



ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS A

PONYTAIL

(A funny movie)

By
Sidney Goldberg

All Rights reserved.
©TXU 1-576826

Please Contact:

Sidney Goldberg
80 Norman Place©
Tenafly, N.J. 07670
201 567-6533
ShaiyaG@optonline.net
www.SidneyGoldbergWriter.com



ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS A PONYTAIL

Cast in order of appearance

MARIO.....45ish, handsome, personable Italian.

DONNIE.....45ish, Jewish, lovable.

STEVE (Fats).....45ish, rich loud, guilt ridden.

RABBI.....45ish, user.

SHARKEN.....45ish, Irish, devil-makere.

ANNIE.....30ish, beautiful, Mario's girl.

MAX.....40ish, Donnie's wife, nice.

RITA.....40ish, Fat's wife, sharp.

HANNA.....40ish, Rabbi's wife, smart.

MELODY.....40ish, Sharken's wife, funny.

ERIC.....Hustler, porno producer.

MRS. BLOCH.....Aged Jewish housewife.

DR.....45ish, handsome.

MAID.....50ish, black.

RECEPTIONIST.....25, pretty.

ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS A

PONYTAIL

INT: PENTHOUSE: Day:

1

Santa Monica, California.

A beautiful penthouse, with a panoramic view of the ocean, where Mario cuts hair.

Avant garde in decor, there are large photos of the Beatles, Einstein, beautiful women, photography equipment, a couch, coffee table made from a tree trunk, an African mask, a butterfly mobile, an eight foot statue of a nude woman and an antique barber chair, from where Mario cuts hair.

Spotlights make objects appear dramatic.

Very handsome, Mario wears a ponytail.

All HIS friends that come to him will have longish hair in need of cutting.

Mario finishes haircut of gorgeous model, who, kisses him, drops three one hundred dollar bills in glass bowl and departs.

Buzzer rings and Mario answers it.

MARIO

Donnie?

DONNIE

(Through intercom.)

Who ya expecting *schmuck*, the president?

MARIO buzzes in response. DONNIE enters and immediately sits in barber chair.

MARIO

Don't I even get a hello?

DONNIE

Fuck you.

MARIO

Do I detect some hostility?

DONNIE sneers as MARIO puts haircutting cape around DONNIE.

HE then tousles his hair around with his fingers and looks in mirror. BOTH in mirror:

MARIO (cont'd)

I do detect some hostility.
Why, what did I do?

DONNIE

How long have I known you?

MARIO

Don't start with that shit
from high school again,
please.

MARIO takes water bottle from side of chair and sprays DONNIE'S hair and then his face.

DONNIE

You're such a *putz!* I've
been trying to get an
appointment
(Lunges at MARIO who does a
matador swirl and laughs.)
With you for two weeks. Why
don't you get a receptionist
instead of that G-DDAMN
ANSWERING MACHINE? You're
harder to see than the mayor.

MARIO

(Again he looks in the mirror
and tousles Donnie's hair.)
You sound surprised.

DONNIE

Don't give me any of your
surprised shit, now that
you're a big star...

MARIO

...What do you mean, now? I

suppose the past 25 years
don't count, huh...?

DONNIE

(To self.)

...300 a pop and he doesn't
even wash your hair any more,
"He's too big," and you have
to come with it clean, or else
he won't cut it. Well, for
your information Mr.
Primadonna, I think I washed
my hair last month, or was it
the month before? Now, are
you happy?

MARIO

Thrilled and I suppose you
know, what time, tomorrow?

DONNIE

I think Max said tennish?

MARIO

She did.

DONNIE

Man, every year you make a New
Years Eve Party and every year
it seems like you have a new,
gorgeous chick.

MARIO

(Smiles.)

Why bring it up and torture
yourself? I hear you have
enough problems.

DONNIE

Its murder on us old married
folk, it really is.

MARIO

Folk, meaning?

DONNIE

Your best friends.

MARIO

You mean I have more "*folking*"
best friends, than you? How
lucky can a guy

Get?

DONNIE

It seems they all love you and personally, I don't know why.

MARIO

Y's a crooked letter, now M,
Don't you love the letter M?

(Sort of sings.)

"Mm-mm good. Mm-mm
Good..."

MARIO & DONNIE

(Sing together.)

"...That's what Campbell soup
(Slap each other five.)
Is, mm-mm good."

DONNIE

Now, can we get started before
the gang gets here? I want
you to really concentrate this
time, 'gabbish,' you, wop
Bastard?

MARIO

Why should this day be
different from all other days?

DONNIE

And if it pleases his majesty,
you better not make it short
again! I really like it
longer, Max says, it makes me
(Sings.)

Look macho. "Macho, macho
man..."

MARIO & DONNIE

(Sings together.)

"...I'm gonna be your macho
man."

MARIO picks up comb and scissors, looks into mirror,
inspired, HE begins to cut at great speed.

DONNIE

(Ala train whistle.)

Woo-oo-oo. Ya know, every
time you cut my hair, I feel

you're in a rush.

MARIO

I am.

DONNIE

Well, would you please slow down; I'm getting a freakin' draft.

MARIO

I can't, I'm too inspired.

DONNIE

Well, tell your inspiration that I just want a trim this time! I want to see you in three or four weeks, not four months.

MARIO

My, how time flies when you're having a grand time and *poisonally*, I've had a blast.

DONNIE

(Sort of whines.)
Must you keep reminding me and not too Short this time Mario,
(Pinches Mario.)
Promise?

MARIO

(Hits Donnie's hand ala teacher.
Forget it.)
(Looks in mirror and continues to work at great speed.)

DONNIE

What do you mean forget it? I don't want it *"TOO SHORT!"* Please, everyone says They like it longer.

INT: DONNIE IN HIS RESTAURANT:

2

MRS. BLOCH

(Touches Donnie's hair as if she likes it.)
'Nu,' Donald, with such long hair, what are you becoming a

hippie again?

DONNIE

I should only feel that good.

MRS. BLOCH

Your hair makes you look like
a young
Boy.

DONNIE

Thank you Mrs. Bloch, thank
you very
Much.

INT: DONNIE'S HOME:

3

MAX, DONNIE'S wife, turned on by his long hair, is running
her fingers through his hair and feeling very sexy.

MAX

Tell me Samson, is it true
that all your Strength, comes
from your beautiful long
Hair?

DONNIE

I believe it comes from below
my waist.

MAX

I know and I'm glad, sexy.

THEY go to bed.

CUT: BACK TO HAIRCUT:

4

DONNIE

I'm begging you, do you hear,
I'm begging you.

MARIO

Beg all you want. It's bad
enough we have lunch twice a
week; you can't have a cut
every month.

DONNIE

Why not, it's my money.

MARIO

I don't need your money and I'm too busy.

DONNIE

What do you mean you're too busy?

MARIO

Look at my book I have 15 appointments today, 15 appointments tomorrow, next Week, next month, next year and do you know why?

DONNIE

Y's a crooked letter remember?

MARIO

Because, not only do I give 'em the best haircut, I'm everybody's shrink. I should Write a book or a movie. Yeah, I always wanted to write a movie.

DONNIE

Why not? Your poems, songs and that play sucks, now, you'll have a movie that sucks.

MARIO

There are twelve million suckers waiting to be heard in la la land. Unfortunately, I don't have the time to give all those la las, haircuts.

DONNIE

And that means you're too busy for this la too, right?

MARIO

If you insist.

DONNIE

Look at that, how soon we forget. I used to steal from

my own father's deli for you,
Lean brisket on a Kaiser roll,
with mustard on one side and
ketchup on the other, and I
schlepped it to school
everyday, no less. And G-d-
for-bid, you forgot the
mustard, I'd never hear the
end of it, Doctor Brown's
celery soda, a half-and-half
sour pickle and you're not
even Jewish.

