated the company is changing their sales approach. It appears that sex doesn't really sell soap anymore.' That's what they said.

(half beat)

You hear that? This Jazzy girl from the village is my new model.

INT. SCHOOL - VILLAGE - DAY

A construction crew has taken down the bent flag pole. The entire village is watching - women with small children, old men, school children. Everyone stops and watches.

A huge flag pole has gone up in it's place. A concrete truck is pouring a foundation. The flag is hoisted and it is one of the really big Philippine flags.

OLD TIMER #1

Jazzy said it cost \$300.

GRACE

Yes and it can be seen from Manila.

OLD TIMER #1

Thirty miles away?

GRACE

It's so big; it's a navigational aid for ships at sea.

OLD TIMER #1

But only in the day.

The construction crew unload some powerful lights that will eliminate the flag at night.

Ramon is at sea and returning to the village, he can see the huge flag like a beacon on the horizon.

INT. MEETING - ADVERTISING AGENCY - DAY

The execs are having a meeting without their client, Real.



AD MAN #2

Well gentleman do we hire her?

AD MAN #3

Well, it's difficult to make a snap appraisal until we've seen the sales figures.

AD MAN #4

Test marketing, her potential.

AD MAN #5

I'll have to go along with that; until he can make some experiments until there is some test marketing.

Ad man #1 enters the room and sits with the other executives.

AD MAN #1

Well, I advised against hiring her, but we have to hire her.

AD MAN #2

Is she blackmailing you?

AD MAN #1

No.

AD MAN #3

Then why?

AD MAN #1

Because the old man said so...

(half beat)

That's right; one year 52 commercials \$3000 each

There is a long beat.

AD MAN #3

What am I going to tell MaryAnn?

AD MAN #2  
Cynthia isn't going to like this.

AD MAN #1  
The question is how long do you think you can string them along without a commercial and money.

Long beat as the ad men are thinking about life without floozy actresses.

AD MAN #1  
It's going to be dry around here for at least a year. But what is the alternative?

AD MAN #2  
We lose the client.

AD MAN #3  
Well, now that I think about it I'm inclined to go along with the old man; she has a new and honest approach the product

AD MAN #4  
Yes I agree.

AD MAN #1  
And you think she has a honest approach, yes?

AD MAN #4  
Yes.

AD MAN #5  
I'll go along with that.

AD MAN #2  
What do you think?

AD MAN #1  
Oh, I quite agree with everything; good thinking.

Jazzy enters the room.

AD MAN #1

We were just talking about you.

AD MAN #2

You did great.

JAZZY

Well I was so nervous. I wish I could stick with your original script but I get in front of all the cameras and I just can't remember anything. I have to pretty much tell the story my way. Is that okay?

AD MAN #1

Is that okay? Mr. Real said that's exactly what he wants and you are delightful. And you're hired. But...

JAZZY

But?

AD MAN #1

But there is a party. You are invited. In fact you're the guest of honour.

JAZZY

I don't know about a party; my husband is expecting me at home so maybe I should just go home.

AD MAN #1

He will be perfectly welcome to join us.

JAZZY

Really, Raymon can come to the party?

(half beat)

So that's very nice; maybe I can  
call him and he can come.

(half beat)

Can I phone Ramen from here?

Grace answers the phone.

JAZZY

Hello, Grace. Is Raymond home?

GRACE

He is out fishing.

JAZZY

When he comes in please tell him  
that he needs to be at the Makati  
Shangri-La hotel at

(to the executives)

What time?

GRACE

9 p.m.

JAZZY

9 p.m.

GRACE

Okay, I will tell him.

Grace doesn't write it down and of course she can't  
remember.

INT. TINY HOME - AFTERNOON

Later, when Ramon comes home and Jazzy is not at home,  
Ramon he gets on the phone and calls the advertising  
agency.

A machine picks up the phone.

MACHINE

Hello.

RAMON

I'm looking for my wife.

MACHINE

We are closed right now.

(half beat)

But, want to see the commercial of the cute new soap girl? She's gonna wink at everyone the same as she always does. Make sure to watch ever Tuesday at 7 p.m.

RAMON

Tuesdays?

MACHINE

Make sure you watch.

RAMON

Thanks, I'll do that.

INT. HOTEL BALL ROOM - NIGHT

Real's wife is there at the party and befriends Jazzy.

REAL'S WIFE

You must be really proud of yourself. Frankly, I'd be frightened to death if I had to stand in front the camera.

JAZZY

Believe me I was. I didn't know what else to say so I just rattled on.

REAL'S WIFE

Well, you're rattling on really made the commercial. What they wrote for you is crap, so don't worry about that just rattle on. You speak so naturally and honestly about your husband...

Leonardo?

JAZZY

Yes. Thank you.

(half beat)

No! His name is Ramon.

Jazzy dances. She dances with and charms all the right people.

MILLIONAIRE

How would you like to be our  
spokesperson as well?

JAZZY

Oh, I don't know. What do you  
sell?

MILLIONAIRE

Compost.

JAZZY

I can't sell people dirt.

MILLIONAIRE

I think you can sell anything.

JAZZY

Oh, I don't know.

(half beat)

Can't you make something nice like  
spices? Or knives? Something I  
know about?

MILLIONAIRE

You need to talk to Mr. Absgen the  
man dancing with the young girl.  
Now, Mr. Aoki, he imports knives.  
He's the one standing at the bar.

(half beat)

But think about compost will you?

JAZZY

Yes, I can help you next year.  
Right now I'm selling soap.

Jazzy goes to the bar, speaks with Aoki and she drinks water. Aoki is showing the bartender how to properly cut lemons and limes.

AD MAN #1

I'm glad you like our new approach.

REAL'S WIFE

Yes, you think it can save the company?

AD MAN #1

Well, she is charismatic.

Jazzy stops dancing.

AD MAN #1

Where is Ramon?

JAZZY

Well, he should be along in a minute.

AD MAN #1

You want to dance?

Jazzy is having the time of her life being introduced to the rich and powerful. The rich and charming people are there and they adore her.

INT. TINY HOME - NIGHT

Ramon and his grandmother eat the food in the refrigerator. Remember they are accustomed to fresh gourmet dishes from Jazzy.

RAMON

It's not all that fresh.

GRACE

Of course not, its been in the refrigerator for three days.

Ramon puts the fork down and goes to the window. He doesn't finish the meal. He looks outside, and down the road toward Manila. He sees the brightly eliminated flag. He goes to bed worried.

At 3:30 he wakes up and goes into his grandmothers bedroom. He wakes her up.

GRACE

What are you doing here?

RAMON

Jazzy isn't home yet. It's 3:30.

GRACE

You aren't supposed to be here.  
You are supposed to be with Jazzy.

RAMON

Where?

GRACE

Some swanky hotel in Manila.

RAMON

Why didn't you tell me?

GRACE

I did, didn't I.

The phone rings. Ramon answers.

JAZZY

Ramon where are you?

(half beat)

Oh, never mind you are home. You were supposed to be at this party.

RAMON

At 3:30 in the morning?

JAZZY

It's 3:30?

(half beat)



I've been talking to these people  
for over 6 hours?

(half beat)

Oh, my. I'm terribly sorry.

(half beat)

I'm sorry honey. I lost track of  
time.

(half beat)

They gave me a car and driver for  
the night. I'll be home right  
away.

Jazzy's car and driver are waiting in front of the hotel.

There are two delivery trucks parked unloading cases of  
spices and kitchen knives on the sidewalk.

Jazzy leaves the party. Young men load the car with the  
cases and they hardly all fit in the trunk. Several of the  
cases must sit in the passenger seat and even in the back  
seat beside Jazzy.

DRIVER

What are these?

JAZZY

Mr. Aoki gave me a few cases of  
kitchen knives.

She points to a case or two.

JAZZY

And those are spices. All kinds  
from around the world. From Mr.  
Absgen.

She has the car totally over-loaded and driver bring her  
home.

We get a glance at his GPS and he is taking her to the  
wrong village.

INT. CAR - VILLAGE OF PEÑAFRANCIA - NIGHT

Jazzy is in the back of the car asleep. The driver stops.

DRIVER  
Okay, we are here.

Jazzy wakes up.

DRIVER  
Which one is your house?

JAZZY  
This isn't my village. Where are we?

