

The Eastern Market

A screenplay by

By
ANTHONY ER GALLO

1

EXT EASTERN MARKET WASHINGTON DC. - DAY

1

The sun shines on the handsome red bricked edifice. A sign reads: THE HISTORIC EASTERN MARKET. FORTY VENDORS sell produce and flowers from their stalls.

EXT. CAP HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT DAY

Historic markers appear throughout the surrounding residential area citing the historic nature of Victorian district.

EXT SILHOUETTE OF CAPITOL DOME

The dome of the U.S. Capitol looms in the background of the market.

EXT EASTERN MARKET DAY

Hundreds of people casually are shopping at the Eastern Market.

EXT. TUNICLIFF'S BAR DAY.

Customers are seated around the outdoor bar at Tunicliffs. Restaurant.

The waiter brings our a martini.

PENELOPE

(Whispering in British accent) What trash!

(To Arthur) That's for me, I'm sure.

ARTHUR

Not really. But...

BOO
I'll take it.

ARTHUR
Why of course Ms. Boo. I'll get another
one for the Brit

Why do you keep "Missing" me. Just call
me Boo.

ARTHUR
Yes, Boo.

BOO
Who was that peculiar man gawking at my
legs?

ARTHUR
Mr. Bernard Phillips.

BOO
The scoop?

ARTHUR
He spent the entire stay watching birds.

BOO
Can you bring me some nuts.

ARTHUR'S
You do need some nourishment

She begins reading her book. Bernard comes by and sits
next to her. She ignores him.

BOO
They're called the most beautiful legs in
Washington, DC.

BERNARD
I'd say the entire world.

BOO
But my face? That might be a different
storyy .

BERNARD
Voices can be concealing.

BOO
And sometimes revealing. Can you drop by
later? I'm engrossed in this book.

BERNARD

The man behind this voice is much more appealing than the man who wrote that book..

BOO

I may not WANT to chat later.

BERNARD

A. B. Roehard. Truly stupid man. Where's my drink, Arthur.

Arthur enters.

ARTHUR

We ran out. I had to...

BERNARD

That's all right.

ARTHUR

One should be up shortly. (Exits)

BOO

Have some of mine. I know you're thirsty.

BERNARD

You're even drinking Tanqueray.

BOO

A man true to my heart.

BERNARD

Your drink?

BOO

You took the words right out of my mouth.

BERNARD

It is not.

BOO

A mystery man?

BERNARD

I just want my drink.

BOO

You Brits are all alike.

BERNARD

I'm not a Brit. I'm an American.

BOO

The accent.

BERNARD

We'll save that for a surprise on a rainy day. You have no accent.

BOO

(She looks up)

Of course not. I'm a Norwegian.

BERNARD

M-M-M. The face fits well with than the legs. Norwegian. No way!

BOO

Why not.

BERNARD

There are no Norwegians.

BOO

I'm one of them!

BERNARD

I thought you were an American.

BOO

I am now.

BERNARD

Good. Norway is not a country but a group of businessmen who control the world and barrels and barrels of oil. And make dumb really dumb Nobel Prize decisions.

BOO

You're charming!

BERNARD

How did you know my drink was Tanqueray?

BOO

I could smell it.

BERNARD

Strange, Woman.

BOO

Yes. What a strange way to address me.

BERNARD

Well you are one, aren't you?

BOO

Yes, but...

BERNARD

No offense. Good afternoon.

He turns and begins to exit.

BOO

How rude!

BERNARD

We have no more to say, Woman!

BOO

Man!

BERNARD

Alors, au revoir! Arriderci! Dasvi
Dania (turns again)

BOO

You can have a sip of my drink if you
want..

BERNARD

I don't drink.

BOO

But you asked for your drink.

BERNARD

That's right. Soda water

BOO

And you can sniff.

BERNARD

And now you can have the drink Arthur is
about to bring me.

BOO

And my name is Boo, for your information.

BERNARD

Strange Norwegian name.

BOO

Better than my real name. Bergthora. Now
what is your name?

BERNARD

That is really none of your business. Now excuse me, I am already late for my tennis match.. .

BOO

I play tennis too.

BERNARD

Au revoir.

SCENE 2 LATER THE TENNIS COURT

Penelope walks by and raises her nose at Boo, who examines her tennis racquet as Bernard enters.

BERNARD

What are you doing here?

BOO

I came to play tennis.

BERNARD

Well have a good game.

BOO

I will.

BERNARD

Good luck.

BOO

You didn't ask who I'm going to play with?

BERNARD

"With whom is she playing?"

BOO

An American who won't give her his name.

BERNARD

Who could that be?.

BOO

Tell me.

BERNARD

Perhaps tomorrow. I'm tired.

BOO

Chicken?

BERNARD

Whatever.

BOO

Chicken!

BERNARD

Yes. I just played three sets with Argo Chilling. A fantastic player.

BOO

Who is he?

BERNARD

If you knew anything about tennis you would know who he was.

BOO

Well, pardon me!

BERNARD

Maybe tomorrow.

BOO

Maybe?

BERNARD

So persistent. ALL RIGHT YES!!

BOO

I knew you would.

Arthur enters.

ARTHUR

Captain Botticelli would like to see you, Miss Boo

BERNARD

How interesting!

BOO

Tell the Captain he can wait.

BERNARD

You must keep your appointment.

BOO

I'd rather play tennis

ARTHUR

He insists that you come at once. It will only take a minute

BOO
Will you wait Mr. Phillips?

BERNARD
There you knew my name already.

BOO
One of your birds told me.

Boo and Arthur exit. Bernard sits and begins reading her book, becoming deeply engrossed. He picks up her drink. He smells it. Then smells it again. And then pours it on the deck. He then picks up her book and reads it for about a minute. Boo returns.

BERNARD
Short meeting?

BOO
The Captain invited me to sit at his table.

BERNARD
Wouldn't a note have done?

BOO
He's checking on me. He thinks he's my Italian father.

BERNARD
That's all?

BOO
He thinks I'm an alcoholic.

BERNARD
(pointing to her book)
Strange reading.

BOO
He's the world's greatest author.

BERNARD
L.B. Roehard?

BOO
Yes! You like him too?

BERNARD
I do not.

BOO
Your loss!

BERNARD

I call him L. B. Blowhard.

BOO

He's the greatest writer of all time

BERNARD

You've had too much gin.

BOO

I beg your pardon! You are sitting in my seat!

BERNARD

I don't see your name on it.

BOO

My drink is ...? gone.

BERNARD

It fell.

BOO

How?

BERNARD

Who knows?

Arthur enters.

ARTHUR

May I bring you another drink?

BOO

Please. With some nuts.

BERNARD

Put it on my bill.

BOO

Nice of you.

BERNARD

Not really.

BOO

Why not?

BERNARD

(Laughing hilariously)

I dumped your last one on the deck.

BOO

Why?

BERNARD

Do you always need a reason?

BOO

I have a good shrink I'd like to recommend to you.

BERNARD

I am a shrink.

BOO

I...

BERNARD

Whose the shrink you'd recommend?

BOO

John ...

BERNARD

Gerson?

BOO

How did you know?

BERNARD

President of the American Psychiatric Association. He knows Roehard.

BOO

Right! And how do you know that he knows Roehard

BERNARD

Because I know Roehard. A nut case.

BOO

I beg your pardon!

BERNARD

Classmate of mine at St. John's College.

