

HOTEL ROOM (1933) Night

BEEFY

Where is he? Where is he hiding?

EVE

I don't know. I've been looking
for him since yesterday.

BEEFY

I'm gonna ask you for the last time.
Where is he?

EVE

I don't know.
What are you gonna do to him?

BEEFY (TO THUG)

Stay here in case
that rat shows up.

THUG

Okay.

BEEFY (TO EVE)

Who you protecting,
you dumb asshole?
A stoolie who rats on his own friends?
They were your friends too.

TRIGGER

I got it. You wanna end up
like that bitch, huh?

FAT MOE

At Chun Lao's. Chinese theater.

BEEFY (TO TRIGGER)

You stay here with this barrel of shit.

CHINAMAN

Noodles. Noodles. Noodles.
Easy, easy...

TELEPHONE RINGS X 24

PROHIBITION COFFIN

CHINAMAN

This way. Hurry!

There down. Mott Street.
Go. Go. Go.

FAT MOE
Noodles.
Noodles.
Noodles.
Untie me.

NOODLES
Stay that way. No, stay.
I want them to know I did it.

FAT MOE
Where you going?

NOODLES
I'm gonna go get Eve.

FAT MOE
Don't.

NOODLES
Why?

FAT MOE
They... They already been there.
Do you need anything?
Money?

NOODLES
I got more than I need.

FAT MOE
Yeah, it's all yours now.

TICKET SELLER
Where to?
Sir, where do you want to go?

NOODLES
Anywhere. First bus.

TICKET SELLER
Buffalo?

NOODLES
One way.

TICKET SELLER

That'll be \$1.20

MUSIC - YESTERDAY

NOODLES

I wanna rent a car.

TICKET SELLER (1968)

Would you fill this out, please?

FAT MOE

Noodles.

NOODLES

I brought back
the key to your clock.
Lock the door.

FAT MOE

When did you get back?

NOODLES

Today.

FAT MOE

Why?

NOODLES

They got in touch with me.

FAT MOE

Who?

NOODLES

I thought you might know.

FAT MOE

Me?

I don't know nothing
about nobody no more.

NOODLES

You gonna offer me a drink?

FAT MOE

Yeah, forgive me. Sure. Of course.
Please sit down.
Who's Robert Williams?

NOODLES

I am.

FAT MOE

"We wish to inform you that following the sale of the Beth Israel Cemetery..."

The synagogue sent these out if you wanted to relocate your loved ones.

I got the same letter on account of my father.

NOODLES

Only the synagogue didn't send that. I got that last week.

And the rabbi told me he sent those out about eight months ago.

FAT MOE

Yeah, that's right. That's about when I got mine.

So, what else did the rabbi say?

NOODLES

He said I was lucky. The bodies of Philip Stein... ..Maximilian Bercovicz, Patrick Goldberg were already spoken for.

And they were up in a very fancy cemetery in Riverdale.

FAT MOE

What's this all mean?

NOODLES

It means... .."Noodles, though you've been hiding in the asshole of the world, we found you. We know where you are."

It means...

..."Get ready."

FAT MOE

For what?

NOODLES

That's the one thing it didn't say.

FAT MOE (winds clock)

What do you think?

NOODLES

I think the answer's here.

That's why I came back.

FAT MOE

I moved everything in here.

I had to sell the house,
the backroom.

NOODLES

I always thought you might have
helped yourself to that million bucks.

But now I know. Yeah

You're on your ass worse than ever.

FAT MOE

But I thought it was you who...

NOODLES

No, you thought wrong.

The suitcase was empty.

FAT MOE

Then who took it?

NOODLES

That's what I've been asking myself
for 35 years.

FAT MOE

If it bothers you, I can sleep here.

You can have my room.

NOODLES

No. It's okay.

How's your sister?

FAT MOE

I ain't seen her for years.

She's a big star now.

NOODLES

We should have known, huh?

You can always tell the winners
at the starting gate.

You can always tell the winners,
and you can tell the losers.
Who would've put a penny on you?

FAT MOE
I'd have put everything
I ever had on you.

NOODLES
Yeah, and you would've lost.

FAT MOE
Well, you're beat. Good night.

NOODLES
Good night, Moe. Thanks.

FAT MOE
What have you been doing
all these years?

NOODLES
Been going to bed early.

AMAPOLA.

FAT MOE
Deborah, Papa says you should help.

DEBORAH
No.

FAT MOE
We got customers all over.
We can't do everything.

DEBORAH
Try. I've got my elocution lessons.
Fat, you better spray the toilet.
I saw a cockroach in there.

NOODLES
Sorry.

DEBORAH & FRIENDS
Sorry, I can't make it today.
See you tomorrow
Okay. Bye.
Bye.

NOODLES
Sorry, Fats.

PATSY
Noodles!

DOMINIC
Bugsy's got a job for us.

PATSY
Hurry up. He don't wait.

NOODLES
Who you calling a cockroach?

DEBORAH
So, what are you?
You're filthy, you make me sick.
You crawl up toilet walls
just like a roach. So, what are you?
Let go!

NOODLES
I make you sick, huh? Then how
come you showed me your tush?

DEBORAH
To a roach.
Go look at yourself, David Aaronson.

MIRROR

NOODLES
She don't leave me alone, I'm gonna
give her what she's asking for.
What's Bugsy want?

PATSY
We gotta wake up a deadbeat.

COCKEYE
That schmuck at the newsstand
didn't pay.

NOODLES
Here's your money, sir.
Beautiful.

PATSY
Look at it, it looks great! Wow!

NOODLES

Come on, guys.

MONKEY

Come on, come on.

Now make up your mind.

COCKEYE

Noodles, let's take the dollar.

DOMINIC

Yeah.

NOODLES

Skip, here you go.

That one.

Him.

OFF

Hey, Sam, I'll see you next Thursday.

NOODLES

That one.

MONKEY

Are you nuts?

NOODLES

Bugsy said we could take the dollar
or we could roll the drunk.

MONKEY

Yeah, but he ain't even drunk yet.

DOMINIC

We'll wait.

MONKEY

Well, you roll that one over there.

NOODLES

What's to roll? He drunk it all.

Bounce that little shikker.

Jacket.

DOMINIC

It's Fartface.

NOODLES

Shit!

COCKEYE

We should've took the dollar.

PATSY

Could've had 10 corned beef sandwiches on poppy-seed rolls.

NOODLES

Look, the wagon will hide us from Fartface. Get ready! Now! Throw your jacket over him.

MAX

Hey, mister, you sick? Poor guy, you'll be okay. Come on, I'll help ya. Come on, up you go. Now, you're worse than my Uncle Nathan. Why do you want to get soused? I'll take you home. Go, Mama.

FARTFACE

Stop right there. Hey, you! Yeah, I'm talking to you. What are you kids doing here?

PATSY

What are we kids doing here?

NOODLES

We're getting it up the ass.

COCKEYE

Yeah, getting screwed. Is there a law against it?

DOMINIC

Can you spare a dime for pisherkehs that just got it up the ass?

FARTFACE

Get out of here. Get off the street. Get out of here. Get off the street. Go ahead. And don't come back. I don't want to see you here again.

All right?

PATSY

Hey, stop by for you later.

NOODLES

Yeah, but knock here on the john first.
My old man's praying, and my old lady's
crying. And the light's turned off.
What the hell should I go home for?
At least in here I can read.

MARTIN EDEN

PEGGY'S MOM (OFF)

Where are you going?

PEGGY (OFF)

Mama, don't get worked up.

PEGGY'S MOM (OFF)

You got pots to clean.

PEGGY (OFF)

I'll be right back, Ma.
I gotta go to the can.

NOODLES

Hi, Peggy.

PEGGY

At least you could lock the door.

NOODLES

Don't you like it?

PEGGY

I've seen better.

NOODLES

You seen lots?

PEGGY

How many you seen?
I'll tell you how many. None.

NOODLES

Let me see yours.

PEGGY

Looksies, no feelsies.