DRIVER  
Peñafrancia.

JAZZY  
I don't live in Peñafrancia. I live in Patrona by the Sea.

Long beat.

DRIVER  
I'm terribly sorry.

JAZZY  
This is very embarrassing.

DRIVER  
They told me Peñafrancia.

JAZZY  
I won't tell anyone if you don't.

The driver punches the correct city into the GPS and they are off again.

INT. TINY HOME - VERY EARLY MORNING

Jesse has been out all night. It is 6:30 AM when she arrives.

DRIVER

This can't be your village. They said it was... There is a huge flag.

JAZZY

Oh, they finally put it up.

DRIVER

But they said you live in a tiny fishing village.

JAZZY

We are a progressive fishing village and besides the fishermen, they foolishly bent the old flag pole.

Jazzy has opened the butcher shop door and the driver unloads the cases of knives and spices.

Ramon's face is tired but he was up all night and is leaving when Jazzy finally returns.

RAMON

Where have you been?

JAZZY

I met some people. I have new spices and new knives to sell in the shop. Free. A gift.

RAMON

What happened?

JAZZY

The driver went to the wrong village.

RAMON

What?

JAZZY

On the other side of the island?

RAMON

I'm going to have a word with him.

JAZZY

It was my fault dear, I told him  
the wrong village.

RAMON

I didn't sleep, well.

JAZZY

Oh dear, are you okay?

RAMON

If I can just catch some fish,  
I'll be better. Do you mind?

JAZZY

No, no. I'm sorry.

The sun is just rising and Ramon goes out to his boat.

INT. BUTCHER SHOP - DAY

Jazzy is watching the neighbor's children again. They are running and playing inside and outside of the shop. Grace is beginning to be annoyed.

Jazzy has organized her new spices and knives. The merchandise in her store has really been upgraded. Jazzy is reading the newspaper-classified ads section, looking for a larger refrigerator.

An executive from the advertising agency arrives at the fish market. He takes a few photos with his phone.

AD MAN

You don't mind if I take a few  
photos for Mr. Real do you?

JAZZY

No.

AD MAN

Jazzy, would you consider being the television spokesperson for our Real soap? I have a contract for you to sign.

JAZZY

That's not very funny?

AD MAN

Well I thought it might be, but the 5000 or so people who emailed and phoned said they like the new approach.

JAZZY

You are joking?

AD MAN

Mr. Real is changing his approach (the sexy is out) and he wants reality. He told me to come out here and take some photos of you here at the fish market. And to negotiate a contract.

JAZZY

No, your crew laughed at my commercial and I'm not going to go through that again.

AD MAN

It was a great commercial.

JAZZY

I told you I'm never going on television again I made a fool of myself.

AD MAN

We are continuing to air it.

JAZZY

Look, you can just take your \$300 and forget about it

AD MAN

Oh, it's more than \$300.

JAZZY

more than \$500?

AD MAN

Oh it's more than \$500.

JAZZY

Well what is it?

AD MAN

It's six times that, per week.

JAZZY

How much?

AD MAN

It's \$3000 per week for 52 weeks

JAZZY

How much is 52 x 3,000?

AD MAN

One-year contract 52 TV commercials, \$180,000 and extra for magazines, internet and radio spots. We have some book ideas and will hire a ghostwriter.

(half beat)

The beautiful actresses who never had their hands dirty are out and you are in.

JAZZY

How does that work?

AD MAN

Well, they're fired.

JAZZY

No, the ghostwriter. How does that work?

The neighbor's kids are running and screaming. Jazzy is trying to think. Grace is trying to sleep. Her instinct is to calm the kids and then deal with the advertising man.

JAZZY

Hey kids, come sit down with me  
for a minute.

They stop running and screaming. Grace relaxes a bit.

JAZZY

Which spice smells the best?

Jazzy opens three bottles and the children smell. They calm down for a few seconds.

JAZZY

Hang on a minute; I'm thinking.

There is a long beat. The advertising executive isn't in a rush. He is respectful and waits for Jazzy to make up her mind.

BOY

Where do babies come from?

JAZZY

The newspaper.

GIRL

Why don't you have one?

JAZZY

No money. Look here is one for  
\$1800 and another (a smaller one)  
for \$1200.

Jazzy shows them the refrigerator ads that she has circled in the newspaper. Of course the kids can't read.

BOY

Get the smaller one.

GIRL

But you're not married.

JAZZY

Yes, I am. My husband is Ramon.

Ramon is on his boat which has just arrived. There is something strange in the village. He looks to the left and the right. He picks up his catch and starts toward the butcher shop. He notices everyone in the village is at the school. They are watching a work crew paint the school building.

Old timer speaks to Ramon as he passes by.

OLD TIMER

That building hasn't been painted since 1950.

From Jazzy's POV, Ramon is a block or more down the street bringing up fish from his boat.

JAZZY

Here he is now. Go see what he's caught.

The kids run to Ramon.

GIRL

Why don't you give Jazzy some money so she can buy a baby?

RAMON

Uh... okay. I'm trying but I don't have any money right now.

BOY

Jazzy is talking to a man about money. He's a tall man from Manila and drives a big car. See him there in his fancy suit.

Ramon is a little bit jealous and his concern level increases.



Ramon looks at the butcher shop from a distance and notices that there are far too many people hanging around. Fish don't seem being sold, but people are just standing around hoping to hear the conversation.

GIRL

Maybe he will give her some money to buy a baby.

BOY

Come on, lets go see if he gives her the money.

The kids run back to the butcher shop.

BOY

Ramon is coming and he says he doesn't have any money for you, so no baby.

GIRL

Please take this man's money and buy a baby.

Jazzy is about to take the offer but Ramon arrives. Ramon puts the fish down on the table and looks suspiciously at the advertising man.

JAZZY

Did you just tell me that's \$180,000 per year?

AD MAN

That's right.

JAZZY

For one commercial a week?

AD MAN

Once a week, on Fridays.

RAMON

Well, you did tell him no, didn't you?

JAZZY  
(to the ad man)  
I'm sorry, I don't think I can.

Ramon walks away content into the house but Kathy and the executive continue with the negotiation.

AD MAN  
Well there are a lot of people working in the factory who need to continue.

JAZZY  
Are you telling me the soap factory is going to close?

AD MAN  
We need to sell a lot of soap to avoid closures.  
(beat)  
I'm sorry there's nothing more I can say.  
(half beat)  
Good luck.

JAZZY  
Okay I'll do it.

The ad man quickly produces a contract. Jazzy signs confident she is doing the right thing. Only afterwards does she look toward the house and worry about Ramon's reaction.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Jazzy is trying to explain why she took the job.

JAZZY  
Well he offered me a job and I turned him down. I asked him to leave and he just kept coming at me with reasons, but I just couldn't say no to \$180,000 per year.

RAMON  
That's ridiculous.

Jazzy gets an idea in her head.

RAMON  
Jazzy, what are you thinking?

JAZZY  
I'm thinking about a shower.

Ramon enters the shower with her.

They are kissing and soaping and loving.

JAZZY  
You know if I get pregnant, this entire thing will be over.

RAMON  
You think?

JAZZY  
I can't believe they're going to pay \$180,000 to a pregnant woman.

RAMON  
You are right; they won't pay a pregnant woman.

JAZZY  
Who says I'm going to be pregnant?

RAMON  
Well, I do.

Ramon takes her out of the shower, they never seem to towel off first. The camera is on Jazzy's face.

RAMON  
(talking with his mouth full)  
Our bank account is healthy. We have a boat, a house and a small

business. There's no reason for  
you to work in Manila.

JAZZY

Do you have to talk while you are  
doing that?

Camera pulls back and Ramon is talking and eating ice cream  
off her stomach again. He is talkative. Clearly it is  
erotic to Jazzy and this is something like having a  
conversation while having sex. In each line Jazzy delivers,  
she is out of breath. Ramon's speech is like someone  
talking while eating ice cream. He IS eating ice cream.

JAZZY

Ramon, you're just like every  
other man.

RAMON

What? No romance? We do it this  
way every time.

JAZZY

No, its not the ice cream.

RAMON

What then?

JAZZY

It's the power. You men always  
have to have the power. The  
control.

RAMON

Will you're right about that.

JAZZY

Do you remember what you said to  
me when we were kids?

