

A RIOT OF FLOWERS
(sample)

by Maxim Vinogradov

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section of the website and request a free copy.)

House music plays, a BEAT PULSING AWAY.

FADE IN:

A shoulder -- positioned on the passenger seat of a car -- is BOPPING ALONG to the beat. Pull back to find ourselves...

INT. SHITTY SPORTS CAR - DAY

The shoulder belongs to JACQUES (20), a Frenchman, who isn't dancing but HAVING A SEIZURE.

ACE (20), an American, frantically drives. Scattered TATTOOS ON HIS FACE -- a Chinese symbol, a crucifix, among others -- makes one correctly imagine he's a jailbird.

SAILOR (20), an Englishwoman with heavy raccoon-circle eyeshadow, sits between them. She's got an innate decisiveness in each movement; a certain independence.

She's currently pointing to the road as they race down the streets of Prague.

SAILOR

Wrong way! Wrong way!

ACE

Can we trust my driving?!

Sailor GRABS THE WHEEL and jerks it, cutting off traffic.

ACE

(letting Sailor drive)

Oh! Attention! Good! Great pl-
Where the fuck are you going?!

SAILOR

(re: Jacques)

We need to grab Halo!

ACE

Wha--No! It's at home!

SAILOR

No, it isn't.

ACE

Ask Dani, I promise we do!

SAILOR

It's gonna be coming up in two
seconds. Take the wheel back.

ACE
This is Fourth St! Fourth
doesn't have--!

SAILOR
Yes, it does.

Sailor folds down her seat to access the trunk, kicking through to...

INT./EXT. SHITTY SPORTS CAR - TRUNK - CONTINUOUS

The trunk is a bit cramped and has no hood. Sailor climbs over somebody lying under a blanket, whose head pokes out: DANI (25). She's Russian and wearing a Breakfast at Tiffany's SLEEPING MASK.

DANI
(yelling over wind)
What!? What's happening!?

SAILOR
Jacques's moonwalking and we --

DANI
There's Halo in the pantry!

SAILOR
No, there isn't!

Sailor grips the trunk's sides and skids her shoes out, RUNNING ON THE ROAD like a treadmill. Peeking around the shitty car, she sees the POLICE STATION in the distance.

Sailor slips on a puddle but maintains her grip. Timing this out, she RELEASES THE TRUNK and continues running, turning onto the street and bolting down an...

EXT. ALLEY - CONTINUOUS

As Sailor turns the corner, a corpse slides down a chute and into a dumpster-esque container labeled "TO MORGUE." Sailor hops onto the dumpster, opens the chute door, and CRAWLS UP.

INT. CORPSE CHUTE - CONTINUOUS

Sailor wiggles up the stainless steel corpse chute.

INT. SHITTY SPORTS CAR - SAME TIME

A paranoid Ace rolls to a stop outside the P.D. Foot on the brake -- not parking. Jacques's seizure's getting worse.

Ace tears down the ROSARY hanging from the rearview mirror and makes a cross in the air. He's frantically eyeing the front doors of the police station.

ACE
In the name of the Father, the --

INT. CORONER'S MORGUE - SAME TIME

Sailor lands in a ROOM FULL OF CADAVERS and flutters to her feet, bolting through a door to the...

INT. POLICE DEPARTMENT - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Sailor tries to blend in as she SPEEDS DOWN THE HALLWAY -- she's clearly been here multiple times before. Passing a series of wanted posters, she rips one down bearing ACE'S FACE with "NO KNOWN INFORMATION" and stuffs it in her pocket.

OFFICER (O.S.)
Dobre den!

Sailor halts, swearing under her breath, as an OFFICER jogs over to her. Sailor secretly pulls a TUBE OF RED LIPSTICK out of her pocket, popping it open and shoving it into the palm of her hand.

The Officer, reaching Sailor, spins her around...

OFFICER
(accusatory)
Byste měli --

... and Sailor's SUDDENLY CRYING, removing her hand from her forehead -- revealing what seems to be a SMEAR OF BLOOD.

OFFICER
(eyes shooting wide)
Ó můj bože!
(trying to help)
Kdo ti to udělal ?!

SAILOR
(still crying)
I don't speak Czech, I'm sorry! I'm
sorry! I'm sorry!
(pointing down the hall)
In an alley! The alley over there!

The Officer SPRINTS DOWN THE HALL and Sailor drops the act on a dime.

She ducks into a nearby room.

INT. POLICE DEPARTMENT - DRUG CONFISCATION ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Sailor can't find a lock on the door, so she grabs some coke kilos and plants them against it.

Searching the room, she moves to a cabinet locked with a padlock. She grabs a fire extinguisher and SMACKS at the padlock -- like they do in the movies. It doesn't work.

After four or five smacks, Sailor just SMASHES the extinguisher into the wooden cabinet, splintering it. She widens the hole and peeks her hand around in it, pulling out vials. Not what she's looking for.

Sailor drops them and keeps feeling around, eye on the door. Pulling new vials, she finds it: NARCAN -- the vial suddenly sprouting a cartoon, glowing ANGEL'S HALO over it.

