Blowback

by Kimani Artist INT. MOTEL ROOM - DAY

A dim ray of light sneaks through a slit from the curtains. The droning air conditioner breaks the silence.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - DAY

Mason, 34, average height, athletic build, sits on the bed, counting stacks of money. He picks up a wad of cash and flips it on top of the table.

MASON

You can buy all Jimmy Choo shoes in the world now.

Jocelyn, 28, petite, tall, bob cut, spins around in a desk chair. She stands and picks up the wad.

JOCELYN

Dear, I could blow this in fifteen minutes in one store.

JOCELYN (CONT'D)

You have to do better than that.

MASON

Hey, it's enough to at least get your feet wet.

Jocelyn walks over to Mason, bends over and taps him on the nose with the wad.

JOCELYN

I want to dive in head first. Why just get my feet wet?

Mason opens the brief-case and places the cash back inside.

Jocelyn reaches for the brief-case but he quickly pulls it back.

He gets up, walks into the restroom, and turns on the shower. He closes the restroom door but leaves it cracked open. Water splashes around as he quickly washes himself.

Jocelyn creeps over to the briefcase and grabs three stacks of cash and sticks them in her purse.

INT. BATHROOM - DAY

With her back turned, Mason stares through the crack in the door. Mason shakes his head.

MASON

Don't even know if I can trust her now. She couldn't wait like I asked her.

INT. BATHROOM - DAY

MASON

We'll have plenty of time to go on a shopping spree but first, we have to disappear from this place.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - DAY

Startled, Jocelyn throws her purse on the table and turns on the T.V..

JOCELYN

Yes dear, whatever you say.

Mason turns off the shower and dries off. He walks out the restroom and lays on the bed.

Jocelyn approaches the bed and climbs on top of him.

JOCELYN (CONT'D)

Now, you certainly don't plan on being stingy with all the money do you?

She smirks.

JOCELYN (CONT'D)

No money, no honey.

MASON

It's just until we get out of here. We can't be seen blowing money. We will get caught up.

Jocelyn places her finger on his chest and caresses it.

JOCELYN

Hun, we need to have a little fun. I don't want to be cooped up in this motel every day.

Mason sighs, sits up and gently removes Jocelyn off him.

Jocelyn, I saw what you did when I was in the shower.

JOCELYN

How dare you spy on me?

MASON

Something didn't feel right, so I had to test you. You failed miserably.

Jocelyn stands and stands over him.

JOCET-YN

Oh, is that the problem? You don't trust me?

She walks away from him, grabs some lipstick and stomps into the bathroom SLAMMING the door.

INT. BATHROOM - DAY

Jocelyn grabs the cherry red lipstick and applies it.

JOCELYN

I don't need to be spied on or managed. I've never been so insulted in all my life.

MASON (O.S.)

Somehow I don't believe that.

JOCELYN

Go fuck yourself!

MASON (O.S.)

It looks like that might be my only option after what I'm seeing.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

Mason walks over to her bulging purse and takes the money out.

Jocelyn swings open the door and catches him holding the money.

JOCELYN

So your stealing from me now? You got some nerve going through a women's purse.

I wouldn't have a reason to go through your purse if I felt like you weren't being shady.

Mason picks up her purse and turns it upside down, spilling out everything.

MASON (CONT'D)

What else have you hidden in this abyss you call a purse?

Jocelyn runs over and snatches her purse from him.

JOCELYN

You're such a dick Mason!

Doors close outside, Mason walks over to the window and peeks out.

MASON

Would you keep it down Jocelyn? You're going to get us caught.

JOCELYN

Well if you wasn't trashing my things then you wouldn't have anything to worry about.

The phone in the room RINGS. Mason walks over and picks it up.

HOTEL MANAGER

Sir, we have been getting complaints about you two arguing. What's going on?

Mason places his finger on his lips and quiets Jocelyn.

MASON

I'm sorry about that. My wife and I are just having a disagreement, that's all.

Jocelyn jumps on the bed.

JOCELYN

Yeah, because your a fucking thief!

HOTEL MANAGER

If you don't quiet it down, I will call the police.

MASON

No, that won't be necessary.

Mason hangs the phone up and looks at Jocelyn out despitefully.

MASON (CONT'D)

Woman! What the hell is wrong with you?

Jocelyn places her hands on her hips and struts up to him.

JOCELYN

Maybe we should leave anyway. I need some new lipstick.

Mason looks at Jocelyn disgusted.

MASON

Is that all you think about is yourself?

JOCELYN

Well, yeah pretty much? I mean just look at me.

Jocelyn scoots over to the mirror and points to herself.

MASON

Unbelievable. Come on, grab your stuff and lets make a move.

Mason gets dressed, while Jocelyn puts all her belongings back in the purse. Mason grabs the suit-case, opens the door and they leave to the car.