RAMON

No, I don't.

JAZZY

You said we would be partners and  
that you would never stand in my  
way.

(half beat)

Well?

Just as they finish the ice cream. Ramon is less talkative.  
He crawls up her so they are face to face. And we see his  
face and chin covered with milky melted ice cream.

All we can see is that they are face to face. No telling  
what is going on off camera.

JAZZY

Oh, that's...

Later, Ramon and Jazzy are lying in bed, content and  
looking at the ceiling. The conversation continues.

JAZZY

Don't be a hypocrite.

RAMON

You have outside interests that I  
don't get in the way. You have a  
my mother; you take care of my  
mother and I never interfere with  
that.

Jazzy is mad but contains it.

RAMON

And you go to the school and help  
with the tutoring; have I ever  
said a word?

Jazzy contemplates expressing her anger but resists.

RAMON

And you take care of the  
neighbour's kids when she has to  
go to work. I never get in the  
way.

JAZZY

Yes I have these things and I have the shop and my spices and it's not very fulfilling frankly.

RAMON

Well I didn't realize that my wife lacked fulfillment.

JAZZY

I would like the \$180,000.

RAMON

You always told me how your marriage to me was enough.

JAZZY

You know I would never consciously go out looking for work but this just landed in my lap.

RAMON

Selling soap will make you happy?

JAZZY

Honey it's only once a week and I won't let anything interfere with my wifely duties I promise.

They kiss and make up. She crawls on top of him.

EXT. TYPICAL VILLAGE HOUSE - NIGHT

The camera moves through the village. There are 12 houses in the village and 5 television sets we see through windows. In front of each of the five TV sets are the village people. When Jazzy's soap commercial comes on, their eyes are glued to the screen.

COMMERICAL SUCCESS MONTAGE

Television commercials saturate the airways. A high-rise condominium building a successful couple (upwardly mobile) enjoy the commercials. In a small village, about twenty

people (low income) crowd around a TV and they notice Jazzy.

Internet banners have Jazzy's photo. School children must be scolded for using the internet to view the Real Soap web page.

Jazzy is seen on billboards. A young male (student driver) is looking at the billboard, when he crashes his car into the car in front of him. The car in front of the student driver has slowed to get an eye of Jazzy.

Radio commercials. People in Manila are stuck in a traffic jam, but the commercials make them chuckle. Ramon is out on his fishing boat. He is working hard to bring in only a few fish. The commercial comes on his radio and he was already flustered at the lack of fish, this is only more demoralizing.

Jazzy has a new book out, "The Jazzy Way to Clean" - by Jazzy. It is marketed as "the ultimate guide to housework and cleaning". Jazzy really appears to really love the book signings.

Soap is flying off the bottom shelf. When it is restocked it is at eye level. The stores bring in cases and cases of the soap.

When Mr. Real and Jazzy walk through the factor on a tour, the employees applaud them (or perhaps her).

END COMMERCIAL SUCCESS MONTAGE

INT. BATHTUB - VILLAGE - NIGHT

There is a kid in the bathroom. He doesn't want to get into the tub but his mother insists.

BOY

But I don't want to take a bath now. You said every other day.

MOTHER

Well the rules have changed, now you take a bath every night. If

you argue with me, I will tell  
Jazzy. She lives right down the  
street you know. S

The boy reluctantly gets into the tub.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Ramon comes home from fishing. A truck is installing a huge walk-in freezer behind the tiny butcher shop. The freezer is huge. The new freezer is almost as big as the entire shop.

The entire village is gathered around the back of his fish shop. Ramon stops in awe at the size. Down the street there are several electric service trucks stringing new wire along the poles. The entire electric system for the city is being redone. New transformers and new meters.

There is a video crew shooting inside Ramon's tiny home.

Children outside are playing near the dock.

KID

Ramon, Jazzy is all dressed up and  
pretty smelling.

RAMON

I haven't seen her for weeks.  
Where is she?

KID

Up at your house.

Ramon walks with a few fish to the shop, he puts them out on the table.

INT. TINY HOME - DAY

He eagerly, anticipating sex, rushes to their home.

He takes half his clothes off and barges into the room. He trips over an electric cord, which pulls over a light. The light cracks him over the head.



He is lying on the floor, shirtless and with a large knot on his head. The film crew looks at Ramon like he's an idiot.

Jazzy is all dressed up fancy. She rushes to him. Jesse kisses him on the face and where the light hit his head.

JAZZY

Oh, honey! Are you okay?

RAMON

I'm fine. I'm fine.

(half beat)

What are you doing?

JAZZY

Well I thought I've been gone so much and the drive into Manila takes so long, I thought we would shot this commercial here.

(half beat)

Did you make some ice cream?

RAMON

Oh, uh. No. I just got here.

JAZZY

I was thinking maybe we could.. you know.

RAMON

With all these people around?

JAZZY

Gentlemen, can we have a minute?

The crew leaves and waits outside the house.

RAMON

So this is your idea darling?

JAZZY

I did it for us; I did it for you.

RAMON

How thoughtful darling.

JAZZY

They wanted to do this in the studio, but I thought it was a good idea to do it here.

(half beat)

You know so we could 'see' each other.

RAMON

What about those guys?

JAZZY

I'll tell them to wait.

RAMON

Outside? Waiting for us to 'see' each other.

(half beat)

Listening in.

(half beat)

No, thank you.

Ramon gets up to leave.

JAZZY

Hurry back, I'd like to see you when they're gone.

RAMON

Okay, I'm going to go fishing and try to cool off. I'll be back in two hours.

JAZZY

Wonderful.

Ramon leaves.

RAMON

(to the crew)

You have two hours and no more.

INT. BUTCHER SHOP - DAY

Grace is asleep. Ramon goes to the butcher shop, opens the refrigerator and mixes some ice cream. He loads the machine with ice and rock salt. He takes it to his boat.

At the butcher shop he finds a magazine with Jazzy on the cover. It is a women's magazine. He flips through it, but take it with him to the boat.

INT. BOAT - DAY

Ramon is on the boat; he is idling the engine out to sea but the wheel is turned slightly. Eventually, the boat will move in a circle or arch.

Ramon is cranking the ice cream maker at a slow pace, but he looks at the magazine. The cranking becomes more energetic.

He isn't watching where he is going in the boat. We cut to and from his tiny GPS. It shows he'll eventually crash back into the island.

DAYDREAM SEQUENCE

Ramon imagines himself eating ice cream off Jazzy's belly.

DAYDREAM SEQUENCE ENDS

Ramon's fishing boat beaches itself in the soft sand. The tide is receding and he is stuck.

Ramon sits eating the ice cream and flipping through the magazine.

Inside the magazine is an interview with Jazzy about the baby. There is a spread of four or five pages of photos. She's conservatively dressed but is morphing from advertising star to fashion model.

MAGAZINE

A candied interview with the  
Island's newest television  
personalities.

Ramon reads to himself. But he notices a particularly appealing response Jazzy has made in the interview.

CUT TO: JAZZY'S INTERVIEW WITH THE PRESS - DAY

JAZZY

You can't buy happiness, happiness is born.

INTERVIEWER

What exactly does that mean?

JAZZY

It means Ramon and I are gong to have a child.

The interviewer sits up; he is thinking he has a breaking story.

INTERVIEWER

Oh, you are pregnant now?

JAZZY

No, but we will be.

RETURN TO: RAMON'S TINY BOAT - DAY

Ramon's boat is beached but he seems content and happy at becoming a father. Ramon throws out a fishing line and waits.

INT. TINY HOME - DAY

Jazzy is worried pacing about the house.

EXT. SMALL FIHSING BOAT - NIGHT

A coast guard boat arrives. They shine a spot light on Ramon and his boat.

COAST GUARD

Are you okay?

RAMON

Yes. I just beached it.

COAST GUARD

Strange way of catching fish. Do  
you want us to pull you off?

Ramon looks down at the sand and he is seriously beached  
and the tide is at it's lowest point.

RAMON

No, I don't think you can.

COAST GUARD

Will you just wait until high  
tide?

RAMON

Yes.

COAST GUARD

That won't be until in the  
morning.

RAMON

I don't argue with nature.

(half beat)

Can you call my wife and tell her  
I won't be home?