NOODLES

Peggy... Peggy, I...
You like it, don't you?

PEGGY

Not for free, I don't.
Bring me a charlotte russe,
and then you can do anything you like.

NOODLES

Tomorrow. I'll bring it
to you tomorrow.
I'll bring it tomorrow.

PEGGY

I don't give credit.

NOODLES

I promise. I promise.

PEGGY

You better stop squeezing me,
or I'm gonna poop in my pants.
Well, you getting out?

MAX'S MUM

Come on, come on.

NOODLES

Give me six copies.

MAX

Drop your pants
and I'll stick it to you again.

NOODLES

What do you mean, "again"?

MAX

That's a long story.
And look what time it is.
It's already 6:34. And I gotta go.
Boy, I got a lot of work to do.

NOODLES

Hold it a minute.
Now it's 6:35.
And I ain't got a damn thing to do.

MAX

Just you wait, asshole.
I'll do something with your time.
Wait! Hey!

NOODLES

Since we're talking about time...
...it looks like you're gonna break
that lamp at 6:36.

FARTFACE

Where'd you pinch this?

NOODLES

It's mine.

FARTFACE

Prove it.

MAX

I gave it to him.

FARTFACE

Yeah?
Who the hell are you?
Where you from?

MAX

The Bronx.

FARTFACE

And you give away watches?

MAX

He's my uncle.

FARTFACE

And who gave it to you?

MAX

My Uncle Nathan.

NOODLES

My little brother.

FARTFACE

Tell your uncle
to stop by the precinct.

MAX

He's dead.

NOODLES

Alcoholic.

MAX

In Kishnev, Poland.

FARTFACE

Then he don't need it no more.

It's been requisitioned.

MAX

Requi...What's that mean?

NOODLES

Pinched, by him. At 6:37.

FARTFACE

Just remember,

I got my eye on you two.

MAX

I got my eye on you too.

Take it! Take it!

Take the lamp off. I can't hold it.

MAX'S MUM

Max.

Who's this?

MAX

My uncle.

PATSY

That one. With the cream.

FAT MOE

The 5-cent one?

PATSY

Yeah.

For the twopenny one she only gives
you a hand job. I can do that myself.

Not that one!

That one.

FAT MOE

You sure?

PATSY

Wrap it up pretty.

Good morning. Peggy home?

PEGGY'S MUM

She's taking a bath.

PATSY

That's great.

Would you tell her I'm here?

PEGGY

Hey, Ma. Another bucket of water.

PEGGY'S MUM

Wait.

PATSY & THE CHARLOTTE RUSSE

PEGGY

What do you want?

PATSY

Me?

PEGGY

Mama said you were looking for me.

PATSY

No. The guys told me that...

PEGGY

What?

PATSY

I'll come back some other time.

Noodles!

Noodles! Noodles! Noodles!

NOODLES

Did you get it?

MAX

His asshole blinked, but we got him.

Nice going, Fartface. And on duty too.

FARTFACE

You boys caught me

with my pants down that time.

NOODLES

No, we caught you with
your schmuck in a minor.

MAX (TO PATSY)

Put this someplace safe.

FARTFACE

That's all right. Hey, hold it!
Where you going?
Hold it! Wait a minute!
Hey, you, stop! Hold it.
What are you gonna do with that plate?

NOODLES

Depends. What time is it, Max?

MAX

I think it's time
we got our watch back.

FARTFACE

Okay, boys, we're even.

MAX

The hell we are.

NOODLES

You'll be collecting your
pension before we're even.

PEGGY

Hiya, fellas.

FARTFACE

What do you boys want?

MAX

First off...
...you're paying Peggy for us.

FARTFACE

Okay. That's it?

MAX (TO NOODLES)

Go ahead while I tell him.

NOODLES

I can't believe it. My first time,

and a lousy cop's paying for it.

FARTFACE

Now, look, what else do you kids want for that plate?

MAX

Noodles was telling me about Bugsy. Seems he's boss, thanks to you.

FARTFACE

Meaning what?

MAX

Meaning he pays you off.

PEGGY

Will you slow down?
What is your hurry? Take it easy.
If you keep this up,
you're gonna come too fast.
Do you see what I mean?
You're so stupid. I can't believe it.

MAX

So why does Bugsy pay you?
What do you do for him?

FARTFACE

I close an eye once in a while.

MAX

Well, now you close an eye for us.

FARTFACE

Why? What are you kids up to?

MAX

He'll tell you.

NOODLES

Me, him, Cockeye and Patsy,
we're working together.

FARTFACE

Bugsy'll flatten you.
Besides, I don't put up with no trouble on my beat.

NOODLES

You'll put up, and you'll shut up.
You hear nothing, and you see nothing.
Just like you did for Bugsy.

MAX
Shit!

PEGGY
Don't get upset. That makes it worse.
It can happen the first time.

MAX
It's them two talking out there.

NOODLES
Can't you see you're ruining the mood?
We made our deal.
So take a walk.

PEGGY
Come here, honey.
Feel good, bubeleh?

FARTFACE
He'll never get it up.

PEGGY
Relax. Okay. Calm down, calm down.
Okay. Okay, come here.

DEBORAH
I'm glad the baby's better.

BECKY
Happy Pesach, Deborah.

DEBORAH
Happy Pesach, Becky.

FAT MOE
Hurry. We're gonna be late.
There's Deborah.

DEBORAH
Sorry. Mama needed help.

DEBORAH'S DAD
Good girl. I just locked up,
and I'm giving you the keys.

DEBORAH

I thought I'd just practice
my dance routines. All right?

DEBORAH'S DAD

Make sure you don't let the goyim in.

DEBORAH

Okay, bye.

FAT MOE

See you later, Debbie. Bye.

AMAPOLA MUSIC.

DEBORAH

Get down off of there, roach.
That record's just like Ex-Lax.
Every time I put it on,
you have to go to the bathroom.
What are you doing?

NOODLES

Give me a drink.

DEBORAH

We're closed.
Nice people don't drink on Pesach.
They go to the synagogue.

NOODLES

So, what are you doing here?

DEBORAH

Somebody's got to keep an eye
on the place.
There are a lot of thieves out there.
One could get into your house.

NOODLES

Especially if you leave the door open.

DEBORAH

You can pray here too.
Here or in the synagogue,
to God it's the same difference.
Come over here and sit down.

"My beloved is white and ruddy.
His skin is as the most fine gold.

His cheeks are as a bed of spices."

Even though he hasn't washed
since last December.

"His eyes are as the eyes
of doves.
His body is as bright ivory.
His legs are as pillars of marble."

In pants so dirty
they stand by themselves.

"He is altogether lovable."

But he'll always be a two-bit punk...
...so he'll never be my beloved.
What a shame.

KISS

Somebody's there.

NOODLES
There ain't nobody.
It's Max.

DEBORAH
So that's who it was.

MAX (OFF)
Noodles!

DEBORAH
Go on, run.
Your mother's calling you.

MAX (OFF)
Noodles!

NOODLES
Just gonna go see what he wants.
You been here long?

MAX
No.

NOODLES
Were you in there?

MAX

You're one lousy kisser.
I seen you go in there
after that ball-buster.
Here's the stuff from last night. We got
4 for the silverware, 6 for the typewriter.
Lipschitz wouldn't cough up any more.
We gotta get somebody else.
I came to divvy up.

NOODLES

Tomorrow, with the others.

MAX

I also came to pick you up.

NOODLES

I can't come right now.

MAX

The houses, the stores are all empty.
We got our pick. You pick that.

NOODLES

Yeah.

MAX

Some partner I got. Have fun.

BUGSY

How's it going, boys?

MAX

Who's that?

NOODLES

Bugsy.

BUGSY

I hear you guys are in business
for yourselves now.
I hear youse are doing real good.
Ain't you gonna introduce me
to your friend here?
I'll introduce myself.
Excuse the glove.

BUGSY GANG MEMBER

Son of a bitch!

BUGSY

That's my cut.
You don't work for me,
you don't work for no one.

MAX

I don't like bosses.

