

FAST FOOD 2:
LATE NIGHT CRAVINGS

A one act play

By Tracy Wells

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CHARACTERS

6-25+ any gender

Graveyard Shift Change

EMPLOYEE	Employee of the fast food restaurant who might also be a werewolf.
ZOMBIE	Hungry sleepwalker.
CAPTAIN CLUCK	A rival fast food chicken mascot.
MANAGER	Manager of a fast food restaurant.
CUSTOMERS	(Optional...maybe VAMPIRE or WITCH and MINION from FAST FOOD)

Shake Down

EMPLOYEE	Employee of the fast food restaurant.
CUSTOMER	Just wants a milkshake.
GARY/SHERRY	Here to fix the shake machine.

In the Driver's Seat

MOE	A prankster in the drive thru.
EMPLOYEE	Employee of the fast food restaurant.

Night Owl

PAT	Grill cook who likes to goof around.
PATTY	Another.
OWL PROWLER	Huge fan of owls.
MANAGER	Teenage shift manager of a fast food restaurant.

Take a Bite

VAMPIRE	Out for blood.
CUSTOMER	Curious diner.
EMPLOYEE	Employee of the fast food restaurant.

Backseat Driver

MOE	A prankster in the drive thru.
EMPLOYEE	Employee of the fast food restaurant.
ANITA BATH	A prankster accomplice.

Burger King and Queen

KING	Prom King.
QUEEN	Prom Queen.

Steak Out

COP	Working the night beat.
EMT	Having a bad night.
VAMPIRE	Afraid of stakes.

Short Stop

MOE	A prankster in the drive thru.
EMPLOYEE	Employee of the fast food restaurant.

Comfort Food

EMPLOYEE	Employee of the fast food restaurant.
CUSTOMER	Insomniac in their pajamas.

CAPTAIN CLUCK A rival fast food chicken mascot.

I Want My Mummy!

PATTY Another.

MANAGER Teenage shift manager of a fast food restaurant.

CAPTAIN CLUCK A rival fast food chicken mascot.

Drive 'Em Bananas!

MOE A prankster in the drive thru.

EMPLOYEE Employee of the fast food restaurant.

Shake on It

EMPLOYEE Employee of the fast food restaurant.

Just wants a milkshake.

GARY/SHERRY Here to fix the shake machine.

AUTHOR'S NOTE ON CASTING

This play is designed to be very flexible. There are many possibilities for double or triple casting (or more!) You may have each Employee or Manager played by a different actor, or you can have them played by the same actors from Scene One. ***Note, it would be best for Employee interacting with Moe to be the same Employee in all three scenes. Additional Customers and Employees can be added to the background of any scene, including characters from previous scenes. For example, it might be funny to have Vampire in the background eating at a table while King and Queen are on their date or Gary fixing the shake machine or loafing around, sipping from his cup. All characters can be played by an actor of any gender and diversity is encouraged.

RUNTIME

Approximately 30-45 minutes. For a show around 30 min, choose 10 of the scenes. For a 45-50 minute show, stage all 13 scenes. You can also cut the play to any length by choosing the scenes you'd like to stage.

SETTING

Interior of a fast food restaurant named MacBurger's.

TIME

Modern day.

SET/PROPS

This play could be done with minimal set or can be more elaborate. All that is required is a counter with a payment screen on a stand, and 2 tables, each with 2 chairs. A large menu with pictures would be a nice addition behind and above the counter. A window cutout should be present on one side of the counter to designate the drive thru. Alternately, you could also have a drive thru menu that the car orders from. For the car, a simple cardboard cutout of the front of a car would suffice. Additional prop requirements can be found in each scene.

COSTUMES

All Employees should wear a fast food uniform which could just be a colored t shirt with/without a logo and perhaps a matching baseball hat or visor. When in a drive-thru scene they should also have a headset. Pat and Patty should wear uniforms with an apron and hair net or hat. Manager (s) should wear a uniform in similar colors to the Employee uniforms but should wear a button up shirt and tie. Captain Cluck should be dressed as a chicken in some manner (it does not need to be a full chicken suit...but it can be!) Vampire should be dressed in a spooky manner with dark colors. Zombie should be very disheveled, perhaps with torn clothing and should have a zombie-like appearance. Police Officer should wear a uniform. All other customers can be dressed in any manner as indicated in the scene.

LIGHTING/SOUND

No special lighting or sound effects.

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

- Scene 1: Graveyard Shift
- Scene 2: Shake Down
- Scene 3: In the Driver's Seat
- Scene 4: Night Owl
- Scene 5: Take a Bite
- Scene 6: Backseat Driver
- Scene 7: Burger King and Queen
- Scene 8: Steak Out
- Scene 9: Short Stop
- Scene 10: Comfort Food (lights go out?)
- Scene 11: I Want My Mummy
- Scene 12: Drive 'Em Bananas
- Scene 13: Shake on It

SCENE ONE
Graveyard Shift

AT RISE: EMPLOYEE is standing behind the counter, near the payment screen. He has an itch on the back of his neck. He itches it absentmindedly at first, then aggressively, then maybe he tries to get his foot up high enough to itch it or he rubs up against the side of the counter. ZOMBIE enters, slowly and zombie-like and crosses to the counter. She groans. EMPLOYEE abruptly stops itching and addresses customer.

EMPLOYEE

Welcome to MacBurger's, where we go the extra mile to make you smile. What can I get you?

ZOMBIE

Uhhhhgh.

EMPLOYEE

Aw man, we're fresh out of Uhhhhgh.

(chuckles)

Sorry, I had to. We like to crack jokes on the late night shift. Things can get a little wild around here after dark, you know?

ZOMBIE

Uhhhhgh.

EMPLOYEE

See, I knew you would get it. Once the sun goes down everyone starts to get a little weird. And late night fast food spots, well...

(leans across the counter)

Let's just say we attract all the weirdos.

ZOMBIE

Uhhhhgh.

(CAPTAIN CLUCK enters and gets in line behind ZOMBIE.)

