

Breakfast With Brando

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A Fictional Account of a Breakfast with Marlon Brando  
towards the end of his life.

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Extra - Ordinary Empowerment  
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ACT I

Scene #1 What's Your Name Dear?

*It's 1999 early morning lights come up on Guy's and Doll's" Diner Hollywood California. Decorated like a typical diner "Hollywood style". The diner is not open yet; A pretty young waitress "Zooney" is fixing coffee and setting the counter it's her 1st day. A cook, the owner "GUY" can be seen through a small window behind the counter working in the kitchen. Loud banging is heard on the front door.*

(BANG, BANG, BANG) (BANG, BANG, BANG)

GUY

Zooney- quick go open the door, go open the door, hurry up, I 'll never hear the end of it! damn it!  
I forgot to unlock it ,god forbid the door is locked when "he" comes ,we're not even open till 6 and "He" comes whenever he wants to, who the hell does he think he is anyway- a movie star or something? (to himself)that was yesterday old man

*Zooney hurries to open the locked front door, as she does the door is pushed open inward pushing Zooney back and Marlon enters in wheelchair, oxygen tank in tow*

MARLON (AGITATED)

DO YOU KNOW HOW LONG I'VE BEEN COMING HERE?! I've been coming here!??

ZOOEY

(startled and taken back not expecting to see an angry old man)  
uh, um, no?

MARLON

(still agitated and now a little confused looks at Zooney)

well... neither do I , but it's been a long time! Wait a second... Who the hell are you?

GUY (FROM THE KITCHEN)

Don't you scare that girl, she's brand new, she doesn't need to be harassed by you in her first 15 minutes(to himself)I swear every girl, every time!

(CONTINUED)

MARLON

relax you greasy fry cook,

MARLON CONT...(TO ZOOEY SMILING AND CHARMING NOW)

I'm not harassing you sweetie am I?

*Marlon starts to roll himself towards "his" table*

ZOOEY

(not affected by who "Marlon" is)

no, harass me?, I took karate classes so I can't be harassed, although I was harassed in the fourth grade by Billy Sherman but , I mean no, your not sir, can I help you sir?

MARLON

WOW!listen the only way you could help me honey is if you had a time machine and we could take a trip back to 56, if not, then no you can't, what did you say your name was?

*Zooley clumsily drops the silverware as she tries to draw her order pad and pen out from her apron as she bends down to pick it up , Marlon stares at her bending over*

MARLON(MARLON TO AUDIENCE)

Now this is why I still get up!

ZOOEY

oh my god, I'm so clumsy, 1st day jitters, sorry,I always get so nervous, things always go wrong, what made me think, I could be waitress much less an actress,oh never mind, I never do anything right, it's just,I'm sorry, what did you ask me sir?

MARLON

your name dear, it was your name?

ZOOEY (VERY QUICKLY)

It's Claire sir, of course that's the name my mama gave me, but my stage name is "Zooley", but I am sure I haven't done anything you've seen, I have been on 2 auditions but they were both very brief in fact the 1st one, a mean woman just said "THANK YOU" before I said one word, the other seemed as if it was for more experienced girls, they kept asking me if willing to do scenes from behind? I told them I never did any documentaries but I wanted to learn they said they'll call me-

MARLON

OK, Claire I'm "BUD" say where did you come from Claire or Zooey?

ZOOEY (VERY QUICKLY)

we'll just now? or before? Do you mean where I was born, or I just moved here from back east so, do you mean where I moved from? Or do you mean where I come from career wise cause I'm not really a waitress well I am now but I'm really an actress, well I also just came from kitchen right before you came in did you mean that? What did you mean sir, oh! I did again, sorry

MARLON

what?... (to the audience) what she say?

GUY (FROM THE KITCHEN)

take it easy on her old man, I'm warning you...!

MARLON

(to audience)  
take it easy on her is  
he kidding,...-Just get me my  
coffee, "Speedy" Zooey, you sit!)

ZOOEY,

sit?

MARLON

yes, please sit down with me, have some coffee? I'm lonely old man just want to talk with you for a while

ZOOEY

with you, now?, no I couldn't- It's my first day, I'll get fired, that would be great, get fired on my first day! No thank you, I should just get to work- or I'll be just sittin on the bricks

*Zooey, looks for Guy in the Kitchen, but he cannot be seen*

MARLON CONT...

It's hitting the bricks, come'on don't worry, I told you I've been coming here for,...?(still trying to recall)we'll I told you before, it's a long time! and that makes me a VIP in this dump

MARLON (AGITATED)

*yelling to Guy in kitchen*  
Speaking of dump, where's that coffee dummy?! Bring me my regular will ya??! and don't forget the extra whipped cream on those silver dollars, (he looks at Zooey) I love whipped cream, I love it!

