

7. CHANCE

You can't win if you don't play. This is the inducement to get in the game. Are you willing to spring the cash for a ticket?

"I had an uncle who used to win at those games that you play in the 7-Eleven."

"You still can't beat the odds. Otherwise, they'd never make money."

"There are winners and losers. Some people just have the luck."

"So you were going to explain to me how that worked."

"I don't think that I can explain it. Some people have the gift."

"It really makes no sense to me."

She appears to endorse four basic rules:

DEMOCRACY IS A TALENT. Its benefits are offered to those most rewarded, those who have been blessed.

THE LAND IS THE SOURCE OF LIBERATION: She who is willing to work the land will unlock its hidden power.

THE RIGHT OF REFUSAL: I need to be able to deny your offer at any time. The contract needs a back door.

THE RIGHT OF SATISFACTION IS FUNDAMENTAL. Any questions? You need the perfect body for the task. That seems like a fundamental right.

The corn is so high that it obscures the horizon. It becomes the new horizon. From its spirit emerges the new heavens. She stares at the field in the hopes of understanding its power. How is it possible to unlock the mystery?

"Last year, we averaged about 150 bushels per acre. This year we used a new hybrid and a growth booster. Our number increased to about 160 bushels per acre. There are obvious limits on such an increase. But we have unlocked the power of the fields."

"Is this miraculous?"

"I suppose if we told someone about this a hundred years ago, this would seem stupendous."

"I guess that you are right

You are invited to a dinner where you can sample our wares. We are the Mystic Diet Tours. We can take you places that you have never been before. It is our intention to help you change your habits for life. But we go way beyond that! We can offer you a new world full of temptations and delights. You will embrace the new life that has been made available to you.

THE BIRTH

This is a story that offers a new beginning. Its promise can be traced back to the original offer provided at birth.

THE DOOR

Suddenly a door opened in Albuquerque to let in the outside. This is how it all began.

"It all seems too artificial in here. We don't even feel time pass."

"We have to shut out the world; otherwise, we will succumb to its influences. Even climate is an impediment to our new consciousness."

"The air in here is so stuffy."

I am driving on a highway in Illinois. I slowly weave my way through downstate. A mirage suggests a sea of the air. I lose my concentration as I try to pass the car in front of me.

“Is that a truck driving at me?”

I cross over the area covered by the illusion. It is nothing.

The mechanical prophets multiply like insects.

Further along, the dusk obscures the highway. I see a light traveling in my direction. I am sure that it is going to turn off before it reaches me. It does not. It keeps driving in my direction. A single headlight. I am sure that it is a motorcyclist. I slow down a bit. He is still coming at me.

It seems almost too late for him to turn back.

The reflection from a nearby window has cut across the highway and given the illusion of a motorist making his way in the twilight.

“Don’t tell them that I sucked you off.”

“Is this some kind of offer on your part?”

“You like to go down on me.”

“It’s more about giving you pleasure.”

“I thought that you found it enjoyable.”

“I do. It makes me feel as if I’m touching your soul. You give yourself to the experience with such vigor.”

The cop pulls up to her car. He can smell alcohol on her breath. It makes him excited. A little aroused. He gives her that stare.

“License and registration!”

He wants to stroke her lively body.

“Have you had something to drink tonight?”

“Just a glass of scotch. I hope that’s not enough to convict me.”

He hates her editorializing. But it does demonstrate how feisty she is. He likes that. He feels that she is easy. Even if she shows a little resistance to him here and now, she wants him. There is little doubt about that.

“I want to get to know you. Do you mind if I call you?”

He mutters something under his breath. He realizes how easy it is to intimidate. He is not sure where he wants to stop. He watches her blouse dance in the breeze. He wants to reach his gloved hand under the fabric and touch her breasts.

“Do you mind stepping out of the car, Mam?”

“I actually do. I feel a little unsafe in this area.”

“I need you to do a sobriety test.”

She recognizes the threat that he poses. She can feel that strange electricity. He is increasing the tension of the moment. She notices his obvious glaring look. She doesn’t want to draw attention to what he is doing.

“Maybe you could call for back up.”

“You want me to remove you from the car by force.”

“You mean that you are going to touch me. Is that a threat?”

“I am only doing my job. I can hardly fulfill my duty if you remain in the vehicle.”

“I thought that you would feel much safer if I remained in the vehicle.”

