

THE AFTER PARTY

I hoped to see Alta at the after party.
 "I was sliding among possible identities."
 "I want a complete performance."
 I was trying to remember the phrase that I heard in a dream."
"Live among the immortals."
 "Do you remember?"
 "All too well."
 "That is total nonsense."
 "I could learn."
 "We make plans for nothing."
 "Did you send it?"
 "Is this infinity?"
 "How does that work?"
 "Do I have that kind of time to wait?"
 "This is where things get murky."
 "If I only had a chance to say what I needed to say."
 "What are you doing?"
 "I talked to my broker."
 "You all have brokers."
 "This is not hopeful."
 "Why do you think that we are getting together?"
 "To do terrible things that we can forget."
 "I kept thinking that I could get close to you, Alta."
 "I was there yesterday."
 "I am in the ketchup line."
 "When did this make a difference?"
 "I want a complete implementation."
 "What are they doing at the hospital?"
 "I will be released soon."
 "That hurt."
 "I get forgotten."
 "Boom."
 "I am supposed to be better at this."
 "You need to be more expressive."
 "I could have changed that."
 "That is how we did it."
 "He hears it differently."
 "Read this book. This is how you should act."
 "Some kind of manifesto."
 "And that would have made more sense."
 "It is a different time."

I was downstairs reading the manual. What did I lack to be a successful participant?

“Alta is talking to some guy.”

“The last guy that she talks with is the last guy that she talks with.”

“Who will understand?”

“I want to end this back at my place.”

“There is too much musical chairs.”

“And I am seeing nothing.”

“Do not interrupt.”

“Where is everyone?”

“They all left. You were down here reading this silly manual, and everyone left.”

“You could surprise me.”

“We are all reading from the same book.”

“Book.”

“Exaggerate what you already know.”

“I cannot access that.”

“You bore me just as much.”

“This is the real thing.”

“Taste it.”

“Taste it.”

“Check my pockets.”

“And this is all that I am.”

“All that I have.”

“I know.”

“We all do.”

“What are the stages of preparation?”

“Total humiliation.”

“The transformation of the world.”

“Cry me a river.”

“From evolution to work.”

“I do not want to be part of that.”

“The accessories.”

“Let me get this done.”

“Turn on the truth-telling machine.”

“It is nothing like that.”

“Limited experience.”

“That took longer than you can imagine.”

“The kids love you.”

“What is going on at home?”

“I am a very hard worker.”

“Where will this end?”

“This could not be worse.”

“This is all pretend.”

“A different sort of change.”

“I am on it at once.”
“Not as far off.”
“You could use some assistance.”
“He confessed everything to me.”
“What else can I do?”
“You described the process.”
“Food, conveyance, and construction.”
“Communication.”
“What you already know.”
“Where is she now?”
“She is up a tree?”
“What does that really mean?”
“Do I need to follow along.”
“We all want the same thing.”
“The survival of the species.”
“Eat all the fish.”
“Tour guide.”
“You are not making any sense.”
“Give me an award.”
“And you both paid for this.”
“We needed to pay at the door.”
“The drinks are free.”
“The police are going to shut this down.”
“You don’t need words, but you do.”
“I tell you what is really needed.”
“Do you know what that looks like?”
“Mineral rights.”
“Where is the real fight located?”
“Property rights.”
“Water rights.”
“The longer that I stay, the more exciting the party seems/
“All hands on deck.”
“You are wandering.”
“And I do not do anything.”
“I do nothing.”
“That is why it is not as much fun.”
“Wow!”
“You snuck in.”
“I was invited.”
“I am getting investment advice.”
“Work more.”
“How can I do that?”
“I need to think about my art.”

“That splatter shit.”

“We could make art together.”

“It is fucking eleven in the morning, and I have not slept in two days.”

“You would pay ll your money for this.”

“I can pretend that this is not happening.”

“We could have bought the farm.”

“That as not part of the after party.”

“More speculative shit.”

“What are you getting for this?”

“One gesture that had not been thought.”

“I need a quick rescue.”

“I do not know you, but that wil do.”

“I need to live down this”

“I did not see.”

“That is how I can forget.”

“What is really going on?”

“What is the movie?”

“I thought that I knew.”

“And it is over.”

“How are they making it happen?”

“Do you think about that?”

“I could pay you to organize things.”

“They do not understand.”

“They do.”

“That is the one thing that I can do well.”

“Let us pretend that this is all that matters.”

“It is still early.”

“Pretend that is isn’t.”

“I contribute.”

“I cannot even pretend that I get it.”

“I did not want to be here.”

“And that is fun.”