(CONTINUED)

ZOOEY

Me too, of course I love strawberries, do you like strawberries? I bet you do, I'll get it- no Guy wait! WAIT! I'll get it for you sir, please- let me take your order, it is my job after all and I have to do my job, what good is a job if you can't do it? Mama always said if it worth doing, then do it right, of course daddy always said; let the other guy do it, if you think can get away with it so-

(Marlon cuts her off)

MARLON

-No! let El Slow Poke Get it for me, he knows how I like it. I told you, now if you want to keep you job you'll sit down and let the Mexican bandit over there get the goods OK? I not gonna bite honey, I don't even have my chompers anymore, ... come on dear, did you have coffee yet oh never mind- (yells to Guy again)

"SHORTY!" Bring Zooey a cup of Joe and a short stack with strawberries and extra whipped cream too!, and hurry it up!, Geese, he's as slow as molasses in January!

*Zooey reluctantly sits down with Marlon- Guy enters dining room from the kitchen with the coffee and pancakes for both Marlon and Zooey, he gives Marlon an angry glare as he places it down in front of him. Marlon smiles back at him defiantly.*

*Black Out*

END SCENE 1

ACT IScene #2 The Audition

*Lights Up on studio casting waiting room day time. Zooey is nervously waiting with 3 other girls all dressed exactly like her, she is reading from some sides, the 3 are gossiping*

GIRL #1

I heard he only picks the ones he wants to... well you know

GIRL #2

what, wants to dance with!?

GIRL #3

Hey, I can dance!

GIRL #1

Not that kind of dance honey, unless you want to be known for that.

GIRL #2

they all had to do it at some point, I know for a fact that Cameron Diaz did and Rosie Perez definitely slept with Spike Lee

GIRL #3

Hey, I didn't know Cameron Diaz was a dancer?

*couple of beats pass and  
Girl#1 is checking her compact mirror*

GIRL #1

Look if he wants to put me in his movie...well you know a girl has to do what a girl has to do right?

*The casting door opens, Girl#1 is called in  
Zooey is just sitting quietly, but is visibly  
thrown by the conversation fearing she will have  
to submit to the "casting couch"*

CASTING ASSISTANT

OK, who's 1st!?, come on in

GIRL #1 CONTINUED

And this girl is going to do what she has to do... too.

*Girl #1 walks in confidently and the casting door  
closes behind her*

(CONTINUED)

ZOOEY

Is that true? Did all of those actresses have to do that to get parts in movies?

GIRL #2 (SARCASTICALLY)

Yes it is true, what did you think they good actors where are you from anyway, another mid-west farm girl thinks she can make it without using her assets?

GIRL #3

Don't listen to her, she's bitter cause she already used all her assets and still isn't famous

*Girl # 2 gives Girl # 3 the finger and a mean glare and sticks her tongue out at her*

ZOOEY

I could never do that!

GIRL #2

your never gonna make it out here sweetie, why don't you take your little farm ass back to Iowa or wherever your from and go milk your cows

ZOOEY

It's Wisconsin, and we make cheese!

*Upset Zoey gets up and storms off*

GIRL #2

Go ahead and go honey! See ya!

END SCENE #2

Scene #3 Mama's Call

*Lights Up on "Guys & Dolls" it's morning  
Marlon is already at his table nursing his coffee  
Zoey is seated with him but get up and picks up  
the breakfast plates and heads towards the  
kitchen, just then the diner phone rings on the  
line is Zoey's mama, guy calls out;  
(RING ... RING... RING...)*

GUY (FROM THE KITCHEN)

Guys & Dolls Hollywood...Hello this is Guy?...  
Hold on...Zoey! Pick Up! You got a call, it's your  
mama!

*Zoey puts the plates down and runs to get the  
phone through Guy's window,*

(CONTINUED)

ZOOEY

Oh my God! I was supposed to call her last night, she probably thinks, I was kidnapped and taken away! She's always saying, I'd forget my own name if it wasn't tattooed well you know...

*she takes the phone from Guy at the window  
(Mama can heard on the phone)*

MAMA (ON PHONE WORRIED AND HURRIED)

Claire? Claire are you there Claire...? I can't hear you dear? Why didn't you call? I got so worried, I know it's a different timezone there but you know how you father gets after he eats Brussels sprouts, I don't have to tell you, he just blows up and so when you didn't call I was frantic, oh, I hope your OK honey are you eating, I know you don't eat right, did you get the part on that show you were talking about? California 40129??

