

MARTY

“Assume that he is a famous writer.”

“What is his name? I want to read his books.”

“We are in the middle of a conversation. It is not a good idea to interrupt.”

“If you are famous, I want to tell my friend. My friend likes to read. My friend is a writer.”

“You are not going to like my stuff.”

“Tell me who you are.”

“Tell me who you are. You are getting in my way. You are messing with my life. I do not need you here.”

“I told you that we were in a middle a conversation.”

“Tell me about that conversation. I might be interested.”

“He is a famous writer. And he was talking about things that are important for his writing.”

“What makes you famous?”

“Are you doubting his ability? You want to join the conversation. Now, you are trying to interrupt.”

“If he was really famous, he would want to tell you who he is.”

“I told you what were the conditions of the conversation. Why do you think that a famous writer would even want to entertain your questions.”

“My friend is a writer.”

“Your friend is a shitty writer. Otherwise, there is no way that he would be with you.”

“Why are you insulting me?”

“Do you want us to wait all night to get to the punch line.”

“Give him a break. He’s not such a bad guy.”

“He is a terrible guy.”

“Why are you guys laughing at me?”

“We’re not. You’re just not part of the conversation.”

“You are not giving me a chance.”

“Correction: you are not giving us a chance. You really have nothing to contribute to our conversation.”

“Are there some kind of rules that I am supposed to learn?”

“You tell me. What is it going to take for you to show us some manners?”

“You are the ones who are mocking me. And you get all pissy when I question you.”

“This is a famous writer.”

“Prove it to me.”

“Do you need us to prove that we are human?”

“Make your move!”

“Run the con.”

“What are you talking about?”

“Do you ever feel that you are out of your depth?”

“Look at the number.”

“This is way beyond what ever happened.”

“We have a shmuck on the line.”

“How does that work?”

“Some guy who thinks that he is going to find integrity on a Thursday night. Why do your illusions persist?”

“Are you talking to me?”

“You are still sitting at the table.”

“Are you getting in my face?”

“You are not showing enough face.”

“What is that about?”

“This coyote eats off this woman’s face. Do yo know what that is about? She tried to tame a wild beast.”

“That is all she knows.”

“How did not know? It is a fucking coyote.”

“That is what I felt with this guy.”

“I am still here.”

“Have you learned anying yet?”

“That is giving him too much power.”

“You do not know how much power I have.”

“Go on! We want to know about your friend’s books.”

“I am afraid of embarrassing myself.”

“Everyone does.”

“You are cheating.”

“There are three of us here. Do we know who is who?”

“This is where it gets interesting. One person is excessive, one is withdrawn, and one is just right.”

“No one is just right.”

“Do I have to look at this?”

“Do we operate?”

“This is it.”

“I won’t do it anymore.”

“You are going to need to go home and think about this.”

“I don’t have a home.”

“We need a plumber.”

“You have to do the work yourself.”

“I can do more than that.”

“This is going to be impossible.”

“I want to get in the next room.”

“I can’t find anyone, who will help.”

“There is no place for what I do.”

“Who is the writer?”

“This guy.”

“And you have your own writer, who writes about your shitty life.”

“It is wonderful.”
“What does this have to do with me?”
“We have someone with a great memory/
“You can’t get upset about things like that.”
“I can only assume that your friend has problems controlling his emotions.”
“You are the ones who are being mean to me.”
“We are not being mean. We want to complete the conversation.”
“There is a punch line.”
“What is the source of feelings like that?”
“Do we have to explain this to you?”
“This is not your house.”
“I don’t need you to say anything more.”
“This was a good conversation. We were moving toward the punchline. And you tried to
distract me.”
“Someone asked me to leave.”
“You are messing up my flow.”
“I have one flaw. Let me clear it up.”
“We can get a little more done.”
“I feel empty.”
“You are the best.”
“I have tools.”
“I feel as if I am being set up.”
“No one is going to help you here.”
“You already have a story.”
“We should ask you questions about your domestic life.”
“You are going to come back.”
“We have things to get done.”
“You might be able to finish this.”
“I had a career ahead of me.”
“What was it?”
“I had my own florist shop.”
“What happened?”
“Do we really want to listen to his story.”
“I am working with someone else right now.”
“Get it done.”
“Get it done.”
“Has he left?”
“I asked him to walk away. He felt as if it was some kind of affront.”
“We are going to the promised land.”
“We will make it to the land, but we will never get the promise
“You have one job to do.”
“There are a million revelations.”
“I met aliens.”

