

DIALOGUE BETWEEN JACK AND JUDGE

THE JUDGE

Ah, Counselor Avocado.  
I presume your client has been --- prepared?

AVOCADO

Yes, Your Honor, we're ready to roll.

THE JUDGE

Very well, then.  
Mr. French, what is your profession?

JACK

(mumbles) entahtainer

THE JUDGE

Once again, please.

JACK

entahtainah, I'm an entahtainah

THE JUDGE

An entertainer. I see.  
And what exactly does that mean to you, Mr.  
French?

JACK

Laugh. I make people laugh.

THE JUDGE

Make people laugh. Hmm.  
And is it a happy laugh?

JACK

(imitating accent) "Happy laugh"?  
(laughs, then repeats) "Happy laugh"?

THE JUDGE

When you make people laugh, Mr. French,  
is it a laughter that lightens the heart?

JACK

American, heavy.

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THE JUDGE

Heavy?  
So the laughter is UNhappy.

AVOCADO

Your Honor, uh, might I tender an objection?

THE JUDGE

Keep still, Counselor,  
if you are unable to feed your client his lines,  
I have no choice but to do so myself.  
Mr. French, what do you make people laugh about  
when  
you make people laugh?

JACK

Soup. All the crazy soup.

THE JUDGE

Do you mean to say:  
giving voice to the ---- absurd?

JACK

Giving head --- to the herd.

THE JUDGE

I beg your pardon?

AVOCADO

I believe my client is referencing the role of the  
imagination  
in the dissemination of mass media.

THE JUDGE

Thank you, Counselor,  
but I am neither so old nor so dim as you  
apparently think.

AVOCADO

No, Your Honor.

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JACK

Not that dim.

THE JUDGE

Thank you, Mr. French,  
now, can you tell me the etymology for the word  
“entertainer”?

JACK

Bugs. It's about bugs.

AVOCADO

Jack, she means, where doe the word come from.

JACK

Bugs, the soup comes from bugs.

THE JUDGE

Yes, Mr. French, the soup *does* come from bugs,  
but the word “entertainer” comes from the French.

JACK

That's me. All the French, all the time.

THE JUDGE

*Entre tenir* --- to hold together, as in *communitas*.

JACK

Falling apart. Mushrooms to mushrooms, slop to  
slop.

THE JUDGE

*Communitas*, Mr. French.  
The entertainer creates and sustains *communitas*.

JACK

For the dead. Ding dong dead.

THE JUDGE

Counselor?

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AVOCADO

I believe he means that *communitas* is for the dead.

THE JUDGE

Yes, well, inevitably, Mr. French.  
But in the meantime ---- do you like black truffles?

JACK

Dr. Hank. Truffle soup. For Nancy.

THE JUDGE

That's fine, Mr. French, and how does this, um, Dr. Hank uncover the truffles for Nancy's soup?

JACK

Pigs. Use piggy pig pigs.

THE JUDGE

Quite right, and how is it that the profane pig is able to uncover the sublime black truffle?

JACK

(incoherent song, sounds like "goopity goopity goo")

AVOCADO

Your Honor, I believe this line of questioning is confusing my client.

THE JUDGE

I am merely trying to assure Mr. French that he is not here on account of his ample measure of stink, without which, there would be nothing to uncover.

JACK

The black. Look at all the black.

THE JUDGE

Yes, Mr. French, just look at it all.  
But you see --- when you embrace so much black, we expect much more truffle.

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JACK

On my tongue. I have a big black truffle.  
On my French tongue.

THE JUDGE

Counselor?

AVOCADO

First I've heard about it, Your Honor.

THE JUDGE

Let's have a look then ---

JACK

(opens, groggy mumbles "see, truffle, bottom,  
tongue")

THE JUDGE

I can't see a bloody thing, Counselor,  
but what is that  
stench?

AVOCADO

Hank was supposed to come by with the wet vac.

THE JUDGE

Would you be so kind as to arouse your client?

AVOCADO

Your Honor?

THE JUDGE

Wake him up, Mr. Avocado ---  
we're running short of time.

AVOCADO

Jack, the Judge is here, Jack, wake up ----

JACK

What? Where am I, oh ---still here.