

SPRING 1975

ACHILLES, THE HEEL

a play with music

by Malcolm Stilson

with the assistance of

DICK NICHOLS

1. WHERE HAS ACADEMIC FREEDOM GONE,
2. GEODUCK SONG
3. I'M A VICARIOUS SICILIAN - BY DICK NICHOLS.
4. ZEUS SONG YOU NEVER KISS MY HAND
5. NEGATIVE ACTION
6. SOYBEAN STRIKE
7. OMNIA RESTATS
8. Geoduck song

ACHILLES, THE HEEL

An act from two plays with an indiscriminate mob recruited from rejected Evergreen student and faculty applicants, and cast off staff members, and a little music.

THE MOB

- ZEUS, THE GODFATHER
- ASHFORD CANN, President of Wintergreen College
- LITTLE JOE ACHILLES, V.P. for business for Wintergreen.
- THADDEUS BRAY, student.
- CHARLIE CASSETTI, Dean of Humanities, the God-Dean.
- PRISCILLA LONGJOHNS, Secretary to Achilles.
- TOD MORONI, Chief of Security and bodyguard to Achilles.
- DORIA CARTWHEEL, Negative Action Officer and Bookstore Operator
- WORTHINGTON SALMONELLA, Director of Food Services.

ACHILLES, THE HEEL

(The stage is set with a single bench flanked by a trash can on stage left. ASHFORD CANN sits on the bench disconsolately, head in his hands. He lifts his head suddenly, as if struck by a thought, groans, and drops his head back on his hands again. He begins talking to himself. As CANN speaks, THADDEUS BRAY enters.)

CANN

OH WOE! OH WOE IS ME! OH WOE! WHAT CAN I DO? WHAT CAN I DO? (He rocks back and forth and groans in despair.)

BRAY

PRESIDENT CANN! (Cann starts, looks up, and hastily composes himself.) WHAT IS THE MATTER? WHY ARE YOU SITTING AND STARING AND SIGHING, OH WOE!?

CANN

THADDEUS BRAY! WHY AREN'T YOU IN CLASS? WHAT IF THE MAFIOSO SAW YOU? YOU COULD GET HURT, BOY. IT'S DANGEROUS HERE NEAR ME.

BRAY

SIR, AS A LOYAL STUDENT, AND UPHOLDER OF THE MORALS OF WINTERGREEN COLLEGE, IT IS MY DUTY TO GO WHERE DANGER LIES. IF I CAN HELP YOU...

CANN

NO ONE CAN HELP ME. LITTLE JOE ACHILLES RUNS WINTERGREEN COLLEGE NOW, AND I CAN'T SEE ANY WAY OUT, EXCEPT, PERHAPS, TO RESIGN.

BRAY

YOU CAN'T DO THAT, SIR. YOU STAND FOR ALL THAT IS GOOD AND NOBLE IN ACADEMIA. YOU MUST FIGHT LITTLE JOE AND HIS MAFIA MOB. YOU CAN'T LET THEM TAKE OVER. WHY, SIR, IT WAS BECAUSE OF YOU THAT I DECIDED TO GO TO COLLEGE HERE AT WINTERGREEN INSTEAD OF THAT LOOSELY LIBERAL ORGANIZATION OVER ON THE BAY.

CANN

EVERGREEN, THADDEUS?

BRAY

YES, SIR, EVERGREEN. A FOUL AND CORRUPT PLACE,
DANGEROUS TO THE MORAL FIBER OF OUR NATION. NO,
I CAME HERE BECAUSE I KNEW THAT YOU HAD MADE THIS A
COLLEGE OF LAW AND ORDER.

CANN

AND NOW THE MAFIA HAS TAKEN OVER. IRONIC ISN'T IT, BUT
~~IT WASN'T MY FAULT.~~ *Everyone knows it wasn't my decision*

BRAY

NO ONE BLAMES YOU, PRESIDENT CANN, BUT YOU MUST FIGHT
TO OUST THEM.

CANN

I FEEL SO HELPLESS. THE MAFIA HAVE INFILTRATED EVERYWHERE.
WE HAVE MAFIA ACCOUNTANTS, MAFIA COOKS, MAFIA GARDENERS
AND MAFIA MAINTENANCE MEN. MAFIA HERE, MAFIA THERE,
MAFIA EVERYWHERE. NO, THADDEUS, I AM FINISHED. WASHED UP.

who ever had 3 Tech Forces now disappeared.

BRAY

NEVER FEAR, SIR. BRAY IS HERE, SIR. AT LEAST PART OF THE
STUDENT BODY WILL HELP YOU.

CANN

WHAT PART, THADDEUS. YOU ARE THE ONLY STUDENT BODY I
KNOW WHO ISN'T RELATED TO ONE OF OUR MAFIA CHIEFTANS.

BRAY

THERE ARE NEW STUDENTS ARRIVING EVERY DAY, SIR, AND I
MIGHT BE ABLE TO RECRUIT SOME OF THEM. PARTICULARLY
THOSE LOYAL WINTERGREENERS WHO ARE WORRIED ABOUT THE
~~KIND~~ OF EDUCATION THEY ARE RECEIVING.

quality

CANN

NOT A CHANCE. EVER SINCE LITTLE JOE ACHILLES BROUGHT IN
CHARLIE CASSETTI AS A DEAN, OUR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM HAS
BEEN DISAPPEARING. "IT'S JUST BUSINESS", THEY SAY AND
IF THE COURSE DOESN'T RELATE TO THE BUSINESS OF MAKING
MONEY, IT DISAPPEARS FROM THE CURRICULUM.

BRAY

YES, AND SO HAVE OUR FACULTY. THE PUBLISH OR PERISH
SYNDROME HAS BEEN REPLACED BY THE SHUT UP OR BE DEAD
EVALUATION METHOD. THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS TENURE.

CANN

IT'S EITHER A SHORT LIFE OR A LONG SILENCE.
WHERE DID ACADEMIC FREEDOM GO?

BRAY

THAT SOUNDS LIKE THE NAME OF A SONG.

CANN

YOU MAY WELL BELIEVE IT.

WHERE HAS ACADEMIC FREEDOM GONE?
FAR, FAR AWAY.
IT HAS VANISHED FROM THESE HALLOWED HALLS,
HAS IT SUNK INTO THE BAY?

WILL IT EVER EVER COME AGAIN,
NO ONE CAN SAY.
WHERE HAS ACADEMIC FREEDOM GONE?
FAR, FAR AWAY.

BRAY

IT'S A GOOD THING YOU'RE A COLLEGE PRESIDENT AND
NOT A SINGER.

CANN

THANK YOU, LAD. THAT'S THE NICEST THING ANYONE HAS
SAID ABOUT ME FOR MONTHS. BUT HOW CAN WE GET THE STUDENTS
TO HELP IN RETURNING THIS SCHOOL TO ACADEMIC CONTROL?
ADMINISTRATIVE

BRAY

DEVELOPE THEIR ENTHUSIASM. START AN ATHLETIC PROGRAM.
THERE'S NOTHING LIKE A FOOTBALL TEAM TO BUILD ACADEMIC
SPIRIT. DOES THIS COLLEGE HAVE A FIGHT SONG?

CANN

YES, BUT WE SELDOM USE IT.

BRAY

WHY?

CANN

THADDEUS, HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF THE GEODUC?

BRAY

NO.

CANN

WINTERGREEN COLLEGE WAS FOUNDED BY A LITTLE OLD LADY WHO HAPPENED TO BE FOND OF GEODUCS, AND SHE WROTE OUR FIGHT SONG. 60.73

BRAY

BUT WHAT IS A GEODUC?

CANN

DO YOU REALLY WANT TO KNOW?

BRAY

YES.

CANN

WELL, IT IS A LONG NECKED CLAM THAT, IF COOKED PROPERLY, IS SIMPLY DELICIOUS.

BRAY

A LONG NECKED, PROPERLY COOKED, DELICIOUS CLAM AS A MASCOT! WHY?

CANN

ALL RIGHT. YOU ASKED FOR IT. THE GEODUCK, (sings)
IT HAS STABILITY.

BRAY

THAT'S A STERLING QUALITY.

CANN

FLEXIBILITY.

BRAY

AN ADMIRABLE TRAIT.