EMPLOYEE

(indicates CAPTAIN CLUCK)

Case and point. A man dressed in a giant chicken suit.

ZOMBIE

Uhhhhgh.

CAPTAIN CLUCK

(to ZOMBIE)

Hey, do you know what you want? Cause if you don't, I'd really like to order and get out of here. It's been a long day.

ZOMBIE
(turning to CAPTAIN CLUCK, angrily)

Uhhhhgh!

CAPTAIN CLUCK
(jumping back)

Sorry! Didn't mean anything by it. It's fine. I'll wait.

ZOMBIE
(turning back to look at menu)

Uhhhhgh.

CAPTAIN CLUCK
(aside, to EMPLOYEE)

What's wrong with that lady? (or guy)

EMPLOYEE

Oh, it's just the late night crowd. They're a little...different.

CAPTAIN CLUCK

I guess so!

EMPLOYEE

Yeah, you never know what kind of creatures are lurking out there in the dark.

CAPTAIN CLUCK

Creatures?

EMPLOYEE
(dismissively)

You know what I mean.

(to ZOMBIE)

So do you see something good on the menu?

ZOMBIE
(shaking her head, "no")

Uhhhhgh.

EMPLOYEE

No? Well maybe we could customize something for you. What sounds tasty?

ZOMBIE

Brrraaaaaiiiinnnssss.

CAPTAIN CLUCK

Did she just say, *brains*?

ZOMBIE

Brrraaaaaiiiinnnssss.

EMPLOYEE

Sorry, we don't serve brains here at MacBurgers. But if you head over to the Road Kill Cafe, you might get lucky. I guess they deep fry all kinds of organs...liver and kidneys and tongues. I even heard they have some really good chicken feet.

ZOMBIE

(pointing at CAPTAIN CLUCK'S feet)

Chhhhiicccken.

CAPTAIN CLUCK

(taking another step back)

Hey, lady, don't get any ideas. These feet aren't for frying.

ZOMBIE

(taking a step toward CAPTAIN CLUCK)

Chhhhiicccken.

EMPLOYEE

Great! You figured out what you wanted to eat!

CAPTAIN CLUCK

(taking a step back, afraid)

Can you help me out here, before this zombie turns me into a late night snack?

ZOMBIE

(stops)

Zombie? Who are you calling a zombie?

EMPLOYEE

That's just Karen (or Karl). She's here every night.

ZOMBIE

I work the night shift over at the frisbee factory so I sleep during the day. It just takes me a little bit to wake up.

(to EMPLOYEE)

But you're right...chicken does sound good. I'll have a six piece MacNugget.

EMPLOYEE

Coming right up!

(EMPLOYEE punches the order into the screen or cash register and ZOMBIE pays during the next line.)

CAPTAIN CLUCK

Sorry. I'm not used to being out this late and all this talk about creatures and eating brains—

ZOMBIE

Oh, that was just a little joke.

CAPTAIN CLUCK

Sure. Right. I guess I'm just a little jumpy.

(MANAGER enters, running over to EMPLOYEE, panicked.)

MANAGER

Have you seen the moon?

EMPLOYEE

(worried)

Don't tell me it's full!

CAPTAIN CLUCK

(teasing, trying to play along)

Let me guess...there's a full moon out tonight and one of you is a werewolf?

(EMPLOYEE looks up to the sky and howls, then opens shirt, or takes off hat or rolls up sleeves, revealing werewolf hair.)

MANAGER

Yeah, that pretty much sums it up.

(EMPLOYEE jumps on or over the counter and looks at CAPTAIN CLUCK hungrily.)

I'd run if I were you. You know what a werewolf's favorite food is, don't you?

CAPTAIN CLUCK

No. What is it?

MANAGER, EMPLOYEE and ZOMBIE

Chhhhiiccccken.

(CAPTAIN CLUCK screams and runs offstage, followed by EMPLOYEE. Perhaps some colorful balls are thrown onstage as if CAPTAIN CLUCK has dived into the ball pit.)

MANAGER

Gotta love the night shift!

(MANAGER laughs and crosses behind the counter and finishes helping ZOMBIE as lights fade to black.)

SCENE TWO
Shake Down

AT RISE: EMPLOYEE is standing behind the counter, near the payment screen. At the start of scene, CUSTOMER enters and crosses to counter.

EMPLOYEE

Welcome to MacBurger's, where we go the extra mile to make you smile. What can I get you?

CUSTOMER

Can I get a large strawberry shake?

EMPLOYEE

No.

CUSTOMER

Oh, sorry. Can I get a large strawberry shake, please?

EMPLOYEE

No.

CUSTOMER

Alright, can I get a large vanilla shake, please?

EMPLOYEE

No.

CUSTOMER

Chocolate, then?

EMPLOYEE

No.

CUSTOMER

(getting annoyed)

Is it a grammar thing, then? May I get a large vanilla shake, please?

EMPLOYEE

No.

CUSTOMER

(exasperated)

What do I have to do to get a shake around here?

EMPLOYEE

I don't know, ask him.

(EMPLOYEE motions as GARY enters, sipping out of a cup with a straw and carrying a toolbox.)

CUSTOMER

Who is that?

EMPLOYEE

That's Gary. He's here to fix the shake machine.

(to GARY)

Hey Gary.

GARY

Hey.

(takes a noisy drink from his straw and crosses behind the counter)

CUSTOMER

Your shake machine is down again? You've got to be kidding me! It was broken when I stopped here two nights ago!

EMPLOYEE

When *isn't* it broken?

GARY

What seems to be the trouble today?

EMPLOYEE

The usual.

GARY

Shakes ain't shakin'?

EMPLOYEE

Yep.

GARY

Shake machine is shook?

EMPLOYEE

You know it.

GARY

(really getting into it)

The machine's not giving you a fair shake?

EMPLOYEE

'Fraid not.

CUSTOMER

Alright, we get it. You have a lot of shake jokes. Now can you just fix the machine already?