BUGSY

You was better off
you stayed in the Bronx.

MAX

It would have been better for you too.
I'm gonna kill him one of these days.

NOODLES

Yeah?
Meantime it looks like he's killed us.
Deborah, open up the door.
Deborah, open up the door.
Deborah.

AL CAPUANO

That stuff, is it ready?

FOREMAN

We're loading it.

AL CAPUANO

Che cazzo succede down here?

FRED CAPUANO

AL, we got the big boys with us today.

JOHNNY CAPUANO

They wanna work for us.

MAX

Doing what Bugsy did. We want his job.

FRED CAPUANO

Do you get that?

DOMINIC

We the best escorts you ever gonna get.

AL CAPUANO

A fangulo a ma, escort your
mother's ass out of here.

MAX

Okay. Let's go, Noodles. We'll peddle your invention somewhere else.

FRED CAPUANO

Hey, wait a minute.
What invention?

MAX

You ship your stuff by the river, right?

AL CAPUANO

Sometimes.

MAX

And when you get caught,
you throw the cases overboard.

DOMINIC

You lose the whole shipment.

AL CAPUANO

So?

NOODLES

For 10 percent,
we'll save it all for you.

AL CAPUANO

What do you got, a submarine?

DOMINIC

We got salt.

FRED CAPUANO

You got what?

PATSY

Me and the boys are rolling salts.

COCKEYE

We need 3 tons of salt per shipment.

AL CAPUANO

Get the fuck out of here.
Go back to school where you belong.

FRED CAPUANO

What is it with all this salt?

MAX

Hey, hey, we got salt on our noodles.
Show 'em.

NOODLES

This is full of salt.
All right, come here.

AL CAPUANO

So?

DOMINIC

Keep your shirt on.

NOODLES

We gotta wait for the salt
to dissolve.

COCKEYE

Well?

DOMINIC

Hey, what's wrong?

PATSY

Hey, look.

DOMINIC (OFF)

Wow!

PATSY

Great!

DOMINIC

Look at that!

PATSY

It's great.

DOMINIC

Noodles.

PATSY

Look.

NOODLES

I see 'em! What did I tell you?

MAX
Yeah.
Yeah!
Hooray.
Hooray for us!

COCKEYE
We did it.

NOODLES
Come here, Max.

MAX
We did it.

NOODLES
No, Max, no!
Max.
Max.
Max!
Max!

MAX
What would you do without me?
There.
From here on, we establish the
shared funds of the gang.
They belong to all of us together
and to none of us alone.
And we solemnly swear to put in
percent of everything we make. Agreed?

DOMINIC
Agreed.

PATSY
Agreed.

COCKEYE
Agreed.

NOODLES
Agreed.

DOMINIC
I wanna take another peek.

RAILWAYMAN (OFF)
Announcing the departure of...
...the Lackawanna Railroad,

Hudson Valley Express, Poughkeepsie...
...Albany, Utica, and Buffalo.
All aboard.

MAX

This goes to Fat Moe.
We don't tell him what it's for.
And he gives it back
only when we're all together.
Agreed?

DOMINIC COCKEYE PATSY (OFF)

Agreed.

NOODLES

Agreed.

DOMINIC

Bugsy's coming! Run!

SHOT

SHOT

DOMINIC (Cont.)

Noodles.
I slipped.

NOODLES

Schmuck.

MAX SEES INSCRIPTION
YOUR YOUNGEST & STRONGEST
WILL FALL BY THE SWORD

NOODLES SEES INSCRIPTION
YOUR YOUNGEST & STRONGEST
WILL FALL BY THE SWORD

CEMETARY CARETAKER

Wanna go in?

NOODLES

Yeah.

CEMETARY CARETAKER

You a relative?

NOODLES

An uncle.

CEMETARY CARETAKER
It's open.

MUSIC STARTS & STOPS AS DOOR
IS OPENED & CLOSED

"Erected to their everlasting memory
by their friend and brother...
...David Aaronson, 1967."

HIPPIES AT RAILWAY STATION
Jimi Hendrix

FRISBEE

MAX
Can I take that for you, sir?
Your limousine is waiting.

NOODLES
Maxie.

MAX
How are you, uncle?
You're looking good.

NOODLES
You're looking a little better.
Come on. Better get
you off the streets.

NOODLES
Some limousine.

MAX
What are you talking, huh?
We own the company now.
It's a good cover. It pays off too.

NOODLES
My mother wrote me you was in the
body-snatching business.
I appreciate everything you did
for my family.

MAX
Forget it. It's your dough.
It's all down in black and white
in the company books.

You're the company. You and Patsy and
Cockeye. Gravediggers and partners.
Hey, enough of this.
Business before pleasure.
We got a rush job. Here.
Come here. Look at this. Come here.
Sudden death. Fucking tragedy, huh?
26 years old.

NOODLES
26? What a shame.

MAX
Great stiff. She died of an overdose.

GIRL IN BACK OF HEARSE
And I'm ready for another.

MAX
Pump the life into her.
You didn't turn pansy in there, did you?
There you go.
Turning over in the grave.
They do it every time.

GIRL IN BACK OF HEARSE
Don't worry. A pansy he ain't.

NOODLES
Thanks.

MAX
You're welcome, Noodles.
Whoops. Sorry.

GIRL IN BACK OF HEARSE
Thanks. Good night.

MAX
Hey, you want a little pick-me-up?

GIRL IN BACK OF HEARSE
No, thanks. I've had mine.

MAX
Did you give her your all?

NOODLES
What do you think? You bet I did.

POSH GENTLEMAN

Wait till you see this place.

MAX

It's over here.

NOODLES

Where we going?

MAX

To a place that never closes.

Whoops. Watch yourself.

NOODLES

What's this?

MAX

Our place.

We got the hottest spot in town.

This is the real Fat Moe's.

Get rid of that rag, will you?

What do you think?

NOODLES

It's beautiful.

MAX

You like it?

NOODLES

Beautiful. Beautiful.

GIRL KISSING COCKEYE

Hey, give me that.

PATSY

Noodles.

MAX

Patsy, look.

PATSY

Look who's here.

NOODLES

Come here, son of a bitch.

PATSY

Come here! Come here!

You look fantastic.

COCKEYE
Wait a minute.

PATSY (OFF)
How you doing?

NOODLES
Look how big you got.

PATSY
Me?

COCKEYE
Noodles. Oh, God.
Noodles!

MAX
Number three coming through.

PATSY
Let's have a toast, for chrissakes!

COCKEYE
You look like shit.

NOODLES
I just got out of prison.

MAX
Nice guy.

PATSY
Hey, Noodles, get a load of this.
Hey, scotch heating.

COCKEYE
Yeah, a buck a cup.

NOODLES
A buck a cup?

MAX
Yeah.

NOODLES
How much it cost us?

MAX
Costing us?

A dime, including overhead.

FAT MOE
Hey, Noodles.

NOODLES
Fat Moe.
You look terrific.
Look like you lost an ounce or two.

FAT MOE
You think I'm gonna lose hemorrhoids.

COCKEYE
Can't recognize him without an apron.

MAX
L 'Chaim.

NOODLES PATSY COCKEYE FAT MOE
L 'Chaim.

COCKEYE
Welcome home.

MAX
What kind of maitre d' are you?
You don't even show a guy around.

OTHERS (OFF)
Yeah.
What's with you?

FAT MOE
I didn't know. I'm sorry.

NOODLES
You're some bunch of shtunks.
You don't come up and get me.

COCKEYE
He's the shtunk.

PATSY
He said you weren't out till Monday.

MAX
You get him the next time he gets out.

NOODLES

God forbid. God forbid.

PEGGY

Come on, let's see if you can
guess who it is.

NOODLES

Charlotte russe. With a little too
much whipped cream.

Peggy.

PEGGY

Hey, you watch it, now.
And my prices, they've gone up.
I work in a high-class joint now.
And I get paid by the pound.

PATSY

My Peggy, she's worth every penny
of it too, my red-hot mama.