COAST GUARD

Sure. You are the one married to  
Jazzy, the soap girl on  
television?

They chuckle a bit.

RAMON

Yes.

They laugh harder. And begin to motor away.

RAMON

Hey what are you guys doing out  
here anyway?

COAST GUARD  
Someone said they saw a Chinese  
submarine. Big joke huh?

INT. TINY HOME - DAY

Jazzy tosses and turns in the bed. She can't sleep.

JAZZY  
This bed is too big.

She gets up and looks out the window. Nothing but  
a giant eliminated Philippines flag.

JAZZY  
Oh, were are you Ramon?

She doesn't realize he's grounded. Finally, she is  
exhausted and falls asleep just as the sun is coming up.

The phone rings. It wakes Jazzy up and she looks miserable  
without sleep. Grace answers the phone.

GRACE  
Who?  
(half beat)  
The coastguard?  
(half beat)  
What do you want?

INT. SOUP CORPORATION HEADQUARTERS - DAY

A junior executive has just finished with a presentation.  
His charts and graphs are still up. Mr. Real turns to the  
advertising executives in the room.

REAL  
I told you it would work.

AD MAN  
Yes, sir.

REAL  
Sales figures are up 20 percent.

AD MAN  
That's wonderful.

Real turns to some of his soap company executives.

REAL  
We are expanding. I want more products.  
(half beat)  
I want detergent.  
(half beat)  
I want car soap.  
(half beat)  
Boat soap.  
(half beat)  
I want more commercials.  
(half beat)  
Let's buy television ads on the news. Politics is a particularly dirty business' maybe soap will sell.

INT. TINY HOME - NIGHT

Jazzy isn't home. Ramon lays in bed eating ice cream out of a bowl. He is depressed and disillusioned.

Finally Jazzy comes home. She notices an empty ice cream bowl on the bed stand.

JAZZY  
I'm sorry, honey. We had a commercial to shot and they kept doing it over and over. I'm exhausted.

Jazzy crawls into the bed. She snuggles up to Ramon. Ramon is cold to her, so she goes to sleep.

Later Ramon changes his mind but Jazzy is asleep. He nudges her but she is sound asleep and clearly exhausted.

INT. BUTCHER SHOP - DAY

A delivery truck brings a much larger refrigerator for inside the butcher shop. The butcher shop is remodeled and painted. New roof and new floor tiles.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

A construction crew is digging a new sewer and drainage system for the village. The previous trenches and pipes are enlarged and upgraded.

INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Jazzy has a doctor's appointment to learn of the pregnancy.

JAZZY

Well, my husband and I haven't done anything since I began making these commercials.

The doctor looks in dismay.

JAZZY

Well, its not that we haven't wanted to you know.

(half beat)

Oh, poor Ramon.

(half beat)

It's just that we can't seem to be free at the same time.

DOCTOR

And when did you start making your commercials?

JAZZY

Two months ago?

DOCTOR

That is about right.

JAZZY

I'm pregnant?

DOCTOR

About two months along.



The doctor gives her the good news and she has tears and joy. She catches a jeepney home.

But before she can get home, it is already out on the media and Ramon must learn from the radio.

Jazzy is rushing home and tries to call but when she gets through to Ramon's mother, she also knows from the radio.

JAZZY

Grace, can you put Ramon on the phone.

GRACE

He went fishing. He knows you are pregnant.

JAZZY

How does he know?

GRACE

The radio.

EXT. FISHING BOAT - DAY

Ramon is doing a lot of work but harvests few fish.

RADIO

In celebrity news today, we have just head the Island's favorite soap sales girl, Jazzy, is pregnant and expecting a child in 7 months. Congratulations to a really terrific lady.

INT. REAL SOAP HEADQUARTERS - DAY

There is an important meeting. Jazzy, Real and the executives are sitting around a table. The advertising executives are in a stew. Only Real is happy.

AD MAN #1

Jazzy.

AD MAN #2  
Jazzy, your're pregnant?

REAL  
Congratulations.

JAZZY  
Thank you, sir.

REAL  
Boy or girl.

JAZZY  
I don't know yet.

AD MAN #3  
It's too early, sir.

The advertising agents experts are shaking their heads pessimistically.

AD MAN #1  
This ruins her economic viability.

AD MAN #2  
Maybe we can film the commercials from the waist up.

AD MAN #3  
You can still tell.

AD MAN #1  
Are you sure?

AD MAN #2  
There is always print media and radio.

AD MAN #1  
No, no. The magic will be gone.  
(half beat)  
Once a woman isn't sexually available her worth in marketing is just shot.

AD MAN #3

She never was 'sexually available'.

AD MAN #1

The public didn't know that.

AD MAN #2

Well they will figure it out pretty quick.

Ad man #2 makes a gesture to his own imaginary baby-bump.

Jazzy has been sitting there taking this sexist abuse. She looks like a student called into the principal's office. She is very humble she just sits and she pretends to respect their opinion. Real keeps looking at her for a reaction, but she doesn't respond.

REAL

You men are paid far too much money. You are used to dealing with the models. The professional models they get pregnant and the show is over. Jazzy gets pregnant and the people will love her even more.

AD MAN #2

Why is that boss?

REAL

Because she's real. She makes mistakes. She mispronounces words. She's nervous on camera.

(to Jazzy)

Who wouldn't be honey.

INT. JEEPNEY HOME - DAY

Later when she is on the jeepney, she smiles thinking about it (the pregnancy). She smiles and laughs; it is contagious. Even though it is a very hot day, one by one the people on the jeepney laugh also and she brightens everyone's day.

This is the core of Jazzy she is humble but at the same time very optimistic cheerful. She has a great charisma.

#### SECOND SOAP POPULARITY MONTAGE

However, improbable the urban population loves it and they love Jazzy. The company uses her for shampoo, kitchen and bathroom cleaners. The company expands to car and boat soap.

We see a chart in the meeting room. It shows since the pregnancy, Jazzy's popularity (sales) have doubled.

There are more TV commercials, magazine and internet ads. All the ads clearly show her pregnancy.

There is even a memo to a magazine company technician "Rush" and we see a technician photo-shopping her a larger baby-bump. She is really 5 months along but the ads make her appear 7 month along.

Nearly every housewife is demanding to become pregnant and we see the women pointing fingers at their husbands. First the women are pointing at their chest in an accusatory way. Then they smile and point their finger down at his belt.

The press follows Jazzy around.

Nearly every housewife is acting lovey dovey to their husbands. We see them in the showers soaping and washing down their husbands before they drag them off to bed.

They are marketing a book with Jazzy's photo on the cover, "Nine Months in a Fishing Village: How To Best Nurture A Filiapino Baby Before They're Born - By Jazzy" It is marketed as, "a healthy guide to nutrition, exercise and spiritual maternity care."

Jazzy's clearly 'showing' as she enters a bookstore for a signing. The women applaud her arrival and line up for books.

#### END SECOND SOAP POPULARITY MONTAGE

INT. TINY HOME - NIGHT

Ramon is home in bed watching the news on television. Again he is depressed eating ice cream from a bowl.

NEWS READER

Doctors are reporting a spike in the conception rate, and an expected a baby boom as a result. Some hospitals will double the size of their maternity wards before the babies arrive. Some guess this is the result of the huge ad campaign by the Real Soap company, which (by the way) yesterday announced it will begin selling diapers and baby-wipes.

(half beat)

Also, Jazzy has apparently has penning a second book, "Nine Months in a Fishing Village" The books outlines a way urban mothers can reject their big city customs and raise their baby in more healthy, natural and rural way.

UNT. BREAKFAST TABLE - TINY HOME - MORNING

He kisses her hand.

RAMON

I'd like to apologize for my behavior this last few weeks have been less than a loving husband

JAZZY

I haven't given you much of a chance to be ever since that first commercial.

RAMON

I would like to make it up to you do you have any plans for tonight?

JAZZY

I was just waiting for a call from  
my husband.

RAMON

Will you forgive me for being a  
sexist pig.

JAZZY

Of course.

RAMON

What about for refusing to realize  
that you have a nice career.

RAMON

Oh darling that is not a problem.  
We just have to readjust our  
lives.

Something occurs to Ramon. Long beat.

RAMON

Just leave that to me. I'll just  
have to readjust my life.

JAZZY

You'd readjust your life for me,  
sweetheart?