CANN

THERE'S VERSATILITY.

BRAY

ALWAYS DESIRABLE, IN A CLAM.

CANN

IN THEIR CHANGEABILITY.

BRAY

HOW CAN THEY BE SO PEOPLELIKE.

CANN

THE GEODUC DOES NOT DIG THE DOGMA OF NOT BEING DUG.

BRAY

I WAS AFRAID OF THAT.

CANN

OF COURSE THEY HAVE, ACCESSIBILITY, BUT IT'S LIMITED TO LOW TIDE, AND CREDIBILITY.

BRAY

THAT SPEAKS WELL FOR IT.

CANN

IT'S SUCH AN HONEST LOOKING BEAST. THERE'S SOMETHING NOBLE IN ITS NECK.

BRAY

THAT'S MORE THAN CAN BE SAID FOR MOST CLAMS.

CANN

NO WAIT. THE TRULY LOVELY THING ABOUT THE GEODUCK IS THAT THERE'S NO FRIGIDITY, WITH HERMAPHRODIDITY.

BRAY

IT SOUNDS DISGUSTING.

CANN

NOT REALLY. WHICH BRINGS US TO OUR FIGHT SONG.

BRAY

A FIGHT SONG? ABOUT A GEODUC?

CANN

YES.
GO GEODUCS GO!
THROUGH THE MUD AND THE SAND LET'S GO!
SIPHON HIGH! SQUIRT IT OUT!
SWIVEL ALL ABOUT,
LET IT ALL HANG OUT.

GO GEODUCS GO!
STRETCH YOUR NECKS WHEN THE TIDE IS LOW.
SIPHON HIGH! SQUIRT IT OUT!
SWIVEL ALL ABOUT,
LET IT ALL HANG OUT.

BRAY

I'LL BUY IT. I'LL TRY IT.

CANN

GOOD. TOGETHER NOW.

BRAY AND CANN

GO, GEODUCS, GO!
THROUGH THE MUD AND THE SAND LET'S GO!
SIPHON HIGH! SQUIRT IT OUT!
SWIVEL ALL ABOUT,
LET IT ALL HANG OUT.

GO, GEODUCS, GO!
STRETCH YOUR NECKS WHEN THE TIDE IS LOW.
SIPHON HIGH! SQUIRT IT OUT!
SWIVEL ALL ABOUT,
LET IT ALL HANG OUT!

BRAY

IT'S REALLY NOT MUCH FOR A FIGHT SONG. I DON'T SEE
HOW YOU COULD INSPIRE ANYONE WITH A CLAM, UNLESS IT
IS ANOTHER CLAM.

CANN

IT'S THE ONLY SONG WE HAVE. YOU'LL HAVE TO EXCUSE ME
NOW, THADDEUS. I SHOULD GET BACK TO THE OFFICE. MY
MAFIA GUARD IS DUE TO WAKE UP. LIKE EVERYONE ELSE AROUND
HERE, HE ONLY WAKES UP AT BREAK TIME. MEET ME HERE AFTER
BREAK. LET'S SAY 10:30. HE'LL BE BACK ASLEEP AGAIN. AND
LET ME KNOW WHAT YOU FIND OUT.

BRAY

YES, SIR. WE WILL WIN, SIR. THE RIGHT ALWAYS WINS.
(Cann gives the "V" for victory sign and exits stage left. From stage right Joe Achilles enters followed by Ted Moroni, and Priscilla Longjohns. Bray, seeing them, hides in the trash can.)

JOE

WHEN I FIRST WENT TO THE GODFATHER, HE ASKED ME WHAT MY NAME WAS AND I SAID, "SMITH." I WAS TRAVELLING UNDER THE NAME OF SMITH IN THOSE DAYS. WELL, THE GODFATHER, HE DIDN'T LIKE THE IDEA OF A SMITH AS A CAPORETTO, SO I HAD TO TELL HIM THAT I WAS REALLY A VICARIOUS SICILIAN.

PRISSY

A VICARIOUS SICILIAN?

JOE

SURE. I'M A VICARIOUS SICILIAN,
AND I'D LIKE TO HIT A CIVILIAN,
I'M TOUGH AND I'M MEAN AND WITH ME ON THE SCENE
YOU COULD EASILY RUB OUT A MILLION.

A BERTUCCI OR LEONI I'M NOT,
BUT IF YOU WILL PUT ME ON THE SPOT,
WITH NO BUT AND OR IF, I'LL PRODUCE YOU A STIFF
WHOSE DEMISE WILL BE CAUSED BY LEAD ROT.

WITH A ROD I'M AN EXPERT, A ONE SHOT ECONOMY MAN,
IN RUBBING OUT FOLKS I'M AN ARTIST,
WITH CEMENT I'M A TRUE ARTISAN.

I'M A VICARIOUS SICILIAN,
AND I'D LIKE TO HIT A CIVILIAN,
JUST GIVE ME A CHANCE, AND I'LL MAKE YOUR HEART DANCE,
AS I UP THE COUNT TO A COOL BILLION.

PRISSY

AND DID HE TAKE YOU ON?

JOE

HE SURE DID, AND HE GAVE ME TOD AS A BODY GUARD, EH! TOD.
(He digs Tod in the ribs, and breaks out laughing. Tod whirls around and pulls out his gun.)

TOD

WHERE DID THEY GO? WHERE DID THEY GO? OH, THEM BELLS IS RINGING AGAIN.

PRISSY

JOE, WHAT'S WITH TOD AND THE BELLS?

JOE

HE HAD TOO MANY FIGHTS. HE ALWAYS HEARS BELLS. WHAT ARE THEY PLAYING NOW, TOD?

TOD

THE GEODUC FIGHT SONG. WANT TO HEAR IT?

JOE

LATER, TOD, LATER. WE GOT BUSINESS HERE. LET'S CHECK FOR BUGS. (As they check for hidden microphones, Charlie Casetti enters from stage right followed by Doria Cartwheel.) HI THERE, CHARLIE CASETTI. WHAT'S NEW? HOW'S BUSINESS?

CHARLIE

NO GOOD, LITTLE JOE. I CAN'T SEE WHY THE GODFATHER WANTED US TO GET INTO THE COLLEGE RACKET. THERE AIN'T NO PROFIT IN IT. WHAT WAS YOUR TAKE LAST MONTH?

JOE

I GOT A LIST HERE. LET'S SEE.

FROM THE FRIDAY NIGHT PORNO FLIC SERIES \$150.
TOD WILL BE COLLECTING THAT.

MOTOR POOL, \$2,000 FROM STOLEN PARTS.

\$5,000 FROM HOT CARS.

THAT'S 1½ CARS.

CHARLIE

1½ CARS?

JOE

YEAH, ONE NEW AND ONE OF THEM DATSUN SPORTS
JOBS. IT ONLY COUNTS AS ONE-HALF IT'S SO SMALL.
WE SOLD IT TO PRESIDENT CANN.

CHARLIE

OH, GO AHEAD.

JOE

KEY SHOP \$1,000 FROM LOCK PICKING.

BANK 1,500 FROM LOAN SHARKING.

BOOK STORE 2,000 FROM THE BOOKIE JOINT.

FOOD SERVICES 10,000 FROM GARBAGE.

FACULTY 500 FROM UPGRADED EVALUATIONS FOR STUDENTS.

PRINT SHOP 450 IN COUNTERFEIT STAMPS.

CHARLIE

WHY ARE THEY COUNTERFEITING STAMPS? WHAT'S WRONG WITH MONEY?

JOE

BECAUSE WE HAD TO SEND OUT A COUPLE OF THOUSAND LETTERS ASKING FOR LEGITIMATE DONATIONS TO KEEP THE COLLEGE RUNNING. WE COULDN'T PAY FOR THE STAMPS. IT WOULDN'T BE RIGHT.

CHARLIE

DID YOU GET ANY MONEY BACK FROM THE LETTERS?

JOE

HOW ABOUT IT, PRISSY?

PRISSY

NAW, WE JUST MAILED THEM OUT, YESTERDAY.

JOE

ANYWAY, WE TOOK IN ABOUT \$22,950 LAST WEEK.

