

## *Zed Ander*

### WILLIAM AND ANTONIO, GIOTTO AND MAE

So the guy played by William Hurt sits at the lunch counter eating a chili dog and drollops chili on his plate and the She played by Mae West comes in and says "Cancha see I'm trying to paint out there?" And the guy eating the chili dog doesn't answer because he doesn't know if she means paint the walls or paint a picture or why either way his chili dog makes a difference so he just looks at her kind of from the side and chili drips down that side of his chin and the She who's painting says "Well?" And the guy with the dribbly chin played by William Hurt tries to swallow but he took too big a bite so he chokes and tries to get some air and the She who paints played by Mae West sees him gasping and gives him a good wallop between the shoulder blades so he spurts his chili dog out there on the counter though he's trying to aim for his plate because he's not really a slob, just a guy trying to get some lunch and then go back to the construction site. The She who walloped him is standing right there at his shoulder and sees him do that but keeps her attitude and the guy who tossed his chili dog reaches over the counter and takes a wad of napkins out of the dispenser and wipes his face and his front and covers up the mess on the counter and then he looks at her by turning all the way on the stool and he says "Ma'am?"

The She standing there at his shoulder played by Mae West says "Ma'am?" back to him and "So you think I'm somebody's mother?" and throws back her head and laughs but it's not a laugh that sounds like anything was very funny. And the guy who said Ma'am looks up at her wide open mouth and sees the ridges on her upper palate and then he says "Sister?" as if that would be better and the She who's laughing brings her head forward and says "Sister?" as if she's never heard anything so preposterous in her life and so she gets laughing again and this time she bends forward and leans her hand on his shoulder and the laugh does sound as if something was funny, so the guy keeps on going and says "Baby?" and now her lungs are really pumping out ha-ha's so she tries to choke out a word between her laughing and says "Mister?" to the guy who said Baby, and he says "So you think I'm somebody's boss?" and he starts laughing in a kind of low chuckle and then he says

“Honey?” and she has to cross her legs to keep from peeing since her pumping lungs are pushing against her diaphragm and that’s pushing on her stomach and her bladder and she starts going first back and then forth as if she’s stretching her spine out and then bowing to him she says, “Brother?” and then she says, “Sweetie Pie?” and the guy who said Honey says “Toots?” and the She who said Brother says “Lover Boy?” and the guy who said Toots stands up and they’re facing each other over the counter stool and the waitress comes up and puts his check down and he says “Margie?” to her since she’s wearing a name tag and the waitress who’s played by Natalie Wood says, “Mister?” and then the She who said Lover Boy laughs so hard that she leans all the way double on the counter stool and so the guy who said Margie looks at Margie and says, “Coed?” but Margie who’s played by Natalie Wood doesn’t see what’s so funny and lifts up a corner of the napkin on the plate used by the guy who said Coed and says “Jesus!” and then the She who said Lover Boy says “Mary?” looking at Margie and the guy whose plate provoked the Jesus says “and Joseph?” pointing at himself but looking at the one he called Toots and then the She who said Mary who’s played by Mae West says “Giotto!” and points to herself and then since the guy who said Joseph has the answer to his question he bows to her and says, “Maestro!” and the She who said Giotto bows back and says “Pagannini?” to the guy who said Maestro and that sets him off so he’s bowing backwards and forwards laughing and Margie who’s played by Natalie Wood watches them and says “Jesus Christ!” and goes away and then they two have to hold each other up in a kind of shoulder hug because of the laughing and the guy who’s not Pagannini starts hiccupping but says through his hiccoughs pointing to himself, “Gaudi!” and then the She who’s Giotto says “Gaudi!” like a long lost friend and kisses him on both cheeks and he who’s Gaudi says “Giotto!” like what-a-surprise-to-meet-you-here-I’ve-looked-forward-to-it-for-so-long and then they’re both laughing and they go out of the cafe like that, laughing and holding each other but not too close since Gaudi has chili on his shirt and Giotto’s hands are stained with paint and Margie who’s played by Natalie Wood doesn’t even go after him about his check.