GARY

Whoa, there, little lady. Fixing a machine isn't easy. You in a hurry?

CUSTOMER

I don't want to be here all night, if that's what you're asking.

GARY

I suppose I could get it done in two shakes of a lamb's tail.

CUSTOMER

Great.

GARY

(leans across the counter)

For a price.

CUSTOMER

Are you wanting a bribe you to fix this shake machine?

GARY

You call it a bribe, I call it financial incentive.

(takes a noisy drink from his straw and leans against the counter)

CUSTOMER

(to EMPLOYEE)

What is going on here?

EMPLOYEE

I believe it's a shake down.

CUSTOMER

There is no way I'm going to bribe you. I don't want a shake that badly.

GARY

Suit yourself.

(CUSTOMER storms offstage. GARY takes another noisy drink.)

EMPLOYEE

What are you drinking?

GARY

A chocolate shake.

EMPLOYEE

That does sound good. How long until the machine is fixed?

GARY

That all depends....

(holds out his hand)

How much you got?

(EMPLOYEE sighs and shakes his head as GARY leans lazily on the counter and sips his drink noisily as lights fade to black.)

SCENE THREE
In the Driver's Seat

AT RISE:

EMPLOYEE is standing at the counter wearing a headset. Perhaps he is waiting on a customer at the start of the scene. Suddenly there is the sound of a car horn beeping and MOE enters, driving a "car." Perhaps EMPLOYEE touches the side of his headset.

EMPLOYEE

Welcome to MacBurger's, where we go the extra mile to make you smile. What can I get you?

MOE

Is the drive thru open?

EMPLOYEE

(sighs, annoyed)

Seeing as you are located in the drive thru, and I'm currently taking your order, I'd say yes...the drive thru is open.

MOE

I was just making sure. Sometimes fast food restaurants close their drive thrus at night.

EMPLOYEE

Actually, they're more likely to close their dining rooms at night and keep their drive thrus open. But hey, what do I know. I just work here.

MOE

So you're some kind of know-it-all, huh?

EMPLOYEE

Nope. Just a minimum wage employee trying to make a buck. What can I get you?

MOE

A better attitude, for starters.

EMPLOYEE

(sighs)

Listen, guy. It's late. I'm tired. Can you just tell me what you want?

MOE

(with a smirk)

Oh, I'll tell you what I want alright.

EMPLOYEE

Great. Let's hear it.

(During the next few lines, MOE messes with EMPLOYEE, who gets gradually more irritated. MOE is snickering throughout.)

MOE

Can I have a large pepperoni pizza with extra cheese?

EMPLOYEE

We don't serve pizza here.

MOE

What do you serve then?

EMPLOYEE

There's a menu board in front of you.

MOE

Oh, right. Thanks. Let's see...can I get two soft tacos and a side of nachos?

EMPLOYEE

We don't serve tacos either. Please choose something off the menu.

MOE

Fine. Can I get a bacon egg and cheese MacBagel?

EMPLOYEE

Seriously?

MOE

It's on your menu.

EMPLOYEE

That sandwich is on our breakfast menu.

MOE

So?

EMPLOYEE

So we don't start serving breakfast until five a.m.

MOE

Well you said to order something off the menu and I did.

EMPLOYEE

Choose something off our daytime menu.

MOE

But it's nighttime.

EMPLOYEE

Fine! Choose something off our nighttime menu, then!

MOE

What's on the nighttime menu?

EMPLOYEE

The same things as the daytime menu!

MOE

Got it. Let me get some fried chicken.

EMPLOYEE

You want MacNuggets?

MOE

No. I want a wing and a drumstick.

EMPLOYEE

We don't have those. Why don't you try Captain Cluck's down the street?

MOE

I don't want Captain Cluck's. I want MacBurger's.

EMPLOYEE

MacBurger's serves sandwiches and fries and milkshakes.

MOE

Can I get a milkshake, then?

EMPLOYEE

No. Our shake machine is broken.

MOE

You know, for someone who's trying to make a buck, you're really making it difficult for me to order.

EMPLOYEE

Would you just pick something to eat already?!

MOE

Alright...can I get a MacBurger with cheese, a medium fry, and a large root beer?

EMPLOYEE

Yes, you can. That'll be \$10.60. Can I get a name for the order?

MOE

Oh, that's easy. It's the same as yours...

(with a smirk)

EMPLOYEE

But you don't even know my name.

MOE

First name Moe. Last name Ron.

EMPLOYEE

Moe Ron.

(a little quicker)

Moe Ron.

(gets it)

Moe Ron!

MOE

That's right! See you later, Moe-Ron!

(laughs as he squeals offstage)

EMPLOYEE

(sighs)

I really hate the drive thru.

(Lights fade to black.)

SCENE FOUR
Night Owl

AT RISE: MANAGER stands near the counter, holding a clipboard and pen, looking at it and writing. PAT and PATTY enter behind the counter. PAT is holding a giant chicken nugget with wings and PATTY holds a tub or bucket.

MANAGER
(sighs)

What are you two doing?

PAT and PATTY

Nothin'.

(PAT and PATTY start snickering)

MANAGER

I thought your shift ended a couple hours ago.

PAT

It did. But we decided to stay.

PATTY

You're welcome.

MANAGER

What is that hideous thing?

PAT

It's a chicken.

MANAGER

That's not a chicken. It's a nugget.

PATTY

A *giant* nugget.

PAT

With wings!

MANAGER
(sighs)

Pat...Patty...please don't make me get out the company handbook again.

PATTY

We didn't break any company policies, we promise!

MANAGER
(indicating the trays)

How about rule thirty-six?

PAT

That rule says we can't put googly eyes on the chicken nuggets.
(showing the nugget)

See? No googly eyes.

PATTY

Plus I do believe that rule says we can't fly the nuggets around like superheroes, which clearly we are not. This nugget doesn't have a cape. It has wings.

PAT

Yeah it does!

MANAGER

That's rule number thirty-six.

