

Ride 'em Cowboy

by

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A contemporary six-gun economic sex romp

1 m/1w

CHARACTERS

Catherine - wife

Bear - husband

TIME

Present

SETTING

A suggestion of their bedroom. Think minimalist

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AT RISE:

In the blackness we hear the strains of "Auld Lang Syne" and the flickering of the ball dropping in Times Square. The announcer's voice screams " Happy New Year!"

Overlapping is the moans of sex. We see the silhouette of CATHERINE, waving a cowboy hat in the air and riding her horselike husband BEAR. CATHERINE whoops and hollers in a very provocative and sexual tone.

CATHERINE

Oh! Whee-hah! Go! Higher. Harder. Yes! Yes! Yes! NO!
(Finally CATHERINE is bucked off.)

Shit!

BEAR

What's wrong?

CATHERINE

Turn on the damn light! Ouch.....ohhhhh.
(Turning on the light. BEAR is dressed in his boxers and a horse's mane and tail. CATHERINE wears a cowboy vest with cut outs for her pointed push-up bra and crotch-less chaps. Besides her cowboy hat and boots, toy six-guns hang between her legs.)

BEAR

My little buttercup, are you all right?

CATHERINE

Don't buttercup me, Bear, my neck is twisted.

BEAR

You kept saying, "Higher, harder".

CATHERINE

Feel this knot.

BEAR

Whoa. Feels knotty.

CATHERINE

Wow, with those observational skills you must have a business degree from Harvard.

BEAR

Don't be funny Caty, you went to Harvard, I went to Yale.

CATHERINE

Which is why I'm the cowboy and you're the horse's ass.

BEAR

Let me help you.

CATHERINE

NO! Don't touch my neck I think it's broken. You always do that when you're the horse.

BEAR

It was a love buck.

CATHERINE

I'm not Catherine the Great.

BEAR

I personally think you would have made a superior Empress. A noble ruler. The Hillary Clinton of the 19th century.

CATHERINE

Well the buck stops here. Ouch. Damn. Owww-eee, don't rub unless you're a licensed masseuse.

BEAR

Give me a minute. Here. I think I'm working it out. Isn't that better?

CATHERINE

I would never have made it in the 19th century.

BEAR

Some people think you're too much for the 21st century.

CATHERINE

Forget the quips, Bear....Bear? You stopped massaging? Bear?

BEAR

I just can't take it anymore.

CATHERINE

You can't take what?

BEAR

You calling me that name...

CATHERINE

Bear?

BEAR

That name.

CATHERINE

You loved it. I loved it. We loved it.

BEAR

Bear Stearns died and we should bury that name with the company.

CATHERINE

We met there. Fell in love there.

BEAR

Watched our liquidity disappear. Our souls disintegrate. The world economy melt down.

CLAIR

Who knew?

BEAR

Someone knew.

CATHERINE

We were just worker bears.

BEAR

Maybe our boss knew and just pretended he was surprised.

CATHERINE

He didn't know.

BEAR

He didn't go bust.

CATHERINE

A long drawn out death would be too good for him.

BEAR

Too much sub-prime exposure.

CATHERINE

Too much of everything all the time everywhere. On Wall Street.

BEAR

We were supposed to take the fall and the rest were supposed to be secure.

CATHERINE

No, honey.....

BEAR

Look here. I quote Bloomberg Businessweek, March 14, 2008.
"The rescue by JPMorgan Chase gives the financial system
breathing room to pay off Bear's debts gradually."

CATHERINE

"The government is prepared to do what it takes" to ease
turmoil in the financial system and minimize any damage to
the U.S. economy, Henry Paulson, Sunday March 16.

BEAR

You remember.

CATHERINE

Every moment.

BEAR

It's dead.

CATHERINE

Who could have seen it coming when we started there. When we
met there. When we loved there.

BEAR

It's dead.

CATHERINE

I'll bet some of those new employees don't even know it
existed.

BEAR

It was a lifestyle Caty. We are not those people anymore.
Right?

CATHERINE

No. Definitely. Right. Maybe. Jason is good name for our
future. I will never call you Bear again Jason.

BEAR

The argonauts are a better reference for a man in these
times.

CATHERINE

But there is that thorny reference to the Golden Fleece.

BEAR

Oh.

CATHERINE

It is a ram, of course. Not an actual....fleecing.

BEAR

And it is a Greek myth. The birthplace of democracy.

CATHERINE
And now the poor Greeks.

