

SPRITE

Written by

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Based on, Radio Assignment

INT. BENNY'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

BENNY (mid-30's, mixed race and decently shape) is sat on his chair watching television in his dimly lit living room.

He turns and takes out his cellphone from his pocket. He proceeds to look at it and began to tap numbers to make a call.

The phone RINGS from his side until it lasts for five seconds, until someone from the other side finally decides to pick it up.

JEFF (V.O.)

(Picks up phone and answers)

This is Great Wall Kitchen. My name is Jeff. Thank you very much for calling. May I take your order?

BENNY

(Stutters a bit)

Uh - yes, hello, I would like a white rice with shrimp and broccoli, please.

JEFF (V.O.)

White rice with shrimp broccoli?

BENNY

Yes. White rice with shrimp broccoli.

JEFF (V.O.)

Okay then. Would you like it in a small or large size?

BENNY

Large size, please?

JEFF (V.O.)

Okay then. Do you want something for the side?

BENNY

Yes. I would like a soda.
Uh...Sprite, maybe.

JEFF (V.O.)

No, don't say maybe! Do you want a Sprite; yes or no?

BENNY

Yes, I would like a Sprite.

JEFF (V.O.)

Okay. Alright. So, white rice with shrimp broccoli and a Sprite?

BENNY

Yes. All of that is correct. Yes. White rice with shrimp broccoli and a Sprite.

JEFF (V.O.)

Okay, you don't need to repeat everything I just said. I understand.

BENNY

Oh right, yeah. Sorry man.

BENNY sits up with his phone still at his right ear.

JEFF (V.O.)

No, that's okay. That's alright. So, do you want delivery or pick up?

BENNY

I would like for it to be delivered. I live at Vail Avenue, West 7th Street at Woodbridge, New Jersey.

JEFF (V.O.)

Okay, no problem at all. We will be sure to have it delivered to your address in 8 minutes tops. Just keep a look out for the delivery car that will drive to your house.

BENNY

(Cheerfully)

Awesome! Sounds great! I'll see you then.

JEFF (V.O.)

Make sure that you have your debit or credit card ready to pay.

BENNY

Sure thing! "Thank you veddy much!"

JEFF (V.O.)

You're welcome, sir.

BENNY
D-Did you get it? Did you get...the
Andy Kaufman reference there?

The phone on the other side hangs up, dismissing BENNY's question. He looks back at his phone, only to place it back at his ear.

BENNY (CONT'D)
Hello? Hello? I guess he didn't get
it.

INT. BENNY'S LAUNDRY ROOM - NIGHT - SIX MINUTES LATER

BENNY is now washing his clothes in the dimly laundry room down in the basement. His phone vibrates in his left pocket. Placing down the laundry basket, he removed the ringing phone from his pocket and clicks on it to answer it.

BENNY
Hello?

JEFF (V.O.)
Hello, hi!

BENNY
Oh hi! So, is my food ready to be
delivered?

JEFF (V.O.)
Yes. Your food is about to be
delivered. But...
(Stutters a bit)
Th-there's a slight problem.

BENNY
Well, what happened?

JEFF (V.O.)
We ran out of Sprite.

BENNY
(Stunned)
Wait, what?
(Concerned)
Wh-What do you mean you ran out of
Sprite? I always have Sprite with
Chinese food.

JEFF (V.O.)
Well, we don't have it. We don't
have Sprite.

BENNY begins to walk back and forth with his left hand in his pocket while his right hand holds the phone.

BENNY

Well, what do you have?

JEFF (V.O.)

We only have Coke, Snapple drinks,
Ginger Ale and Mountain Dew.

BENNY

(Slightly irritated)

But I asked for Sprite. When I
asked for a Sprite, you sounded
very sure that you had Sprite.

JEFF (V.O.)

I was wrong. It turned out to be
wrong. I'm sorry. My bad. It won't
happen again. But we have other
drinks if you want.

BENNY

But I asked for Sprite. I don't - I
don't understand this. I really
don't.

JEFF (V.O.)

Sir, I'm sorry. I really am. But we
don't have Sprite. We could suggest
another beverage.

BENNY

(Aggressively)

No, I asked for Sprite! When I
asked for Sprite, it's in your
interest to send me a Sprite. I
can't eat my white rice and shrimp
broccoli without Sprite!

JEFF (V.O.)

(Irritated)

Like I said, I'm sorry. But again,
we don't have Sprite! But it is no
problem, we could deliver you
another beverage!

