

CLIMATE CONTROL

Written by
Dan Gorgone

Seven Sisters Films
www.sevensistersfilms.com

FINAL DRAFT
June 24, 2002

"CLIMATE CONTROL"

FADE IN:

EXT - A BEAUTIFUL SUMMER DAY - DAY

Our hero, DANTE, is walking by the lake. He wears a Walkman and bops to his favorite song.

As he continues his walk, he makes his way down a side street.

Further down, TIM is washing a car in front of his house. He holds a bucket of soapy water and drags a big sponge across the hood. The car is nothing special. Just something fairly new-looking that looks even better after a wipe of the damp cloth Tim is holding.

Dante walks by the car but decides to stop when he notices a sign in the back window: FOR SALE.

Dante turns around, takes off his headphones, and approaches Tim.

DANTE

Excuse me...

TIM

(looking up)

Hey.

DANTE

My name's Dante, how ya doing?

TIM

Good, I'm Tim. What can I do for you?

DANTE

You selling this?

TIM

That's what the sign says.

DANTE

How much ya lookin' for?

Tim puts down his bucket of water and wipes his hands off on a nearby towel. He looks at Dante and smiles.

TIM

Well... I'd like to sell ASAP,
so I'm willing to negotiate the
price a little bit.

Dante fears the asking price will be out of his range.

TIM (CONT.)

How does... a thousand dollars
sound?

Dante does a double take, not sure he heard the amount right.

DANTE

One thousand dollars?

TIM

Yeah, well, like I said, I'm
willing to negotiate...
(firm)
...a little.

Dante smiles; he can't believe the incredible deal he's gonna get.

Tim sees his reaction and hopes for a sale.

Dante quickly changes the look on his face to reflect that of reserve.

DANTE

I think... I think that price
sounds... fair.

CUT TO:

EXT - THE SAME DAY - LATER

Dante sits in the driver's seat, grinning uncontrollably.

Tim stands outside the car, counting his money, and explains one last thing.

TIM

So, like I said, the air
conditioner doesn't work... but
everything else is tip-top.

DANTE

No problem, I can get that
fixed.

TIM

Right. You should definitely do
that.

Tim hands over the keys to Dante, who takes them and smiles wide as he gazes at his new toy.

Tim reaches in and offers his hand, which Dante shakes.

TIM (CONT.)

Hey, take care, my friend!

DANTE

Thanks!

From outside, the car speeds away as Tim watches.

Tim watches the car go as an overly-large, wicked grin begins to cross his face.

CUT TO:

EXT - IN THE CAR - DAY

Dante drives his new ride home and he enjoys every second of it. He's bopping along to another shiny happy song. All is right in the world with Dante and his new car.

As the car speeds away down the road, the sun blazes over the summer sky, radiating heat in a big way. The entire town is drenched in humidity.

In the car, Dante now sips a huge milkshake, trying to stay cool. He looks very happy.

FADE TO:

INT - DANTE'S APARTMENT - DAY

The windows are open in vain, a fan valiantly blows hot air all around the place.

Near the couch, a sad air conditioner sits broken on the floor and Dante has no idea how to fix it. He drops a screwdriver on the ground in defeat.

On the couch, Dante leans back and sits in the 100 degree heat, baking like a potato. He picks up his empty milkshake container to discover he is out of cold beverage. Dante whines.

INT - KITCHEN - DAY

Dante opens the freezer door to get instant summer relief for his head.

He closes the freezer door and opens the fridge door to grab another drink but discovers nothing inside. Dante whines again.

EXT - FRONT DOOR - DAY

Dante closes the front door to his house and jingles his keys, ready to get to the store. Under his breath, he complains about the lack of anything to drink.

Sliding into the car, Dante starts the engine up.

Before he puts the car into gear, Dante is astounded by how hot it is. He whines again as he fans air to his face.

He pauses and considers the air conditioner. The guy told him

it was broken. Indeed, Tim said, as he does in this flashback/voice-over:

TIM (V.O.)
So, like I said, the air
conditioner doesn't work... but
everything else is tip-top.

