

GEORG

That must be the rudest, most difficult, worst-tempered girl in the world.

(GEORG goes to the water cooler and takes a pill)

#24 Doorbell #3

(The door opens and a CUSTOMER ENTERS)

KODALY

Good day, madam. May I help you?

CUSTOMER

Yes. I'd like to see lily scented soap...

(The CUSTOMER goes to KODALYS counter. MARACZEK ENTERS — looks around and walks over to GEORG)

MARACZEK

Well — Mr. Nowack — hard at work as usual, I see.

#25 Doorbell #4

(The door opens and two more CUSTOMERS ENTER)

RITTER

Good day, ladies. May I help you?

(GEORG starts to say something, but MARACZEK cuts in)

MARACZEK

Have you made the arrangements about tonight?

GEORG

Yes, sir. Miss Ritter, Mr. Kodaly and Mr. Sipos can stay — and Arpad, of course...

MARACZEK

What about Miss Balash?

GEORG

She has an appointment.

MARACZEK

An appointment! Well — I guess you could hardly prevail upon her to stay when you're not going to.

GEORG

Any other night, Mr. Maraczek.

MARACZEK

There seem to be a great many things, Mr. Nowack, that interest you far more than your position here.

Act I Scene II

GEORG

Mr. Maraczek — I am devoted to this shop — I couldn't work harder — if I owned it...

MARACZEK

(Almost out of control, and trying, not too successfully, to keep his voice down)

If you owned it!! Well, let me tell you something, my young friend: no matter what you do — you will never get your hands on this shop! Never! Not if I have to come down from Heaven and stop you myself!! Is that clear?

GEORG

Yes, it's perfectly clear.

MARACZEK

Now get away from me! Just get away from me!

GEORG

I will *get* away! And permanently!

MARACZEK

Can I take that as your resignation, Mr. Nowack?

GEORG

That's exactly what it is.

MARACZEK

Very well. I accept it — effective immediately. Miss Ritter will have your final pay.

(MARACZEK goes to RITTER, gives her an envelope. Then MARACZEK EXITS into his office)

CUSTOMER

(Holding up a jar of bath salts)

Excuse me, is this the large size or the medium size?

SIPOS

Eh — the large size.

CUSTOMER

Well — then — show me the medium. And I haven't got all day.

#26 Goodbye, Georg

SIPOS

Yes, madam.