PATTY

Is rule number thirty-six the one about not making the sandwich buns talk to customers or the one about not filling the napkin dispensers with toilet paper?

PAT

I think it's the one about not having a wrestling match on company property.

PATTY

Huge bummer. That was going to be a good match too!

PAT

You know it!

MANAGER

Those rules aren't in the company handbook. Those rules were written specifically for you guys.

PAT and PATTY

Nice!

(they high five, nearly dropping their nugget)

MANAGER

Rule number thirty-six states that all food products are to be enclosed in company provided wrappers displaying the MacBurgers logo.

PATTY

Oh, no worries, then. We're totally in compliance!

PAT

The wings are made out of MacBurger wrappers! See!
(flutters the wings)

MANAGER

(interrupts and holds out his hand)

Hand over the nugget, Pattys.

PATTY

No can do, boss-er-ino.

PAT

This is no longer a nugget.

PATTY

It's a Flying *Sauce*-r!

PAT

Coming in for the dip!

(PATTY holds up the bucket while PAT makes the nugget fly into the bucket, as if it's getting dunked into sauce. PATTY then swipes a finger on the nugget and licks it.)

PATTY

Mmm. Sweet and Sour. My favorite.

PAT

Now if you would excuse us, this bird needs to fly!

(PAT and PATTY fly the nugget, making "hooting" noises as MANAGER gets mad. OWL PROWLER enters, excitedly.)

OWL PROWLER

Could it be? Have I managed to track down the elusive Tasmanian Nitwit Pygmy-Owl?

(PAT and PATTY stop and listen.)

MANAGER

The Pygmy What-Now?

OWL PROWLER

The Tasmanian Nitwit Pygmy. It's an owl. I'm a bit of an owl enthusiast.

MANAGER

I gathered.

OWL PROWLER

I was out on my nightly owl prowl when suddenly I heard the unmistakable call of my most favorite feathered friend. Now tell me...where did you last see that naughty Nitwit?

(PAT and PATTY snicker and hide.)

MANAGER

I think you're mistaken. The only naughty nitwits we have at MacBurgers are the two that are supposed to be manning the grill.

OWL PROWLER

Don't tell me you're serving owl meat!

PATTY

(looking at nugget, aside to PATTY)

Oh, this isn't meat. I don't know what it is, but it's definitely not meat.

MANAGER

Of course not. I was talking about the two—

OWL PROWLER

That's right! I'd forgotten the Pernambuco Pygmy flies in pairs.

(looks around)

What we're looking for is two small-brained creatures with quick, unpredictable movements and large mouths that produce highly annoying sounds.

MANAGER

I'm pretty sure we have a couple of those.

(PAT and PATTY make hooting noises again.)

OWL PROWLER

There it is again!

(looking around)

Come here, little nitwits. I'm going to find you. Come out, come out, wherever you are.

(PAT and PATTY jump out and scare the OWL PROWLER.)

PAT and PATTY

Hoot!

OWL PROWLER

Ahhh!

MANAGER

Here they are...one pair of nitwits...in their natural habitat.

PAT

Did you see that?

PATTY

There he was, prowling for owls...

PAT

When suddenly out of nowhere...

PATTY

The Flying Saucer soared out from his hiding place and scared the unsuspecting hunter.

PAT

It was crazy.

MANAGER

That's one word for it.

OWL PROWLER

(scrutinizing the nugget)

Is that a giant chicken nugget with wings?

PAT and PATTY

Yes. Yes it is.

MANAGER

Speaking of which, now that you've terrified this poor, unsuspecting customer, what do you intend to do with the giant nugget?

PATTY

You mean our Flying Saucer.

MANAGER

Whatever.

PAT

There's only one thing *to* do.

PAT and PATTY

We're gonna eat it!

(PAT and PATTY high five.)

PAT

Now, if you don't mind, Patty and I are going on break. We've gotta eat this nugget before the real Tasmanian Nitbit shows up.

OWL PROWLER

Nitwit.

PATTY

Right back atcha.

(PAT and PATTY start to cross to exit)

MANAGER

But if both of you are on break, then who's manning the grill?

PAT

I guess that would be you.

(PAT hands MANAGER exit, leaving the MANAGER staring at OWL PROWLER, incredulously as lights fade to black.)

SCENE FIVE

Take a Bite

AT RISE:

CUSTOMER is seated at a table, eating a meal which includes fries. At start of scene, VAMPIRE enters in dramatic fashion, drawing his cape up over his face, perhaps hissing at the audience. He holds a tray of food, which includes a burger, fries, and a red drink. VAMPIRE crosses over to a table next to CUSTOMER.

VAMPIRE

I vant to know....

(leans into CUSTOMER, near her neck, indicating nearby table)

Is this seat taken?

CUSTOMER
(seeing VAMPIRE, startled)

Ah!

Vat is it?

VAMPIRE

CUSTOMER
(nervously)

Oh, nothing. You just startled me at all.

VAMPIRE

My humblest apologies. I hope my rudeness doesn't discourage you from allowing me to take the seat next to you.

CUSTOMER

(looking at the nearby table)

Oh, that table? Yeah no one's sitting there. You can have it.

VAMPIRE

So you are inviting me to sit?

CUSTOMER

Um, you don't really need an invitation. You can sit there if you want to.

VAMPIRE

Does that mean I have your permission to enter?

CUSTOMER

I can see this isn't going to end anytime soon, so sure, you have my permission.

VAMPIRE

Thank you.

(walks past her then looks over his shoulder and whispers)

Now you are mine!

CUSTOMER

What was that?

VAMPIRE

Nothink....just go back to your meal as if nothink happened....

CUSTOMER

Nothing did happen, but...okay.

(CUSTOMER resumes eating or drinking as VAMPIRE crosses to table, puts down his food, pushes back his cloak and sits.)

VAMPIRE

It's been quite a long time since I've been to a dining establishment such as this.

CUSTOMER

MacBurger's? It's just a fast food joint. The food isn't great and they always find a way to mess up your order. You haven't missed out on much.