RAMON

Sure.

JAZZY

Oh, that's good news honey; I have  
to get to town and finish so I can  
come home early.

(half beat)

You saw the electric ice cream  
maker I bought you?

RAMON

I saw it.

EXT. BUTCHER SHOP - VILLAGE - AFTERNOON

Ramon waits on the boat until Jazzy is at the shop. He takes a few fish and he puts it out on the table for sale. He keeps the largest and nicest fish for himself and he talks to the single mother next door. Jazzy watches him from a distance. He looks nervous and shifts his weight from side to side. He speaks to the other woman for a very long time, just long enough to make Jazzy jealous, which I the idea.

EXT. VILLAGE DRUNK'S HOME - MORNING

Ramon goes around to the trash of the village alcoholic and lifts his empty bottles out.

EXT. TRASH CONTAINER - TINY HOME - MORNING

Ramon takes them over and throws them his trash bin. Jazzy might not notice them, inside the trash container so Ramon removes two or three and throws them on ground carelessly.

Ramon pours some booze on his cloths and uses it as after shave lotion. He sits pretending to sleep on the porch.

EXT. TRASH CONTAINER - TINY HOME - DAY

Later, Jazzy brings from garbage out to the container. Ramon is pretending to sleep.

She thinks she smells something funny and pauses.

JAZZY

Oh, Ramon. You didn't start  
drinking did you?

She thinks and then dismisses the idea. Then she continues to the trash.

Ramon is peeking out for her reaction thought barely open eyes. Jazzy notices the bottles and looks at the boats. She looks at her watch and she looks at Ramon pretending to sleep. She looks cross but says nothing.

Returning past Ramon, Jazzy smells the air. She definitely smells the booze. She contemplated telling at him and walking him, but resists.

INT. TABLE - TINY HOME - DUSK

Grace, Jazzy and Ramon are just finishing their meal.

Jazzy gets up from the table feels faint and then sits back down.

RAMON  
Honey are you okay?

She has tears in her eyes.

JAZZY  
I'm just exhausted. I don't know  
if these commercials are worth it.  
I mean the baby. We don't ever  
have time for each other.

Ramon has hope she will quite the television job. But she gets up from the table and moves toward the bedroom.

JAZZY  
Oh, I need to sleep.

RAMON  
Honey, it is only 7:30.

JAZZY  
I know, but if I'm going to do  
this I need to sleep.

Jazzy walks to bed zombie like. She lays down without taking her clothes off and is asleep within a few seconds.

INT. BEDROOM - TINY HOME - NIGHT

Later, Ramon is in bed watching television; Jazzy is exhausted and still asleep. The television is barely audible. Ramon is switching channels there is all this bad reality television. Ramon stops on the news.



JAZZY

This is our new detergent commercial. I'm going to read the package. It's good for cars and boats but I wouldn't know about cars because I don't own one. I travel into Manila on a jeepney just like almost everyone else and trust me some of those jeepneys could use a little soap and water. But I don't have a car if I did have a car I would use this soap. We do have a boat and I'm going to have Ramon clean it from aft to stern just as soon as he gets a chance.

(to crew)

Guys, I need a box of this to take home okay?

(to camera)

And I'll report back how it works

Raymond looks at her long hair shimmering in the moonlight he looks at her long tan legs. She is sleeping soundly. Ramon reaches over and it about to caress her. But Ramon turns the television off and goes to sleep as well.

INT. REAL MANSION - NIGHT

Mr. Real is watching on television as the commercial ends.

REAL

Good girl.

He turns off the TV and dials a phone number.

REAL

This is the boss. Were you watching the commercial?

(beat)

Get her a car, a convertible.

(half beat)

By Friday; we have a commercial to make.

(half beat)

And by next week her husband needs  
a new boat.

(half beat)

You don't have to get permission I  
want it to be a surprise.

(half beat)

Now get over there and get them a  
car and a boat.

(half beat)

One more thing. And she's getting  
along in her pregnancy. I want a  
house. A house suitable to shot  
commercials.

(beat)

Because, I don't want her driving  
8 months pregnant into Manila to  
shot commercials.

(half beat)

We'll shot them out there. Build a  
house.

EXT. CAR WASH - MANILA - DAY

The company shoots a commercial of her cleaning a car - a  
convertible. They drive it through the mud and throw dirt  
on it. Then have Jazzy clean one percent of it and film the  
close-ups. Then a body double with a fake baby bump cleans  
the remainder.

JAZZY

Are we done?

Jazzy looks around for a Jeepney.

AD MAN

You aren't going to take the car?

JAZZY

It's not my car.

AD MAN

They didn't tell you?

(half beat)

It's your car.

JAZZY

They gave it to me?

AD MAN

Yes. You will look good in it.

Jazzy gets in, clearly afraid and reluctant. But she engages the transmission and hits the breaks and the car jumps. She doesn't know how to drive. She drives around the parking lot until she get the hang of it. She drives it home very slowly and very carefully. A boy on a bicycle passes her on the highway.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

The company comes to the village to shot a commercial on the Ramon's boat. Ramon looks in the refrigerator and it is almost empty of fish. He take the remaining fish out and puts them on the table. He sits and watches.

Jazzy is on his boat with a cameraman and a director. She does her part and walks over to the butcher shop.

JAZZY

(to Ramon)

Okay, they are ready for you.

RAMON

I need to be out fishing. This is all the fish there is.

JAZZY

There aren't any more?

RAMON

No and people will be expecting dinner.

JAZZY

Just do this little thing for me please.

By the time Ramon walks over the boat, the director has changed his mind.

You know I've changed my mind. I'm sorry.

I've been waiting over there all day. I could have been working.

Oh, I'm sorry. It's not you. We need a bigger boat.

And the director picks up his cell phone and walks off.

Can we get an bigger more boat out here?

EXT. TINY BOAT - DAY

Ramon takes his small boat out and fishes the remainder of the day.

EXT. FISH MARKET - MANILA - DAY

Jazzy drive up in her nice new car, and pops the trunk. She loads and trunk with fish and ice.

EXT. VILLAGE - AFTERNOON

Ramon returns and he brings home few fish.

Jazzy returns about the same time. We see water (melted ice) dripping from the trunk. She opens the trunk. She and Ramon unload the fish onto the table and they put away extra in the walk-in freezer.

EXT. VILLAGE - AFTERNOON

Jazzy is cleaning her kitchen and Ramon and Grace are minding the store. There is only a single fish on the table and someone just buys it. Other families arrive and must leave empty handed. They go to a small grocer and buy canned beans instead.

GRACE

I'm no expert but I do sit here everyday.

RAMON

What are you taking about gran?

GRACE

Ramon, you are putting these people in jeopardy.

(half beat)

Everytime you come in there are fewer and fewer fish.

RAMON

Gran.

GRACE

You will lose the boat.

(half beat)

And there is talk in the village; they are becoming worried they will have to eat sprouts and pandesal.

(half beat)

Come on grandson, that isn't any way to live.

(half beat)

We are islands and we eat fish from the sea.

RAMON

I know I fish legally every day.

GRACE

Well to make things worse for the village the other two fishermen have moved their boats down the coast, for more productive waters and other village.

RAMON

They weren't selling their catch here anyway.

GRACE

If they saw their neighbours starving. They might if need arose.

RAMON

They won't now, I guess.

GRACE

Nope they are gone.

RAMON

You are all this village has left.

GRACE

Now get your act together. This town will starve to death if you fall down.

EXT. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION - DAY

Jazzy and Ramon stand in line for the driver's test and licensing procedure. The inspector has been rejecting applicants; any mistake earns you a dismissal. He is clearly hated by those rejected. He sees Jazzy and asked her only questions.

INSPECTOR

I love your commercials. And you are right the soap makes my wife smell like Leonardo DiCaprio.

The inspector is nervous and has lost control of his voice. He is shaking just to be near Jazzy.

INSPECTOR

Oh, this is the car from the commercial.

(half beat)

Do you know how to drive?

(half beat)

Where did you learn?

JAZZY

In the parking lot.

INSPECTOR

You just drove around when it was empty.

(half beat)  
Good way to learn.  
(quietly)  
You don't really need all this.  
You probably a terrific driver.

He completes the form and gives her the drivers license.

JAZZY  
This is my husband.

