

SPIKE. Yeah, it's tough to audition. I was real lucky to have a pro like Masha coach me.

MASHA. Yes, let's get to the audition now.

SPIKE. So I was auditioning for the spin-off series *Entourage 2*. And it has a different setup because in this one there's an up-and-coming actor who's starting to make it big in the movies, but he's played by somebody else, so the implication is it's another character.

MASHA. It's not an implication. He is another character.

SPIKE. *(Kind of laughs, realizes he got confused.)* Right. I know that. His name is Bradley Wood, and he's the lead. And in *this* version, his entourage is this old dame who's his agent, and this young guy on coke who's his manager, and his best friend from high school who's a girl who has a crush on him but she has this disease that gives her convulsions so she can never kiss anybody, 'cause she gets convulsions. And I live next door to a rabbi who's played by Judd Hirsch. But he's not on every week.

MASHA. Yes, yes. Let's move it along, pacing, pacing.

SPIKE. Okay, and he's been having an affair with his older agent lady, but he's thinking of moving on to another agent. So the scene is between Bradley Wood and his lady agent.

NINA. I see.

SPIKE. Okay he comes into the room, and the manager is there. "Hey, good-looking. How's tricks?" And Masha used to read the other lines. Do you remember them, Masha?

MASHA. Kind of. But I think you should try to do it as a monologue ... we'll all intuit what the other lines are.

SPIKE. Oh, okay. *(He likes the challenge. He changes his body language, and begins the scene, maybe unbuttons his top three shirt buttons.)* Hey, good-looking. How's tricks? *(Dutifully ad-libs listening to make it a monologue.)* What? Who told you that? Hey, don't cry. Come on, give me a smile. Besides it's not definite. *(Pointedly listens.)* Well ... yeah, it's true, I did meet with some agents at CAA. I thought they were real impressive. I mean, they can call up Sandy Bullock, they can call up Julia Roberts. You gotta face it, you don't know that caliber of person. What? *(He listens.)* What about loyalty? What about my career? What about my getting ahead? Yeah, I know you put in a lot of time with me. But I put a lot time in with you, too. And I don't know ... I think I might like CAA better. What? *(Listens.)* Oh, that. Well, yeah, just 'cause I go to another agent doesn't mean we have to stop sleeping together occasionally. Well I

think it's occasional. I mean I sleep with other people, too. I want to be successful, I can't just sleep with one old broad all the time. Oh, I'm sorry, don't cry. I think of "old broad" as a term of affection. *(Listens.)* Oh yeah? Well fuck you! *(He bows, smiles.)*

MASHA. Wasn't that good? *(Masha leads the applause. Nina is sincere and thinks it was good. Vanya and Sonia are a touch shell-shocked but applaud anyway.)*

NINA. Oh that was wonderful. I can sense great things in your future.

SPIKE. Yeah, cool. Thanks. *(Enter Cassandra.)*

CASSANDRA. Luncheon is served. It's Campbell soup and tuna fish sandwiches. I was only asked to make lunch for four, but I did stretch it to five, though the sandwiches are a little skimpy with the tuna fish. *(Exits.)*

MASHA. Well, the lunch sounds repellent, but shall we go in?

NINA. *(To Masha.)* Oh you're so kind to invite me to lunch, but I mustn't impose any further. And you did invite me to the costume party, so I'll come back for that, shall I?

MASHA. Yes, dear. That would be lovely. Why don't you come over at seven-thirty, it's just a little ways away, at the Dorothy Parker house.

NINA. Wonderful. I'll see you later. It was a pleasure to meet you all. *(To Masha.)* And a special honor to meet you, Miss Hardwicke. *(Nina exits. Bit of a pause from everyone.)*

MASHA. Well. That was ... fun. I need to go lie down. I think I'll forgo the tuna fish sandwiches.

SONIA. And I need to drive to Upper Black Eddy, and find a costume.

MASHA. Spike, do you want to take a nap with me?

SPIKE. I think I'll have the soup and sandwich.

MASHA. I think I'm getting a headache. Excuse me.

SPIKE. I'll come up in a bit and give you a massage.

MASHA. That would be lovely, thank you. *(Exits to upstairs.)*

SONIA. Vanya, do you want to come with me?

VANYA. You know, the soup and sandwich doesn't sound so bad to me. I think maybe I'll stay and have lunch.

SONIA. Alright. See you later then. Goodbye, Spike. *(Exits.)*

SPIKE. So it's just you and me, pal.

VANYA. Yes.

SPIKE. Time to tie on the old feed bag, right? *(Friendly, but has a flirtatious vibe; he sort of does with everyone.)*

VANYA. Oh yes, right.