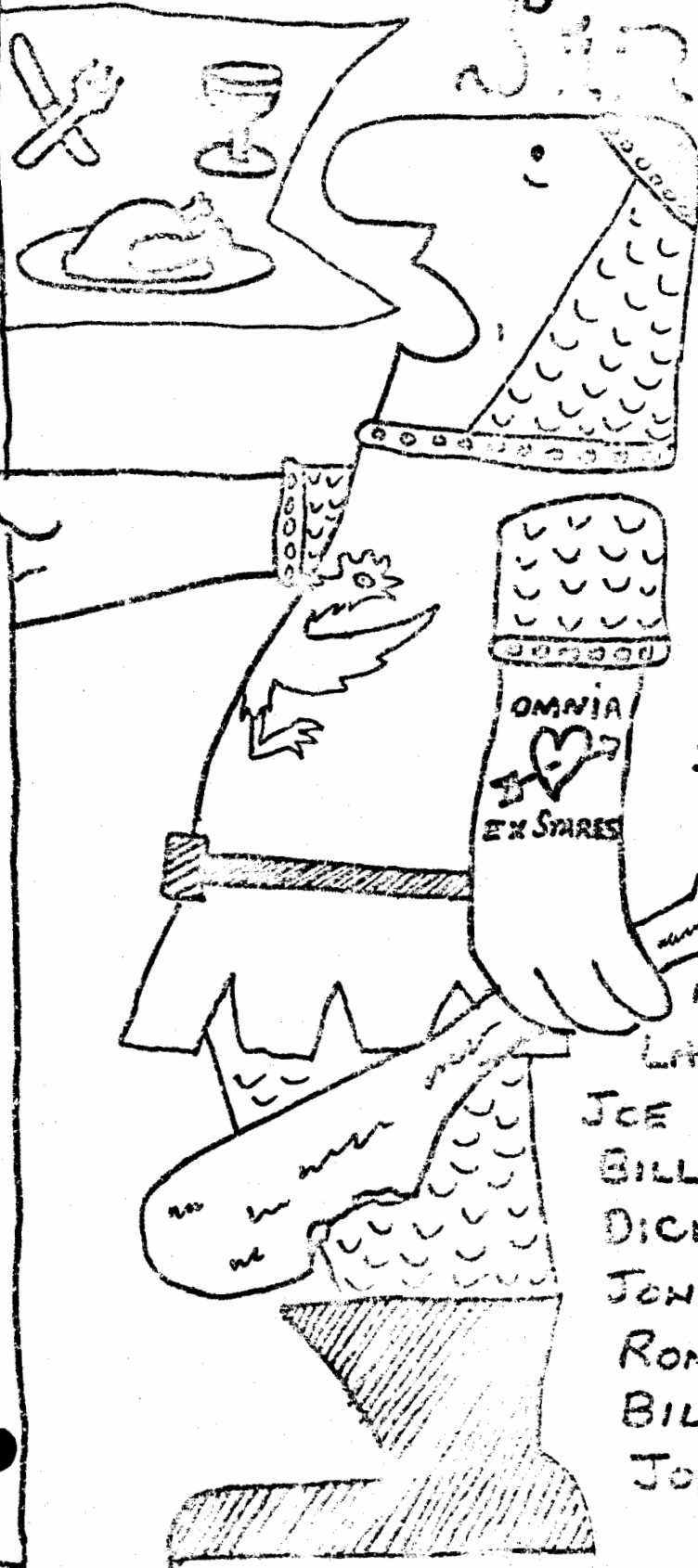


Shelton

HEAR YE, HEAR YE!
YE WINTER GREEN
PLAYERS PRESENT

VINO FEMINI, ET TRA LA



LUNCHALOT!

A PLAY & MUSICAL
BY

Calcutt

YE OLDE
MALCOLM
PIANO PLAYER

DRESS REHEARSAL: MAY 22
8:00 P.M.

(opening at 6:00 p.m. in library)
FINAL PERFORMANCE: MAY 26
8:00 P.M.

IN THE LIBRARY

CAST:

- DICK NICHOLS - LUNCHALOT
 - MABEL WHITNEY - QUEEN
HEADABEER
 - LARRY STENBERG - KING TARTER
 - JOE SHOEN - CHILD JULIUS
 - BILL KENWORTHY - ABBOT
 - DICK BRIAN - SQUIRE
 - JOHN MOSS - ITALIAN CHEF
 - RON HOFFMAN - GERMAN CHEF
 - BILL ALDRIDGE - MONK
 - JOHN BROWN'S BODY - EVERYBODY
- UNDERSTUDY!

William Gilson

SIR LUNCHALOT

1

(The dining hall of Heartburn Abbey. At stage center there is a table with several chairs. The Squire enters.)

SQUIRE

SIR LUNCHALOT, STOUT KNIGHT, SET FORTH
UPON A SUMMER DAY
AND CAME UPON SOME STUDENTS WHO
WERE SLEEPING IN THE HAY,
HE STOLEN THEIR FOOD AND ATE IT,
AT WHICH THEY ROSE FULL SORE,
THEY BEAT HIM WITH THEIR MACRAE
TO EVEN UP THE SCORE.
LUNCHALOT, LUNCHALOT, LUNCHALOT,
YOUR MANNERS WE DEPLORE.

SIR LUNCHALOT, STOUT KNIGHT, YOU SEE,
IS VERY FOND OF FOOD,
HE ALWAYS KNOWS THE CASTLES WHERE
THE FOOD IS HOT AND GOOD,
AND WHEN A MONASTERY SETS
THEIR TABLE EXTRA WELL,
THEY ALWAYS DOUBLE BAR THEIR DOORS
AND POST A SENTINEL,
LUNCHALOT, LUNCHALOT, LUNCHALOT,
CAN HEAR THEIR DINNER BELL.

(The Squire exits. The Abbot enters and sits at the table. The Monk runs in looking behind him and yells breathlessly:)

MONK

WARN THE ABBOT! WARN THE ABBOT! SIR LUNCHALOT IS AT
THE GATE!

ABBOT (rising calmly)

CALM YOURSELF, BROTHER TIMOTHY. HOW MANY TIMES HAVE
I TOLD YOU TO SPEAK SLOWLY AND DISTINCTLY, EVEN WHEN
BREATHLESS. NOW, WHAT DID YOU SAY?

MONK

BEG PARDON, YOUR HOLINESS, BUT SIR LUNCHALOT IS AT
THE GATE.

ABBOT

RUN, MAN, RUN! WARN THE BROTHERS TO HIDE THE FOOD.
HURRY! DON'T STAND THERE LIKE A BLOODYHEAD! HURRY!
I MUST COMPOSE MYSELF. THE LAST TIME LUNCHALOT WAS
HERE, WE HAD TO SUSTAIN ON BREAD AND WATER FOR A
MONTH.

(Sir Lunchalot and his squire enter)

ABBOT

WELCOME, SIR LUNCHALOT, WELCOME TO HEARTBURN ABBEY. YOU ARE JUST IN TIME FOR DINNER. COME, SIT HERE BESIDE ME. (Lunchalot and the abbot sit. The squire stands behind Lunchalot)

LUNCHALOT

THANK YOU, REVEREND SIR. IT IS ALWAYS A PLEASURE TO DINE AT HEARTBURN ABBEY.

ABBOT (sighs)

THE BEST WE CAN PROVIDE IS POOR FARE INDEED, SIR LUNCHALOT. WE ARE BEING BUDGETTED TO STARVATION HERE IN HAMELOT. THE KING PLEADS POVERTY AND TAXES US SO HIGHLY THAT WE HAVE LITTLE LEFT FOR OURSELVES. (calls) BROTHER TIMOTHY, BRING ON THE BLACK BREAD AND WATER.

(Brother Timothy enters with bread and water and sets it before the Abbot, who shares it with Lunchalot. Brother Timothy beckons to the Squire and they sit on the ground near the table to share bread and water also.) AND NOW, SIR LUNCHALOT, WHY DO YOU COME TO HAMELOT? I HAD HEARD THAT YOU WERE IN EXILE AGAIN. SOMETHING ABOUT THE KING AND TAMALES AND CHILI

LUNCHALOT

BASE RUMORS, YOUR HOLINESS. THE QUEEN SENT ME TO FRANCE TO FIND NEW RECIPES AND TO START RECRUITING COOKS TO STAFF A NEW COLLEGE OF COOKERY HERE IN HAMELOT.

