

HANK

By Sam Baron

INT. PLAIN WHITE ROOM

The room is overly bright with an almost heavenly quality to it. HANK wanders in, and addresses the camera:

HANK
Could you ever love a man in
sweatpants?

He raises one eyebrow.

HANK (CONT'D)
The following girls couldn't:

EXT. PLAYGROUND

A young Hank in school uniform and sweatpants is shyly talking to a girl.

HANK (V.O.)
1991, Mary-Sue Delaney.

She slaps him, hard, and he spins round to face the camera.

EXT. PARK

A slightly older Hank in sweatpants is talking to a girl.

HANK (V.O.)
1994, Anne Lambert-Soaz.

She slaps him, hard, and he spins round to face the camera.

EXT. STREET

An even older Hank in sweatpants is talking to a girl.

HANK (V.O.)
1999, Sarah Polypropazone.

She slaps him, hard, and he spins round to face the camera, before collapsing out of shot.

INT. NEWSAGENT

Hank wanders into the shop, and takes a moment to peruse the shelves.

HANK (V.O.)
Soon, word spread and I couldn't go
anywhere without running into
trouble.

He puts a chocolate bar and some coins down, but the INDIAN
MAN behind the counter shakes his head.

INDIAN MAN
Sorry..

He points to a sign which reads "No Sweatpants Allowed".
Hank nods understandingly, but the INDIAN MAN slaps him,
hard. He spins round to face the camera, and leaves the
shop.

HANK (V.O.)
In the end, I had no choice but to
go to the only place I knew folks
would look past my sweatpants and
see what I was truly like inside.

INT. GRUNGY FILM STUDIO

Two dirty men types are sitting down as a naked Hank steps
into shot (seen from behind).

HANK (V.O.)
The adult film industry.

The two men turn their heads 90° to the side, one eyebrow
raised, in sync.

INT. AWARDS CEREMONY

Hank is holding a trophy in each hand, beaming, as cameras
flash all around him.

HANK (V.O.)
I made quite a name for myself, but
for an industry that doesn't blink
at naked people doing naughty
things, they sure took offence to my
post-coital attire.

We see Hank's sweatpants around his ankles. He pulls them
up, and moments later we pan upwards to his smiling face. A
hand reaches into shot, grabbing him by the scruff of the
neck, and yanks him away.

EXT. GRUNGY BUILDING

A backdoor opens, and Hank is tossed out, landing in a

crumpled heap.

HANK (V.O.)
They threw me out, into the gutter,
where I was found by a generous and
well-meaning charity worker named
Lynne B. Matthews.

Lynne helps him up, straightens him up and takes him away.

INT. SOUP KITCHEN

Hank and Lynne are sitting, talking and laughing, as Hank eats some soup.

HANK (V.O.)
A few soup nights later..

INT. APARTMENT

Hank steps through the door, puts a cardboard box of stuff down, and he and Lynne stand happily together.

HANK (V.O.)
..and we moved in together: my first
real girlfriend.

EXT. GARDEN

A dog runs up to Hank and he scoops it up into his arms.

HANK (V.O.)
We got a dog..

Having picked them up, he turns around with them to face the camera, revealing a bushy, Saddam-like beard.

HANK (V.O.)
..and I grew a beard.

INT. BEDROOM

Hank and Lynne are reading in bed. They smile at each other and Hank carries on reading.

HANK (V.O.)
We were doing great, until she
realised I wasn't homeless anymore
and tried to clean me up.

INT. BATHROOM

Hank's beard lands in the sink and we pan up to see him

shaving in the mirror.

HANK (V.O.)
The beard was the first thing to go,
no problems there, but then she set
to work on my sweatpants.

INT. BEDROOM

Lynne opens Hank's drawer and starts stuffing all his sweatpants into a dustbin bag. She looks up to see Hank standing watching her, silently fuming.

HANK (V.O.)
I loved her, sure, but from that
moment on it was over.

