

LIKE WHITE ON RICE

By Mark Scharf

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CHARACTERS

MAN #1 Mid to late 20s
MAN #2 Mid to late 20s
WOMAN Mid to late 20s

TIME & PLACE

The present, late evening, at a bar.

At Rise: MAN #1 sits on the middle bar stool of several bar stools that face the audience. HE is drunk. After a moment, MAN #2 enters.

MAN #1: Well, look what the cat dragged in. The prodigal son returns!
(MAN #2 sits on an end bar stool.) Long time no see. ***(MAN #2 doesn't respond.)*** What's happenin'? ***(MAN #2 doesn't respond.)***
How's it hangin', dude? ***(MAN #2 doesn't respond.)*** What's the matter, cat got your tongue?

MAN #2: You know, silence is golden.

MAN #1: What's stuck in your craw?

MAN #2: I want to be alone.

MAN #1: No man is an island.

MAN #2: Can't you take a hint?

MAN #1: Who put a burr under your saddle?

MAN #2: What is this - 20 questions?

MAN #1: Ask and you shall receive.

MAN #2: You know, curiosity killed the cat.

MAN #1: Don't get your panties in a twist.

MAN #2: Do me a favor and let sleeping dogs lie.

MAN #1: You don't know what's in the pickle barrel 'till you take the lid off.

MAN #2: You're barkin' up the wrong tree.

MAN #1: You can talk to me.

MAN #2: Talk is cheap.

MAN #1: Nothing ventured, nothing gained.

MAN #2: ***(small pause)*** You don't want to know.

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MAN #1: Do tell.

MAN #2: **(small pause)** Women - can't live with them, can't live without them.

MAN #1: It would not be fun if life were easy.

MAN #2: Life's a bitch and then you marry one.

MAN #1: Life's not bad when you consider the alternative.

MAN #2: Well, what doesn't kill me only makes me stronger.

MAN #1: Pain is nature's way of telling you that you're alive.

MAN #2: I guess it's better to feel pain than nothing at all.

MAN #1: No pain, no gain.

MAN #2: Live and learn.

MAN #1: Live and let live.

MAN #2: *C'est la vie.*

MAN #1: This, too, shall pass.

MAN #2: Tomorrow is another day.

MAN #1: Time cures all wounds.

MAN #2: Time will tell.

MAN #1: All good things come to those who wait.

MAN #2: The waiting is the hardest part.

MAN #1: It's always darkest before the dawn.

MAN #2: I guess it could be worse.

MAN #1: After the rain comes the rainbow.

MAN #2: A light at the end of the tunnel.

MAN #1: A silver lining.

MAN #2: I guess I need to take it one step at a time.

MAN #1: Rome wasn't built in a day.

MAN #2: The road to success is always under construction.

MAN #1: When at first you don't succeed...

MAN #2: When the going gets tough...

MAN #1: No guts, no glory.

MAN #2: It's only fear that makes me stay.

MAN #1: You have nothing to fear but fear itself.

MAN #2: I guess when the pony dies, the ride is over.

MAN #1: There is more than one fish in the sea.

MAN #2: It is my life.

MAN #1: And today is the first day of the rest of your life.

MAN #2: **(small pause)** Listen, I'm sorry I busted your chops.

MAN #1: Nobody's perfect.

MAN #2: I'm only human.

WOMAN: **(enters, sees MAN #2 and crosses to him; to MAN #2)** You can run but you can't hide.

MAN #2: Speak of the devil.

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WOMAN: You're walking on thin ice.

MAN #2: I have to walk on eggshells around you.

WOMAN: Ain't that the pot calling the kettle black.

MAN #2: What goes around comes around.

WOMAN: You'd better straighten up and fly right.

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