

**HOUSE HUNTERS: NEW YORK CITY**

OPEN ON: VIDEO OF NEW YORK CITY WITH THE HOUSE HUNTERS LOGO ON THE SCREEN. AS THE NARRATOR SPEAKS, THE COVER VIDEO OF THE CITY CHANGES, BEGINNING WITH SOARING SKYSCRAPERS AND QUICKLY MOVING TO A RATTY LOOKING BUILDING THAT NO ONE SHOULD LIVE IN.

NARRATOR (v.o.)

Amy and Rob are looking for an affordable apartment in Manhattan. Both are just out of college and ready to take on the city, but can they find something in their budget of \$750 a month.

CUT TO: A PRE-TAPE, DOCUMENTARY STYLE SET-UP IN A REAL ESTATE OFFICE WITH THE AGENT (VANESSA BAYER) SITTING IN THE CHAIR AT THE DESK ADDRESSING THE CAMERA DIRECTLY.

AGENT

While it has been a bit of a challenge finding suitable places for Amy and Rob in their budget, I think I have one for them today that is going to work.

CUT TO: AMY (MILA) AND ROB (PETE) STANDING ON THE STREET IN MANHATTAN.

MILA

We know we don't have a lot of money to spend, but we really want to live in Manhattan.

PETE

It's really been our dream ever since we watch Elf last Christmas.

CUT TO: MILA AND PETE ARE WALKING INTO THE APARTMENT WITH THE AGENT (VANESSA). THE APARTMENT IS ACTUALLY NOTHING MORE THAN A TINY JANITORS CLOSET.

MILA

This place is awful small.

PETE ATTEMPTS TO CLOSE THE DOOR, BUT IT HITS AIDY. SHE TRIES TO MOVE AND THEN BUMPS INTO VANESSA. VANESSA TRIES TO MOVE BUT BUMPS INTO PETE. PETE TRIES TO MOVE AND JUST CAN'T GO ANYWHERE.

VANESSA

Here, I think I can get it.

VANESSA NOW TRIES TO CLOSE THE DOOR BUT AIDY IS IN THE WAY. SHE BREATHES IN HEAVILY, PETE HUGS ONTO HER AND VANESSA GETS THE DOOR CLOSED.

VANESSA

There we go.

PETE

How many square feet is this place?

VANESSA

Square foot, not feet. It's a square foot.

MILA

How are we suppose to live in a square foot?

CUT TO: A PRE-TAPE OF VANESSA BACK AT THE REAL ESTATE OFFICE IN HER CHAIR ADDRESSING THE CAMERA.

VANESSA

There is a thing that never changes about first-time buyers, especially when they are right out of college. They have, how should I say this, wildly unrealistic goals.

CUT TO: THE APARTMENT AS WE LEFT IT.

VANESSA

Actually Amy, and I know you might find this hard to believe, but this was the only place I could find in your price range in Manhattan. We're actually lucky we get to see it at all. Another few hours, it will probably be off the market.

PETE

I think we could make it work.

MILA

Make it work?

PETE

Well let's hear her out.

MILA

I suppose we have to, I can't get out of here if I tried.

VANESSA

So this place has only been on the market for two days and it was recently converted into a studio.

MILA

From a janitor's closet.

VANESSA

I'm not sure what the previous tenants used it for.

CUT TO: A PRE-TAPE AT VANESSA'S OFFICE.

VANESSA

It was totally a janitor's closet.

CUT TO: THE APARTMENT AS WE LEFT IT.

VANESSA

But it is amazing how many modern conveniences they can fit into a space such as this.

MILA

Such as?

VANESSA

Well, for example, many places this size do not have a formal dining area.

VANESSA REACHES OVER AND UP PAST AIDY TO GRAB A HANDLE BY A MICROWAVE.

VANESSA (cont)

It of course features new appliances, such as this microwave, which easily converts into your dining area.

AS SHE OPENS THE DOOR, SHE REACHES ONTO A SMALL SHELF BELOW AND GRABS TWO FORKS, HANDS ONE EACH TO PETE AND KEEPS THE OTHER ONE FOR HERSELF. SHE THEN REACHES INTO THE MICROWAVE AND STICKS IN

THE FORK AND PRETENDS TO TAKE A BITE OF THE FOOD SHE HAS PULLED OUT.

MILA

Wait, that is not a dining area.

VANESSA

(confidently)

Yes it is.

MILA

You expect us to eat our food directly out of the microwave?

CUT TO: A PRE-TAPE OF VANESSA AT HER OFFICE ADDRESSING THE CAMERA.