BOO

Annapolis or Santa Fe?

BERNARD

You know about them?

BOO

Great Books. Looking down on me again?

BERNARD

Yes I am.

BOO

Husband number two went there. You don't fit the mold of a Johnnie.

BERNARD

I did once.

BOO

Have you ever read Roehard.

BERNARD

You might say so.

BOO

What don't you like about him?

BERNARD

He's excremental dishonest.

BOO

I have no space for anyone who does not appreciate Lb.. Roehard

BERNARD

Suit yourself

BOO

He's been my guiding light.

BERNARD

The blind leading the blind?

BOO

Please go do something to yourself.

BERNARD

I will not. 'Tis a physically impossible thing to do. Or perhaps you can give me a demonstration on how to do it.

Arthur returns with a drink.

ARTHUR

We have spotted pirates I hear. And the Captain would like to see you again, Miss Boo.

BERNARD

The ship sees pirates and Botticelli wants to see you. What is this!

Bernard picks up newspaper. The loudspeaker comes on.

BOTTICELLI

Hello, Ladies and Gentlemen. This is Captain Botticelli. Remember tonight is formal evening, so please all wear your best. Need I remind you that what you have been hearing is only rumor. We have no pirates. We have excellent intelligence. We are also protected by several Russian and Danish carriers.

BOO

I hear they're lying. The Brits saw a few things

BERNARD

Never trust a Brit.

BOO

Why are you reading my newspaper

BERNARD

Obituaries.

BOO

Obituaries!

BERNARD

Best things in the newspaper.

BOO

Do you want to die?

BERNARD

Do we have a choice?

BOO

Yes. But eventually it happens to everyone.

BERNARD

What a brilliant thought! Where did you get this newspaper.

BOO

Captain Botticelli threw it out.

BERNARD

You read newspapers?

BOO

Only the gossip columns.

BERNARD

Why?

BOO
They're fun.

BERNARD
Can't you do something more constructive?

BOO
I want to play poker.

BERNARD
How well do you play.

BOO
Expert.

BERNARD
Straight flush ion the river

BOO
That would be unsanitary.

BERNARD
My question is answered.

BOO
How?

BERNARD
You don't know the basics.

BOO
All right! All right! Just dance with
me tonight and I'll leave you alone.

BERNARD
Maybe.

Penelope appears

PENELOPE
Ts-ts-t-ts!

SCENE 3 LATER THAT NIGHT THE SCORPION LOUNGE

Bernard walks by hurriedly. Penelope is in the Lounge wearing another wierd hat. She tries to listen to conversation between Boo and Bernard.

BOO
Stop please!

BERNARD

Later. I'm meeting some bloke for a drink.

BOO

You promised to have a drink with me!

BERNARD

I'll sit.

BOO

You're a beautiful man.

BERNARD

First I thought you needed your head examined, now I know you need to have your head examined.

BOO

You remind me of my fourth husband.

BERNARD

Fourth husband? (Grins) Out of five?

BOO

Five!

BERNARD

Five!

BOO

How did you know?!

BERNARD

None of your business. (Smiling)

BOO

How!

BERNARD

A biblical hunch.

BOO

I'm not biblical.

BERNARD

You should be.

BOO

My guess is you have been married seven times.

BERNARD

Three times. Or two and one half.
Whichever way you look at it.

BOO

I won't ask any more questions

BERNARD

Good.

BOO

What is your full name?

BERNARD

Bernard Angus Churchill Montmartre
Chesterton Phillips

BOO

Do you really need all those names?

BERNARD

Sounds better than Boo. What's your real
name?

BOO

Do you really want to know?

BERNARD

Yes.

BOO

Bergthora Brodersen

BERNARD

Ha! Bergthora.

BOO

It's Norwegian you know.

BERNARD

Doesn't sound Chinese.

BOO

Please never call me that name. Reminds
me of my father.

BERNARD

Was he so bad? Did you like Daddy?

BOO

He didn't like me.

BERNARD

Why

BOO

Thought I was a clone of my mother.

BERNARD

Oh, he didn't like your mother.

BOO

I heard him call her a whore once.

BERNARD

A marriage made in hell, I see.

BOO

Worse than that.

BERNARD

Oh?

BOO

She fled with an Italian when I was six.
Left my two brothers and three sisters.

BERNARD

Sounds like my mother.

BOO

Don't need to tell me anymore.

BERNARD

I want to.

BOO

Instead, you can explain that big long
name that makes you sound like the Royal
family of England

BERNARD

We always looked down on the Windsors.

BOO

Oh?

BERNARD

The Phillips are old line English
Catholics who never converted. They can
trace their heritage further than those
Windsors, but that was my fathers name.
Also my maternal great grandfather

BOO

Have a drink with me

BERNARD

Do you ever stop! How many do you drink
a day.

BOO

Four.

BERNARD

Per day or hour. (Stares directly at
Penelope. She leaves)

BOO

Are you my father?

BERNARD

What does Roehard say about fathers.

BOO

Thinks they're kind of useless.

BERNARD

Why are you here?

BOO

To get away from a double Bat Mitzvah.

BERNARD

Double?

BOO

Twins.

BERNARD

Parental stresses?

BOO

Yeah, sort of.

BERNARD

Pray tell.

BOO

A thousand guests, four senators, 3
governors and so on.

BERNARD

What's so bad about that.

BOO

Not my thing.

BERNARD
But they're your daughters.

BOO
By blood only.

BERNARD
What!

BOO
I gave them away.

BERNARD
What!

BOO
To their grandmother.

BERNARD
Why?

BOO
She pleaded for the to

BERNARD
Do you miss them

BOO
No.

BERNARD
M-M-M.

BOO
And now she---the mother of my third
husband--the husbände who gave such good
sex. Well she gave this celebration
that will cost at least a million, held
right in Her 23 room condominium off the
park. You got kids?

BERNARD
Yes.

BOO
Where are they?

BERNARD
I don't know. Both fell prey to their
mother's schemes.

BOO

My ex-mother in law spent a lifetime screwing up one son. Now she has two granddaughters to screw up too.

BERNARD

You left them

BOO

I m not a great mother. It's a long story.

BERNARD

Care for some gin.

BOO

Tell me about your offspring.

BERNARD

Haven't seem them in years

BOO

Kindred spirit you are.

BERNARD

I told you , their mothers poisoned their minds against me.

BOO

Miss'em!

BERNARD

No.

BOO

Well I have the worlds best mother- in-law You know what she did. When Allan and I decided to go our own ways, guess what she did? She insisted that he give me more alimony.

BERNARD

And where is Allan now?

BOO

With his boyfriend I suppose. But God was he good in bed. I had the best sex I ever had. May I stay the night with you

BERNARD

Of course. On second thought, perhaps not.

BOO
You don't like sex.

BERNARD
Of course I do.

BOO
Are you gay?

BERNARD
Do I look like Arthur.

BOO
Bernard!

BERNARD
Let us lie together.

BOO
I like that.

BERNARD
But no sex.

BOO
Because you're good/... or gay/.... or
holy?

BERNARD
I'm not good ...not gayand holy in
a strange way.

BOO
Be specific!

BERNARD
I'm good and I'm a little bit holy, but
not too holy.

BOO
Ha ha ha You don't have to stay with me
if you don't like sex.

BERNARD
But, I do.

BOO
Well then?

BERNARD
But my prostate won't allow me.

