

"VALUE"

BY

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FADE IN:

- 1 EXT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY 1
- A leopard-skin wallet is stuffed with cash.
- A RICH WOMAN pulls out a 10, but a one dollar bill slips out.
- The wind carries the bill a few feet before it lands.
- The woman glances at the bill lazily and continues inside.
- The bill clings to the sidewalk for a moment-
- then blows away.
- TITLE
- 2 EXT. ALLEY - DAY 2
- The bill floats down into an alley.
- A POOR WOMAN, huddled against the wall, raises her head.
- Her face lights up.
- She jumps up and grabs the dollar out of the air.
- She smiles at her prize, and hurries away.
- 3 EXT. VENDING MACHINE - DAY 3
- The Poor Woman sees the vending machine and smiles.
- She runs towards it, but as she does-
- The dollar falls from a hole in her pocket.
- She gets to the machine and eyes a pack of meat and cheese.
- She reaches into her pocket- and finds the hole.
- She turns around- only to see the bill starting to blow away.
- She scrambles after it.
- 4 EXT. STREET - DAY 4
- A middle-class BUSINESSMAN walks down the street with his briefcase. The dollar floats by. He turns his head to look.
- He doesn't see the poor woman chasing it.

CRASH. The Businessman and the Poor Woman collide.

The Businessman's briefcase flies open. Papers go everywhere.

The Businessman hastily starts collecting the papers.

The Poor Woman helps. The Businessman doesn't notice.

The Businessman finishes collecting half of his papers. He is surprised when the Poor Woman hands him a stack of the rest. Her fingers leave a smudge of dirt on the papers.

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Disgusted, but attempting to be polite, he pulls the papers away from her and puts them back in his briefcase.

*

The Poor Woman is about to turn away-

Until she sees the dollar on the ground near the Businessman.

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She runs to grab it, but the Businessman sees the dollar first.

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Unaware of the poor woman, the Businessman pockets the dollar.

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The Poor Woman tries to get the Businessman's attention.

The Businessman waves her off.

The Poor Woman tries again.

The Businessman waves her off again, more aggressively.

The Poor Woman gets on her knees and pleads with the Businessman, holding onto his jacket.

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The Businessman grimaces at her soiled hands and throws the dollar onto the ground.

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The Poor Woman smiles at the Businessman, but he walks away uncomfortably.

*

She turns around only to see the dollar fluttering in the wind again. She grabs at it, but it blows farther away. She chases it, exasperated.

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5 EXT. STREET - DAY

5

The bill blows through the air until it lands on the sidewalk next to a piece of gum.

A COLLEGE STUDENT's tennis shoes step on the gum.

Then on the bill. It sticks to his shoe.

The Poor Woman runs up the sidewalk, and stops, panting.

She looks around, but she can't see the bill anywhere.

She catches sight of it on the College Student's shoe-

But only as he steps into a car.

The Poor Woman runs to flag down the car, but the driver ignores her and passes by. She tries to signal through the driver's rear-view mirror, but the car just drives away.

Her shoulders sink in defeat.

Her pace slows.

6 INT. CAR - DAY

6

The College Student notices the dollar stuck to his foot.

He smiles and tries to take the bill, but notices the gum.

He cringes, tears the gummy dollar off his shoe, and throws it out the window.

7 EXT. STREET - DAY

7

The Poor Woman walks along the sidewalk, her head down.

To her surprise, she nearly steps on the DOLLAR, gum and all.

She can't believe it! She grabs the dollar and laughs.

8 EXT. VENDING MACHINE - DAY

8

The Poor Woman carefully peels the gum off the dollar.

She spits into her sleeve and wipes the dollar down.

She flattens it out.

Gingerly, she inserts it into the vending machine.

She presses the number for the pack of meat and cheese.

She waits, grinning.

And waits.

Her smile fades.

She hits the vending machine.

Nothing.

She hits it again. Again.

She tries to shake it.

The vending machine doesn't respond.

Out of energy, she leans on the vending machine.

She glances at the food pack one last time- it's so close-
-and trudges away.

The vending machine is silent.

The Rich Woman strolls up to the vending machine.

She inserts \$5 for a bag of candy.

She glances at the Poor Woman, who is again huddled up
against the wall about 30 feet away, hiding her face.

The Rich Woman pockets the change.

The vending machine clunks.

The Rich Woman grabs her bag of candy out of the slot-
-along with the Poor Woman's pack of meat and cheese.

She looks at it, confused.

She thinks for a moment.

She smiles, tears open the lid, and pops the contents into
her mouth as she walks away.

FADE OUT.

END