EXACT CHANGE

By Frankie Frain

119 Sutherland Rd. Brighton, MA 02135 508 642 2982 SUBTITLE: MONDAY

A MAN and an OSTRICH wander into a diner. The man is fairly well dressed. They take a seat at a table and wait to be served. After a moment of surveying, the WAITRESS stressfully rushes to their table.

WAITRESS

Okay guys, ready to order, or do we need a little more time?

MAN

(to Ostrich) You ready? Yeah, just let me have a burger, fries, and a diet coke, no ice.

WAITRESS

And for the lady?

OSTRICH

I'll have the same.

#### WAITRESS

Thanks very much guys.

The waitress rushes the order off to the kitchen, as the man makes small talk with the ostrich.

MAN

(to Ostrich) But as I was saying, I think the Rockettes are all girls anyway so it doesn't matter.

Time elapses with a CLOCKWIPE. The waitress rushes over to the table with a bill, looking down.

WAITRESS

Okay guys, thank so much, no rush on this at -

The waitress notices the man and ostrich are gone, and money has been left for the bill paid in exact change. She collects it and goes back to the kitchen, passing another waitress.

(to other waitress) Must be an obsessive compulsive, I just collected the bill in exact change with fifteen percent tip before giving the bill.

### WAITRESS 2

Could've been in a rush.

2 INT. DINER - DAY

2

SUBTITLE: TUESDAY

The man and ostrich take a seat again. The waitress rushes over.

#### WAITRESS

Hey guys, welcome back, ready to order?

MAN Burger, fries, and a diet coke please.

OSTRICH Yeah, same for me, thanks.

## WAITRESS

Coming up.

The man turns to the ostrich to make chit chat.

MAN

(to ostrich) But yeah, to answer your question, I don't think Kurt Cameron is ready for anything that demonic.

Time elapses with another CLOCKWIPE. The waitress rushes over to the table with the bill, looking down again.

WAITRESS Thanks again guys, I'll take it whenever you're ready -

Once again, the man and ostrich are gone, and exact change is on the table.

Oh these guys are good.

3 INT. DINER - DAY

SUBTITLE: WEDNESDAY

The man and ostrich are at the table already.

MAN Burger, fries, and a diet coke.

WAITRESS (to Ostrich) The same, right?

OSTRICH You know me too well toots.

Time elapses with a CLOCKWIPE. The waitress once again finds exact change.

4 INT. DINER - DAY

SUBTITLE: THURSDAY

The man and ostrich are finishing up their meal.

MAN (to Ostrich) Aw, don't be ridiculous, you're already naked. Alright, are we all set here?

OSTRICH

Yepper.

The man reaches into his pocket, pulls out money, and plops it on the table.

5 INT. DINER - DAY

5

4

SUBTITLE: FRIDAY

The man and ostrich enter the diner again. They take a seat at their normal table, and the waitress rushes over.

3

Ah, a couple of regulars. What will it be guys, the usual?

#### MAN

No, actually - it's Friday. Today, it's going to be a steak, salad, and baked potato. What're you having?

### OSTRICH

The same.

## WAITRESS

Coming right up guys.

Time elapses with a CLOCKWIPE. The waitress comes over with the bill. The man and ostrich are still dining.

### WAITRESS

Okay guys, here's the bill, thanks again!

The waitress sticks around and watches intently. The man, with a mouth full of food, reaches into his pocket and plops money on the table.

WAITRESS So this is all planned out ahead of time?

MAN

(still chewing) What do you mean?

#### WAITRESS

What I mean is, all this week, by the time I got to the table, the bill was pre-paid with exact change. Now you've changed your order and you've got exact change here. What gives?

## MAN

All right my prodding waitress. Here's the story.

INT. ATTIC - DAY

The man climbs around his attic, packing and moving boxes. The man narrates his own actions.

# MAN

(VO)

A few years ago, I came across a dusty old lamp while cleaning my attic. Being a bit superstitious, I rubbed it to see what would happen - sure enough, a genie popped out granting me two wishes. Must've been a really old lamp, damn thing lost a wish rotting in that old attic. Anyway, My first wish was that if I ever had to pay for anything, I would just put my hand in my pocket and the right amount of money would always be there.

INT. DINER - DAY

#### WAITRESS

Bullshit.

#### MAN

All right. I'll take the restaurant please.

The man reaches into his pocket and pulls out a check for \$500,000.00. He returns it to his pocket.

MAN

Just kidding pocket.

The man reaches back into his pocket and turns it inside and out. There's nothing in it.

#### WAITRESS

Oh my god. That's brilliant! So while most people would have wished for a billion dollars or something, you can just buy anything you want at any time, be it a gumball or Wayne Manor! But wait, no, no...this one thing still makes absolutely no sense.

Yes?

What the hell is with this burger ordering ostrich?

MAN

(sighing) Well...my second wish was for a chick with a big ass and tall legs that agrees with everything I say.

The ostrich starts squawking.

MAN I will kill you, you god damn ostrich.