Satisfied, Sailor moves the coke kilos away from the door, then thinks again and looks back at the cabinet.

INT. SHITTY SPORTS CAR - SAME TIME

Ace holds Jacques's head up in the idle car.

ACE

-- forgive us our trespasses...

A prostitute (27), whose dress bears an IRIS FLOWER decal, leans in through the passenger window.

IRIS

(heavy American accent)
Jak se vám všem daří?

ACE

-- as we forgive those who
trespass against us...

Ace takes his foot off the brake, inching the car past Iris.

IRIS (O.S.)

Oh shit! Is he all right?!

ACE

-- and lead us not into...

INT. POLICE DEPARTMENT - DRUG CONFISCATION ROOM - SAME TIME

Sailor goes back to the cabinet and pulls out the pill bottles and morphine vials, holding the front of her shirt as a sack to hold all of this.

INT. POLICE DEPARTMENT - HALLWAY - SAME TIME

The Officer from before, now confused, comes back -- passing the room and hearing some rumbling. The window is opaque, but he thinks he sees someone in there...

INT. POLICE DEPARTMENT - DRUG CONFISCATION ROOM - SAME TIME

There's a KNOCK at the door. Sailor's a deer in headlights.

INT. POLICE DEPARTMENT - HALLWAY - SAME TIME

The Officer has his hand on the handle, ear leaning up against the door's window...

CRASH! The extinguisher launches through the window and into the Officer's cheek, COLLAPSING HIM. Sailor shoots through the door with her drugs bouncing on her shirt sack, huffing and puffing through the halls as vials shatter on the tile floor -- including the NARCAN. Officers begin CHASING HER.

EXT. POLICE DEPARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Sailor BURSTS OUT THE DOOR, vials and pill bottles flying in all directions as she bolts to the idle sports car, JUMPING INTO THE TRUNK.

DANI
(yelling to Ace)
We got Sailor! Padyom, padyom!

INT. SHITTY SPORTS CAR - SAME TIME

Ace's about to put the car in drive, but can't without finishing the prayer. He stares at the P.D. doors.

<p>ACE (hurrying) Poor banished children of Eve -- To thee do we send up our sighs mourning and weeping in this valley of tears --</p>	<p>Ace!</p>	<p>DANI (O.S.)</p>
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EXT. SHITTY SPORTS CAR - TRUNK - SAME TIME

Sailor hides under the blanket with Dani just as...

INT. SHITTY SPORTS CAR - SAME TIME

Officers begin POURING OUT OF THE STATION. Ace's eyes go wide. He tries to sputter out the prayer as fast as he can.

ACE
 --thineeyesofmercytowardusandaftert
 hisourexileshowustheblessedfruitoft
 hywombJesus--

An officer sees the sports car and JOGS TOWARDS THEM, not sure if this harbors their gal.

ACE
 O'clement-O'loving-
 O'sweetVirginMary.

SAILOR (O.S.)
 If God doesn't fuck you up, I will!

Ace SLAMS THE GAS PEDAL, head still bowed, trying to see over the dashboard. He uses a knee to guide the wheel, then takes a hand off Jacques's head, using it to avoid a crash.

ACE
 (struggling)
 Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.
 That we may be made worthy of the
 promises of Christ. In the Name of
 the Father, and of the Son and of
 the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Ace throws his rosary hand on the wheel and the other on Jacques's head. Jacques's mouth is foaming.

EXT. SHITTY SPORTS CAR - TRUNK - MOMENTS LATER

A safe distance away, Sailor sees she only has ONE VIAL LEFT, which Dani snatches and looks at.

DANI
 (inspecting)
 Caf... Carfen-- not Halo.

Dani goes to toss it as Sailor stops her and POKETS IT.

EXT. APARTMENT - LATER

Ace slows the car as Sailor repeats her treadmill run, her hands on the sides of the trunk. Sailor slips on another puddle but maintains her grip. Timing it, she lets go and SPRINTS INTO the small APARTMENT BUILDING.

INT. APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Sailor bursts into the two-bedroom apartment covered in drug paraphernalia from around the world. It's homely, but nowhere you'd want to spend an afternoon.

Upon entry, she activates an ELECTRONIC DOOR CHIME shaped like TWEETY BIRD.

TWEETY THE DOOR CHIME
I tawt I taw a puddy tat!

Sailor charges towards the pantry and opens every container she can find.

TWEETY THE DOOR CHIME (O.S.)
I did! I did taw a puddy tat!

INT. SHITTY SPORTS CAR - SAME TIME

Ace turns Jacques's head to the side. On cue, Jacques gags.

INT. APARTMENT - SAME TIME

Sailor searches Pringles, oatmeal, cookie tins, pulling from them powders, dime bags...

ACE (O.S.)
(shouting from street)
Hey!

SAILOR
I'm workin' on it!

Sailor finally opens a Planters can with a VIAL OF NARCAN.

ACE (O.S.)
NEED IT NOW!

Sailor uses a syringe to rip open a pillow off the couch, feathers puffing out. She SHOVES the Narcan vial and syringe INTO THE PILLOW and runs to the window.