MAX

Come on, come on.

MAX

Timber!
You've seen your old pals,
now I want you to meet some new ones.

NOODLES

I'll see you later.

MAX

You gonna lay here all night or what?
Cockeye wanted to play with the band.
I'm serious.
Come on.

DEBORAH

Aren't you going to say hello?

NOODLES

Hello.

AMAPOLA MUSIC.

NOODLES (Cont.)

Your brother's a real friend.
He's a romantic.
Max tell you I was getting out today?

DEBORAH
Max? No.

NOODLES
You remembered yourself?

DEBORAH
No, Moe. It's always Moe.

NOODLES
Yeah.
You weren't counting the days?

DEBORAH
Of course I was. 4344, 4343.
I lost track at 3000.

NOODLES
That wasn't my choice.
Yes, it was. It still is.
Did you come here to
welcome me back at least?

DEBORAH
I still live here. I was on my way out.
Moe said I should say hello.

NOODLES
I hope Moe didn't have to
bend your arm or anything.

DEBORAH
No.
Welcome back, Noodles.

MAX
Hey, Noodles.

NOODLES
You dancing?

DEBORAH
Every night at the Palace Theatre.
I've made some progress since I danced
here among the brooms and the empties.
You can come spy on me if you like.
If you have time.

NOODLES

Every night.

MAX
Noodles.

DEBORAH
Go on, Noodles,
your mother's calling you.
It's good to see you again, Noodles.

NOODLES (TO HIMSELF)
My pleasure.

MAX
Did you get the wine?

COCKEYE
Dago Red. The best.

PATSY
How you doing?

FRANKIE
There they are.
The four horsemen of the apocalypse.
Did you see that movie, Joe?
It's a good movie.
Max, how are you?

MAX
Good to see you.

FRANKIE
This must be Noodles.

MAX
Noodles, say hello to Mr. Monaldi.

FRANKIE
Hi, how are you?

NOODLES
All right.

FRANKIE
Nice to meet you. You don't have
to call me Mr. Monaldi.
I like my friends and people I respect
to call me Frankie.
Come on, sit down.

Get some chairs and some glasses.
Sit down, relax. You're home now.
This is my very dear friend Joe.
He came from Detroit to ask me
to do him a favor.
And I wanna do it for him.
I don't have to tell you who Joe is,
how far he got, or how far he'll get.
He's not only my dear friend,
he's my brother.

JOE
I'll tell you the truth.
Even a Jew can't eat this shit.
I mean, the mustard doesn't even help.
These guys with you?

FRANKIE
I told you these fellas are with me.
You could trust them.
You're in good hands.
Just tell them
what you want them to do.

JOE
Move some diamonds from Detroit.
Kid stuff.

NOODLES
Why us then?
If it's kid stuff, why not have
the kids from Detroit do it?

FRANKIE
Excuse me, Noodles. He means that
it's something that's very simple.
But for now he needs kids
from outside to handle it.
He just found out they're moving these
diamonds to Holland in a few days.
So it's something came up right away.
You understand?
Hey, Joe.
Tell these guys the story about
the pussy being insured. What is it?
Tell these guys how you
stumbled on this whole thing.
Tell them the story.
Come on.
Pussy insurance. The insurance pussies.

Tell them that story.

JOE

Life is stranger than shit, that's all. It's a pisser. No big story. I got this insurance agent, this Jew kid named David. He conned me into every policy in the world. Every policy, name it. Dogs, house, wife, life, anything. I'm drinking with the boys one night, he comes in with his wife...
...a brunette with a nice ass who works for a jeweler. And he's still on the hustle, this guy. So I wink at the guys, I say, "Look...
...the most serious policy, you don't have me covered for."
He goes, "What's that, Joe?"
"Cock insurance."
"You make me a policy that when it don't work, I get a payment...
...I'll write out a check now."

He thinks, and he says, "I don't know if the actuality gauges govern this...
...but we can make a policy. But you gotta guarantee you're in good health now."

I says, "Look, leave her with me. Come back and see if it stands up. If it stands up, you know I'm in good health."
The jerk leaves her. I screw her. Not only that, she likes it. And she tells me when her boss, the jeweler...
...is shipping stones to Holland...
...where he keeps his stash in a drawer in the safe. Everything. Can't ask for more, right? Except, one better.

I never paid the first premium on the new cock policy.

MAX

Cock insurance.

JOE

Life is funnier than shit.

But...

...be easy with the girl.

I mean that. Be easy with the girl.

CAROL

Oh, my God!

MAX

Open it!

JEWELLER

Who's gotten in?

COCKEYE

Had to go and be a hero, huh?

MAX

Open it.

No.

Open it!

CAROL

No, don't hurt him!

Don't hurt him!

MAX

Get this bitch out of here.

CAROL

You animal! You asshole!

Come on, hit me.

NOODLES

What do you mean?

CAROL

Hit me.

NOODLES

What, are you crazy?

Straighten up and fly right.

CAROL

I'm all right.

Let me make it look real.

Make it look real.

NOODLES

Knock it off.

CAROL

I'm all right. Let go.

NOODLES

Come on, cut the act.

CAROL

Hit me!

COCKEYE

She said hit her.

Go ahead, rap her in the mouth.

CAROL

Hit me!

NOODLES

I'll hit you! You bitch!

CAROL

You animal!

MAX

Put a cork in her.

CAROL

No.

No. Don't.

Don't. No!

No! You dirty bastards!

Bastards!

MAX

Try the secret compartment.

Attaboy.

Thanks.

PATSY

Nice matzo balls.

Beautiful. Look at that.

MAX

Okay, better wrap them up.

We're going. You coming?

NOODLES

Coming.

PATSY

Morning.

JOE

You get the stones?

Pay him.

Any trouble?

PATSY

No trouble. Kid stuff.

MAX

You okay?

NOODLES

How come you didn't tell me?

MAX

Being inside can change you.

I'd already made the deal with Frankie to get rid of Joe.

With a man like Frankie Monaldi you don't say, "yes" and then, "no."

I could not take the chance that you'd change your mind. You understand.

NOODLES

You're right.

I would have said, no.

MAX

Frankie is as big as they come.

He's got the combination in his hand.

NOODLES

If we're not careful, he'll have us in his hand.

MAX

You don't get nowhere alone.

NOODLES

I thought you didn't like bosses.

It sounded like a good idea then.

It still is.

MAX

Let's just think about it Noodles.

They're gonna ask us to come in

with them. There's a lot in it for us.

NOODLES

Today they asked us to get rid of Joe.
Tomorrow they ask me to get rid of you.
Is that okay with you?
'Cause it's not okay with me.

MAX

All right.
Let's just forget about it.
Wanna go for a swim?

NOODLES

Yeah, let's go for a swim.

MAX

All right, what are you doing?

COCKEYE

Hey, Noodles.
Don't fuck around, Noodles.

MAX

Noodles, what are you doing?

COCKEYE

Hey!
You crazy?

MAX

Shit.
Asshole!
Can't believe you did this!

TELEVISION BROADCAST

District Attorney James Lister
was killed in an explosion of a car...
...belonging to Secretary of Commerce
Bailey as he left the secretary's estate.
Mr. Lister, killed in
the blast, was scheduled to testify...
...in Washington on Thursday
before a Senate committee.
A committee investigating what has
been called "The Bailey Scandal."
A team of detectives
has been assigned to the case.
Secretary Bailey was not available
for any statement at this time.

FAT MOE

Did you know those guys?

TELEVISION BROADCAST

offices of his legal advisor,

Irving Gold...

...in hopes of getting some comment.

Mr. Gold, you're aware

that District Attorney Lister...

...is the second witness in the Bailey

Scandal to meet a sudden end.

The first was Thomas Finney,

undersecretary of commerce...

...who fell to his death from his

th-floor office a month ago.

Is there a connection...?

FAT MOE

Take the money and run, Noodles.

What's keeping you here?

TELEVISION BROADCAST

The only remaining witness

is the man who...

...rightly or wrongly has given his

name to this affair, Secretary Bailey.