Long beat. The inspector looks at Ramon sternly.

INSPECTOR  
Okay, move over.

Jazzy gets up out of the car. Ramon moves over to the drivers seat. The inspector gets in the passenger seat.

INSPECTOR  
Once around the block.

The inspector and Ramon get to the other side of the block out of sight.

INSPECTOR  
Stop the car.  
(half beat)  
You're Jazzy's husband.

RAMON  
Yes.

INSPECTOR  
How long have you been married.

RAMON  
9 months.

INSPECTOR  
Have you ever hit her?

RAMON  
No.

INSPECTOR  
Did you ever make her cry?

The instructor puts his hand on his pistol.

RAMON  
Uh, no.

INSPECTOR  
Let me tell you something. If I ever hear any trouble you make for her. I'm going to come find you. She a national icon. And not just me, I have friends in every police force and you will not be able to hide.

(half beat)  
Do you understand me?

RAMON  
Yes, sir.

INSPECTOR  
Make sure she is always buckled up.

(half beat)  
Now drive back and I will give you your license.

They reach where Jazzy is waiting. The inspector gives Ramon the driver's license and gets out. Jazzy is excited and gets in. She kisses Ramon on the cheek. Ramon is in something of a trance, traumatized by the experience.

JAZZY  
I'm so proud of you.

Jazzy kisses him passionately.

At the same time Ramon sees the inspector starring at him and tapping the handle of his pistol. It is more warning.

INSPECTOR  
(to Ramon)  
Remember what I said!



(to Jazzy)  
Drive safely.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

The villages in a very good mood and very celebrating.

There are mothers in awe speaking to their children.

MOM #1  
It is forty feet long.

MOM #2  
We'll have all the fish we will  
need.

Ramon and Jazzy drive up in the new car, but everyone quickly waves and return looking at the new boat at the dock. It is bright shiny and new. At least twice the size of Ramon's previous boat.

JAZZY  
What is such a big deal?

RAMON  
There is new competition.

Jazzy sees one of the advertising executives in the crowd around admiring the boat.

JAZZY  
Some how I don't think so.

Ramon is in a daze. He just sits in his car looking at his old boat.

Jazzy gets out of the car and approaches ad man.

JAZZY  
Is this what I think it is?

AD MAN  
It's your new boat.

JAZZY

Oh, no!

AD MAN

What's the matter? It's compliments of the Real corporation; one large book fishing boat.

(half beat)

Your husband doesn't know about this?

JAZZY

I don't know about this.

AD MAN

I thought you would want to surprise him; didn't anyone tell you?

JAZZY

No.

AD MAN

Well, who would object to someone giving you a free

JAZZY

No you don't understand, every since that night in the resturant he objects to everything I get, money, complements, cars, a new boat.

AD MAN

Oh my!

JAZZY

Yes. My marriage is over!

AD MAN

Oh my!

Long beat.

Jazzy calms down.

JAZZY

It's too new. They won't like it.  
Real soap is for humble people  
that get their hands dirty. Does  
that look like a dirty boat.

AD MAN

Oh, I see. No it doesn't.

Raman says nothing, but he is enraged.

Raymond comes out and is further depressed. He pretends not  
to be when Jazzy makes eye contact with him.

EXT. VILLAGE - MORNING

The next morning, Ramon is woken up by hammering and work  
crews out on the new boat.

Jazzy and Grace are sitting in the shade of the empty  
butcher shop, watching the workers on the new boat.

Ramon stops by the butcher shop on the way to his boat.

RAMON

What going on?

JAZZY

Well they bought a bigger boat but  
its' new and you know the rural  
thing. They are trying to age it  
with chemicals.

RAMON

What are those machines?

JAZZY

Sun lamps.

RAMON

For what?

JAZZY

To fade the paint.

Ramon looks at the sun and it seems bright enough.

RAMON

You mean if the fisherman has money for a new boat, people will complain about the price of the fish.

JAZZY

Exactly.

RAMON

Can I take my small and very old boat out fishing?

JAZZY

I'm sure you can but you better ask.

RAMON

Why should I ask, it's my boat?

JAZZY

Honey, I love you but please ask.

Ramon approaches the director who is supervising the work on the larger boat. From a distance, Grace and Jazzy watch the director without looking at Ramon gesture he should leave.

Ramon gets in his boat and goes to sea.

EXT. VILLAGE DOCK - AFTERNOON

When Ramon returns from the sea, there is a crowd of maybe 20 people on the dock. They look hungry.

What did you catch?

How much did you catch?

Ramon picks up a rubber tub of fish. There are three medium size fish. The people grab at the fish. They wrestle for it and run off to Jazzy who takes their money.

The people that didn't get a fish look hatefully at Ramon.

RAMON

I'm sorry.

(half beat)

It's just a run of bad luck.

(half beat)

I've always caught fish here. My father and his father all provided for this village.

VILLAGER #1

Chinese.

VILLAGER #2

It's not your fault.

VILLAGER #1

It's the Chinese. Haven't you heard that noise at night. They have a submarine out there pinging with their sonar, chasing out fish away.

VILLAGER #2

Our food.

VILLAGER #3

I'm sick of brussel sprouts and pandesal.

VILLAGER #1

I'm telling you there is a submarine out there.

RAMON

Well I don't think so. Maybe a shark.

VILLAGER #1

Sonny boy, you ever seen a shark with an active sonar driving fish out of an area?

VILLAGER #2

They said when they are done with the big boat they are leaving it for you.

VILLAGER #3

Maybe you can catch fish in that?

VILLAGER #1

Hell, he can't catch fish enough to fill that small boat of his. What's he need with a big new boat.

VILLAGER #2

Come on, lets go talk to Jazzy about this.

Ramon puts the empty rubber tub back on the boat.

INT. TABLE - TINY HOME - NIGHT

Jazzy serves brussel sprouts and pandesal for dinner.

Ramon eats in silence.

Jazzy tries to liven up the room with conversation.

JAZZY

Can you image how much soap they must be selling to purposefully age a brand new boat?

RAMON

Why can't they use a new boat?

JAZZY

This is the way they explained it me. You are supposed to be sympathetic, you and me both. And

fishermen can't have a nice new boat or it will look to the viewer like he makes too much money.

(half beat)

Old is good.

RAMON

What is big?

JAZZY

Big is big.

RAMON

What was wrong with my boat?

JAZZY

I don't know.

RAMON

They just had money to burn.

JAZZY

Honey we are in the wrong business. You breaking your back for a few fish.

Ramon doesn't take that comment well.

JAZZY

Oh, I'm sorry. I didn't mean to say that. I know your job is important. This meal is plenty evidence of that.

RAMON

Oh, I don't know it's not so bad.

JAZZY

Well just wait until its all we have. You won't so much appreciate it then.

Grace gets up and leaves the room.

RAMON

Where did the boat come from?

JAZZY

Please don't shout.

RAMON

I don't know I was shouting.

JAZZY

I thought you'd be happy it was a surprise.

RAMON

Yes but don't you think I should be consulted before you spend \$50,000 on the boat with out money?

JAZZY

Oh that's what it is?

(half beat)

I didn't spend the any of our money our money.

RAMON

So now it's your money?

JAZZY

No. I didn't say that.

RAMON

Let me tell you this is still our house and our shop and its going to have our child and when we get a new boat it will be with our money and what is our money our money is what I earn fishing.

JAZZY

And what I earn is not ours?

RAMON

It's yours you mean?



JAZZY

I'm not allowed to participate in  
this household with my money?

(half beat)

Whatever happened to my rights as  
a female?

RAMON

Whatever happened to my rights as  
a man?

(half beat)

How many fish have you sold this  
week?

JAZZY

I can ask you the same question  
how many fish did you catch?

RAMON

Now you have really done it. You  
have compared bringing home fish  
to creating a commercial.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

The argument moves to the bedroom.

JAZZY

What are you doing?

RAMON

I'm filing this bag with my  
clothes.

(half beat)

I'm going to go sleep on 'our'  
boat the small one until you give  
up this asinine career and go back  
to being a wife.

JAZZY

Really?

RAMON

I'm the kind of husband who likes  
to see his wife

JAZZY

Is this is an ultimatum?  
(half beat)  
Yes well if you want to see me  
then look on the cover!

Jazzy throws a magazine into the bag.

