

Tuffer is a very charming thirty-nine, but could pass for younger in a bar at closing time. He flirts with the audience.

TUFFER

Hey my name is Christopher and I'm a meth addict – 'Hi, Christopher' – and a sex fiend, and a Gemini. And so am I. That's a little Gemini humor for ya.

He drinks. Killer smile.

Okay, it's springtime 2008, nearly sunrise. Manhattan is gently pulsing around me. There's a beautiful boy in my bed. I put my hands on his ass and I am eighteen all over. Manhattan is cake on my fork.

RODERICK

Wow. You could sell rowboats in the Mojave.

TUFFER

Roderick this is Brian.

BRANDON

Brandon.

TUFFER

Brandon. He goes to NYU.

BRANDON

Parsons, actually.

RODERICK

This is your intruder?

TUFFER

I guess.

RODERICK

This is the big emergency. You're afraid he's gonna, what, redecorate?

TUFFER

I'm sorry, I don't even remember calling.

RODERICK

I don't hear from you for eight months-

TUFFER

Not my fault-

RODERICK

...come all the way in from Bushwick at five in the morning-

BRANDON

Wow is it five in the morning?

RODERICK

Excuse me but, what are you, thirteen?

BRANDON

Um, no. God...

TUFFER

Okay, thanks for stopping by, Roddy, but I'm entertaining, so...

RODERICK

Dude, you're babysitting.

BRANDON

Most men your age like younger guys.

RODERICK

Whoa. Men *my* age?

BRANDON

It's not exactly my fault I'm so much younger than you.

TUFFER

Ouch.

RODERICK

My problem with younger guys is not their youth. It's their ignorance.

BRANDON

You have a lot of anger.

RODERICK

And you have none at all. That pisses me off.

TUFFER

Roddy's what you call an 'activist'.

BRANDON

Guys my age can be activists.

RODERICK

A guy your age recently explained to me how the gay rights movement was originated during the Civil War by a drag queen named Stonewall Jackson.

BRANDON

Oh, well, that's like not how it happened at all-

RODERICK

Never heard of Larry Kramer. Not a clue who Bella Abzug was.

TUFFER

Actually I'm not sure who Bella Abzug was.

RODERICK

But that's not because you're a self-obsessed nineteen-year-old, it's because you're a speed freak with about twelve functioning brain cells. Say goodnight, Brandon.

BRANDON

I know who that is.

RODERICK

Bella Abzug.

BRANDON

Yeah. I know who she is.

RODERICK

Good for you.

BRANDON

She's one of Madonna's back-up singers. The Black one.

Brandon exits to bedroom.

RODERICK

Is he even legal?

TUFFER

Legal? You used to keep an eight-ball in the freezer. We had like Pez dispensers full of Ecstasy back when you lived here. Who knows what we squirreled away. Jesus, he'd be the least of my worries.

RODERICK

Okay I can't do this right now. I'm flying to New Mexico in eight hours.

TUFFER

Holy Moses, is it Passover already?

RODERICK

Passover was two weeks ago and I had to work. No, my mother hasn't been feeling good. I told her I'd come for Mother's Day, she said Mother's Day was too consumerist, so...

TUFFER

God I love your Mom.

He shares with the audience.

Last time I saw her, she goes 'As a dog returns to its vomit, so too a man to his folly.' She was holding my tie out of the toilet.

RODERICK

My sister's wedding. He tried to seduce the groom.

TUFFER

She's like Yoda in a peasant skirt.

To Roderick:

When's the last time you...? Have you even been home since you went all straight-edge?

Roderick ignores him.

RODERICK

This has happened a hundred times. Tuffer calls and says he doesn't know where he is but it might be 16th Century England. We determine he's in Queens, and I rescue him.

TUFFER

You haven't seen your mother since you got clean.

RODERICK

Tuffer calls from a sex club at four in the morning. His wallet's been stolen, his keys are missing, cops are reading his mind. And I rescue him.

TUFFER

God, how many of these are there?

RODERICK

Tuffer wakes up after a bender to find a strange woman in his bed. He thinks he's missed an entire year, and fears he may have become heterosexual. He begs me to come over -

TUFFER

I did not.

RODERICK

And to this day he denies it ever happened.

TUFFER

Hey I may not remember making the call, but I'm pretty sure I didn't ask you ride in on your high horse and give me another fucking lecture about my quote-unquote problem.

RODERICK

You look terrible.

TUFFER

I was just getting my beauty sleep when you rang.

RODERICK

All-nighters with college kids? You couldn't aim a little higher?

TUFFER

Oh babe I gave up on Jake Ryan sometime in the mid-nineties.

RODERICK

Sorry?

TUFFER

Sixteen Candles.

RODERICK

Right.

TUFFER

Jake Ryan and his red car, making my birthday wish come true? Not holding my breath.

RODERICK

That kid is twenty-one, tops. He's probably been in the City for about a minute.

TUFFER

That so-called kid had his hands in my pants before we left The Phoenix. Dude, look at him. Brody?

Brandon peers around the bedroom door's frame.

BRANDON

Yeah it's Brandon.

TUFFER

Right. Could you come out here for a second?

Brandon comes through the door and stands at center.

Look at that. Hot buttered biscuit. On my plate. Thank you, Brandon.

Brandon grins and goes. Tuffer opens a beer.

Cheers, motherfucker.