“I built a road.”
 “Do not make fun of my accomplishments.”
 “This is a famous writer.”
 “I am working on my new novel. It is about an obnoxious person with no sense of self-awareness.”
 “Sounds like an auto-biography.”
 “I like auto-revelation.”
 “It usually turns out badly.”
 “You are showing too much of yourself.”
 “We have this guy doing a striptease.”
 “His love loves him for it.”
 “Are you going to keep hanging out?”
 “I own things.”
 “I am casting a movie.”
 “This guy wants a part.”
 “They can work at my restaurant when they are not on set.”
 “Are you that nervous?”
 “How long will this last?”
 “Until he leaves the table.”
 “Now, I get it.”
 “Tell him to leave.”
 “He is on his way out.”
 “I will take care of it.”
 “He likes to light all the candles.”
 “What is the book about?”
 “Yesterday’s news. I am trying to convince you to remember something from yesterday.”
 “It does not matter.”
 “Will you still be famous tomorrow?”
 “Will you even remember what I wrote.”
 “There is no place for this guy.”
 “What are you thinking.”
 “I do not like kind of stuff.”
 “This is ugly.”
 “Do not hate me for any of this.”
 “Are you following me?”
 “Where are you going?”
 “I am working on a script. I want to take the stuff that we were talking about and turn it into something real.”
 “I have a script. I don’t want to tell anyone about it. I am going to make it perfect.”
 “How do you make that perfect?”
 “What do you worry about?”
 “That is not what I really want to talk about.”
 “You are all talk.”

“I could be somewhere else.”

“You need to leave.”

“You have not listened to what we were talking about.”

“You guys are really exclusive.”

“No, we don’t need you trying to be part of our lives.”

“You have no mercy.”

“You are interfering. Leave it at that.”

“Are you that good?”

“You need to read his book.”

“That doesn’t sound like something that interests me.”

“I will find someone, who really cares.”

“This is over for now”

“We are not trying to be mean? What gives you the right to think that you can just disrupt our conversation? In what world are you always the center of attention?”

“This is very difficult to talk about.”

“We can help you to get direction.”

“It all works out in your favor.”

“Whatever that means.”

“You sit down with people that you don’t know. You don’t have that much to contribute, and you pretend that you are eloquent. Do you really think that is something that we even care about?”

“Who took the first shot?”

“Where is this going?”

“Out the door.”

“This guy looks like a real genius.”

“Are you setting me up?”

“What do you have to set up?”

“Where is thi headed?”

“We are trying to recover our conversation?”

“What is this really about?”

“We are talking about dissipation.”

“How do you fall apart in public?”

“Do you have an audience?”

“I run a business. I am responsible for my workers. What does this guy even do?”

“He loves and is loved.”

“That is now a career.”

“As well it should be.”

“I’m working hard on this.”

“You pretend to be something that you don’t want to be.”

“He is a famous writer.”

“How do you treat a famous writer?”

“You ask him good questions.”

“Where did this start?”

“His company is doing well.”

“What do you offer?”

“Role-playing games.”

“You are fucking up.”

“Honestly, we gave us a chance.”

“Could you be a leader?”

“Do you write books to help be a leader?”

“I write book about being a miserable son of a bitch.”

“Do you read? Not lifestye books, or self-help. Books with richly-drawn characters. Not shallow people.”

“Do you know the difference? What are you doing to make things better? It’s all you and your lover. And you are a carbon copy of each other. And you breath the same air, and you watch the same sun. But you understand very little about human motivation. Where is that going to take you? In your mind, people are either with you or they are against you. But you cannot understand what makes the world go around.”

“There are gravitational forces.”

“They are not going around much these days.”

“Are you mocking me?”

“Should I?”

“Someone is going to tell you that you are wonderful. That is all that will ever matter to you.”

“And that is the foundation for growth.”

“This guy sits down at our table, and he tells us that important shit is going on. So what is going on. Are you doing a business deal? Are you educating kids? Do you have a grasp what holds the world economy together? You want things to change, but you are only making it worse.”

“Where did this come from?”

“Why didn’t we just tell him to go away?”

“We did.”

“You invited him to participate.”

“We wanted to give him a chance.”

“My lover is a writer.”

“What kind of stuff does your lover write?”

“Relationship advice.”

“My book is about arms control treaties.”

“Where does it all end?”

“I want to have fun.”

“What is fun?”

“Everything that is not work.”

“I write for a living. I help people think that their lives are wonderful.”

“Where di this start?”

“I was woknig with my mother.”

“What does she do?”

“She makes gift boxes.”

“I want to understand how international relations have progressed over the years.”

“Ask them about hedge funds.”

“What do they make?”

“They are having a bake sale to raise money to buy a fighter jet.”

“Are you mocking our security interests?”

“I am mocking everything in your life.”

“I wouldn’t read your book.”

“I could add to it.”

“Keep talking.”

“You really like to talk about this shit.”

“This is difficult to sustain.”