Dante thinks.

DANTE
How broken could it be?

Not knowing the answer, Dante decides to find out on his own.

DANTE (CONT.)
Aw, screw it.

Dante reaches over and hits the button for the air conditioner.

Suddenly, Dante feels a rush of cold air and is freezing his butt off in the car. He can even see his breath.

DANTE (CONT.)
What the—

Dante's eyes bug out as he looks out the windows of his car.

EXT - WINTER - DAY

Dante steps out of his car to discover the world has been covered in a fresh foot of snow.

Roofs are covered in snow.

The snow is icy and slippery.

A cold wind blows.

Dante is stunned... and suddenly realizes he's standing in the middle of a beautiful Winter's day in his best beach wear.

Dante lets out a yelp and runs inside his house.

INT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Dante emerges from his bedroom with jeans and a sweater on. He's zipping up his jacket as he approaches a window and surveys the world outside.

DANTE
What the hell is going on?

Dante steps back and grabs the remote control off of his coffee table.

Turning on the TV, Dante tunes to the Weather Channel.

The WEATHERMAN appears, going over a map of the local area.

WEATHERMAN

The humidity will make things uncomfortable for some, but there's no doubt about it: it's going to be a beautiful day out there with highs in the mid-90s.

Dante's face registers the shock of the weather report.

DANTE

Get outta town!

Dante turns off the TV and turns to leave. He wants to get to the bottom of this.

CUT TO:

EXT - FRONT DOOR - DAY

The cold air hits Dante like a truck as soon as he exits the house. He's dressed for winter: big hat, gloves, winter coat, and snow boots.

Dante makes his way down the steps to his car. He opens the car door and looks around again before getting in.

The Air Conditioner is still blowing cold air inside the car, much to Dante's shagrin.

DANTE

(annoyed)

Don't need *this* now.

Dante reaches over and turns off the A/C by sliding the temperature control all the way to the HOT end of the scale.

Dante looks up and out of his front window... and discovers that summer has returned. He can't believe it.

This time, Dante rolls down his window to confirm it. Indeed, it is DAMN hot. Dante strips off the winter hat and gloves he had on and unzips his coat.

Dante looks back and forth and all around, and finally understands the cause of everything: the climate control in the car.

He slowly turns back toward the control and stares it down. He has an idea. He reaches over to adjust the control, looks around quickly, and then turns the dial.

Unbelievable, it's winter again.

Dante is stunned.

He slides the climate control back to hot again.

Summertime.

He slides it back to cold.

Winter.

He slides it back to hot.

Summer.

He slides it back to cold.

Winter.

He slides it back to hot.

Dante jumps out of the car, breathing heavily, his senses overloaded. He whirls around in a daze, overwhelmed by what's going on.

He zips his coat up and down, expecting the temperature to change at any moment.

He's outside the car though. Nothing changes. It's still summer.

Finally, Dante turns back to face his car: the cause of everything that's been going on.

DANTE

My god... my car controls the weather.

Slowly, the novelty of the car's power crosses Dante's mind and he begins to smile.

DANTE (CONT.)

My car... controls... the weather!

(beat)

HOLY SHIT!

Dante jumps into his car and races off.

SERIES OF SHOTS

Dante drives around experimenting with the climate control on the car, seeing if he's really imagining things or if he can really alter the weather wherever the car goes.

- (1) Dante drives along all excited and looking around. He spots someone on his right.
- (2) A JOGGER runs by a lake listening to his Walkman.
- (3) With eyes wide in expectation, Dante switches the climate control from hot to cold.
- (4) The young man is now jogging in a blizzard, freezing his butt off. He is shocked by the change in temperature.
- (5) Dante bursts into loud laughter at the results. Suddenly, he looks over to his left.