BOO
What!

BERNARD
I don't have one

BOO
How's that?

BERNARD
Some cancer cells

BOO
At your age?

BERNARD
At my age.

Arthur enters.

ARTHUR
You have a phone call, Sir.

BERNARD
Who could be calling at this time

ARTHUR
You can only find out by picking it up.

BERNARD
Hello. Yes, Captain Botticelli. Yes
sir. Will be right up.

BOO
What!

BERNARD
He wants to see me.

BOO
I hope not for the same reason he likes
to see me.

BERNARD
I don't think so

BOO
That's not what I meant.

BERNARD
I'll be back.

BOO
I'll read my book.

BERNARD

I have a revelation about him that will shock you.

BOO

Tell.

BERNARD

I must go.

BOO

Please tell.

BERNARD

Later.

SCENE 4 DECK SAME NIGHT

Bernard and Boo walk onto the dance floor on the deck.
Penelope looks

BERNARD

Shall we dance.

BOO

I can't dance.

BERNARD

You said you wanted to dance.

BOO

I've changed my mind.

BERNARD

Dance!

BOO

But..

BERNARD

Dance!

BOO

Oh the torment of the insufficiency of everything attainable. Whatever we get of our own will never be attainable.

BERNARD

Stop quoting Roehard. He plagiarized it.

BOO

You hate that man!

BERNARD
He's a boob.

 BOO
Why?

 BERNARD
Do you like the fox trot?

 BOO
My favorite dance.

 BERNARD
I thought you didn't dance.

They begin dancing

 BOO
Some.

 BERNARD
You dance very well, in fact.

 BOO
Can I have another drink, Arthur

Arthur enters.

 ARTHUR
Yes, Boo.

 BERNARD
Good night , Arthur.

 ARTHUR
Good night.

 BERNARD
I suggest you not read Roehard

 BOO
What. Why!

 BERNARD
Because I know him too well.

 BOO
What.

 BERNARD
Go to page 77 of the book you're reading
and read to me

BOO

I don't have the book with me.

BERNARD

I will tell what the jackass says. We
make our greatest discoveries when we go
into uncharted territory. The great
explorers had no maps.

BOO

Wow!

BERNARD

Let me continue

BOO

What?

BERNARD

To find eternity, we have to discard the
maps of our world, the maps that say that
self-interest, domination, and winning
rule the day.

BOO

You know all that by heart?

BERNARD

Yes. And it's bunk!

BOO

What!

BERNARD

I understand he's a scoundrel.

BOO

Well that's nonsense. How do you know!

BERNARD

I AM L.B. Roehard!

BOO

Oh brother. I thought you were Bernard
Blah Blah Blah Blah Phillips.

BERNARD

I am he also.

BOO

So I meet the man I idolize.

BERNARD

Aren't you fortunate.

BOO
I'm confused.

SCENE 5 THE MASS

Arthur and Boo walk by the Neapolitan Room. We hear the hymn Nearer My God to Thee sung by a congregation including Penelope Snodgrass. She is wearing another weird hat.

BERNARD (O.S.)
Today we read about the Prodigal Son. He's my favorite character in the entire Bible. I am a sinner. You are sinners. Can anyone who is not a sinner raise his or her right hand...As I thought. Are there any saints in the room? Raise your right hand.

ARTHUR (O.S.)
Everyone on the ship can recognize the voice. Shall we go in?

BOO (O.S.)
I suppose so.

ARTHUR
Look who the priest is!

BOO
I know!

ARTHUR
I had heard!

BERNARD
I have come to call not the righteous but sinners." Jesus died not for our strengths, but for our weaknesses. And it is the sacrificial death of Jesus that is our letter of introduction to the throne of God. Our weaknesses are our treasure. Hunt for them. Boast of them. Love them. Offer them humbly to Jesus. For it is only in our weakness that we are covered by Jesus' sacrifice. It is only in our weakness that God can use us, and it is only in our weakness that we can hear God speaking in our hearts.

ARTHUR
I'm going in.

BERNARD

Now let us rise to cite the Creed.

Bernard enters and sees Arthur and Boo.

ARTHUR

Well!

BOO

Well!

BERNARD

Well!

ARTHUR

So all is well?

BERNARD

With me it is.

BOO

Who are you!

BERNARD

Bernard Phillips

BOO

And L.B Roehard

BERNARD

Right

BOO

And

BERNARD

Father Phillips.

BOO

Three persons in one.

BERNARD

Do I lie. Excuse us Arthur.

ARTHUR

Yes, Sir. (Exits)

BERNARD

It's a long story.

BOO

Oh.

PENELOPE

Oh, dear.

SCENE 5 BOO'S BEDROOM LATER THAT NIGHT

Boo drinks her gin.

BERNARD

Do you ever stop?

BOO

Stop what?

BERNARD

Drinking.

BOO

I can handle it. Trust me.

BERNARD

Have you ever tried AA?

BOO

Sure

BERNARD

How about again!

BOO

Don't be silly.

BERNARD

Come on.

BOO

Those cry babies.

BERNARD

I belong!

BOO

Good for you.

BERNARD

What does Roehard say?

BOO

Why do you have such an interest in yourself.

BERNARD

I'll tell you what he said. Join!

BOO

Let me imitate those cry babies for you.
 " My name is Flora. And I'm an alcoholic.
 Clap clap clap. I tried to stop drinking
 for 5 years and gave up all hope. During
 that period I had two husbands and two
 lesbian love affairs and three dogs and
 two cats. Audience..Ha.Ha.Ha. That's
 when I started to drink. When my cats
 first ran off. Then my dog was bitten by
 my pet rattlesnake and died. Wail! Wail!
 Wail!

BERNARD

Stop!

BOO

And now let me continues you my story. I
 was just a po'little nice girl from North
 Carolina when I realized I had feelings
 for my ugly Aunt Millie. She was a
 rotten bitch. Wail Wail Wail...

BERNARD

Go ahead and continue drinking.

BOO

Do you belong.

BERNARD

Twelve year pin.

BOO

Good for you.

Phone rings. Bernard picks it up

BERNARD

Ah, yes. Captain Botticelli. Well, yes.
 If I can be of any assistance. ..no I
 have not seen our Boo. I will be up in
 fifteen minutes.

BOO

Well what does he want?

BERNARD

It's not important.

A knock a the door.

BERNARD

Who could that be.

ARTHUR (O.S.)

I have your double, Miss Boo.

BERNARD

Do you ever stop! Don't let him know I'm in here.

BOO

Oh. One day I learn you're Bernard Phillips, the next day L.B. Roehard, and then some kind of a priest.

BERNARD

Father Phillips.

BOO

Three persons in one.

BERNARD

Sort of . Bernard Phillips, L.B. Roehard, and Father Phillips. Three person

BOO

You get more complicated by the minute.

BERNARD

I suppose.

BOO

I think you're lying.

BERNARD

Believe what you want. I must go.

BOO

Stay.

BERNARD

Are you on Prozac?

BOO

Should I be?

BERNARD

Not with the alcohol.

BOO

Do you take it?

BERNARD

No. But I discovered it.

BOO
You did not? What Bull.

BERNARD
I was on the team that discovered it.

BOO
What Bull!

BERNARD
No Bull!

BOO
And then the priest Stuff?

BERNARD
A long and complicated story.

BOO
A long and complicated story.

BERNARD
Don't worry about the priesthood bit.