MARIO

Must you keep reminding me?
So, I don't get heartburn, big
deal... And it's not that
I've been too busy to see
you...

DONNIE

I'm listening.

MARIO

It's just that, even though
you may have millions,
spending 300 on your hair
every month, I think it's a
bit much, if I may
Say so myself.

DONNIE

If it'll make you feel any
better, I'll let you charge me
less.

MARIO

That's where we differ mister;
I have one price for
everybody, including my best
friend. I believe its called
ethics.

DONNIE

Fuck you and your ethics.
This time I want a ponytail
like you *Mr. Ethical* and I'm
not kidding.

MARIO

Speaking of ethics, are you
sure there's nothing new and
exciting you want to tell
Me about?

DONNIE unwittingly nods yes.

MARIO (cont'd)

So, I'm all-ears.

DONNIE

You won't believe it, but I
finally *"Did it!"*

MARIO

You actually *"Did it, when?"*

DONNIE

Yesterday.

MARIO

You, who, says he's been
happily married all these
years, *"Did it?"* Go on, I
don't believe it, *"noooooottt
yooou."*

DONNIE

I guess you can say I'm not
all talk any more, Mario
because,

(Ala Ed Sullivan.)

*"I really, really did it.
Yessiree, I really, really did
it."*

MARIO

I hate to burst your bubble,
but they've been *"Doing it"*
for years, in fact, I think
the Cro-Magnons own the
copyright, or was it Wilt
Chamberlain?

DONNIE

Can you believe it, Mario? I
didn't do it
To Max.

MARIO

What are you making such a big deal for? I Didn't do it to your wife, either, I swear.

DONNIE

It was the first time in my life I did it to someone other than... I didn't think I
(Remembering.
Could, but I really, really did it.)

INT: DONNIE'S RESTAURANT - A FEW DAYS AGO:

5

All the cooks and waiters have gone, WE see DONNIE all alone, as a tall, beautiful, black woman enters and sits next to him.

BLACK WOMAN

(Speaks with Yiddish accent.)
I would like some potato latkes, please.

DONNIE

(Laughing.)
Would you repeat that?

BLACK WOMAN

Potato latkes with a little applesauce, please.

DONNIE

And, where, did you get such a wonderful, Jewish accent?

BLACK WOMAN

Johannesburg.

DONNIE

I'm sorry, but the restaurant is closed.

BLACK WOMAN

If you don't give me my potato latkes and applesauce, I promise I'll stay here all night!

DONNIE

All night huh?

DONNIE locks the door takes HER by the arm and laughing enters his office. Suddenly, they are kissing and touching passionately:

MARIO

And I bet she had the juiciest nipples you ever Saw.

DONNIE

(Dreamy.)
The juiciest.

MARIO

And what about that sweet "*touches?*" Nice
And high, huh?

DONNIE

The sweetest and the highest I ever... It was
Up to here.

MARIO

And what did you think of the Jewish star that was tattooed on her...

DONNIE & MARIO

...Left cheek.

DONNIE

(Annoyed.)
It was amazing and why do you keep interrupting me? I didn't even get to the best part.

MARIO

(Playing shrink.)
I'm sorry for the interruption. Err... you may continue, you were up to her

left cheek.

DONNIE

(Dreamy.)

Then she stuck her tongue in
my ear and whispered...

MARIO, will mouthe potato *latkes* as DONNIE says it.

DONNIE (cont'd)

"Potato *latkes*. I want your
potato *latkes*." I went wild.
I stuck my tongue in her ear
and I whispered, "Yes, takes
my *latkes* and do what you
will. Take me, I'm yours..."
After we did *IT*, we ate...

BACK TO THE PRESENT:

6

MARIO

...Potato *latkes*.

DONNIE

Chopped liver, I was out of
latkes.

THEY laugh.

DONNIE (cont'd)

I never did it to a Zulu
princess before, a Jap, all
right...

MARIO

...I suppose you want a medal
or something?

DONNIE

(Feels remorse.)

I deserve some medal all
right. It was the first time
in 24 years that I cheated on
Max. How could I be so... When
I went home and faced her, I
felt terrible.

MARIO

About the potato *latkes*?

DONNIE

(Sadly, nods yes.)

I bet my father, may he rest
in peace, never got *schtupted*
in the restaurant for a few
potato *latkes*, never.

MARIO

But, I bet he must have gotten
something, because the man was
always smiling.

DONNIE

Why me?

MARIO

According to Hoyle, ten out of
ten married men want to cheat
all the time, only six out of
ten, do it.

DONNIE

How could I?

MARIO

That's gotta be the best *latke*
story I ever heard, I swear.

DONNIE

I hope that won't be part of
your movie.

MARIO

And what happens if your *latke*
comes back for a little *nosh*?

INT: DONNIE'S RESTAURANT - THE NEXT DAY:

7

WE see, but do not hear black girl return and ask for potato
latkes.

DONNIE, sadly shakes his head no, says they are closed and
sadly walks away.

BACK TO HAIRCUT:

8

DONNIE

I'll just have to tell her
we're closed.

MARIO

Are you crazy? I thought you said you had a good time...?

DONNIE

...And how the hell did you know she had a Jewish star on her...? You sent her to me, Didn't you, you rat-bastard!

MARIO smiles.

DONNIE (cont'd)

And you're cutting it too G-ddamn short! I told you; I wanted a ponytail, didn't I?

MARIO

Want me to stop?

DONNIE

Are you finished?

MARIO

You tell me.

DONNIE

What, the hell are you asking me for, I don't know if you're finished? You're supposed to be the *maven*. You're still Italian aren't you, wise-ass?

MARIO

If that's the way you feel
(Removes cape.)
about it? "*Ta da!*"

DONNIE looks in the mirror and rubs his head in disbelief.

MARIO

So, what's the verdict?

DONNIE

It's too short again,
G-ddamnit!! It's nice, but
it's too fuckin' short...!

MARIO

...Not again?

DONNIE

(Whimpers.)

You really did it you, why,
why'd you do it again?

MARIO

What are you making such a big
deal for? The next time it
will be better. I promise, I
really promise.

THEY look at each other and know what is coming.

DONNIE & MARIO

*"Promise her anything but give
her Arpege."*

THEY hug each other.

MARIO

Now, you gotta let me tell you
this poem I just wrote. It's
fantas...

DONNIE

...Not again with your
fantastic, please...

MARIO

...There once was a Bluebird
by Mario Manucci. "Leaves
turn, the wind tips my hat.
Sojourn little butterfly..."

DONNIE

...Oh, my God, I don't believe
what I just heard, did you
just say, "*Sojourn little
butterfly...?*"

MARIO

...I am to be. Rivers cry
where fish dare not.
Nuclear reactors embrace the
horizon...

DONNIE

...What the hell does that
mean...?

MARIO

...From enriched earth come
pregnant fields...

DONNIE

...And that...?

MARIO

...Fruits of gold plating,
beckon. Light in my
neighbor's window. Bang,
Bang, BANG...!

DONNIE

...Did you just say, bang,
bang, bang...?

MARIO

...How still the darkness.
There once was a bluebird.
So, what do you think?

DONNIE

Worse piece of shit I ever
heard. Worse than your
freakin' songs and that play.
You make a fortune cutting
hair, what do you want to be
(Looking in mirror.)
writer for? And look at my
hair! I'm gonna kill you,
you... Why'd you cut it so
short again? When the hell
are you going to listen? You
are ridiculous.

MARIO

Well, if that's the way you
feel about it, pay up and get
the hell out of here, will you
please? This ain't a hangout,
mister. I'm busy.

DONNIE

(Takes money from wallet.)
Why, the fuckin' orange king
isn't here, yet.

Drops three one hundred dollar bills in glass bowl as buzzer
rings.