CHARLIE

THAT AIN'T GOOD ENOUGH, JOE. THE BOSS AIN'T GONNA LIKE IT. YA GOTTA COME UP WITH A BETTER TAKE THAN THAT OR YOU WON'T BE VICE PRESIDENT FOR BUSINESS NO LONGER.

JOE

WELL, I GOT SOME NEW IDEAS. WE HAVEN'T LOOKED INTO PUTTING PROSTITUTES IN THE DORMS YET.

PRISSY

THERE'S TOO MANY THERE ALREADY AND THEY'RE GIVING IT OUT FOR FREE. WE COULDN'T MAKE ANY MONEY ON IT.

CHARLIE

SHE'S RIGHT, JOE. SAY, I LIKE HER. WHO IS SHE?

JOE

PRISCILLA LONGJOHNS. SHE'S MY NEW SECRETARY. PRISSY, THIS IS CHARLIE CASSETTI, DEAN OF HUMANITIES AND THE MAN NEXT TO THE GODFATHER. WE CALL HIM THE GOD-DEAN.

CHARLIE

WATCH IT, JOE.

JOE

AND THE BROAD WITH HIM IS DORIA CARTWHEEL. SHE'S THE HEAD BOOKIE FOR THE BOOK STORE AND THE NEGATIVE ACTION OFFICER FOR THE COLLEGE.

PRISSY

NEGATIVE ACTION OFFICER?

JOE

YEAH, SHE KEEPS OUT THE UNDESIRABLES.

DORIA

HELLO, PRISSY, WHAT KIND OF ACTION ARE YOU INTO?

PRISSY

I AIN'T DECIDED YET.

DORIA

WELL, DON'T DO NOTHING AFFIRMATIVE IN THIS COLLEGE OR OUT YOU GO, FEET FIRST.

PRISSY

AS LONG AS THE PAY IS GOOD, DORIA, AND THE HOURS ARE SHORT, I WON'T COMPLAIN.

CHARLIE

LET'S GET BACK TO BUSINESS. YOUR TAKE AIN'T GOOD ENOUGH, JOE. THE GODFATHER AIN'T GONNA LIKE IT ONE BIT. HE PUT US IN THIS COLLEGE TO MAKE MONEY.

JOE

WE BEEN MAKING IT, CHARLIE, IN THE PRINT SHOP.

CHARLIE

BUT NOT ENOUGH, JOEY BABY. DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE TAKE ON THE CEMENT FOR THE SEATTLE DOMED STADIUM IS?

JOE

NO.

CHARLIE

20 GRAND A DAY.

PRISSY

THAT SOUNDS MORE LIKE A DOOMED STADIUM TO ME.

CHARLIE

YOU GOT A SHARP SENSE OF HUMOR, HONEY. I LIKE THAT,
BUT JOEY...

JOE

YEAH, CHARLIE.

CHARLIE

WE GOT TO GET THE PRINT SHOP OPERATING ON THE BIG
COUNTERFEIT BILLS, AND REALLY GET MOVING ON OUR HOT
CAR RACKET IN THE MOTOR POOL.

JOE

PEOPLE AIN'T BUYIN' NEW HOT CARS THESE DAYS, CHARLIE.
AND THE OLD ONES ARE TOO BEAT UP TO STEAL. WHAT DOES
THE OLD MAN THINK I AM? I'M MOVIN' AS FAST AS I CAN.
IT AIN'T EASY TO TURN A ILLEGITIMATE COLLEGE INTO A
LEGITIMATE RACKET.

CHARLIE

THE OLD MAN CALLS THE TUNE AND YOU HAVE TO DANCE TO IT,
OR ELSE.

JOE

YEAH. I KNOW, CEMENTSVILLE.

CHARLEY

(Looks speculatively at Prissy) I GOT NEED FOR A
SECRETERARY, JOE.

JOE

LAY OFF, CHARLIE. SHE'S MINE.

DORIA

YEAH, CHARLIE, YOU DON'T NEED A SECRETARY, YOU GOT ME.

CHARLIE

ALL YOU GIVE ME IS NEGATIVE ACTION, DORIA. (To Prissy)
I LIKE YOUR ACTION, BABY.

PRISSY

YOU DON'T LOOK TOO GOOD TO ME, BUSTER BROWN.

CHARLIE

HEY, A CUTE KID, WITH A SENSE OF HUMOR. CAN SHE TYPE?

JOE

YOU DON'T WANT HER, CHARLIE. SHE CAN'T TYPE.

CHARLIE

I DON'T CARE, JOEY, I WANT HER AND I'LL HAVE HER.

JOE

BUT...

CHARLIE

DON'T BUT ME, JOEY, OR I'LL BRING IT UP WITH THE
GODFATHER.

JOE

YOU WOULDN'T DO THAT, WOULD YOU, CHARLIE?

CHARLIE

I SURE WOULD, AND HE'LL GIVE YOU AN ARGUMENT YOU CAN'T
REFUSE. COME TO ME, BABY.

PRISSY

DON'T I HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY ABOUT THIS?

CHARLIE

NO. I'M THE GOD-DEAN HERE, AND I'M TAKING YOU WITH ME.

PRISSY

BUT I'M A VIRGIN.

CHARLIE

WHAT HAS THAT GOT TO DO WITH IT?

PRISSY

I JUST THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GETTING.

CHARLIE

WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE WHAT YOUR RELIGION IS,
AS LONG AS WE'RE COMPATIBLE?

JOE

SOMETIMES YOU GO TOO FAR, CHARLIE.

CHARLIE

IT'S ALL BUSINESS, LITTLE JOE. COME ON, PRISSY. COME ON,
DORIA. WE GOT BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO. (They exit stage right.
However, Prissy has left her purse underneath the bench.)

JOE

I'M SICK OF THE WAY CHARLIE TREATS ME.

TOD

SO WHAT YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

JOE

A LITTLE LEAD IN HIS BELLY WOULD PUT ME NEXT IN LINE
TO THE GODFATHER.

TOD

TAKE IT EASY, LITTLE JOE. CHARLIE'S GOT RELATIVES LIKE
YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE, AND THEY'RE ALL REAL SICILIANS.
YOU WOULDN'T LAST LONG IF YOU DID GIVE HIM LEAD POISONING.
OH, THEM BELLS!

JOE

WELL, I DON'T CARE IF CHARLIE IS NEXT IN LINE TO THE
GODFATHER. HE'S A THIEF. IF HE'LL STEAL A SECRETARY,
HE'LL STEAL EVERYTHING ELSE WE HAVE TOO. (He stalks out
stage right angrily.)

TOD

HEY, WAIT FOR ME! (He exits after Joe. Bray cautiously looks out from his trash barrel. Then he stands up with the lid still on his head. Priscilla enters from stage right. She sees Bray and watches with interest as he steps out of the trash with the lid still on.)

PRISSY

I LIKE YOUR HAT.

BRAY

(Sheepishly) I FORGOT TO TAKE IT OFF.

PRISSY

SO YOU HEARD EVERYTHING.

BRAY

YES.

PRISSY

IF CHARLIE CASSETTI FINDS OUT, YOU'RE AS GOOD AS DEAD.

BRAY

WILL YOU TELL HIM?

PRISSY

WHY SHOULD I? I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE, AND, BESIDES, I DON'T OWE CHARLIE ANYTHING.

BRAY

THEN YOU REALLY AREN'T A MAFIA PERSON.

PRISSY

NO. I'M A VIRGIN.

BRAY

THAT'S REFRESHING. I'M THADDEUS BRAY, WINTERGREEN STUDENT, AND YOU ARE PRISCILLA LONGJOHNS, SECRETARY TO ACHILLES THE HEEL.

PRISSY

IS THAT WHAT THEY CALL LITTLE JOE.?

BRAY

ONLY BEHIND HIS BACK. SAY, PRISCILLA, MAYBE YOU COULD HELP PRESIDENT CANN AND ME.

PRISSY

HOW, THADDEUS?

BRAY

BY HELPING US RESTORE LAW AND ORDER TO THIS CAMPUS. PRESIDENT CANN WANTS TO MAKE THIS A COLLEGE AGAIN INSTEAD OF A MOB HIDEOUT. WE HAVE AVERAGED TWO KILLINGS A WEEK SINCE JOE ACHILLES AND CHARLIE CASSETTI ARRIVED HERE, PLUS A FEW DROP OUTS.