BOO
Why?

BERNARD
I'm on my way out of the priesthood.

BOO
What!

BERNARD
It's a story about the pope's ass.

BOO
What!

BERNARD
Well 'twas along and complicated story.
All about the Pope's ass.

BOO
It's funny.

BERNARD
No, it isn't

BOO
Why not?

BERNARD
That's why I'm being thrown out.

BOO

Well what do you have to do with the Pope's ass.

BERNARD

Mrs. Brown and the pope's arse. British for ass.

BOO

And that got you thrown out?

BERNARD

Well things were coming to a boil.

BOO

Ah, this gin is so good. God created gin.

BERNARD

I'll take a sip too.

BOO

Here.

He sips.

BERNARD

There goes twelve years of sobriety. And now with the story. You know they assigned me to do confessions. Something I hate.

BOO

Isn't it fun to listen to people telling about their sins.

BERNARD

Painfully dull. They just about all say the same thing. Then you give them a prayer for penance and tell them to get lost or GO IN PEACE.

BOO

You poor man you, Bernard.

BERNARD

Well once it wasn't so bad. There was anonymity. A black screen. Anonymity, like in Alcoholics Anonymous. This was confessors anonymous. Well would you know that the Catholics had to screw all this up and remove the screen.

And this to listen to all this blah blah
blah about their sins. Few were really
repentant.

BOO

What does this have to do with Mrs.
Brown.

BERNARD

Camilla Brown is a God-awful person. Each
time she came to see me she discussed her
virtues for a half an hour, making me
ready to vomit then for 2 minutes she
discussed her sins, which if deciphered
were so minor that she officially
described herself to me as a saint each
time she came.

BOO

Must have been dreadful.

BERNARD

Of course! The whole town hates the
bitch.

BOO

Oh my!

BERNARD

She even forged her brother's signature
to get control of her mothers will and
worse. Dreadful woman. Well, after
listening to all her virtuous, self
righteous tripe for a good thirty
minutes, she proceeds to tell me that she
had been rewarded by the lord with a
Papal visit for all her virtue. That
really go my dander. I looked at her
and said: Madame you can not buy your way
into heaven by kissing the Pope's ass.
She was shocked. She said, what did you
say? And I said "Right Lady, you can not
buy your way into heaven by kissing the
Pope's ass. Then she started crying. I
told her to go home and reflect on all
her sins I had heard about from other
people, and that I would then consider
granting her some conditional absolution.
She ran home and told her rich husband.

BOO

What did he do?

BERNARD

Well he's the richest man in the state. Mostly through graft and corruption. Gives the church ten million dollars last year. Even had all the Presbyterians, Baptists, Jews, even Episcopalians kissing his ass. And he got upset and saw the Cardinal,..not even the bishop. So, I got called in..

BOO

And what happened?

BERNARD

The Cardinal called me in and asked "Is it correct that you told you Camilla Brown that she could not buy her way into heaven by kissing the pope's ass? And I said yes. Why did you say that. Because it's true. Then he said "any remorse?" I said hell no. She is trying to buy her way into heaven by being a Papal but kisser. He says "You are mentally unbalanced, and I said " You ay I am e mentally unbalanced because I call her a but kisser abut kisser. He said stop and that he would pray for me. I said keep your prayers to yourself. He said I needed psychiatric help. And I said of course you feel that way. Mrs. Brown is a papal ass kisser. And you, your Eminence, are one too. In fact that is how you came to become a Cardinal.

BOO

YOU poor thing!

BERNARD

The next day they called me in to offer me this ship job as an understudy for the big fat Italian priest who's dying from over boozing. So, here I am

BOO

And what are you going to do now.

BERNARD

Probably what they want.

BOO

Which is?

BERNARD

To get out.

BOO
Oh wonderful. Shall we put out the
lights?

BERNARD
Yeah.

BOO
Good night, love.

BERNARD
Good night, Love.

BOO
Are you staying with me?

BERNARD
Yes. Love.

BOO
How nice.

BERNARD
Good night, Love.

BOO
Good night.

SCENE 6 POOL SIDE THE NEXT MORNING

Boo and Bernard are eating breakfast. Penelope Snodgrass
walks by.

BERNARD
You haven't eaten a thing

BOO
I ate some eggs. I eat little. Oh,
there's Arthur

ARTHUR
Good morning

BOO
Thanks for bringing my Bloody Mary.

ARTHUR
Yes, ma' am

BERNARD
I'll have one too

ARTHUR

You too

BERNARD

You hear me.

ARTHUR

Yes, Sir. (Exits)

BERNARD

Isn't the ocean beautiful

BOO

I never pay much attention. But I know
who beautiful

BERNARD

Who?

BOO

Bernard.

BERNARD

You love me.

BOO

Almost.

BERNARD

I feel the same.

BOO

Why are we so attracted to one another?

BERNARD

Our lives develop not according to a
plan, but largely in reaction to the
circumstances and people we encounter.

BOO

Oh, if you say so.

BERNARD

Our lives have already developed so
unevenly that it seems impossible to find
the center..

BOO

Sounds like Roehard.

BERNARD

It should.

BOO

If you say so.

BERNARD

In our flawed human development, the circle with God at the center seems a distant, even impossible memory, but God asks only what we can give at the moment.

BOO

God is not on my radar scope

BERNARD

With mercy, compassion, forgiveness, and-- thanks to the incarnation-- understanding of what it is to be human, God continues to invite us. Every day, God invites us to the center and offers an opportunity to "seek the Lord and live.

BOO

I want a drink.

Arthur runs into the room

ARTHUR

Get dressed immediately.

BERNARD

Why?

ARTHUR

Don't ask!

BERNARD

The Captain has asked for everyone to come on board.

VOICE OF BOTTICELLI

Would everyone please come to the deck.

BERNARD

What is it?

ARTHUR

The Pirates have arrived.

BERNARD

What!

ARTHUR

They have arrived. That's why the Captain has called us

BOO
How exciting.

PENELOPE
Save us, O God and Queen!

Act 2

SCENE 1 SOMALI PIRATE JAIL

Bernard and Boo are seated.

BERNARD
Bastards.

BOO
I think they're cute.

BERNARD
Scum!

BOO
Who?

BERNARD
The Somali's

BOO
The food is better than it was on the
ship

BERNARD
We've only had one meal. Look there's
our friend Arthur. He's bringing us some
food.

BOO
He's dressed like a Somali Tribal Chief.

ARTHUR
(Speaking with a British
Accent)
Good Afternoon.

BERNARD
Hello, Arthur

ARTHUR
That is not my name

BERNARD
You're kidding.

ARTHUR

Sir, my name is Muhammad.

BERNARD

What's this British Accent.

ARTHUR

Educated in England. But, Sir, I am here to serve you food, not carry on a personal discussion with you.

BOO

It's us.

ARTHUR

We are always us. I am Michael. Who are you?

BERNARD

Popeye and Olive.

ARTHUR

I am so pleased to meet you Popeye and Olive. What lovely British Names.

BERNARD

You're joking.

ARTHUR

Absolutely not. Popeye and Olive have always been my favorite names. Now I offer you an exquisite meal: Chateau Briand or Chateau Salmon, Somali Salad, and then our piece de resistance.

BERNARD

Which is?

ARTHUR

Macdonald's french fries.

BERNARD

Any wine?

ARTHUR

Of course, Your hosts are a first class people

BERNARD

People or pirates! You scum bag!