(looks at VAMPIRE, scrutinizingly)

Though I've gotta say, it does look like it's been a long time since you've been out *anywhere*.

VAMPIRE

Vat makes you say that?

CUSTOMER

Well, your sense of style is a little...outdated. And you're so pale. You look like you could use a little sun.

VAMPIRE

The sun! Never!

(draws his cape over his face)

CUSTOMER

Not a fan of the outdoors...got it.

VAMPIRE

Oh, I'm perfectly fine going outside. I just prefer my excursions to occur in the dark.

CUSTOMER

Night owl, are you?

VAMPIRE

I'm not an owl! Owls are bulbous and grotesque. Now bats on the other hand...bats are a much superior creature of the night.

CUSTOMERS

Agree to disagree. Bats are creepy.

(resumes eating, not looking at VAMPIRE)

VAMPIRE

How dare you! Bats are delicates creature full of beauty and grace as you will soon see!

(VAMPIRE stands as EMPLOYEE enters with a tray of food including a rare burger, fries, a sauce cup and a red drink as VAMPIRE lunges toward CUSTOMER.)

EMPLOYEE

(interrupting in the nick of time)

I've got an burger, fries, and a drink for a Mister Count.

VAMPIRE

That's mine. Although Count is my title, not my later name.

EMPLOYEE

Oh, sorry. Here you go.

(EMPLOYEE hands the tray to VAMPIRE, who sits and lifts up the bun, looking at the burger)

CUSTOMER

Um, I wouldn't eat that if I were you.

VAMPIRE

Vy not?

CUSTOMER

It doesn't look like it's cooked all the way. It's practically mooing!

EMPLOYEE

That's what he asked for—ultra rare.

VAMPIRE

(putting the bun back on and smiling)

Just how I like it.

CUSTOMER

Hey, if you like salmonella with your burger, that's up to you.

(VAMPIRE takes a sip of his drink, then slams it down.)

VAMPIRE

Vat is this swill!

EMPLOYEE

It's a cherry slushie.

VAMPIRE

I didn't order a cherry slushie. I ordered O negative!

EMPLOYEE

Yeah, sorry, dude, but this isn't a blood bank. The only red drink we have is a cherry slushie.

CUSTOMER

I told you they always find a way to mess up your order.

VAMPIRE

(holds up sauce)

Vat is this?

EMPLOYEE

Vat is vat...I mean, what is what?

VAMPIRE

Is this some sort of special potion of strength or healing?

CUSTOMER

This?

(grabs the sauce)

It's the best! It's the special MacBurger sauce.

(dips his fry into it and eats it)

Want some?

VAMPIRE

I *do* vant!

(holds up a fry)

EMPLOYEE

I wouldn't do that if I were you!

(VAMPIRE dips a fry eats it, then suddenly grabs his throat.)

VAMPIRE

What is happening to me? What was in this unholy concoction?

CUSTOMER

(reading the back of the sauce container)

Just the usual...tomatoes, oil...garlic.

VAMPIRE

Garlic? Not garlic! Vat have you done to me?

(VAMPIRE writhes in pain as EMPLOYEE shakes his head.)

EMPLOYEE

I told you not to do that.

CUSTOMER

(shrugs his shoulders)

More for me!

(CUSTOMER dips a fry into the sauce as she and EMPLOYEE watch VAMPIRE as lights fade to black.)

SCENE SIX
Backseat Driver

AT RISE:

EMPLOYEE is standing at the counter wearing a headset. Suddenly there is the sound of a car horn beeping and ANITA BATH enters, driving a "car" with MOE in the back seat. Perhaps EMPLOYEE touches the side of his headset.

EMPLOYEE

Welcome to MacBurger's, where we go the extra mile to make you smile. What can I get you?

ANITA

Is the drive thru open?

EMPLOYEE

Is the sky blue?

ANITA

(looking out her window)

Well it's actually sort of black with some pretty little twinkly stars...

EMPLOYEE

(sighs)

Yes, the drive thru is open.

ANITA

Okay thanks.

EMPLOYEE

I can take your order if you're ready.

ANITA

(turning to look at MOE)

What do'ya want?

EMPLOYEE

Wow! No one ever asks me what *I* want. I guess my biggest wish is to be at home in bed right now like a normal sane, human being. And if I can't have that, then a nice, respectable living wage would be great.

ANITA

Um. I wasn't talking to you. I was talking to my friend in the back seat.

EMPLOYEE

Yeah, that figures.

ANITA

(to MOE)

So what do'ya want?

MOE

(leans over the seat to talk into the speaker)

I want a MacBurger.

EMPLOYEE

Got it.

(During the next few lines EMPLOYEE enters each request into the payment screen.)

MOE

With cheese.

EMPLOYEE

Okay.

MOE

Can I add pickle?

EMPLOYEE

Sure.

MOE

And ketchup and mustard?

EMPLOYEE

It already comes with ketchup and mustard.

MOE

Okay good. But can we take off the cheese?

EMPLOYEE

I thought you said you wanted cheese?

MOE

Right. But now I don't.

EMPLOYEE

(getting annoyed)

Okay. One MacBurger minus the cheese but add pickle.

MOE

And ketchup and mustard.

EMPLOYEE

It already comes with mustard!

MOE

How about horseradish?

EMPLOYEE

We don't have horseradish?

MOE

What about Dijon?

EMPLOYEE

Isn't that the same thing as mustard?

MOE

(with an affected accent)

Is Dijon the same as mustard?

ANITA

(in an affected accent)

How dare he suggest such a thing!

MOE

Pish posh!

EMPLOYEE

Alright, sorry. No, I guess we don't have Dijon.

MOE

How about a fried egg? The best burgers in the finest establishments always have a fried egg!

ANITA

Indubitably!

MOE

Cheerio old chap!

EMPLOYEE

Dude, I don't know what's going on but this is not fine dining, it's fast food—emphasis on fast.
Do you want the MacBurger or not?