“You need to step out of the car.”

“I am posing no danger to you.”

“Are you resisting my commands?”

“I’m just saying that I don’t feel comfortable with you staring at me like that.”

He wants to rub his hands all over her body.

“We are close to a solution.”

“But will we find it mutually satisfying?”

“This is not open to negotiation. One person has to give the commands. And the other has to obey.”

“Who says? Who says this is so?”

She feels paralyzed. The love-making is becoming ambiguous. She is not willing to oblige his every fantasy.

“I thought that I wasn’t going to touch you. Just use my words to lull you to climax.”

“I am not sure if that is actually possible.”

“I don’t want to touch you. I don’t feel that way towards you.”

“Just help me along a bit.”

“Where do you want me to touch?”

“You know!”

“That would defeat the whole purpose of the exercise. I have to be able to use my words to help you arrive at some kind of conclusion. You are cheating the experiment.”

She knows exactly what she wants him to do to her. She wants to get to heart of the matter without delay. She has washed and perfumed herself so that she can make her intent clear.

“What follows from such a truth?”

“Beauty, total and complete.”

He wants to extend the dream everywhere.

“Do I have what it takes?”

“You definitely have it?”

But does she have it universally and totally?

ALL BARBARAS CAN BE SATISFIED!

BARBARA WANTS TO SATISFY ME!

SHE WILL BE SATISFIED BY SATISFYING ME!

“Do you really think that you have what it takes to satisfy her?”

“That is a chance that I will just have to take.”

“I’ll talk to you if you solve my puzzle.”

“Did you say something to me?”

“I’ll fuck you if you’ll solve my puzzle

“What?”

“You heard what I said.”

“What’s the puzzle?”

She tells him the story.

“Oh that’s easy. You’re talking about yourself.”

“That’s too easy.”

“Are you going to come home with me now?”

“She’s drunk. She’s not going home with you.”

“Decide for yourself. Don’t let your friend decide for you.”

“I’m not sure if I want to do this.”

“If you’re not sure, you don’t have to do it.”

“You promised that if I solved the puzzle, that I’d win the prize.”

“I really don’t think that I meant it like that. I was just saying that.”

“But you did say it. I heard you say it.”

“It’s just goes to show you the way my life is messed up. I don’t think that you’d want me under these circumstances. I’d just be a lame fuck.”

“I could make you happy.”

“Everyone says that. How long is that going to last? Five minutes. Then I’ll just be depressed again.”

“OK, she talked to you, and she told you to go. Take a hint, buddy.”

“I don’t think your friend necessarily has your best interests at heart.”

“She’s my friend. She knows things about me.”

“She’s just protecting you from facing who you are.”

“I need that protection. It helps me get through from day to day.”

“It’s not what you think. It’s what’s eating you alive.”

“And you have all the answers. Who the hell are you?”

“You said it yourself. I’m the one with the answers. And you’re the one who wants to figure things out.”

“If you’re someone special, then why are you hitting on a drunk girl near closing time.”

“I wasn’t hitting on you. You challenged me.”

“Look at yourself. Do you really think that I’d go home with someone like you.”

“You’re thinking about it.”

She pulls her friend aside.

“I’ll be OK. I’ll call you if I need you.”

“You told me to tie you up if you ever did this kind of thing again.”

“I think I’m going to let him tie me up tonight.”

“Quit joking about this.”

“I want to do this. I want to feel complete. Even if I hate myself tomorrow, I’ll love the fact that I followed through.”

“I should just kills him now.”

“You need to go!”

Her friend hesitates but decides to go.

“So what is the puzzle that she used on him. I want to try it.”

“I think it had something to do with getting her off.”

“And he figured it out just like that?”

“It was like a question in biology class?”

“I thought that it was some kind of intellectual puzzle.”

“It is in a way. It’s about the nature of women.”

“Is that some kind of fixed thing?”

“It is when it’s part of a puzzle.”

We need to create a create a mechanical body that will not wear out!

“Our goal is to create a mechanical body that will never die.”

“So what’s the problem.”

“There shouldn’t be any problem. It just that it will have no need of a soul.”

“Does the soul gravitate to the body once it is about to expire?”

“My religion hasn’t tackled that question yet. We’re still working on questions of property rights and exemption from taxation.”

“It is better to avoid the thorny questions until the last minute.”

“I agree. That’s why I’m dealing with practical issues.”