ZOOEY

No mama, it's Beverly Hills 90210, and no I didn't, there was an awful girl there who was trying to date the director- oh it doesn't matter, I'm never gonna be famous, I'll never be a star, I will always be just a nobody who comes from cheese-ville Wisconsin.

*Marlon listening but pretends not to hear the conversation he continues to nurse the coffee slowly*

MAMA

Oh come now baby girl, I know how hard it's been but you've wanted this ever since your were a little girl pretending to be a movie star, remember how you used to run around all dressed up as Clint Eastwood in Dirty Harry so cute with that little squint in your eye and your daddy's jacket and oh that big 44 pistol, oh I can see you now pointing at me "mama make my day" you remember(mama starts to get teary over the phone)

ZOOEY

Stop it mama, Ill never be Clint Eastwood, and I'll never even get to meet him either! I'll never make it here! Mama, I have to go, please I have customers now, you know you shouldn't call me at work, I'll call you later mama, I gotta go! Bye mama Bye!

*Zoey, tosses the phone back through the window and looks over at Marlon then runs off stage crying, Guy comes out of kitchen with coffee pot in hand walks to Marlon*

(CONTINUED)



GUY

More coffee?

MARLON

Filler up my amigo, say what's with that one?  
when we had our breakfast she was fine? Now she's  
sobbing hysterically about some lousy acting role?

GUY

She wants to be a star,...like you man star, she has  
those damn stars in her eyes, we've seen it before so  
many times,they all come and they go

MARLON

A star huh? I'm not a star, I'm just like you Pedro,  
kidding... Guy,...I'm just like you , were all the  
same, but she's different, (Marlon suddenly has to  
leave)

I need to have a little sit down with a friend, I gotta  
go Pancho, help me outta here will ya?!

*Guy helps Marlon from the table Marlon Exits in a  
hurry out off stage, guy walks to kitchen, lights  
down*

BLACK OUT END ACT #1

ACT 2Scene #1 The Sit Down

*Lights up on Marlon's living room daytime Marlon is on a lounge chair with his feet up, there is phone on a small table next to the lounge he is eating Ice cream with whipped cream. Marlon's phone rings it's security telling him a guest has arrived his old friend and agent Jay Cantor he's very old also now and is retired from the "BIZ"*

MARLON (MOUTH FULL)

what?!...OK, let him already will ya, is this Sanchez? Sanchez, I told you- why do you call me every time one of my friends comes? you are supposed to call me only if I don't know who it is?

SANCHEZ (ON PHONE HEAVY SPANISH ACCENT)

Mr. Marlon, you told me not let anyone in?? I only doing what you say, I don't know you know him?? He only say he Jay?? He not say he's; Jay-Mr. Marlon's friend?

MARLON

oh forget it! Let him in, let him in will ya! and make sure i know them next time!

*Marlon hangs up and continues to eat his ice cream. Jay is behind Marlon's door but the door is locked, Jay starts to knock, Marlon struggles to get up off the lounge after he walks to the door and tries to open the lock on the door which is stuck.*

*(knock knock knock)*

JAY

Marlon? are you in there Marlon?, I'm here, it only took me 7 hours with the "fa-cock-ta" traffic but I'm here!

MARLON

Hold on hold on, it's locked, I'll get it, hold on will ya!

JAY

OK, OK

MARLON

wait wait, I'll get it , it's stuck! Let me push it,

(CONTINUED)

JAY

Marlon just slide it, just slide it

MARLON

hold on! hold On, it's stuck!, let me get the kid, the kid will fix it- Julio... Julio!

JAY

no no, Marlon, just calm down and slide it Marlon Just slide it!

MARLON

OK wait let me slide it,..(it opens) what you think- I never opened a door before?

*the door lock opens Marlon pulls the door open quickly Jay is standing there*

MARLON

Alright, come in already... how the hell are you my little bub-a-la, it's been to long my friend

JAY

Marlon, I see you remember your Yiddish! You supposed be out of that chair and doing all that heavy lifting?

MARLON

you know better, what heavy lifting?

JAY

that spoon over there in the ice cream tub lifting to your mouth? Just kidding Bud, where's that nurse, you look great...

MARLON

well you look like shit-I was gonna kick your rear end for a second there, alright sit down I need to talk to you

*Marlon and Jay sit down together and continue their conversation seated*

JAY

listen Bud, I was your agent for 40 years, you know I would do anything for you and I have-

*Godfather music is heard and fades behind Marlon*

MARLON (IN GODFATHER VOICE)

Good cause remember that time when I said you'd owe me a favor and that one day I would call on you to perform a service, that day has come and I need you to honor our friendship...