MARIO

I love your timing, *bubby*.

Goldberg

19

DONNIE

Shakes hips.

So did my Zulu.

BUZZER sounds again.

MARIO

That's what you say.

DONNIE

Don't tell me fat's here
already.

WE SEE FATS OVERLOOKING ENORMOUS ORANGE ORCHARD: 9

BACK TO HAIRCUT: 10

MARIO

And don't forget our
illustrious Rabbi

DONNIE

You didn't tell me that
fuckin' blackmailer was coming
too.

MARIO

What is with you and the
Rabbi?

WE SEE RABBI AT PARTIES WITH VARIOUS CELEBRITIES: 11

As we see and hear Voiceovers.

DONNIE (V.O.)

What? He's a freaking
hypocrite, that's what he is.
He's not interested in
Religion he's running for
mayor.

MARIO (V.O.)

You don't say...?

DONNIE (V.O.)

Between his three assistants
and the cantor, he's never in
temple. He's either on the
Golf course or having lunch

with who-ever and the only
 reason he pals around with
 Fats is, Fat's still paying
 off for making him a his
Shabbos goy, his fuckin'
 religious assistant
 In Nam... To this day I bet he
 still feels guilty that his
 entire company got wiped out
 or
 Became cripples.

INT: VIET NAM - BACK IN TIME:

12

STEVE (FATS)

I'm real scared, Marty. We're
 going to try and take the
 hill. Guess I might as well
 say goodbye, 'cause you
 remember what happened the
 last time we tried to take it.

RABBI

No one came back, I'll pray
 for you.

STEVE

I'm afraid it's gonna take
 more than praying to save this
 little, rich white boy from
 Getting his ass blown off,
 Rabbi.

RABBI

I have an idea that just might
 work. You saw the sign I
 posted for a religious
 assistant? Well, why don't
 you apply right now?

STEVE

Nice try, but I'm not Jewish.

RABBI

Did I ask you?

BACK TO THE PRESENT:

13

MARIO

And don't forget about the
 matching Mercedes, Fats bought

him. Bet he thinks he can buy
 His way into heaven. Is he in
 for a big surprise. Even
 though he grows lots of
 oranges, unfortunately, G-d
 only drinks champagne...
 (Speaks into intercom.)
 Fats?

Via intercom we hear STEVE say, "*Fuck you.*" MARIO buzzes
 them in.

INT:

14

We will see the RABBI and his wife HANNA in what will be
 described via DONNIE'S and MARIO'S voice over.

DONNIE (V.O)

Two years ago it was the pool.
 Now, he says Hanna wants a
 tennis court and he blames
 her. What balls, I don't have
 a fuckin' tennis court, do I?

MARIO (V.O)

That's because you're a *klutz*
 and you don't play tennis.
 And what the hell are you
 moaning about, Fats is paying
 for it. I wonder why, don't
 you?

DONNIE (V.O.)

Fuck him and his guilt. It's
 still disgusting that he has
 two Rolls, two Mercedes and
 his one-of-a-kind, Ferrari.
 It's only him and Rita.
 What's the Fat-man trying to
 prove, he's Howard Hughes?

CUT: WE ARE BACK:

15

Bell rings, MARIO opens door and STEVE and RABBI enter.

STEVE

Afternoon ladies.

RABBI

Hi fellas.

STEVE and RABBI hug MARIO, but only shake DONNIE'S hand.

DONNIE

What, no hug for me?

RABBI goes to give DONNIE hug.

DONNIE (cont'd)

Don't bother, give it to the
guy that's buying
You your tennis courts.

RABBI

As far as the tennis court is
concerned Donald, if the
Beverly Hills Country Club is
good enough for you, it's
certainly good enough for me.
I can assure you, I couldn't
care less. It's my Hanna that
needs the tennis court. You
know how she always
entertains. Isn't that
correct, Steven?

DONNIE

(Sexy and sarcastic.)
We know, we all know about
your wife's needs, don't we
fellas?

Though cutting, ALL laugh.

STEVE

I guess that's what makes us
friends.

DONNIE

What's that?

STEVE

We all have wives that want,
except you Mario, you have
models and what could they
want from an Italian sausage?

Greasy, yucky poo.

MARIO

(Sings.)

"Jea-lousy..."

DONNIE & MARIO

(Sings.)

..."Why do you tor-ture
me...?"

STEVE

(Runs fingers through long
hair and looks in mirror.)
Yeah, I definitely hate short
hair Donnie, don't you? Soon,
I'm gonna wear a ponytail like
(Smiles, rubs Donnie's head
and laughs.)
You Mario. I hate to rub it
in, but it feels like a
bowling ball with peach fuzz,
baldy.

DONNIE

(Whines and tries to convince
himself.)
Looks better in a couple of
weeks. Really does and it
always grows in perfect, right
Mario?

MARIO

(Rubs Donnie's head
affectionately.)
If you say so, Buhby. All
right, let's go, who wants to
be my next victim?

STEVE

I'll go, on one condition.

MARIO

What's that?

STEVE

I only want a trim, not like
the last time, Mr. Apache.
So, I'm begging you, don't
scalp

Me, I really want my hair
long, like yours, L-O-N-G and
that means, I want a ponytail,
damnit, I want a ponytail like
you.

DONNIE

That's right, Sitting Bull,
Paleface doesn't want to be
(Aside)
Scalped. Wanna bet?

STEVE

But, "I" mean it this time,
Mario. I only want a trim,
comprende? I want to see you
in three weeks tops.

MARIO

(Touches seat of barber chair.)
Put your fat "*touches,*" right
here and let's go. I haven't
got all day, remember, I'm
busy, but not too busy to tell
you this poem I just wrote.

STEVE

I hope it's better than your
other shit.

RABBI

Unfortunately, we are not all
writers, are we?

DONNIE

Wait'll you hear, "*Sojourn
little butterfly,*" biggest
piece of shit you ever heard.

Instead, STEVE pushes the RABBI in barber chair, then rushes
To bar and fixes drinks.

DONNIE

I thought he was going to
A.A.?

MARIO

Was, is correct, he stopped.

DONNIE

You'd think with all his

money, he'd wizen up. Not only does booze fuck up your mind, it ain't too good for your liver.

MARIO

Never mind his liver; you should see what it does to his onions.

DONNIE

Here we go again with the bourbon.

STEVE returns with drinks for ALL.

STEVE

I propose a toast.

DONNIE

You're always proposing toasts.

ALL lift glasses.

STEVE

(Sings.)

"You gotta have friends."

CUT: EXT: BACK IN TIME - VIET NAM: 16

We see lots of dead and mangled soldiers.

CUT: INT: PRESENT - ALL DRINK: 17

DONNIE

This is the last time I'm drinking with you during the day.

MARIO

Me too, 'cause I have to concentrate, don't I?

MARIO puts haircutting cape on RABBI tousles his hair and looks in mirror.

RABBI

First, you have to promise

you'll only give me a trim,
Mr. Mario, promise? The last
haircut, I got a million
compliments...

MARIO

...I'm happy for you...

RABBI

...But it was three months
later.

MARIO

...You don't say?

STEVE

(Laughs sarcastically.)
It was almost as short as
Donnie's, right?

RABBI

This time I'd like a trim, if
you don't mind, I also want a
ponytail.

DONNIE & STEVE

(Laughing.)
The Rabbi would like a
Ponytail, if you don't
mind, "*Mr. Mario.*"

MARIO starts and cuts at great speed throughout.

DONNIE

(Laughing.)
Before it gets too late, you
Better remind him you want a
Trim.

RABBI

I just did.

DONNIE

Well, I think it's getting a
little short and he doesn't
(Laughs.)
Care if you have big ear,

Either.

STEVE

(Laughs.)

