SCRIPT TITLE

Written by

Name of First Writer

Based on, If Any

Address Phone Number INT. CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS - MASTER'S SHIP - NIGHT

MASTER and FREDDIE stand opposite one another ready to drink some of Freddie's home-made alcohol.

MASTER

Cheers.

They take it down. MASTER is caught off guard by the liquors strength. They Laugh.

MASTER (CONT'D)

OH GOD! Oh god. Freddie... Lovely.

MASTER gathers himself.

MASTER (CONT'D)

I've been writing. Feel like I went under. Dark cloud rolls in, opens up. Anxious to share new work. Would you care for some informal processing?

FREDDIE

Sure. What do I have to do?

MASTER

Just answer my questions, we talk.

FREDDIE

Okay.

MASTER

Very good. Have a seat... How are you feeling, Freddie?

FREDDIE

Good.

MASTER

You rested?

FREDDIE

Yes.

MASTER

Excited?

FREDDIE

Yeah.

MASTER

Have you made some friends?

Everyone's very nice here.

MASTER

Good. Good... How are you feeling?

FREDDIE

Yeah, good.

MASTER sets up the recording equipment, while FREDDIE watches.

MASTER

I gather myself... You'll be my guinea pig and protege... Informal processing.

MASTER finally sits across from FREDDIE.

MASTER (CONT'D)

Are you ready?

FREDDIE

Yes.

MASTER pushes record on the recording device.

MASTER

Say your name.

FREDDIE

Freddie Quell.

MASTER

Say it again.

FREDDIE

Freddie Quell.

MASTER

Say it again.

FREDDIE

Freddie Quell.

MASTER

Say it again.

FREDDIE

Freddie Quell.

MASTER

Might as well say it again, just to make sure you know who you are.

Freddie Quell.

MASTER

Are you thoughtless in your remarks?

FREDDIE

I usually put some thought into them.

MASTER

Do you linger at bus stations for pleasure?

FREDDIE

No.

MASTER

Do you get muscle spasms for no reason?

FREDDIE

No.

MASTER

Do your past failures bother you?

FREDDIE

No.

MASTER

Do your past failures bother you?

FREDDIE

No.

MASTER

Do your past failures bother you?

FREDDIE

No.

MASTER

Do your past failures in life bother you?

FREDDIE

No.

MASTER

Is your life a struggle?

No.

MASTER

Do you like to be told what to do?

FREDDIE

No.

MASTER

Is your behavior erratic?

FREDDIE

No.

MASTER

Do you find interest in other people?

FREDDIE

Not really.

MASTER

Do you find it easy to be fair?

FREDDIE

Yes.

MASTER

Are you often consumed by envy?

FREDDIE

No, about what?

MASTER

Are you often consumed by envy?

FREDDIE

I don't unders... You mean like jealousy?

MASTER

Like jealousy.

FREDDIE

Oh, well, yeah. I don't like someone else's hands on my girls. I don't like to think about it. It makes me sick.

MASTER

Are you scientific in your thought?

Yes.

MASTER

Are you concerned with the impression you make?

FREDDIE

Mm... I don't understand.

MASTER

Yes you do.

FREDDIE

Well, most people are asses if that's what you mean.

MASTER

Are you usually truthful to others?

FREDDIE

No. I don't know. Sometimes.

MASTER

Are you unpredictable?

FREDDIE farts and starts laughing hysterically.

MASTER (CONT'D)

Silly. Silly animal.

FREDDIE

I couldn't help it.

MASTER

Dirty animal.

FREDDIE

Sorry.

MASTER

It's good to laugh during processing. Sometimes we forget, even if it is the sound of an animal.

They laugh.

MASTER (CONT'D)

Freddie Quell, test session, March 5th, 1950, 1800 hours. Abourd the sailing vessel, Alethia. LD, MOC, MD, logged and approved...

(MORE)

MASTER (CONT'D)

Should we sample another sip before we join them upstairs?

FREDDIE

Wait, that's it?

MASTER

For now.

FREDDIE

No, no, no, no. You got to ask me more. This is fun. Come on, you got to ask me more.

MASTER

Could you answer the next series of questions without blinking your eyes?

FREDDIE

Yes.

MASTER

Without fear and hesitation. Answer as quickly as you can?

FREDDIE

Sure... Again.

MASTER pushes record again.

MASTER

Starting now, you are not to blink. If you blink we go back to the start.

Freddie blinks.

MASTER (CONT'D)

Infringement. You blinked... Starting now, you are not to blink. If you blink, we go back to the start... Do you often think about how inconsequential you are?

FREDDIE

No.

MASTER

Do you believe that God will save you from your own ridiculousness?

FREDDIE

No.

MASTER

Have you ever had intercourse with someone inside your family?

FREDDIE

Yes.

MASTER

Have you ever had intercourse with someone insdie your family?

FREDDIE

Yes.

MASTER

Who?

FREDDIE

My auntie.

MASTER

Have you killed anyone?

FREDDIE

No.

MASTER

Maybe?