BOO

Bernard, don't be rude.

ARTHUR

Be reminded, Sir, that you are our guest.

BERNARD

A guest. We are prisoners.

ARTHUR

I beg to differ, Sir, but I do not like to have confrontations.

BOO

Do you have something to drink?

ARTHUR

This is a Muslim country. And I am a Moslem.

BOO

Please, Arthur.

ARTHUR

My name is not Arthur. I am Mohammed.

BOO

All right Mohammed. Can you bring us some Gin.

ARTHUR

Sorry, Madam.

Bernard pulls a fifty dollar bill from his pocket, and puts it on the table

BOO

Please?

Mohammed takes the bill.

ARTHUR

I shall see what I can do. In the meantime is there anything you want for dinner.

BERNARD

When do we leave. What is happening.

ARTHUR

I do not know. I just work here.(Exits)

BERNARD

Dirty liar!

BOO

Don't get angry.

BERNARD

You see how he took the money.

Arthur enters and puts down a bottle of Beefeaters Gin.
Two glasses with some ice.

ARTHUR

That will be another \$100.

BERNARD

What!

ARTHUR

Shall I take it back?

BOO

No!

ARTHUR

Another \$100. That is the price which
your host must pay for Beefeaters.

BERNARD

And the \$50 I gave you.

ARTHUR

That goes to my favorite charity. I am a
religious man.

BERNARD

Get lost.

ARTHUR

You Westerners are so rude.

BERNARD

Be gone.

The stage becomes dark. We hear the voice of Botticelli
and passengers offstage

VOICE OF BOTTICELLI (O.S.)

We are back and safe.

PASSENGERS (O.S.)

Yes! Yes! Yes.

VOICE OF BOTTICELLI

Danish special police rescued us.

PASSENGERS

Hurrah!

VOICE OF BOTTICELLI

Six or seven armed men fired at us which is why we had to give up the ship but now we are all safe and sound.

PASSENGERS

Rah Rah Rah

VOICE OF BOTTICELLI

Despite the vessel's increased speed and the choppy waters, the pirates balanced a ladder in their tiny boat and crawled up the side our ship. The first pirate crept through barbed wire our crew had stretched across the ship's freeboard and fired a burst of automatic gunfire into the air.

PASSENGERS

We remember.

VOICE OF BOTTICELLI

All crew and staff are safe.

PASSENGERS

Yeah!!!

VOICE OF BOTTICELLI

Above all. All passengers are safe.

PASSENGERS

Yeah! Yeah!

VOICE OF BOTTICELLI

And all pirates are gone. And a group of Danish Soldiers are trying to recover the Jewels.

PASSENGERS

Yea!

SCENE 2 THE BEACH

Boo and Bernard are seated. THEY ARE BOTH DEAD DRUNK. Penelope Snodgrass walks by and sniffs sneeringly.

BERNARD

Wait till I get my hands on that bastard.

BOO

Now you be nice to him. He's so nice.

BERNARD
Nice!!! You're crazy!

BOO
He got us that gin, remember!

BERNARD
After we paid him!

BOO
Oh that was nothing. You take life too seriously. We're back and safe.

BERNARD
You're not making any sense.

BOO
Neither are you.

Arthur enters

ARTHUR
May I get anything for you.

BOO
ARTHUR!

ARTHUR
Another martini?

BOO
As I like them.

ARTHUR
And you, Father Phillips?

BERNARD
YOU ASK!

ARTHUR
Are you alright?

BERNARD
HE ASKS IF I'M ALRIGHT. YOU'RE A PIRATE!

ARTHUR
I beg your pardon.

BERNARD
You were with the pirates.

ARTHUR
I was waiting on you.

BERNARD

Only as a pirate. How much have you pocketed. You slimy Somali.

BOO

It's almost poetic "slimy Somali."

BERNARD

Be quiet.

ARTHUR

Don't be rude to the lady>

BERNARD

I'm dealing with two ladies. One is a pirate.

ARTHUR

Kiss my ass!

BERNARD

I do not kiss black asses.

ARTHUR

Do you kiss white ones!

BOO

Please, no ass kissing.

ARTHUR

Why do you put up with this creepy dingbat about- to- be- defrocked priest!

BOO

Don't be mean, Arthur.

ARTHUR

I did the right thing.

BERNARD

You are obviously a Somali and a pirate. When we were your captives you only spoke with a British Accent

ARTHUR

That is my natural accent.

BERNARD

You took the bribe.

ARTHUR

I had to.

BERNARD
 (Imitating)
 I had to. Somali's don't like your type.

ARTHUR
 You're right.

BERNARD
 Are you a Somali or an African American!
 You look like a Somali!

ARTHUR
 I'm both.

BERNARD
 Both!

ARTHUR
 Yes.

BERNARD
 Then why did you do what you did?

ARTHUR
 To save your assess and mine. And the
 crew and passengers.

BERNARD
 You're in cahoots with all of them.

ARTHUR
 Believe what you want. May I have a
 drink. From your milk of Magnesia Bottle,
 Boo.

BOO
 Why yes, Arthur. Ha ha ha. See, he's
 nice.

BERNARD
 Scum!

BOO
 No!

ARTHUR
 Did any harm come to you.

BERNARD
 No, but

ARTHUR
 The proof is in the pudding.

BOO

That's right.

BERNARD

You are a Somali!

ARTHUR

Maybe.

BERNARD

Maybe!

ARTHUR

May I share a drink with you.

BERNARD

Be our guest!

ARTHUR

I could be fired.

BERNARD

You could also go back to your Somali friends

ARTHUR

No way.

BERNARD

Oh?

ARTHUR

I was born here, but left when I was seven.

BERNARD

You sound like a black Baptist.

ARTHUR

I am one.

BERNARD

And a Somali!

ARTHUR

Both.

BOO

How cute!

BERNARD

Be quiet!

ARTHUR
Stop that rudeness. We are drinking buddies

BERNARD
OK. Tell.

BOO
Yes, Let's hear your story

BERNARD
It better be good.

ARTHUR
You see those hills there? Right beyond the mountains?

BERNARD
Yes.

ARTHUR
I'm from about two miles beyond there.

BERNARD
Did you visit your pirate relatives?

ARTHUR
They do not want to see me.

BERNARD
Because you're gay?

ARTHUR
No.

BERNARD
Why are you telling me this.

ARTHUR
Because your are L.B. Roehard

BERNARD
How did you know that! Boo! You told !

BOO
No, I...

ARTHUR
She did not. I knew it already.

BERNARD
How did you know?

ARTHUR
My lips are sealed!

BERNARD
(To Boo)
I thought I could trust you.

ARTHUR
It was not she.

BERNARD
I'll bet!

BOO
It wasn't me.

BERNARD
How did you know!

ARTHUR
Captain Botticelli

BERNARD
Why is he so interested in me.

ARTHUR
That's none of my business.

BOO
I'll have more gin. I don't feel alone
now

ARTHUR
I'll leave shortly.

BERNARD
Stay!

BOO
Please stay.

BERNARD
Why are you sharing? Why are you telling
me this.

ARTHUR
Because you distrust me!

BERNARD
Well, you said you were from Atlanta.

ARTHUR
I'm from both.

BERNARD

Tell your story.

ARTHUR

I was born the son of the village whore!

BERNARD

Yeah?

ARTHUR

You're not taking me seriously. I must go.

