

THE PAUL LYNDE SHOW

"NO NUDES IS GOOD NUDES"

(184701)

CAST

PAUL
MARTHA
HOWIE
BARBARA
SALLY
J.J. MC NIST
MAYOR
ALICE FOGELBY

*Jack Cues
at Universal*

SETS

SIMMS LIVING ROOM
POOL AREA
PAUL'S OFFICE
MAYOR'S OFFICE

Jacksonupperco.com

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TEASER

FADE IN:

INT. SIMMS LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

SALLY IS LYING ACROSS THE COUCH ON HER STOMACH, READING AN OPEN MAGAZINE. MARTHA IS BEHIND THE BAR, MIXING MARTINIS FOR HERSELF AND PAUL. THE FRONT DOOR OPENS AND PAUL ENTERS, BRIEFCASE IN HAND. HE LOOKS HAPPY. HE CROSSES TO MARTHA, THEY EXCHANGE HELLO'S, THEN PAUL:

PAUL

Well, Martha, I'm happy to announce that today was a terrific day.

MARTHA

(INDICATES MARTINI PITCHER THAT SHE'S ABOUT TO POUR) Oh? And I had your martini all ready...unless you'd rather skip it.

PAUL

The day wasn't that terrific...(KISSES HER -- SHE HANDS HIM MARTINI -- SIPS, SAVORING IT) Ummm...the perfect wife. Hot lips and cold martinis.

MARTHA LAUGHS AND THEY KISS AGAIN. DURING THIS ACTION, SALLY SITS UP AND WATCHES, UNOBSERVED BY PAUL.

SALLY

I didn't know you two still went in for that sort of thing.

PAUL

(TURNS) Why are you always sneaking around the house?

SALLY

I can't help it if I'm around when you're smooching.

PAUL

(GLARING) And why aren't you doing your homework?

SALLY

I am. I'm studying anatomy.

PAUL

(POINTING) That's a magazine.

SALLY

It's Cosmopolitan. (UNFOLDS CENTER PAGE)
Wow!

PAUL

(TO MARTHA) You know the world is really in trouble when a man will pose like that covered by only two staples.

PAUL TAKES THE MAGAZINE FROM SALLY AND SHUDDERS AS HE LOOKS AT THE CENTERFOLD. HE PUTS IT ON THE BAR.

MARTHA

You said it's been a terrific day. Why spoil it now?

PAUL

Right. Nothing could destroy this day.

It's something of a milestone. I think

I finally found our genius son-in-law a job.

MARTHA

That is good news. Where?

PAUL

I'd like to say in Cairo, but it's here
in town, on the Ocean Grove Daily Press.
He's going to sell advertising space.

MARTHA

How'd you manage that? Howie's never had
any experience in selling.

PAUL

It doesn't matter. Bill Martin who runs
the department owes me a big favor. He
promised that when he meets Howie today,
no matter what Howie says, he'll hire him.

MARTHA

How come?

PAUL

Don't you remember I got a pardon for
his mother? I tell you, Howie is a shoo in.

SALLY

There's many a slip between the cup and the lip.

PAUL

Speaking of lip, let's not have any more of yours.

FREEZE FRAME.

FADE OUT:

END TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. SIMMS LIVING ROOM - DAY

THE SCENE AS BEFORE. UNFREEZE FRAME. THE FRONT DOOR
OPENS AND HOWIE ENTERS.

HOWIE

Hi, everybody.

MARTHA, SALLY AND PAUL AD LIB HELLO'S, AS BARBARA COMES
FLYING DOWN THE STAIRS AND INTO HOWIE'S ARMS.

BARBARA

Hi, darling.

THEY EMBRACE AND HOLD A LONG KISS. PAUL REACTS DISGUSTED.

PAUL

Those two are in a rut.

PAUL TRIES TO GET HOWIE'S ATTENTION.

PAUL (CONTINUED)

Howie. (NOTHING; A LITTLE LOUDER) Howie!

(NOTHING, THEN) HOWIE!!

THEY BREAK THE KISS AND HOWIE TURNS. PAUL TAKES A DEEP
BREATH, THEN:

PAUL

Well, Howie, how do you like your new job?

HOWIE

(HEDGING) Well, I didn't start today.

PAUL

(SUSPICIOUSLY) You start tomorrow?

HOWIE

Not exactly...

PAUL

You didn't get the job, did you?

HOWIE

That's not exactly accurate either.

PAUL

How not exactly accurate is it?

