

Intersections

A ten minute play

by MARIA VIERA BEATTY

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INTERSECTIONS

a 10 - minute play

Description of the action: Three “guys” sit on lawn chairs and drink beer.

Set: A suburban backyard.

Cast:

Chip: a nice man in his late fifties

Frank: a depressed man in his middle fifties

Matt: an energetic man in his early fifties

Intersections

(Three men sit on lawn chairs under an umbrella drinking beer and eating snacks.)

CHIP

Did you see the Michigan game?

FRANK

They lost last night.

MATT

Villanova isn't even rated.

CHIP

I thought it was terrible when they were handing out those awards.

FRANK

They probably had an all-tournament team.

MATT

One guy was from San Jose. (*pronouncing it saint Joeseey*)

CHIP

Does anyone want some cheese balls?

FRANK

Thanks.

MATT

My cholesterol's up...

CHIP

They're small balls.

FRANK

Better have another beer.

(Chip takes more beer out of the cooler beside his chair.)

MATT

Anyone seen Pete lately?

FRANK

Every time I go in there, he remembers what I bought before.

MATT

He's perfect for retailing.

CHIP

He can remember everybody's paint job.

FRANK

I think they've got a competitive team... the way they move up and down the floor.

MATT

They'd do better without Barney.

CHIP

Neither of them can dribble.

FRANK

Hell, he kept looking at the...

MATT

What's his name? Jennings.

CHIP

You can't put Jennings at the point.

FRANK

The other thing's that's interesting is the way Jennings shoots the long shot.

MATT

All you've got to do is win six in a row.

CHIP

You watch the head coach?

FRANK

I don't know what he did...

CHIP

He was just bitching.

MATT

These big arenas...

CHIP

I tell you Villanova's arena is a real nice place to watch a game.

FRANK

I remember the arena in...

MATT

The Japanese are refurbishing it.

CHIP

They bought like 50% of it.

MATT

Boy, these chips are salty.

FRANK

Don't worry about it, Matt, 'cause those pills you're taking will kill you before the salt will.

MATT

They're anti-salt pills.

FRANK

What about Marianne?

MATT

She still drinks Wild Turkey straight up.

CHIP

You talked to her recently. She doing okay?

MATT

Yeh, talked with her Wednesday.

CHIP

Kay wants to move. She wants a bigger house. She looked at that house in Stone Ridge.

MATT

That's a great house.

FRANK

Is that the house on the right-hand side?

CHIP

That house right across from the... that just went up for sale.

FRANK

That house is worthless. It's got a worthless master bathroom.

MATT

The only house I'd be willing to move into is what's his name's house...

CHIP

Where's that?

MATT

Up on Robin Road.

FRANK

They got moisture problems.

MATT

I would buy that house...

FRANK

You want a goddamned water tower in the back yard?

MATT

What's his wife's name?

CHIP

Which wife?

MATT

The one he's got now.

CHIP

Mary.

FRANK

I bet they don't say three or four words to each other...

MATT

Remember what's her face. The realtor.

FRANK

Patty...

MATT

She said the finalized divorce to the old wife was the same day as the house closed.

CHIP

She said he gave her a hell of a lot less than the offer on the house.

FRANK

Hell, he didn't have anything when he married her.

CHIP

Hell, he don't have anything now.

FRANK

I like the old wife, but I don't see how she's attractive. She's okay when she's dressed up, but half the time she runs around in jeans and sweatshirts.

MATT

These pretzels are great with beer.

FRANK

It's the salt.

CHIP

Beer doesn't go with sweet taste.

MATT

Can't have cake and beer.

FRANK

Or pie and beer.

MATT

Second half of this month we ought to do better.

CHIP

So, when are you going to start hiring people?

MATT

Dunno. Bob says he's going back to work.

CHIP

Remember when he wouldn't let us walk on the floor.

FRANK

Yeh, his patterned tile.

MATT

He made us take our shoes off.

CHIP

I took my shoes off because my feet were so hot.

FRANK

That's because your body is built funny.

MATT

You're a freak of nature.

FRANK

Could use another beer.

(Chip reaches into the cooler and pulls out a bottle of Corona beer.)

FRANK

Jesus, Chip. We do this every time. I like Coors Light beer.

CLAY

All out of Coors Light.

MATT

Coors Light is lame anyway.

FRANK

Lamer than Corona?

CHIP

Corona is the top selling beer in the world after Guinness.

MATT

Yeah, I remember your Guinness stage.

(Chip hands Frank the Corona.)

FRANK

Fine. Gracias, whatever.

CHIP

Pretzel's a funny word.

MATT

Probably German.

FRANK

Jimmy Allenburg, Steve's brother Chunky's friend called me yesterday and said remember I want those football tickets.

MATT

How long you been buying those tickets?

CHIP

I tried to get season tickets. I told Dave. I asked for four.

MATT

They're not bad seats where they are.

CHIP

Kevin still free lancing with that technology outfit?

FRANK

Yeah, he says reputation management is big now. Gotta clean up your digital footprint.

MATT

What the hell?

FRANK

People pay him to remove links to their past.

MATT

Like what?

CHIP

DWIs and stuff?

FRANK

Or just stuff that is outdated or irrelevant.

CHIP

Good for him. Glad his nerdiness finally paid off.

FRANK

Information overload.

CHIP

Kay's on Facebook all the time.

FRANK

Kids today fill their minds with junk.

CHIP

Her sister posted a picture of her wedding and there I was in the line-up. Ought to be a law.

MATT

Yeah, back when you had a big headful of hair.

CHIP

She's always looking at her watch and telling me how many more steps she has to take.

MATT

Not her watch. Her mobile device.

FRANK

Can't stop all the new digital stuff...

CHIP

I draw the line at wearing it.

MATT

Those seats that Dave's got are really pretty good.

FRANK

Yeh, Row K.

CHIP

I know, he's had them for years.

FRANK

Hell, he inherited them.

MATT

I hate to drink and run but I better get going.

(Matt stands up to go.)

FRANK

Thanks for the beer.

(He gets up and starts to leave.)

CHIP

Yeah, see you soon.

MATT

Great to touch base now and then.

FRANK

Yeah, great talking with you guys.

(Matt and Frank leave. Chip takes a swig of beer
feeling fully satisfied and content.)

CHIP

Yeah, great to touch base now and then.