I know, look what he did to you.

RABBI

If I asked you not to cut so fast, would you listen?

MARIO

WHAT?!

DONNIE

(To Steve.)

And you're next sucker.

Intercom rings and ALL stop.

STEVE

Who the hell is that?

MARIO

Would you get that Donnie, It's Sharken. With all this complaining going on around Here, I'm way behind schedule.

As MARIO cuts even faster, we hear DONNIE, ala Indian chant, "Woo-oo-ooo," as he goes to door and open it.

SHARKIN, with longish hair, carrying a paper bag, enters, looking over shoulder, as would be thief.

DONNIE

(Laughs.)

The coast is clear, the cops went that a way.

ALL laugh.

STEVE

Whatja steal this time, Mr. Clepto, the Golden Gate Bridge, and Disney World?

SHARKEN

I thought you'd never ask, Fats.

STEVE

Just curious.

SHARKEN

(Gives each one a gold watch.)
Here... Thought I'd give you
your birthday presents a
little "Oily."

DONNIE

Holy Toledo, a gold Rolex!

STEVE

(Shows watch.)
With diamonds, no less. Look,
now I have a matching set.

DONNIE

Kids in Africa don't have the
time of day and this *schmuck*
has two Rolexes, *nu?*

RABBI

I don't know if I can accept
this.

DONNIE

What are you crazy? If your
wife hears you turned down a
\$10,000 watch, she'll kill
you.

RABBI

If it's stolen, I can't, I
just can't.

DONNIE

And what you do to Fats is
honest, Mr. Blackmailer?

After a beat.

SHARKEN

Come on, what are you making
such a big deal about, it's
only a watch.

DONNIE

(To Steve.)
Now, all you need is one for
your little *schmeckle*, *buhby*.

STEVE

Would you like to tell us how you did it Mr. Sharken? You always get your rocks off telling us don't you? So, I'm waiting.

DONNIE

Yeah, how'd you do it this time, Sharkie?

SHARKEN

It was one of the most beautiful bits I ever pulled and I didn't even plan it.

STEVE

You never plan it remember? You're a maniac, a clepto maniac.

SHARKEN

(Laughs.)

It was hysterical, just hysterical, I mean I Couldn't stop laughing.

STEVE

So, stop laughing and tell us already.

SHARKIN

Promise you won't tell?

ALL (except MARIO)

We promise, we promise.

SHARKIN

(To Mario.)

You didn't promise loud mouth.

MARIO

Only if you let me tell you this poem I wrote.

DONNIE

Go ahead; I could use a good laugh.

STEVE

(Laughs.)

Then take a look in the
mirror, baldie...

MARIO

...Leaves turn, the wind...

SHARKIN

...Wait a minute, I go, wait
your turn.

WE WILL SEE WHAT WILL BE DESCRIBED VIA SHARKIN'S V.O. 18

SHARKIN (VO, cont'd)

I walk into Magnums to buy
Melody a sexy negligee for her
birthday, when this guy,
Wearing a black suit with a
white carnation walks up to
the salesgirl and tells her
she's Wanted in the office and
he'll Watch her counter until
she returns. So, I ask *HIM*
for a sexy black negligee and
he gets it for me I was
wearing a black suit too, so I
figure, what the heck, I go to
the florist next door and I
buy a white carnation. Then I
go to the expensive jewelry
department and tell the
salesman that he's wanted in
the office and that I'll watch
his counter until he returns,
and like a good little boy, he
goes.

MARIO

And like a good little boy...

ALL

...You helped yourself.

DONNIE

Fantastic!

STEVE

Unbelievable!

RABBI

Oy.

MARIO

Only you would have the balls
to steal five Rolexes.

SHARKEN

For your edification, I took
eight. I'm giving each of my
bank vice presidents, one for
Christmas. Why not, they
deserve it.

STEVE

And what else do we have in
that bag,
T-bones?

SHARKEN

Better.

STEVE

A 40-year-old bottle of Dom
Perinogn, *ze finest champagne*
for ze finest friends a thief
can have.

RABBI

Oh no, I can't have another
drink.

SHARKEN

What kind of drink? I'm
talking about Mother
Nature's gift to man, Hawaii's
very best and I ain't talking
pineapples either, P-O-T.

MARIO

Pot?! I haven't smoked grass
since college.

STEVE

Fantastic!
It's about time.

DONNIE

Me too.
Why not?

RABBI

Marijuana?
I should smoke?

SHARKEN

We're having a New Years Eve
party tomorrow night, right?
Well then, let's have a real
party starting right now.

MARIO

(Sings)

"They're having a party..."

DONNIE, STEVE & MARIO

(Sings.)

"...Ev'rybody's swingin'..."

RABBI

...Do you think it's such a good idea?

DONNIE

Why don't you ask your wife if it's such a good idea?!

STEVE

Why don't you get off his ass? What is it with you?

MARIO

Hey, wait, a minute, fellas, there's no arguing permitted in my establishment, 'specially, just before New Years.

SHARKEN

(Takes out some pot.)

"Sme-ell this."

STEVE

(Smells.)

Mmmmm, de-laycious. If my memory serves me correctly, this is *"bery, bery good, Chico."*

DONNIE

What do you mean, if your memory serves you correctly? Since you came back from Nam, You smoke and drink everyday!

STEVE

Ya know, some are given mouths, but the unfortunates are given toilets and I have to take a big shit, so, why

don't you open your mouth,
Donnie?

RABBI

Gentlemen, gentlemen, we're
all friends, aren't we? I
(Looks in mirror.)
Asked you not to cut it short,
I told you I wanted a ponytail
and you cut it short again.
You never listen.

DONNIE

Fix his ass and don't say any
more prayers for him.

STEVE

(Laughs)

He never listens to anybody,
right, Donnie?

MARIO

Will you please sit down and
cut the shit? I haven't got
all day.

WE see Mario in mirror: STEVE sits and as HE opens Mouth to
speak.

MARIO

I know, I know, you want a
ponytail.

STEVE

Exactly!

MARIO sprays and tousles STEVE'S hair, looks in mirror and
inspired, starts to cut very quickly as hair goes flying.

DONNIE

(Laughing.)

I thought you wanted a
Ponytail.

STEVE

I DID!

SHARKEN

Hello.

SHARKEN lights and passes joint to DONNIE, who takes three long drags, his legs become wobbly and HE becomes giddy.

DONNIE

Holy shit, what the hell is this, I'm blitzed.

MARIO

On three pokes, you gotta be kidding?

SHARKEN

Its "*Dy-no-mite*," best shit I ever smoked.

DONNIE

(Starts to laugh.)

You gotta try it Mario it's unbelievable.

MARIO

Will I laugh as much as when we were young lads?

DONNIE

(Laughing harder.)

If not, you'll sue me.

MARIO takes four long drags and becomes giddy, passes the joint to STEVE who also takes four long drags, as MARIO cuts even faster, we hear DONNIE, ala train go "*Woo woo*," and laugh hysterically.

STEVE

Fuck Coca Cola, this is the real thing! 'Stead of the Rolex, I'd like a few pounds.

SHARKEN

Be thankful I give you a couple of joints.

STEVE

A couple of joints? Aw, come on, I need it, I really do.

DONNIE

You need it all right, right

up your...

MARIO

Laughing, removes cape, pushes Steve out of chair and points to Sharken:

Next victim please. That's funny, you all come on like you're victims.

SHARKEN

Fuck you; I'm not getting my hair cut. You made 'em all look like Julius Caesar.

MARIO

Et tu Brute?

STEVE

What do you mean you're not getting your hair cut.

RABBI

It is written.

ALL

THAT'S RIGHT!

MARIO

(Laughing.)

Don't tell me you guys want him to be the only one with long hair at the party?

ALL

NOT A CHANCE!

