

The Pickup Artist  
by  
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EXT. STREET - DAY

CHARLIE (20) with spiky hair is strolling through a commercial street with his long-haired, slightly slouching friend, DAN (18). Dozens of PEDESTRIANS of all ages walk past and alongside them on the pavement. Many cars are on the road. It's a sunny day.

CHARLIE  
Mate, if you really want to pick up a girl, you need confidence.

DAN  
I know, man, I know. It's just not easy for me.

CHARLIE puts his arm around DAN'S shoulder.

CHARLIE  
It's SO easy. I approached a policewoman as cool as a cucumber, and we ended up getting very physical. If you know what I mean, haha.

DAN walks with a straighter back.

DAN  
How physical?

CHARLIE winks.

CHARLIE  
VERY physical.

DAN  
What did you say to her?

CHARLIE  
I called her a pig.

DAN coughs.

DAN  
What??

CHARLIE  
You don't believe me. I get that. But approach a woman on this street, and do the same...

DAN rambles away from his FRIEND and starts a conversation with an approaching WOMAN (20). CHARLIE observes, casually.

DAN  
Hey... So, I think you're a pig.

The WOMAN slaps DAN.

DAN

Ow!

CHARLIE claps with respect as DAN walks back to him, head to the floor.

CHARLIE

Yes!

DAN looks up and clenches his fists.

DAN

Why are you clapping??

CHARLIE

You just got physical!

DAN

Do you know what getting physical means??

CHARLIE

Sure! Getting arrested or nearly arrested! Handcuffs and that, for example.

DAN stamps his foot.

DAN

Why the hell would I want to get arrested??

CHARLIE stares through DAN and also clenches his fists.

CHARLIE

What DO you want then?

DAN

I told you! To pick up girls! That's what we agreed with!

CHARLIE looks up in amusement.

CHARLIE

Ohhhhh, pick up girls without being arrested, you mean?

DAN

Right.

CHARLIE

Well, as I said, all you need is confidence. And maybe a bribe.

DAN sighs.

DAN  
A bribe?

CHARLIE  
So you don't get arrested.

DAN  
Charlie, I don't think you understand me at all. Have you ever actually had a girlfriend?

CHARLIE looks down.

CHARLIE  
No.

DAN  
And you're really here with me today, for what reason...?

CHARLIE  
To be abusive to the police.

DAN  
To be abusive to the police. That's not cool. Would you like a girlfriend?

CHARLIE looks to his FRIEND, again.

CHARLIE  
I guess...

DAN  
Would you maybe like some tips from me?

CHARLIE  
Go on then...

DAN steeples his hands.

DAN  
Give a girl a compliment. That's a good start...

CHARLIE  
I did. Pigs are very intelligent, you know?

DAN  
Not as intelligent as humans, though.

CHARLIE  
What about apes?

DAN puts his hand on his forehead.

DAN  
Why is this so hard for you?? Can't  
you think of anything nice to say?

CHARLIE widens his eyes.

CHARLIE  
I've got it!

DAN  
What?

CHARLIE  
Tramp!

DAN  
No!

CHARLIE  
Say someone is nice, for God's sake!  
Call someone nice!

DAN  
Like a dog you mean? Dogs are  
adorable.

CHARLIE  
You're a pig, an ape and a dog. How  
does that make you feel?

DAN  
So, errr... You doing anything later?

CHARLIE stares at DAN hard.

CHARLIE  
Get away from me!