

FOR HERE OR TO GO

By Jerry Rabushka

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CAST:

LISA, working behind the counter at a fast food restaurant. SHE's very rigid and inflexible when it comes to taking an order.

CORA, trying to navigate her way through this to get what she wants, although SHE's not exactly sure what that is.

LISA: Welcome to Pick-A-Burger. Is this for here or to go?

CORA: ***(taking her time)*** I think I'll have a Swiss and onion burger...

LISA: ***(more insistent)*** For here or to go?

CORA: I don't know yet.

LISA: I can't ring this up until I know.

CORA: Why not?

LISA: It's policy. We're not allowed to process the order until we determine its destination. For here or to go?

CORA: I don't know. I'm waiting for Larry Stokes. ***(matter of factly, almost too cheerful)*** If he shows up in the next five minutes I'll have it here, and if he's in the library "studying geometry" with Becky Preston, I'm going to take it in there and smash it in his face.

LISA: ***(duh!)*** You can't bring food into the library.

CORA: I'll smuggle it in my backpack.

LISA: They reserve the right to inspect.

CORA: They won't, if it smells like one of your Swiss cheese and onion burgers. Last night I snuck in an herb roasted chicken and grilled vegetable medley and ate it between Aztec history and the Bolivian Revolution of 1954.

LISA: Well, maybe I don't want you slapping Larry Preston with a hamburger. Did you ever think of that? Did you ever think that maybe I'm dating Larry Preston?

CORA: ***(laughing hysterically)*** You? Dating Larry Preston? Come on! ***(very serious)*** I'm dating Larry Preston.

LISA: ***(laughing hysterically herself)*** You? Dating Larry Preston? No way! ***(not amused)*** That two timer.

CORA: ***(they continue with rising intensity)*** That liar!

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LISA: That cheat!

CORA: That snake!

LISA: That dog!

CORA: That rat!

LISA: That aardvark!

CORA: **(breaking the mood)** Aardvark?

LISA: Whatever.

CORA: Yeah, whatever.

LISA: Keep going.

CORA: **(excitable again)** I hate him!

LISA: I'll never speak to him again!

CORA: I'll tear him out of my diary!

LISA: I'll rip up my prom dress!

CORA: Good, it's ugly.

LISA: You borrowed it.

CORA: **(more chatty)** Can you believe that dumb thing he does with his hair?

LISA: Yeah, what a geekonymous nerdyomen! I can't believe I spent three years going out with a geekonymous nerdyomen! **(getting more and more unhappy)** A totally completely nerdy geeky lying cheating... **(with rising temper)** You'd better watch your back, young lady. You better just be real careful that one day you don't pay for stealing my boyfriend because I'm not the kind of girl you want to find in an ill temper. Do you understand? Now, is that for here or to go?

CORA: **(not intimidated)** It still depends on if Larry shows up or not.

LISA: **(more conversational)** Then move. There are people behind you.

CORA: I want a Swiss cheese and onion burger and fries.

LISA: I can't fill your order until you tell me if it's for here or to go. **(quoting)** Destination prior to processing.

CORA: Here then. I'm going to sit right there with Larry and eat it right in front of your face.

LISA: What if he doesn't show up?

CORA: To go then. I'll take it to the library.

LISA: No, I'll take it to the library. **(again, with rising temper)** I'll sneak it past the metal detector and rub his face in it. I'll pour a soda over his head. I'll humiliate him! I'll show him what happens to a boy who three-times Lisa Manley! He won't get away with this! **(settling down into clerk mode)** Now, for here or to go?

CORA: Metal detector?

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LISA: It's not real meat. It's a zinc-chromium-aluminum alloy micro-processed into edible form. You can't get it through the airport either. But it's great for your complexion.

CORA: What kind of onions are on the burger?

LISA: Just onions.

CORA: They're not sweet onions, are they? I don't like sweet onions.

LISA: They're just onions. They come in a big box called *onions*. The meat comes in a big box called *hazardous materials*. And the melted cheese comes in a big box called *melted cheese*. It all comes from a carpet mill in Atlanta.

CORA: Well, is it a box of sweet onions, red onions, Vidalia onions, onions from my grandpa's garden, big yellow onions, white onions, **(with rising snootiness)** or the kind of bitter onion that I'm talking to because she just found out that someone's going to run off with her nerdy geeky preachy peachy boyfriend. **(chatty again)** Oh, and that stupid ring he wears. What's up with that?

LISA: The blue one?

CORA: The blue one.

LISA: Yeah it's so dumb. Like he's married or something. **(thinks for a moment, then serious)** I gave him that ring.

CORA: A promise ring?

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