

# Boy / Charlie

Start

The Boy enters as Harry, a young waiter/actor, similar to CHARLIE. The Boy wears the basic waiter outfit, plus the Ernie's accessories. He is carrying a tray and enters with a rush, impetuously.



Boy. I got it! I got a commercial. I got a Colgate commercial! (CHARLIE, for he is the customer, lowers his paper. His look is baleful. CHARLIE wears his basic outfit, with the jacket we saw in Act Two, but no scarf or hat. His shirt is open at the throat. Pause. The Boy slams down the tray on a table.) Well, aren't you going to say anything. Whaddya think?

CHARLIE. They must have decided whether they want a smooth chest or a hairy chest.

Boy. Hunh?

CHARLIE. Did you have to stand around in a towel, smiling?

Boy. No, why?

CHARLIE. Just wondered.

Boy. I am going to be seen by everybody. Everybody. I mean, you can't avoid Colgate, Colgate is out there hustling and Harry is gonna hustle for 'em.

CHARLIE. I got an offer to leave town.

Boy. Yeah?

CHARLIE. A new little rep company. But I gotta agree to stay through August. Six months.

Boy. Where?

CHARLIE. Wichita.

Boy. Wichita?

CHARLIE. Kansas.

Boy. Wichita, Kansas. Through August in Wichita, Kansas? They must be outa their skulls. Did you laugh as you turned 'em down?

CHARLIE. Not yet.

Boy. Be sure and laugh.

CHARLIE. They were gonna guarantee me some parts.

Boy. I wouldn't go to Wichita, if they guaranteed me Hamlet. Was it Hamlet?

CHARLIE. No.

Boy. What parts?

CHARLIE. Well, Trepleff in *The Seagull*.

Boy. Yeah. And?

CHARLIE. Romeo.

Boy. What part?

CHARLIE. Whaddya' mean what part? Romeo. That part.

Boy. You're not right for Romeo.

CHARLIE. Are you crazy? I'm perfect for it. Romeo's my role.

Boy. What are they gonna pay?

CHARLIE. (Matters.) Scale.

Boy. What?

CHARLIE. Scale. Minimum.

Boy. You are thinking of going to Wichita, Kansas for minimum?

CHARLIE. For Romeo. And I get a room.

**END**