(CONTINUED)

*music fades and ends*

JAY

Marlon, when I said anything , I didn't mean...?

MARLON

no no no, you idiot, I need you to talk to Lou what's his name?? uh?? you know? Goldmeyer? Goldfinger or whatever his name is, over at Universal and tell him I'm calling in my marker, I have ringer for him and make this happen or else I'll, well never mind what I'll do but I want this girl made into a star and she's got the talent to be one, you just tell him that OK, don't let me down bub-a-la, say, you want something to eat stay for lunch? wait -I'll get the girl to make it- Tehana!

JAY

no thank you, I ate before I came- Marlon who is this girl? Why do you-

MARLON

No questions! what did you have?

JAY

What do mean no questions, what's her name at least? I need to know that?

MARLON

no questions answer me? What did you have for lunch?

JAY

Oh, um chicken salad?

MARLON

Chicken salad! her name is Zooey Canal? Denal? or something Zooey for crying out loud from Wisconsin find out from Guy, how many can there be in LA? Any way just get her with Goldfarts he'll know what to do with her... - Now back to lunch, chicken salad huh,... haven't had chicken salad in years...

*Jay stares at Marlon for a moment lights fade to black*

END SCENE #1 ACT 2

Act 2 Scene #2 Perks

*Lights up on Marlon's living room Marlon sits and resumes with his tub of ice cream and contemplates his feelings on his own fame and place in Hollywood history.*

(CONTINUED)

MARLON

Living as long as I have and as hard as I have tried to study human nature, and I've tried. I have come to truly understand the true nature, the allure of fame. I did only a handful of interviews over the years and they are essentially all the same, I told the same old story, we're all actors, I'm not any different, we all act in everyday life, I told them I never enjoyed being a movie star, hocking my movies for studios, I told them I was just another shmoe who got lucky. Well I'm here to tell you,... It was all a load of crap!

I worked at it! Fucking hard to become a famous star, in the beginning, day after day the redundancy of Broadway and theater and then later, I worked even harder to maintain the illusion of not wanting it, not wanting the fame and fortune that comes with it, I worked...

The real truth is, being a the most famous actor in the world a movie star with every perk you can have on this earth and then some was great! What did you think I was going to say it sucked? Well it didn't! I had it all!, any time, any way, all the time! Christ, I still have my own fucking island! (laughing) Ha! Fooling the establishment, the press, was so much fun and that's what fed me, nourished me, I kept the image up my entire career...

*Marlon takes a moment to reflect*

Speaking of the establishment, I still have a few strings I can pull in this town and I am going to pull them for her. You know why? Cause I can. I could have helped my own daughter but... maybe not... maybe that's why,.. she reminds me a little bit of her,... my daughter... if I could have done more, well, who knows, things might have turned out different.

So Like I said before because I can and because... I know it will make her happy... and besides, those strings I have to pull are the only thing I have left of my stardom... these are now my perks of fame. And you know what, I'll be God damned if I don't pull them before I'm dead.

*Marlon grabs the ice cream tub and starts digging through it looking for little chocolate pieces which he can't find any more he calls out to his nurse who is off stage*

MARLON CONT...

Tehana! Tehana!, where the hell is she now!? probably taking a nap!

(CONTINUED)

*Tehana answers from off stage*

TEHANA (OFF STAGE)

Yes Mr.Cranky pants?? How can I can help you now?

MARLON

Whipped cream! Whipped Cream damn it!Why else would I call you?! Now,!Will you get me some more God damned whipped cream!

*Marlon digs at the ice cream tub and the lights fade*

END SCENE 2 ACT 2

Act #2 Scene #3

*Lights up on Guys diner, Zooey is alone behind the counter, music comes in*

ZOOEY (SINGING)

I'm the one who they called a dreamer, I'm the one they called nerd-

every time I try so hard and every time I'm never heard

I took the classes, I learned the ropes,  
I took my chances and I raised my hopes

But, I was let down, I was hung up, I was let down,  
now my times up

I'm the the one they called so silly, they all said I  
laughed too loud

They don't know how long the road is they don't how  
hard I've tried,

I took the odds, and rolled the dice  
now my lucks run out-

I was let down,.. I was hung up, I've been shot down  
now it's too much-

I'm the one they called a dreamer, the dreaming is not  
so hard to do, it's the dream that keeps you going,  
hanging on and hoping too, but it's that dream never  
realized just kills a part of you-

Cause, I was let down, I was hung up, I was let down,  
now my times up

I was let down,.. I was hung up, I've been shot down  
now it's too much-

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

14.

*(REPEAT LAST 2 verse and end song)*