NOODLES

Curious.

TELEVISION BROADCAST

The secretary has no worries.

If he has no worries, why has he

retreated to his place on Long Island?

He's preparing his attack

on the questions...

...he will be asked by the committee.

I'd call them accusations

more than questions.

He has no worries.

The public does.

Particularly, in view of the rumors

about rigged contracts, bribery...

...the international Mafia. Especially

those dealing with the illegal use...

...of the Transport union

pension funds.

Could you tell us anything about that?

JIMMY (ON TELEVISION)

Gentlemen, I deny all of these rumors
and allegations against my organization.
Our hands have always been
and will continue to remain clean.

In my entire life, I've fought to keep
the American labor movement clear...

NOODLES

Him, I know.

JIMMY (ON TELEVISION)

forced speculation,
criminal elements...
...or corrupt politicians.
If any mistakes have...

NOODLES

He's still giving out
the same old bullshit.

JIMMY (ON TELEVISION)

If any guilt at all exists
in this situation, it lies elsewhere.

CHICKEN JOE

What's this I've been reading
about you in the newspapers?
Inflammatory words from a union boss?

JIMMY

You still won't come and stop
the workers or the social movement.

CHICKEN JOE

Listen to me, you socialist asshole!
We don't give a good fart about the
socialist workers and their movements.
We want you out of the factory so we
can get the furnaces working again.
This is the last offer
you're gonna get.
You want to sign it or what?

JIMMY

Tell your bosses they can
wipe their ass with it.

CHICKEN JOE

Fill her up.
This is my last...

CROWNING
Hold it, boys. Don't shoot.
It's me, Crowning.

CHICKEN JOE
Crowning.

CROWNING
Yeah.
That'll do, boys.

CHICKEN JOE
What'll do?
We almost got the kid
where we want him.

MAX
And we got the boss where we want him.

PATSY
Easy.
Easy.

MAX
Put 'em down.

CROWNING
Put your guns away, boys.

PATSY
Just swapping prisoners.

COCKEYE
Fair trade, huh, chickenhead?
Union boy over here for Mr. Boss Man.

CHICKEN JOE
Well, look who's here.
Fat Moe's boneyard boys.

MAX
Which reminds me.
How's that cancer in your gut
coming along, Chicken Joe?
Untie him.

CHICKEN JOE

I don't take orders from you.

NOODLES

We're not asking you to take orders.
We're telling you.
Now go ahead, untie him.
Untie him.

CROWNING

Untie him.

JIMMY

Who are you?
Who's paying you?

COCKEYE

I think this is gonna piss you off, Mac.
I think it's those dirty
politician friends of yours.

JIMMY

Yeah? Well, you crawl back and tell
'em we don't want you in with us.
Our fight's got nothing to do with
liquor and prostitution and dope.

MAX

Well, you'd better
get used to the idea, pal.
This country is still growing up.
Certain diseases it's better
to have when you're still young.

JIMMY

You boys ain't a mild case
of the measles. You're the plague.
Bastards like him are immune.
That's the difference
between us and them!

NOODLES

Take it easy.
The difference is,
they'll always win.
And you'll keep
getting it up the ass.

CROWNING

Sooner than you think.

FEMALE REPORTER

Chief Aiello, moving policemen into the factory came as a surprise. The press, the unions, especially the strikers.

CHIEF AIELLO

What did you want, a declaration of war? Ours was a peaceable operation.

MALE REPORTER 1

Wasn't that contrary to new union laws?

CHIEF AIELLO

I'm chief of police, not chief of people.

MALE REPORTER 2

Was there any violence to justify...?

CHIEF AIELLO

My motto is: "Prevention, not repression."

FEMALE REPORTER

You let scabs move in and work.

CHIEF AIELLO

Young lady, you wanna talk to me, call them "unemployed workers." With your permission, I'll take these flowers to my missis before they wilt. Or maybe you heard. I'm the father of a baby boy.

MALE REPORTER 1

We heard he's the youngest stockholder in that factory you occupied.

CHIEF AIELLO

What'd you mean by that?

MALE REPORTER 1

They say management expressed their thanks with a present for the baby.

CHIEF AIELLO

You know,

slander is a serious offense.
Especially from a hack reporter.
You wanna find out how serious?
But since this is my first boy
after four girls...
...I'll declare amnesty.
Behave yourself.
Go.

THIEVING MAGPIES MUSIC.

MRS AIELLO
Thank you.

CHIEF AIELLO
He's eating?

MRS AIELLO
For five.

CHIEF AIELLO
For five? Well, why not.
You could feed an army
with these milk plants.
We could open up a dairy.
Oh, hey. Che bella.
Who loves you? Who loves you?
I love you.
And I love you.
And I love you.
Lucy!
Don't you have
to feed him at 6 o'clock?

MRS AIELLO
Come in.
Oh, here he is now.

CHIEF AIELLO
That's my son.
That's my son.
That's my son! That's my son!
Jesus Christ, they change fast.
Yeah, but he looks like my old man.
Yeah, yeah, look, same eyes.
And look, the same devilish pride.
Hey. Hey, hey.
Did you see his dickey?

MRS AIELLO

Vincent.

CHIEF AIELLO

What?

MRS AIELLO

The girls.

CHIEF AIELLO

The girls!

Sooner or later you have to learn that
after me, the boss in the house is him.

He's got balls like his papa.

Hey!

NURSE

Let me have him.

CHIEF AIELLO

No, no, no.

I'll do this. I'll do this, huh.

Hey. No, no, no.

Look. Hey, hey.

Let Papa change you.

Come on,

everything will be swell.

Come on, come on, come on.

What the fuck is this?

What is this? Huh? What's that?

Look!

NURSE

It's the right number.

CHIEF AIELLO

The right number?

I'll break your goddamn neck!

Find my son,

or I'll burn down this building.

Hello!

Hello.

Would you shut up?

No, hey, no. Wait, wait.

I'm not talking to you.

Well, who's this?

Never mind...

To who am I talking?

Where the hell are you?

My son, where is he?

NOODLES

Where do you think? He's in the maternity ward. He never left. He got restless, so he wanted to change his bed. The other kids got the same idea, so they wanted to change their beds. You got 30, 40 screaming babies jumping from one bed to another... ..switching tags, so now we do have a real problem.

CHIEF AIELLO

Piece of shit whoever you are!
What the fuck?! I want my son!

NOODLES

Luckily, we were there to see that everything was under control. If you want, we can put everything back. Except you gotta meet us halfway.

CHIEF AIELLO

Tell me!

NOODLES

Why do you give a fuck who wins the strike?

CHIEF AIELLO

That's got nothing to do with me!
What did I do?

NOODLES

First of all, you let the scabs in. Second, you've got the cops in there protecting them.

CHIEF AIELLO

I'm a cop!

NOODLES

All right, shut the fuck up!
Now listen very carefully.
Call off your dogs and let the strikers work it out with the bosses.

CHIEF AIELLO

I want my son!

NOODLES

Do that and we'll give
you the kid's number.
If you don't,
look for your kid yourself.
So, what is it gonna be?

CHIEF AIELLO

Okay.
I'll call my men off today.

NOODLES

Attaboy.
You know, for a rotten
bastard son of a bitch...
...you're not as stupid as I thought.
We'll be in touch.

CHIEF AIELLO

When will you call?

NOODLES

Don't worry, don't worry.
We'll be in touch with you. Bye.

MAX

So?

NOODLES

We got a deal.

MAX

To a very smooth talker.

ALL

Yeah.

Mazel.

At least.

NOODLES

Where's that switch list?

PATSY

The switch list?

NOODLES

Yeah.

PATSY

I can't find it.

MAX
What?

PATSY
I can't find it.

NOODLES
What'd you do with it?

PATSY
I think I dumped it.

MAX
What a yutz.

NOODLES
Oh, Pat.

PATSY
Wait a minute, listen.
Listen, Noodles,
Noodles, wait. I remember.
The boys' numbers was odd...
Even, and the girls' was odd.