“Is the machine perpetual?”

We need the perfect form that will not degrade!

A Barbie will yield perfectly to your every command.

“This represents how deeply your accounts are in debt. You really think that you can buy yourself out of debt.”

“I am spending myself into a better investment position.”

“That is like going double or nothing on a losing hand. You lose this one, and you’re going to have trouble making sense who you are.”

“I am not sure if you will understand. Can anyone really understand?”

INSTRUCTION: Can I have another?

“I liked your pizza. So I decided to order another next time that I am hungry.”

“How does Barbie look?”

“She gets the look. She must be asked the same question a thousand times a day.”

CONFESSION

“If you know a disaster is coming, what can you do to avoid it?”

“Get the hell out of there!”

Ride me out of this place!

“Do you want to get high with me?”

“Are you inviting me over to have sex?”

“If I was, I’d never come out and say it.”

“Why?”

“I want the **RIGHT OF REFUSAL!**”

“Do you now?”

RIGHT OF REFUSAL

“Are you trying to teach me something about writing that I don’t know?”

You have all this dialogue with no description. When she speaks what is the look on her face? Does it support what she is saying? Does it reveal her uncertainty about her position. Does it attract his attention?”

“I am having trouble logging on to my business accounts.”

“You want to speak to customer service.”

“Who should I be speaking to?”

“Technical support”

“Is that world wide or national tech support?”

“They are all the same.”

“I’ve been locked out of tech support.”

“Let’s check your account. Give me your name.”

“OK.”

“Thanks. We’ll check that for you.”

“I’m waiting.”

“Sorry about the wait. Your name isn’t coming up when we do a search.”

“Don’t even look in my eyes. I just want you to get me off.”

“Is this the transformation of Barbie into a sex machine?”

“I don’t know. Just what I say, and quit thinking about it.”

“What’s in it for me?”

“A nice massage.”

“Nothing more.”

“You’re probably not going to even get that. You’re getting close to a goddess.”

You’re never going to get close enough to know the difference!

“Hasn’t that always been the trick of the trade? That way you can charge more for less.”

The fundamental question of our calling is: Does the pursuit of salvation guarantee that the believer will be saved? The key to this search is the phrase the pursuit of salvation. Such a commitment demands more than simple will. And the body will do everything that it can do shut down the available resources. Pleasure will be a distraction from the pursuit. To pursue demands that the dedication must be total. You have to shut out all distraction from your overall commitment. This means that the soul will be overtaken by the promise of freedom.

The pursuit of salvation is the fundamental freedom on which all others are based. We can have no restriction on our rights of worship. This includes any resources that we might muster to support our belief. This is the foundation of natural law. It takes precedence over any other claims to property. Without a cleansed soul, one is hopeless in the path to saving. Even the material world can be impediment. The material world needs to be organized according to the principles of spiritual enlightenment.

If we seek salvation, some form of revelation is essential to maintain us on the right path. The terms of the revelation are such to guarantee our material heritage. Under such succession, we can accede to true vision. So the spiritual realm requires the proper distribution in the material world. Even the appearances of truth have to be developed to yield the radiance hidden behind the obscurity of the material world.

If satisfaction is a goal, the anatomy of the body must be designed to guarantee satisfaction.

This is fundamental!

We are close to a solution. We have to be able to end up where we started. We have to learn how to close the circle. Make the design into reality. To feed off of the design.

Sounds like a Pygmalion sort of thing.

More like falling in love with the image in the reflecting pool!

This is fundamental!

“So, do I look pretty?”

“You will.”

“Look at yourself. You look like a dog in heat.”

“That is the human condition!”

“All the great ideas eventually become advertising slogans.”

“That is why we need to design the perfect machine.”

“That is the road to freedom.”

“A place to turn it off and on.”

“I am getting the hang of this game.”

“Keep the outline in your head.”

“That is all that I can think about. I like the bit how the cop gets her out of his car.”

“He uses a mixture of fear and misunderstanding.”

“That is why he became a cop. He wanted to express his desires.”

“But can he easily satisfy himself?”

“He has developed a method.”

“Don’t take my dessert.”

“Someone needs to cut you off.”

“They already have.”

“If pleasure has an outline, how do you fill in the outline?”

“With narrative.”

“I can see how her dress outlines her body. My touch is more than narrative.”