BERNARD

Thief!

ARTHUR

What did you have missing.

BERNARD

Nothing.

ARTHUR

Then what is your complaint!

BERNARD

We were kidnapped.

BOO

No, we weren't. We're here now. It was fun. It made me want to live.

BERNARD

We were kidnapped for three days.

BOO

I have nothing missing.

BERNARD

You haven't even checked.

ARTHUR

You think I had something to do with it.

BOO

Let's go back to the mother story. I don't need my jewelry.

ARTHUR

I have to go.

BOO

Stay, please.

BERNARD

With this pirate, who passed himself off
as an African American and then we find
out he's a Somali pirate

BOO

Who cares?

BERNARD

Shut up!

ARTHUR

Don't you tell her to shut up

BERNARD

You're a servant!

ARTHUR

Don't you call me a servant. Let me tell
my story.

BERNARD

Go ahead.

BOO

I wanna hear, too.

BERNARD

Tell the story.

ARTHUR

You hear the drums. They are my cousins
playing.

BERNARD

Just arrived from Atlanta?

ARTHUR

No!

BERNARD

Somalis' are now your cousins?

ARTHUR

They always have been.

BOO

How nice. A bunch of cousins. I love
Arthur more than any man.

BERNARD

This man is dangerous!

BOO

They just took jewels. Who cares about those dumb jewels.

Speakers come on

BOTTICELLI O.S

Good news. The last of the jewels have been returned. Lady Connors reports that her blue diamond had been recovered.

PASSENGERS

Yeah! Yeah! Yeah!

BERNARD

Bizarre. Alright, continue with your damned story.

BOO

Yes, I want to hear your story.

ARTHUR

As I was saying when I was so rudely interrupted, I was born the son of a whore.

BOO

Oh my!

BERNARD

Oh, Please!

ARTHUR

Yes, the son of a whore.

BOO

How awful.

BERNARD

What makes you call her a whore!

ARTHUR

She was one. But I loved her. She was the only mother I had.

BERNARD

Go ahead.

ARTHUR

I am both a Baptist and a Muslim.

BERNARD

You gotta be kidding!

ARTHUR
Yes just as I say.

BERNARD
Liar.

ARTHUR
No, not a liar.

BOO
What a nice story.

ARTHUR
I was born in those hills. The
illegitimate son of the village whore,
and the nephew of the tribal chief.

BOO
I could cry!

ARTHUR
It wasn't easy.

BERNARD
Continue with the sob story.

ARTHUR
You have no idea what brutality is like.

BERNARD
They're your Somalis, not mine.

BOO
And then what happened?

BERNARD
Let him finish.

VOICE OF BOTTICELLI
Would Bernard Phillips please report to
the Captain's office.

BERNARD
I'll just ignore him.

VOICE OF BOTTICELLI
Would Father Phillips please come to the
Bursars office.

BOO
Don't go!

BERNARD
I shall ignore him.

BOO

Good. I don't like that man.

ARTHUR

And then she was stoned.

BOO

Stoned?

ARTHUR

Stoned!

BOO

Savages.

ARTHUR

It's what I come from.

BOO

Go on with your story.

BERNARD

What's your point!

ARTHUR

My mother raised me herself.

BERNARD

And then what happened

ARTHUR

I was raised as the village waif. My mother was the first woman who had ever had a child out of wedlock in over 100 years. She was the shame of the whole town.

BOO

You must have suffered.

ARTHUR

When I was seven I had the worst experiences my life.

BOO

What was that?

ARTHUR

My mother was caught in delicto fragante again.

BOO

What does that mean

BERNARD

Don't ask. You already know.

BOO

Oh.

ARTHUR

And she was brought before the tribal elders.

BOO

And what did they do?

ARTHUR

They stoned her to death. I cried. I cried.

BOO

You have had a difficult life.

ARTHUR

And then the Baptists arrived.

BOO

The Baptists!

BERNARD

What a cockeyed story.

ARTHUR

They found me.

BERNARD

So are you a Moslem or a Baptist?

ARTHUR

I'm both,

BERNARD

Tell.

ARTHUR

Well these Baptists came from Georgia. They didn't get too many converts. But then they saw me and said I had to be adopted. You know these well meaning Christians. And they are white too.

BERNARD

Oh, my.

ARTHUR

And then they took me in.

BERNARD

Now tell me the end of your story. How the hell did you get to Atlanta?

ARTHUR

I said I'm both a Baptist and a Muslim.

BERNARD

And gay?

ARTHUR

How do you know I'm gay.

BERNARD

Oh brother!

ARTHUR

I was seven at the time. I was running home from playing. I didn't have many friends. But one little boy who was also illegitimate loved me and I loved him.

BERNARD

So it started then?

ARTHUR

When I got home my mother was being dragged into the streets.

BERNARD

And where were your uncles and grandfather?

ARTHUR

They were leading the stoning.

BOO

Why?

ARTHUR

They were stoning her, and I shouted out stop that stoning she's my mother. Then one of the uncles shouted out, remove her bastard at once.

BERNARD

Tough life you lead.

ARTHUR

Then the Baptists came and they saved me.

BERNARD

How

ARTHUR

This church, white church mind, you came, to our village to acquire converts. They were immediately led out of the village They would have been slaughtered otherwise. They wanted to be martyrs anyhow. So, they took me to America and adopted me.

BERNARD

Do they know that about your other life.

ARTHUR

Of course not.

BERNARD

Ha! A gay Muslim Baptist!

ARTHUR

I went to the best schools. And then I got a job as a bartender. Now you know you know my story.

BOO

I believe all that you say

ARTHUR

And you, Master Bernard!

BERNARD

We are all miserable sinners and creatures of God.

ARTHUR

We know that in any language.

BERNARD

Amen.

SCENE 3 BOTTICELLI OFFICE

Dark. The William Tell overture plays in the background. Captain Botticelli is in his office. Bernard enters as Penelope Snodgrass leaves. .

BERNARD

You called me.

BOTTICELLI O.S

Buon Giorno

BERNARD

Buon Giorno.

BOTTICELLI O.S
Che cosa voui?

BERNARD
Stop the crap?

BOTTICELLI O.S
Mi, scusa. Signore.

BERNARD
You are no more a Botticelli than a Smith
or something else.

BOTTICELLI O.S
Non capisco.

BERNARD
Oh, butt off.

BOTTICELLI O.S
What's your God Damn problem!

BERNARD
Just as I thought.

BOTTICELLI O.S
Now get out.

BERNARD
Not so fast.

BOTTICELLI O.S
Do you want me to throw you overboard!

BERNARD
I wouldn't think of...

BOTTICELLI O.S
I have an excellent crew that can do it.

BERNARD
Bullocks And then you know about me...

BOTTICELLI O.S
You leave me alone and I'll leave you
alone.

BERNARD
You're in cahoots with the pirates.

BOTTICELLI O.S
Please, Sir.

BERNARD

How much have they paid you off!

BOTTICELLI O.S

What a nasty thing to say.

BERNARD

You and that Somali waiter.

BOTTICELLI O.S

I have no Somali waiters

BERNARD

Arthur!

BOTTICELLI O.S

He's a Baptist from Atlanta. You've been spending too much time with that drunken woman.

BERNARD

Likely story!

BOTTICELLI O.S

Sir, get out! Or we'll leave you off.

BERNARD (O.S.)

You might get into trouble.