NOODLES
It's simple.

COCKEYE
You took good stock.

NOODLES
Hey, let's give him an even number.
Eight. Let's pick an eight.

PEGGY
Eight.

PATSY
Yeah, it's a good number.

COCKEYE
Wait. What about the other pischers?

MAX
We're better than fate.
We give some the good life,
give it to others up the ass.

PEGGY

All right, boys, let's settle up.
It's Saturday.

COCKEYE

Settle-shmettle, Peggy
I'm gonna take mine out in trade.

PEGGY

You're such a nudge.

PATSY

You know what? You know, I wish
I was switched when I was a kid.

NOODLES

What makes you think you weren't?

COCKEYE

I don't believe it.
Hey, you guys, come here.
Take a look at who's over here.

NOODLES (OFF - TO PEGGY)

The place is yours

MAX

That suit you, Peg?

PEGGY

Fine, Max.

MAX

What've you got?

COCKEYE

Over there.

MAX

Well, what...?
Holy shit! Noodles! Noodles!
Come here, come here.
Look.
The blond by the piano.

NOODLES

Who's that?

MAX

Who is that?
You and this broad were
practically engaged at one point.

COCKEYE
Oh, beat me. Oh, I love it.

NOODLES
Who was it? The Detroit cock-squasher?

MAX
Yeah.
Peggy.

NOODLES
That's not her. She looks different.

MAX
You know that platinum blond.
She's by the table.
See her? Call her in, will you?

PEGGY
Carol.

MAX
Carol, whatever.
Just tell her there's a bunch
of her old friends here.

PEGGY
Carol.
Carol!

MAX
Noodles, come here.

PEGGY
Somebody here wants to see you.

CAROL
Who?

PEGGY
You know these guys?

CAROL
No.
I don't think so.
No.

No. I'd remember a bunch
of good-lookers like these.
Oh, well, how
could I forget.
There was...
There was only one of you
I got to know personally, though.

MAX
Which one?
Let's see how good
a memory you've got for faces.
(unbuttons fly)

CAROL (TO MAX)
You.

MAX
No.
Him.

NOODLES
We've been hanging out so long we're
starting to look alike. Hanging out.

CAROL
Charmed.
You can call me Carol.
We've already met.
Pleasure.

MAX
The pleasure...
...is all mine.

PATSY
So you left Detroit, huh?

PEGGY
Her and her husband
just come in on weekends.

COCKEYE
Yeah, beats the seashore.

PEGGY
She takes on guys while her hubby
watches through the peephole.

COCKEYE

Beats the hell out of the movies.

PATSY

I wonder what that jerk
is up to in his cubbyhole?

NOODLES

He must be wondering
where is his fucking wife.

CAROL

Why don't we make it a threesome, huh?

MAX

Can't you see he's got
other plans for tonight?

CAROL

Well, bring her along.
We'll make it a foursome.

NOODLES

I'm not that kind of guy.
I'm afraid if I give you a good crack
in the mouth, you'd probably like it.
Have a good night, fellas.
See you later.

DEBORAH

Been waiting long?

NOODLES

All my life.

AMAPOLA MUSIC

NOODLES (Cont.)

You wanted a place by the ocean. I had
it opened. It was closed for the season.
All these tables are for two people.
Pick whatever one you want.

DEBORAH

I like this one.

NOODLES

Here, sit down.

MAITRE D'

Boeuf a la mode.

Blanquette de veau.

DEBORAH

I'll have the asperges sauce
vinaigrette and then a chateaubriand.

MAITRE D'

Pommes frites?

DEBORAH

Nature.

MAITRE D'

Comme dessert?

DEBORAH

I'll decide later.

MAITRE D'

Monsieur?

NOODLES

I'll have the same.

WINE WAITER

For the wine?

DEBORAH

You decide.

I'll just have water.

NOODLES

You decide.

WINE WAITER

Thank you.

NOODLES

You've been around.

Where'd you learn them

parlez-vous francais dishes?

Who's teaching you

that stuff?

DEBORAH

You mean a sugar daddy,

who tries to teach me how to act?

I read books. I want to know everything.

Doesn't it make sense to have plans?

NOODLES

Yeah, it does.

What about me?

Am I in any of these plans?

DEBORAH

Noodles...

You're the only person that I have ever...

NOODLES

Ever what? Go ahead.

Ever what?

DEBORAH

That I ever cared about.

But you'd lock me up and

throw away the key, wouldn't you?

NOODLES

Yeah.

Yeah, I guess so.

DEBORAH

Yeah...

And the thing is,

I probably wouldn't even mind.

NOODLES

So?

DEBORAH

So I got to get to where I'm going.

NOODLES

And where's that?

DEBORAH

To the top.

NOODLES

Now you sound just like Maxie.

Youse both alike,

that's why you hate each other.

DEBORAH

Do you want me to leave?

NOODLES

No, I don't want you to leave.

DEBORAH
You dancing?

NOODLES
You asking?

DEBORAH
I'm asking.

NOODLES
I'm dancing.
To keep from going crazy, you have to
cut yourself off from the outside world.
Just not think about it.
Yet there were years that
went by, it seemed like...
...no time at all,
because you're not doing anything.

There were two things I couldn't
get out of my mind. One was Dominic.
The way he said, "I slipped,"
just before he died.
The other was you.

How you used to read me
your Song of Songs, remember?

How beautiful are your feet
In sandals, O prince's daughter
I used to read the Bible every night.
Every night I used to think about you.
Your navel is a bowl
Well-rounded with no lack of wine
Your belly, a heap of wheat
Surrounded with lilies
Your breasts
Clusters of grapes
Your breath, sweet-scented as apples
Nobody's gonna love you
the way I loved you.
At times I couldn't stand it.
I used to think of you.
I'd think, "Deborah lives.
She's out there. She exists."
And that would get me through it all.
You know how important
that was to me?

DEBORAH

I'm leaving tomorrow
to go to Hollywood.
I wanted to see you tonight
to tell you.

KISS

DEBORAH (Cont.)

No.

No!

No! No.

No. Please, no. No, please. No!

No! No! No, please!

No, no! Please, no, no. No.

No!

NOODLES

Deborah.

DEBORAH

Get away! Get away!

CHAUFFEUR

I'll be right back.

NOODLES

Take her home.

Take her home.

INTERMISSION

PUNCHBAG

MAX

Well...

...look who's back.

NOODLES

What's this?

MAX

It's a throne.

It was a gift to a pope.

Cost me 800 bucks.

CAROL

It's from the 17th century.

NOODLES

So, what are you doing with it?

MAX

I'm sitting on it.

NOODLES

You got any coffee around?

FAT MOE

Yes.

NOODLES

Thanks.

(stirs coffee for 60 secs)

MAX

While you were on vacation,
we were working overtime.

The union paid off.

That's your share.

PATSY

Yeah. Even that geek.

You know, Jimmy "Clean Hands."

He respects us.

I shed a little blood for the cause.

FAT MOE

Here, it's all in the papers.

Morning Telegraph, they didn't like it.

It says, "Underworld joins strikers
in brutal battle."

But The Post, they liked it.

"Ends justify means
in decisive gangland encounter."

And they kvetched
about the Atlantic City job.

COCKEYE

Newspaper guys never know
what the fuck they want.

NOODLES

Well, you could have looked for me.

MAX

We did.

Cockeye found you at the Chink's.

So doped up

you didn't even recognize him.

COCKEYE

There you were.
You called me "Deborah."

NOODLES

Go fuck yourself.
Mind your own business.

MAX

We do our business together, and
broads do not get in the way...
...and you know it!

NOODLES

Yeah?

MAX

Yeah.

NOODLES

What's she doing here?
It ain't Saturday.
She should be screwing in Detroit.

CAROL

Well, she's screwing here now.
And only with Max.

NOODLES

Oh, yeah?
With her husband peeping through?

CAROL

No, I left him.

NOODLES

You live with her and
you tell me not to mess with broads.

MAX

You forget one thing.
What?
I don't give a fuck about her.