“I made movies.”

“What were they about?”

“Exploitation movies.”

“Who is being exploited?”

“The audience.”

“Play your part.”

“There is a lot that I need to get rid of.”

“Start early.”

“I am not even sure if I can start at all.”

“I used to teach college.”

“I taught psychology.”

“I taught actin.”

“There is not limit.”

“I want this guy to leave.”

“I need to be loved.”

“You are at the wrong table. We do not want you to feel badly about yourself, but we are not going to encourage you to develop your personality. We are trying to rake you through the coals. And you are going to quit being an asshole to people.”

“Sometimes, you need to get people early in the process.”

“Where is early going?”

“Where is any of this going?”

“I cannot offer to people.”

“There is a commitment eto self-improvement.”

“You cannot improve something that is pretty shitty.”

“We are going through a changing in the guard.”

“Then the aliens talked to her.”

“What is that about?”

“That is what we were talking about before you sat down.”

“Let’s compare notes.”

“We can make this,”

“There are a lot of people, but none of them are involved.”

“I worked with a repertory group.”
 “I told actors what to say.”
 “I told politicians what to say.”
 “Who speaks to God?”
 “I cannot be a part of this.”
 “There are too many variations.”
 “That is all beyond me.”
 “I will take it.”
 “That is going to work for me.”
 “I own a restaurant.”
 “They are all pretending.”
 “Are you ready for someone to tell you that he loves you?”
 “Where did this guy come from?”
 “His lover told him that he couldn’t come home tonight.”
 “We will get to it in a couple of minutes.”
 “How do you know that you are the writer?”
 “Things fall into place.”
 “People buy you drinks.”
 “What do you do in your spare time?”
 “That is a nice variation.”
 “That still won’t work.”
 “I lost my place.”
 “They think that it is all supposed to be out of place.”
 “We are creating bodies.”
 “And it didn’t go well. She really thought that aliens had come down and offered her revelation.”
 “What would that involve?”
 “They could heal sickness.”
 “And this meteor would destroy human existence.”
 “You need to prepare for this in the morning.”
 “Do you have a remedy?”
 “I have what everyone needs.”
 “Take one of these, and you will feel better.”
 “There is that one moment when everything makes you feel better.”
 “Do you know where this is going?”
 “You break down. You cannot do what you need to do for your personal development.”
 “You have all this money. And you own a business, and there is really nothing in your life.”
 “He is excited.”
 “What kind of script are you writing? It’s about a bunch of local gangsters. And you walk around as if you are a mob boss. You are a big nothing.”
 “Would anyone find anything edifying in this?”
 “I was lying perfectly still hoping the police would not find me.”

“I cannot object.”

“They strapped me in.”

“Sneering.”

“What do you do?”

“I have this excess.”

“This is not going to result in a story.”

“This guy sits down with us. And he has nothing to contribute. He is at that end of his rope. He is desperate. But he is in a relationship with another shithead like himself. And they both cry in their beer. And his love is a total fuck up. He is a recluse. But he writes books.”

“I need a shower.”

“Are you going home?”

“I do not want to remember this guy.”

“He is so fascinating.”

“That looks wonderful.”

“I feel great.”

“I have something for that.”

“We should be further along.”

“Tell me about her father.”

“I don’t know what was going on. Either his father was weak as shit, or he was a real genius.”

“They were doing some really crazy shit.”

“There are going to be no surprises.”

“Why don’t you leave now?”

“Let us say that you are a famous writer. And you write a book about raising a horse.”

“More metaphor.”

“Give me what I need.”

“This guy is a mob boss.”

“It is in the family.”

“What are you saving for?”

“Do you have the money on the card?”

“We could talk about the banking system.”

“These people make their own deal?”

“Are you lonely?”

“I do not want this guy talking to me.”

“Who else is here?”

“He seems lonely.”

“He is asleep.”

“And this is philosophy for you.”

“Could I be wrong?”

“I developed the courage.”

“This is great.”

“That is not enough.”

“Tell me about the restaurant.”

“They make shepherd’s pie.”
“This is not really a story.”
“Beef Bourgoignon.”
“Is this basic food?”
“Meat and potatoes.”
“Noodles.”
“Something that is fortifying.”
“You are gfvinf me an earful.”
“He controls something that he does not control.”
“We tell the world that we have more.”
“That is all that you need to have.”
“Tell me that it all works?”
“It all works.”
“I makv payroll. I know waht it is to make payroll.”
“I know what it is to please someone.”
“I am sufficiently pleased.”
“This is not working.”
“I cannot stay until the end.”
“Did we make this guy leave?”
“I am writing about a woman , who encountered aliens.”
“This is the end of the world.”
“You need to finish this.”
“We are almost at the end.”
“Give me a cut.”
“What do I get?”
“The last cut.”
“I need a little right away.”
“We have to get ready for what is coming.”
“He felt enotionally insecure.”
“He was so desperate that he found someone who cared.”
“Is everyone down the same way?”
“He is a famous writer.”
“He wrote about me. I had a business. I started out as a cook.”
“We eat together.”
“And people eat this shit.”
“What do you do?”
“I tell myself that i am happier than anyone else.”
“What do you do at home?”
“I canot worry about this.”
“There are three people. One doesn’t know, and one thinks that he knows.”
“This is impossible.”
“She is enlighthened.”
“Three dudes.”