ABBOT

I AM HAPPY TO HEAR THAT THE RUMORS ABOUT YOUR EXILE ARE UNFOUNDED. BUT WHY, MY DEAR KNIGHT, WHY START ANOTHER COLLEGE HERE IN HAMELOT? HEARTBURN ABBEY STANDS WILLING AND ABLE TO EDUCATE OUR YOUTH IN BOTH RELIGION AND COOKERY.

LUNCHALOT

QUEEN HEDABEEER FEELS THAT HIGHER COOKING TODAY IS STATIC. SHE WANTS TO CHANGE THE TREND TOWARD HAMBURGERS AND HOT DOGS WHICH IS SO PREVALENT IN OUR PRESENT EDUCATIONAL COOKING CURRICULUM. SHORT ORDER COOKS, MY DEAR ABBOT, ABOUND THROUGHOUT KING TARTER'S REALM.

ABBOT (sighs)

INDEED. HIGHER COOKERY TODAY SEEMS TO THRIVE ON SOUTHERN FRIED CHICKEN AND OTHER GREASY FOODS. BUT, SIR LUNCHALOT, IN OUR PROGRAMS HERE AT HEARTBURN ABBEY WE ARE TRYING TO BECOME MORE RELEVANT TO THE ACTUAL WORLD.

LUNCHALOT

I AM HAPPY TO HEAR THAT, YOUR HOLINESS. WHAT COOKING PROGRAMS DO YOU TEACH HERE NOW?

ABBOT

MOSTLY SUPPLEMENTAL TO OUR RELIGIOUS PROGRAMS, SIR LUNCHALOT, AND ALL VERY ELEMENTARY. THE FIRST TWO YEARS, SO TO SPEAK: BASIC FLOUR GRINDING, BASIC EGG BREAKING, MIXOLOGY 1 AND 2, AND WINE STOMPING. THE COOKING PROGRAMS ARE ELECTIVES TO OUR REGULAR RELIGIOUS STUDIES, ELEMENTARY PRAYING, ADVANCED BEGGING AND OUR GRADUATE COURSE IN GENUFLECTION.

LUNCHALOT

THEN HAVE NO FEARS. YOUR HOLINESS. THERE WILL BE NO CONFLICT BETWEEN OUR SCHOOLS. OUR COLLEGE OF COOKERY WILL BE COORDINATING FOODS, BRINGING THEM TOGETHER IN SUCCULENT DISHES OF DELIGHTFUL GASTRONOMICAL TASTINESS. NO, I SEE NO CONFLICT BETWEEN US.

ABBOT (hesitantly)

PERHAPS NOT. (brightens) A COLLEGE WITH PROGRAMS SUCH AS YOU SUGGEST COULD SUPPLEMENT THE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES IN HAMELOT. IN FACT, WE MIGHT SEND SOME OF OUR MONKS OVER FOR PART TIME TRAINING.

LUNCHALOT

THEY WILL BE WELCOME, YOUR HOLINESS. FORSOOTH, THIS BLACK BREAD MAKES ONE THIRSTY FOR A GOOD RED WINE TO WASH IT DOWN.

ABBOT

BROTHER TIMOTHY, BRING SIR LUNCHALOT MORE WATER.
(The Monk pours more water into Sir Lunchalot's glass)

LUNCHALOT (coldly)

THANK YOU.

ABBOT

BUT WHAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND IS WHY QUEEN HEDABEER CHOSE YOU TO START A COLLEGE OF COOKERY. YOU DON'T COOK. ALL YOU EVER DO IS EAT.

LUNCHALOT

BUT I DO KNOW WELL COOKED FOOD WHEN I TASTE IT. BESIDES, I HAVE DONE A FEW SERVICES FOR HER MAJESTY. FOR EXAMPLE, I BROUGHT A MAGNIFICENT SOUP RECIPE BACK FROM FRANCE CALLED "SOUP DU JOUR," THAT MEANS SOUP OF THE HOUR, IT IS MADE WITH

SQUIRE

HE'S OFF AGAIN. JUST MENTION FOOD AND HE WILL DISCOURSE FOR HALF AN HOUR ON A CHEESE SOUFFLE, OR AN HOUR ON THE PROPER DRESSING FOR A SALAD.

MONK

I ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT SOUP DU JOUR MEANT SOUP OF THE DAY.

SQUIRE

IT DOES. SIR LUNCHALOT SPENT A YEAR IN FRANCE, BUT HE DIDN'T QUITE LEARN THE LANGUAGE.

MONK

THE KING REALLY DID EXILE HIM FOR A YEAR THEN. I HEARD THAT THE TAMALES AND CHILI GAVE THE KING A GREAT PAIN IN THE GUT. HOW CAN LUNCHALOT EXPECT TO START A COLLEGE OF COOKERY WITH THE KING AGAINST HIM.?

SQUIRE

BECAUSE THE QUEEN IS FOR HIM AND THE KING LISTENS TO THE QUEEN, SOMETIMES. BUT GETTING THE KING TO FUND THE COLLEGE WILL BE A DIFFERENT MATTER. YOU KNOW HOW THE KING IS ABOUT MONEY.

MONK

TIGHT, VERY TIGHT.

SQUIRE

AND THEN THERE IS THE PROBLEM OF RECRUITING A FACULTY OF COOKS. "TOO MANY COOKS..." AS THEY SAY,

MONK

THE TRUTH IS, SQUIRE, THAT LUNCHALOT ONLY WANTS A FOOD FACTORY TO KEEP HIM FED. ADMIT IT NOW, IT'S A PLOT TO FEED HIS POT.

SQUIRE

TRUE. HE LOVES FOOD SO THAT HIS FONDEST DREAM HAS BEEN TO OPEN A COOKING SCHOOL WHERE THE FINEST COOKS WILL TEACH THE CULINARY ARTS. BUT HE DOES WANT TO BRING A NEW APPROACH TO COOKING TRAINING AND HE IS SEARCHING RIGHT NOW FOR COOKS WHO CAN BRING TO COOKERY NEW IDEAS, NEW RECIPES AND NEW TECHNIQUES FOR PRODUCING TASTIER TIDBITS.

LUNCHALOT

AND SO, YOUR HOLINESS, HAVING BROUGHT SOUP DU JOUR BACK FROM FRANCE, HER MAJESTY HAD ME KNIGHTED AND BADE ME FOUND A COLLEGE.

ABBOT

YOU SAY IT'S MADE WITH STICKS, STONES AND AN OLD BARE BONE. HOW CAN THAT BE?

LUNCHALOT

PERHAPS YOUR HOLINESS WOULD ENJOY SOME WITH THIS BLACK BREAD AND WATER.

ABBOT

YES, CERTAINLY, IF IT IS AS GOOD AS YOU SAY IT IS.

LUNCHALOT

IT IS BETTER.

SOUP DU JOUR
CAN BE MADE
ON THE BUDGET OF A POOR MAN
BUT TASTES LIKE A RICH MAN'S FOOD,
TAKE A STICK AND A STONE
AND AN OLD BARE BONE
TO MAKE IT FLAVORFUL AND GOOD.

PUT IN SALT
 THEN
 ADD THE PEPPER TOO,
 STIR IT WHILE THE WATER'S HOT,
 IF YOU'D LIKE
 TO
 MAKE IT INTO STEW,
 ADD VEGETABLES UNTIL YOU FILL THE POT,

SOUP DU JOUR
 CAN BE MADE
 ON THE BUDGET OF A POOR MAN,
 BUT TASTES LIKE A RICH MAN'S FOOD,
 TAKE A STICK
 AND A STONE
 AND AN OLD BARE BONE
 TO MAKE IT FLAVORFUL AND GOOD.

ABBOT

LET'S MAKE SOME. HOW DO WE START?

LUNCHALOT

FIRST WE NEED A KETTLE AND SOME WATER.

ABBOT

BROTHER TIMOTHY, BRING THE KETTLE AND WATER.

LUNCHALOT

THEN WE NEED STICKS AND STONES.

ABBOT

HOW MANY?