BOTTICELLI O.S

Get out

BERNARD (O.S.)

You'll see. A damn Kansan who calls himself an Italian.

BOTTICELLI (O.S.)

Not a Kansan. An Iowa crook!

BOTTICELLI O.S

Butt off. Or sleep with your drunken woman.

BERNARD

You're reprehensible!

BOTTICELLI

You should talk.

BERNARD

What do you mean!

BOTTICELLI

Three persons in one.

BERNARD
She told you.

BOTTICELLI
She did not.

BERNARD
Who else?

BOTTICELLI
He told me.

BERNARD
Who is he!

!BOTTICELLI
Your Cardinal.

BERNARD
O' Mara?

BOTTICELLI
Good friend of mine!

BERNARD
What!

BOTTICELLI
I too was a man of the cloth. A
Presbyterian, but I left willingly.

BERNARD
You--- a man of the cloth?

BOTTICELLI
A good man of the cloth.

BERNARD
And a thief.

BOTTICELLI
Careful how you use that. I'm also a
lawyer.

BERNARD
And a thief

BOTTICELLI
The good bishop. And he spared me all
the rumors of your many dalliances with
questionable women.

BERNARD
Are you my biographer?

BOTTICELLI

Interesting life. Different identities, three wives that we know of, an author, a member of British nobility, sort of , and a cheap multimillionaire on the side. You invented Prozac. Perhaps you should use some of your product.

BERNARD

I don't need it.

BOTTICELLI

Well, now that you're "exiting" the priesthood.

BERNARD

Who said!

BOTTICELLI

You have no choice. In fact, when O'Meara suggested I contact you to take this tour

BERNARD

So, you've known.

BOTTICELLI

Yes. Hoping maybe we might dump you into the ocean.

BERNARD

Interesting.

BOTTICELLI

Perhaps you would take an extended swim.

BERNARD

No such luck.

BOTTICELLI

You love life?

BERNARD

Yes. Do you?

BOTTICELLI

Yes. Now get out. Hope you enjoy your next career even more. Or perhaps you'll become

BERNARD

Ha.

BOTTICELLI
You laugh!

BERNARD
Yes.

BOTTICELLI
I know who you are!

BERNARD
Interesting.

BOTTICELLI
Interesting indeed!

SCENE 4 THE SUEZ CANAL RESTAURANT THE NEXT NIGHT

Bernard is seated, glancing at his watch. Arthur enters and lays down a martini. Snodgrass walks by.

PENELOPE
Hello.

He ignores her

BERNARD
Where in the Hell is she!

ARTHUR
Be patient

BERNARD
She's fifteen minutes late!

ARTHUR
She said she was busy writing something.

BERNARD
Damn it.

Boo arrives, dressed in white and wearing white pearls.

BOO
Hello, Love.

BERNARD
Where have you been?

BOO
I had to write a letter.

BERNARD

Couldn't you write it the morning!

BOO

I'm busy in the morning.

BERNARD

What are you doing?

BOO

It's a secret.

BERNARD

Look, I arranged this whole dinner for us.

BOO

I know, and I love you for it. And I had to look beautiful for you.

He smiles.

BERNARD

I know.

BOO

Now cheer up. I want this to be the most perfect night of my life.

BERNARD

Why.

BOO

Because I love you.

BERNARD

What wine do you prefer? I recall that you like Pinot Noire.

BOO

No, Thank you.

BERNARD

What!

BOO

I'll have some lemon with my water.

BERNARD

Arthur! Can you bring some lemons for us?

Arthur walks in.

ARTHUR

And what will you have to drink, Miss Boo?

BOO

Water with lemon.

ARTHUR

Am I hearing right!!

BOO

Yes. And I'll have a double serving of dessert.

ARTHUR

Is this a new day?

BOO

You might say that! Isn't the sea beautiful.

BERNARD

It has never looked so good.

ARTHUR

There seems to be a special gleam in the ocean.

BERNARD

And who knows this ocean better than you.

ARTHUR

But I hope to be as far from here as possible.

BOO

Arthur, can you come here and hold my hand.

ARTHUR

I must bring some food from the kitchen. You know this si ..

BOO

Just for a minute. And I want you to hold my other hand, Bernard, L.B. Roehard, and Father Phillips.

ARTHUR

Are you ready for your appetizer?

BOO

You bet.

ARTHUR
My God! She's eating!

BOO
I'm hungry!

ARTHUR
Appetizer's coming.

BOO
I wish you could sit with us and we would
serve you, Arthur

ARTHUR
Never. And Bernard, the dinner is on
Captain Boticelli.

BOO
Such a nice man!

Arthur and Bernard look amusingly skeptical at one
another.

BERNARD
Which band is playing tonight?

ARTHUR
The English Band.

BERNARD
They're so good.

ARTHUR
And they are coming over to play a waltz
for ...at least over the sound system.

BOO
The Captain thinks of everything

BERNARD
The thief!

BOO
But he's a nice thief. Like Arthur.

ARTHUR
Miss Boo, please do not call me a thief!

BOO
Oh I'm sorry. I meant you're a nice
thief

ARTHUR
A nice thief!

BERNARD

Mmmmmmm. Arthur was a pirate once. Does that qualify him as a thief?

BOO

I love Arthur, whatever he is. I'm hungry for the appetizers.

ARTHUR

At your service. Miss Boo. (exits)

BERNARD

Boo?

BOO

Yes.

BERNARD

Do you love me?

BOO

Well, why wouldn't I?

BERNARD

Please answer my question.

BOO

You are so handsome.

BERNARD

That I know. I repeat my question.

BOO

Why sure.

BERNARD

THAT'S NOT AN ANSWER!

BOO

I find you more fascinating than any man I have ever met.

Grabs her hand and pulls it violently

BERNARD

DO YOU LOVE ME!

BOO

You're hurting me.

BERNARD

A friend commented that he had to get all he could out of life, for there was nothing once it was over. For him and others who share his belief, there is no "waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God."

BOO

All right.

BERNARD

I love you

BOO

And I love you.

BERNARD

Shall we go to bed.

BOO

Tonight, I want to sleep alone.

BERNARD

Fine. We'll see you in the morning

BOO

Give me a great big good night kiss.

They kiss passionately.

SCENE 5 POOL SIDE TABLE THE NEXT MORNING THE BAY OF NAPLES

Bernard is seated at a table on the pool deck. He watches the sea as he drinks a cup of coffee. His Bible and prayer book are on the table. Arthur rushes in.

BERNARD

Why are you in such a rush!

ARTHUR

Bernard!

BERNARD

Yes!

ARTHUR

You haven't heard.

BERNARD

Heard what!

Arthur jumps and takes Bernard's hand.

ARTHUR
She's dead.

BERNARD
Who's dead!

ARTHUR
Boo!

BERNARD
Boo!

ARTHUR
The Captain wants to see you.

BERNARD
How did she die!

ARTHUR
She swam into the sunrise.

BERNARD
Oh, my God!

ARTHUR
Oh, my God, Right! The Captain wants to see you.

BERNARD
My Boo! My Boo! When

ARTHUR
5 minutes ago. The Brits saw her jump.

BERNARD
Why! Why! Why!

ARTHUR
Here is the note she left you. And one for me. Let me read.

LETTER FROM BOO
Bernard:

I love you.