BENNY

(Angrily)

I don't want another beverage,
goddammit! I want a Sprite!

JEFF (V.O.)

(Irritated)

Sir, I have no idea why you are making such a big deal out of this! I really don't honestly.

BENNY

(Angrily)

It's a big deal...when I am lied to! You think I'm stupid!

JEFF (V.O.)

(Irritated)

Sir, please! I need you to calm down.

BENNY

(Still angry)

No, you lied to me! You were sure...you had Sprite!

JEFF (V.O.)

(Still irritated)

Well, sir...don't you - I don't know - is it possible to get yourself your own Sprite from a store nearby your house?

BENNY

(Angry)

My store is closed! My store is closed! And I was hoping you have a Sprite!

JEFF (V.O.)

Well, then wait until tomorrow! You should know what time it opens!

BENNY

It's not open on Sundays!

JEFF (V.O.)

(Irritated)

Well, like I said, I'm sor -

BENNY

(Angry)

No no no, don't give me that bullshit! Just don't! I'm not taking my food!

JEFF (V.O.)

(Anger slowly rising)

Sir, just -

BENNY

I'm not taking my food! I'm not
paying for my food!

JEFF (V.O.)

Sir, if you would just calm down -

BENNY

I'm not taking my food until I get
my Sprite!

JEFF (V.O.)

(Irritated)

Oh Lord help me! Sir, just calm
down!

BENNY

(Raises voice)

I AM CALM! I WANT MY SPRITE! THAT'S
ALL I WANT!

JEFF (V.O.)

Sir, don't raise your voice or I
will call the police!

BENNY

Oh?

(Begins to laugh as he
continues to walk back
and forth)

Hilarious! Very hilarious! Now you
want to call the cops!

JEFF (V.O.)

(Angry)

You're being very complicated and
very offensive right now!

BENNY

(Stops laughter)

The cops?! The cop?! I should call
them on you! You hear me, asshole!?
YOU!

JEFF (V.O.)

(Aggressively)

Sir, how about I re -

BENNY

(Angry)

You're gonna lie to me about
getting me Sprite! And now you're
gonna call the cops?! Are you
serious!?

JEFF (V.O.)

(Aggressive)

Listen, I don't really appreciate your tone right now! I'm about to hang up!

BENNY

I don't appreciate not only your tone! I don't appreciate your false advertising!

JEFF (V.O.)

(Irritated)

Oh...my god! False advertising!?

BENNY

Yes!

JEFF (V.O.)

False advertising!

BENNY

Yes!

JEFF (V.O.)

Are you serious!? Seriously!?

BENNY

You know what, I want my refund!

JEFF

You didn't even pay for your meal, dummy!

BENNY

Fine! Then cancel my meal, dummy!
And I'm suing you for insulting me!

JEFF (V.O.)

You don't want to do that! You insulted me first! You called me an asshole!

BENNY

You are an asshole! I'm gonna sue you! Sue you for fraudulent behavior! False advertising!

JEFF (V.O.)

(Angry)

You can't sue me over a misinformation!

BENNY

(Angry)

Maybe next time, don't get my hopes up and tell me what I DON'T WANT TO HEAR!!!

JEFF (V.O.)

(softly but aggressively)

Jesus Christ! You gotta be kidding me!

BENNY

I'm gonna sue you!

JEFF (V.O.)

Okay, sure! Sure! Why not!

BENNY

Yeah, you bet your ass why not, jackass!

JEFF (V.O.)

Oh, there we go again with the insults! Listen, I'm gonna hang up now! I'm not dealing with this!

(Mockingly)

Poor widdle baby won't eat without his Sprite!

BENNY

You know what, fuck you! Fuck your piece of shit food! I don't want it! I'm never eating from you again!

JEFF (V.O.)

You're the one who called and ordered, idiot!

BENNY

Oh, there you go again! Name calling! You know what -

JEFF (V.O.)

(in rage)

YOU INSULTED ME FIRST! YOU - You know what, goodbye! Goodbye!

BENNY

Goodbye! Goodbye! Fuck you! Go fu -

The phone on the other side hangs up with a beep that felt like eternity.

After he stopped pacing, BENNY looks at his phone and slammed it against the pile of clothes he folded on top of the dryer.

He takes deep breathes, looking around the narrow cornered laundry room to get the heated argument out of his mind. He then takes his phone and places it back into his sweatpants pocket.

BENNY (CONT'D)

Fuck this! I'm going to QuickChek!

He then leaves the laundry room right after he turns off the light.

CUT TO BLACK.