PRISCILLA

DROP OUTS?

BRAY

TOD MORONI AND HIS BUTTON MEN TOOK THEM UP TO THE FOURTH FLOOR OF THE LIBRARY AND DROPPED THEM OUT.

PRISSY

UGH! HOW TERRIBLE.

BRAY

^{was} IT ~~IS~~ RATHER FLATTENING, BUT NONE OF THEM DIED. THEY JUST ~~DROPPED OUT.~~ ~~Left school.~~ *Dropped out of college.*

PRISSY

BUT WHY DID THEY GET DROPPED?

BRAY

DOZENS OF REASONS. NOT PAYING THEIR TUITION. ARGUING ABOUT A PARKING SPACE. TRYING TO FORM A STUDENT GOVERNMENT. ANYTHING THAT THE MAFIA DOESN'T LIKE OR EVEN THINK THEY DON'T LIKE.

PRISSY

THAT'S HORRIBLE. I'LL BE GLAD TO HELP YOU IN ANY WAY I CAN.

BRAY

THAT'S GREAT, PRISCILLA. YOU CAN TIP US OFF TO WHAT CHARLIE CASSETTI AND JOE ARE GOING TO DO AND THEN WE CAN STOP THEM. SAY, WHY DID YOU COME BACK?

PRISSY

I LEFT MY PURSE UNDER THE BENCH. HERE IT IS. YOU BETTER HIDE AGAIN, THADDEUS. HERE COMES CHARLIE WITH ZEUS, THE GODFATHER. (Prissy sits on the bench)

BRAY

THANKS, PRISCILLA, YOU ARE ALREADY WORKING WITH US. (He climbs back into the trash barrel as Zeus, Charlie, and Doria enter from stage right.)

CHARLIE

OH, HERE YOU ARE, PRISSY. I WONDERED WHERE YOU WANDERED.

PRISSY

VERY POETICAL, BUSTER BROWN.

CHARLIE

AIN'T SHE A SCREAM, ZEUS. BUSTER BROWN. (He laughs)

ZEUS

(mumbles)

CHARLIE

WHAT DID HE SAY? WHAT DID HE SAY?

DORIA

HE SAYS, YOU CAN CALL HIM GODFATHER.

ZEUS

(Mumbles)

PRISSY

WHAT DID HE SAY?

DORIA

HE SAID, WHERE'S LITTLE JOE?

CHARLIE

HE'S COMING, GODFATHER. (There is a sneeze from the trash can.)

ZEUS

(mumbles)

DORIA

YOU SAY, WHAT WAS THAT? WHY, GODFATHER, THE TRASH CAN SNEEZED.

CHARLIE

OH, COME ON, DORIA. TRASH CANS DON'T SNEEZE.

DORIA

IT DID TOO. LOOK IT'S SNEEZING AGAIN. (The lid blows off with the force of the sneeze, and Bray stands sheepishly up.)

DORIA

SEE, I TOLD YOU. ARE YOU THE TRASH MAN?

BRAY

NO.

ZEUS

(Mumbles)

CHARLIE

WHAT DID HE SAY?

DORIA

HE SAID, WHO'S THE KID?

PRISSY

(to Bray) WHY DID YOU HAVE TO SNEEZE?

BRAY

I COULDN'T HELP IT. SOMEBODY THREW A BLACK PEPPER SANDWICH IN THERE.

CHARLIE

ZEUS, THIS IS THADDEUS BRAY, ONE OF OUR STUDENTS.

ZEUS

(mumbles)

BRAY

WHAT DID HE SAY?

DORIA

HE SAID, GET RID OF THE PUNK KID. HE'S BEEN SPYING ON US.

CHARLIE

WELL, DORIA, YOU'RE THE NEGATIVE ACTION OFFICER HERE. YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO.

DORIA

SURE, CHARLIE. COME ON, KID.

BRAY

WHERE ARE WE GOING?

DORIA

WE'RE GOING FOR A LITTLE RIDE.

PRISSY

YOU WON'T HURT HIM WILL YOU?

DORIA

NO, PRISSY. WE NEVER HURTS 'EM, I'LL JUST NEGATIVE ACTION HIM.

ZEUS

(Mumbles)

DORIA

ALL RIGHT, GODFATHER. I'LL GET RID OF THIS CREEP.
(She pushes Bray out ahead of her toward stage left as Joe and Tod enter from stage right. Prissy follows Doria and Bray out.)

JOE

WHAT'S GOING ON?

CHARLIE

YOU MISSED ALL THE FUN, JOE. WE JUST DID A LITTLE
NEGATIVE ACTION ON A STUDENT.

JOE

CHARLIE! NOT AGAIN! STUDENTS ARE HARD TO COME BY.
WE'RE RUNNING SHORT OF THEM. HOW MANY TIMES DO I
HAVE TO TELL YOU WE'LL LOSE MONEY THAT WAY. THE
STATE WILL CUT OFF OUR FUNDS.

CHARLIE

ZEUS ORDERED IT.

JOE

ZEUS, I THOUGHT WE WERE HERE TO MAKE MONEY, NOT TO
THROW IT AWAY.

ZEUS

(mumbles)

CHARLIE

WHAT DID HE SAY? DORIA'S NOT HERE TO TRANSLATE.

TOD

I CAN DO IT. IF THEM BELLS DON'T DROWN HIM OUT.

ZEUS

(mumbles)

TOD

JOE, HE WANTS TO TALK TO YOU.

JOE

WELL, GO AHEAD. MUMBLE AWAY.

ZEUS (sings)

(mumbles)

TOD

YOU NEVER KISS MY HAND.

ZEUS

(mumbles)

TOD

YOU NEVER LOOK MY WAY.

ZEUS

(mumbles)

TOD

YOU NEVER DO THE THINGS

ZEUS

(mumbles)

TOD

YOU USED TO DO,

ZEUS

(mumbles)

TOD

TO GIVE ME A HAPPY DAY.

ZEUS

(mumbles)

TOD

YOU NO RESPECTA ME,

ZEUS

(mumbles)

TOD

OR CALL ME GODFATHER.

ZEUS

(mumbles)

TOD

YOU BETTER WATCH YOURSELF.

ZEUS

(mumbles)

TOD

OR ONE FINE DAY,

ZEUS

(mumbles)

TOD

YOU'LL ^{END} WIND UP IN THE BAY.

JOE

I GET THE MESSAGE. ALL RIGHT, GODFATHER. (He kisses the Godfathers hand. ZEUS mumbles)

TOD

HE SAYS THAT'S BETTER. WHERE'S CANN?

CHARLIE

I SENT SALMONELLA TO GET HIM.

JOE

GODFATHER, I WANT MY SECRETARY BACK.

CHARLIE

I TOLD YOU HE WOULD COME WHINING TO YOU, GODFATHER.

ZEUS

(mumbles)

CHARLIE

WHAT DID HE SAY?

TOD

HE SAYS, WHAT CHARLIE WANTS, CHARLIE GETS.

JOE

WELL, IF I CAN'T HAVE HER, I'M NOT GOING TO BE ANY PART OF THIS FARCE. COME ON, TOD. (Joe and Tod exit to stage right as Doria enters from stage left.)

DORIA

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THEM?

CHARLIE

JOE'S A SORE LOSER.

ZEUS

(mumbles)

DORIA

ZEUS SAYS, CHARLIE, GO GET JOE AND TOD AND BRING THEM BACK. WE CAN'T GET ALONG WITHOUT THEM AND WE GOT THINGS TO DISCUSS WITH ASHFORD CANN.

CHARLIE

WHY ME?

ZEUS

(Angrily points toward offstage in the direction of Joe and Tod's exit.) (mumbles)

CHARLIE

OH, ALL RIGHT, I'LL GO. (He exits stage right.)

ZEUS

(mumbles)

DORIA

YEAH, BOSS. I GOT RID OF THE LITTLE CREEP. HE'S IN THE BAY NOW. YOU GOT ANY MORE FUN JOBS FOR ME. I LIKES NEGATIVE ACTION.

