

EXT. ROSE BOWL - AFTERNOON

TIM is arguing with someone at the Rose Bowl Flea Market, he has a stack of records in his hands. He slips a second record in a sleeve quite obviously.

EXT. 10 FREEWAY - AFTERNOON

VOO and VIRGINIA speed along on the moped. She is talking to someone on a metallic headset but we can't hear her over the freeway sounds.

CUT TO:

EXT./INT. 10 FREEWAY/INTERIOR PARK MERCED

Split Screen of the moped and KALITTA on the phone in her new apartment in San Francisco. When VIRGINIA is talking we hear exclusively her diagetic space, wind whooshing by, and when we hear Kalitta it is her diagetic space, The engine like hum of the microwave and the sound of a cartoon in the background being the only accompaniment.

KALITTA

I'm so happy this worked out! You'll need the sublet for three months?

She puts a Kettle of tea on the burner. The shot changes to one of DULLES, KALITTA'S young son, who is dying with laughter and enthusiasm at his favorite show "The Sister Complex". The shot on the tv (within the animation) is of a bird soaring in the air, a young child rider is holding on to a braided lariat. The wind is pulling him up so he is essentially flying horizontal to the bird. VIRGINIA on the left side of the screen is pumping her first, covering her eyes, thrilled by the ride.

VIRGINIA

(laughing)

3 months, perfect.....

As Kallita is talking in the background we cut to Dulles who is holding on the metal legs of an airplane seat looking chair, and he is going "whoosh" as if it is he on the massive magical bird. We cut back to Kalitta in the kitchen as the Tea Kettle boils to take off.

KALITTA

You'll have to leave a deposit of course.

DULLES jumps up as the show comes to its regular conclusion and it's trademark line which Dulles recites dutifully.

DULLES  
Time to fight for flight!

VIRGINIA  
Who is that munchkin?

KALITTA  
Dulles, say hello to Virginia.

DULLES  
HELLO VIRGINIA! HELLO VIRGINIA! HELLO  
VIRGINIA!

VIRGINIA  
(overlapping)  
HELLO DULLES! HELLO DULLES! HELLO DULLES!

KALITTA shoos away DULLES who is pulling at her skirt, she gives him a sheepish smile, trying to be cross.

KALITTA  
The apartment is quite modern.

KALITTA walks into the bathroom and narrates her actions to VIRGINIA on the phone. Her actions are presentational and precise.

KALITTA (CONT'D)  
The faucets are easy on, easy off.

She pokes at a plastic liquid soap dispenser.

KALITTA (CONT'D)  
Soap is on the wall.

KALITTA  
Oh and the toilet operates via a push  
tab, some people miss that.

INT. DARK BASEMENT - SIMULTANEOUS

TIM is eating an unappetizing rice bowl in a dank basement space, he has a newspaper unfolded and there are spaces missing where he has cut out articles.

EXT. PARK LA BREA - LATE AFTERNOON

We see Virginia from a window as she talks on her headset. In her hand she has her bag and her King Charles Spaniel NIPPON inside a kennel carrier covered in customs stickers.

INT. PARK LA BREA - LATE AFTERNOON

Virginia enters the lobby and is drawn towards a security person wearing grey pants and a tight coat. She signals VIRGINIA who is still talking to KALITTA on her cell phone.

VIRGINIA

....sounds like literally every convenience....itts a pity my shoot schedule won't afford more time to relax. Oh, hold on....

SECURITY OFFICER

(annoyed)

What floor are you going to?

VIRGINIA

(Directed at Kalitta)

What floor am I going to?

SECURITY OFFICER

I don't know what floor, you tell me!

VIRGINIA

(laughing)

9th floor, sorry about that.

SECURITY OFFICER

(Flat, procedural voice)

...to your left.

A view from the elevator out into the city.

VIRGINIA

Yeah, well I had a terrible time with my seatbelt, I couldn't find it and then I discovered it was under my new friend William! The movie, it was with those twins who I can't---yeah---just awful, have you seen it... you liked it?

INT. KALITTA'S APARTMENT - MIDDAY

KALITTA has left the door open slightly, Virginia knocks and enters.

KALITTA

Hi! It's nice to finally attach a face to a voice, and this must be Nippon. You must be wiped out. Do you want some coffee. I'm sorry that the place is such a mess.

VIRGINIA

No thanks for the coffee, but I would have some tea if you've got any.

KALITTA

Sure

Kalitta puts a kettle of tea on a burner.

KALITTA (CONT'D)

Let me show you around the apartment.  
(leans in) If i were selling it I would say cozy.