LUNCHALOT

IT DEPENDS HOW RICH YOU WANT THE SOUP. TWO STICKS
 MAKES A RATHER WEAK BROTH; THREE, MORE FLAVORFUL;
 FOUR, RICH, WHILE SEVERAL STONES ADDS BODY.

ABBOT

I LIKE A FULL BODIED SOUP. BROTHER TIMOTHY, BRING
 FOUR STICKS AND SEVERAL STONES. IS THERE ANYTHING
 ELSE?

LUNCHALOT

IT ALL DEPENDS WHAT YOU LIKE IN YOUR SOUP. THERE
 ARE ALL TYPES OF VARIANT ADDITIVES. THE ANCIENT
 CHINESE, FOR EXAMPLE, USED BIRDS' NESTS, WHILE THE
 ABYSSINIANS PREFER GRASSHOPPERS IN SEASON.

ABBOT

I'D RATHER HAVE VEGETABLES IN MINE.

LUNCHALOT

THEN TRY A FEW CARROTS.

ABBOT

BROTHER TIMOTHY, BRING SOME CARROTS. NOW, WHAT NEXT?

(The Squire whispers to the monk)

LUNCHALOT

WE ADD THE STICKS, AND ALLOW THEM TO COME TO FULL BOIL BEFORE ADDING THE STONES. NEXT WE ADD THE POTATOES AND ONIONS.

ABBOT

POTATOES AND ONIONS!

LUNCHALOT

HE BROUGHT THEM WITH THE CARROTS.

ABBOT

BROTHER TIMOTHY, YOU SHALL DO PENANCE FOR THIS. OH, WELL, PUT IN THE POTATOES AND ONIONS. (sniffs) IT DOES SMELL GOOD.

LUNCHALOT

NOW TO ADD THE BONE. IF YOU SHOULD HAVE AN OLD BEEF BONE AROUND, ONE NOT TOO BADLY GNAWED BY THE DOGS, IT WOULD GIVE AN ADDED TOUCH OF FLAVOR.

ABBOT

BROTHER TIMOTHY, BRING A BIG BEEF BONE AND THE SOUP MEAT. (goes to the kettle and tastes the soup.) DELICIOUS!

LUNCHALOT

(tastes also) IT NEEDS MORE SALT AND PEPPER.
(Brother Timothy returns with the beef bone and tosses it in. They sit. Brother Timothy ladles out the soup.)

ABBOT

GOD BLESS THIS SOUP DU JOUR AND SIR LUNCHALOT WHO BROUGHT IT TO US.

ALL

AMEN.

SOUP DU JOUR
 CAN BE MADE
 ON THE BUDGET OF A POOR MAN
 BUT TASTES LIKE A RICH MAN'S FOOD.
 TAKE A STICK AND A STONE
 AND AN OLD BARE BONE
 TO MAKE IT FLAVORFUL AND GOOD.
 PUT IN SALT
 THEN
 ADD THE PEPPER TOO,
 STIR IT WHILE THE WATER'S HOT,
 IF YOU'D LIKE
 TO
 MAKE IT INTO STEW
 ADD VEGETABLES UNTIL YOU FILL THE POT.
 SOUP DU JOUR
 CAN BE MADE
 ON THE BUDGET OF A POOR MAN,
 BUT TASTES LIKE A RICH MAN'S FOOD.
 TAKE A STICK AND A STONE
 AND AN OLD BARE BONE
 TO MAKE IT FLAVORFUL AND GOOD.

ABBOT

SIR LUNCHALOT, IF ONLY MY COOK KNEW AS MUCH ABOUT
 COOKING AS YOU DO.

LUNCHALOT

SEND HIM TO MY COOKING COLLEGE AND I'LL GUARANTEE YOU
 HE WILL RETURN A WELL ROUNDED MONK.

ABBOT (rising)

SO I SHALL, AS SOON AS YOU OPEN IT. IN THE MEANTIME
 WE ARE GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR INTRODUCING US TO SOUP DU JOUR.
 WILL YOU JOIN US FOR THE HOUR OF PRAYER.

LUNCHALOT

I HAVE ALREADY OVERSTAYED MY WELCOME, YOUR HOLINESS,
 I REALLY MUST BE ON MY WAY. SO, IF YOU WILL EXCUSE ME,
 I WILL BE LEAVING. YOU MAY KEEP THE RECIPE FOR SOUP DU
 JOUR. COME SQUIRE.

ABBOT

THANK YOU, AGAIN. A STICK, A STONE AND AN OLD BARE BONE,
 EXCELLENT. GOOD EATING ATTEND YOU. FAREWELL, SIR LUNCHALOT.
 COME, BROTHER TIMOTHY, TO WORSHIP.

MONK

AT LEAST WITH A FULL STOMACH.

(They all exit bearing off the kettle and other equipment. The table and chairs remain. The Squire re-enters.)

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SQUIRE

IN HAMELOT THE QUEEN IS PLAGUED
WITH CHEFS WHO CANNOT COOK,
THEY CAUSE THE KING TO RANT AND RAVE
AND GIVER HER DIRTY LOOKS,
SHE TRIES TO PACIFY THE KING
WITH TANTALIZING TASTE,
BUT ONLY FINDS HERSELF WITH FOOD
THAT QUICKLY GOES TO WASTE,
HEDABEER, HEDABEER, HEDABEER,
CALL LUNCHALOT IN HASTE. (he exits)

(Queen Hedabeer enters with King Harald Tarter I into the small dining hall at the palace of Hamelot.)

HEDABEER

NOW, DEAR, AS FAR AS SEATING ARRANGEMENTS GO, WE CAN PUT SIR ALEX, PRINCE VIOLENT, SIR BILIOUS ON THIS SIDE. THE ABBOT, YOURSELF AT THE HEAD, AND MYSELF WITH SIR OLIGRANCE AT THE FOOT. ON THE OTHER HAND, WITH SO MANY GUESTS, I SUPPOSE WE SHOULD USE THE BANQUET HALL AND THEN WE CAN INVITE ALL THE OTHER PEOPLE WE OWE DINNER PARTIES TO.

TARTER

DO WE HAVE TO HAVE ANOTHER BANQUET? THE LAST ONE GAVE ME A PAIN IN THE GUT THAT LASTED TWO DAYS. TAMALES AND CHILI, BAH!

HEDABEER

YES, IT WAS VERY SUCCESSFUL. BUT THIS TIME, DEAR, IT WILL BE DIFFERENT AND YOU WILL FEEL NO PAIN. I HAVE IMPORTED THREE NEW COOKS, ONE ITALIAN, ONE GERMAN, AND ONE FRENCH TO PREPARE AN INTERNATIONAL BANQUET. JUST IMAGINE, PIZZA, SOUFFLE, AND SAUERKRAUT ALL AT THE SAME MEAL!

TARTER

IT SOUNDS ABOMINABLE (or abdominable). BUT, WHATEVER YOU LIKE, MY DEAR. I SUPPOSE MY STOMACH CAN STAND IT. JUST NO MORE OF THAT TAMALES AND CHILI. IT'S TOO HARD ON MY GUT.

HEDABEER

HARALD TARTER THE FIRST! PLEASE DO NOT BE VULGAR!
THAT IS TWICE YOU HAVE USED THAT OBSCENE THREE LETTER
WORD.

TARTER

I KNOW A LOT OF OBSCENE THREE LETTER WORDS. AND I'LL
USE THEM IF YOUR NEW COOKS ARE NO BETTER THAN THE LAST.

HEDABEER

I GUARANTEE THEY WILL BE BETTER. SIR LUNCHALOT HIMSELF
IS COMING TO TEST THEM BEFORE THEY COOK FOR OUR BANQUET
TONIGHT.

TARTER

IS THAT SCOUNDREL BACK IN TOWN? I THOUGHT I EXILED HIM
TO FRANCE.

HEDABEER

YOU DID EXILE HIM, DEAR, BUT NOW HE'S BACK WITH NEW
RECIPES FOR US.

TARTER

SO HE CAN EXPERIMENT ON MY GUT AGAIN, EH! WELL, IF
HE COMES NEAR ME WITH HIS TAMALES AND CHILI, I'LL HAVE
HIM EXECUTED.

