

JOHNNY MOUNTAIN

by

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EXT. FIELD [NATURE SETTING] - DAY

Television actor and personality Johnny Mountain is set to deliver a 15 second spot for Channel 106, the Health and Wellness Channel.

Johnny  
Okay, you asked about my background.

Director  
Keep talking. Tell me more.

Johnny  
Well I began acting in high school and well some folks there recognized talent and I continued acting and began acting in community productions and soon found myself on the stage in New York-

Director  
(Interrupting)  
Sound check good. That's fine stop talking.

Johnny  
But I wasn't finished. As I said I was in New York-

Director  
(Interrupting)  
Ok, do you have your line down?

Johnny  
Do I have my line down? I have an equity card I'll have you know.

Director  
That's fine. But do you have your line down?

Johnny  
One thing about me. I am always ready.

Director  
Okay good.

Johnny  
Just let me loosen up my face a bit.

Johnny convulses his face.

Director  
(under his breath)  
Sheeze. Here he goes again.

Johnny  
Hi My name is Chubby. My momma's chubby, my daddy's  
chubby even my dog is chubby. One day my momma asked  
me,  
Chubby, how can you smile through all that fat.  
I said easy.

Johnny breathes deep twice.

Director  
You think you're about ready?

Johnny  
I am always ready.

Director's Assistant puts slate in front of Johnny and claps it.

Assistant Director  
Take One.

Director  
Okay.

Two beats.

Director (cont.)  
Okay whats wrong. What are you waiting on?

Johnny  
I thought you were going to say go or something.

Director  
Go?

Johnny  
Yeah to let me know we are starting.

Director  
I would have thought the clapper did that but, okay,  
whatever.

Assistant Director reslates scene.

Director  
Ready?

Johnny  
I am always ready.

Assistant Director puts slate in front of Johnny and claps it.

Assistant Director  
Take Two.

Director

Go.

Two beats.

Director (cont.)

Okay. What is it this time?

Johnny

I think "Action" is a better word than "go."

Director

(Getting frustrated)

And why is that?

Johnny

Go kind of says go....get out of here.

Action says....Action.

Director

I thought you wanted "go."

Johnny

Well I have been on many sets in many roles and it is universal that "action" is the word of choice.

Assistant Director reslates scene.

Director

How long have you had your equity card?

Johnny

A long time trust me. And how many films have you shot?

Director

Whats it matter? I am paying you aren't I?

Johnny

Okaaaaay. That tells me all I need to know.

Director

Ready?

Johnny

I am always ready.

Assistant Director puts slate in front of Johnny and claps it.

Director

Action.

Johnny

Hi (long pause) This IS Johnny Mountain and YOU are watching-

Director  
(Interrupting)

Whoa whoa mountain man. What is with the dramatic pause?

Johnny  
I threw that in there for you. A little extra oomph.

Director  
Well lose it. Just read it as written, no pauses.

Johnny  
You don't need to get nasty.

Director  
For Christ's sake, its not that complicated. "Hi I am Johnny Mountain and you are watching Channel 106, Your Health and Wellness Channel."

Johnny  
Okay if you want boring, you can have boring.

Assistant Director reslates scene.

Director  
Ready?

Johnny  
(Mouthing the words)  
I am always ready.

Assistant Director puts slate in front of Johnny and claps it.

Director  
Action.

Johnny  
Hi, I am Johnny Mountain and you are watching Channel 106, your Wealth and Hellness channel.

Director  
What! You idiot. I thought you had the line down.

Johnny  
You had me flustered. I keep giving and giving and giving and then BAM, you take it all away.

Director  
Good God, its not that hard. Just read one line.

Johnny

(Getting angry)  
I do not appreciate your attitude.

Director  
Can we try it again?

Assistant Director reslates scene.

Johnny  
(folding arms defiantly)  
I guess. If we must.

Director  
Ready?

Johnny  
(Angrily)  
I am always ready.

Assistant Director puts slate in front of Johnny and claps it.

Director  
Action.

Johnny  
(Very Angry tone)  
Hi, I am Johnny Mountain and you are watching Channel  
106-

Director  
(Interrupting)  
Cut. We want a happy attitude not an angry one.

Johnny  
I need to cleanse my aura.

Johnny begins a humm and rubs his hands over his face.  
Johnny regains the position of the Chubby lines.

Director  
(to crewmember or producer)  
Where did they get this guy?  
I got a Parakeet that can do these lines.

Johnny  
Hi, my name is Mean Director. My momma's a mean  
director, My daddy's a mean director. Even my dog is  
a mange cur mean director.

Johnny shakes his arms to relax.

Okay.....better.

Assistant Director reslates scene and looks quizzically at Johnny.

Director  
Ready?

Johnny  
I am always ready.

Director puts slate in front of Johnny and claps it.

Director  
Action.

Johnny  
Hi, I am Johnny Mountain and you are watching Channel  
106, your Health and Wellness channel.

Director  
Perfect. That's a wrap.

CREDITS BEGIN TO RUN.

VOICEOVER:

Johnny  
I know you may not believe this, but as good as that  
last take was, I think I have an even better one in me.

Crewmember  
Sir. I'm not sure our sound cable was plugged in.

THE END