BEAR
I loved the Euro.

CATHERINE
We all did.

BEAR
It was wonderful to travel.

CATHERINE
To trade?

BEAR
I don't even remember those old currencies.

CATHERINE
Drachma.

BEAR
You remember?

CATHERINE
I loved my Greek adventure. I was nineteen. It was my
birthday present. The Islands called. My virginity left me.

BEAR
We hadn't met. Right?

CATHERINE
I love you Jason. The romance of myths.

BEAR
But it doesn't end well in myths. I remember. It never ended
well. Always a lot of blood and guts.

CATHERINE
Don't go there. I am not Medea.

BEAR
I am not Jason, either. At least not that one.

CATHERINE
You're my Jason.

BEAR
Out of work, Jason.

CATHERINE
Trying to re-figure your life Jason.

BEAR
We could erase it all.

CATHERINE
How?

BEAR
We could become school teachers in the inner city.

CATHERINE
They're cutting the jobs in education.

BEAR
Really?

CATHERINE
That's what my sister says. She's such a political know-it-all. I just love her for that.

BEAR
Maybe we could get involved.

CATHERINE
With my sister?

BEAR
With politics.

CATHERINE
Really?

BEAR
We're still young enough.

CATHERINE
That seems so radical.

BEAR
We could make things happen.

CATHERINE
Protest.

BEAR
No.

CATHERINE
No one protests very long here.

BEAR
We like change.

CATHERINE
Immediately.

Like day trading. BEAR

Short sales. CATHERINE

Futures. BEAR

God, I loved that smell. CATHERINE

What smell? BEAR

Sweating rooms full of people glued to their financial screens. CATHERINE

Go to law school. BEAR

We're still paying off undergraduate school. CATHERINE

We could move to Europe. BEAR

They're just as bad. CATHERINE

Cleveland? BEAR

Really? CATHERINE

Or Detroit? BEAR

And do what? CATHERINE

Become artists. Everyone loves artists. They move into poor neighborhoods. Fix them up. Realty goes up. Taxes increase. They're the only group that changes neighborhoods more than gays. BEAR

But we can't draw. CATHERINE

We can take photographs. BEAR

CATHERINE
On our cell phones.

BEAR
That is the wave of the future.

CATHERINE
We could document our lives.

BEAR
Exactly.

CATHERINE
I like it.

BEAR
You do?

CATHERINE
I mean, it's interesting. We're interesting, don't you think?

BEAR
We could begin completely over again. No finance.

CATHERINE
No economics.

BEAR
No loans.

CATHERINE
No investments.

BEAR
No income.

CATHERINE
No income?

BEAR
No debt.

CATHERINE
Someone must have seen this coming.

BEAR
We barely knew what could really happen, did we?

CATHERINE
But we were good at it.

BEAR
We were the best.

CATHERINE
We were destined to make big bonuses.

BEAR
To have summers in the Hamptons.

CATHERINE
To become our bosses boss.

BEAR
And have children.

CATHERINE
Who aspired to be us.

BEAR
None of us knew.

CATHERINE
How could we?

BEAR
We couldn't.

CATHERINE
They trained us.

BEAR
And we were good.

CATHERINE
We were good.

BEAR
I love you Catherine.

CATHERINE
I love you....Jason.

BEAR
I promise to be a better person this time.

CATHERINE
I know I will be.

BEAR
And we will never speak of those times again.

CATHERINE
Well, maybe just a little talk about those times.

BEAR
A little talk?

CATHERINE
Before the year is totally gone.

BEAR
Where are you going.

CATHERINE
Just to the closet.

BEAR
What's in that closet.
(CATHERINE goes to the closet.
She brings back a handmade
sign that reads,
"Sustainability is a start")
No more deception.
(BEAR goes to the closet and
takes out a handmade sign that
reads "BUY LOCAL, BANK LOCAL")

CATHERINE
That is a beautiful thought.

BEAR
You'll be brilliant. Rapier tongue. Stinging wit. A great
organizer.

CATHERINE
No more cowboy?

BEAR
(BEAR paws the ground.)
What good is a revolution without the cowboy.
(Lights Out)

CATHERINE
Ummmmmmmm.

BEAR
Ummmmmmmm.
(Lights out)

CATHERINE
What a bonus.

BEAR
Yes, dear.

CATHERINE
Yes. Yes. Yes. Yes. Yes. Yes. Yes. Yes. Yes.
(Into the darkness)

-END-