MOE

I guess so. But can I have it with a side of flies?

EMPLOYEE

Fries? Sure.

MOE

No, not fries...flies.

ANITA

All the finest establishments serve their burgers with a side of flies.

MOE

Indeed. A nice, juicy *please* burger with a side of flies.

EMPLOYEE

(exasperated)

I thought you said you didn't want cheese!

MOE

I don't. And I said please burger, not cheese burger, and quite frankly I haven't heard you say please even once.

ANITA

Some people simply don't have any manners.

MOE

Pish posh!

EMPLOYEE

Would you just finish ordering already?!

ANITA

Alright...can we get two MacBurgers with cheese, two medium fries, and two large root beers?

EMPLOYEE

Yes, you can. That'll be \$21.20. Can I get a name for the order?

ANITA

Anita.

EMPLOYEE

And your last name?

ANITA

Bath.

EMPLOYEE

Anita Bath.

(sighs)

Ha. Very funny. This is Moe again, isn't it?

(trying to look out the window)

Is that who you have in the backseat? Moe, is that you?

MOE

Moe? Who's Moe? My name is Lou.

EMPLOYEE
(doubtfully)

Lou Who?

MOE

Natic.

EMPLOYEE

Lou. Natic.

(a little quicker)

Lou Natic.

(gets it)

Lou Natic!

ANITA

That's right!

MOE

See you later, Lou Natic!

(laughs with ANITA as they squeal offstage)

EMPLOYEE
(sighs)

I really hate the drive thru.

(Lights fade to black.)

SCENE SEVEN
Burger King and Queen

AT RISE:

KING enters, wearing a suit or tuxedo and a crown. QUEEN enters wearing a prom dress. QUEEN looks unhappy.

KING

We can go somewhere else if you want to.

QUEEN

No. This is fine.

KING

You said you were hungry, right?

QUEEN

I guess so.

(slumps down in a seat)

KING

You hardly touched your Chicken Cordon Bleu at the banquet hall.

QUEEN

It was squishy.

KING

(chuckling)

No kidding! It was more like Chicken Cordon Bleeccck!

(makes a gross noise, hoping to make her smile—it doesn't work)

Well at least we know MacBurger's food is good.

QUEEN

Is it?

KING

Well, maybe good isn't the right word....edible maybe. At least it's edible.

QUEEN

I guess so.

KING

And most of it's not squishy...although I'd stay away from the MacBarbecue sandwich. I know everyone raves about those things but I don't think ribs are supposed to look like that.

QUEEN

Noted.

KING

Do you know what you want?

QUEEN

No. Just get me anything.

KING

Okay....

(sighs)

We don't have to stay here, you know. I just noticed you hadn't eaten very much back at the prom and you said how much you like MacBurger's fries.

QUEEN

They're okay.

KING

There's still time to go to Gina's after party if you want to.

QUEEN

I told you I didn't want to go.

KING

But everyone will be expecting us.

QUEEN

So what?

KING

So it's our last night before graduation. Don't you want to hang out with all our friends?

QUEEN

Why? So I can listen to Gina go on and on about how amazing it was that she won Prom Queen instead of me? No thank you.

KING

I don't think she would do something like that. It's not that big of a deal.

QUEEN

Says the guy who won Prom King.

KING

You know I don't care about that.

QUEEN

Then why are you still wearing your crown?

KING

Oh, this?

(takes off crown and puts it on the table)

I didn't realize I still had it on.

QUEEN

(rolling her eyes)

Sure.

KING

You don't believe me?

QUEEN

I'm sure you loved standing up there on that stage as Principal Jeffries placed that crown on your head and hundreds of our classmates cheering you on adoringly.

KING
(sitting down next to her)

The only classmate I adore is you.

QUEEN
(smiles, despite herself)

Smooth.

KING

Hey, it made you smile.

QUEEN

You always do.

(takes his hand)

Sorry I've been such a grump. You're right. Winning prom queen is not that big of a deal. What matters most is that we had a great time at prom together.

KING

I couldn't agree more.

(stands)

And I think I know something else that will make you smile.

(starts to cross to exit)

QUEEN

It better not be the MacBarbecue sandwich! I've had my fill of squishy meats tonight!

(KING has exited. QUEEN picks up the crown and looks at it.)

Winning prom queen might not be important, but the crown sure is cool.

(Suddenly the sound of trumpeting is heard. A royal parade of characters from various scenes makes their way on stage. They are led by EMPLOYEE who holds a pillow on which is a cardboard fast food crown and MANAGER who holds spatula. Perhaps PAT and PATTY are following behind, leaping as they throw sugar packets like some sort of flower girls. Other characters follow behind. KING brings up the rear, holding a container of fries and smiling. QUEEN laughs.)

What's all this?

EMPLOYEE

I have been informed that we are in the presence of royalty.

QUEEN
(to KING, laughing)

What did you do?

KING

Did I forget to mention that I used to work here?

EMPLOYEE

He was employee of the month ten times!

KING

Let's just say I stopped the Pattys from burning down MacBurger's enough times that this place owed me one.

PAT and PATTY

Nice!

(they high five)

MANAGER

Would you please kneel?

(QUEEN kneels before MANAGER, who "knights" her with his spatula during the next line.)

I now crown you....the Burger Queen.

(ALL cheer as EMPLOYEE places the crown on QUEEN'S head. QUEEN stands, laughing, and touches the crown.)

QUEEN

I am truly honored, thank you.

(ALL disperse, perhaps humorously as KING crosses to QUEEN and they sit.)

KING

I looks like you ended up being the queen after all.

QUEEN

I guess so. And as your Burger Queen, do you know what the first thing I'm going to do is?

KING

No. What?

QUEEN

I'm going to command you to hand over those fries!

(QUEEN steals a fry. QUEEN and KING laugh as lights fade to black.)

SCENE EIGHT
Steak Out

AT RISE: EMPLOYEE is standing behind the counter, near the payment screen. VAMPIRE enters and crosses to the counter.