FREDDIE

Not me.

MASTER

Have you killed anyone?

FREDDIE

No.

MASTER

How many times did you have intercourse with your aunt?

FREDDIE

Three times.

MASTER

Where is your aunt now?

FREDDIE

I don't know.

MASTER

Would you like to have intercourse with her again?

No.

MASTER

Do you regret this?

FREDDIE

No.

MASTER

Where is your mother?

FREDDIE

I don't know. Loony...

Freddie Blinks.

MASTER

Infringement.

FREDDIE

Fuck!

Freddie Slaps himself.

MASTER

Back to the start.

FREDDIE

Okay.

MASTER

Do you often think about how inconsequential you are?

FREDDIE

Yes.

MASTER

Do you believe that God will save you?

FREDDIE

No.

MASTER

Have you ever had sex with a member of your family?

FREDDIE

Yes.

MASTER

Are you lying?

No.

MASTER

Who?

FREDDIE

My Auntie Bertha.

MASTER

Where is your aunt now?

FREDDIE

I don't know, maybe home.

MASTER

Are you lying?

FREDDIE

No.

MASTER

Are you a liar?

FREDDIE

Yes.

MASTER

Have you killed anyone?

FREDDIE

Yes.

MASTER

Who?

FREDDIE

Japs in war.

MASTER

Do you regret this?

FREDDIE

No.

MASTER

What are you running from?

FREDDIE

Maybe I hurt a man, I think. Maybe he's dead, I don't know.

MASTER

Where?

In Salinas. He stole a batch of my booze and he drank it.

MASTER

Is this booze you make poison?

FREDDIE

Not if you drink it smart.

MASTER

Are you trying to poison me?

FREDDIE

No.

MASTER

Where is your father?

FREDDIE

Dead

MASTER

How did he die?

FREDDIE

Drunk.

MASTER

Where is your mother?... Where is your mother?

FREDDIE

Loony bin.

MASTER

Is she psychotic?

FREDDIE

Yes.

MASTER

What is the name of your aunt?

FREDDIE

Bertha.

MASTER

How did you come to have sex with your Auntie Bertha?

FREDDIE

I was drunk and she looked good.

MASTER

And you did it again and again.

FREDDIE

Yes.

MASTER

Have you ever had bad thoughts about Master Peggy?

FREDDIE

Yes.

MASTER

What did you think?

FREDDIE

I thought you were fools.

MASTER

Am I a fool to you?

FREDDIE

No, sir.

MASTER

If you were locked in a room for the rest of your life, who would be in there with you?

FREDDIE

Doris.

MASTER

Who's Doris?

FREDDIE

Best girl I ever met. the girl I'm going to marry one day.

MASTER

Is she in Lynn?

FREDDIE

Yes.

MASTER

Lynn, Massachusetts?

FREDDIE

Yes, sir.

MASTER

Why aren't you with her?

I'm an idiot.

MASTER

Why aren't you with that lovely girl?

FREDDIE

I got no reason. I'm a fool.

MASTER

Do you love Doris?

FREDDIE

Yes.

MASTER

Is she the love of your life?

FREDDIE

Yes, sir.

MASTER

Then why aren't you with her?

FREDDIE

I don't know.

MASTER

Yes, you do. Tell me why you're not with her if you love her so much.

FREDDIE

I told her I'd come back, and I never went back and now I just, I got to get back to her.

MASTER

Why don't you go back?

FREDDIE

I don't know.

MASTER

Why don't you go back?

FREDDIE

I don't know!

MASTER

Close your eyes... Recall a word.

FREDDIE

Flowers.

MASTER

Can you recall what you were wearing?

FREDDIE

Navy blues.

MASTER

What do you hear?

FREDDIE

Voices inside.

MASTER

Recall a sound.

FREDDIE

She's singing. (mumbles lyrics)

MASTER

Can you recall a word? Any word.

FREDDIE

Away.

MASTER

Say it again.

FREDDIE

Away.

MASTER

Who's saying "away"?

FREDDIE

I am.

MASTER

Release and return to me. Open your eyes. Say your name.

FREDDIE

Freddie Quell.

MASTER

Are you here with me in 1950?

FREDDIE

Yes.

MASTER

End of session... how do you feel?

I feel good.

MASTER

Left side of your body feel okay?

FREDDIE

Yes.

MASTER

Right side of your stomach?

FREDDIE

Yes.

MASTER

Headaches?

FREDDIE

A little.

MASTER

Are you a member of the hidden rulers?

FREDDIE

I don't know what that is.

MASTER

Any communist organization?

FREDDIE

No.

MASTER

Any invader force on the planet of anywhere else?

FREDDIE

No, sir.

MASTER

You are the bravest boy I've ever met .

MASTER pours them a drink.

MASTER (CONT'D)

To the poison.

They cheers and drink.

MASTER (CONT'D)

Well done.

FREDDIE pulls out a pack of smokes. They both light one up.

FREDDIE

Kools.

MASTER

I like Kools. Minty flavor.