CAROL

Max...

MAX

Shut up! Shut up!

NOODLES

Hey, Maxie, tell me something.
What'll you spend your honeymoon on?
A cathouse?

MAX

Shut the fuck up! Shut up!
Just shut up!
You want me to dump her?
You want me to kick her fucking ass
out of here?
Want me to kick her ass out
or what?
You want me to kick...? Get the fuck out!
Get the fuck out! Get out!
Gonna tell me I don't
have a way with women?

NOODLES

Hello.

JIMMY (OFF)

This is Jimmy. Who 's this, Max?

NOODLES

No, it's Noodles.

JIMMY

Okay, listen.
We're gonna need you guys today.
I'm gonna be making a
tough speech, and I think you...

CHICKEN JOE

Go, go!

CROWNING

Start the engine.
I'll be right with you.
Mr. Gallagher wants you to know
he appreciates what you did.
To show his appreciation...
Here's an envelope
for the both of you.
If we gotta complete the job,
I'll let you know.

PATSY

Wiped out by a blast of Cordon Rouge.

MAX

What would Crowning
and his bosses say after that?
Never be afraid of you, then.

JIMMY

They're still not afraid of me.
It was you boys that scared them off.

SHARKEY

And you didn't want these guys.
You're lucky you got party leaders...
...like me who care about the union.

MAX

The strike is settled. We won.
That's what counts. Am I right, Jim?

NOODLES

It was tough for Jimmy not
to be there to sign the contract.

JIMMY

No.
What's tough is, you did more in a night
than I could in two years of talking.

NOODLES

Forget it.

SHARKEY

To the hottest newcomer...
...in American unions, Jimmy Conway.

MAX (OFF)

Now you're talking.

SHARKEY

Roll out the barrel.
And God bless.

MAX

Drink up, Jim. Suck it right down.

NURSE

You must be crazy giving him drinks.
We're going to operate.

JIMMY

What's the rush? They already told me

I'd be a gimp the rest of my life.

SHARKEY

Don't worry, with one leg a little shy,
you're gonna take giant steps.

JIMMY

Yeah. And always one step
right behind you, Sharkey?

MAX

Make sure they work on
the right leg, Jim.
It's only blood, huh?

SHARKEY

You boys got yourself a real martyr
for a friend. Make it work for you.

PATSY

Yeah, but what are we going
to do with a martyr?

SHARKEY

Times change. Prohibition won't
last much longer. Take it from me...
...a lot of you will be out of work.

MAX

Go on, Mr. Sharkey. We're interested.

SHARKEY

You ever think of setting
yourselves up in business?
All those trucks used to haul liquor,
soon be selling them for nothing.
I'm talking about hundreds of vehicles
controlled by a national organization.
And supported by a powerful union
headed by Jimmy.
Whatever you ask,
there's no way he can turn you down.

COCKEYE

You gotta be kidding, Sharkey.
Jimmy "Clean Hands"
in business with us?

SHARKEY

They won't be clean for long,

with the hands he'll shake.
Everything in good time.

NOODLES
We're not interested.

MAX
What's the matter, you got a problem?
We got plenty of money tucked away.
Why not invest it?

SHARKEY
I'll put the party behind you.
And I got friends in high places.

NOODLES
I'm not interested,
and I don't trust politicians.

MAX
You still think
like some street schmuck.
If we'd listened to you,
we'd still be rolling drunks.

NOODLES
You broke?

MAX
Don't bust my balls.
I am talking about real money.

NOODLES
This is real money to me. It's a lot
of money. You want any of it?

MAX
You carry that stink of the street
with you the rest of your life.

NOODLES
I like that. It makes me feel good.
I like the smell of it.
It opens up my lungs.
And it gives me a hard-on.

SHARKEY
You're carrying dead weight, Maxie.
One of these days,
you're gonna have to dump it.

NOODLES

Let me know
when you're gonna dump me.
Meanwhile, I'll be in Florida.
I got a yen for the seashore.

MAX

Listen, I was thinking it over...
...and I guess I kind of got a yen
for the seashore myself.

NOODLES

You wanna go swimming?

MAX

Yeah. Yeah, let's go for a swim.

NEWSPAPER SALESMAN

Read all about it!
Read all about it!

NOODLES

Hey, Maxie.
Max.
How much money we got put away?

MAX

Why?

NOODLES

Because we're unemployed.

MAX

About a million bucks.

CAROL

Oh, yeah? Where'd you put it?

MAX

In my underwear.

CAROL

I'd have found it there.

NOODLES

We gotta reorganize, Max.
And I got a couple of good ideas.

MAX

Me too.

EVE

If I had a million bucks,
I'd take it easy.

MAX

We'll take it easy when we got 20.
Fifty.

NOODLES

Where you gonna get that?

MAX

Right here.

NOODLES

What's that?

MAX

It's a dream.
A dream I've been dreaming
all my life.
I swear to God, you and me together,
we can make it come true.

NOODLES

What is it?

MAX

The Federal Reserve Bank.
It's the biggest step
we can take, Noodles.

NOODLES

You're really crazy.

MAX

Don't you ever say that to me.
Don't ever say that to me again!

CAROL

What chance is there that a crazy
thing like this might succeed?

NOODLES

Don't ask me, ask Max.

CAROL

You know as well as I do that this is

suicide, pure and simple, for everyone.

NOODLES

Yeah, well, don't tell me, tell him.
You got your own methods.

CAROL

I tried.
He doesn't want to screw anymore.
All he thinks about is this job.
Tear gas, hostages,
now he's gonna do this.
He's gonna do it with or without you.

Noodles, we've never liked each other.
We put up with each other for Max.
So why don't we get together once...
...and do something for him.

And after that...
...we can go back to being enemies.

You know,
if you were all in jail first...
...there wouldn't be any bank job.

I got the idea from your friend Max.

NOODLES

What do you mean?

CAROL

He laughs at you. He makes fun of you.
He says Eve has got you by the balls.
Every time you walk past this place,
you shit in your pants.
You'd do anything for the cops to pick
you up so you wouldn't have to do this.

Well, then do it.
Do it. Put him in jail.
Put him in jail. Not long.
Just long enough so he can get
the idea out of his mind.
If you can't stand being away
from him, put yourself there too.
Better off than being dead.
You know what to do.
And if you don't, I will.

Get out! Take a cab. I'm busy.
I got things to do. Get out.

Noodles.
Make up your mind fast, huh?

PROHIBITION COFFIN

EVE
What's the matter?
Aren't you having a good time?
Why are you going out tonight?
Why bother now that prohibition
is almost over?

NOODLES
Everybody's selling. We got friends
who wanna get rid of booze.
Practically nothing.
So we figured, why not.
I'm gonna be gone for a while.

EVE
I'll be waiting at the hotel.
I like it when you come home
late and wake me up.

NOODLES
I'm not gonna be home tonight.
I'm not gonna be home tomorrow either.

EVE
I thought these things
only take a couple of hours.

MAX
Ladies and gents, I drink to the demise
of Fat Moe's speakeasy.
Who the hell wants to drink
here legally anyway, am I right?
Okay. Come on, Moe, set them up.
Go on, get in there.

Here's mud in your eye.
Boys.
Let's drink to our last shipment.
There's more onboard
tonight than just booze.
It's 10 years of our lives. Ten years
that were really worth living.

PATSY
Yeah.

MAX
Noodles.
Noodles.
L 'Chaim.

NOODLES
L 'Chaim.

EVE
How long will I have to wait?

NOODLES
A year and a half, more or less.
Six months off for good behavior.

EVE
What are you gonna do?

NOODLES
Don't ask.

OPERATOR (OFF)
Operator.

NOODLES
Police, please.

SERGEANT HALLORAN
Fifth Precinct. Sergeant Halloran.
Hello.
Who's speaking? Can I help you?
Hello.

NOODLES
I got a good tip for you.

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK

NOODLES
Yeah, who is it?

MAX
It's Max. Open the door.
What's the matter with you? You sick?