EMPLOYEE

Welcome to MacBurger's, where we go the extra mile to make you smile. What can I get you?

VAMPIRE

I want to pickup my online order. A MacBurger rare, hold the garlic sauce.

EMPLOYEE

What's the name?

VAMPIRE

Dirkula.

EMPLOYEE

Right. And the last name?

VAMPIRE

Last name? Vat is last name?

EMPLOYEE

Nevermind. Your order should be up in a few minutes. You can wait over there.

(EMPLOYEE indicates the end of the counter, which VAMPIRE crosses to as COP enters.)

EMPLOYEE

Welcome to MacBurger's, where we go the extra mile to make you smile. What can I get you?

COP

(maybe with a funny accent)

You guys still have that steak sandwich thing I saw on the Tick Tack*?

(*or some other butchering of a social media platform)

VAMPIRE

Stake!

(VAMPIRE hisses and bears his teeth. COP looks over.)

COP

You gotta problem there, buddy?

VAMPIRE

No problem.

COP

Okay. But you might want to get those teeth looked at. They're awfully pointy.
(turns back to EMPLOYEE)

EMPLOYEE

You mean the MacSteak Burger?

COP

I think it's got some sort of goop that you dunk it in.

EMPLOYEE

That would be the side of aus jus that comes with our MacSteak Burger.

COP

The one from the Tick Tack? Its comes with the aus goo?

EMPLOYEE

You mean Tik Tok and yes. We have been advertising it on our socials, so I'm sure that's the one. Do you want the regular size sandwich or the Mega size?

COP

Let's go Mega. I got a long night ahead of me and I'm gonna need the kind of energy that only large doses of meat and gravy can give me.

EMPLOYEE

If you say so...

(EMPLOYEE puts in the order as EMT enters.)

EMT

Fancy seeing you here!

(COP and EMT embrace or do an elaborate handshake.)

COP

You come in for one of those steak sandwiches? The ones with the aus goo?

EMPLOYEE

Aus jus.

EMT

Sure did! Saw an ad for it on the FaceGram!

EMPLOYEE

You mean InstaBook....I mean Instagram...or Facebook. Or whatever!

EMT

I didn't know it came with a side of goo.

EMT (Cont.)
(pulls out some money and slaps it on the counter)

Sign me up!

EMPLOYEE

Why not?

(EMPLOYEE puts in the order while COP and EMT cross to edge of counter to chat. After a moment he exits to check on orders.)

COP

So how's your night goin'?

EMT

It's been crazy.

COP and EMT

Full moon.

EMT

Yep. Got the strangest call just before I went on break.

COP

Another werewolf sighting?

(VAMPIRE is interested. He draws his cape up over half his face as he turns to listen.)

EMT

You mean Bob? Someone's gotta tell that man to stop mowing his lawn at night.

COP

And to wear a shirt! That back hair is outta control!

EMT

Tell me about it! No, this one wasn't a werewolf sighting. If anything it was closer to a vampire sighting!

(Now VAMPIRE is really interested. He looks around nervously, but inches closer and continues to listen.)

COP

A vampire? No way! Everyone knows vampires ain't real.

(chuckles as VAMPIRE hisses at COP, who takes notice.)

You gotta problem there, buddy?

VAMPIRE

No...no problem.

COP

‘Cause I coulda sworn you just hissed at an officer of the law.

VAMPIRE

I vas just clearing throat. Like this, see?

(hisses/clears his throat)

I’m just feeling a little under the veather, that’s all. It’s a sinus thing.

COP

Then maybe you should be home in bed instead of at a burger joint at all hours of the night.

VAMPIRE

I vill do that, officer. I have a nice comfy coffin—I mean bed vaiting for me at home. I’m just picking up my online order and then be on my vay.

(turns back to the counter)

COP

So what about this vampire?

EMT

Well I don’t know if it was a vampire but the call we got was for a woman who said she’d been bitten. She had marks on her neck and everything!

(VAMPIRE turns again, interested.)

COP

Wait a minute—bite marks?

EMT

Yeah, two of ‘em! Right here.

(EMT show his neck. VAMPIRE is drawn to it, but resists.)

COP

I wonder if that’s the same perp I’m investigating!

EMT

Oh yeah? You on the lookout for a biter?

COP

Sure am! I about to head out on a stake out right now!

VAMPIRE

A *stake* out!

(VAMPIRE clutches his heart and hisses, causing COP and EMT to turn. VAMPIRE relaxes quickly and clears his throat.)

Phlegm. I’ve got vaaay too much phlegm.

EMT

Do you have a description of the biter?

COP

Sure do!

(COP pulls out a piece of paper. Change any details to match the look/costume of your VAMPIRE, who leans in to listen.)

Says here he's about 5'5", medium build, pale skinned and dark haired.

EMT

That could be anyone!

COP

Right, but here's where it gets interesting. It says he wears a dark cape and has pointy teeth and hisses a lot.

(COP and EMT side eye VAMPIRE.)

VAMPIRE

Vat? I told you—it's a sinus thing.

EMT

Do you got a name for the perp?

COP

Sure do. Says here he goes by the name of Dirkula.

(EMPLOYEE enters with three fast food bags.)

EMPLOYEE

Got an online order here for Dirkula!

(EMT and COP look at one another and then at VAMPIRE.)

VAMPIRE

Vat? That could be anyone!

(VAMPIRE grabs his order and runs offstage, followed by COP and EMT. EMPLOYEE holds out the two bags as they do.)

EMPLOYEE

You forgot your—steak!

(EMPLOYEE shrugs, opens up one of the bags, takes out a sandwich and takes a bite as lights fade to black.)

SCENE NINE
Short Stop

AT RISE: EMPLOYEE is standing at the counter wearing a headset. Suddenly there is the sound of a car horn beeping and MOE enters, driving a “car”. Perhaps EMPLOYEE touches the side of his headset.

EMPLOYEE

Welcome to MacBurger’s, where we go the extra mile to make you smile. What can I get you?