VIRGINIA

Oh, but it is.

KALITTA

let's be honest, it's cramped. But everything works fine and there's plenty of room in the park outside where he can stretch his legs.

She brings her face down to the dog carrier when she says this. We see a reverse from NIPPON's perspective. They stand at the doorway to the living room and KALLITA emphatically tries to get DULLES' attention by snapping. He has a gummy snack in his hand and a half eaten sandiwch in front of him on a red plastic tray but he is still immersed in the Sister Complex anime and she gives up. KALITTA looks at the apartment from a stranger's eyes.

KALITTA

I've always liked things Spartan. There's a furniture store down the street if you want to get anything. I can reimburse you when I come back.

When Kalitta opens a closet door an inflatable air mattress pops out of the door like a raft from a plane. Virginia falls onto it and they continue to talk.

VIRGINIA

Well it would be nice to have a reading chair she says as she props herself up by her elbows on the futon.

Dulles cracks up at something in the sister complex show.

KALITTA

Yeah, I've been meaning to get a good reading chair, we had a great one, but my ex-hus...

Suddenly a hissing turns into a high-pitched noise that drowns out the sound of the television and their voices. The tea is ready. A cut to the Allessia tea kettle shooting out steam with the angular bird on top and KALITTA'S fingers taking the bird off the kettle.

EXT. FURNITURE STORY - EARLY EVENING

Kalitta, Dulles, and Virginia walk around the block to a modern furniture store. The walk is cut with a generic scene of the same street in San Francisco that borders the Park Merced apartments.

KALITTA

The neighborhood's pretty nice. Parking is a problem.

VIRGINIA

I don't have to worry about that because of the service car...I would say the biggest problem is the smell. What is that?

DULLES

It's the tar from the pits.

VIRGINIA

(tentative)

The La Brea Tar Pits?

DULLES

(Holding his nose)

In Spanish La Brea means "Tar"

VIRGINIA  
 (Impressed)  
 Do you know Spanish?

Dulles nods his head

KALITTA  
 This is Los Angeles, you must learn a bit  
 of Spanish Virginia. There, "brea" mean's  
 tar. You've started. Shall We.

She motions VIRGINIA and DULLES into a modern glass front  
 building.

INT. FURNITURE STORE - EVENING

VIRGINIA and KALITTA sit on chairs that recline slightly.  
 DULLES romps around in a portion of the store devoted to  
 children. The boy finds a plastic sister complex doll on  
 a shelf. He picks up a large metal spoon from a shelf  
 (resembling a plane wing, with a glint on it) from  
 another part of the store and takes it over to this  
 scene. The camera view is partially blocked by the  
 spoon...going in and out of focus from the scene below and  
 the spoon above. But upon finding "the sister complex"  
 object in the midst of the toy city, he wanders behind  
 Virginia's chair and begins tickling her calves with the  
 object. Virginia laughs inappropriately while Kalitta  
 finishes her story about the subway near the tarpits  
 exploding.

KALITTA  
 (gesticulating)  
 It would have been totally convenient for  
 me then, because I was living in  
 Koreatown and working in West LA

VIRGINIA  
 So what happened?

KALITTA  
 Then there was a giant methane explosion  
 and Henry Waxman shut it down

Dulles has crept up behind Virginia's chair and begins to  
 tickle her ankles. Virginia starts laughing, Dulles  
 begins to giggle too, first Kalitta thinks Virginia is  
 really bizarre, and then realizes what is going on.

KALITTA (CONT'D)  
 Cut it out Dulles, Cut it out

DULLES  
 (Holding the Sister Complex  
 Object)  
 Can I have this

KALITTA  
 (Mouthing to Virginia)  
 They are so expensive  
 (directed to Dulles)  
 It's not for sale honey, it's just for...

Virginia sees a clock on the wall.

VIRGINIA  
 Oh shoot, i have to meet someone. Rain  
 check.

INT. SERVICE CAR - EARLY EVENING

VIRGINIA thumbs through a sky mall type of catalogue. An older male driver is talking at Virginia even though she is distracted.

DRIVER  
 And so I told her "you are clearly not  
 from the United States" and we just left  
 it at that.

VIRGINIA  
 Do you know anything about this.....

She puts the catalogue against the glass as the car jerks to a stop so we see the Sister Complex doll framed nicely next to the driver's turned head.

DRIVER  
 (smiling)  
 Nope. Was that back there? I got all  
 sorts of junk and hoo-ha back there. Well  
 you're here.....

INT. ELEVATOR - EARLY EVENING

Short shot out from a glass elevator of the ground falling away.