HEDABEER

HARALD TARTER! YOU NEVER WILL APPRECIATE WHAT THAT
GOOD KNIGHT HAS DONE FOR US.

TARTER

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU SEE IN HIM, HEDABEER. HE'S FAT.
HE'S OPINIONATED AND AS FAR AS FOOD GOES, HE KNOWS
NOTHING.

HEDABEER

LUNCHALOT KNOWS A GREAT DEAL ABOUT FOOD, AND WHAT HE
DOESN'T KNOW HE IS WILLING TO LEARN. THAT IS WHY HE
IS GOING TO START A COLLEGE OF COOKERY IN HAMLOTT.

TARTER

HIM! START A COLLEGE OF COOKERY, HERE!

HEDABEER

YES, DEAR, AND HE IS COMING TO THE PALACE NOW TO TALK OVER THE DETAILS WITH US.

TARTER

NOT WITH ME, HE ISN'T. I DO NOT WANT TO BE UPSET BEFORE LUNCH, AS I MOST CERTAINLY WILL BE AFTER LUNCH. (exits)
to ~~RIGHT~~ LEFT

HEDABEER

POOR HARALD TARTER, SUCH A WEAK STOMACH. WELCOME, SIR LUNCHALOT. (as Sir Lunchalot enters) from RIGHT

LUNCHALOT

YOUR MAJESTY, IT IS TRULY A JOY TO BE HERE AGAIN. TO BE BACK WITH YOU IS WORTH MISSING A MEAL OR TWO.

HEDABEER

OH, LUNCH, I'VE MISSED YOU TOO. (sings)

IN HAMELOT WE'VE ALWAYS GOT BAD WEATHER,
IN HAMELOT IT'S RAINING ALL THE TIME,
THOUGH WHEN YOU SHOW UP WEATHER'S NEVER BETTER,
MY DEAR,
BUT THROUGH THE RAINDROPS RAINBOWS SEEM TO SHINE.

WITH YOU HERE, LUNCHALOT,
IT'S QUITE CLEAR, HAMELOT
IS A BETTER PLACE TO COOK IN
THOUGH IT'S NOT A BEAUTY SPOT,
HAVE NO FEAR, LUNCHALOT,
FOR I'M HERE ON THE SPOT
AND I KNOW
YOU WILL FIND
ALL YOU WANT
HERE IN HAMELOT.

LUNCHALOT

IN HAMELOT THERE IS NO ENTERTAINMENT,
IN HAMELOT THE COOKING'S ALWAYS SAD,
BUT WHEN I SEE YOU STANDING THERE IN RAINMENT
LIKE THAT,
I KNOW THAT HAMELOT CAN'T BE ALL BAD.

LUNCHALOT (continued)

WITH YOU HERE, HEDABEER,
 THERE ARE TIMES IN THE YEAR
 WHEN THE SOCIAL LIFE OF HAMELOT
 TAKES ON A TINT OF CHEER,
 BUT IT'S CLEAR HAMELOT
 WILL REMAIN A DREARY SPOT
 AND THAT GRAY
 IS THE COLOR
 OF THE DAY
 HERE IN HAMELOT.

LUNCHALOT AND HEDABEER

WHEN YOU'RE HERE, HAMELOT,
 ALMOST SEEMS A LIKELY SPOT
 FOR THE STARTING OF A ROMANCE
 THAT COULD TURN OUR PASSIONS HOT,
 BUT WITH RAIN ALL THE DAY
 ALL OUR PASSIONS WASH AWAY
 AND WE FIND
 WE'VE NO MIND
 FOR AFFAIRS OF THIS KIND
 IN HAMELOT,
 IN HAMELOT,
 OUR HAMELOT.

HEDABEER

I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO GIVE A DECENT BANQUET SINCE
 YOU WERE EXILED, LUNCH.

LUNCHALOT

BUT NOW YOU CAN, FAIR QUEEN, FOR I HAVE RETURNED TO
 FOUND OUR COLLEGE OF COOKERY.

HEDABEER

OUR COLLEGE OF COOKERY. A COLLEGE WHICH WILL CHANGE
 THE VERY CONCEPTS OF COOKING EDUCATION. BUT, LUNCH,
 I HAVE HEARD SOME DISTURBING RUMORS ABOUT THE KINDS OF
 INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS YOU WANT TO HAVE IN THE COLLEGE.
 RUMORS ABOUT "FREE COOKING", UNLICENSED BAKING, AND
 SMOKING YOUR POTS.

LUNCHALOT

RUMORS ONLY, SWEET QUEEN, FOR WE WILL NOT HAVE PROGRAMS
 AS SUCH IN OUR COLLEGE. THEY WILL BE COURSES.

HEDABEER

COURSES? COURSES IN COOKING EDUCATION?

LUNCHALOT

EACH PROGRAM WILL BE A COURSE OF FOOD PREPARATION. YOU, YOURSELF, DEAR QUEEN, HAVE EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT WE NEED A CHANGE IN THE TERMINOLOGY OF COOKING EDUCATION. A FRESH BREATH OF SEMANTICS THROUGH THE STAGNANT SWAMP OF CURRENT EDUCATIONAL TERMINOLOGY.

HEDABEER

YOU PUT IT SO WELL, SIR LUNCHALOT. COURSES! LIKE COURSES OF FOOD AT A BANQUET. HOW NOVEL!

LUNCHALOT

IT IS ONLY AN EXTENSION OF YOUR WISH, YOUR MAJESTY.

HEDABEER

BUT A TRUE INSPIRATION ON YOUR PART, SIR LUNCHALOT.

LUNCHALOT (modestly)

I DO FEEL IT WAS A FIRST RATE THOUGHT JOB.

HEDABEER

IF MY NEW COOKS TURN OUT BADLY, I'LL SEND THEM TO OUR COLLEGE. BUT THAT IS THE REAL REASON I WANTED YOU HERE NOW, LUNCH. I WANT YOU TO PRE-TEST MY COOKS' COOKING. I FEAR THAT THE KING WILL BE MOST UPSET IF OUR BANQUET TONIGHT IS NOT PALATABLE. SO, IF YOU DON'T MIND, I'LL JUST CALL IN THE COOKS AND LET YOU SAMPLE THEIR SOUFFLES.

LUNCHALOT

CHEFS, MY DEAR QUEEN, LET US ALL THEM CHEFS. THAT IS WHAT THE FRENCH ARE CALLING THEM NOW.

HEDABEER

OH, REALLY? THEN I SHALL CALL MY COOKS CHEFS TOO. PERHAPS THAT WILL MOLLIFY THE KING. ANYHOW, LUNCH, I HAVE HAD EACH OF MY NEW COOKS, THAT IS, CHEFS, PREPARE A SOUFFLE WHICH I WANT YOU TO TASTE AND DETERMINE IF THEY ARE FIT TO FEED THE KING.

LUNCHALOT

WILLINGLY, DEAR QUEEN, SEND THEM IN. (He sits at the table and tucks a napkin under his chin)

HEDABEER

(rings the dinner gong. The first chef enters, soufflé bowl in hand) SIR LUNCHALOT, THIS IS MY GERMAN CHEF, LUDWIG VON HEIDELBERG. (the German chef clicks his heels and bows)

LUNCHALOT

LUDWIG, IF YOUR SIZE INDICATES YOUR ABILITIES AS A CHEF, THE KING IS IN GOOD HANDS.

HEDABEER

HE DOES LOOK WELL FED. COME, LUDWIG, LET US TRY YOUR SOUFFLÉ. (she sits beside Lunchalot. The souffle is put upon plates. Lunchalot tastes. Lunchalot grimaces.)

LUNCHALOT

IT TASTES LIKE SAUERKRAUT.

HEDABEER

INDEED IT DOES. LUDWIG, THIS SOUFFLÉ TASTES LIKE SAUERKRAUT. SIR LUNCHALOT THINKS IT TASTES LIKE SAUERKRAUT. HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THAT?

GERMAN

I AM A GERMAN COOK, FRAULEIN, NOT FRENCH. I MAKE THE FINEST SAUERKRAUT IN DER VORLT.

LUNCHALOT

BUT YOU CAN'T MAKE A SOUFFLÉ.

