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ACT ONE

Scene 7

The Elegant Foyer and Living Room of ROGER DE BRIS's Upper East Side Townhouse.

Later the same day. SOUND: telephone ringing. CARMEN GHIA, a thin, strange-looking man in a black turtleneck sweater, answers the phone.

CARMEN

Hello. The living room of renowned theatrical director Roger De Bris's elegant upper East Side townhouse on a sunny Tuesday afternoon in June. Whom may I say is calling? ... Listen, you broken-down old queen, he was drunk, he was hot, you got lucky. Don't ever call here again!

(HE angrily hangs up)

ROGER

(calling from off-stage left)

Who was that?

CARMEN

(calling back to him)

Wrong number!

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A doorbell CHIMES the identifying notes of "I Feel Pretty" in the foyer, stage right. CARMEN opens the door revealing MAX and LEO on the doorstep, still wearing the Nazi armbands.

CARMEN (CONT'D)

Yesssssssss ...

(MAX and LEO exchange looks as the "s" on the end of his "yes" goes on seemingly forever)

... ssssssssss.

MAX

Hello. I am Max Bialystock and this is my associate, Mr. Bloom. We have an appointment with renowned theatrical director Roger De Bris.

CARMEN

Ah, yes. Please, come in, please.

MAX

Thank you.

CARMEN

How do you do? I am Carmen Ghia. Mr. De Bris's common-law assistant. You are expected. May I take your hat, your coat, and your swastikas?

MAX

Oh, these, ha, ha, just a little joke. Hope you enjoyed it.

(aside to LEO, as CARMEN takes MAX's hat, LEO's coat, and the armbands & places them on a coatrack)

Why didn't you tell me we still had these on?

LEO

(aside to MAX)

I didn't notice them. You told me to look straight ahead. Do you remember that?

MAX

All right, let's not fight.

CARMEN

Walk this way, pleasssse.

(CARMEN minces back into the living room. MAX and LEO follow behind mimicking the way HE walks.)

Oh, Roger! We are not alone.

(HE exits up the stairs.)