Andy

by Dirk Walvoord

sales pitch/ focus group scenes

INT. HOTEL CONFERENCE ROOM - NIGHT

A small conference room in an upscale hotel. Pamela mingles with five CEO's: MARY, mid-30's, MICHELLE, impeccably dressed mid-40's, LINDA, breezy, gregarious 20's, ANNE, charismatic early-50's, and MICHAEL, athletic, 40.

They nosh from a table of catered HORS D'OEUVRES. Pamela sets aside two empty WINE bottles, checks the level on the remaining FOUR BOTTLES - arranges them more neatly.

PAMELA

Why don't we get started? If you're still hungry or thirsty, don't hold back - we don't need to be too formal here.

They make their way to the circle of chairs, some refilling glasses and plates.

PAMELA (CONT'D) Robotics International offers a line of personal assistant androids. Some of you may...

MICHELLE Is one of your products called Adrienne?

PAMELA Yes it is, why?

MICHELLE Our VP of sales bought one a few weeks ago - leased it maybe?

MARY Not Dan Kinmonth?

MICHELLE

Mm-hmm.

MARY

So Dan divorces his wife and then instead of dredging up a new one in the gold-digger market, he...

LINDA What do you mean, wife? He doesn't, you know...?

MICHELLE Takes her home every night. LINDA But he can't, like actually,...?

PAMELA The Adrienne line is fully functional.

LINDA

Ewww.

PAMELA Which brings us to today.

MICHAEL The role of the android hooker in American corporate structure?

PAMELA The role of the android assistant in the increasingly female American corporate structure.

ANNE So we're talking about buying a trophy husband?

MICHAEL I think that's called a gigolo.

A pregnant pause from Pamela.

MARY I think I need a refill.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Andy presents his first lecture before a roomful of STUDENTS. Marie-Claire observes.

ANDY Throughout the semester ...

(roughly half a page)

INT. HOTEL CONFERENCE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Anne heads for the door. Pamela follows.

PAMELA

I hope I can persuade you to stay. We can get a world of male focus groups to dissect this topic and make all sorts of misogynistic jokes.

ANNE

We call those board meetings.

PAMELA

That, too. I work for a company that markets the Adrienne line. If you think they're sensitive to women's interests,...

ANNE

I don't.

PAMELA

Exactly. R. I. is developing the "Andy" line for a specific target demographic, namely you. Without your input, they haven't a clue what the target demographic wants.

MARY

What do we want in a sexbot?

PAMELA

What do you want in a fully functional android personal assistant?

MICHELLE

A sexbot.

PAMELA

If all you want is orgasms, you can buy a fancy vibrator for a hundred fifty bucks. That, they understand.

Anne tops off her wine glass and sits back down.

ANNE

What, specifically do you need to know?

PAMELA

If you were to have Andy at your service, what would you want him to be like?

MICHELLE Certainly no male ego.

MICHAEL No male insecurities.

MARY No penis fixation.

LINDA Someone really organized.

That earns a "look."

PAMELA All right, organized. What other skills, what positive attributes?

MICHELLE Able to carry on a conversation?

ANNE Affirming instead of judgemental.

MICHAEL Stays sober?

MARY Knows anything about opera or ballet or theatre.

LINDA

Someone who can straighten out my files.

Another "look."

LINDA (CONT'D) Well, he's an "assistant," right?

INT. COLLEGE STUDENT LOUNGE - NIGHT

Andy waits while a last pair of STUDENTS filter into the discussion group circle (roughly a quarter page)

INT. HOTEL CONFERENCE ROOM - NIGHT

The focus group continues.

PAMELA How would you use him? What things must Andy be able to do?

MICHAEL He's like personally ours?

PAMELA

Yes.

MICHELLE I've got a niece with a wedding in two weeks and my sister wants me to arrive with a date.

PAMELA Andy dances.

LINDA He dances?

MARY I'll take one.

Laughter.

MARY (CONT'D) You won't?

MICHELLE And when I get the "wedding crasher" home?

PAMELA

If you want his amorous attentions, he's all attention.

MICHELLE And if I've "got a headache?"

PAMELA

No hurt feelings, no guilt trips. He plugs himself in and charges up for tomorrow.

MARY When he will organize all your files.

LINDA

Ouch.

MARY

I'm sorry dear.

MICHELLE And if I do want his "attentions?"

PAMELA

Well, he doesn't need to go to the hospital for an erection that lasts more than four hours.

MICHAEL

Oh stop!

PAMELA Only when you tell him to.

Well, now they're laughing hysterically.

