

THE MASTER ACTOR

SEPTEMBER

WEEK 3

Louis looks around and spots something interesting.
TWO small photographs in a clear, plastic frame. Melanie, circa 1976, at about sixteen wearing roller-disco skates.

And Melanie, in a green setting, about five years ago, wearing a pretty Oriental-style dress, with a "smile for the camera" look on her face. The photo was obviously a picture of Melanie with somebody else that's been cut in half. Somebody's disembodied arm still rests on her shoulder.

Louis picks up the photo frame.

LOUIS

How old were you here?

She looks and sees what he's talking about.

MELANIE

Which one?

LOUIS

The roller disco one.

MELANIE

Fourteen.

LOUIS

You're fourteen years old here?

MELANIE

Yeah.

LOUIS

I thought you were sixteen.

MELANIE

I was pretty much the same height now as I was then.

LOUIS

Were you a disco girl?

MELANIE

Noooo, I was a surfer girl. Besides, I was only fourteen. I couldn't go to discos.

LOUIS

So where did you go?

MELANIE

The beach. Or get high, drop acid at a friend's place. I was a K.L.O.S. girl. I hated disco. That was taken at a place called "Flippers." It was in Hollywood. Were you in L.A. back then?

LOUIS

No.

MELANIE

Where were you?

LOUIS

Detroit.

MELANIE

With Ordell?

LOUIS

We had done time together already.

MELANIE

Were you a disco guy?

LOUIS

No.

MELANIE

C'mon, don't lie.

LOUIS

I don't like dancing.

MELANIE

Did you ever go to one?

LOUIS

I went to a few just to meet women. But I don't like to dance, and it's so fuckin' loud. During that whole scene, I just drank in bars.

He points to the cut picture.

LOUIS

Who didn't make the cut?

MELANIE

That's a picture of me in Japan.

LOUIS

You been to Japan?

MELANIE

I lived there for about nine months.

LOUIS

You lived in Japan, when?

MELANIE

About five years ago.

LOUIS

Who's arm is that?

MELANIE

That's the guy I lived with .. his name was ..Hir.. Hirosh.

LOUIS

Must of made quite an impression.

MELANIE

I never got to know him, really. I couldn't speak Japanese, and his English was terrible. But I couldn't say anything, because his English was better than my Japanese.

LOUIS

That sounds like a problem.

MELANIE

Not really. We didn't have much to say to each other anyway. I never got to know him that well, but I knew enough to know I wasn't

missing much. I keep that, because of all the fuckin' time I was there, that's the only picture I got of me in Japan.

Melanie looks up at Louis.

MELANIE
Wanna fuck?

LOUIS
Sure.