“But if you do not touch, how can you satisfy your desires. You need a narrative. The expression of a more intense desires serves as satisfaction of the initial desire.”

“But then your longing is more severe.”

“We just have to learn how to bring the process to a close, and we have discovered what we want.”

There is an inherent power in the field. It can be extended by boosters and nutrients.

She wants to look better. She wants to feel better.

“You can lose weight and be happier!”

“What are you talking about?”

“It’s a book that I’m reading.”

“You’ve lost enough weight already.”

“I need validation. I need someone to tell me that it means more than it does.”

“It does. You know it. See that guy staring at you.”

“He’s outlining my crotch from underneath my swim suit bottom.”

“I thought that you liked that sort of thing. It means that he’s no longer giving you that questioning look. He wants to be inside your body.”

“He looks like a creep.”

“They all do. Like dogs in heat. But once he is swimming inside of you, it won’t make any difference.”

“But does he have what it takes to satisfy me?”

“I don’t know. Ask him if he’ll build you a house if you suck his dick.”

“I was thinking more about him pleasuring me.”

“Barbie, you would think about that sort of thing.”

She wants to focus her desire, to have it all boil down to a simple truth: Get me off!”

“Why do I still feel so lonely? I bring these guys home after a night at the club. When they leave, I never hear from them again. It makes me feel so lonely.”

“Then that is what you want. You want to cure your loneliness.”

“I don’t think that is possible. It is part of the human condition.”

“Maybe you could share diet tips.”

“I think that I would be offended by that sort of thing. It would be as if he was implying that there was something wrong with my body.”

“I thought that you hated your body.”

“I don’t need some guy bringing attention to my flaws.”

“I thought that was all that it was about! You just have to turn your defects into your assets.”

“What if he can’t look beyond my assets?”

“You have to look him in the eye and tell him to fuck himself.”

“He might get a kick from that sort of thing. I wish that we could do something about all the cruelty in our world.”

“I just think that we have to harden ourselves against it.”

“I’m feeling as hard as nails. I just hope that it doesn’t show in my face.”

“You have an angelic face.”

Barbie needs the face of an angel.

“You have failed your readers. You provide all this dialogue, but you never describe your characters. What shows in their faces. Maybe their gestures contradict what they are saying.”

“Of course, they do. But I don’t want to make my readers that comfortable. I need to keep them guessing. That is the intention of my portrayal.”

“So who is talking now?”

“It’s Barbara’s turn.”

“She just spoke.”

“No her friend told her that she has the face of an angel.”

“Does she?”

“With that body, she needs it. It completes the picture.”

“Don’t we all have the faces of angels.”

“Sure, but we let our devilish complexions overtake the brilliance of the soul.”

Barbara has the face of an angel.

“I changed my life for you.”

“Just because I went down on you doesn’t mean that I am that attracted to you. It was about the sex.”

“I am the sex. And I don’t sell myself that cheaply.”

“Let’s just say that you came as a bargain.”

“Let’s just say that you never came, unless your pathetic offer was meant to be some kind of magnificent conclusion.”

“I ended where I started. With nothing!”

“Why are you looking at me like that?”

“You have an angelic face.”

“What made you come all the way across the room to talk to me?”

“I couldn’t help it.”

“I’m with someone.”

“So am I. But I could ditch her if you want me to come back to your place.”

“I don’t have that kind of place.”

She gets them every time. Can you generalize that particular game so that you constantly be a winner if you play all the time.

“I don’t run that sort of place.”

“There is no sure thing?”

“I don’t know. What do you have to give? Do you have a full plate?”

“What is that supposed to mean?”

“Let me see what you’ve got.”

“Do you want me to strip for you? Do you want to see my dick. I can show you all of it.”

“That is hardly what I meant. I was thinking of something more subtle. Tell me about yourself.”

“There’s not much to tell. I grew up in Indiana.”

“Wow! I’m from Indiana too.”

“I went to IU. I studied computers. Now here I am.”

“A successful guy. You aren’t all that charming. But you are successful.”

“I’ve got a great house in the inner ring of suburbs.”

“Wonderful.”

“I just hate to make mistakes. I’ve got a plan for my life. And I hate to waste time.”

“I feel the same way. I just don’t have a plan for my life. I wish that I was as organized as you are.”

“I could teach you everything that I know.”

“All about computers?”

“No. About organization.”

“I have this idea for a business. But I need a plan.”

“What sort of business?”

