

...AND THEN THERE'S AARON BURR...

by

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CHARACTERS

LINDA - 30s, any race, female, fun-loving but wants you to have the same amount of fun as her.

RACHEL - 40s, African American, female-identifying pragmatic, not easily ruffled. Lockdown has given her a new perspective.

WAITER - 20s, any race/gender. Tries to be pleasant but...sometimes...

ACT 1

SETTING: Chicago restaurant. Pandemic era but restaurants are re-opening. LINDA and RACHEL sit at a table. A WAITER moves about. LINDA is in the midst of telling a pointless story.

LINDA

So, the party is CRAZY! People dancing in the kitchen, drinking in the bedroom, making out in the bathroom.

RACHEL

Yuk. Vaxxed?

LINDA

Everybody. I mean, just...CRAZY! (Catches herself) I'm sorry, I'm talking a mile of minute. Just weird being out in a restaurant.

RACHEL

I know. It's strange. A whole year. Finish.

LINDA

Ok, so, Angie - she's a couple cocktails in...

RACHEL

Ol' Rum-And-Coke Angie.

LINDA

...she gets up and starts singing...(LINDA laughing uncontrollably) ...starts singing "My Shot!" Can you believe it?

RACHEL

(Laughs a little, but confused) What?

LINDA

Exactly! Everybody was like, "What???"

RACHEL

What's that?

LINDA

Right? Angie singing "My Shot?" I mean, what IS that?

RACHEL

No, I mean "What?" as in "What do you mean?"

LINDA

Exactly. Like, huh? But give Angie some Bacardi and...

RACHEL

No, the "My Shot" part.

LINDA

(A little confused) "My Shot?" You know, "My Shot."

RACHEL

Mmmm-nope.

The WAITER comes over.

WAITER

Hi, can I start you off with anything? Water? A glass of...

LINDA

(To WAITER) Just water. (To RACHEL) What do you mean "nope"?

RACHEL

(To WAITER) Just water too, thanks. (to LINDA) I mean "nope."

WAITER leaves.

LINDA

It's Angie! Singing "My Shot!" You know - "MY Shot." (Starts singing) "I am not throwing away my shot..." (Nothing) "My Shot." From "Hamilton"?

RACHEL

Ohhhhhh. (Thinking) Nope.

LINDA

(Relieved) Right? I mean, "NOW, Angie, really? Nope!"

RACHEL

No, I mean "nope" as in I don't know it.

LINDA

No, "MY Shot!" (Starts singing again) "I'm not throwing away my shot./I'm not throwing away my shot..." (Pause) "I'm just like my country/young, scrappy and hungry..." Hamilton?

RACHEL

I heard you the first time. I don't know the song.

LINDA

"My Shot," Rachel. (Singing again, angrily) "We're gonna rise up - time to take a shot. We're gonna rise up - time to take a shot..."

WAITER walks past and joins in.

WAITER AND LINDA

It's time to take a shot
 Rise up, rise up, it's time to take a shot
 Rise up, it's time to take a shot
 Rise up, take a shot, shot, shot

WAITER

(Laughs) I just LOVE Hamilton. I'll be back with your water.

WAITER leaves again.

LINDA

"My Shot," RA-CHEL!

RACHEL

I heard you, the first time, LIN-DA! I don't know it.

LINDA

(Upset) How can you not know "My Shot"? It's the third song in the show. "My Shot!" How could you not know it?

RACHEL

(Nonchalant) I dunno. Guess 'cause I haven't seen "Hamilton."

Ominous shift in tone. Lights, musical, whatever. Perhaps a glass breaks off-stage. The WAITER approaches table with water and stares at RACHEL.