

Put It in My Soup

By

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draft v. 4

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INT. FANCY RESTAURANT - DAY

A sharply dressed BUSINESSMAN and a pant-suited BUSINESSWOMAN sit at a small table for three, awaiting the third.

Someone is very late and patience is wearing thin.

BUSINESSWOMAN  
Where is he?! This place smells weird.

BUSINESSMAN  
Yeah, not a good way to start an interview. At least he's our last.

A schlubby young INTERVIEWEE dashes in to fill the empty seat. He adjusts his coat and terrible hair.

INTERVIEWEE  
Sorry I'm late. Mmm smells good in here!

The Businesswoman shoots the Businessman a look.

BUSINESSWOMAN  
(still annoyed)  
Thanks for coming.

BUSINESSMAN  
Great. Let's jump right in. Tell us a little bit about yourself, what your strengths are.

INTERVIEWEE  
Well, I'm single... and I have a very strong sense of smell.

A very busy SERVER appears with two entrees, each a steaming jiggly mass.

SERVER  
Here we are.  
(to Interviewee)  
Can I get you anything, Sir?

He scans a menu as they pick at their food. With nothing to pique his interest, he closes his eyes, discreetly summons something from beyond and points to a random choice.

With a confused nod, the Server grabs his menu and exits as they continue on.

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BUSINESSMAN

We're looking for a market researcher to help field new trends. Keep a pulse on what's hot.

BUSINESSWOMAN

Intuition is key.

With an air of "Relax, I got this", the Interview cuts in.

INTERVIEWEE

Right. I'm not sure if I'm what you'd call a "trend" follower. Or even necessarily "experienced". But I do have somewhat of a sixth sense.

They deflate at his brazen crazy talk.

BUSINESSWOMAN

Okay...?

The Server arrives with the Interviewee's choice, a large unassuming bowl of SOUP.

Suddenly, an enticing aroma hits them and they watch as he takes his first sip. He lets out a rough, awkward SIGH of satisfaction that jolts them back to reality.

BUSINESSMAN

(to Businesswoman)

How is yours?

She CRUNCHES through an unusually chewy bite.

BUSINESSWOMAN

It's uhh... interesting.

She steals a glance of the soup.

BUSINESSWOMAN

How's the soup?

INTERVIEWEE

Great! Try some.

She hesitates, this is unorthodox... but one bite pulls her into another world, far away from the interview at hand.

The Businessman picks up the pace.

(CONTINUED)

BUSINESSMAN

So, talk about your industry experience.

INTERVIEWEE

Recently I've been on a bit of a hiatus from working while I develop my line of pet sympathy cards...

She gazes longingly at the bowl as he drones on. Bits of soup drip off of his animated spoon. She sneakily tries to put her hand underneath to catch the drops.

When that doesn't work she reaches over to scoop the drips off the table cloth with her spoon. The Businessman tries to ignore her.

INTERVIEWEE

...But my last job was hanging the window posters at Big Five...

Unimpressed, the Businessman tries to find solace in his dish.

BUSINESSMAN

Uhck.

He spits something into his napkin and is startled by the Interviewee's loud SLURPS.

The Businesswoman just stares deeply into the soup as if something's got ahold of her.

BUSINESSMAN

Right. So let's talk about--

She blinks and tries to shake it off. Until...

BUSINESSWOMAN

GAH! I need more soup!

BUSINESSMAN

(angry whisper)

What are you doing?!

Patrons from nearby tables glance over at the commotion while the Interviewee seizes the opportunity.

INTERVIEWEE

Sure. There's plenty to go around!

She scrambles over but the Businessman tries to hold it together.

BUSINESSSMAN

We should get back to the inter--

She **SHOVES** a spoonful of soup into his mouth. He freezes in disbelief.

BUSINESSSMAN

Holy! That's incredible!

BUSINESSWOMAN

I know! It makes our food taste like hot garbage!

INTERVIEWEE

May I?

He takes a fork-full of their disgusting food but on approaching his mouth, he clumsily drops it into the soup.

The others watch in horror as he dives in to recover the bite. Success!

INTERVIEWEE

I'm sold!

The Businesswoman follows his lead and furiously scrapes her entire plate into the bowl.

INTERVIEWEE

Go ahead, put it all in!

She scoops out a chunky spoonful and lets out a **WHOOOP** of joy while the Businessman continues to dig in.

BUSINESSSMAN

(wiping his eyes)

I've never...It's so beautiful...

He sobs unabashedly, a new convert. A few of the other patrons lean closer.

PATRON 1

Hey can I get a taste of that soup?

The Interviewee rises to address everyone.

INTERVIEWEE

Gather round all and...

A beat as he realizes his new catch phrase.

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INTERVIEWEE

Put it in my soup!

They quickly surround, ready to pounce.

PATRON 2

Would it make my curry onion sandwich better?

INTERVIEWEE

Put it my soup!

Patron 2 grabs a sad looking half sandwich from his plate and dunks it into the soup. One taste and he's hooked.

PATRON 2

It doesn't taste like horse feet anymore!

Everyone continues to help themselves.

PATRON 3

(holding nasty food)

What about my--

INTERVIEWEE

Put it... in my soup!

He dips something in that looks like a tuna fish burrito.

PATRON 3

Sweet angels be singin'!

BUSINESSMAN

(zoned out amidst the chaos)

I feel like I'm transcending space and time.

PATRON 2

Wow this guy's a genius!

Patron 1 dunks his hand in and tastes it.

PATRON 1

I can't feel my arms! It's so good  
I can't feel my arms!

The table gets messier as everyone struggles to grab a bite. Bits FLY and SPLATTER all over their faces.

PATRON 2

It makes everything better!

(CONTINUED)

SPLASH! As Patron 2's watch falls into the soup. Gasps!  
Everyone pulls back in shock.

BUSINESSSMAN

NO!

PATRON 2

It's ok it's broken anyways.

The Interviewee carefully fishes the watch from the soup,  
covered in creamy ooze. He puts it up to his ear.

INTERVIEWEE

It's ticking!

A HURRAH from the crowd!

PATRONS

(various)

Such prowess! How did he know?!  
He's got a gift!

The Businessman chimes in.

BUSINESSSMAN

You know, I got a speeding ticket  
the other day...

INTERVIEWEE

Put it in my soup!

He pulls the ticket from his pocket and submerges it.

Using a fork he combs through and pulls out a drenched piece  
of paper. He inspects it carefully.

BUSINESSSMAN

It's a lotto ticket!

The Businesswoman pulls off her ugly decorative neck scarf  
and waves it in the air.

BUSINESSWOMAN

(to Businessman)

I always hated this scarf you gave  
me at the Christmas party!

INTERVIEWEE

Put. It. In. My. Soup!

She throws it in the soup and covers it completely. When she  
pulls out the dripping mass and runs it through her hand to  
wipe all the soup off...

(CONTINUED)

It's a shiny, new diamond necklace! The crowd cheers and claps while she puts it on.

In a callous attempt to out-do her, the Businessman raises the bowl above his own head, ready to pour...just as the Server returns.

SERVER

What the-- You need to leave. ALL  
OF YOU!

Everyone freezes in a state of mad frenzy. Soup everywhere. A thick drop SPLATS onto the Businessman's head.

They straighten themselves out and gather their things as the other patrons resume lunching.

INTERVIEWEE

Hey I know a dessert place nearby.

BUSINESSWOMAN

I bet you do!

BUSINESSMAN

(patting him on the back)  
I think we've found our guy!