



## ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS A

# PONYTAIL

(A funny movie)

By  
Sidney Goldberg

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**Please Contact:**

**Sidney Goldberg**  
**20 W. Palisade Avenue #3111**  
**Englewood, NJ 07631**  
**201 567-6533**  
**yendiS.Goldberg@Hotmail.com**  
**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

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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