JAZZY

You might need me if you get tired  
of kissing soap. If you do, you  
can come see me at our boat.

Ramon finishes packing his things and sleeps on the small  
boat.

EXT. BOAT DOCK - NIGHT

There are cases of soap on the dock by his small boat.  
Evidently there's gonna be a commercial the next day and  
Ramon pushes them off into the ocean.

INT/EXT. SMALL FISHING BOAT - NIGHT

Ping!

Ramon is suddenly awake. He listens. He puts a cup to the  
side of the boat and puts his ear to that. He hears nothing  
but the surf. He gets up and run onto the dock. He runs to  
the end of the dock. He look out into the night and the  
sea. He catches just a glimpse of something out of the  
corner of his eye. It might be a periscope and it might  
have been a shark's fin. By the time he turns, whatever it  
was, it submerged.

A priest appears on the dock. Which is odd because there  
isn't a catholic church for 20 miles. The priest is dressed  
in a 18<sup>th</sup> Century cassock.

PRIEST

What do you think it was?

The priest is straining his eyes as well.

RAMON

A shark.

PRIEST

Or a submarine?

You should sleep and go back home in the morning. I'm going to stand her and see if it comes back.

Ramon goes to back to bed. And he listens. The director can put a very faint sonar ping in the audio, if they want just for kicks.

EXT. VILLAGE - MORNING

Ramon is awoken by screaming children.

KID #1

Snow!

KID #2

It's snow.

KID #1

I'm going to build a snowman!

One kid lays down in the suds and makes a snow angel.

They run down to the beach, which is covered with a foot of suds. We see the children playing in the suds. Every wave create more suds.

INT. TINY HOME - MORNING

Ramon does return to his tiny house and Jazzy.

Jazzy pretends to be reading the books she wrote on prenatal care. It's upside down.

Ramon carefully returns his clothes to the closet.

Jezy is peeking around the books at him. Their eyes meet.

RAMON

Forgive me?

JAZZY

Of course.

She get up and runs to him and kisses him.

They are about to get in the shower but there is a knock on the door.

The man walks into their front room and stands there calling out.

AD MAN

Jazzy?

(half beat)

Jazzy?

(half beat)

They are ready for you?

JAZZY

Oh, honey I'm sorry.

(half beat)

I'll tell them to wait.

RAMON

You know I'm not going to rush.

JAZZY

Later when you have time, then we will... 'have time'?

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

The workers are leaving the village and get a round of applause. It's pretty clear the village is hungry; they are under the illusion the alterations done to the boat are to attract fish.

Old timers are sitting around acting like they know what is going on.

OLD TIMER #1

The workers have made our new  
fishing boat faster and stronger.

OLD TIMER #4

It now has refrigeration and an  
ice machine.

OLD TIMER #2

Those bright colors were  
frightening the fish away.

OLD TIMER #3

Now, there is also some special  
fish finding electronics on it.

OLD TIMER #1

When will the filming be done, so  
Ramon can take it out.

OLD TIMER #2

I don't know but I'm getting  
hungry?

In the background, they are laying the foundation for a new house. Ramon is oblivious to it, he is seriously a distracted person. He can't find fish and he can't find his wife half the time.

EXT. LARGE FISHING BOAT - VILLAGE - MORNING

Jazzy and Ramon exits their home and walk to the new boat. They board it along with the director and camera operator and they begin filming a commercial.

AD MAN

Okay, Ramon thank you.

RAMON

I'm done?

Ramon begins to leave.

AD MAN

Oh, Jazzy just a few more with  
just you.

Ramon returns to his small boat.

EXT. SMALL FISHING BOAT - DAY

Ramon fishes as best as he can.

He catches very little.

INT. BUTCHER SHOP - VILLAGE - MORNING

Ramon brings a tub of fish. But now many.

Jazzy throws him the keys to the new boat.

JAZZY

And I didn't spend our money or my  
money as you call it on it. The  
company.

Ramon apologizes.

RAMON

I'm sorry.

JAZZY

It's okay.

RAMON

You mean that they just gave us  
the boat?

RAMON

I didn't spend a dime.

RAMON

Oh, I'm sorry. I've been a fool  
about the whole 'your money' -  
'our money' thing.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

Jazzy is again shooting a commercial.

JAZZY

What will this be for?

AD MAN

Another magazine cover.

(half beat)

Don't worry you are getting paid extra.

JAZZY

Okay.

(half beat)

But I need to go home soon. Our shop is being not being managed well and you're not... Can we just get done?

INT. BUTCHER SHOP/FISH MARKET - DAY

Ramon's mother is sleeping and the customers just know to leave the money on the table where the fish was resting.

Several women from the village approach.

WOMAN

Grace?

(half beat)

Grace?

GRACE

What do you want?

WOMAN

We want to feed our family a fancy dinner. It's my daughter's conformation. And I want to ask you about your spices?

GRACE

I don't know anything about spices. Ask Jazzy.

WOMAN

She's not here.

GRACE

She's never here.

Grace returns to sleep.

The women buy a fish but no spices.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Grace is sleeping. Ramon arrives at the fishing market

RAMON

Where is Jazzy?

Grace is too tired to answer but points to the house.

Ramon smiles and begins mixing his ice cream. He puts it in the makers and begins to crank enthusiastically.

Jazzy arrives all dressed up; she is leaving. She kisses him but Ramon's cranking slows to a snails pace.

JAZZY

Oh, honey. You're making ice cream.

(half beat)

Why don't you use the new electric one I bought you?

Ramon glances over at the box; he shrugs his shoulders.

JAZZY

That's very sweet.

(half beat)

But I can't right now.

(half beat)

I have to make a commercial. It's just bad timing, that's all. Will you save me some for later? Just put it in the freezer, for when I get home?



Ramon nods, yes.

Jazzy looks at the nearly empty table and in the refrigerator and notices the shortage of fish.

JAZZY

Honey did you ever try fishing at night? You know your new boat has lights and you just shine them out and the fish come jump in your boat.

Ramon is despondent.

JAZZY

I read that sometimes fish are attracted to light.

RAMON

I'll try it.

JAZZY

Okay, honey. I love you.

Jazzy gets in her car and drives toward Manila.

Ramon continues to crank, but very slowly.

EXT. TINY HOUSE - NIGHT

Later, Jazzy comes home but it is very late. She looks in bed and Ramon is not there. She looks out at the dock, the large boat is missing. She knows Ramon is out fishing. Jazzy climbs into bed and sleeps.

EXT. LARGE FISHING BOAT - NIGHT

Ramon is out on the ocean in the dark he has lights set up. He sits robotically eating ice cream waiting for the fish. He finishes his ice cream and puts the nets out.

INT. BREAKFAST TABLE - TINY HOME - Morning

I'm sorry honey, I'm not making excuses but the hair, the costume, the stage and they shoot it over and over and over again.

JAZZY

Sweetheart it's not always this hectic.

Ramon doesn't respond. He knows it's not true. He simply eats.

INT. CAR TO MANILA - DAY

Ramon drives Jazzy into town, to the cathedral. At every stoplight the people all stare at Jazzy. Ramon is aware. Jazzy is unaware.

INT. MANILA CATHEDRAL - DAY

There are many babies being blessed or baptized. Ramon looks at each and everyone closely. Jazzy only looks at the alter and perhaps at the statue of Mary and the baby Jesus.

Another man and his pregnant wife kneel before the priest.

PRIEST

The Lord of life, brings every creature into being and rules and sustains the life of each one of us. These parents to be are partners in God's love and seek his blessing because they already cherish the child they have conceived and because they await the hour of their child's birth in faith and hope.

Jazzy and Ramon wait for their turn at the alter, but three women come up to and want her autograph. Jazzy hesitates there is a long beat.

The priests are about to scold everyone for being too loud but they see that it's Jazzy. They motion for her and Ramon to approach.

EXT. MANILA CATHEDRAL - DAY

Later, they are leaving the church and the women approach her for autographs. Outside, Jazzy is polite to everyone and signs the autographs.

WOMAN

Pardon me, are you anyone?

JAZZY

This is my husband, Ramon.

WOMAN #2

We're gonna be watching you on television; don't forget to wave.

JAZZY

(to Ramon)

I'm sorry.

RAMON

Don't be sorry I'm not that sensitive.