ALL push SHARKEN into chair as HE tries to resist.

Without putting on cape, spraying or tousling hair, MARIO starts to cut at great speed as hair goes flying.

ALL will laugh throughout except RABBI.

DONNIE

What do ya say, Fats? Don't you think it's time our illustrious Rabbi got zonked?

STEVE

Soitenly.

RABBI

I never tried it, is it really

that good?

ALL

THE BEST!

STEVE

I'm ordering you to try it
right now, or no more
publications.

RABBI

But I'm a Rabbi.

DONNIE

You coulda fooled me.

SHARKEN

I promise I won't tell anyone
you're a Rabbi, not even G-d.

RABBI

What about Hanna?

DONNIE

Her, I'm going to tell
immediately.

STEVE puts joint in RABBI'S mouth and orders him to inhale.

The RABBI inhales and falls to the floor.

STEVE orders him to inhale again and the RABBI takes three
big puffs.

STEVE

So?

RABBI

(Sings)

"Heaven, I'm in heaven." I
don't think I ever felt this
close to G-d before.

DONNIE

Think of the fun you'll have
when you tell your old lady
that you got high.

SHARKEN

FUN, YOU CUT OFF ALL MY
FUCKIN' HAIR!!!

DONNIE

And I think you look rather
cute, cutie.

STEVE

A regular...

SHARKEN

...Caesar! You also made me
look like Julius and I hate
it, I'm gonna kill you!
(Jumps out of chair and scares
Mario who backs off.)
Took me six months to grow it
(Runs after Mario.)
and you cut it off just like
that. Well, I'm gonna cut all
your fuckin' hair off and
we'll see how you like it, ass
hole.

ALL

YES!

RABBI

(High, slurs.)

I believe it is written in the
Torah, or maybe the Koran,
something about doing unto
others, especially if he cuts
it too short, after you begged
him not to.

STEVE

Yeah, I'd like to do unto him
all right. I'd
like to cut that sonofabitches
hair off once
and for all.

STEVE, then DONNIE join SHARKEN in chasing MARIO, who is
frightened and running for his life.

DONNIE

That bastard's been doing it
to me for years.

STEVE, SHARKEN & RABBI

ME TOO!

RABBI

It's time we did it unto him!

SHARKEN

WELL, WHAT ARE WE WAITING
FOR?!

MARIO

(Running around chair.)
What are you guys crazy? You
can't cut my hair you don't
have a license.

SHARKEN

Says who?

MARIO

I'm Samson *schmuck*; nobody
cuts Samson's hair, nobody!

ALL pounce on MARIO, who trips and falls.

MARIO will clutch his wrist and moan with pain throughout.

MARIO

Oh, my wrist, my wrist is
killing me.

SHARKEN

I'll give you your wrist,
right up your ass. Now it's my
(Picks up scissor and gleams.)
Turn to play scalp 'em, Mr.
(Chants ala Indian)
Cochise, *Oooh, oooh, oooh!*

DONNIE

(Ala Indian.)
Oooh, oooh, oooh, unto others,
right Agatha?

STEVE

And a Caesar for a Caesar!

SHARKEN

All you hairdressers are a
like, you never know when
enough is enough...

DONNIE

...You cut, cut, cut.

RABBI

It is written, a ponytail for
a ponytail, Amen.

ALL

IT IS WRITTEN!

ALL have scissors and glow with ecstasy, as THEY try to cut MARIO'S hair, who clutches wrist, moans and manages to elude them and the chase is on.

Ultimately HE exits building with ALL in hot pursuit.

Running into the street HE gets hit by a taxi.

ALL stare in astonishment.

THEY will feel guilty.

INT: HOSPITAL: LATE AFTERNOON:

18

ALL are present and appear very upset, as the Doctor discusses his diagnosis with MARIO and ANNIE.

DOCTOR

I really don't know how to
tell you this
Mario, but it's quite serious.

ANNIE

How serious?

DOCTOR

The nerve damage appears to be
quite extensive.

MARIO

What exactly does extensive
mean?

DOCTOR

You won't have the dexterity
you once had. I'm afraid
you'll never be able to cut my
hair anymore.

MARIO

What, are you kidding I'm a
hairdresser.

DOCTOR

You were a hairdresser. I'm
sorry.

MARIO

What am I going to do?

ANNIE

Don't worry, I'm sure we'll
think of something, won't we
fellas?

DONNIE

Didn't you say you wanted to
write a movie? So, who's
stopping you?

STEVE

More shit, that's all he
writes, is more shit.

INT: MARIO'S PENTHOUSE: NEW YEARS EVE: 19

Decorations, food, booze and smoke are in abundance.

Except for ANNIE, ALL have very short hair.

Feeling guilty for MARIO'S broken arm, the guys will hide
behind their laughter.

MARIO is sitting on his throne, a barber chair.

Music and lots of laughter will be heard throughout.

ALL are smoking and drinking and having a grand time, except
for MARIO who is moaning and ruing his blighted future.

ALL the women will comment as each guy passes by and laughs
as they rub MARIO'S short hair.

DONNIE

(To Mario.)

What the hell are you moaning
About? it's New Years Eve.
You're not dying, *schmuck*.

STEVE

Poor *buhby's* wrist hurts him,
awwww.

SHARKEN

(Laughing.)
That's not it, trust me, the
Man hates his short hair,
don't you darling?

MARIO

(Moaning.)
Oooh, my wrist is killing me.

SHARKEN

Now, that you'll never be able
to scalp us anymore, what do
you intend doing with the rest
of your life, Mr. Sitting
Bull?

MARIO

I could join you in your world
of crime, but some how,
spending the rest of my life
In Sing Sing, doesn't sound
too appealing.

STEVE

What about picking oranges for
me with your good hand? Half
of four-fifty an hour ain't
bad.

DONNIE

Or he could work in my
restaurant. You know all
about potato *latkes*, don't
you?

HANNA

Poor Mario's moaning and
they're all laughing.

RITA

His wrist must be killing him.

ANNIE

I hate to tell you this, but

it's not his wrist, it's his hair, shortest it's been since kindergarten.

MAX

Knowing him and his inflated ego, it probably does hurt him more than his broken wrist.

RITA

I hate to say it, but if anyone deserves it, he does.

HANNA

His broken wrist?

RITA

(Laughing.)
No, his short hair.

ANNIE

In a way, I'm sorry they didn't shave it all off.

MELODY

Don't tell me you've had a thing for bald men all these years?

ANNIE

(Eating.)
Loved Kojack and tell Donnie
Mmmm.

MAX

I'll *Mmmm* my husband for you, I'm sure he'll be happy.

ANNIE

(Sucking thumb.)
Mmmm him one more time.

MAX

For you, I'll *Mmmm* him twice. He'll even be happier.

RITA

They usually are and you don't know how lucky you are if all it takes is a *Mmmm* to make your husband happy.

MELODY

You mean all it takes is a
(Giggles, lips)
Little *Mmmm*? Why didn't
someone tell me?

HANNA

Before she married Steve, Rita
used to *Mmmm* lots of men,
didn't you, *buhbaleh*?

After a beat.

MAX

Trying to divert attention, she offers cracker with chopped
liver to melody:

Wanna *Mmmm* something too,
Melody? Taste this chopped
liver you won't believe it.

MELODY

(Tastes it)
MMMM! Annie, wanna *Mmmm*
something else? De-laycious!

ANNIE

(Tastes.)
You can *Mmmm* for me anytime,
in fact, while your at it Max,
why don't you give Donnie a
little head for me? I'd like
to
Show him how much I dig his
chopped liver.

MAX

I'll consider your request, in
due time of course.

WOMEN applaud.

MAX

(Shows new ring.)
Now, take a look at what Chef
Boyardee gave me just before
we came over.

