

Flying
by
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INT. JUMBO JET - DAY

Windows on the sides of the plane show that it is grounded. Two rows of window, middle and aisle seats extend for some distance. All chairs are occupied. In-between the rows is an aisle with a smartly dressed, tray-carrying STEWARDESS (25) walking up and down it. She offers people drinks. A FRIGHTENED MAN (20) in jeans and wearing a NOFX t-shirt is hyperventilating on an aisle seat. A NICE MAN (50) in a Rancid t-shirt approaches him.

NICE MAN

Hi there, man. A punk rocker, huh? Me too. Anarchy, right? Haha. Are you Ok?

FRIGHTENED MAN

No, not at all. This is my first time flying...

NICE MAN

There really is nothing to worry about, but I get you. What I do to fight the nerves is close my eyes and imagine myself on a beach. Try it...

The FRIGHTENED MAN shuts his eyes, tight.

FRIGHTENED MAN

I'm on a beach, I'm on a beach...

NICE MAN

There we go. Now imagine sharks coming at you...

FRIGHTENED MAN

Why?

NICE MAN

Trust me...

The FRIGHTENED MAN screams.

NICE MAN

Now imagine the animals dying after you punch them.

The FRIGHTENED MAN raises his hand in triumph. The NICE MAN jumps for joy.

NICE MAN

You've just stopped them, like an action hero. You can do anything... But wait... The now zombified sharks have grown arms, are carrying needles and jab you with morphine...

The FRIGHTENED man opens his eyes, looking puzzled. The NICE MAN looks up in the air, with a spaced out expression.

FRIGHTENED MAN

Is this typical advice you're giving me? I don't think it's appropriate.

NICE MAN

I'm just trying to make you feel at peace. That's what I do when I'm flying and it works for me.

FRIGHTENED MAN

I really don't feel at peace, though.

NICE MAN

I haven't finished. Now one of the undead sharks has swallowed you whole.

The NICE MAN opens his mouth wide, picks a peanut from his pocket and eats it.

FRIGHTENED MAN

And that calms you down?

NICE MAN

Where would you rather be? Inside a shark or flying?

FRIGHTENED MAN

I want to get off this plane, you think you're making sense but you're not. You've said a load of random gibberish. You're nuts.

NICE MAN

Look trust me, you're 100% safe. I've been flying this plane for over ten years now...

The NICE MAN holds his arms out by his sides to mimic a plane.

FRIGHTENED MAN

You're the PILOT??

NICE MAN

One of the best in the business. Never crashed once, even with my eyes closed...

FRIGHTENED MAN

You fly with your eyes closed???

The 'NICE MAN' laughs, heartily.

'NICE MAN'

Only every now and then! Can you imagine if I flew like that all the time?

FRIGHTENED MAN

Yes, and that's what scares me.

'NICE MAN'

Anyway, got to go, take care.

The once seemingly NICE MAN strolls to the cockpit and enters it. The STEWARDESS approaches the FRIGHTENED MAN.

STEWARDESS

Everything ok, young man? You look very edgy.

The FRIGHTENED MAN grabs an air sickness bag from the back of a chair in front of him and throws up in it.

FRIGHTENED MAN

No I'm not ok! This plane is going to crash, I know it! I'm getting off!

The STEWARDESS closes her eyes for a moment, sighs, then pulls herself together.

STEWARDESS

You know what I do whenever I'm flying with that pilot?

The MAN shakes.

FRIGHTENED MAN

What?

STEWARDESS

The first time I did so, I screamed. I screamed so loud everyone got scared and left the plane. Then I got threatened with the sack if I did it again. So now I hold everything in.

FRIGHTENED MAN

Why don't you just get another job?

STEWARDESS

I can't; criminal record.

FRIGHTENED MAN

What did you do?

The STEWARDESS looks to the floor.

STEWARDESS
(mumbling)
Hijacking...

FRIGHTENED MAN
What???

STEWARDESS
Relax, relax! It was just a car!

FRIGHTENED MAN
I'm getting off.

The FRIGHTENED MAN stands up and shouts to everyone on the transportation.

FRIGHTENED MAN
Hey everyone! This plane is being
flown by a madman! Everyone needs to
get off!!

There is no reaction.

FRIGHTENED MAN
Has the world gone insane?? We're all
going to crash!!

The STEWARDESS backs away and tries to keep her composure.

STEWARDESS
The people on this plane are flying to
Disneyland. No one cares.

FRIGHTENED MAN
What? I'm looking forward to going
there! I'm meeting my family there,
we're going to have a great time...

STEWARDESS
It's not all it's cracked up to be.
Anyway, there are other passengers I
need to attend to. Good day.