

LEO

You're going to jump on me. I know you're going to jump on me and squash me like a bug! Please don't jump on me!

MAX

(jumping up and down)

I'm not going to jump on you! I'm not going to jump on you! Will you please get a hold of yourself?

(once again putting out a hand to help him up)

LEO

(scrambling to his feet and backing away from MAX: hysterical)

Don't touch me! Don't touch me!

MAX

Stop that! What's the matter with you now?

LEO

I'm hysterical. I'm having hysterics. I'm hysterical. I can't stop. When I get like this, I can't stop. I'm hysterical.

MAX

I can see that.

(MAX rushes to his desk, pours a cup of water)

Hold on. I'm coming. I'm coming.

(MAX rushes back, tosses water in LEO's face)

LEO

I'm wet! I'm wet! I'm hysterical and I'm wet!

(MAX slaps LEO across the face.)

I'm in pain! I'm in pain! I'm wet! And I'm still hysterical!

MAX

What can I do? What can I do? You're getting me hysterical!

LEO

You're too close. Go away. Go away. You frighten me. Sit down over there.

MAX

(crossing to sit at the desk and giving LEO a forced nice-guy twinkle-eyed touchy-feely smile)

I'm sitting! How's this?

LEO

That's good. That's very nice. I think I'm coming out of it now.

LEO (CONT'D)

(MAX flashes even broader and phonier smile)

Thank you for smiling, that helped a great deal.

MAX

Well, you know what they say, "Smile and the world smiles with you." Heh, heh, heh, heh.

(to himself)

This man should be in a strait jacket.

(again flashing his phoniest smile)

Feeling better?

LEO

(calmed down, putting away his blue blanket)

Yes, I'm fine now. Thank you. May I speak to you?

MAX

Yes, Prince Miskin, what can we do for you?

LEO

This is hardly the time for levity, Mr. Bialystock. I've discovered a serious error here in the accounts of your last show, "Funny Boy!".

MAX

Where? What?

LEO

Well, according to the backers' list, you raised a hundred thousand dollars. But the show only cost ninety-eight thousand. There's two thousand dollars unaccounted for.

MAX

So I went to a Turkish bath, who cares? The show was a flop. Bloom, do me a favor, move a few decimal points around. You can do it. You're an accountant. You're part of a noble profession. The word "count" is part of your title.

LEO

That's cheating.

MAX

It's not cheating. It's charity.

(thrusting his stickpin close to LEO's eye)

Bloom, you see this stickpin? This once held a pearl as big as your eye. I used to wear hand made Italian shoes, \$500 dollar suits, and look at me now, look at me now ... I'm wearing a cardboard belt! You've got to save me. I'm reaching out to you. Don't send me to prison. Help!

LEO

OK. All right ... I'll do it, I'll do it.

MAX

Really?

LEO

Yes, I'll do it. Two thousand dollars isn't that much. I am sure that I can hide it someplace. After all, the I.R.S. isn't interested in a show that flopped.

MAX

Right, good thinking. You figure it out.

(crossing to the couch)

I'm gonna take a little nap. If anybody calls, I'm not in. Unless it's Yank Me - Spank Me.