ZEUS

(mumbles)

DORIA

WHY DO I LIKE NEGATIVE ACTION? BECAUSE,

NEGATIVE ACTION IS SWIFT AND SURE,
IT KEEPS THE BLOOD OF THE MAFIA PURE,
IT MAKES ME WANT TO SING WITH JOY
TO THINK THAT I GOT RID OF THAT BOY.

WHEN I TAKE A YOUNG MAN FOR A RIDE
I DON'T HIDE MY SATISFACTION,
FOR I FEEL THAT I SHOULD SHOW MY PRIDE
WHEN I PRACTICE NEGATIVE ACTION

WHEN TWO GANGS ARE ABOUT TO COLLIDE,
THEY PRESENT US AN ATTRACTION
AND I CHEER WHEN I HEAR HOMICIDE HAS
PROVED THE WORTH OF NEGATIVE ACTION.

WE KEEPS OUT THE CREEPS WHO WOULD FOUL OUR NEST,
BUMPING THEM OFF WITH ZEST.
WE TRY TO DISCOURAGE EQUALITY
FOR WE KNOW OUR BLOOD LINES ARE BEST. (Cann and Salmonella
enter from stage left.)

WHEN I TRY TO SET STANDARDS ASIDE,
I CAN'T HIDE MY OWN INFRACTION,
SO I HURRY TO BE PURIFIED
BY THE PRACTICE OF NEGATIVE ACTION.

CANN

ARE YOU YOU, OR ARE YOU YOUR TWIN?

SALMONELLA

I'M ME, DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE ME?

CANN

SURE, BUT WHICH YOU ARE YOU?

SALMONELLA

I'M WORTHINGTON SALMONELLA, YOUR DIRECTOR OF FOOD SERVICES.

CANN

YOU'RE SURE YOU'RE NOT CHARLIE CASETTI?

SALMONELLA

OF COURSE NOT, HE'S FAT.

CANN

HOW IS IT THAT YOU LOOK ALIKE, BUT HAVE DIFFERENT NAMES?

SALMONELLA

WE HAD THE SAME MOTHER, BUT DIFFERENT FATHERS. CHARLIE IS MY HALF TWIN.

CANN

OH...

ZEUS

(mumbles)

DORIA

WHERE DID I PUT THADDEUS BRAY? I TOLD YOU, GODFATHER,
I SUNK HIM IN THE BAY.

CANN

WHO'S IN THE BAY?

DORIA

THADDEUS BRAY.

CANN

OH.....

ZEUS

(mumbles)

CANN

WHAT'S THAT? WHAT DID HE SAY?

DORIA

HE SAYS, YOU AND HE GOTTA TALK BUSINESS. THIS COLLEGE
AIN'T MAKING ENOUGH PROFIT.

CANN

DID HE SAY AIN'T.

DORIA

NO I DID. AIN'T THAT WHAT A NEGATIVE ACTION OFFICER IS FOR?

CANN

IF YOU SAY SO. (Achilles and Tod enter from stage right)
BUT THIS COLLEGE IS NOT HERE TO EARN YOU PROFITS, ZEUS.

JOE

HERE WE ARE, ZEUS. CHARLIE HAD TO FIX UP HIS BUSTED NOSE.

TOD

I'M SORRY, ZEUS, HE TRIED TO PUNCH ME.

ZEUS

(mumbles)

DORIA

HE SAYS, CUT THE COMEDY AND LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS.

JOE

GOOD! IT'S ABOUT TIME. NOW LOOKAFERE, CANN, ABOUT YOUR
LATEST BUDGET, THERE'S TOO MUCH GOING INTO THE ACADEMIC
PROGRAM UNDER CHARLIE, AND NOT ENOUGH GOING INTO THE
BUSINESS END UNDER ME. THERE'S NO PROFIT IN FACULTY, SO
LET'S CUT THEM DOWN AND BUILD UP THE CASINO, THE
POOL HALL, THE LOTTERY...

DORIA

AND THE BOOKIE JOINT.

SALMONELLA

DON'T FORGET THE FOOD SERVICES.

ZEUS

(mumbles)

SALMONELLA

WHAT DID HE SAY?

DORIA

HE SAID, GET YOUR HASH IN GEAR, SALMONELLA, IT'S ALMOST LUNCH TIME.

SALMONELLA

OH, YEAH. I BETTER GET BACK TO THE MESS HALL. THE COOKS CAN'T TELL A CARROT FROM A POTATO WITHOUT ME THERE. (He exits stage right hurriedly.)

JOE

NOW, AS I WAS SAYING, CANN...

CANN

DON'T YOU LECTURE ME, YOU BULLY, AS LONG AS I'M PRESIDENT HERE ACADEMIC'S WILL TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER BUSINESS.

ZEUS

(mumbles)

DORIA

HE SAYS, ACHILLES START RECRUITING A NEW PRESIDENT. (Charlie enters from stage right with a bandaid on his nose.)

CANN

YOU CAN'T FIRE ME, ZEUS, I'VE GOT TENURE.

TOD

(to Joe) NOW ZEUS WILL GIVE HIM AN ARGUMENT HE CAN'T REFUSE.

CHARLIE

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? NOBODY'S GOING TO FIRE NOBODY. WE NEED CANN AS A FIGUREHEAD.

DORIA

HE'S MORE HEAD THAN FIGURE AS THEY SAY IN THE NAVY.

CANN

WELL AT LEAST I CAN TELL CHARLIE FROM WORTHINGTON NOW.

*DR. BARDON
Hips.*

JOE

AS I WAS SAYING, CANN. LET'S PUT MORE BUDGET MONEY INTO OUR BUSINESS SERVICES AND LESS INTO THE ACADEMIC. CUT DOWN ON THE NUMBER OF FACULTY, PARTICULARLY THOSE WHO CAN'T MAKE KICKBACKS.

CHARLIE

HOLD IT A MINUTE, JOE. IT'S THE FACULTY THAT GIVE THIS PLACE ITS TONE, ITS HIGH-QUALITY ATMOSPHERE, AND THAT DRAWS...

TOD

FLIES.

CHARLIE

SO WE CAN'T CUT THE FACULTY.

JOE

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY TONE? LOOK AT ENCEPHALITIS GOMPERS. WHAT A DUMMY. WHY SHE DOESN'T KNOW ENOUGH TO COME IN OUT OF THE RAIN. SHE COULDN'T TEACH HER WAY OUT OF A PAPER BAG, AND SHE'S FACULTY. SOME FACULTY.

CHARLIE

THERE MIGHT BE A FEW EXCEPTIONS. BUT WE REALLY NEED MORE MONEY IN ACADEMICS. MORE FACULTY MEANS MORE PAYING STUDENTS. MORE STUDENTS MEAN MORE PROFITS FROM EVALUATIONS.

CANN

PROFITS FROM EVALUATIONS?

DORIA

AND WHAT ABOUT NEGATIVE ACTION. WHEN DO I GET MORE MONEY TO BUILD UP MY STAFF TO SCREEN OUT ALL THE CREEPS THAT GET PAST THE PERSONNEL OFFICE. THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN A DOZEN FBI AGENTS WORKING HERE IF IT WASN'T FOR NEGATIVE ACTION. (They all start arguing among themselves.)

CANN

WHEN YOU ALL GET TOGETHER ON YOUR NEEDS, CALL ME.
IN THE MEANTIME, I'M GOING TO LUNCH. (He exits stage right)

ZEUS

(mumbles)

DORIA

HOLD IT FELLOWS, ZEUS SAYS THAT WITHOUT CANN HERE
THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO. LET'S ALL GO TO LUNCH
AND MEET HERE AFTERWARDS TO DETERMINE HOW TO SPLIT
THE LOOT.

JOE

O.K. COME ON, TOD. (They exit stage right followed by
the others. Prissy enters followed by Bray from stage left.)

PRISSY

I TOLD YOU THEY WERE DANGEROUS.

BRAY

I BELIEVE IT NOW. THANKS FOR RESCUING ME.

PRISSY

THINK NOTHING OF IT. I BETTER RUN NOW AND FIND CHARLIE,
OR HE WILL BE GETTING SUSPICIOUS.

BRAY

THANKS AGAIN, PRISSY. WHEN WILL I SEE YOU AGAIN?

PRISSY

I'LL MEET YOU HERE AT 3 O'CLOCK. (She exits stage right.
Bray sits on the bench dejectedly. Then suddenly he looks
up, and heads for the trash can and hides again as Achilles
and Tod enter from stage right.)