“I was supposed to leave before it closed. I walk out, and you take me to this after party. I try to talk to me, and you have been avoiding me. Now, you want to get all friendly.”

“I wanted to watch this.”

“I am going back to the heaven lounge.”

“Everything is closed. Take what is here.”

“Tell me about your life.”

“Then you are back at the same place.”

“I do not want to talk to you because you ask me all these silly questions about myself.”

“What do you want to think about?”

“I am almost there.”

“It is getting later.”

“Do you want to talk now?”

“I want someone who can make my head spin.”

“That only takes a few more drinks.”

“Come see me then.”

“You keep trying to get to me before I need to do work.”

“What are you working on?”

“That is not worth looking at.”

“I am hammered.”

“That is really sad.”

“I never went home.”

“You can crash here.”

“I didn’t mean to be the last person. I was looking for Alta. And she disappeared somewhere. The next thing I knew, I was the only person still here.”

“This is going to get really crazy.”

“Or we will confirm what we already know.”

“You gave yourself away.”

“I was not looking for this.”

“We have different ways of looking at contagion.”

“I am not supposed to look at the sun too long.”

“I interrupted.”

“It all meant something for so long.”

“I do not have to deal with any of that.”

“Whose house is this?”

“You are the only person who understands.”

“Then the real shit comes out.”

“Can I sleep in your carport?”

“This is some crazy shit.”

“I do not know who you are.”

“You end up at my place. You tell me that you want to stay in my carport. Where did they find you?”

“And that is impressive.”

“This is really impressive.”

“Sebastian was telling me about you.”

“That is the worst.”

“I have this down.”

“Do not hate me.”

“That will not work for me.”

Alta had changed into this completely different person. This was way too revealing for me.

“Tell me things about myself.”

“Are you going to read my cards?.”

“That is more than wonderful.”

“I can smell gasoline.”

“What is that?”

“You should not be here.”

“I am looking for Alta.”

“I was so close.”

“Alta, does not want to see you. She does not want to talk to you. She feels that you have overstayed your welcome.”

“I barely know here. She was saying shit to me. She got me to come here.”

“Do not hate me.”

“I am an artistic person.”

“I know you.”

“All you people are phony. You get stuffed with shit, and you start running your mouth.”

“I have no idea what I am looking at.”

“That is getting more and more difficult.”

“Alta is working hard.”

“I feel as if I have been sidelined.”

“Everything means nothing.”

“I do not think about it.”

“And you do.”

“What am I celebrating?”

“Not getting kicked out.”

“We are wer we started.”

“I am going to puke.”

“Not on my new couch.”

“Do me like a badger.”

“That could really be deleterious.”

“What did you leave for me?”

“We ran out of beer.”

“There is some communion wine.”

“That is not going to elevate you to a higher level.”

“I could explain your life.”

“BOBO!”

“Are you devoted to this?”

“It is pointing North.”

“Damn!”

“You destroying me.”

“I have been watching you all night.”

“You could own it all.”

“I missed the Raven.”

“That will work for me.”

“Put it together.”

“Don’t do that to me.”

“There is some kind of perverse justice.”

“I am all wet.”

“Where is Alta?”

“She is running a Bible study.”

“She is apologizing for shit in her life.”

“I am really turned off.”

“Rescue me.”

“That will not work.”

“Who is going to clean up this place?”

“My life is feeling like this fucking after party.”

“I can eat my way to happiness.”

“You are not allowed to eat anything in the fridge.”

“This is worse than terrible.”

“You have no alcohol, and you want me to stay at your fucking after party. You tell me that your fridge is locked to the guests. What do you have for me?”

“That is hellish.”

“Where can I be cured?”

“This is not some kind of rehab.”

“I am your only fan. I came looking for Alta. She is not fucking here. And you are telling me that we can't do rehab. You have no alcohol and no food. Let's play ping pong and do rehab.”

“These are not things that I could ever want.”

“Is that the same mode of being?”

“You give too much of yourself to something that you will never get back.”

“You ain't kidding.”

“What happens when I have to pay the piper?”

“Sleep it off, and get out of here.”

“You could apply yourself better to what is going on.”

“Did you think that you were going to get some kind of reading?”

“I am going to give you shit for the way that you are.”

“This is the craziest party that I have ever been to.”

“You were downstairs, and everyone left. I should tell you to go.”

“There are variations.”

“Do you see?”

“You are being nice for letting me crash here, but I am not into all this religious crap.”

“You need something to fill the soul.”

“We could write our own book.”

“We would reverse all the metaphors.”

“Is death good or bad?”

“Get some sleep, and I will make you eggs in the morning.”

“What about Alta?”