EXT. APARTMENT - SAME TIME

Sailor arrives at the window, THROWING THE PILLOW,, as Ace hops out of the car. The pillow and feathers fall in SLOW-MOTION, Sailor looking down at Ace and Ace up at Sailor.

The pillow LANDS ON THE STREET with a *piff* at Ace's feet.

CUT TO BLACK.

ROLL OPENING CREDITS

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. SHITTY SPORTS CAR - A MINUTE LATER

Jacques gasps as his EYES FLUTTER BACK TO LIFE. He falls out of the car as Ace takes a big inhale of relief, dropping an emptied syringe and EMPTY NARCAN VIAL onto the road.

EXT. APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Dani rushes to Jacques and hugs him as Jacques hyperventilates, then gags.

ACE (V.O.)
(yelling)
Tell me how the fuck this isn't a
problem?!

INT. APARTMENT - SAILOR AND ACE'S ROOM - NIGHT

It's got posters of James Dean and Grace Kelly, the room lit with scattered power strips loaded with night-lights. A bare mattress lies in the center.

Sailor stands by a steel-framed FULL BODY MIRROR in the shape of a CRUCIFIX, through which we see Ace has finished yelling.

SAILOR
You're not listening...

ACE
(screaming through wall)
I'm not fucking going back in!

JACQUES (O.S.)
(through wall)
You're not going back in!

DANI (O.S.)
(through wall)
Would you stop encouraging him?!

INT. APARTMENT - DANI AND JACQUES'S ROOM - SAME TIME

French and Russian flags hang. Same lighting and mattress, but no mirrors. The "window" is a frame with the glass missing. Probably stolen. This leads out to the FIRE ESCAPE.

JACQUES
(imitating Ace)
Ugh! I'm going to go back to
prison! Prison was so bad! They put
things in my shit hole!

ACE (O.S.)
 (through wall)
 You better hope those Percs kill
 you, ya French fuck!

DANI
 You promised me you'd stop doing
 them.

INT. APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

The main room has cinderblocks resting against the front door instead of a lock. Nearby there's a kiddie pool with a wooden pallet resting on it -- on this "table" are off-brand FROSTED FLAKES and CHEERIOS.

JACQUES (O.S.)
 (through wall)
 So you're on his side?!

SAILOR (O.S.)
 (through wall)
 Why the fuck does there have to be
 a side?!

ACE (O.S.) (through wall)	DANI (O.S.) (through wall)
Cause I'm not going to prison over some Kermit cause he's too fuckin' weak to get over his Perc addiction! It is --	And you know he doesn't like it when you call him -- HEY! Don't act like it's so easy to get over a --

INT. APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

All are now in the main room, Sailor holding back Ace and Dani holding back Jacques.

DANI	JACQUES
Stop singing! Just--look, Ace, you gotta--sweetie, please just stop with that --	(singing) -- me the things I need: the rain and the... rain and the... rain and seeds! The Lord is good to me!

ACE	JACQUES
You cut that shit out!	Amen!

DANI
 (doing everything to not
 explode)
 Sweetie!

JACQUES

(to Ace)

Only when you admit prison made you like getting your chimney swept!

ACE

That's it: you're fucking done!
You're fucking *done*, Kermit!

JACQUES

Oooh, you're gonna *kill* me?!

ACE

That's not what I *fucking* said!

SAILOR

Don't joke about that!

ACE

(to Sailor)

What, you think I would *do* that?!

SAILOR

That's not what I *fucking* said!

DANI

(to Jacques)

Keep this shit up and you're sleeping on the fire escape, do you understand me?!

Jacques knocks Dani's arms off him and heads back to his and Dani's room.

JACQUES

Fine! No one yells there!

After a moment, Jacques returns to grab the CHEERIOS off the table, then slams the door to his and Dani's room.

Dani fumes at Ace and follows after Jacques.

INT. APARTMENT - SAILOR AND ACE'S ROOM - LATER

Ace sits on the mattress with his head in his hands. Sailor sits by the window.

ACE

I need you to promise me. That'd be enough.

SAILOR

I promise.

ACE
That's not enough.

Sailor smiles at Ace.

ACE
I can't have you... Like at any
moment, I...

Sailor strolls to the bed and throws an arm around Ace,
tussling his hair.

SAILOR
No one thinks you like getting your
chimney swept. No one does.

<p>ACE That's not what I'm talking about!</p>	<p>SAILOR I know. I know what you're -- It's called funny.</p>
---	--

ACE
I wouldn't. I never would. Not you,
not Dani... not Jacques. I
wouldn't...

SAILOR
I'm confused. Are we still on anal?

Sailor chuckles. After a moment, so does Ace.

SAILOR
Stop being so self-involved. No
one's thinking about it.

Sailor goes back to the window, sitting on its ledge.

ACE
Ugh, I'm just a kid and life is a
nightmare... Man, I just want two
fucking seconds where I can
breathe. That's my goal. That's
what I'm gonna do tomorrow.

SAILOR
Something'll come up.

ACE
No, it won't... Yes, it will.
Jacques'll find a big fucking pearl
and we'll die. I know it.

SAILOR
(seeing something outside)
Yeah...