## Tootsie

George : Hang on one second-Micheal, will you wait outside a minute. I<sup>1</sup>m talking to the coast

Micheal: This is a coast, too, George. New York is a coast, too.

George: Sy, Sy... Look what you did.-Margaret, Margaret, Get him back Margaret. I cut myself off. Now what is it, Micheal?

Micheal:

Terry Bishop is doing Iceman Cometh, right? Didn<sup>1</sup>t you promise to send me up for that part? Am I wrong? Didn<sup>1</sup>t you tell me I was going to get a reading for that part? Aren<sup>1</sup>t you my agent?

George: Stewart Preston wants a name, Micheal

Micheal: Oh, Terry Bishop is a name.

George:

NoNoNo. Micheal Dorsey is a name. When you want to send a steak back. Micheal Dorsey is a name.

Micheal: OK

George:

Wait. Wait. Wait. Sheesh You always do this to me. You won<sup>1</sup>t listen to a thing I say. Let me start all over again. Terry Bishop is on a soap opera. Millions of people watch him every day. He<sup>1</sup>s known.

Micheal:

Does that qualify him to ruin The Iceman Cometh? Do you know I can act circles around that guy? I already played that part in Minneopolis.

George:

He wants a name. That<sup>1</sup>s his affair. OK? I know this is going to disgust you,

Micheal, but a lot of people are in this business to make money.

Micheal:

Don<sup>1</sup>t make me to be some knid of flake, George. I am in this business to make money, too.

George: Really?

Micheal: Yeah!

George:

Arnold Theatre for the Blind? Strindberg in the Park? The People<sup>1</sup>s Workshop in Syracuse?

Micheal:

OK, now wait a minute. I did 9 plays in eight months up in Syracuse. I happened to get great reviews from the New York critics. (Not that that<sup>1</sup>s why I did it.)

George:

Of course not. God forbid you should lose your standing as a cult failure.

Micheal:

Do you think I<sup>1</sup>m a failure? George. Is that what you<sup>1</sup>re saying to me?

George:

I will not get sucked into this conversation, Micheal. I will not.

Micheal:

I sent you a play to read, that my roommate wrote. It had a great part in it for me. Did you read it?

George:

Where the hell do you get off sending me your roommate<sup>1</sup>s play to star in? I<sup>1</sup>m your agent, not your mother. I<sup>1</sup>m not supposed to find you plays to star in. I<sup>1</sup>m supposed to field offers. That<sup>1</sup>s what I do.

Micheal:

Field offers? Who told you that? The Agent Fairy? That was a significant piece of work. I could have been terrific in it.

George:

Nobody<sup>1</sup>s going to do that play.

Micheal: Why?

George:

Because nobody wants to produce a play about a couple who moves back to Love

Canal.

Micheal: But that actually happened!

George:

Who gives a shit? Nobody wants to pay \$20 to see a play about people who live next to chemical waste. They can see that in New Jersey.

Micheal:

Now I don't want to argue about it. OK. I'll raise the \$8000 myself, so I can produce his play. And I want you to send me up for anything. I don't care what it is. I'll do dog food commercials. I'll do radio voice overs.

George: Micheal, I can<sup>1</sup>t put you up for anything.

Micheal: Why not?

George: Because... no one will hire you.

Micheal:

Oh, that<sup>1</sup>s not true. I bust my ass to get a part right. And you know I do..

George:

And you bust everybody else<sup>1</sup>s ass, too.That<sup>1</sup>s what you do. A guy<sup>1</sup>s got 4 weeks to put on a play. Do you think he wants to argue whether Tolstoy can walk when he<sup>1</sup>s dying? Or walk when he<sup>1</sup>s talking? Or sing when he<sup>1</sup>s walking-

## Micheal:

Oh, that was 2 years ago. And that guy<sup>1</sup>s an idiot.

## George:

They can't all be idiots. Micheal, you argue with everybody. You have one of

the worst reputations in this town, Micheal. Nobody will hire you.

Micheal:

Are you saying that nobody in New York will work with me?

George:

Oh, no. That<sup>1</sup>s too limiting. Nobody in Hollywood wants to work with you either. I can<sup>1</sup>t even send you up for a commercial. You played a tomato for 30 seconds. They went a half day over schedule, because you wouldn<sup>1</sup>t sit down.

Micheal: Yes. It wasn<sup>1</sup>t logical.

George:

You were a tomato! A tomato doesn<sup>1</sup>t have logic. A tomato can<sup>1</sup>t move.

Micheal:

That's what I said. A tomato can't move, so how's he going to sit down? George, I was a stand-up tomato. A juicy sexy beefsteak tomato.Nobody does vegetables like me. I did an evening of vegetables off broadway. I did the best tomato, the best cucumber. I did an endive salad that knocked the critics on their ass.

George: Micheal, I<sup>1</sup>m trying to stay calm here. You are a wonderful actor.

Micheal: Thank you.

George: But you<sup>1</sup>re too much trouble. Get some therapy.

Micheal:

Ok. Thanks. I<sup>1</sup>m going to raise the \$8000. And I<sup>1</sup>m gonna do Jeff<sup>1</sup>s play.

George:

Micheal, you<sup>1</sup>re not gonna raise 25 cents. No one will hire you.

Micheal: Oh, yeah?