

INT. HOTEL ROOM

BRITNY MICHELLE (late teens or early 20's) opens the door, revealing LANCE BLUMBERG, a twenty-something white guy with longish hair and a backpack. She's confused.

BRITNY MICHELLE

Hi.

He smiles and extends a hand.

LANCE

Lance Blumberg, Starz Weekly.

She shakes it with one, holding her sheet with the other.

BRITNY MICHELLE

Did I know about this?

LANCE

Put it this way, we were supposed to meet down in the Oak Bar an hour ago.

Britny Michelle makes for the phone.

BRITNY MICHELLE

My f'ing publicist...

She dials a number.

BRITNY MICHELLE (cont'd)

How am I supposed to remember these things?

Lance waits in the doorway, amused. He nods to Josephine (the massage therapist in the room).

LANCE

How's it going?

BRITNY MICHELLE

(into phone)

Yeah, hi, is Mindy around?... Tell her it's Britny Michelle and see if I was supposed to meet with some guy from some magazine.

LANCE

Starz Weekly.

He pulls out a business card.

BRITNY MICHELLE
 (covering the mouthpiece)
 Did you want to come in?

LANCE
 I don't want to interrupt your
 massage.

BRITNY MICHELLE
 Oh, it's okay. It wasn't very good
 anyway.
 (to Josephine)
 No offense.

Disgusted, Josephine begins to pack up. Lance plops down on
 the couch. He tosses his card onto the coffee table.

LANCE
 It's only going to take a few
 minutes.

BRITNY MICHELLE
 (covering the mouthpiece)
 I'm sorry, I know. I just want to
 yell at my publicist.

He pulls a pad and pen from his bag and writes.

BRITNY MICHELLE (cont'd)
 You're not gonna put that in the
 thing, are you?

LANCE
 What, that you're a shallow little
 starlet who appears to be using the
 system as much as it's using you?

Josephine raises her fists in jubilation.

BRITNY MICHELLE
 Excuse me?

LANCE
 I'm kidding. Relax.

He shows her the pad.

LANCE (cont'd)
 I wrote that you look good in a
 sheet.

BRITNY MICHELLE
 That is such BS. I'm not using
 anyone and they're not using me.

LANCE

Hey, it was a joke. But do what you gotta do. I don't care. It's all part of the game.

BRITNY MICHELLE

Yeah, well screw you.

LANCE

Whoa! Why are you taking it so personally?

BRITNY MICHELLE

Because for your information, A-hole, it happens to be my life.

LANCE

Take it easy, okay? I'm just saying that it's an ugly deceitful business, that's all. They'll plug you as the next "it" girl, then the second they're done with you, your butt'll be dumped so fast.

BRITNY MICHELLE

That is so false!

LANCE

Whatever. But hey, the good news is there's more to life than Hollywood. Believe it or not, the world doesn't evolve around it.

BRITNY MICHELLE

Yeah, well if you hate it so much, why do you write about it?

Lance is momentarily thrown.

BRITNY MICHELLE (cont'd)

See, you're totally a part of it too.

LANCE

Not really. I went to Northwestern. I have a degree in journalism. I spent two years in the Peace Corps teaching English to Mongolians.

Balancing the phone with her shoulder, Britny Michelle gives him a round of applause.

LANCE (cont'd)

At least I can see how superficial the industry really is.

BRITNY MICHELLE
 You're just jealous because I'm
 doing what I want to do.

LANCE
 Right. I'm sorry. I forgot.
 You're a serious actress. You're
 in this for the acting. All the
 perks and attention actually make
 you uncomfortable, don't they?

JOSEPHINE
 Ya, I'm going to need the sheet
 back.

Lance gets up.

LANCE
 Go ahead. We're done. I think I
 have everything I need. "Selfless
 starlet uses celebrity for good.
 She just hasn't found the right
 cause."

BRITNY MICHELLE
 That's sarcastic, right?

LANCE
 Right.

He heads for the door.

BRITNY MICHELLE
 Okay, how about this one? "Loser
 journalist gets stuck interviewing
 loser celebrities!"

LANCE
 Good one.

Lance walks out, slamming the door behind him.

BRITNY MICHELLE
 Jerk.

Mindy's voice clacks through the receiver.

MINDY (O.S.)
 B.M., it's Mindy, you were
 supposed to have an 11:30
 with Starz Weekly.

BRITNY MICHELLE
 (into phone)
 Yeah I know. I actually just had
 it.

MINDY (O.S.)
How'd it go? Did he love you?

On Britny's reaction, we fade out.....