NOODLES

No, I'm fine.

MAX

You don't look it.
Maybe you'd better
stay home tonight, huh?

PUNCHBAG

NOODLES

Why?

(MAX TURNS PHONE ROUND)

MAX

You know, I've been
watching you all night.
And you've been drinking like a fish.
Trying to get your courage up?
We're only bringing in
a shipment of booze.
It's got so you're even
scared to do that.
Maybe you just better
stay home tonight.
With Eve.

NOODLES

Hey, Maxie, everywhere you go,
I go too. Remember that.

MAX

Maybe Sharkey was right.
Maybe I ought to just dump you.

NOODLES

You're really crazy.

MAX

Never say that.
Don't say it!

CAROL

Max made fools of us, Noodles.
He wanted to die.

Did you know his old man
died in the nut house?
Max didn't want to
end up the same way.

So he put the idea
in our heads to tip off the cops.

And when they stopped the truck,
Max started shooting first...
...just to get himself killed.

NOODLES
What is this?

CAROL
Opening night.
Fifteen years ago.

NOODLES
Who's this?

CAROL
Patron saint of the place.
Some actress.

NOODLES
Do you know her?

CAROL
No.

NOODLES
Hello, Deborah.
Aren't you gonna say anything?

DEBORAH
What is someone
supposed to say after...
...more than 30 years.

NOODLES
Well, how about, "How you doing?
You're looking good."
Or, "I was hoping I'd never
see you again."

DEBORAH
I never thought I would.
There's a difference.

NOODLES
At least you recognized me,
that's something.

DEBORAH

Actresses have good memories.

You want a drink?

I'm having one.

Margo.

MARGO

Yes, miss?

DEBORAH

That's all for now. You can go.

MARGO

All right, Miss.

NOODLES

She called you "Miss."

You never got married?

DEBORAH

No.

NOODLES

You live alone?

DEBORAH

No.

Where were you?

NOODLES

I was out of town.

DEBORAH

Have you been back long?

NOODLES

A couple of days.

DEBORAH

Are you staying?

NOODLES

That depends.

DEBORAH

Why do you want to see me?

NOODLES

Two reasons.

First I wanted to see if you did

the right thing, turning me down
to become an actress.

DEBORAH
Well?

NOODLES
You did. You're terrific.
"Age cannot wither her."
It's like the play
was written for you.

DEBORAH
What was the other reason?

NOODLES
The other reason...
...is to decide whether I should go
to a party tomorrow night

DEBORAH
Party?

NOODLES
Yeah, on Long Island.
A Secretary Bailey.

DEBORAH
Do you know Secretary Bailey?

NOODLES
No.
But I was invited anyway.

DEBORAH
If you don't know each other,
why were you invited?

NOODLES
I don't know.
I thought you might know why.

DEBORAH
Me?
Why me?

NOODLES
Because you know him.

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK

DEBORAH
Who is it?

DAVID (OFF)
It's me, David.

DEBORAH
No, David.

DAVID (OFF)
Can I come in?

DEBORAH
No. Just wait outside, I'll call you.

DAVID (OFF)
Okay, I'll be right here.

NOODLES
What does Secretary Bailey want from me?

DEBORAH
You came to ask me that?

NOODLES
Why'd he send me an invitation?

DEBORAH
I don't know.
Why should I know about your
invitations? I don't know anything.
What do you want from me?
Why did you come here? I know nothing.

NOODLES
Now you're a lousy actress.
Who is Secretary Bailey?

DEBORAH
Secretary Bailey is a rich businessman.
He came to the United States as
a starving immigrant and made a lot of money...
...in San Francisco and L.A.,
where he's lived for 30 years.

NOODLES
I know all that. It's all in the papers.
What else is there?

DEBORAH

He married a very wealthy woman.
They had a child.
She died when the child was born.
A few years ago, he went into politics.
Moved here.

NOODLES

That's all past history. I'm not talking
about that. I'm talking about now.

DEBORAH

Right now he's in trouble.

NOODLES

Why can't you just tell me you've been living with him all these years, and
you're his lover.

DEBORAH

Age can wither me, Noodles.
We're both getting old.

All that we have left now
are our memories.
If you go to that party on Saturday
night, you won't have those anymore.

Tear up that invitation.

There's an exit back this way.
Noodles, go through it.
Keep walking.
Don't turn around.

Please, Noodles.

I'm begging you. Please.

NOODLES

Are you afraid that I'll turn
into a pillar of salt?

DEBORAH

If you go out that door, yes.
This is Secretary Bailey's son.
His name's David, just like yours.

NIGHT & DAY MUSIC.

BUTLER (OFF)

Please go in.

SECRETARY BAILEY

What are you waiting for?

NOODLES

I don't understand, Mr. Bailey.

SECRETARY BAILEY

Sit down, Noodles.

Make yourself comfortable.

I'm glad you accepted my invitation.

NOODLES

Well, I was curious.

So many important people in one place.

SECRETARY BAILEY

Yes. Well, the rats usually
desert a sinking ship.

But in my case, they appear to be
flocking onboard.

NOODLES

Yeah, well, I read about
your troubles in the newspapers.

But a man in your position, with all
your power and all your privileges...

...has to assume a certain amount
of responsibility...

...a certain amount of risk.

Why'd you ask me

to come here, Mr. Bailey?

SECRETARY BAILEY

That invitation doesn't mean
a goddamn thing, and you know it.

All that counts is what
was in that suitcase.

The money and the contract.

NOODLES

It didn't say who the contract
was on, though.

SECRETARY BAILEY

Haven't you figured that out yet?

NOODLES

You, Mr. Bailey?
I haven't had a gun in my hand
for many, many years.
My eyes aren't too good,
even with my glasses. My hands shake.
And I wouldn't want to miss.

SECRETARY BAILEY
Cut the bullshit, Noodles.
I'm already a dead man.

At least give me the chance
to settle the debt that I owe
to you.
I'll never make it before
the investigating committee.
They're scared I'll implicate
the whole bunch of 'em.
They gotta get rid of me.

Today is as good a day as any.
You do it, Noodles.
You're the only person
I can accept it from.

You see, I found out where you were.
I brought you back here for this.
To even the score between you and me.

You can get out through there.
It leads right down to the street.
Nobody will see you.

NOODLES
I don't know what you're talking about.
You don't owe me a thing.

SECRETARY BAILEY
Your eyes were too full of tears to see
it wasn't me burned up on that street.
It was somebody else.

You were too shocked to realize
that the cops were in on it too.

That was a syndicate operation,
Noodles.

NOODLES
You're crazy.

SECRETARY BAILEY

You said that to me once before,
a long time ago.
But my mind was never as clear
as it was at that moment.

I took away your whole life from you.
I've been living in your place.

I took everything.
I took your money.
I took your girl.

All I left for you was 35 years of grief
over having killed me.
Now, why don't you shoot?

(MEMORIES)

NOODLES

It's true,
I have killed people, Mr. Bailey.
Sometimes to defend myself.
Sometimes for money.

And many people used to come to us.
Business partners, rivals...
...lovers.

Some of the jobs we took,
and some we didn't.
Yours is one we would never touch,
Mr Bailey.

SECRETARY BAILEY

Is this your way of getting revenge?

NOODLES

No.
It's just the way I see things.

YESTERDAY MUSIC.

SECRETARY BAILEY

It's 10:25
...and I've got nothing left to lose.

When you've been betrayed by a friend,
you hit back.

Do it.

NOODLES

You see, Mr. Secretary...

...I have a story also.

A little simpler than yours.

Many years ago I had a friend,
a dear friend.

I turned him in to save his life...

...but he was killed.

But he wanted it that way.

It was a great friendship.

It went bad for him,

and it went bad for me too.

Good night, Mr. Bailey.

I hope the investigation

turns out to be nothing.

It'd be a shame to see

a lifetime of work go to waste.

SUMMERTIME MUSIC.

GARBAGE TRUCK

GOD BLESS AMERICA MUSIC.

OPIUM DEN (1933)

SMILE