Another autograph seeker comes by and says...

WOMAN #3

It's Jazzy the soap girl. You are so much prettier on television I didn't recognize you.

Well that is it. Raymond barks the tires leaving the parking lot.

RAMON

I take it back; I am sensitive.

INT. KITCHEN - NEW LARGE HOME - DAY

The company has finished building a Jazzy a new home. She is inside shooting infomercials.

JAZZY

Look, I'm nine months pregnant and I just let the soap do the work. I wipe with the miracle soap and the scrubbing chemical reaction means I don't have to do the any real work. It's real scouring action.

INT. TINY HOME - DAY

When she is done with the infomercial, she returns to Ramon in the tiny home. He is lying in the bed clinically depressed.

Jazzy tries to become frisky but Ramon is defeated and turns down her offer of sex.

Ramon just stares off at the opposite wall. He is nearly catatonic. The audience has noticed Ramon's worsening mental state for a long time, but this is a big shocker for Jazzy. The entire film he has given her at least some response, but now she gets nothing. It hits her like a ton of bricks.

JAZZY

What is the matter?

(half beat)

Would some ice cream help?

(half beat)

I can go make some. Don't worry, just lay back and let me do the work.

RAMON

You can't crank that machine, you're 9 months pregnant.

JAZZY

I can too. That doesn't matter.

(half beat)

I have an electric one, remember and it works just as well.

Ramon is silent.

JAZZY

Is it the ice cream, because if it  
is I'll get up and make some.

RAMON

No. It's not the ice cream.

JAZZY

Well, what is it?  
(half beat)  
The fish?

Ramon is silent.

JAZZY

The fish will come back. These  
things happen.

(half beat)

Ramon, you can't give up.

(half beat)

Come on; lets take the new boat  
out to fish.

(half beat)

Okay we'll take the old boat out,  
just you and I, like in the old  
days.

He lays in bed, defeated.

She lays beside him, tears in her eyes, holding him. They  
are both ruined. Ramon because of a number of factors;  
Jazzy is ruined because Ramon is finished.

EXT. TINY HOME - DAY

Suddenly there is a commotion outside and the children are  
screaming and are excited.

She gets up and goes to the window. Outside the villagers  
and children are escorting an Australian surfer to the  
house.

CHILDREN

He has spotted a school of tuna.

Ramon can hear the children. He sits up.

SURFER

I'm a surfer from Australia ma'me.  
Beautiful beach. I love it but I  
was out on the beach and I noticed  
something strange - these dolphins  
and tuna. I would like to know who  
the owners of your two fishing  
boats are?

Ramon gets up out of bed and walks to the front door.

The village is excited and cheer when Ramon emerges from the house. Ramon looks like he has a hangover from a week long drunk.

He starts down the stairs and trips. He hits the bottom stair and breaks his leg.

The villagers, who had just been cheering, are destroyed.

An ambulance arrives and Ramon is taken to the hospital.

Jazzy is about to get in the ambulance with Ramon, but she stops and looks at the village. The villagers are deathly silent. It means no fish for them.

Jazzy looks at Ramon.

RAMON

Get the fish.

Jazzy is nine months pregnant and has been shooting a commercial all morning. She is exhausted.

RAMON

You haven't been to town in months  
and the people are hungry.

The villagers are perfectly silent. They are hungry but will not interfere with her choice.

But the surfer wants to know about the fish.

SURFER

These people are hungry; who will  
operate the boat?

Here is Jazzy's dilemma. Jazzy looks at her husband who  
gestures for her and the surfer to go to the boat.

She looks at the surfer.

She looks out into the cove at the birds circling the  
school of tuna. Dolphins seem to have herded the tuna into  
the cove.

The ambulance leaves.

Jazzy and the surfer take to the big boat and they drive  
out to the tuna. They are about to drop the nets when Jazzy  
goes into labor.

The surfer half panics. He calls the hospital with his  
cell.

INT. HOSPITAL - DAY

The doctor has just finished with Ramon's leg and there is  
now a plaster cast on it.

NURSE

Doctor, his wife has gone into  
labor.

RAMON

She's out on the boat?

NURSE

Yes. How did you know?

RAMON

Oh, doctor.  
(half beat)  
This is bad really bad.

DOCTOR

No, not necessarily.

(half beat)  
You stay here, and I'll drive out there. By the time I get there she will be back on land, right?

RAMON  
No, I better come with you. We might have to sail out and get them.

The doc quickly wraps his leg cast in cellophane. Ramon hobbles into action.

INT. CAR - HOSPITAL TO THE VILLAGE - DAY

Ramon and the doctor ride at beak-neck speed back to the village.

INT. VILLAGE - DAY

They see the large boat has not returned. They look out to sea and it is floating around out in the cove.

Ramon hobbles over to his small boat. The doctor follows with his medical bag.

EXT. LARGE BOAT - DAY

The doctor and Ramon arrive just in time and surfer is lost and doesn't know what to do.

The doctor and Jazzy go down into the cabin and shut the door.

Ramon and the surfer just stand and wait. Ramon is clearly worried out of his mind.

Long awkward beat.

The surfer tries to pass the time with idle chatter.

SURFER  
So how long you two been married, mate?



Long beat.

SURFER

So how long you had this boat?

Ramon ignores him for the most part. He might have slipped into his catatonic state.

It looks like perhaps he will lose the tuna catch but also the baby and wife.

The women's magazine (maternity issue) with Jazzy on the front is still on the boat. Ramon looks at it and might come out of his trance.

SURFER

This happen around here all the time?

(half beat)

Cause if it does you are one wealthy man.

(half beat)

I think the dolphins are helping you out.

The dolphins continue to herd and bottle up the tuna in the cove.

Finally, a dolphin comes to the side of the boat and speaks - whistles and burst-pulsed sounds.

We think Ramon is in a state of shock, but he responds to the dolphin...

RAMON

It's a girl.

The surfer is trying to figure that out. The surfer looks at Ramon and then at the dolphin.

SURFER

You'll speak to the dolphin but you are unresponsive to me? What is about all this about the

Philippines everyone is so  
friendly?

The dolphin speaks again - whistles, burst-pulsed sounds  
and a click train.

Ramon comes out of his trance and looks at the tuna  
churning up the water. The dolphins are herding them into a  
night tight ball to be harvested.

Ramon answers the dolphin...

RAMON  
(to the dolphin)  
Sure enough. You are right.  
(to the surfer)  
We should get busy.

Ramon shuffles about the deck in fisherman mode. Ramon  
hobbles around the boat working and giving the surfer  
instructions.

They bring in a huge catch; in fact, it almost over loads  
the boat.

They are up to there waist in tuna on the big boat.

The fill up the small boat tied beside them as well.

The baby girl is born.

When the doctor emerges from below with a healthy baby, he  
opens the door and tuna flood into the cabin.

DOCTOR  
It's a healthy baby girl.

Ramon is elated.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

When the boat reaches shore the people are waiting they see  
the tuna (and/or the baby) and they begin cheering and  
dancing. Everyone in the village is delighted. The surfer  
ties the boat to the dock.

Ramon thinks the crowd is applauding Jazzy and his new daughter, which is fine with him.

The doctor and the baby and Jazzy walk on the dock.

Ramon's mother is there with a cart so Jazzy doesn't have to walk.

They walk off the dock and up toward Ramon's tiny house. Ramon notices the people don't follow Jazzy and the baby.

They don't turn away from the tuna catch. They are applauding him.

The surfer gets off the boat and is congratulated.

Ramon is greeted as a hero. Ramon is validated and all his problems seem to be over.

SURFER  
Congratulations, mate.

RAMON  
I'm a father.

SURFER  
Oh, yes. Yes.

RAMON  
I'm very proud.

SURFER  
You'll be a good dad.

Ramon gestures for the people to help themselves to the fish and they do. Everyone one grabs a tuna or two and they dance up toward their homes.

They will be feasting tonight.

SURFER  
You are just gonna let them take  
the fish?

RAMON

Yes, of course, I have a new  
daughter and they are hungry.

Ramon notices they are almost to the tiny home. Ramon  
shouts to the doctor, Jazzy and his mother...

RAMON

Use the big house.

Ramon points to the big house. The doctor, Jazzy and Grace  
turn toward the new big house.

FADE OUT