HOWIE

Well not getting the job implies that I was not qualified for the newspaper. Actually, the newspaper does not qualify as the kind of employer I feel I can work for, Dad.

PAUL

(CORRECTING HIM) My name is Mr. Simms...when you're working you can call me Dad. What happened? Bill Martin promised me that no matter what you said, he would hire you.

MARTHA

What did you say, Howie?

HOWIE

(TO PAUL) I appreciate your trying to
get me a job, Dad, but that newspaper
is filled with nothing but rapes, murders
and gossip...

PAUL

That's what you told Bill Martin?

HOWIE

Yes.

PAUL

You sure know how to make a man break his promise.

HOWIE

Well, it's against my principles ecologically
to press trees into pulp to print that pap.

PAUL

It's against my principles to listen to
that sap running out of your trap.

MARTHA

Sally, go to your room. I think your
Father is about to use establishment words.

SALLY SHRUGS AND STARTS OUT AS BARBARA CHIMES IN.

BARBARA

Daddy, you can't expect a man like Howie
to take a job that goes against his moral
convictions.

MARTHA

(ESCAPING) I think something's burning
in the kitchen.

SHE HEADS FOR THE KITCHEN.

PAUL

It's in here, and it's me.

MARTHA EXITS.

BARBARA

Daddy, Howie has a right to turn down
a job if it's not his bag.

PAUL

If you find his bag, I'll be glad to
pack it for him.

BARBARA

Howie's entitled to his freedom of choice.

PAUL

And so am I. And my freedom of choice is
not to spend that paper they press into
money, supporting him.

BARBARA

That's not fair, Daddy. With what I contribute
as a substitute teacher...

PAUL

When you work...which is usually during a
flu epidemic.

HOWIE

I get sixty dollars a week from my
fellowship.

PAUL

Big money for a genius...it just about
takes care of your yogurt.

BARBARA

Another thing, Daddy, Howie studies hard
all day working on his thesis and his
experiments in Marine Biology. When would
he have time to take a job?

PAUL

I worked nights when I went to college.

BARBARA

But when would he sleep?

PAUL

In school, like you did.

BARBARA

Well, I won't have Howie knocking himself
out doing two jobs. He might get sick.

PAUL

I'm willing to risk it.

BARBARA STEPS IN BEFORE HOWIE CAN SAY ANYTHING.

BARBARA

Come on, Howie. Dinner's almost ready.

Let's wash up.

SHE GRABS HIM AND THEY EXIT AS MARTHA ENTERS.

MARTHA

Paul, I think you should be a little easier on Howie.

After all, he is our son-in-law.

PAUL

What does that earn him?

MARTHA

Well, he did marry Barbara. In this day and age, they could just be having a... relationship.

PAUL

Shhh. Bite your tongue.

THE PHONE RINGS. PAUL STARTS FOR IT, BUT SALLY COMES RACING DOWN THE STAIRS AND BEATS HIM TO THE RECEIVER.

PAUL (CONTINUED)

Must you always race me to the phone?

SALLY

(INTO PHONE) Hello...oh, hi, Sara Jean.

PAUL

Sign off. It's dinner time.

SALLY

(INTO PHONE) No kidding...right here in Ocean Grove? Just a minute...I'll ask him.

(TO HER PARENTS) Daddy, can I go see an all-nude show?

PAUL AND MARTHA

(STUNNED) What?!!!

SALLY

(EXPLAINING) It's called "Oh, Bombay". They're doing it at the Civic Auditorium.

Can I go Saturday night?

MARTHA

Positively not.

SALLY

Why? It isn't a school night.

PAUL TAKES THE PHONE FROM SALLY.

PAUL

Sara Jean...go back to your center-fold.

HE HANGS UP PHONE.

PAUL (CONTINUED)

A nude show at the Civic. I can't believe it.

MARTHA

What I can't believe is why the Mayor is allowing it. He knows what the people in this city want.

SALLY

Yeah...good seats on opening night.

PAUL

(WHEELING ON HER) It's been a long time since I spanked you...but you're askin' for it. (BACK TO MARTHA) I'm meeting with the Mayor tomorrow at my office on that zoning matter. I'll ask him about it.

MARTHA

(SURPRISED) The Mayor's coming to your office?

PAUL

What's so strange about that?

MARTHA

Well, the Mayor is a rather important person.

PAUL

So is your husband - outside of this house. Anyway, I'll certainly talk to him about this nudie show.

SALLY

Why such a big deal about a little nudity?

