

NEAL

Welcome to the Wednesday 3 o'clock meeting on St. Mark's. This is a qualification meeting. All who wish to speak are welcome to do so. If you would like to qualify, please sign up with me after the meeting. Unfortunately, our scheduled speaker couldn't make it.

Do we have a volunteer?

ANGEL

(Hesitates, raises her hand)

I'll do it. I'll speak.

(NEIL beckons her)

ANGEL moves to the speaker's chair. Spot on ANGEL. Meeting room transitions to a lively bar scene in a downtown club.

I grew up in Jersey
In the town of Bayonne
At 16 years old
I went out on my own

Took a train 'cross the river
Went to styling class
With my drugs and my drinking
Ended up on my ass

Started hanging downtown
In the hot SoHo clubs
It was there I met Janie
All the gay bears and cubs

I gave Janie the look
That shot her to fame
Those big raccoon eyes
I was making my name

We'd go drinking and smoking
Lines of coke to get high
Then one night it was over
And I watched my friend die

(She pauses and takes a moment to look around at the crowd.)

That's when I decided to get sober. Cause I knew I was next.

“SOHO HIGH”

JANIE A MODEL I KNEW HAD A LOFT DOWN ON GREENE STREET
SPENT ALL OUR NIGHTS DRINKING VODKA AT PRAVDA AND SPY
DAYS SHE'D BE MODELING CLOTHES, MAKING PLENTY OF MONEY
NIGHTS WE'D BE SMOKING OUR MARLBORO LIGHTS, GETTING HIGH

SOHO HIGH SOHO HIGH
SOHO HIGH SOHO HIGH

MEN ON A LEASH WOULD BE BEGGIN' A PIECE OF HER ACTION
SOMETIMES SHE'D BRING ONE BACK HOME FOR A PIECE OF THE PIE
SOMETIMES I'D GET WHAT SHE LEFT, I CONFESS NOT TOO OFTEN
THE FACE IN MY SPACE AT MY PLACE THE NEXT MORNING, SOME GUY

SOHO HIGH SOHO HIGH
SOHO HIGH SOHO HIGH

JANIE'S GONE NOW, AND I FINALLY STOPPED DRINKIN'
BUT I CAN'T HELP BUT THINKIN' OF THE WAY THINGS WENT DOWN
IN RECOVERY, MADE SOME PAINFUL DISCOVERIES
BUT I WISH SHE WERE HERE NOW, FOR A NIGHT ON THE TOWN

JOBS GOT MUCH TIGHTER, HER BANK ACCOUNT LIGHTER BUT STILL SHE
WOULD QUICK AS A WINK TAKE A DRINK IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE
HER BEAUTY WAS FADING, JUST DISINTEGRATING, THEN ONE DAY
SHE POPPED ALL THOSE PILLS AND SHE CHASED IT ALL BACK WITH SOME
RYE

SOHO HIGH SOHO HIGH
SOHO HIGH SOHO HIGH

JANIE'S GONE NOW, AND I FINALLY STOPPED DRINKIN'
BUT I CAN'T HELP BUT THINKIN' OF THE WAY THINGS WENT DOWN
IN RECOVERY, MADE SOME PAINFUL DISCOVERIES
BUT I WISH SHE WERE HERE NOW,
FOR A NIGHT ON THE TO-OW-OW-OW-OW-OWN

SOHO HIGH SOHO HIGH
SOHO HIGH SOHO HIGH
SO SO SO SO SO SO SO
SO INCREDIBLY HIGH!

All movement stops. Janie is laid out dead across a table in front of ANGEL. Back to meeting room. ANGEL frozen (as NEIL approaches).

(SUGAR, JACK, and CHORUS gather things, speak quietly. Spot on ANGEL and NEIL)

NEIL

That was very brave....

ANGEL

It was me.

NEIL

What was you?

ANGEL

The money. In the basket. It was me. I took it.

NEIL

What money? What basket?

ANGEL

I've been taking a couple of bucks each week.

NEIL

Why, for God's sake? Aren't you doing the steps? Who's your sponsor?

ANGEL

Don't have one. No job either.

NEIL

Listen, this is intolerable. You have a place to crash? Good. Here's twenty bucks. I'm your sponsor until you find one. Here's my card. Call me tomorrow. I may have an idea about a job. Come with us now, we'll get a bite to eat. People, we're going to the diner!

ALL EXIT.