MELODY

Wow, a diamond wedding band!

MAX

What diamonds, these are perfect emeralds.

MELODY

It's beautiful.

ANNIE

I'll take two.

RITA

Very pretty, very pretty.

HANNA

I always wanted an emerald wedding band.

RITA

So, what else is new?
Emeralds, I mean have a heart.
First it was the matching
Mercedes, then Steve had your
husband's so called mystery
published, then the tennis
court, your pool and cabana,
and now you have the balls to
ask my old man for emeralds?
Are you giving him a little
head on the side? Well, I wish
you'd stop; it's costing me a
fortune. On second thought,
don't stop better you than me.

After a beat.

ANNIE

(Looking at ring.)
It's really beautiful, Max.
What's the occasion?

MAX

I don't know, said he saw it
in the jewelry store this
afternoon and just had to buy
it for me. No reason.

RITA

(Drinking.)

Only time Steve buys me something is when I bang him or he feels guilty.

MAX

I can assure you, after 24 years, Donnie has nothing to feel guilty about.

RITA

Tell you the truth I never cared much for... So, I make sure he feels guilty all the time; otherwise, you think he'd have given me this 11-carat diamond...?

ALL touch hair and smile.

RITA (cont'd)

Good, now maybe I'll finally be able to let my hair grow.

HANNA, MAX & MELODY

Me too!

MELODY

Those poor things. Even though they're laughing, they're very upset because Mario lost his career and they feel guilty.

ALL the guys are high and laughing, as MARIO moans.

MELODY

They don't sound so depressed to me.

RITA

That's because they're high.

HANNA

High, my husband wouldn't dare, he wouldn't dare.

ANNIE

(To the guys.)
Hey, how about us, don't we
count...? Unless you bring us
a couple of... we're coming
over.

STEVE
No, you don't want to do
that...

ALL the guys come running over and each one hands his woman a
joint.

MARIO
Your wish is...
DONNIE & MARIO
...My command...

STEVE
...Mine too...

SHARKEN
...Mine three.

RABBI gives HANNA a joint.

HANNA
What the hell is this?!

RABBI
High for the first time in his life and loving it.
I've just discovered what's
more important than money.

HANNA
Now, I know you're nuts.

RABBI
The way I feel right now, it's
a holy experience.

HANNA
I can't believe that you
actually smoked dope.

RABBI
I climbed the mountain,
Hanna... Can you imagine, I
saw the burning bush.

HANNA

And...?

MELODY

(Thinks she's funny.)
He burned his penis.

ANNIE

I think you better kiss *IT* and
make it all better... So, what
are you waiting for, Hanna?

ALL laugh. RITA slaps ANNIE and MELODY five.

SHARKEN

Some Rabbis have all the luck.

DONNIE

Hey, what about me, Hanna
don't I get a kiss? I saw the
burning bush twice.

STEVE

Me too, the fire was this
high.

ANNIE

Will you guys please forget
about the burning bush, us
women are about to get down to
Some serious smoking.

ANNIE raises joint to lips, lights it and all follow suit
Except HANNA.

ANNIE (cont'd)

(Sings)

Not since Yale, but "*I
remember it well.*"

HANNA

To Max. Are you really going to do it?

MAX

(Takes two big puffs, and
laughs.)

No.

MELODY

(Puffing, speaks to Sharken.)
This is real good. Now, I
know why you were so amorous
last night.

MARIO

Sure sounds like someone's
complaining to me.

MELODY

Never, I just grin and do it
as much as possible, don't
you?

HANNA

(To Rabbi.)
Marty, are you amorous?

RABBI

I think so.

ANNIE

It's about time he got a
little horny right Hanna?

RITA

Guess, the woman has needs,
lots of needs, don't you
Hanna, and it's costing me a
Fortune.

MARIO

I like horny.

ANNIE

I know.

MARIO

Thank you.

ANNIE

You're more than welcome.

MARIO and ANNIE kiss.

DONNIE

(Sings.)
"Love, is a..."

ALL the guys

(Sing.)

"...Many splendored thing..."

ALL the women

(Sing.)

*"...It's the April rose, that
only grows in the early
spring. Love is nature's way of
giving, a reason to be
living."*

EXT: DAY:

20

Use to being busy, MARIO finds it difficult trying to occupy his time.

HE visits the museums, the zoo, Dodger Stadium, the Coliseum.

After spending time with his busy friends, at home, he feels hopeless.

CUT: INT: AT HOME:

21

MARIO

I'm going crazy; I don't know what to do, with myself.

ANNIE

Why don't you write another play?

MARIO

Another play, really, about...?

ANNIE

About you.

MARIO

About me? Hey, I know I have no humility and I'm grandiose enough, but about me, really?

ANNIE

Some of the people you know are amazing and they tell you plenty: Presidents, movie stars, high priced hookers.

You know it all. Call it, "*If Freud cut hair?*"

MARIO

(Dreamy.)

Act I, we see them tell Freud the Hairdresser their darkest secrets. He knows all and then He tells all. He becomes a regular gossip column. Hedda Hopper in disguise. He starts to write for the Enquirer. All his clients want to kill him. I love it, hysterical.

ANNIE

Exactly. They made a big deal about "*Shampoo,*" your play will flip them out; because you're the real "*Shampoo,*" I love it.

MARIO

Each one of them has a story.
With a little
Imagination...

CUT: RECALLING, WE SEE PAST SCENE OF SHARKEN AND HEAR MARIO'S V.O. 21

MARIO VO

So, I go next door and buy a white carnation. Then, I walk over to the expensive jewelry Department, and tell the salesman he's wanted in the office.

CUT: WE ARE BACK:

22

MARIO (cont'd)

What's so great about him?
What the hell did he do
besides make \$200,000,000?
(Starts typing and talking to

self.)
A play about my friends and
me, not bad... Sounds like
shit. Big deal, Sharken
steals A couple of Rolexes...
But he owns three banks, he
got zillions and he steals...?
That's almost funny. I know a
lot of heavy people... I'll
just change their names. Too
easy

CUT: INT: THE NEXT DAY:

23

MARIO SPEAKING TO SHARKEN ON THE PHONE:

MARIO

(On phone.)

Not just a new play, a great
new play. What about the last
one? What the heck does
The last one has to do with
this one? It's a play about a
hairdresser and five old
friends... Sounds familiar?
Well it should, *schmuck*...
Yeah, I was thinking of
Maybe using you.

SHARKEN

If it's a play about me, I
gotta get star billing.

MARIO

I'll give you star billing,
I'm thinking about modeling a
character after you. Star
Billing my ass.

SHARKEN

I'd rather not; you know how I
hate publicity.

MARIO

What kind of publicity? I'm
going to write about a
hairdresser in New York, not
Beverly Hills. Who's going to

know it's you, nobody. Ya see I'll only use your real name in "My" script. That's so I know who I'm writing about. After the play's finished...

SHARKEN

...The last piece of shit took you five years...

MARIO

...I'll change the names and no one will know, who's who, scout's honor.

CUT: INT: BANK: SHARKEN TALKING TO STEVE ON THE PHONE: 24

SHARKEN

So, I guess you heard; I'm starring in Mario's new piece of shit.

STEVE

Better you than me.

SHARKEN

You see how wrong you are? This one's gonna be sensational. It's about his life and the stories he's heard and you know how many movie stars and all the famous people that have come to him. Said he's going to do it like Alda's "*Four Seasons*." He's calling it, "*If Freud cut hair?*" and I'm starring in it, so, there.

CUT: INT: OFFICE: STEVE ON PHONE WITH THE RABBI: 25

STEVE

Yeah, I'm really telling you, Mario picked Sharken to star in his new piece of shit and I'm Disappointed, I made over

\$400,000,000 and he picks a
clepto maniac. How could
He picks him? I always wanted
(Ala Brando.)
to be in a play. *"I coulda
been champion."*

CUT: EXT: MELODY'S POOL:

26

ALL the women are sitting poolside, having drinks and
awaiting lunch.

