

HONK  
HONK



GET  
OUT OF THE  
CAR,  
SHELDON!

BUT--

DON'T  
BE A TOOL!  
GET OUT!



JESUS *CHRIST*.

BUT THE  
CAR--

THE  
CAR. YOU THINK  
I'M TAKING YOU  
OUT DRINKING IN  
A *CHAUFFERED*  
SUV? GET  
SOME *CLASS*,  
SHELDON.

WE'LL  
FEEL THE  
PAVEMENT UNDER  
OUR FEET, SMELL  
THE GARBAGE IN  
THE AIR, AND TAKE  
IN THE SIGHTS.

I'M  
GOING TO  
SHOW  
YOU *MY*  
CITY.

YOU'VE BEEN  
GONE A LONG  
TIME, GAVIN,  
WHAT MAKES YOU  
THINK "YOUR  
CITY" IS STILL  
HERE?


THE BEST  
PLACES  
ENDURE, MY  
BOY. THE BEST  
PLACES LAST  
*FOREVER*.

WE HAVE *THIRTY-SIX*  
*HOURS* OF FREEDOM  
BEFORE THE NEXT TAPING OF  
STARVE. LET'S SEE WHAT  
WE CAN DO IN *THIRTY-SIX*  
*HOURS*.

SHELDON WAS TIGHT  
ACROSS THE SHOULDERS.  
THE BOY WAS  
PRACTICALLY RIGID.

SO NEXT UP:  
TEQUILA.






I WAS ALL SET TO SPEND THE EVENING IN MY APARTMENT WORKING UP THE NERVE TO CALL ANGIE ON THE PHONE, AND THEN CHICKEN OUT AT THE LAST MINUTE.

THEN I REMEMBERED ALL PHONES THESE DAYS HAVE THAT CALLER ID, AND I'D JUST LOOK LIKE A STALKER.

NOT GOING TO GIVE GREER ANY AMMO IN HER FIGHT TO KEEP ME AWAY FROM MY DAUGHTER.




SO SHELDON IS MY CO-PILOT TONIGHT.



I'M WORRIED, GAVIN.

TELL YOU WHAT...



...GIVE IT TWENTY MINUTES. IF YOU AREN'T HAVING FUN BY THEN...





HYYYRUUUCK

ALL RIGHT, SHELDON?



THIS IS. AMAZING.

WHAT'S NEXT?



FIRST WE HAD BOOZE. NOW WE EAT FOOD.



GOOD FOOD. AND IN NEW YORK CITY THAT MEANS REALLY JUST ONE PERSON.



DOES DINA STERN STILL COOK IN THIS [REDACTED]?



WHO THE [REDACTED] WANTS TO KNOW??

DINA AND I HAVE HISTORY.





WHAT YOU WANT TO DO, CRUIKSHANK, IS--

I CAN COOK A STEAK, DINA.

I KNEW WHAT SHE MEANT. IT WAS A COMMON CRITICISM FROM MY HATERS: THE MORE CELEBRITY A CHEF DOES, LIKE WRITING BOOKS OR HAVING A TELEVISION SHOW...

YOU *SURE* ABOUT THAT?

...THE LESS TIME A CHEF SPENDS IN THE KITCHEN, WORKING, I GET IT. DINA PROBABLY WROTE ME OFF YEARS AGO. AND THAT HURTS.

SO...



PUT ME TO WORK.



# Sil Drago



WHAT TIME IS IT?

MILLER TIME. EAT UP.



WHAT IS THIS?

FLAT IRON CUT, KOSHER SALT, A LITTLE GRASSFED BUTTER.



I JUST COOKED NEARLY **THIRTY PORTIONS** OF THIS. IT'S **PERFECT**, IS WHAT IT IS.

I GOTTA SAY, SHELDON, I FEEL PRETTY GOOD RIGHT NOW.

I FEEL GREAT.

NOT SURE WHAT YOU THINK OF ME, GAVIN, BUT I WAS GENUINE WHEN I SAID I WAS A FAN. COMING OUT WITH YOU TONIGHT, DRINKING WITH YOU...



...AND THEN THIS FOOD...

IT'S A STEAK.



YEAH BUT YOU **MADE IT!** **CHEF GAVIN CRUIKSHANK** JUST COOKED ME A STEAK!



GOD BLESS THE GUY, BUT IT'S THIS HERO WORSHIP THAT TOOK ME OUT OF THE KITCHEN IN THE FIRST PLACE.

CHEFS IN LOVE WITH BEING CHEFS.



INSTEAD OF JUST SIMPLY BEING SATISFIED WITH MAKING THE FOOD.

THERE'S THIRTY PEOPLE OUT THERE WHO HAVE NO IDEA I MADE THEIR DINNERS. AND THAT'S FINE.



I'M GOOD WITH JUST SHELDON HERE KNOWING. I'D TRADE A ROOM FULL OF CUSTOMERS FAWNING OVER MY SCRAPINGS ANYDAY FOR THE LOOK ON HIS FACE RIGHT NOW.

TWENTY HOURS UNTIL STARVE TAPES.



I PLAN ON SLEEPING FOR AT LEAST **TEN** OF THOSE.

YEAH, I GUESS YOU NEED TO BE READY. ROMAN'S GOING TO TRY AND KNOCK YOU OUT IN THIS NEXT ROUND. HE **HATES** YOU. WHY IS THAT?

WE HAVE SO MUCH HISTORY, WHO KNOWS EXACTLY WHY. IT'S MORE THAN JUST CONTROL OVER STARVE, THOUGH. ROMAN'S BITTER AS HELL.

SHELDON HERE...  
...  
...SAY THAT AGAIN...?

RIGHT, TIME TO CALL ME THAT CAR, SHELDON.

MY WORK PHONE.







....  
OKAY,  
OKAY,  
WE'LL BE  
THERE.

PRETTY SURE  
I'M GOING TO BE  
**NO WHERE** BUT  
IN THAT KING SIZE  
BED AT THE  
FLATIRON.



IT'S ROMAN.  
IT'S STARVE.

FINALS  
EPISODE #1 IS TAPING  
NOW. LIKE, **RIGHT NOW**.  
THE REST OF THE CHEFS  
ARE ALREADY THERE.  
THEY CALLED **THEM**  
HOURS AGO.

WE  
HAVE FIFTEEN  
MINUTES TO GET  
THERE OR YOU'LL  
BE BOUNCED  
OUT.



CHRIST.

WELL PLAYED,  
ROMAN.

CAN YOU GET  
US THERE IN  
TIME?

I CAN, SURE...  
BUT GAVIN, CAN  
YOU **COMPETE**  
RIGHT NOW?



"YOU LIKED YOUR  
STEAK, SHELDON.  
AND I'M GLAD.

"BUT THE THING  
THAT I'M **TRULY** A  
MASTER OF IS NOT  
GIVING ROMAN THE  
SATISFACTION."