EXT/INT. MASON'S CAR - LATER

Mason pulls out a cigarette and sparks it. Jocelyn tries to apply the last of her lipstick and throws it out the window.

MASON

Do you have to throw things out the window? That could come back to bite us in the ass.

Jocelyn rolls her eyes.

JOCELYN

You're so paranoid and it's killing the mood.

Mason abruptly stops the car.

Are you serious? I don't want to get caught over nothing stupid. By all means, if you want to get arrested, then you can do it by yourself.

Jocelyn reaches up at the knob on the radio and cranks up the volume.

Mason reaches for the knob and turns it off.

JOCELYN

I don't know how much more I can take of this. Just give me my cut of the money and we can go our separate ways.

MASON

We can work on all of that once we get to our destination. For now, we keep moving.

Mason puts the car in gear and drives off. He puts the cigarette out in the ash tray and pulls up to a gas station.

MASON (CONT'D)

We have to stop for gas and I need more smokes.

Jocelyn sighs

JOCELYN

More stopping? We need to get going.

MASON

Yes, we need to gas up. How else are we going to make it?

Jocelyn grabs his lighter and flicks it over her head.

JOCELYN

You mean the light bulb didn't come on for you? Use some of that negative energy you have to fuel the car.

Mason flicks her off and pulls up next to a gas pump.

MASON

Okay, I'm going to give you fifty dollars. Pay for the gas and buy me a pack of smokes. And make it quick.

Jocelyn holds her hand out and takes the money. She gets out the car and walks into the store.

EXT. SUNNYMART - DAY

Mason steps out, and walks around to the gas pump.

MASON

Jesus. Four bucks a gallon? Everyone is trying to steal from me today.

INT. SUNNYMART - DAY

Jocelyn walks around the store, checking out each aisle. She approaches the sun glasses rack and tries on various glasses.

JOCELYN

Now, these would look fabulous on me.

Jocelyn grabs the glasses and walks up to the counter. CASHIER, mid twenties, slim build, stares at Jocelyn wide eyed.

CASHIER

Well, what brings a beautiful woman like you into a store like this?

Jocelyn bats her eye lashes and sticks her chest out.

JOCELYN

I'm just out here on a road trip.

CASHIER

Oh, really? Where to?

JOCELYN

No where really. Just out here on the open road.

The Cashier looks down at her chest.

CASHIER

Oh, they look lovely. I mean that is lovely.

Jocelyn smiles.

EXT. SUNNYMART - DAY

Mason paces next to the car, staring at the numbers, waiting for them to flash.

This girl is taking forever. I don't have time for this.

INT. SUNNYMART - DAY

Jocelyn puts on the sun glasses and struts around for the Cashier.

JOCELYN

So, how do you think I look in these?

The Cashier licks his lips and gives her a thumbs up.

CASHIER

You look quite breathtaking.

He picks up his cell phone.

CASHIER (CONT'D)

I don't see many women like you in here. Do you mind if I take a picture with you?

Jocelyn runs her fingers through her hair and bites her lip.

JOCELYN

Of course you can.

EXT/INT. SUNNYMART - DAY

Mason abandons the gas pump and walks into the store. His eyes widen when he notices her hugging up on the Cashier.

MASON

So this is what you are in here doing? Taking selfies and flirting with the cashier?

The Cashier jumps and scurries back behind the register.

CASHIER

I'm sorry about that sir. She wanted to know how she looked in the sun glasses.

Jocelyn continues to take pictures of herself with the Cashier's phone.

JOCELYN

Oh, don't mind dudly downer. He's always up tight.

Mason reaches up and scratches his head.

MASON

You know what hun, your right. You finish up taking photos and I will pay for the gas.

Mason cracks a smile.

MASON (CONT'D)

I'll tell you what. Here's a hundred dollars. Go try on more glasses. I will pay for the gas and smokes myself.

Jocelyn quickly grabs the money and walks back over to the glasses rack.

JOCELYN

Now that's the Mason I use to know. It looks better on you. Not as good as these glasses on me but we can't all be perfect.

Mason nods, pays for the gas, grabs the cigarettes and leaves.

MASON

I will have the car running when your done.

Jocelyn tries on another pair of glasses and nods.

JOCELYN

Yeah, sounds good. There's so many to try on.

MASON

Oh, don't worry, you have plenty of time.

EXT. SUNNYMART - DAY

Mason finishes up pumping the gas hops back in the car. He starts it up.

MASON

Yup, she will have plenty of time to try on every pair.

Mason puts the passenger side window down, throws her purse out the window and drives off.

Jocelyn stares through the window, wearing her new favorite pair of glasses.

INT. SUNNYMART - DAY

JOCELYN

Oh my God! Mason stop! I'm sorry.

EXT/INT. MASON'S CAR - DAY

Mason laughs hysterically and places the lighter over his head. $\,$

MASON

Well, I guess that light bulb finally decided to turn on.