

The Big Lebowski - Joel & Ethan Coen, 1998. M/F

The Dude looks at a painting, baffled.

MAUDE

Does the female form make you uncomfortable, Mr. Lebowski?

DUDE

Is that what that's a picture of?

MAUDE

In a sense, yes.
My art has been commended as being strongly vaginal. Which bothers some men. The word itself makes some men uncomfortable. Vagina.

DUDE

Oh yeah?

MAUDE

Yes, they don't like hearing it and find it difficult to say. Whereas without batting an eye a man will refer to his "dick" or his "rod" or his "Johnson".

DUDE

"Johnson"?

MAUDE

Thank you. All right, Mr. Lebowski, let's get down to cases. My father told me he's agreed to let you have the rug, but it was a gift from me to my late mother, and so was not his to give. Now. As for this. . . "kidnapping"--

DUDE

Huh?

MAUDE

Yes, I know about it. And I know that you acted as courier. And let

me tell you something: the whole thing stinks to high heaven.

DUDE

Right, but let me explain something about that rug--

MAUDE

Do you like sex, Mr. Lebowski?

DUDE

Excuse me?

MAUDE

Sex. The physical act of love. Coitus. Do you like it?

DUDE

I was talking about my rug.

MAUDE

You're not interested in sex?

DUDE

You mean coitus?

MAUDE

I like it too. It's a male myth about feminists that we hate sex. It can be a natural, zesty enterprise. But unfortunately there are some people--it is called satyriasis in men, nymphomania in women--who engage in it compulsively and without joy.

DUDE

Oh, no.

MAUDE

Yes Mr. Lebowski, these unfortunate souls cannot love in the true sense of the word. Our mutual acquaintance Bunny is one of these.

DUDE

Listen, Maude, I'm sorry if your

stepmother is a nympho, but I don't see what it has to do with--do you have any kahlua?

MAUDE

Don't be fatuous, Jeffrey. Little matter to me that this woman chose to pursue a career in pornography, nor that she has been "banging" Jackie Treehorn, to use the parlance of our times. However. I am one of two trustees of the Lebowski Foundation, the other being my father. The Foundation takes youngsters from Watts and--

DUDE

Shit yeah, the achievers.

MAUDE

Little Lebowski Urban Achievers, yes, and proud we are of all of them. I asked my father about his withdrawal of a million dollars from the Foundation account and he told me about this "abduction", but I tell you it is preposterous. This compulsive fornicator is taking my father for the proverbial ride.

DUDE

Yeah, but my-

MAUDE

I'm getting to your rug. My father and I don't get along; he doesn't approve of my lifestyle and, needless to say, I don't approve of his. Still, I hardly wish to make my father's embezzlement a police matter, so I'm proposing that you try to recover the money from the people you delivered it to.

DUDE

Well--sure, I could do that--

MAUDE

If you successfully do so, I will compensate you to the tune of 1% of the recovered sum.

DUDE

A hundred.

MAUDE

Thousand, yes, bones or clams or whatever you call them.

DUDE

Yeah, but what about--

MAUDE

--your rug, yes, well with that money you can buy any number of rugs that don't have sentimental value for me. And I am sorry about that crack on the jaw.

The Dude fingers his jaw, where the lump from the sap has all but disappeared.

DUDE

Oh that's okay, I hardly even--

MAUDE

Here's the name and number of a doctor who will look at it for you. You will receive no bill. He's a good man, and thorough.

DUDE

That's really thoughtful but I--

MAUDE

Please see him, Jeffrey. He's a good man, and thorough.