

SCRIPT TITLE

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Based on, If Any

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The gym is empty save for Anita, who trains aggressively, landing blow after blow in a heavy bag. JOHN (40's) her trainer, enters and stops when he sees her.

JOHN

Anita? What are you doing here?

ANITA

What's it look like?

JOHN

You can't be here. You're banned.

ANITA

What, really? I thought you were just saying that.

JOHN

I was, because it's true. You broke Tim's eye socket.

ANITA

Okay, well, newsflash, it's a dojo, sometimes people get hurt.

JOHN

He wasn't in the dojo, he was making a cup of tea.

ANITA

And talking shit about me.

JOHN

Which you should have dealt with in a very different way.

ANITA

Like what?

JOHN

Like not kick him in the fucking head! No one wants to train with you. They're scared of you, I'm scared of you. You've got to curb that temper. You've got very thin skin.

ANITA

There's nothing wrong with my skin, it's normal.

JOHN
No, it means you take offence very easily.

ANITA
(offended)
No I fucking don't, that's bollocks!

John laughs despite himself.

ANITA (CONT'D)
What?

JOHN
Why aren't you at work?

ANITA
I quit.

JOHN
Why?

ANITA
They were going to fire me.

JOHN
(sighs)
Because?

ANITA
I hit a customer.
(off John's look)
Not hard! Anyway, this way I can train more.

JOHN
Did you not just hear what I said?

ANITA
Yes John, I heard but the Olympic trials are coming up, aren't they? And you know I'm going to get in. And that's good for everyone, you, me, the gym...

JOHN
I've taken you off the list.

Anita stops short.

ANITA
What?

JOHN
I'm sorry.

ANITA
You can't do that.

JOHN
And I didn't want to have to. But it's
a small world. Word gets around. No
one wants you on that team.

ANITA
But it's all I've been working for.
This is my life.

John shrugs sadly, feeling her pain.

ANITA (CONT'D)
What am I supposed to do now?

JOHN
Something else.

ANITA
Like what? What am I without this?
Nobody! Nothing!

Anita storms off. She picks up a chair as she goes and hurls it
at a trophy cabinet, smashing the glass.

John shakes his head, angry, exasperated

JOHN
(calling after her)
You can't fight the whole world Anita!
It's not going to solve your problems.
One day you're going to take someone
on and they are going to knock you
down.

But she's gone.