

*There is a knock on the door.*

SPUDS

Val?

Come in.

*SPUDS is in the red suit with horns.*

*Enter MATADOR.*

*The sounds of a bullfighting arena.*

MATADOR

Come here little bull.

SPUDS

Won't.

MATADOR

I won't hurt you.

I just want to play.

SPUDS

Matador shit.

MATADOR

Why you

*He begins chasing SPUDS with his sword.*

SPUDS

No, listen you can't stab me with that.

MATADOR

Why not?

SPUDS

I'm out of season.

Why, I bet you haven't even got a Matador's License.

MATADOR

Matador's License, ha.

I do not need a Matador's License.

I am el Matador.

SPUDS

Not without a license, you're not.

It takes more than pink knee socks and a funny hat to be a matador.

Why I bet you haven't even had your shots.

Now, I'm going to need you to sign here.

Come on now. An X will do.

Sign here.

*MATADOR signs.*

and here.

*MATADOR signs.*

And here.

*MATADOR signs.*

Now give me your sword.

MATADOR

Wait a minute, wise guy.

There's no such thing as a Matador's license.

*He runs at SPUDS with a sword.*

*Enter VALKYRIE with a fencing foil.*

VALKYRIE

Oh no you don't.

Not on my watch.

*VALKYRIE and the MATADOR begin to duel.*

Your technique is weak.

You haven't been practicing.

MATADOR

I've grown used to fighting bulls.

Bulls have no swords.

VALKYRIE

And no technique.

*She disarms the MATADOR.*

MATADOR

Please. Have mercy.

VALKYRIE

I'll save my mercy for the bulls.

*She stabs him.*

SPUDS

Val, good to see you.

VALKYRIE

Wish I could say the same.

SPUDS

You can.

Repeat after me:

Spuds, I'm really glad to see you.

I missed you a lot.

VALKYRIE

I'm still mad at you, Spuds.

SPUDS

I told you, that didn't mean anything.

VALKYRIE

That's the problem.

To you it didn't mean anything,

but to me

SPUDS

But you came back.

Did you come back to tell me that?

VALKYRIE

You needed me.

I saved your life.

The Matador was going to kill you.

SPUDS

I know.

I know.

You always come when I need you,

but you never come when I want you.  
You're like Eddie.

I met Eddie when I lived downtown.  
I was walking home from busking in Washington Square  
Park and so I was rolling my baby grand piano down  
MacDougal back to my apartment and I got mugged.  
They stole my wallet and they broke my piano.  
Eddie came running down the street and caught the  
guys. He gave me back my wallet and even helped me  
get my piano back to my apartment and we talked a  
little. I tried to get him to let me buy him a drink  
but he wouldn't drink with me.  
I thought maybe he liked movies, so I invited him to  
come with me to the movies. Again he said no.  
But when Winston, my parrot, got stuck in a tree,  
Eddie helped get him out.  
Winston was afraid of flying.  
I adopted him from a shelter for damaged animals.

Eddie was always there when I needed him, but he never  
wanted to be my friend.

Later I found out that he was a police officer.

Are you a police officer?

VALKYRIE

No.

SPUDS

I didn't think so.  
You can go now if you want.  
I understand.

VALKYRIE

No, you don't.  
I'm not a police officer.  
I love you and that's why I saved you from the  
matador, but it's also why you drive me crazy,  
because you kiss Gila Monsters and I get jealous and I  
hate myself for being jealous and then I hate you for  
making me hate myself.

I didn't even know what a Gila Monster was or how to pronounce one.  
I had to look it up on Wikipedia.  
I thought it was a hard G,  
it turns out it's not even a soft G, it's some sort of H sound. And so there I was and my boyfriend kissed some kind of monster with an H sound and I wasn't even pronouncing it right.  
It was infuriating.  
That's what it's like being in love with you.  
It's infuriating.

SPUDS

Is that why you keep leaving me, Val?  
Because you can't pronounce Gila Monster.  
Gee, Val, I coulda taught you how to pronounce Gila Monster. All you had to do was ask.

VALKYRIE

No it's not because I couldn't pronounce Gila Monster, you moron.  
Haven't you been listening?

SPUDS

I've been trying,

VALKYRIE

See, this is the problem, Spuds.

SPUDS

I thought the problem was that I kissed a Gila Monster.

VALKYRIE

No, the Gila Monster is not the problem.  
The Gila monster is emblematic of the problem.

SPUDS

Like that little orange bird is emblematic of the Baltimore Orioles?

VALKYRIE

No, Spuds, not like that.

God, I try

I try to ask you, I try to talk  
to you about something  
and all of a sudden we're talking about  
little orange birds.  
It's always little orange birds with you, Spuds  
or it's a Jewish boxer,  
or it's cottage cheese. Do you remember that?  
We were stuck in a blizzard and I was digging out the  
car and you put down your shovel and sat in the snow  
and you told me about when you were in Germany and you  
went to the grocery store and they had seventeen kinds  
of cottage cheese and you couldn't speak German so you  
bought all of them because you weren't sure which was  
which.

SPUDS

I was full for a week.  
Full of German cottage cheese.

VALKYRIE

Of the piano players in all the gin joints in all the  
towns in the world I had to fall in love with you.

SPUDS

I guess you're in sort of a pickle then.

VALKYRIE

In a pickle.

SPUDS

I never understood why they called it a pickle.  
I always liked pickles.

VALKYRIE

I don't know why they call it a pickle, Spuds.  
They just do.

SPUDS

A pickle.

VALKYRIE

A pickle.

SPUDS

Why do they call it a pickle?

VALKYRIE

I don't know, Spuds.

SPUDS

Well, if I ever find out,  
I'll let you know.