TOD

PAGH! NO WONDER THE STUDENTS ARE REVOLTING. WHAT AN
AWFUL LUNCH. SPINACH SURPRISE.

JOE

YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT.

TOD

DO I LOOK GREEN? OH THEM BELLS!

JOE

TOD, WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING TO IMPRESS THE GODFATHER
AND ELIMINATE CHARLIE.

TOD

BUT WHAT?

JOE

I DON'T KNOW.

TOD

WE COULD HIRE AN OUT OF TOWN HIT MAN TO TAKE OUT A
CONTRACT ON CHARLIE.

JOE

YEAH. WE MIGHT WORK ON THAT, BUT WHO?

TOD

I KNOW A COUPLE OF GUYS THAT MIGHT DO THE JOB. IF
I CAN REMEMBER THEIR NAMES. OOH, THEM BELLS!

JOE

YOU SIT HERE AND TRY TO REMEMBER THEIR NAMES. I'LL
BE BACK AT 3:30 FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS, AND YOU
CAN HAND OVER THE \$150 THEN TOO.

TOD

WHAT \$150?

JOE

THE \$150 FROM THE PORNOGRAPHIC FILMS.

TOD

OH... YEAH...THE PORNOGRAPHIC FILM MONEY..OK,
I'LL HAVE IT, JOE.

JOE

SEE YOU LATER, TOD. (Joe exits stage right. Tod sits down on the bench ~~a picture of dejection.~~)

TOD

WHY DID I HAVE TO SPEND THAT MONEY? (Bray sneezes.)
WHAT'S THAT? (Bray sneezes again) THERE'S SOMETHING
IN THE TRASH CAN. (He pulls his gun and lifts the
lid and he sneezes.) PEPPER!

BRAY

NO, MY NAME IS BRAY.

TOD

WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THERE?

BRAY

HAVING A PEPPER SANDWICH.

TOD

WELL, GET OUT.

BRAY

YES, SIR. (He gets out)

TOD

SAY, DIDN'T DORIA JUST DROP YOU IN THE BAY?

BRAY

YES.

TOD

LEAVE IT TO A WOMAN TO BUNGLE A JOB. I'LL HAVE TO TAKE
CARE OF YOU MYSELF.

BRAY

HOLD IT, MORONI. BEFORE YOU DO, YOU BETTER HEAR WHAT I
HAVE TO SAY. THEY'RE GOING TO GET YOU. I HEARD THEM
TALKING ABOUT IT WHILE I WAS HIDING IN THE TRASH CAN.

TOD

WHO'S GONNA GET ME?

BRAY

ZEUS AND CHARLIE CASSETTI. THEY SAID THEY HAD TO GET YOU OUT OF THE WAY AND BRING IN CASI NOSTRA TO TAKE YOUR PLACE.

TOD

A WOMAN AS SECURITY OFFICER? YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING.

BRAY

WELL, IF YOU CAN'T BELIEVE THAT, THEN HOW ABOUT THIS. YOU HAVE TO GIVE THAT MONEY BACK.

TOD

WHAT MONEY?

BRAY

THE PORNOGRAPHIC FILM MONEY.

TOD

WHY? I EARNED IT. THEY WERE MY FILMS.

BRAY

BECAUSE IF YOU DON'T, I'M GOING TO TELL ALL TO THE SHERIFF.

TOD

WHY DON'T YOU CALL IN THE CIA TOO, KID?

BRAY

AND HAVE THEM MURDER ME. I KNOW BETTER THAN THAT. THEY'RE WORKING HAND IN GLOVE WITH YOU MAFIA TYPES. NO, I HAVE A BETTER IDEA. I'LL TELL JOE ACHILLES WHAT YOU DID WITH THE MONEY.

TOD

IN THAT CASE, I'LL HAVE TO SHUT YOU UP FAST.

BRAY

IT WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD. I LEFT INSTRUCTIONS AT THE POST OFFICE THAT THEY WERE TO HAND OVER A LETTER DETAILING YOUR CRIMES TO THE FBI IF I DISAPPEAR.

TOD

DID YOU SENT IT FIRST CLASS?

BRAY

YES.

TOD

THEN I'VE GOT YOU. THE POST OFFICE WON'T DELIVER
FIRST CLASS MAIL FOR A WEEK OR MORE. I'LL BE LONG
GONE BY THE TIME THE FBI RECEIVES IT. COME ON,
KID, I'M TAKING YOU FOR A RIDE.

BRAY

WHERE DID I GO WRONG?

TOD

YOU SHOULD HAVE SENT THE LETTER AS JUNK MAIL.
OOH, THEM BELLS! GET GOING! (He pushes Bray
off stage left. Can enters from stage right
followed by Salmonella.)

CANN

NOT TOO BAD A LUNCH, WORTHINGTON. THAT WAS
GOOD STEAK.

SALMONELLA

THANK YOU, ASHFORD. YOU'D NEVER GUESS IT
WAS SYNTHETIC.

CANN

SYNTHETIC? WHAT WAS IT?

SALMONELLA

SOYBEAN STEAK.

CANN

SOYBEAN STEAK!

SALMONELLA

YES. (sings)

SOYBEAN STEAK AND SOYBEAN TURKEY
MAKES A DINNER TASTE SO MURKY
THAT THE STUDENTS NEVER FEEL
THAT WHAT THEY EAT HAS MUCH APPEAL.

THEN WE SLIP THEM AN EMETIC
TO GET RID OF FOOD SYNTHETIC
CAUSING THEM WITH FERVENT ZEAL
TO BUY SOME SNACKS BETWEEN EACH MEAL.

THE COOKS AND I WE SWEAT AND STRAIN
TO PUT GOOD MEALS BEFORE THEM,
BUT ALL THEY DO IS TO COMPLAIN
AND CRY THAT THEY ABHOR THEM.

WE FEED THEM SOYBEANS BY THE MILLIONS
UNTIL EVERYONE IS BILIOUS,
THAT IS HOW WE MAKE OUR MILLIONS
FEEDING STUDENTS SYNTHETIC MEALS.

SOYBEAN SAUSAGE, SOYBEAN LETTUCE,
SOYBEAN BREAD AND SOYBEAN BUTTER,
SOYBEAN COFFEE, SOYBEAN DOUGHNUTS,
THEY ALL MAKE GOOD PROFITS FROM A MEAL.

CANN

DON'T THE STUDENTS COMPLAIN?

SALMONELLA

I DON'T THINK THE STUDENTS HAVE NOTICED THE DIFFERENCE.
WE HAVE ALWAYS USED A LOT OF SEASONING IN OUR FOOD.
SPINACH SURPRISE ALWAYS TASTES THE SAME AS LONG AS
YOU COLOR IT GREEN.

CANN

BUT THE STUDENTS ARE LIABLE TO RIOT, AND THAT WORRIES ME, SALMONELLA. (He turns to the trash can to prepare his cigar.)

SALMONELLA

DON'T LET IT BOTHER YOU, ASHFORD. I COULD FEED THEM GARBAGE AND THEY WOULDN'T KNOW THE DIFFERENCE, AS LONG AS THERE IS SALT, PEPPER AND ~~PAPRIKA~~ ^{PEPPER} TO COVER THE TASTE. (He is struck by the thought) SAY, I BET I COULD GET A GOOD BARGAIN ON GARBAGE FROM THE REDWOOD INN. I BETTER GO MAKE A CONTACT FOR A CONTRACT. (He exits stage right as Cann works on his cigar. Charlie Cassetti, with a bandaid on his nose still, enters from stage right to stand on the spot Salmonella has just vacated.)

CANN

(Turning back to Charlie) JUST THE SAME, I THINK WE ARE TREADING ON DANGEROUS GROUND IN USING SYNTHETIC FOODS ON THE STUDENTS. THE NEXT THING YOU KNOW THEY WILL BE EATING THE PLASTIC CUPS AND SPOONS FOR DINNER, AND THE PAPER NAPKINS FOR IN BETWEEN SNACKS, AND WHERE IS THE NUTRITIONAL VALUE IN THAT.

CHARLIE

IN WHAT?