MOE

Is the drive thru open?

EMPLOYEE

(angrily, realizing its MOE)

No!

MOE

I’m pretty sure it is.

EMPLOYEE

Just, no.

MOE

But the lights are on and the sign says “drive thru open.” And of course there’s the fact that you’re talking to me through the speaker.

EMPLOYEE

No. We’re not doing this right now.

MOE

Doing what?

EMPLOYEE

I know it’s you, Moe.

MOE

Who’s Moe? My name’s Cliff.

EMPLOYEE

What’s your last name Cliff?

MOE

Hanger.

EMPLOYEE

Cliff. Hanger.

(a little quicker)

Cliff Hanger.

(gets it)

Cliff Hanger!

MOE

That's right! It's a cliff hanger! You're gonna have to wait to see how this story ends! So long, sucker!

(laughs as he squeals offstage)

EMPLOYEE

(sighs)

I really hate the drive thru.

(Lights fade to black.)

SCENE TEN
Comfort Food

AT RISE:

CUSTOMER is seated at a table, a tray of food in front of her. She is dressed in pajamas, a bathrobe and slippers. She has a blanket wrapped around her shoulders. Her hair is a mess, and she has a sleeping eye mask on, but pulled up onto her forehead. She is exhausted and frantic. Nearby EMPLOYEE is mopping the floor. He looks up when she starts talking.

CUSTOMER

Maybe eating something will help.

(picks up a burger and talks to it)

What d'ya say, burger? Can your tasty meatiness help me finally get some sleep?

(takes a bite, then slams it down angrily)

Of course not! This is a MacBurger we're talking about. What was I thinking?

(picks up a french fry and talks to it)

What about you, french fry? Do you hold magical powers that will lull me to sleep?

(takes a bite then holds up the fry angrily)

You taunt me, fry! How dare you?

(throws the fry towards EMPLOYEE, who catches it or picks it up)

EMPLOYEE

Whoa there! What did this fry ever do to you?

CUSTOMER

Nothing. He did nothing to me. He did nothing *for* me!

EMPLOYEE

He? You know this is an inanimate slice of potato, right? The only thing it can really do for you is satisfy your hunger.

CUSTOMER

I'm not looking to satisfy my hunger. I just want to sleep!

(wails and puts her head in her arms on the table)

EMPLOYEE

If you want to sleep then what are you doing at a MacBurger's in the middle of the night?

CUSTOMER

Have you ever had one of those nights when you can't fall asleep? When you toss and turn, hour after hour? When you've tried everything—chamomile tea, a white noise machine, lavender spray on your pillowcase, taking a warm bath, even warm milk!

(grabs EMPLOYEE'S arm desperately)

I'm telling you—I actually heated up milk and drank it. And I hate milk!

(wails and puts her head in her arms on the table)

EMPLOYEE

Hmm. I actually like warm milk.

(to CUSTOMER)

Sorry to hear that, but it's just one bad night. I'm sure you'll sleep better tomorrow.

CUSTOMER

But it isn't one bad night. It's been three nights! That's over seventy-two hours with no sleep!

EMPLOYEE

That's not good.

CUSTOMER

It's really not. Did you know that after seventy-two hours without sleep you start seeing things? Like actual hallucinations?

(points to one side)

For example, right over there I'm seeing a ghost and a skeleton playing a game of poker.

EMPLOYEE

(looks over)

No way! That would be pretty cool.

CUSTOMER

(points in another direction)

And over there I'm seeing a giant milkshake doing the Macarena.

EMPLOYEE

I love the Macarena!

(maybe does a little bit of it as CAPTAIN CLUCK peeks up from behind the counter, or offstage, maybe with color ball pit balls stuck to his costume)

CUSTOMER

And over there I see a giant chicken!

CAPTAIN CLUCK

You haven't seen any werewolves around here, have you?
(looks around and runs offstage)

EMPLOYEE

Oh, that's just Captain Cluck. He's here a lot.

CUSTOMER

If I don't get some sleep soon, I'm gonna go crazy!

EMPLOYEE

And you thought MacBurger's could help? With our greasy food and fluorescent lighting and crazy customers?

CUSTOMER

In my sleep deprived state, yeah...I guess I did.
(stands)

I'm sorry. I'll go.

EMPLOYEE

But you haven't even finished your food!

CUSTOMER

It's not like it's gonna help anyway. I might as well just go home and watch another episode of Mister Ed. That talking horse is always saying the craziest things.

(chuckles then stops)

Or maybe there is no talking horse. Maybe Mister Ed is one of my hallucinations!

EMPLOYEE

(helping her sit)

Don't worry. Mister Ed is real.

CUSTOMER

(shocked)

He is?! I thought that was just some old fashioned TV magic! Horses can talk?!

EMPLOYEE

I mean it was a real show.

(sits next to her)

But that would be cool, wouldn't it? If horses could talk?

(During the rest of EMPLOYEE'S monologue, CUSTOMER starts to lean against him, then gets comfortable and pulls the blanket up over herself, then pulls down her eye mask, then falls asleep.)

I wonder what they would say? I guess they would probably question what gives us the right to jump on their backs and ride them around. Or why we nail metal shoes to their feet. That can't be fun. Or maybe we might find out that they don't like eating hay, and would prefer a MacBurger.

(holds up her burger)

Although I'm guessing they wouldn't be too interested in snacking on their friend, the cow. Maybe fries would be better. Do you think cows and horses are friends? I do. But not pigs. If I were to guess, pigs are the annoying little brothers of the barnyard. Or maybe geese. They're always honking and laying eggs everywhere. No, roosters! I bet all the horses hate the roosters...waking everyone up at the crack of dawn like that. Speaking of which—

(looks down and sees her asleep, then smiles)

I guess MacBurger's helped you fall asleep after all.

(EMPLOYEE pulls the blanket up to her chin and settles in, maybe snacking on her fries as lights fade to black.)

End of Excerpt.

To read the rest of this play, email tracywellsplaywright@gmail.com