RITA

I gotta give Mario credit,
he's actually writing another
play. Talk about balls.

ANNIE

Thank G-d, he was driving me
crazy, *"I don't know what to
do with myself, I don't know
what to do with myself."*
That's all he kept saying. He
was calling me five times and
that was
before lunch. Out of
desperation, I told him to
write another play and he took
me seriously and now, he
doesn't stop, it's like he's
obsessed, and he grinds his
teeth as he types, *clopity
clop, clopity clop, its murder
and it's constant.*

MAX

Maybe he needs braces?

MELODY

And my honey is the star of
Mario's new play that's going
to Broadway. Wow, I can't
believe it.

ANNIE

Can you imagine, all the
fantastic stories he's heard
all these years? Especially
about those movie stars and

all those famous people.

MAX

And we're hearing it from
someone who knows.

RITA

A lot of dirt and a lot of
shit: Who's cheating with who
and after all those years, the
man must know plenty.

ANNIE

(To Melody.)

And he said it's serious, very
funny and your husband not
going to act in it.

MELODY

That's not what I heard.

ANNIE

He's only modeling a character
after him.

MELODY

Gee, I was hoping he would use
me too. I always wanted to do

(Sings.)

Broadway... *"The sun'll come
up, tomorrow, bet your bottom
dollar that tomorrow..."*

ANNIE

Ya know what I could go for,
some of that smoke. Sure was
fun to me.

MAX

Me too.

MELODY

Really?

RITA

I haven't laughed so hard in
years.

MELODY

If you want, I'll run across
the street and
Get some.

MAX

Why not, *buhby*?

RITA

Hurry, before Hanna gets here.

MELODY exits. A beat later, HANNA arrives.

ALL exchange hellos.

A beat later, MELODY returns smoking a joint and laughing.

HANNA

You're doing that again?

MELODY

(Gives joints to all and
laughs.)
Absolutely not.

RITA

Gracias.
Danka.

ANNIE

Merci beaucoup.

MAX

ALL light joints.

MELODY

There's daiquiris and Tequila,
Hanna.

HANNA

I think I'll have a little
Tequila.

ANNIE

Smoking.

You should really try it,
Hanna. It's like having three
of those and does it make you
(Laughs.)
Laugh...You'll pee; I promise
you'll pee.

ALL start to laugh.

HANNA

But it's illegal.

RITA

So is sucking...

ANNIE

(Hands joint.)

Just try it, take one puff, I promise nothing's going to happen.

MAX

Didn't Marty see the burning bush? And I bet the *schtup* he gave you wasn't too bad, either.

MELODY

Oh, stop being such a party pooper. Try it; you'll like it, Hanna.

HANNA

(Takes a puff.)

Oh, all right, but, just one puff... Nothing happened.

ANNIE

I told you nothing would happen... Take Another puff.

HANNA

(Puffs again.)

Still nothing.

ANNIE

This time, when you take a puff, try and Hold it in as long as you can. Do that Three times and we'll talk.

Bearing her newfound bravado, HANNA does exactly as told and becomes high for the first time in her life.

MAX

So, how do you feel?

HANNA

(Starts to laugh.)

Like I'm floating. I can't believe it; I'm floating and sitting at the same time.

MELODY

Did you say you were shitting?

HANNA

(Laughs harder.)

And I think I see Marty's
bush.

ALL laugh as maid enters.

MAID

Would you care for your lunch
now, Melody?

HANNA

(Laughing hysterically.)

Not now, I'm shitting.

CUT: 2 INT: DONNIE'S RESTAURANT:

27

MARIO and DONNIE are having lunch.

DONNIE

So, I hear Sharken's the star
of your play, you ungrateful
sonofabitch.

MARIO

In scene one he's the star,
not in the whole play.

DONNIE

What about in scene two? Do I
have a shot?

MARIO

I don't know, I'm still
thinking about it.

DONNIE

How soon we forget the half-
and-half sour Pickles I used
to *schlep* for you everyday.

MARIO

This is a play, not some
Jewish soap opera, It's a
play. On Broadway, characters
have to be moving, they have

to be exciting and you're exciting? So, you make a good potato *Latke*, big deal.

CUT: INT: MARIO'S HOME: LATE AT NIGHT:

28

Inspired, MARIO gets out of bed and types.

MARIO

(Talks to himself as he types.)

He's right, Donnie's right. What a story, "*The latke and the Amazon.*" I love it I love it. "*I was all alone when she came in. The cooks and all the waiters had Gone, everybody. She was black, beautiful and at least six feet tall, a regular Amazon.*" I think that's what he said?

CUT: INT: IN OFFICE, THE RABBI CALLS STEVE:

29

RABBI

Am I bugged, not only is the clepto in His play, now, I hear he picked Donnie to co-star in Scene two.

STEVE

I'm telling you, he's still pissed, the man's Worse than a freakin' elephant, he doesn't forget. Remember, we cut his ponytail off.

RABBI

I'll never forget the look on his face, was he shocked and
(Laughs)
did we laugh.

STEVE

One of the most pleasurable moments in my life. Cutting his ponytail off, YESSS!

RABBI

That's why you're not in his play.

STEVE

If I produce his play, then I'll demand that he has to put me in it. Hey, I'm the producer and it's my money, Right?

RABBI

And what about me, don't I deserve a little celebrity?

STEVE

All right, I'm scene three and you're four.

RABBI

Thank you.

CUT: INT: MARIO'S HOME:

32

MARIO is typing feverishly.

We see ANNIE feed him as HE continues to type night and day.

HIS friends call and HE either doesn't answer or ANNIE tells them that he's too busy writing HIS play.

ANNIE is the on phone with MAX.

MAX

(On phone.)

Play or no play, you're still going skiing with us, aren't you? We planned this for months, you have too.

ANNIE

(On phone.)

Yes, yes we're going and wish me *Mazel tov*, Shakespeare finished. Hallelujah, Mario Finished his play, no more

clopity clop.

MAX

And, what's the verdict?

ANNIE

I haven't read it yet. He
won't let it out of his hands.
It's his only copy and he's
guarding it with his life.
Kisses it and calls it his
Pulitzer.

CUT: AIRPORT: ALL BOARDING PLANE. 32

CUT: ASPEN AIRPORT: 33

THEY arrive in Aspen and go to STEVE'S magnificent chalet in
the mountains.

THEY smoke some pot and then open champagne.

STEVE

I say we drink to Mario's new
hit play.

ALL drink and toast.

DONNIE

So, what's it called?

SHARKEN

"If Freud cut hair?"

MARIO

You like the title?

HANNA

(High.)
I love it.

MARIO

(Shows play.)
Here it is, *"If Freud cut
hair?"* anyone care to read it?

RITA

What kind of name is that for
a play?

STEVE

If you think I'm gonna back a
play with
That name, you're crazy.

MELODY

I think my title's better than
his, "*If I could, I would.*"

MARIO

I can't believe it, who gives
a shit about
The title. For the last time,
does anyone
want to read it?

ALL turn away and act busy.

MARIO (cont'd)

Nobody huh, nobody wants to
read it?

STEVE

I read the last one.

DONNIE

We all read the last one,
biggest piece of...

MARIO

...But you're all in this one.
It still has your names in it
and I'm gonna change it when I
make copies. And it's serious
and funny it's what I call
literature.

SHARKEN

Let's go to the lodge, have a
couple of Drinks and we'll
choose who reads his piece
of...

ANNIE

Give it to me, I'll read it,
don't I always?

INT: ALL ARE AT BAR DRINKING. IT IS CROWDED.