HEDABEER

YOU HEARD HIM, LUDWIG. YOU CAN'T COOK A SOUFFLÉ. YOU ARE HEREWITH DISCHARGED. BUT, IF YOU ATTEND SIR LUNCHALOT'S COLLEGE OF COOKERY AND LEARN HOW TO MAKE A SOUFFLÉ, I WILL CONSIDER REHIRING YOU.

GERMAN

YOU WILL BE SORRY, FRAULEIN. I AM A GOOT COOK. UND AS FOR YOU, LUNCHALOT, IF I CATCH YOU ALONE, I WILL BOIL YOU ALIVE. TODAY GERMAN COOKERY, TOMORROW DER VORLT. (exits)

HEDABEER

GERMANS! THEY BOIL EVERYTHING! GOOD RIDDANCE. NOW FOR MY ITALIAN CHEF. LUIGI SCRAPINO, LUIGI, BRING IN YOUR SOUFFLÉ. (Italian chef enters, presents his souffle, bows and puts it in front of Lunchalot. Lunchalot tastes, grimaces, and passes it to the queen, who also tastes and grimaces.)

LUNCHALOT

DO YOU CALL THIS A SOUFFLE? IT TASTES MORE LIKE A PIZZA.

HEDABEER

INDEED IT DOES, LUIGI.

ITALIAN

THERE'S EMS THE BEST-A I CAN DO WITH - PAH! FRENCH COOKING.

HEDABEER

WHAT GOOD ARE YOU IF YOU CAN'T COOK IN FRENCH ?

ITALIAN

I AM-A INSULT. I MAKA DA FINEST PIZZAS IN THE WORLD.

HEDABEER

BUT YOU CAN'T MAKE A SOUFFLE. YOU, TOO, ARE DISCHARGED. IF YOU DECIDE YOU WOULD LIKE TO IMPROVE YOUR SKILLS AND BE REHIRED, YOU CAN GO TO SIR LUNCHALOT'S COLLEGE OF COOKERY.

ITALIAN

LUNCHALOT, LUNCHALOT. ALL I HEAR IS LUNCHALOT.
(to Lunchalot) SOME DAY I FEEK YOU. I BASTE YOU IN OLIVE OIL. (exits)

HEDABEER

GOOD RIDDANCE. NOW FOR MY FRENCH CHEF, CHILDE JULIUS, COME IN PLEASE. SIR LUNCHALOT, MAY I PRESENT CHILDE JULIUS, THE FRENCH CHEF.

JULIUS

I AM CHARMED TO MEET YOU, SIR LUNCHALOT. HERE, YOUR MAJESTY, I HAVE THE SUPREME EXAMPLE OF FRENCH CULINARY ART, THE SOUFFLE. LIGHT AND DELICATE AS A SUMMER BREEZE. (He presents the dish to Lunchalot. Lunchalot tastes, smiles.)

LUNCHALOT

NOW THIS IS WHAT I CALL A SOUFFLE.

JULIUS

I AM HAPPY YOU LIKE IT, SIR LUNCHALOT.

LUNCHALOT

~~HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED BEING A CONSULTANT?~~

LUNCHALOT

HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED BEING A CONSULTANT?

JULIUS

NO. HOW DO YOU GO ABOUT IT?

LUNCHALOT

IF THE QUEEN WOULD PERMIT IT, YOU WOULD COME AND GIVE ME ADVICE ON HOW TO SET UP OUR COLLEGE OF COOKERY. YOU SEE, I HAVE THE THEORETICAL KNOWLEDGE ABOUT COOKING COLLEGES, I ONCE WROTE A BOOK ENTITLED "SPACE UTILIZATION IN THE KITCHEN", BUT I LACK THE TECHNICAL KNOW-HOW WHICH YOU HAVE.

JULIUS

BUT HOW DOES THAT MAKE ME A CONSULTANT?

LUNCHALOT

BECAUSE YOU HAVE A SKILL. YOU ARE AN EXPERT (waves a forkfull of souffle) OBVIOUSLY, AND BEING AN EXPERT MAKES YOU A CONSULTANT.

WHEN YOU HAVE A LITTLE SKILL
BE A CONSULTANT,
IF YOU TALK A LOT, YOU WILL
BE A CONSULTANT,
YOU CAN NAME YOUR PRICE
FOR YOUR ADVICE,
AND THEN SKIP TOWN
WITH GREAT RENOWN.

IF YOU HAVE A BASIC SKILL
BE A CONSULTANT,
ANY SKILLFULL IMBECILE
CAN BE A CONSULTANT,
SO YOU SOON WILL FIND
THAT YOU'RE IN DEMAND
IN ALL THE SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT THE LAND.

YOU KNOW THE ART OF COOKING FOOD,
AND PRACTICE IT EACH DAY,
SO WHY NOT PUT YOUR SKILLS TO WORK
AND PRACTICE IT FOR PAY.

JULIUS

WHEN IT COMES TO COOKING FOOD,
I'M A CONSULTANT,
AND I HAVE AN APTITUDE
AS A CONSULTANT,
I CAN NAME MY PRICE
FOR MY ADVICE
THEN DEMONSTRATE
JUST HOW I'M GREAT,

BUT I SOON WILL HAVE MY FILL
BEING CONSULTANT,
AND THEN YOU WILL GET MY BILL
AS A CONSULTANT,
PLEASE THEN RECOMMEND
ME TO ALL YOUR FRIENDS
IN ALL THE SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT THE LAND.

LUNCHALOT AND JULIUS

THERE'S A CERTAIN ORAL SKILL
IN A CONSULTANT,
YOU WILL HAVE TO TALK UNTIL
YOU'RE A CONSULTANT,
IF YOU PRACTICE SPEECH
THEN YOU WILL REACH
THE APEX OF CONSULTING FAME
FOR CONSULTING IS A WELL PAID GAME, MY FRIENDS,
CONSULTING IS A WELL PAID GAME.

JULIUS

I WILL BE DELIGHTED TO ACT AS A CONSULTANT. NOW AS
TO MY FEE.

LUNCHALOT (hastily)

SINCE YOU ARE NEW AT CONSULTING, AND ARE GOING TO
LEARN, AS IT WERE, ON US, I THINK THE BEST WE CAN
OFFER YOU IS A SUPERB KITCHEN PLUS ALL THE FOOD
YOU CAN EAT.

JULIUS

I'LL TAKE IT. BUT HOW ABOUT MY JOB HERE AS CHEF
TO THE QUEEN. (turns to Hedabeer) WILL YOU RELEASE
ME FOR CONSULTANT DUTY?

HEDABEER

PROVIDING YOU SUPERVISE A BANQUET A MONTH FOR ME.

LUNCHALOT

NO PROBLEM, MADAM, HE CAN DO TWO BANQUETS IF YOU WISH.

JULIUS

NOW HOLD ON. I CAN'T BE CONSULTING AND PROVIDING SUPERVISION FOR TWO BANQUETS A MONTH, ONE IS ENOUGH.

HEDABEER

ONE IS SUFFICIENT. I DOUBT THAT THE KING COULD SURVIVE TWO BANQUETS A MONTH. NOW COME ALONG, YOU TWO, OFF TO THE KITCHEN TO PLAN TONIGHT'S BANQUET. I WANT TO HOLD IT IN THE LARGE BANQUET HALL AND TO IMPRESS THE KING SO HE WILL FUND YOUR COLLEGE OF COOKERY. COME, SIR LUNCHALOT, CHILDE JULIUS, ATTEND ME.

LUNCHALOT

AFTER YOU, DEAR QUEEN. I THINK THE KING WOULD ENJOY A FIRST COURSE OF SOUP DU JOUR.

(They exit discussing the banquet. The discarded German chef enters, he looks warily around. Then he signals for the Italian chef to enter.)

GERMAN

VE HAF TO GET REVENGE ON LUNCHALOT, LUIGI. VE MUST RUIN THAT BANQUET TONIGHT. VE CAN MAKE DER KING SUFFER SO THAT LUNCHALOT VILL SUFFER.

ITALIAN

BUT HOW? WE HAVE BEEN , HOW YOU SAY, DISCHARGED.

GERMAN

THEY HAVE TO HAVE OUR HELP TO COOK DER BANQUET. DER KING HAS EXILED ALL DER COOKS IN DER KINGDOM, BUT US. ALL VE HAF TO DO IS TO ASK LUNCHALOT FOR A CHOB.

