

THE NIGHT OF PHASES

by

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DIALOGUE SAMPLE

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CHARACTERS

LANE and
MARK, two men in their early thirties. They wear suits and ties.

SETTING

A school assembly in the auditorium of Roosevelt high school. **LANE** and **MARK** address the audience as if it were the student body.

"THE NIGHT OF PHASES"

(LANE and MARK stand on stage. They talk directly to the audience, as if at school assembly.)

LANE

I just want to say, first off, thanks Coach McMillan -- sorry, *Principal* McMillan -- for inviting us to speak today. Glad to be back at Roosevelt.

MARK

Go Rough Riders.

LANE

My name's Lane, this is my friend Mark. We've been friends since we attended, back in the eighties.

MARK

The big-hair years, heh.

LANE

And we're not -- you know -- real motivational speakers. We're a couple of regular dudes. Today, we want to talk to you about...choices.

MARK

But we're not going to like pontificate you to death.

LANE

We're going to explain it by telling you about something that neither of us are proud of.

MARK

Well, not proud of...but not ashamed.

LANE

Why don't you just get us started?

MARK

Okay, summer afternoon, sixteen, bored, didn't want to go to a coffee shop, or shoot pool at P.S.U....we got into Lane's Scirocco and drove. So where do the young and bored drive? Why, the Fred Meyer! Your one-stop shopping center.

LANE

Now we weren't there to buy beer.

MARK

We didn't have fake IDs.

LANE

We didn't drink beer.

MARK

Right, right, no beer. No weed or ephedrine either.

LANE

We were gonna wander around, maybe buy a candy bar. Then we joked -- and I emphasize *joked* -- about going to the pharmacy, to see if they had any drugs for sale.

MARK

It was a good joke.

LANE

And then we saw the little yellow box.

MARK

Vivarin. Remember how we got all excited? Remember the pharmacist at the counter was named "Viva?" We knew that was a sign.

LANE

So we bought this drug -- let me emphasize, *drug* -- and we went to find something to wash it down with.

MARK

Minute Maid orange juice, with the blue label, because?

LANE & MARK

Blue is Elvis's color.

MARK

We started popping them like -- what? -- one every fifteen minutes or so?

LANE

In a parking lot we found this like case of Mr. Bubble.

MARK

That's right, I forgot about that.

LANE

And we went down to Lovejoy fountain, we poured like ten boxes of Mr. Bubble into it.

MARK

It made these great walls of bubbles, like a giant fort of suds just grew out of the pool.

(MORE)

MARK (*cont'd*)

There were these little kids there, and they were all freaking out and just partying all over the place, the smiles on their faces, it's like you could never be as happy as that ever again, it was amazing. Everybody had a blast.

LANE

Sure, at the time. Course, the thing we didn't consider was that somebody had to clean our mess up. Some poor dude makin' like four bucks an hour had to get on his hands and knees on the concrete and scrub out all the pools, all the pipes, get Mr. Bubble out. We didn't think about that. We made bad choices.

MARK (*to LANE:*)

I mean, it wasn't malicious.

LANE

But the security guard who came after us didn't care.

MARK

Yeah, well, we ran as soon as he showed up.

LANE

He was a kind-of out-of-shape, kind-of fat, we really wore out the poor dude, we were just being -- I want to emphasize *terrors* to the people who work at the fountain.

MARK (*to LANE, sarcastically:*)

Yeah -- I mean -- what were we thinking, running away from a guy swinging his nightstick? He coulda popped a coronary, chasing us, screaming for our parents' numbers! Why didn't we consider his feelings?

LANE

That's not what -- of course we were gonna run.

MARK (*to audience:*)

Okay, whatever then, we ducked into Lipstick Pizza, our friend Lisa worked there, she let us hide in the kitchen. The manager was cool, this old stoner guy -

LANE

We didn't know him too well.

MARK

Matt knew his way around the kitchen, he and Lisa had done the nasty back there so many times -

(*LANE takes MARK aside.*)