That was a delightful dinner we had last night. A wonderful parting dinner. You must have been pleased that I did not drink at all during dinner. The craving was gone now that the end (or beginning) was imminent.

I had actually planned to jump off the ship on my third day here, but because I ran into you and Arthur. I chose to postpone my action. Consequently, you have actually prolonged my life about a week. I mention this only in that since you and I spent so much time together, you may be a suspect of foul play. You are not. My decision was my own, You probably felt there were no signs. That's right, I showed none. Remember, my Norwegian roots(Smile). Life has no meaning. I had suffered much too long.

But, you gave me some hope. After all, I met both Bernard and Roehard at one time. Both guys helped me.

I timed my final dive(I hope it's a good one) to coincide with the morning walk of the snooply Brits so that we would have a witness. a. Of course, my mother took the same type of final swim.

I must ask you to please try to totally forget who I am. I felt I loved you from the beginning. Last night, I concluded that you too had fallen in love with me. I wish you hadn't. Please forget you ever knew me.

As for me, I want to quote that Norwegian saying: " You don't have to put out the fire when all is burnt out"

Love,
Boo

Bernard puts his head down on the table. Arthur opens his letter.

ARTHUR

Let's see what she says to me. My God!

LETTER FROM BOO

Arthur:

Goodbye. I truly like you. I enclose your gratuity. You earned it.

Thank you for everything you have done. You are a special person. My love for you is different from my love for Bernard, but it is still real.

We both had miserable childhoods.

You made the last two weeks of my life so good. I loved being captured, and you so gallant. We all enjoyed it. I was hoping they would all take more drastic steps toward us.

Stand by Bernard. He will be able to help you.

I must go now. I want my final dive to be a good one.

Love,
Boo

ARTHUR

A thousand dollar tip.

BOTTICELLI

Would Bernard Phillips and Arthur please report to the Captain's office.

BERNARD

It makes no sense.

ARTHUR

No sense, at all.

BERNARD

Did she ever give you a clue?

ARTHUR

None whatsoever.

BERNARD

Get me a gin ala Boo.

ARTHUR

Mr. Phillips!

BERNARD

Get my order.

ARTHUR

But...

BERNARD

Do as I say. And repeat after me.

ARTHUR

Yes, sir.

BERNARD

The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I lack.

You restore my strength. You guide me along the right path for the sake of your name. Even when I walk through a dark valley, I fear no harm for you are at my side; your rod and staff give me courage. You set a table before me as my enemies watch; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. 23:6 * Only goodness and love will pursue me all the days of my life; I will dwell in the house of the LORD for years to come.

ARTHUR

Amen.

BERNARD

Amen.

ARTHUR

Is this enough?

BERNARD

We shall see.

ARTHUR

How about a Hail Mary.

BOTH

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee, Blessed art thou

BERNARD

That's enough.

Bernard looks out at sea, tears streaming from eyes, and sobbing.

ARTHUR

We weep together.

BERNARD

I will always take care of you, Arthur.

ARTHUR

She said you would. The captain will be calling again.

BERNARD
I want to be alone for a moment.

ARTHUR
Yes, Bernie. (Exits)

Bernard looks dazed into the sunrise

BERNARD
Here I stand. Here I Stand.

ARTHUR
Bernard!

BERNARD
I AM MY OWN CHURCH. SO HELP ME GOD!

In the background we hear Gregorian Chant. And then bells begin ringing.

BERNARD (cont'd)
SO HELP ME GOD!

BOO (O.S.)
Forget you ever knew me.

BERNARD
Go away!

BOO (O.S.)
I will, but forget you ever knew me.

BERNARD
Go away!

VOICE OF BOTTICELLI
Will Mr. Phillips please come to the Captain's office.

BERNARD
I AM MY OWN CHURCH! SO HELP ME GOD.

Bernard looks into the distance

SCENE 6 THE DECK SHORTLY AFTERWARD

Captain Botticelli walks hurriedly on the deck followed by Arthur. Penelope Snodgrass hurries by.

PENELOPE
I ALWAYS THOUGHT SO! WHAT IS THIS WORLD
COMING TO. (Exits)

ARTHUR

Captain!

BOTTICELLI

I'm in a hurry. Arthur!

ARTHUR

You let the police take him away!!!

BOTTICELLI

The choice was not mine.

ARTHUR

He did not kill her!!!!

BOTTICELLI

Of course not.

ARTHUR

HE DID NOT KILL HER!

BOTTICELLI

We are about to disembark.

ARTHUR

That's all the answer you have!

BOTTICELLI

You'll find out.

ARTHUR

I have the letters. He did not kill her!

BOTTICELLI

Just be glad you're alive.

ARTHUR

Why! Please save Bernard Phillips

BOTTICELLI

I can't. He died two weeks ago. The man with whom you spent weeks is Mr. Kevin White

ARTHUR

Kevin white.... A common name

BOTTICELLI

Kevin A. White

ARTHUR

Doesn't ring a bell.

BOTTICELLI

Kevin Anthony White

ARTHUR

The mass murderer

BOTTICELLI

The man you came to love is a serial killer. Father Phillips who was to have come on this trip was murdered and the body disposed of. You'll never make a good lawyer. By Kevin White. Who in one of his perverted dilly dallies assumed the identity of Bernard Phillips. L.B. Roehard has also been reported missing. Evidence suggests that he too was murdered by Kevin Anthony.

ARTHUR

Kevin Anthony White died years ago.

BOTTICELLI

He never died. And don't be sure he will this time. If he does not die you may be his next victim. He has had 11 victims Always claimed he wanted 12. Now be prepared for much questioning. You spent two weeks with Kevin Anthony White. The Tabloids will love you.

The microphone comes on.

BOO

Would Captain Botticelli and Arthur please report immediately. The Italian Police are here.

BOTTICELLI

Her voice sounds like the deceased Boo.

ARTHUR

Not to me it doesn't. I hear a male voice

BOTTICELLI

I hear Boo. The police are waiting for us upstairs. I can't wait to go back to Iowa. I will teach Sunday School each Sunday for a month before my next cruise.

ARTHUR

You, a Sunday school teach?

BOTTICELLI

Yes, I?

ARTHUR

After all that happened in Somalia? You and I know the truth.

BOTTICELLI

Nonsense.

ARTHUR

You teach Sunday School.

BOTTICELLI

Presbyterian Sunday School. None of us are perfect. And you? Did you finally see your mother in Somalia.

ARTHUR

I saw all 19 brothers and sisters.

BOTTICELLI

Quite a story you told Kevin White.

ARTHUR

(Smiling)I have different stories about myself.

BOTTICELLI

You were once the promising lawyer. Remember those days?

ARTHUR

Lawless

BOTTICELLI

Go back to Atlanta, Arthur You can become a good bartender

ARTHUR

Bartender. I am going back into law.

BOTTICELLI

When does your parole end?

ARTHUR

In a month. And the Governor may give me a pardon.

BOTTICELLI

But that won't get your law license.
Depriving all those sweet little old
ladies of their entire estates was not a
nice thing to do You owe them close to
ten million dollars

ARTHUR

I will find a way. Goodbye, Captain.

BOTTICELLI

Goodbye, Arthur.

ARTHUR

Goodbye, Captain.

BOTTICELLI

THE sea is never still. It pounds on the
shore Restless as a young heart, Hunting.
The sea speaks And only the stormy hearts
Know what it says. Life is the same.
Twists and turns the whole way.

END OF PLAY.