

INT. PHIL'S OFFICE - LATER

Phil is in his cluttered cubicle talking on a headset phone while he reviews cassettes of his groundhog spots from the past two years on a small monitor. As he talks, he stuffs a number of personal items in an overnight bag, all the time watching himself on the TV monitor.

PHIL

(on the phone)

They don't really think of me as a weatherman around here. More of a "personality," but with the credibility of a first-class broadcast journalist. Once you look at my tape I think you'll see what they mean.

Stephanie enters and stands in the doorway looking at Phil for a long moment. There is something vaguely off-center about this woman, not quite FATAL ATTRACTION but still a little scary.

STEPHANIE

(bitterly)

I just want to know one thing: did I do something wrong or are you just tired of me or what? I have to know.

Phil sighs.

PHIL

(on the phone)

Dan, can I call you back? I've just been handed something and I better get on it...

(he picks up some papers and rustles them for effect)

...Okay, thanks.

He takes off the headset, gets up and closes the door for pppriivvaaccyy..

PHIL

(kindly)

You didn't do anything wrong, Stephanie, and I'm not tired of you. It's just that I don't have time for a real relationship

right now. I told you that the first time we went out.

STEPHANIE

(getting close)

Everybody says that at the beginning of a relationship.

PHIL

(gently pushing her away)

I'm different. I really meant it! Things are really starting to move for me now. I'm not going to be doing the weather for the rest of my life. I was just talking to the CBS guy about a network job. I want that. This is just the beginning for me. I can't waste any more time.

STEPHANIE

Are you saying our relationship was a waste of time?

PHIL

Our relationship? We went out a total of four times! And only twice did anything happen. It was fun but I don't see that as a big commitment.

STEPHANIE

(closing in again)

I had our charts done. My astrologer says we're extremely compatible. There may even be some past lives involvement here.

PHIL

See? So we've already done this.
LLeett''ss mmoovvee oonn.. NNeeextt ccaassee..

STEPHANIE

You know what's wrong with you, Phil? You're selfish. You don't have time for anyone but yourself.

PHIL

That's what I'm trying to tell

you. You don't want to be with me. You can do better. Look, Stephanie, if I ever said or did anything to mislead you I'm sorry for that, but right now I have to do this groundhog thing and I don't have a handle on it yet.

He throws some papers and his datebook into a briefcase and puts on his jacket.

PHIL (CONT.)

I'll tell you what. I'm going to do some serious thinking while I'm in Punxsutawney, okay?

He pats her on the shoulder and brushes past her, leaving her standing there with a malevolent look on her face.