

INT - A HOTEL LOBBY - MORNING

At the check-in desk stands a Hotel EMPLOYEE. MISTER CONNORS enters, carrying his suitcase.

MISTER CONNORS
I'm checking out, now.

EMPLOYEE
Which room number, sir?

MISTER CONNORS
(hands
EMPLOYEE the
keys)
312.

The EMPLOYEE types on his computer and waits for the information to come up on his screen.

EMPLOYEE
Ah yes. Did you enjoy your
stay, Mr. Connors?

MISTER CONNORS
Yes, it was very
satisfactory.

EMPLOYEE
You're leaving at the perfect
time, sir. It's supposed to
rain to-night.

MISTER CONNORS
Lucky me.

EMPLOYEE
Now, the total comes to
1043.78. We have your credit
card on file here, sir.
Would you like us to charge
it to that, or should we use
another form of payment?

MISTER CONNORS
I'm sorry, what did you say
the total was?

EMPLOYEE
1043.78.

MISTER CONNORS
Room 312?

EMPLOYEE
Room 312, sir, yes.

MISTER CONNORS
IS that right? It's more
than I was expecting.

EMPLOYEE
Well there is tax added
after-the-fact, sir.

MISTER CONNORS
Yes, but still.

EMPLOYEE
Well, let's look at the bill,
then, shall we?
 (studies the
 computer
 screen)
Now we see here the room was
50 per night, and you stayed
for seven nights...

MISTER CONNORS
That's 350.

EMPLOYEE
Just a moment sir. Please
don't rush me. Yes, that's
350. Now we also have a few
dinners charged to your room.

MISTER CONNORS
Oh yes, there should be about
four.

EMPLOYEE
I count five, here, sir.

MISTER CONNORS
Okay, five.

EMPLOYEE
So that adds another 210.32
to the bill.

MISTER CONNORS
Right...

EMPLOYEE
And your room was cleaned.

MISTER CONNORS
I'm sorry?

EMPLOYEE
Your room was cleaned, before
you arrived.

MISTER CONNORS
Yes...

EMPLOYEE
So that's another 37.50.

MISTER CONNORS
Sorry, why is that another
37.50? Isn't that included
in the 50 per night?

EMPLOYEE
Oh no, sir. This is a
special in-between guests
cleaning. We use a private
company for that, and it
takes them several hours.
37.50 is really a deal, sir,
considering what they do.

MISTER CONNORS
Okay, but all that still
doesn't add up to one
thousand.

EMPLOYEE
We also have to add gratuity
to the bill, for the
bellhops, waiters, cooks,
cleaning staff...

MISTER CONNORS
I thought you said that the
cleaning staff was a private
company.

EMPLOYEE

The in-between guests
cleaning staff, yes sir, but
the every day, make-the-bed,
take-out-the-garbage, mint-
on-the-pillow cleaning staff,
that's all in-house.

MISTER CONNORS

I see.

EMPLOYEE

And it says here you used the
toilet?

MISTER CONNORS

In my room, yeah.

EMPLOYEE

Well, for water conservation
purposes, of course, it is
our duty to charge 2.50 per
flush.

MISTER CONNORS

What?!

EMPLOYEE

And it looks like quite often
you were using two-in-a-
row...

MISTER CONNORS

Yes, yes, but really, this
can't all add up to-

EMPLOYEE

You made a telephone call?

MISTER CONNORS

Did I?

EMPLOYEE

An overseas telephone call to
a Mrs. Connors.

MISTER CONNORS

Oh right.

EMPLOYEE

Well I'm afraid we had to charge you for that, as well.

MISTER CONNORS

Well all right, but- Wait a minute, I didn't even make that call from the hotel, I used a call shop on the other side of town.

EMPLOYEE

You think you're upset, imagine the look on Mrs. Connors' face when she gets our bill.

MISTER CONNORS

This still doesn't add up to 1000.

EMPLOYEE

It's all in here, sir. You used our taxi service-

MISTER CONNORS

Standing outside and hailing a cab?

EMPLOYEE

That's the one. You watched our cable, you turned on the lights several times...

MISTER CONNORS

That is true.

EMPLOYEE

You used 7 packages of shampoo, two bars of soap, you had sexual fantasies about your waitress...

MISTER CONNORS

I thought that was included in the service.

EMPLOYEE

Just what are you implying, sir?

MISTER CONNORS
Oh, uh...nothing. Nothing.

EMPLOYEE
You take all that, plus
charges for using our
gravity, add taxes where
applicable... 1043.78.

MISTER CONNORS
Huh.

EMPLOYEE
So should we use the credit
card on file?

MISTER CONNORS
Yeah, I guess so.

The EMPLOYEE rings the purchase through. MISTER CONNORS
signs it.

EMPLOYEE
And here's your receipt, sir.

MISTER CONNORS takes the receipt and the EMPLOYEE's hand is
still out, palm up.

MISTER CONNORS
Thank you.

EMPLOYEE
Ahem!

MISTER CONNORS
Oh!

MISTER CONNORS puts a couple of bills into the EMPLOYEE's
hand.

EMPLOYEE
Ten percent is standard, sir.

MISTER CONNORS puts another bill in the EMPLOYEE's hand.

EMPLOYEE
Thank you very much, sir.
Please think of us for future
stays.

MISTER CONNORS takes his suitcase and leaves.

EMPLOYEE
Heh. Tourists.

END