MARY What's wrong with this picture?

MICHELLE Nothing that I can see.

LINDA How big is it?

That stuns the rest of the crowd.

MICHELLE What, his ram cache?

Laughter.

ANNE This is hypothetical, right?

MICHELLE You're saying R. I. is working on an android that can pass himself off as real - in the ballroom and the bedroom?

PAMELA We're projecting a first quarter roll-out.

INT. COLLEGE STUDENT LOUNGE - CONTINUOUS

The discussion moderated by Andy continues. (this one is more than a full page)

INT. NEW ORLEANS HOTEL - DAY

Pamela interacts with female movers and shakers (CEO, COO, SOUTHERN WOMAN) - all with significant southern accents.

NEW ORLEANS CEO ...and he's all these things and on top of that he doesn't sweat?

PAMELA

No sweat.

NEW ORLEANS CEO Doesn't belch?

Laughter accompanies the litany.

PAMELA

No.

NEW ORLEANS CEO Doesn't snore?

PAMELA

Nope.

A NEW ORLEANS COO chimes in. More laughter.

NEW ORLEANS COO Doesn't fart?

PAMELA Never. Breath is sweet, feet don't smell, no scratchy beard...

NEW ORLEANS CEO

Warm hands?

PAMELA Oh yes. Nice warm hands.

NEW ORLEANS COO Hell, I got to get me one of those!

A SOUTHERN WOMAN speaks up.

SOUTHERN WOMAN Can you get two?

... off their laughter.

SOUTHERN WOMAN (CONT'D) In case I wear the first one out.

INT. CYRUS' ON-CAMPUS OFFICE - NIGHT

A collegial conversation, as though Cyrus, Charlie, Marie-Claire and Andy have been close friends forever.

> CYRUS We cannot ignore the fact that some of the female students have a crush on him.

MARIE-CLAIRE I'd say more than just some.

ANDY It is you they are attracted to, Cyrus - I'm just the packaging.

Marie-Claire looks at Andy like a light has been turned on.

CHARLIE Oh, they're attracted to the package, Andy.

ANDY If they are attracted to me as a sexbot, then why is it inappropriate for me to...?

CYRUS You're their professor, Andy.

ANDY

Is that prohibition not based on the influence sexual relations might have on the professor's ability to evaluate the student's academic merits dispassionately?

CHARLIE

(amused) Uh-oh, here it comes.

CYRUS That's an important part of it, yes. ANDY

And would I not be exempt from that because I could grade them and screw them with the same lack of emotional involvement?

Charlie nearly chokes stifling his laughter - neither is the humor lost on Marie-Claire.

CYRUS Now you see what I'm talking about?

INT. PARIS HOTEL - DAY

A FRENCH TRANSLATOR assists Pamela with the Paris focus group, including MME 1 and MME 2.

MME 1 Il prend une jeune femme pour se faire croire toujours jeune.

FRENCH TRANSLATOR He takes the young woman, a young wife to make himself look young.

PAMELA And a French woman would not do that, or would she?

FRENCH TRANSLATOR Et une Française ferait une chose pareille ou pas?

MME 1 Mais non, ça ne l'intéresserait pas.

The other women in the room counter lightheartedly.

MME 2 Mais si, elle voudrait. Les femmes aussi voudraient avoir l'air jeune.

INT. DE GUICHE'S OFFICE - NIGHT

An Adrienne sits in the chair, waiting . . . (this scene is almost two pages and hikes the tension)

INT. SCANDINAVIAN HOTEL - DAY

A DANISH TRANSLATOR assists Pamela with the Oslo focus group.

PAMELA Andy would always be "ready," but you would be in control.

DANISH TRANSLATOR Andy ville altid være "klar", men du ville være i kontrol.

DANISH CEO Og han ville være OK med det? Han er ikke frustreret, ikke vred?

DANISH TRANSLATOR And he would be OK with that? He is not frustrated, not angry?

PAMELA Andy has no male ego issues, no male insecurities, he makes no demands, he has no agenda.

DANISH TRANSLATOR Nej Andy har ingen mandlige ego spørgsmål, ingen mandlige usikkerhed, han gør ingen krav, han har ingen dagsorden.

The women respond positively to that information. A DANISH CFO asks in accented but accurate English...

DANISH CFO So he is not really a man?

PAMELA If we get it right, and that's what we're trying to do here today,...

DANISH TRANSLATOR Hvis vi gør det rigtigt, og det er det, vi forsøger at gøre her i dag,...

PAMELA ...then Andy will be all the things

a woman wants in a man and none of the things we have to put up with.