

RADIO ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

This is the Voice of America. Another good day on Wall Street, the Dow Jones up twenty-five points, the Nasdaq up forty... In the White House, President Clinton again defended his relationship with Monica Lewinsky--

The woman near Archer speaks up:

WOMAN

Are you listening to this? The world's falling apart and all we hear about is Blowjobgate...

START →

Archer turns to MADDY BOWEN. Maddy's a 'handful' whose beauty belies the kind of fierce intelligence that sends most men running for the door. Archer likes what he sees.

ARCHER

When's the last time the world wasn't falling apart?

MADDY

Oh. A realist. Been there, done that, got the t-shirt. Is that it?

ARCHER

Danny Archer.

MADDY

Maddy Bowen.

ARCHER

(appraising her)
American.

MADDY

Guilty.

ARCHER

Americans usually are.

Maddy raises an eyebrow. He plays rough. She likes it.

MADDY

Ouch.

ARCHER

Don't tell me, you're here to make a difference.

MADDY

And you're here to make a buck.

Archer smiles. It's been a long time since he was interested.

ARCHER
How about hired gun. People seem to
like that one.

MADDY
Diamonds?

ARCHER
What if I told you I was a missionary.

MADDY
(laughs)
For De Wente?

ARCHER
It's not just rude to ask those kind
of questions, Ms. Bowen, it's also
dangerous.

MADDY
I'll take my chances.
(leans closer)
So... tell me about blood diamonds.

And then, suddenly, Archer gets it. His face turns to stone.

ARCHER
...You're a journalist.

MADDY
That's right.

Archer stands up from his stool.

ARCHER
Piss off.

He throws some money onto the bar. Maddy follows him out.

36 EXT. BEACH BAR -- CONTINUOUS

MADDY
De Wente Diamonds closed its buying
offices here to avoid U.N. sanctions.
But they're using cut-outs to buy
stones from the rebels on the cheap.
That way nobody accuses them of
profiting from the war --which they
clearly are.

ARCHER
I'm shocked.

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