

"ART GALLERY"

by

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FADE IN:

INT. ART GALLERY - NIGHT

AMY and JOHN, in their 20s, walk through a vast art gallery. Shafts of light shine on the various paintings; otherwise the place is gloomy; very few people are about.

They pause before a macabre painting featuring a fat manlike creature with an odd, elephant-like head and multiple trunks.

AMY  
Interesting.

JOHN  
Ugly.

AMY  
It might be meant to be ugly. A statement about ugliness.

JOHN  
Well, they succeeded.

Amy looks at him impatiently.

They move to the next painting. As they do, the figure in the first painting suddenly scowls at John, then fires a snot blob from one of his elephantine trunks, which hits John on the neck.

John touches his neck, then looks up at the ceiling, trying to figure out what hit him.

AMY  
What's wrong?

JOHN  
Nothing.

He gets out a Kleenex and wipes his neck.

They pause before another painting. This one features a beautiful woman with a mechanical creature emerging from from the top of her bald head.

JOHN  
Face is cute but the rest is ugly.

AMY  
You're so narrow about beauty.

JOHN

I just know what I like. Let's get out of here before I vomit.

AMY

Your personal ad said you were into art.

JOHN

That line got me a date with you, didn't it?

She glares at him as he grins.

The two turn away to the next painting, and as they do, the mechanical creature in the previous painting comes alive and snags John's collar with his finger, yanks him backwards, then lets go and withdraws back into the painting.

John looks around, alarmed.

AMY

What is it now?

JOHN

I don't know.

AMY

You're behaving very strangely.

JOHN

I just thought I felt something grab me, that's all.

They stand before a third painting, though John looks around himself carefully.

The bald woman in the previous painting now seems to be glaring at him; this catches his eye; he stares at her for a moment, begins to speak, when --

AMY

Very naturalistic.

Amy is admiring the next painting: a dragon next to a topless woman chained to a rock.

John examines it, pleased.

JOHN

Finally something hot to look at.

AMY  
You're hopeless.

JOHN  
Except for that ugly dragon, this  
would be a decent painting. Just  
add a few more topless chicks.

They turn away and move on, at which point the dragon comes  
alive, seizes John, and yanks him into the painting.

SERIES OF SHOTS

John, terrified, runs through a series of phantasmagorical  
scenes, narrowly escaping a series of fantastical monsters  
limited only by imagination. Each creature he encounters is  
from a different painting in the art gallery.

At last John leaps down from a high cliff, is snatched by the  
dragon in mid-air, and dumped on the rock where the woman  
previously was chained.

INT. ART GALLERY - NIGHT

Amy and the woman from the painting stand in the art gallery,  
looking at the painting of the dragon.

Amy throws her jacket over the woman's bare upper body.

WOMAN FROM PAINTING  
Thanks so much, Amy.

AMY  
My pleasure. 'Bye John!

The two women head for the exit.

CLOSE ON - DRAGON PAINTING

where John is now part of the painting, in place of the  
woman, chained up and looking very unhappy while the dragon  
gloats over him.

THE END