“I am not like you in any way.”

“You do not understand what we are working on.”

“What are you working on?”

“I am teaching people to be hard workers.”

“But they will never save the way that you do. You will always be a little ahead. But you cannot get ahead of yourself. You are just like this schmuck at the table. But I am letting you play along. You party too much.”

“And you write when you should be doing the science.”

“We are all getting up early to do the accounts.”

“You are going to rob Peter to pay Paul.”

“We know who Peter and Paul are?”

“There are guys with a system.”

“They are my clients. I have the system.”

“As long as you do not get them confused.”

“They are confused. They come to me because they are confused who they are.”

“How do you help to sort it out.”

“I close my eyes, and I pretend that it works.”

“What if the account gets wiped out?”

“People lose bets all the time.”

“You can clean that up.”

“I will have time.”

“I do not have much time.”

“I will come back.”

“Stop by.”

“What am I looking at?”

“Are you really better than Paul at doing this?”

“Paul believes that his emotional wreck can result in a profit windfall.”

“That is worse than I thought.”

“You are not going to get what you thought?”

“Paul had a wonderful life. Then he met Peter.”

“They are both helpless.”

“They have a lot of cash.”

“We want to know you.”

“We can make opportunity.”

“Do you do biology?”

“I get what I want.”

“You will check it out.”

“I can make all that happen.”

“This will cover all of that.”

“I need to make it through the next couple of days.”

“I hold my breath.”

“I am good.”

“That is not going to do it.”

“It is getting tense.”

“What have you written?”

“It’s not what I’ve written. That’s what I figured out. That’s why we’re sitting down here right now. This is not a conversation about my books. This is a conversation about my philosophy. And you sat down and you wanted to make it what about my books. If you had something to contribute, we would welcome it. But it’s very clear by the way you talk to me that you have no interest in the conversation that we’re having. Therefore, I really can’t include you in what’s happening right now. In a sense, you’re a nuisance. You know you’re a nuisance. You made that very clear by the way they just sat down. We were having a discussion about philosophy, and you decided to interrupt us. So be it. That’s all that I care about. That’s all that matters to me. We were having a discussion, but what was going on here. You have no idea what’s going on here. That’s OK. If you want to learn about it, sit down and listen. And don’t interrupt. Don’t play the same game with us.”

“Because Marty played the fame game right back at you. He called you out. You struggled. You pretended that you were still involved. We had no interest whatsoever. We had no concern about what you were telling us. That’s just the way the things worked out. As for Marty, he also wants to play the same game. We kind you out. But I also con Marty out. In a sense, I would’ve liked to have another conversation with Marty. But it’s not going to happen. It will never happen. Marty and I are finished for good. He could sit down with me, and we could talk. But the dream is already over. There’s no belief here anymore. He asked for my confidence. So I gave him what he needed. I played the writer. I played the writer because he wanted to play the writer. He wanted to tell me about his script even though he left most of the details out. Just by the way that he talks, I can tell what’s going on. He wants to be in control. When he leaves very little control for others. There for the stories not gonna be that interesting. It’s gonna be about a bully to push his way around. But he’s very good at what he does. So he tries to seem as if he’s charming. And his charm extends to everybody. But it doesn’t really work like that. There’s something else in the story. He tries to call people out. Tries to tell people what is going on. I know it’s some thing else. I know some thing else about the story. He thinks that he’s hit a squirrel from me. He’s shown it to me page by page. I’ve already seen it for what it is. It’s a story about a con man. And a con man tries to con this innocent mark. All the while, the con man has been conned by someone who is more adept at this game. That’s what it’s all about.”

“That’s what Marty doesn’t see. That’s why Marty story is only a temporary story. It’s not going to last forever. There’s one way to win the story, and all other versions are losing ones. You can’t win if you don’t play. You can’t play if you don’t try that is Marty’s belief. Honestly, I don’t care. And that is my confidence game. I know that Marty’s story can’t be that good because Marty believes himself too much. Sure he might have some connection to financing. And the film might be made. But it’s no big deal. Marty cares a lot. He wants me to cure too. I can’t take the time. That’s it.”