VANESSA

No I expect you to be rational and look for a place within your means in say, I don't know, New Jersey or anywhere else but Manhattan.

CUT TO: THE APARTMENT AS WE LEFT IT.

PETE

Hey, you know how last week when we made that bowl of chili at my dad's place and you burned your hand taking it out of the microwave? That's not a problem here.

PETE NOW STICKS HIS FORK INTO THE MICROWAVE AND PRETENDS TO TAKE A BITE OF FOOD. MILA SHOOTS PETE A DIRTY LOOK AND PUSHES HIM, WHICH SENDS HIM INTO VANESSA, WHICH IN REALITY BARELY MOVES ANYONE.

VANESSA

I'm not saying it is ideal, but with your budget of only \$750 a month, this is truly all you can afford.

MILA

This is only house number one. This is House Hunters, we get to see House number two and three yet.

CUT TO: A PRE-TAPE OF VANESSA BACK AT HER DESK.

VANESSA

So they want to see what else they can afford? I've found one more place for them to take a look at.

CUT TO: MILA, VANESSA AND PETE ARE STANDING BY A DUMPSTER. THERE IS A FIRE BURNING IN A BARREL AND THERE ARE A FEW BOXES PLACED AROUND THEM.

MILA

I'm not sure I like the entry into this building.

VANESSA

Oh we're not going into the building.

PETE

So this is a short cut?

VANESSA

You wish. You've heard of SoHo right?

MILA AND PETE BOTH NOD THEIR HEADS

VANESSA (cont)

Well this is Hobo, and it certainly has its advantages.

MILA

Such as?

VANESSA

Well rent comes in way under your budget at just zero dollars per month, and your utilities are, well they are non-existent, but there is an association fee.

PETE

Association fee?

A HOBO (BOBBY) WALKS INTO THE SCENE.

BOBBY

Yup, goes towards paying the heating bill.

BOBBY THROWS A BAG OF GARBAGE INTO THE FIRE.

VANESSA

There are actually a couple of different models available here. We have the classic.

VANESSA WALKS OVER TO A CARDBOARD BOX.

VANESSA (cont)

The classic features an open floor plan with plenty of natural lighting.

VANESSA NOW WALKS OVER TO A DUMPSTER

VANESSA (cont)

Then there is an upgraded model available if you are willing to spend a little more each month. This is the bin.

A BACK DOOR OPENS AND TARAN, DRESSED AS A SHORT ORDER COOK, STICKS HIS HEAD OUT.

TARAN

For \$50 a month, I'll make sure that the guys use the other dumpster down the block and that no one picks up your place, and you know, dumps it.

VANESSA

Also featuring an open floor plan, the bin doesn't offer as much natural light, but certainly is a bit more protected from the elements.

MILA

I'm not living in a dumpster.

PETE

So you like the classic better? Me too.

MILA

I'm not living in a box either.

VANESSA

Looks like you guys have some things to discuss.

CUT TO: ART CARDS OF THE HOUSES THEY HAVE BEEN SHOWN WHILE THE NARRATOR GOES OVER THEIR CHOICES.

ANNOUNCER (v.o.)

House number one is the most expensive of their options, but also offers the most amenities and indoor living. House number two is a modern classic, but doesn't have the locking door that Amy is looking for. And house number three features the open floor plan that Pete likes, but can they get used to the climb up into the place?

CUT TO: MILA AND PETE SITTING AT A TABLE WITH CUPS OF COFFEE.

MILA

I'm not living in any of those places.

PETE

Hold on now, we need to talk about this.

MILA

There is nothing to talk about Rob, maybe we should just keep living with your Dad.

PETE

I don't think you've really thought about all the benefits of house number two.

MILA

Benefits?

PETE

We'll have more money to travel like we talked about.

MILA GETS UP AND LEAVES THE TABLE.

PETE (cont)

I really liked house number two

CUT TO: PETE, STANDING OUTSIDE OF THE CARDBOARD BOX. THERE IS A DOORBELL SOUND EFFECT AND THE CHYRON ON THE SCREEN SAYS "SIX WEEKS LATER"

PETE

So Amy left me. Said she couldn't live in a box. I was willing to take the studio but she wouldn't hear it. I don't think her heart was really in this move to the city.

CUT TO: PETE, BOBBY AND JAY SITTING AROUND THE BARREL FIRE  
COOKING HOBO PACKETS ON STICKS, DRINKING AND HAVING A GOOD TIME.

PETE (v.o.)

Slim and Creepy Jake are awesome. I've learned so much since moving out on my own into the world. Before this I barely could cook, and now look at me. I'm really happy here, this is city living at it's best.