“The love business. That’s what I’m in already.”

“I thought that you can’t really sell love. You can only sell the illusion of love.”

“Like I’m doing now. How much will you play for the illusion of love?”

“How much illusion are you willing to give?”

“As much as you want, as long as you don’t touch me.”

“But if I don’t touch it, how can I be sure if it’s real.”

“I’m sure that you’ve touched yourself a million times. You have to know how it feels.”

“Am I allowed to touch myself here?”

“Not really!”

“Then how can I know what it feels like.”

“Use your memory and your imagination. I am here to help you.”

“This all feels so mechanical.”

“It is mechanical. You’re an engineer. You can understand this.”

“I’m not an engineer. I’m in computers.”

“It’s basically the same thing.”

“Engineers deal with forces and matter. I deal with information.”

“Information has a flow. Like love-making.”

“How do you know that?”

“I’m a Barbie. All Barbies knows that sort of thing.”

“What do you mean when you say that you’re a Barbie?”

“My name is Barbara. I shortened it to Barbie. I dyed my hair blonde. I work out at a gym. I was a little confused about my life. Then I cleaned myself up. I got my body in shape. Now look at me. You want to slip it in.”

“Can I?”

“I told you that is not allowed on the premises.”

“Can we go somewhere else?”

“If I liked you, I’d take you to my place. But I really don’t like you that much. I can give you the illusion that I like you. This will cause you to give me everything in your wallet. I will work you until you are dry. Then I will go home alone.”

“You could have any man that you want.”

“For now. For one night. But I really can’t have the guy who I want. That is the secret of it all.”

“Who is that guy, Barbie.”

She laughs, “It’s Ken, you fool! I want Ken.”

“Are you serious?”

“I would be if my name was actually Barbie!”

“Can’t you be serious for me?”

“Only if you pay me enough.”

“I want to be serious with you. How much do you want?”

“Enough to run a small country.”

“You are never going to earn that here.”

“I could pretend, just like you pretend that you are going to fuck me when you leave here.”

“If I beat off while I imagine your body, I feel that I have my more of chance of achieving my goal.”

“Just like an addict thinks that she’s going to win the lottery. Now get it out quickly and I’ll suck you off.”

“We haven’t even agreed to a price.”

“You’ve promised me everything in your wallet.”

“What if my wallet is empty?”

“I’m pretty good at judging your anatomy.”

“And what have you figured out?”

“You came here to party. You brought at least a grand with you. You wanted some real success.”

“What would that be?”

“You wanted me to go home with you.”

“Now you’ve negotiated me down to a blow job. You really think that is worth a thousand.”

“I think it’s worth a lot more than that. But I am willing to cut you a deal. I feel sorry for you. You’ve got this second-rate degree from a pretty good college. You figure that you own the world now. But you still can’t get hard on cue. And you want everyone to bow down to your cheap-ass version of success. That’s worth a good hummer at best.”

“Just part yourself next to me, honey!”

“You’re becoming the cocky bastard. And I was feeling sorry for you. The price has gone up to two thousand.”

“Any other girl would do me for less than a hundred.”

“Go get one of them. You have no respect for women.”

“Do you? You’d sell yourself to an asshole like me for a thousand.”

“I told you that I think that I’m worth way more than that. I’m priceless. I’m just telling you how little money means to me. I’d do it for nothing if I thought that I could get away clean. This is not something that I can do for free. Start taking notes, sucker. Once you get started doing this, you’re going to want it more and more. You’re going to believe that this is the most important thing in your life. You should have studied agronomy and stayed at home in Indiana. You are outclassed in the big city.”

“I did want to study music. I was a great piano player.”

“You knew how to follow the rules. You could practice by yourself. Sex is pretty much the same way. You just need something to keep your interest. Someone to stay one step ahead of you.”

“Who are you to do this?”

“You’re making me feel like a piece of ass.”

“What does that mean?”

“I’ve just become an excuse for you to get off.”

“How that?”

“Tell me what you want.”

“I want to bury my face in your pussy and go lick crazy.”

“You really think that is something that I want to hear.”

“What do you want? Advice on investment strategy.”

“That would be a good place to begin. How long can you keep it hard?”

“I thought that you had already calculated that.”

“Today is yesterday tomorrow.”

“Does that make yesterday today tomorrow?”

“If you are going around in circle.”

“I feel as if I’m barely existing!”