CANN

IN PAPER NAPKINS. SAY, WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR NOSE? IT WAS ALL RIGHT A MINUTE AGO. WAIT A MINUTE, YOU'RE CHARLIE. WHERE'S SALMONELLA?

CHARLIE

I JUST PASSED HIM HEADING FOR HIS CAR MUTTERING SOMETHING ABOUT TAKING OUT A CONTRACT. ARE YOU READY TO TALK ABOUT NEXT YEAR'S CURRICULUM?

CANN

WILL IT BE SYNTHETIC TOO?

CHARLIE

OF COURSE NOT.

CANN

WELL, WHERE IS IT? (Doria enters from stage right.)

CHARLIE

I'VE GOT TO GET PRISSY AND THE CURRICULUM WALL FIRST.

CANN

THE CURRICULUM WALL. WHAT'S THAT?

CHARLIE

YOU'LL SEE. I'LL GO GET IT.

CANN

DON'T HURRY. (He sits down as Charlie exits stage right.)

DORIA

PRESIDENT CANN, ARE YOU ALONE?

CANN

I WAS UNTIL YOU CAME ALONG.

DORIA

I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ALONE. YOU SEE, WE NEED TO EXPAND OUR PRESENT BOOK STORE INTO PORNOGRAPHIC LITERATURE. EVERY YEAR THE PORNO PUBLISHERS HOLD A SPECIAL SALE, PARTICULARLY NEAR CHRISTMAS TIME, AND I COULD USE A LITTLE EXTRA MONEY TO LAY IN A STOCK OF REMAINDERS IN ORDER TO MEET THE CHRISTMAS RUSH.

CANN

PORNOGRAPHIC LITERATURE! DORIA DID YOU EVER READ A GOOD BOOK IN YOUR LIFE.

DORIA

SURE. I READ A GOOD BOOK NOT LONG AGO.

CANN

WHAT WAS THE BOOK?

DORIA

THE GONG RINGS FOR EVERYBODY.

CANN

THE GONG RINGS FOR EVERYBODY?

DORIA

YEAH. I PICKED IT UP IN PAPERBACK AT THE BOOK STORE.
IT WAS THERE ALL BY ITSELF BETWEEN THE RACING FORMS
AND THE NUMBERS DESK. I THINK SOME STUDENT LEFT IT
BY MISTAKE.

CANN

WHAT WAS IT ABOUT?

DORIA

ABOUT 500 PAGES LONG.

CANN

I MEAN WHAT STORY DID IT TELL?

DORIA

IT TOLD ABOUT A CIVIL WAR.

CANN

OUR CIVIL WAR?

DORIA

NO, THE CIVIL WAR IN SPAIN.

CANN

WHO WROTE IT? (Charlie & Prissy, the wall enter from stage right)

DORIA

A FELLOW NAMED HUMMINGBIRD.

CANN

OH! I THINK YOU PROBABLY READ A BOOK BY THE NAME
OF FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS BY HEMINGWAY.

DORIA

THAT'S IT! THAT'S IT! THE GONG RINGS FOR EVERYONE,
BY HUMMINGBIRD.

CANN

OH WELL (Achilles enters from stage right)

CHARLIE

HERE IS OUR CURRICULUM WALL PLASTERED WITH EDUCATIVE IDEAS.

CANN

EDUCATIVE IDEAS, CHARLIE. WHAT KIND OF EDUCATIVE IDEAS?

CHARLIE

IDEAS ON WHAT WE ARE GOING TO OFFER FOR OUR PROGRAMS FOR NEXT YEAR.

CANN

POGROMS YOU MEAN, YOU'VE ALMOST ELIMINATED ALL OUR FACULTY NOW.

CHARLIE

BUT WE'RE REPLACING THEM WITH YOUNGER AND BETTER LOOKING ONES EVERY DAY.

JOE

BUT THEY'RE ALL WOMEN.

CHARLIE

AND WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT?

JOE

NOTHING. NOTHING. I JUST HOPE THEY DON'T GET PREGNANT IN MIDTERM.

CHARLIE

STAY AWAY FROM THEM, JOE, AND THEY WON'T.

JOE

VERY FUNNY.

CHARLIE

THIS IS MY IDEA TO SPICE UP OUR CURRICULUM, DOC.

CANN

GO AHEAD. WHAT CAN I LOSE?

CHARLIE

ALL RIGHT. GO AHEAD WALL.

PRISSY

IN THIS SAME INTERLUDE IT DOTH BEFALL. THAT I,
PRISCILLA LONGJOHNS, BY NAME, HAVE HERE A WALL.
AND SUCH A WALL, AS I WOULD HAVE YOU THINK,
TO WRITE UPON TAKES CHALK, OR PEN AND INK,
OR POST TO ITS BROAD SPECTRUM TYPEWRITTEN SHEETS,
HELD THERE BY THUMBTRACKS OR BY TINY CLEATS,
AND THUS SUCH PROGRAMS SHALL I BRING TO STUDENTS HERE,
THAT THEY SHALL ALL FIND PLEASURE THROUGH THE YEAR.

DORIA

IT IS THE WITTIEST CURRICULUM WALL THAT I HAVE EVER HEARD.

JOE

IT WILL NEVER SELL A PROGRAM.

CHARLIE

SHUT UP YOU TWO AND LET THE WALL SPEAK FOR ITSELF.

CANN

BUT WHAT DOES IT OFFER ACADEMICALLY?

PRISSY

I OFFER PROGRAMS THAT WILL FIT THE TIMES,
ON SLOT MACHINE REPAIR OR COUNTERFEITING DIMES.

DORIA

I THINK IT SHOULD BE DOLLARS, OR TEN DOLLAR BILLS.

JOE

MAKE IT ONE HUNDRED.

PRISSY

NOW HERE'S A PROGRAM THAT SHOULD FIT THE SKILLS
OF FLEDGLING FATHERS. A DIAPER CHANGING PROGRAM
OFFERED BY THAT DYNAMIC PRODUCTION TEAM OF FOX AND DOBBS.

CANN

TRULY AN ACADEMIC FIT.

PRISSY

HERE SKOV AND PAPWORTH HAVE CONCEIVED A PROGRAM
NEAR TO THE RICHNESS OF LAST YEARS THE GOOD EARTH.

CANN

WHAT IS IT?

PRISSY

DITCH DIGGING I, WITH ARCHEOLOGICAL OVERTONES.

JOE

WE COULD USE A FEW MORE GRAVE DIGGERS AROUND HERE.

PRISSY

AND HERE IS THE CULMINATION OF LAST YEAR'S WORK
IN FOREIGN TONGUES. A TRULY SUPERB PROGRAM AS
DESIGNED BY HANFMAN AND ESQUIVEL, A YEAR IN DISNEYLAND.

CANN

YOU CALL THESE ACADEMIC?

CHARLIE

IT SHOULD APPEAL TO ALL SINCERE STUDENTS.

CANN

WHAT ELSE IS THERE?

CHARLIE

OUR MINICULES.

CANN

WHAT IS A MINICULE?

CHARLIE

IT IS A MINIATURE MODULE LASTING FROM A SHORT
PERIOD OF TIME TO TWO WEEKS. A MINICULE ON LASER
THERAPY FOR EXAMPLE COULD LAST TWO SECONDS.

JOE

AN IDEAL COURSE FOR NARROW MINDS.

CANN

PABLUM, THAT'S WHAT IT IS, INTELLECTUAL PABLUM.

JOE

IT MAY BE PABLUM TO YOU, BUT IT BRINGS IN THE MONEY. ^{TO US?}
LOOK AT OUR ONE DAY MINICULE ON T.M. FOR EXAMPLE.

CANN

T.M?

JOE

TRANSITIONAL MEDITATION. WE GET \$150 A SESSION FOR IT
AND ALL WE HAVE TO SUPPLY IS TWO EXOTIC WORDS FOR
THE STUDENTS TO MEDITATE ON.

CANN

SO ALL YOU ARE AFTER IS THEIR MONEY.

JOE

WHAT ELSE IS THERE?

CANN

JOE, YOU ARE MAKING A DOUBLE BARRELLED ASSUMPTION,
FIRST THAT THE STUDENTS HERE WILL PAY FOR A SIMPLISTIC
EDUCATION, AND SECOND THAT THEY ARE WILLING TO PUT
UP WITH MICKEY MOUSE CURRICULUM. WHAT RELEVANCE CAN
YOU FIND IN ACADEMIC LIFE, IF WE TREAT THEM LIKE THAT.