ITALIAN

BUT LUDWIG, AFTER WHAT HE SAID ABOUT OUR COOKING?

GERMAN

WHO CARES VOT HE SAID. VE CAN FIX HIM GOOT. VE CAN
SABOTAGE THE BANQUET.

ITALIAN

BUT HOW?

GERMAN

VE CAN POISON DER PIZZA,
BAKE FOAM RUBBER CAKE,
MAKE A FARCE OF THIS BANQUET TONIGHT,
WITH A LITTLE HARD VORK,
VE'LL GET RID OF THAT JERK
UND CAN MAYBE DO IN SOME BRAVE KNIGHT.

ITALIAN

WE CAN SABOTAGE SUZETTES,
PUT STRYCHNINE IN WINE,
THERE ARE WONDERFUL MEAN THINGS TO DO,
WE COULD EVEN ARRANGE
WHILE WE'RE HOT AT THE RANGE
TO MIX SOUFFLE TOGETHER WITH GLUE.

GERMAN AND ITALIAN

WE KNOW THE WAYS TO SPOIL A MEAL
WE'VE TRIED THEM EVERYONE.
SIR LUNCHALOT WILL SURELY FAIL
AND GIVE US LOTS OF FUN.

WE CAN POISON THE PIZZA
BAKE FOAM RUBBER CAKE,
MAKE A FARCE OF THIS BANQUET TONIGHT,
WITH A LITTLE HARD WORK
WE'LL GET RID OF THAT JERK
AND CAN MAYBE DO IN SOME BRAVE KNIGHT
WITH A LITTLE HARD WORK
WE'LL GET RID OF THAT JERK
AND CAN MAYBE DO IN SOME BRAVE KNIGHT.
(They dance a little minuet)

ITALIAN

THAT'S A GOOD TRICK, BUT LET US COVER THE FOAM RUBBER
CAKE WITH THICK CHOCOLATE FROSTING.

GERMAN

A GOOT IDEA. I CAN HARDLY WAIT TO SEE DER KING'S FACE
VEN HE TRIES TO CUT IT.

ITALIAN

THE KING WILL EXILE LUNCHALOT FOR GOOD THIS TIME. AND WE WILL BE REVENGED.

GERMAN

GOOT. NOW COME, LET US PLOT A LITTLE. (they exit)

(Lunchalot, Childe Julius and the Squire re-enter)

LUNCHALOT

THERE, THAT WILL TAKE CARE OF THE BANQUET. NOW ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS TO RECRUIT OUR FACULTY, DECIDE ON OUR CURRICULUM AND FIND FUNDING FOR THE COLLEGE.

JULIUS

THE FUNDING, I FEAR, DEPENDS ON HOW THE BANQUET GOES. IF THE KING ENJOYS IT, WE WILL BE FUNDED. IF NOT, WE WILL BE EXILED.

LUNCHALOT

OR EXECUTED, BUT FEAR NOT, CHILDE JULIUS, IT WILL BE A SUPERB BANQUET. WITH YOU IN CHARGE, HOW COULD THE BANQUET BE ANYTHING BUT A SUCCESS. IN THE MEANTIME, LET US PROCEED TO HIRE OUR FACULTY AND PLAN FOR OUR COLLEGE. SQUIRE, DO YOU HAVE THE APPLICATIONS?

SQUIRE

YES, SIRE. THEY ARE ALL HERE. (He taps a bulging briefcase)

LUNCHALOT

GOOD! LET US BEGIN THE SCREENING OF OUR FACULTY APPLICANTS. SQUIRE, HAVE THEM COME IN.

(The Squire goes out and brings in the German and Italian chefs.)

SQUIRE

HERE THEY ARE, SIRE.

LUNCHALOT

IS THAT ALL?

SQUIRE

KING TARTER HAS EXILED ALL THE REST, SIR LUNCHALOT.

LUNCHALOT

AND THIS IS WHAT IS LEFT? OH, WELL, (sighs) NAMES PLEASE.

ITALIAN

LUIGI SCRAPINO.

GERMAN

LUDWIG VON HEIDELBERG.

LUNCHALOT

DON'T I KNOW YOU FROM SOMEWHERE?

ITALIAN

PERHAPS. I AM ONE OF THE PIZZA MASTERS OF ITALY.

GERMAN

UND MY SAUERKRAUT IS UNSURPASSED IN DER VORLT.

LUNCHALOT

EXCELLENT. THEN YOU BOTH WANT TO BECOME MEMBERS OF OUR FACULTY.

GERMAN AND ITALIAN

SI, YA.

LUNCHALOT

YOU MUST REALIZE THAT WE HAVE RECEIVED 7,222 APPLICATIONS FOR POSITIONS ON THE FACULTY HERE, BUT SO FAR WE HAVE ACCEPTED NONE.

GERMAN

VY NOT?

LUNCHALOT

BECAUSE MOST OF THE APPLICATIONS ARE FROM COOKS WHO WANT TO GET AWAY FROM COOKING FOR A YEAR WHILE OUR COLLEGE IS IN ITS PLANNING STAGE.

ITALIAN

WE LOVE TO COOK.

GERMAN

UND TO TEACH OUR COOKING TO OTHER COOKS.

LUNCHALOT

AHA! I REMEMBER NOW WHERE I KNOW YOU FROM. YOU WERE JUST FIRED FROM THE QUEEN'S KITCHEN. NEITHER OF YOU COULD COOK A SOUFFLE.

JULIUS

MAY I SAY A WORD AS YOUR CONSULTANT, SIR LUNCHALOT. THE BANQUET TONIGHT, AS WE PLANNED IT, INCLUDES COURSES OF PIZZA AND SAUERKRAUT. HERE WE HAVE TWO CHEFS WHO, ALTHOUGH THEY ARE POOR AT SOUFFLES, ARE EXPERTS IN PIZZA AND SAUERKRAUT.

LUNCHALOT

BUT WHAT WILL THE QUEEN SAY?

JULIUS

SHE WOULD SAY, "USE THEM, LUNCH" AT LEAST FOR THIS BANQUET AS THE KING HAS EXILED ALL THE REMAINING COOKS FROM THE KINGDOM.

LUNCHALOT

I SUPPOSE WE ARE FORCED TO USE THEM.

JULIUS

WITH THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE GOING UP IN HAMELOT, I'M SURE THE KING WOULD APPRECIATE THE COLLEGE HIRING THE UNEMPLOYED. THE KING WANTS HIS JOBS-RIGHT-AWAY PROGRAM TO GET ROLLING.

SQUIRE

WITH A LITTLE RETRAINING, SIR LUNCHALOT, THEY WOULD BE EMPLOYABLE. YOU HAVE REPEATEDLY SAID THAT YOU WANT CHEFS WITH BROAD BACKGROUNDS, AND THEIRS ARE BROAD ENOUGH TO SUIT ANYONE.

GERMAN (to Italian)

IF THERE'S ANYTHING I HATE, IT'S A SMART MOUTHED SQUIRE.

ITALIAN (to German)

A LNETIA POISONED PIZZA WERL FENX HEBM.

SQUIRE

AND IF YOUR BANQUET GOES WELL, YOU CAN PROBABLY PERSUADE THE KING TO BRING BACK THE EXILED COOKS FOR RETRAINING IN WHAT MIGHT BE CALLED THE NEW FUTURES PROGRAM.

LUNCHALOT

AN EXCELLENT IDEA, SQUIRE. THE NEW FUTURES PROGRAM. RETRAINING THE TRAINED TO BE USEFUL. AT LEAST WE SHOULD SUPPORT THE KING'S PROGRAMS, IF WE EXPECT TO BE FUNDED BY HIM. CHEFS, FOR YOU ARE NO LONGER COOKS BUT BEAR A HIGHER TITLE. CHEFS, YOU ARE NOW MEMBERS OF THE COOKERY OF HAMMLOT'S NEWEST COLLEGE.

ITALIAN AND GERMAN

GRAZIA, DANKA, SIR LUNCHALOT.

JULIUS

LET US PROCEED WITH OUR AGENDA.

LUNCHALOT

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY AGENDA.