“I brought ballet shoes.”

“Was that her last line?”

“She has a lot to say.”

“Will I ever get a complete explanation?”
“Thanks for everything.”
“This will be your forever.”
“What can you do?”
“You are going to end up here.”
“And we can pretend things about Alta.”
“You gifted me.”
“This is a dialectic.”
“What does that mean?”
“The precipitous path to shit.”
“I want that .”
“I want that”
“I was more than right.”
“Right on.”
“That worked before.”
“That is how the party works.”
“I want to be an original.”
“Be an orange.”
“Huh?”
“Will this affect you?”
“Tell me without telling telling me.”
“Tell me without telling telling me.”
“As a moving tribute.”
“That I how I am.”
“There is no way to get in here that way.”
“Who do you want me to invite?”
“This is not supposed to be a movement.”
“You are making me afraid of myself.”
“That is the one.”
“We told you not to come around here anymore.”
“I am looking for Alta.”
“Shit.”
“I am not looking for this.”
“The rack.”
“I think that I made a mistake.”
“I am not like this.”
“We are movng to endgame.”
“What do I get for this?”
“I want you to pretend to be someone for me.”
“WHAT IS THE TIMELINE?”
“I invited you to come along.”
“Why do you bring those creepy people.”
“We need to fill out the roster.”

“Come back to the house.”
 “I did not ask this guy.”
 “I am pretending that you can do things that you cannot do.”
 “I have no motivation for going to work again.”
 “But you will show up.”
 “What do I learn?”
 “I can put all this shit in my journal.”
 “This is no longer the way out.”
 “Not this time, not ever.”
 “This stuff has no resolution.”
 “My life is finished.”
 “I told you that she was not here.”
 “I could do whatever you want.”
 ”Do not even touch me.”
 “You could complete me.”
 “I don’t write poetry.”
 “How do I read this shit?”
 “It never is what it seems.”
 “We seem lot closer than we should be.”
 “Not this.”
 “Who invited these guys.”
 “The invitation was open.”
 “But the results were not.”
 “And I go back to work.”
 “You are drawing these fucking doodles and acting as if you’re fucking Michelangelo.”
 “I have system.”
 “I am a system.”
 “I can do that.”
 “Try.”
 “There is a system.”
 “And the costume.”
 “You need to come in for hair.”
 “Where does this take me?”
 “I get this emotional dog, and I am doing what I can to get over you.”
 “Give me what you have.”
 “I like to play.”
 “I like to watch.”
 “When I was downstairs, why did you not send someone down there to tell me that this was over?”
 “I am glad that I do no need to think about anything else”
 “No one here works.”
 “That is not what I am looking for.”
 “I thought that you had connections.”

“Hell yeah!”

“And the bottom of the market falls out. I don’t have a job, but I am at this party when I learn about it.”

“You work a couple of jobs.”

“What about my art?”

“You can paint on your spare time.”

“That is all bull shit that you tell yourself.”

“You were not following along.”

“How should I react?”

“Show me the constant revenues.”

“Love.”

“Love sick.”

“Don’t try to defend your bull shit.”

“I am not even part of this.”

“And we all get around and hold hands.”

“What is your name?”

“Alta.”

“I now that is not your na,e.”

“Peaches.”

“That is so ridiculous.”

“Do you do the job?”

“You are so fucking obnoxious.”

“He knows it.”

“I am not finished with you.”

“You masquerade as someone that you’re not.”

“Everything is much more basic here.”

“We will all say things and do whatever we need.”

“I need to be more conscientious.”

“The floor is going to play in my favor.”

“That is going to work badly for me.”

“You have all the options.”

“Hot and cold.”

“I cede to my enemies.”

“We are all friends.”

“I want to leave with some reassurance for my miserable live.”

“He is an expert.”

“And they take us back to another era in history.”

“You wonder about shit.”

“That is the wrong resolution.”

“Give me your account number.”

“I will never be able to spend any of the money.”

“Is that revenge?”

“That is the new economic eality.”

“I am not there.”
“I am there.”
“What are you planning?”
“Revenue streams.”
“We are doing a thorough analysis of who we are.”
“We assume that we are something better than we really are.”
“Then we are lying here like fish on the shore.”
“No shark is going to eat that shit.”
“Where have you been?”
“Turning cartwheels in an open field.”
“The coven.”
“What is the actual result of such behavior?”
“A bad headache.”
“I am not paying for this.”
“I need to tell you.”
“Everything is distorted as hell.”
“Who created these chairs.”
“What do you do to get like this?”
“I want to know.”
“This is getting worse than I can imagine.”
“The swarm gets me.”