JOE

WHEN HUNTING RELEVANCE I ALWAYS USE A DOUBLE BARRELLED
ASSUMPTION.

DORIA

I THOUGHT MOST RELEVANCE WERE FOUND IN ZOOS.

CHARLIE

MONEY IS RELEVANT, AND IF THE STUDENTS THINK THEY ARE
GETTING THEIR MONEY'S WORTH. WELL, WHO'S GOING TO
DISILLUSION THEM. (Bray enters from stage left)

CANN

ALL RIGHT. HAVE IT YOUR WAY. YOU HAVE DESTROYED THE ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE OF WINTERGREEN COLLEGE IN PURSUIT OF MONEY, BUT I'VE HAD IT. I'M RESIGNING.

BRAY

WAIT, PRESIDENT CANN.

CANN

THADDEUS! I THOUGHT THE MAFIA GOT RID OF YOU.

BRAY

YOU CAN'T KEEP A GOOD MAN DOWN, SIR.

CANN

HOW DID YOU ESCAPE?

BRAY

(Pulls out his trusty swiss knife) I WHIPPED OUT MY HANDY CAN OPENER AND CUT MY WAY OUT OF HIS TRUNK.

CANN

~~INGENIOUS.~~ *Very innovative*

BRAY

THEN I PLANTED A SMALL DETONATING DEVICE IN THE ENGINE OF TOD'S CAR AND HE BLEW IT.

CANN

A BOMB! WHERE ON EARTH DID YOU LEARN HOW TO MAKE A BOMB?

BRAY

IN THE LIBRARY, SIR, FROM A SMALL BOOK ENTITLED THE REVOLUTIONARY COOKBOOK.

CANN

AND TOD BOMBED OUT.

CHARLIE

DID YOU HEAR THAT, JOE? BAD NEWS.

JOE

I GOT NO HARD FEELINGS. BRAY BOMBED HIM. IT'S JUST BUSINESS. BUT NOW THAT MEANS THAT I AM THE NEW SECURITY OFFICER, AND MY OWN BODYGUARD. SO TAKE CARE CHARLIE, AND DON'T TRY NOTHIN' FUNNY.

CHARLIE

I WON'T, JOE. THE GODFATHER DON'T CARE AS LONG AS THE CASH ROLLS IN.

JOE

BUT, CHARLIE, I GOT SOME BAD NEWS FOR YOU, TOO. THE CASH ISN'T GOING TO BE ROLLING IN. WE'RE LOSING MONEY. THE STATE HAS CUT OUR TAKE BY \$200,000. THAT PUTS OUR ACT IN THE RED. NOW OUR OWN MONEY IS GOING INTO RUNNING THIS PLACE, INSTEAD OF US TAKING MONEY OUT.

CHARLIE

THEN WE BETTER GET OUT OF THE EDUCATION RACKET RIGHT AWAY. WHERE'S SALMONELLA? I NEED HIS ADVICE.

JOE

I'VE GOT MORE BAD NEWS FOR YOU, CHARLIE. SALMONELLA WAS PICKED UP THIS AFTERNOON FOR STEALING GARBAGE.

CHARLIE

STEALING GARBAGE?

JOE

YEAH. FROM THE REDWOOD INN.

DORIA

PERHAPS HE WANTED TO SAMPLE IT FOR THE STUDENTS.

JOE

THEY'RE GONNA THROW THE BOOK AT HIM. TWENTY YEARS AT HARD LABOR.

CHARLIE

FOR STEALING GARBAGE?

JOE

YEAH. IT SEEMS HE STOLE A FLEET OF GARBAGE TRUCKS
ALONG WITH IT.

BRAY

YOUR EMPIRE IS FOLDING, CHARLIE. EVEN DORIA IS
DOUBLECROSSING YOU.

CHARLIE

SHE IS? HOW?

BRAY

SHE ACCEPTED MONEY FROM THE FBI TO SPY ON THE GODFATHER.

DORIA

I NEVER DID!

CHARLIE

THEN HOW DID WORTHINGTON GET PICKED UP? YOU WERE THE
ONLY ONE WHO KNEW WHAT HE WAS DOING.

DORIA

I...WAIT A MINUTE. PRISSY KNEW ABOUT IT TOO.

PRISSY

YES, I DID.

JOE

AND YOU TOLD THE FBI. I'LL NEVER TRUST ANOTHER SECRETARY.

PRISSY

I AM THE FBI.

BRAY

YOU ARE? I THOUGHT YOU WERE A VIRGIN.

PRISSY

IT WAS JUST A COVER.

CHARLIE

SHE KNOWS TOO MUCH. GET RID OF HER, DORIA.

PRISSY

NOT A CHANCE. THE PLACE IS SURROUNDED. UNFORTUNATELY, I CAN'T HOLD JOE OR CHARLIE. I HAVE NO REAL EVIDENCE AGAINST THEM, BUT I ARREST YOU, DORIA CARTWHEEL, FOR THE ATTEMPTED MURDER OF THADDEUS BRAY.

DORIA

ATTEMPTED MURDER! IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR YOU RESCUING HIM, HE WOULD HAVE BEEN DEAD. I USED FIRST CLASS NEGATIVE ACTION ON HIM.

BRAY

BUT THANKS TO PRISSY, YOU FAILED.

CHARLIE

WELL, CANN, I GUESS YOU WIN. WINTERGREEN'S TOO SMALL TO MAKE A PROFIT. I'LL HAVE TO GO OVER AND JOIN PERRY DILLINGER AT EVERGREEN. HE'S GOT A PROFITABLE RACKET GOING THERE. DILLINGER IS ALWAYS WHERE THE ACTION IS. GOODBYE, CANN, NO HARD FEELINGS. COME ON, JOE.

JOE

NO, I'M TURNING STRAIGHT. I LIKE IT HERE, CHARLIE. THAT IS IF ASHFORD CAN USE ME.

CANN

I'M GONNA MAKE YOU AN OFFER YOU CAN'T REFUSE, JOE.

JOE

WHAT IS IT?

CANN

SINCE WE GOT CUT BACK ON OUR FUNDS DUE TO YOU GUYS ELIMINATING THE STUDENTS, YOU, JOE, ARE GOING TO HAVE TO FILL A FEW JOBS AROUND HERE.

JOE

LIKE VICE-PRESIDENT FOR BUSINESS AND SECURITY OFFICER?

CANN

AND HEAD OF PERSONNEL, ^{AFFIRMATIVE} ~~NEGATIVE~~ ACTION OFFICER, BOOKSTORE
MANAGER, STUDENT SERVICES, COUNSELLING....

JOE

WHOA! DO YOU THINK I CAN HANDLE ALL THAT? *without going to court.*

CANN

IT'S NOT A QUESTION OF CAN. YOU HAVE TO. YOU'RE ALL WE CAN AFFORD.

PRISSY

BRAY, YOU'RE A STRAIGHT SHOOTER. LOOK ME UP IN THE FBI
WHEN YOU GRADUATE. WE CAN USE MEN LIKE YOU IN THE SERVICE.

BRAY

THANKS, PRISSY. I WILL.

CHARLIE

I'LL ALWAYS CONSIDERE WINTERGREEN MY ALMA MATER THOUGH.
COULD YOU SING THE OLD SONG FOR ME ONCE BEFORE I GO.

CANN

SURE, CHARLIE. OMNIA EXSTARES,
OMNIA EXSTARES,
ALMA MATER, WINTERGREEN,
OMNIA EXSTARES.

NOW HIT IT, ALL OF YOU!

ALL

GO, GEODUCS, GO.
THROUGH THE MUD AND THE SAND LET'S GO,
SIPHON HIGH, SQUIRT IT OUT,
SWIVEL ALL ABOUT,
LET IT ALL HANG OUT.

GO, GEODUCS, GO.
STRETCH YOUR NECKS WHEN THE TIDE IS LOW,
SIPHON HIGH, SQUIRT IT OUT,
SWIVEL ALL ABOUT,
LET IT ALL HANG OUT.

THE END.