INT. BAR

Hank raises his glass to the barman.

HANK (V.O.)
I found a neat bar to drown my
sorrows, and the barman kept buying
me drinks..

The barman winks at him. Hank looks confused, and then downs his shot anyway, before passing out.

EXT. ROAD/PAVEMENT - DAY

In an extreme close up on Hank's sleeping face we see him twitch a little and slowly open his eyes.

HANK (V.O.)
I can't be certain of exactly what
happened after that, next thing I
knew I was waking up on a street
corner in a strange land with folks
I didn't recognise.

As he slowly sits up, nursing his hangover, a stereotypical cockney guy pauses as he walks by to talk to him.

COCKNEY GUY
Oi, you alright mate?

HANK
Hi, uh, could you tell me where
exactly I am?

COCKNEY GUY
Fack orf!

He punches him, and Hank spins round to face the camera.

HANK
(to himself)
Huh. England. How about that.

INT. JOB CENTRE

Hank is talking to a woman behind the desk.

HANK (V.O.)
I couldn't get back home because I
didn't have any money, so I did what
any good slacker in need of a job
would do..

EXT. SCHOOL FIELD

Hank is standing on a school field.

HANK (V.O.)
I became a sports teacher.

Pull out to reveal Hank in an outfit of cricket whites and sweatpants, leaning on a bat as school boys play cricket in front of him.

HANK
You're out.

POSH KID
Oh, that's just not cricket!

Hank raises his rule book to check, then laughs.

HANK
I'm afraid it is.

The kid sticks two fingers up at him, then storms off. Hank looks confused, then goes back to watching the game.

HANK (V.O.)
I wasn't exactly sure how to play at
first, but I picked it up pretty
quick. Turns out it's just like
baseball..

INT. CRICKET HUT

Hank is stuffing cucumber sandwiches into his mouth as a bunch of cricketers look on, unimpressed.

HANK (V.O.)
..but with a lot more eating.

EXT. FIELD

This time Hank is in bat. He whacks the ball and runs as fast as he can.

HANK (V.O.)
I was good, and pretty soon I was
the star of the local league.

He gets in, and starts performing outrageous celebrations.

INT. LOCKER ROOM

Hank and another guy are getting changed after a game.

BRIT GUY
Oi, great game today mate. You got a
fag?

Hank raises one eyebrow in confusion.

BRIT GUY (CONT'D)
'Ere, you look like a bit of a hard
nut. You oughta come dan our gym and
lift some metal.

He gives him a card, and Hank nods, seemingly thinking about it.

HANK (V.O.)
I had no idea what he was talking
about, but I didn't have anything
better to do, so later that evening
I put on my best sweatpants and set
off to find out.

INT. GYM

Hank strolls in through the door, and the BRIT GUY waves him over.

BRIT GUY
Oi, over 'ere! How you doin', mate?
This is Riggsy, Giggsy and Tomo.

TOMO
Alright?

GIGGSY
Oi, oi, look who's coming!

Hank turns round and in slow-motion his face adopts a look of wide-eyed amazement as the music kicks in and, still in slow-motion, we see a pretty English girl walking towards them, smiling. We pan down to reveal she is wearing sweatpants.

HANK (V.O.)
I couldn't believe it. She was everything I'd ever dreamed off, with the most beautiful pair of sweatpants I'd ever seen.

The music and slow-motion stop, and she walks up to them.

HANK (V.O.)
We were introduced, and hit it off. Unlike my well-meaning charitable ex, she loved me for who I really was, and I loved her.

INT. PLAIN WHITE ROOM

Hank is once again in the room he was at the start.

HANK
Two years have passed since that day, and we're happier than ever. I'm not a clever guy, and I don't want to preach, but if there's one moral you take from my story, I hope it's this: Always, always, always. Always love a guy in sweatpants.

He walks out of shot, and the credits play over the bright white background.

The End.