SQUIRE

IT'S WHERE YOU PUT DOWN A LIST OF SUBJECTS YOU WANT TO DISCUSS AND DISCUSS THEM IN THE ORDER IN WHICH YOU PUT THEM DOWN.

LUNCHALOT

BUT WE WILL BE MAINLY TALKING ABOUT COOKING COURSES.

SQUIRE

THEN WHY DON'T YOU CALL IT A MENU INSTEAD.

LUNCHALOT

ANOTHER EXCELLENT IDEA, SQUIRE. WE COULD HAVE A FRESH ITEM OF FOOD BROUGHT IN AS WE DISCUSS IT. A MENU IT WILL BE. A POX ON AGENDAS; MENUS WILL MAKE A CONFERENCE ON COOKERY SKILLS ACCEPTABLE. LET US SIT DOWN, GENTLEMEN, AND PLAN OUR MENU.

JULIUS

BEFORE WE START ON MENUS, I MOVE WE NAME OUR NEW COLLEGE AFTER KING TARTER.

LUNCHALOT

BUT ONLY AFTER HE GIVES US THE MONEY.

JULIUS

OF COURSE. AND IT IS ALSO MY ADVICE TO SET UP THE ACADEMIC COURSES WITHIN SCHOOLS; EACH SCHOOL TO BE HEADED BY A CHIEF CHEF.

LUNCHALOT

GOOD, GOOD. WE CAN NAME THE SCHOOLS, TOO. CALL ONE, FOR EXAMPLE, THE CHILDE JULIUS SCHOOL. UNDER IT WOULD FALL THE SOUL FOOD SEMINAR, AUTO-TUTORIAL CARVING, AND GOURMET COOKING. THE SECOND SCHOOL, MODESTLY NAMED FOR ME, WOULD INCLUDE INDEPENDENT BAKING AND MENU PREPARATION. THE THIRD SCHOOL, KNOWN AS THE BEERY SCHOOL OF DRINKING, WOULD COVER THE LIQUID ELEMENTS OF A MEAL.

JULIUS

I AM FLATTERED AT THE THOUGHT OF HAVING A SCHOOL NAMED AFTER ME, BUT I CANNOT AGREE TO YOUR NOMENCLATURE. IT IS MY RECOMMENDATION THAT WE HAVE SCHOOLS NAMED AFTER CERTAIN FOODS OR FUNCTIONS WHICH EMBODY GREEK LETTERS. THE PI SCHOOL, FOR EXAMPLE, THE LAMBDA SCHOOL, AND THE ETA SCHOOL.

SQUIRE

I HAVE IT! HOW ABOUT MAKING ONE THE BETA SCHOOL. THEN YOU COULD CALL THEM ALL TOGETHER THE BETA BETA PI SCHOOLS.

LUNCHALOT

UGH! SILENCE SQUIRE. LET US TABLE THE NAME OF THE COLLEGE AND THE SCHOOLS UNTIL WE CAN GET INPUT FROM OUR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS. THE NEXT ITEM ON OUR MENU IS TO FIND A GENERIC NAME FOR OUR CURRICULUM.

GERMAN

WE COULD CALL DER CURRICULUM "HOME EC"

LUNCHALOT

THAT DOESN'T SING. IT JUST DOESN'T HAVE THE RIGHT SOUND.

SQUIRE

HOW ABOUT "BY YOURSELF COOKING"

JULIUS

WELL, SIR LUNCHALOT?

LUNCHALOT

NO, WE NEED SOMETHING MORE CATCHY. BY YOURSELF COOKING IS TOO RESTRICTIVE.

ITALIAN

"BY YOURSELF BAKING"

LUNCHALOT

CALL IT BY YOURSELF BAKING
OR ANYTHING ELSE
IT WILL ALL BE THE SAME IN THE END,
AND EACH EXERCISE DONE
WILL FILL OUT THE WHOLE SUM
OF THE KNOWLEDGE THE STUDENT HAS GAINED.

FOR A NAME IS A NAME IS A NAME IS A NAME,
YOU CAN CALL IT WHATEVER YOU WILL,
SINCE THE STUDENT CAN LEARN MANY THINGS BY HIMSELF
AND CAN TEACH HIMSELF ALL BASIC SKILLS.

THIS DOES AWAY
WITH TEACHERS WHO
CAN ONLY TEACH BY ROTE,
AND LETS INSTRUCTORS
CONCENTRATE
ON PROGRAMS TO PROMOTE.

in chorus { WE WILL AUTOMATE BAKING
AND TEACH BY MACHINE
ALL THE FINE ART OF KNEADING THE DOUGH,
WE'LL BE KNOWN AS THE SCHOOL
WHERE AN IGNORANT FOOL
CAN LEARN ALL THAT HE'S ITCHING TO KNOW,
AND IT'S HERE AT OUR SCHOOL
WHERE THE MOST IGNORANT FOOL
CAN LEARN IF HE'S WILLING TO GO,
CAN LEARN IF HE'S WILLING TO GO.

JULIUS

WE COULD HAVE A CONTEST. WHOEVER COMES UP WITH THE BEST NAME FOR OUR COURSES WOULD WIN A BOTTLE OF IMPORTED SCOTCH FROM OUR DISTILLERIES LOCATED IN DOWNTOWN HAMELOT.

ITALIAN

I STILL LIKE HOME ECONOMICS.

LUNCHALOT

IT SOUNDS TOO PROSAIC. EVERY COLLEGE OF COOKERY ON THE CONTINENT HAS LABELED THEIR PROGRAMS HOME EC. FRENCH HOME EC., SPANISH HOME EC.,

GERMAN

UND GERMAN HOME EC UBER ALLES!

SQUIRE

I HAVE IT! I HAVE IT! COORDINATED COOKING. IT'S A NATURAL.

LUNCHALOT

I THINK HE'S GOT IT! WHAT SAY, GENTLEMEN, TO COORDINATED COOKING. AYE OR NAY?

ALL

AYE.

LUNCHALOT

THE AYES HAVE IT. COORDINATED COOKING IT SHALL BE.

JULIUS

AND COULD I PUT IN A BID FOR CONTRACTED COOKERY ALSO. FOR EXAMPLE, THE STUDENT COULD CONTRACT FOR WINE TASTING AND HAVING PASSED THE TESTS COULD RECEIVE CREDIT.

LUNCHALOT

I AGREE, AND THE INSTRUCTOR COULD HAVE THE JOY OF TEACHING THE STUDENT, WITH THE STUDENT SUPPLYING THE WINE, OF COURSE.

ALL

OF COURSE.

JULIUS

AS MY LAST PIECE OF ADVICE, I WOULD SUGGEST THAT COOKING SHOULD ALSO BE A PERFORMING ART. AFTER ALL, WHO BETTER THAN MYSELF KNOWS THE ART OF DEMONSTRATING FRENCH COOKERY.

SQUIRE

RIGHT. I CAN SEE IT NOW. CHILDE JULIUS CARVING A ROAST BEFORE A SLOBBERING AUDIENCE.

JULIUS

THAT'S SALIVATING.

SQUIRE

SORRY, CHIEF CHEF.

JULIUS

THEN I SHALL APPOINT A DISAPPEARING TASTE FORCE TO DEAL WITH COOKING AS A PERFORMING ART. SIR LUNCHALOT WILL YOU ACCEPT THE CHAIRMANSHIP?

LUNCHALOT

I WOULD BE GLAD TO, CHILDE JULIUS, EXCEPT I HAVE SO MANY COMMITMENTS ON MY TIME NOW THAT I WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO GIVE IT MY FULL ATTENTION.

JULIUS

IN THAT CASE, I WILL HAVE TO ASSUME THE CHAIRMANSHIP MYSELF.

SQUIRE

TOO BAD. SO MANY GOOD COOKS HAVE BEEN LOST TO ADMINISTRATION.

LUNCHALOT

I THINK, GENTLEMEN AND CHIEFS, THAT WE HAVE LAID THE BASIC FOUNDATIONS FOR THE HAMELOT COLLEGE OF COOKERY. LET US NOW PROCEED TO PREPARE TONIGHT'S BANQUET AND WITH ITS SUCCESS, SECURE FUNDING FROM THE KING. TO THE KITCHEN. (all exit except for the German and Italian)

GERMAN

YOU HAF PREPARED THE POISONED GRATED CHEESE FOR THE PIZZA.