35

A man will over hear their conversation.

DONNIE

Before we choose, I want to know how many Pages is it?

MARIO

I cannot tell a lie, 82

SHARKEN

82, the last one only had 77, didn't it? Why all of sudden 82? What are you looking to make us suffer?

STEVE

Tell you the truth, 77 pages was all I could take. Ask anybody, 77 was plenty. The plays too long, it's just too long.

HANNA

Are we going skiing, or are we counting pages?

RABBI

Last one down the slope is a rotten egg.

MARIO

You go; I'll see you in a little while.

ALL depart. Man ambles over to MARIO.

ERIC

Love the title.

MARIO

You do?

ERIC

"If Freud cut my hair?" very funny.

MARIO

Why thanks, thanks a lot.

ERIC

(Shakes Mario's hand
enthusiastically.)
Eric Fleming, I produce porno,
but one day I'm gonna be
legit, and do Broadway.

MARIO

The name's Mario, I used to
cut hair, now, I write plays.

ERIC

I suppose that's where your
brilliant title comes from.
Always wanted to do a straight
Movie or a play. Show 'em
that I'm a real Producer.
What do ya think, could your
"Freud," become a movie, any
possibilities?

MARIO

Did "*Death of a Salesman*" make
a good movie?

ERIC

Sure wish I had the time,
because I would Love to read.
Love that title love it.

MARIO

It's only 82 pages. Probably
take about An hour-and-half or so.

ERIC

My wife and I are supposed to
check out in a couple of
hours.

Looks at his watch.

I suppose I could read it,
after all, I am looking for
that show that will make me
legit.

MARIO

Tell you the truth; I'd like
to see it as a hit play,
first...

ERIC

...And then we'll do the movie, perfect! In fact, one of my best friends owns a theater on 42nd Street, then we'll take it out of town, and Broadway here we come.

MARIO

(Sings.)
"I love New York," I was born there.

ERIC

Me too, where?

MARIO

The Bronx, 170th Street and Claremont Parkway.

ERIC

Why howdy neighbor, 204th and Valentine.

MARIO

(Shakes hands enthusiastically.)
I don't believe it.

ERIC

Sounds like destiny, to me, you, me and, "If Freud cut hair?" Why my quest to make a major feature film, almost seems fated, Doesn't it. Hey, and when we win an Oscar, I'm gonna tell 'em it's all because of you partners, you deserve all the credit.

MARIO

Thank you, Mr. Producer. So, what do you say? Are you going to read it for an old

(Gladly gives play.)
Bronxite, or what?

ERIC

(Looks at play.)
I hope this isn't your only
copy.

MARIO

It is, but where are you
going, up to your Room and
you're from the Bronx, if you
can't trust a friend from the
Bronx, who can you trust? So,
do me a favor and go read "*Our
play.*" Off Broadway, huh? I
think I like it, in fact I
know I do.

ERIC

I'll read it in a jiff. Do
(About to exit.)
not move, I shall return with
your only copy.

MARIO

(Looks at watch.)
It's 2:30.

ERIC

(Sort of laughs, exits)
I'll be back at four sharp,
with your only copy.

CUT: EXT: ON SLOPES: A BEAUTIFUL DAY:

36

WE see them ALL having a good time.

CUT: INT: WE SEE MARIO AT BAR LOOKING NERVOUSLY
AT HIS WATCH:

37

It is 3:00:

CUT: EXT: THEY SEEM TO BE JUST ABOUT FINISHED SKING:

38

CUT: INT: IT IS FOUR O'CLOCK: MARIO PACES NERVOUSLY:

39

HE goes to front desk.

MARIO

Can you please tell me what
room Eric Fleming is in?

RECEPTIONIST

(Looking through registry.)
Did you say Eric Fleming...?
I'm sorry, but there's no
Fleming here.

MARIO

No Fleming? Are you sure?

RECEPTIONIST

Here, look for yourself.

Panicked, HE starts to run and meets the gang.

DONNIE

All right, stop looking so
disgusted. I'll Read your
fahcockte play, give it to me.

MARIO

(Panicked.)
You can't, I gave it to this
porno Producer, Eric Fleming.
He said he was Staying at the
lodge and he'd read it and
Be back by four o'clock. He
didn't come back and he's not
even registered here. What a
schmuck I am.

ANNIE

And he has the play?

MARIO

My only copy.

ALL

No...

STEVE

All 82 pages?

ANNIE

Well, what did he look like?
We'll look for him.

CUT: INT: ALL ARE HAVING DINNER IN STEVE'S CHALET: 40

DONNIE

So, you'll write another play,
what are you making such a big
deal about?

STEVE

82 pages, that's all, it
wasn't "*War and Peace*." 82
pages, big fuckin' deal.

MARIO

How could I give him my only
copy?

RABBI

When he mentioned off
Broadway, a movie, one might
call it greed, avarice.

RITA

Can he actually steal it?

SHARKEN

It was his only copy and he
can steal it, because Mr.
Genius over here didn't
copyright it.

MELODY

Poor thing, all that work, did
you say he produced pornos?

CUT: INT: A WEEK LATER: ERIC'S OFFICE: 41

ERIC

(On phone.)

Yeah, I know you've been nominated. Why do
Think I'm calling you for...?
Well, I wrote this lunatic
play that I really think would
make fabulous movie, that is
with your directorial genius,
of course. It's called, wait
(MORE)

ERIC (Cont'd)

until you hear this title, "*If
Freud cut hair?*" Don't you
love it...? Sure, we can change

the name, anything, anything you want. I'll Federal Express it immediately... You'll Call me as soon as you read it, great... You want half a mil and five per cent. I know you've been nominated... Read it and We'll talk, *Ciao*, baby, *ciao*.

CUT: INT: SIX MONTHS LATER: MARIO'S HOME:

42

ANNIE is trying to cheer up MARIO.

ANNIE

It's six months, Mario, Six months since You turned into a zombie and balling a Zombie ain't no fun. What bothers me Is, you won't try writing it again.

MARIO

I told you, I can't.

ANNIE

You mean you won't.

MARIO

You don't understand. I wrote, "*IF Freud cut hair?*" because I had this need, this burning desire to tell my story... I don't have that need anymore.

ANNIE

Then write something else. What about a musical?

MARIO

Me, a musical? Really, about what?

ANNIE

You always have a million ideas, think of something, what about your depression?

CUT: INT: STEVE'S LIVING ROOM: ALL ARE DRINKING AND 43

THEY are going to see a movie.

EVERYBODY'S hair is much longer and ALL the men have ponytails.

SHARKEN

I never saw a flick get this much hype, have you?

MELODY

I can't wait to see it, honey.

ANNIE

And don't you just love the name, "*ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS A PONYTAIL.*"

RITA

Sounds like Mel Brooks, or Woody Allen.

HANNA

It's a bunch of short stories strung together.

RABBI

It's supposed to be funny, but very serious.

MAX

Everyday people like Donnie and me.

CUT: EXT: OUTSIDE STEVE'S HUGE GARAGE: 44

THEY enter STEVE'S two Rolls Royces and go to the movie.

THEY arrive at movie and after bickering as to who sits next to whom, are seated.

The movie begins and we see a hairdresser give four men with long hair, who say they just want a trim, but get short Caesar haircuts.

Outraged, they gang up on the hairdresser and cut his ponytail off.

Basically, a repeat of what happened to MARIO.

And then, using actual names, first the story of SHARKEN appears, much to his discomfort.

HE leans over and threatens to kill MARIO.

With the mentioning of STEVE and RABBI episode in Viet Nam and DONNIE'S encounter with his Amazon, THEY all rise and start to chase MARIO, who runs for his life.

Running, we hear them scream, "I'M GONNA KILL YOU, YOU GREASY BASTARD!"

THE END