- (6) A YOUNG WOMAN in a bikini is jumping up and down at the freezing weather. A YOUNG MAN takes a towel and wraps himself up in it.
- (7) Dante switches the temperature back from cold to hot.
- (8) The couple looks around, surprised by the sudden change in temperature again. As the young man removes his towel, the young woman slaps him on the shoulder for not covering her instead.
- (9) Dante laughs in glee at the chaos he's causing. Suddenly, he sees another person on his right.
- (10) Another person
- (11) Dante switches the control
- (12) Person is shocked
- (13) Dante laughs uncontrollably.
- (14) The car rolls down the road in the snow.

EXT - DANTE'S STREET - DAY

Dante turns the corner and heads back down his street toward home. Suddenly, he stops short when he sees someone in the road.

It's a WOMAN. She appears to be dressed in very light robes, which are waving in the cold wind.

Upon closer inspection, we see she is barefoot, standing in the middle of the road.

Through the windshield, Dante isn't sure what he's looking at.

XCU: The woman eyes Dante and the car sternly.

Slowly, she brings up her right hand from her side and waves it across the street...

And now it's summertime again. The snow, ice, and cold winds have disappeared.

Rather than step out, Dante rolls down the window. Indeed, it is summertime again. He looks down the road at the woman in wonder.

She stares back at him from afar. She appears to be very beautiful and quite exotic looking.

Slowly, Dante gets out of the car. He closes the door and walks slowly toward the woman.

He finally gets within speaking distance and asks:

DANTE

Who are you?

MOTHER NATURE

I am Mother Nature.

DANTE

(in awe)

No way...

Mother Nature continues to stare at him.

Dante realizes for the first time that he may be in trouble.

He looks back at the car and things begin to add up.

DANTE (CONT.)

Oh! Umm... listen, I'm *really* sorry, I was just—

MOTHER NATURE

Where did you get that car? And don't lie or I will turn you into an ice cube.

DANTE

Okay, I bought it from this guy I met.

MOTHER NATURE

Who?

DANTE

(thinks)

He said his name was Tim.

MOTHER NATURE

Tim?

DANTE

Yeah.

Mother Nature thinks for a moment, all the while staring at Dante, who is becoming increasingly uncomfortable.

Finally, Mother Nature looks away and realizes who the guilty party is. A smile crosses her face.

MOTHER NATURE

Of course. How amusing.

DANTE

What?

MOTHER NATURE

The name of the man whom you bought the car from is *not* Tim. It's Time. *Father* Time.

DANTE

Father Time?

MOTHER NATURE

(to herself)

He said it was stolen! That son
of a bitch!

DANTE

Whoa, listen, I don't wanna get
in the middle of any...
immortal... thing-

MOTHER NATURE

(to Dante)

How much did he sell it for?

DANTE

A thousand bucks-

MOTHER NATURE

(incredulous)

A THOUSAND? That's it?

Dante is suddenly frightened by the sound of thunder rolling
overhead.

MOTHER NATURE (CONT.)

(to herself)

Oh, he's gonna get it.

(to Dante)

Gimme the keys!

Dante hands her the keys quickly.

MOTHER NATURE (CONT.)

Oh, we'll see how much he likes
it when I *borrow* his WATCH!!

Mother Nature gets in the car and starts it up. She drives
forward and stops in front of Dante, who's standing on the
side of the road.

MOTHER NATURE (CONT.)

(trying to control anger)

Listen, you got caught in the
middle of something here that's
way above your head. I hope
you've learned your lesson:
don't mess with Mother Nature -
or her car - and she won't mess
with you.

(pokes Dante in stomach)

Got it?

DANTE

Can I get my money back?

Mother Nature glares at him and the car window begins to close. She puts the car in gear and takes off down the road.

Dante watches her go and pouts, depressed that he no longer has a car nor three thousand bucks.

Suddenly, he feels something on his legs.

Dante finds himself standing in the middle of a snowdrift, up to his knees. He screams in fright!

In the car, Mother Nature laughs in glee, happy to know she's at least taught Dante a little lesson about messing with her.

Back at the house, Dante barrels out of the snow, running up to the front door of his house and closing it behind him.

THE END