

# KING OF COMEDY

**Rupert**

How have you been, Rita?

**Rita**

Do I know you?

**Rupert**

I think you might.

**Rita**

Rupert. Rupert Pupkin, right?

**Rupert**

I brought you a little present.

**Rita**

Oh yeah. I remember, Mr. Romance.

**Rupert**

Put an aspirin in that, it will last longer.

**Rita**

So what are you up to these days?

**Rupert**

You're looking as beautiful as ever, Rita.

**Rita**

Well here I am, local cheerleader makes good .

**Rupert**

Ya know it's funny but I... I voted for you for most beautiful.

**Rita**

Oh did you?

**Rupert**

Yeah.

**Rita**

Sweet.

**Rupert**

I didn't have the nerve to tell you then but I guess now it's OK.

**Rita**

Yeah now you can tell me, it's OK. We're both adults.

**Rupert**

Isn't that funny though; ya know when you're younger your afraid to say those things but when you get older, fifteen, twenty years later you can say all those things that you should've said fifteen twenty years ago. Isn't that the final irony of life? Isn't it?

**Rita**

I guess.

**Rupert**

Are you happy in this place, Rita?

**Rita**

Why you got better?

**Rupert**

Maybe.

**Rita**

Oh really like what?

**Rupert**

Well, what are you doing tonight?

**Rita**

What am I doing tonight?

**Rupert**

Yeah. What's so funny?

**Rita**

It only took you fifteen years to as me for a date. Don't you think it's a little late?

**Rupert**

Really?

**Rupert**

Who is your favorite movie star?

**Rita**

What is this? Some kind of game? Huh? Are you going to tell me something about my character? My future? What?

**Rupert**

You'll see. Tell me. Everybody has a favorite movie star.

**Rita**

Well I better come up with somebody or we'll never get out of here, right?

**Rupert**

That's a little test.

**Rita**

Umm...let's see...Marilyn Monroe.

**Rupert**

Perfect.

**Rita**

Talent Register, huh.  
That's her name.

**Rupert**

She signed this when she was in New York doing her last publicity tour for "Misfits", that was her last movie, you know.

**Rita**

Yeah.

**Rupert**

She wasn't a great actress but she did have a real gift for comedy. You know she died tragically alone like many of the world's most beautiful women.  
I don't want to see that happening to you.

**Rita**

Who's this?

**Rupert**

Burt Reynolds.

**Rita**

This?

**Rupert**

Mel Brooks. He's what you call "on funny". Others are just regular. Oh that's Sid Caesar, he's remarkable. I really like him. He's great. Woody Allen. He's a very nice guy. He's a personal friend of mine.

**Rita**

Of course he is.

**Rupert**

No he is. Oh, that's Ernie Colvax. He was wonderful. He was a great comedian. Great innovator. It was a great loss.

**Rita**

I bet some of these are worth money.

**Rupert**

Oh yeah, especially this one. Just hold it.

**Rita**

Who's this?

**Rupert**

Well, just take a guess.

**Rita**

It looks like a retard who wrote this.

**Rupert**

The more scribble the name, the bigger the fame.

**Rita**

That may be true Rupert, but who is it.

**Rupert**

"R" is the first letter.

**Rita**

Come on Rupert, who is it? I'm tired.

**Rupert**

Well, I'll give you a little hint. RU...

**Rita**

Robert Redford

**Rupert**

No. No, no. That's Rupert Pupkin. Rupert Pupkin. I surprised you, didn't I? Take this as a gift. Take good care of that. In a few weeks everyone is going to want one.

**Rita**

Rupert you have not changed.

**Rupert**

Just a couple of hours ago, do you know who I was talking to? Guess.

**Rita**

Your shrink.

**Rupert**

That's very funny. No Jerry Langford. That's right, the Jerry Langford. He gave me the go ahead, Rita. Would you believe it? And you know, don't tell anyone yet, but you're looking at the new king of comedy. Why not me? Why not? A guy can get anything he wants as long as he pays the price. What's so funny about that? I mean crazier things have happened. You don't understand what a shot on Langford means. That's coast to coast national TV. A bigger audience than the greatest comedians used to play to in a whole lifetime. A shot at a free ticket in the comedy circuit. A comedy show of my own. The Rupert Pumpkin show. Everything. And all that leads in one direction. Hollywood. A beach house in Malibu right on the ocean and we'll keep a suite at the sherry. Everybody stays there when they make it big. Way up top so we can look down at everybody and yell, "hey tough luck suckers! Better luck next time." Come on what do you say?

**Rita**

It sounds wonderful Rupert and I wish you the best of luck you know, but it is getting late and I'm a working girl and I gotta go home.

**Rupert**

I don't get you, Her I am offering you a way out. Rita every king needs a queen and I want you to be mine.