ITALIAN

SI. AND A YOU. DID YOU PUT STRYCHNINE IN THE VINO, THE WINE?

GERMAN

YA. UND DER CAKE. IS IT RUBBERIZED?

ITALIAN

TO PERFECTION, WITH A LOVELY CHOCOLATE FROSTING.

GERMAN

THEN WE ARE PREPARED FOR THE BANQUET.

ITALIAN

LET US GO SET THE TABLE. (they exit)

3

(The Squire re-enters. He sings)

THE TIME HAS COME TO HAVE A FEAST
 THE TABLE IS ALL SET,
 THE BANQUET GUESTS COME FLOCKING IN
 TO SAMPLE OF THE BEST,
 THE COOKING SCHOOL IS ON ITS WAY
 IN GOOD OLD HAMELOT,
 KING TARTER STILL HAS MANY DOUBTS
 OF WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT,
 LUNCHALOT, LUNCHALOT, LUNCHALOT,
 HE STILL MAY THROW YOU OUT.

(The King, Queen, Lunchalot, Childe Julius, and the German and Italian chefs enter.)

TARTER

THAT WAS AN EXCELLENT MEAL, SIR LUNCHALOT. I DON'T
 THINK I'LL EXILE YOU THIS TIME. BY THE WAY, WHAT WAS
 THAT WHITE POWDER WITH THE SLIGHTLY BITTER TASTE THAT
 LUIGI SPRINKLED ON THE PIZZA.

LUNCHALOT

IT WAS POWDERED CHEESE, YOUR MAJESTY.

HEDABBER

IT REALLY BROUGHT OUT THE FLAVOR OF THAT MAGNIFICENT PIZZA.

JULIUS

I HOPE YOUR MAJESTIES ENJOYED THE DESSERT AS MUCH AS
 THE REST OF THE BANQUET.

TARTER

THE WINE WAS EXCELLENT, AND THE CAKE, THOUGH DIFFICULT
 TO CUT, HAD A MOST REFRESHING TEXTURE.

HEDABEER

HARALD TARTER, YOU SHOULD NOT HAVE EATEN THAT EXTRA PIECE.

TARTER

I COULDN'T HELP MYSELF, HEDABEER, THE FROSTING WAS SO DELICIOUS.

LUNCHALOT

SINCE YOU ENJOYED THE FOOD, YOUR MAJESTY, PERHAPS YOU NOW CAN FINANCE OUR COLLEGE. WHAT CONTRIBUTION CAN WE COUNT ON FROM YOU.

TARTER

IN VIEW OF OUR GENERAL ECONOMIC RECESSION, SIR LUNCHALOT, LET ME MAKE THIS PERFECTLY CLEAR,

LET ME SAY THIS ABOUT THAT,
 NOW LET ME SAY THIS ABOUT THAT,
 EMPLOYMENT IS RISING,
 THE JOBLESS INCREASE,
 THERE'LL BE NO NEW TAXES
 'TIL NEXT YEAR AT LEAST,
 THE OUTLOOK IS GOOD FOR WORLD PEACE,
 IF THE ENEMY WOULD ONLY CEASE,
 AND,
 LET ME SAY THIS ABOUT THAT,
 NOW LET ME SAY THIS ABOUT THAT,
 THE DOLLAR'S UNSTABLE,
 OUR GOLD INSECURE,
 OUR BALANCE OF TRADE IS EXCEEDINGLY POOR,
 BUT EVERYONE'S HAPPY I KNOW,
 FOR THE PRICE RISE IS STILL VERY SLOW.
 CRIME RUNS A RAMPAGE,
 FILTH FILLS THE AIR,
 DISCONTENTED RUMORS
 ARE FLOATING EVERY WHERE,
 BUT,
 LET ME SAY THIS ABOUT THAT,
 NOW LET ME SAY THIS ABOUT THAT,
 STATISTICS WILL SHOW THAT WE ARE IN THE PINK,
 BUT WE'LL NEVER BE QUITE AS RICH AS WE THINK,
 FOR THE NATIONAL DEBT'S ALL RED INK,
 SO AS FAR AS I CAN LET YOU KNOW,
 YOUR PRIORITY IS VERY LOW,
 AND ,
 LET ME MAKE ALL THIS PERFECTLY CLEAR,
 WE CANNOT FUND YOUR PROJECT THIS YEAR.

AND IN CONCLUSION, SIR LUNCHALOT, WE WILL TAKE THE COLLEGE UNDER ADVISEMENT AT OUR NEXT EXECUTIVE, OOH! (doubles up with pain)

HEDABEER

WHAT IS IT, DEAR? WHAT IS THE MATTER?

TARTER

MAYBE I SHOULDN'T HAVE EATEN THAT SECOND PIECE OF CAKE. IS THIS WHAT COMES WITH A COORDINATED COOKING PROGRAM? OOOOH!

HEDABEER

THIS IS WHAT COMES OF AN OVERSTUFFED GUT!

LUNCHALOT

WELL, AT LEAST THE BANQUET WAS A SUCCESS.

JULIUS

YES, NOTHING SUCCEEDS LIKE EXCESS.

TARTER

GET ME AN ALKA SELTZER.

HEDABEER

DOES IT PAIN, DEAR?

TARTER

HORRIBLY. LUNCHALOT, I WARNED YOU. THIS IS.... OOH!

HEDABEER

SIR LUNCHALOT, THE KING HAS ENJOYED YOUR BANQUET HORRIBLY WELL. AND NOW, SIR JULIUS, ABOUT OUR NEXT BANQUET, I THINK POACHED GEODUCKS ON TOAST WOULD

TARTER

OH, NO! (exits hurriedly)

HEDABEER

WELL! MY WORD! WHAT'S GOT INTO HIM!

SQUIRE

IT IS MORE WHAT'S COMING OUT OF HIM, YOUR MAJESTY.
 (turns to Lunchalot) SIR LUNCHALOT, AWAY WHILE YOU
 ARE STILL AHEAD.

LUNCHALOT

YOU MEAN, WHILE I STILL HAVE A HEAD, SQUIRE. WELL, JULIUS,
 IT WAS A WORTHY ENDEAVOR. I SUPPOSE OLYMPIA WOULD BE
 PLEASANT AT THIS TIME OF YEAR.

JULIUS

I HAVE HEARD THAT OLYMPIA OYSTERS ARE EXCELLENT EATING.

LUNCHALOT

PERHAPS THE OLYMPIANS WOULD FINANCE A COLLEGE OF COOKERY.
 WE COULD CALL IT WINTERGREEN COLLEGE.

SQUIRE

THAT'S ALL THEY NEED, ANOTHER COLLEGE.

ALL

LET US SAY THIS ABOUT THAT,
 NOW LET US SAY THIS ABOUT THAT,
 OUR COLLEGE IS COOKING, THE BURNERS ARE LIT,
 THE CORNERS WERE CUTTING WILL SOON MAKE US FIT,
 THE OUTLOOK IS GOOD FOR SUCCESS,
 FOR WE'RE TRYING TO STRAIGHTEN THIS MESS,
 AND,
 LET US SAY THIS ABOUT THAT,
 NOW LET US SAY THIS ABOUT THAT,
 OUR PROGRAMS ARE BAKING BUT WE LACK THE DOUGH
 FOR ALL THE INGREDIENTS TO MAKE THEM GO,
 BUT EVERYONE'S HAPPY WE KNOW,
 FOR THE RATE OF EXPANSION IS SLOW.
 DOGS RUN A RAMPAGE,
 SIGNS FILL THE WALLS,
 DISCONTENTED RUMORS
 KEEP FLOATING DOWN THE HALLS,
 BUT,
 LET US SAY THIS ABOUT THAT,
 NOW LET US SAY THIS ABOUT THAT,
 WHENEVER WE THINK THAT WE ARE IN THE PINK,
 SOME STATE LEGISLATOR STARTS RAISING A STINK,
 FOR WE AREN'T QUITE AS FREE AS WE THINK,
 IN SO FAR AS THEY'RE GIVING US DOUGH
 OUR PRIORITY SEEMS VERY LOW,
 BUT,
 LET US MAKE THIS PERFECTLY CLEAR,
 WE WILL TRY TO DO BETTER NEXT YEAR.

THE END