

SPIKE Yeah, tough to audition. I was really lucky to have a pro like Masha coach me.

MASHA Yes, let's go to the audition.

SPIKE So I was auditioning for the spin-off series *Entourage 2*. And it has a different setup because this time there's an up-and-coming actor who's starting to make it in the movies, but he's played by somebody else, so the impression is of another character.

MASHA It's not an impression. He is a different character.

SPIKE (kind of laughing, realizes he got confused) Right. I know that. His name is Bradley Wood, and he's the lead. And in this version, his entourage is this old dame who's his agent, and this young guy on coke who's his manager, and his best friend from high school who's a girl who has a crush on him but she has this disease that gives her convulsions so she can never kiss anybody, cause she gets convulsions. And I live next door to a rabbi who's played by Judd Hirsch. But he's not on every week.

MASHA Yeah. Let's move it along, pacing things.

SPIKE Okay, and he's been having an affair with his older agent lady, but he's thinking of moving on to another agent. So the scene is between Bradley Wood and his last agent.

NINA I see.

SPIKE Okay, he comes in, the manager and the manager is there. "Hey, good-looking. How's tricks?" Masha used to read the other lines. Do you remember them, Masha?

MASHA Kind of. I think you should try to do it as a monologue. You'll all intuit what the other lines are.

SPIKE Oh, okay.

He likes the challenge. He changes his body language, and begins the scene, maybe unbuttons his top three shirt buttons.

START

Hey, good-looking. How's tricks? (*dutifully ad-libs listening to make it a monologue*) What? Who told you that? Hey, don't cry. Come on, give me a smile. Besides, it's not definite. (*pointedly listens*) Well . . . yeah, it's true, I did meet with some agents at CAA. I thought they were real impressive. I mean, they can call up Sandy Bullock, they can call up Julia Roberts. You gotta face it, you don't know that caliber of person. What? (*he listens*) What about loyalty? What about my career? What about my getting ahead? Yeah, I know you put in a lot of time with me. But I put a lot of time in with you too. And I don't know . . . I think I might like CAA better. What? (*listens*) Oh, that. Well, yeah, just cause I go to another agent doesn't mean we have to stop sleeping together occasionally. Well I think it's occasional. I mean I sleep with other people too. I want to be successful, I can't just sleep with one old broad all the time. Oh, I'm sorry, don't cry. I think of "old broad" as a term of affection. (*listens*) Oh yeah? Well fuck you!

He bows, smiles.

MASHA Wasn't that good?

Masha leads the applause. Nina is sincere and thinks it was good. Vanya and Sonia are a touch shell-shocked but applaud anyway.

NINA Oh that was wonderful. I can sense great things in your future.

SPIKE Yeah, cool. Thanks.

Enter Cassandra.

CASSANDRA Luncheon is served. It's Campbell's soup and tuna fish sandwiches. I was only asked to make lunch for 4, but I did stretch it to 5, though the sandwiches are a little skimpy with the tuna fish. (*exits*)

MASHA Well, the lunch sounds repellent, but shall we go in?

NINA (*to Masha*) Oh you're so kind to invite me to lunch, but I mustn't impose any further. And you did invite me to the costume party, so I'll come back for that, shall I?