

‘‘Philbert in a bar’’

Joseph Mack

a scene with with Schuyler, when Joe found himself in a bar.

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*SECOND DRAFT*  
17-APR-2017

In the original piece, the prompt was "a bar". I hate these scenes, since I never go into a bar. In exasperation, I said to Anoo "I haven't been in a bar in 40yrs!". Anoo just said "do what you can". I initiated with "I haven't been in a bar in 40yrs". Schuyler picked up on the game and pressed all my buttons. The writing here is a hightened version of what we did in class.

PHILBERT

SCHUYLER

Carla is imaginary

A bar

## ACT ONE

## 1. INT. NIGHT

PHILBERT

I haven't been in a bar since I was in college. I can't believe I'm here. There's nothing but drunk people, vomit and stale cigarettes.

SCHUYLER

They serve hot dogs too.

PHILBERT

Hot dogs have nitrites. What? - are you trying to kill me?

SCHUYLER

would you like a lapdance with one of the strippers?

PHILBERT

no! no! no!

SCHUYLER

you said you wanted to see some strippers.

PHILBERT

Well I did. I thought it would be a bit classier than this. I must have been stupid. Look at that guy lying on the floor there in a pool of vomit.

SCHUYLER

He hadn't been in a bar since he was in college either, till a couple of hours ago. Since then he's been having a great time. He had a lapdance. Are you sure you don't want one?

PHILBERT

no! no! no!

SCHUYLER

On come on. The girls are all very nice. They're not going to hurt you.

CONTINUED

PHILBERT

you mean she's going to sit naked  
in my lap and rub her bottom around  
in circles on me and her breasts  
are going to be in my face and I'm  
going smelling her body?

SCHUYLER

yup.

PHILBERT

my mother would roll over in her  
grave.

SCHUYLER

your mother isn't here.

PHILBERT

what if something happens to me!  
I'll be so embarrassed.

SCHUYLER

At least you'll know that  
everything still works.

PHILBERT

I won't be able to stand up  
afterwards. I'll have to bend over  
double.

SCHUYLER

Oh no. Don't do that. Bending  
over double won't fool anyone.  
That will only draw attention to  
you trying to hide what's going on.

PHILBERT

but everyone will see!

SCHYLER

That's the whole point. You should  
definitely stand straight up,  
proudly, so that everyone can see.  
Everyone will be looking to see how  
much you enjoyed your lapdance ...  
especially the strippers. They'll  
be looking at you. They want to  
know if you like them.

PHILBERT

Oh no. the strippers will be  
looking at me?! They'll all be  
laughing at me! I'll be totally  
humiliated!

CONTINUED

SCHYLER

Don't be ridiculous. When the crowd sees how much you enjoyed yourself, they'll all cheer. Ginny, the barmaid over there ... if she likes what she sees, she could give you a free beer. See Ginny is smiling at you. She knows you'd like a lapdance.

PHILBERT

no! no! no! This is awful. Some friend you turned out to be. Why are you doing this to me?

SCHUYLER

one of the dancers, you know Carla, the one you've been looking at - I've been watching you - has been looking back at you. I think she likes you.

PHILBERT

no! no! no! She's not my type at all. She can't possibly like me. I've never even had a girlfriend.

SCHUYLER

that's because you hang around the library reading books. Your type of women aren't there. Your type of women are right here. Think of all the fun you've been missing out on.

PHILBERT

no! no! no! This can't be true. Oh please don't invite her over. I don't know what to say to her.

SCHUYLER

Carla, can you come over here? I'd like you to meet my friend Philbert. Well Philbert, what do you think? Isn't she something?

PHILBERT

Ahhh!!!! Ah ... Hello Carla. I'm Philbert. Pleased to meet you. She's very nice. I mean no, no, no.

SCHUYLER

why don't you smell her?

CONTINUED

PHILBERT  
(smells her)  
she smells of sweat and perfume.

SCHUYLER  
she's sweating because she likes  
you.

PHILBERT  
I thought it was because she was  
dancing.

SCHUYLER  
she was dancing for you. Here, how  
about we all do a line of cocaine.

PHILBERT  
no! no! no! I can't do that.  
I'm vegetarian.

FADE OUT

*THE END*