MARTHA SETS HER MARTINI GLASS DOWN ON THE BAR AND IDLY PICKS UP THE COPY OF COSMOPOLITAN.

PAUL

(POINTEDLY) Because no self-respecting, thinking adult would get a kick out of ogling nude actors on the stage or on center pages of magazines.

AS MARTHA PUTS THE MAGAZINE DOWN.

FLIP TO:

INT. PAUL'S OFFICE - DAY

MAYOR ANDREW SCOFIELD IS SEATED ACROSS THE DESK FROM PAUL. HE'S A YOUNGISH APPEARING MAN. HE DOESN'T LOOK OR ACT LIKE THE TYPICAL POLITICIAN.

MAYOR

Paul, I congratulate you on the way you've handled the zoning problem. The city didn't even have to go to court.

PAUL

Our firm was proud to save Ocean Grove the money, Mayor. That way our legal fees can be higher.

HE CHUCKLES, THEN SOBERS.

PAUL (CONTINUED)

I'd like to say something. Your coming over here to my office, Mayor. Personally, I think that takes a big man.

MAYOR

No, it takes a toothache.

PAUL

Pardon?

MAYOR

My dentist is in this building and

I've got an appointment with him.

Dr. Silverwood. You must know him.

Weights over three hundred. Now there's
a big man.

HE LAUGHS IT UP AND PAUL JOINS HIM NOT TOO WILLINGLY.
PAUL'S SECRETARY, ALICE FOGELBY, ENTERS.

ALICE

May I interrupt you for a moment?

MAYOR

You just did.

SHE STEPS INTO THE ROOM, OBVIOUSLY USED TO REJECTION.

ALICE

Mister Mayor, your secretary just called.

There's a crisis down at the Civic Auditorium.

PAUL LISTENS WITH INTEREST.

ALICE (CONTINUED)

She says the director of "Oh Bombay" refuses
to continue with the rehearsal until the City
turns the heat on in the auditorium.

MAYOR

We never turn the heat on during rehearsals.

It costs three hundred dollars a day.

ALICE

But the cast is nude, and they're catching cold.
What shall I say?

PAUL

Gezundheit!

MAYOR

Can't they rehearse with their clothes on?

ALICE

No, it's a dress rehearsal.

MAYOR

I'll get back to them at the end of the day.

In the meantime, tell them to keep their

shirts on. (ALICE NODS AND EXITS)

THE MAYOR CHUCKLES. PAUL JOINS IN POLITELY.

PAUL

(SOBERING UP) Mayor Scofield, I can't

believe you'd allow a nudie show to appear

in our Civic Auditorium.

MAYOR

We need the revenue. We haven't had a money-making show in the Civic since we built it. The contractors haven't even been paid off.

PAUL

You ought to know -- you own the contracting company.

MAYOR

When I took office, I divested myself of all those interests.

PAUL

I know -- you sold them to your wife.

MAYOR

Paul, you have to get with the times... this is 1972...the 18-year-olds have the vote.

PAUL

I know -- by 1975, they'll be voting nude. (SERIOUSLY) Mayor, I don't understand your attitude. When you ran for office, you promised us a clean city.

MAYOR

I was referring to the streets.

PAUL

Well, I think the stage should be as clean as the streets. Why, our Civic Auditorium has been the home of "Little Mary Sunshine" and "The Student Prince".

MAYOR

They both bombed out, but I bet we could have packed them in to see Mary and the Prince if they were in the buff.

PAUL

(SUSPICIOUS) If I found an ordinance...or a loophole that would close the show -- would you take action?

MAYOR

Come on, Paul...they have nudes on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. Why can't we have them at the Civic?

PAUL

The nudes in the Sistine Chapel don't wiggle while you watch.

HE EXITS. PAUL GOES TO THE WALL OF LAW BOOKS, FINDS ONE, "MUNICIPAL CODES", WHICH HE SELECTS.

FLIP TO:

EXT. CIVIC AUDITORIUM (STOCK) - DAY

EXT. SIDE ENTRANCE OF CIVIC AUDITORIUM

THIS CONSISTS OF A WALL WITH A DOUBLE DOOR. ON THE DOOR, OR ABOVE IT, IS A SIGN READING: "STAGE ENTRANCE". ON THE WALL IS A SIGN THAT READS: "BOX OFFICE" WITH AN ARROW POINTING O.S. PAUL, WITH A CAMERA SLUNG OVER HIS SHOULDER, STEALTHILY APPROACHES THE DOOR. HE LOOKS ABOUT, THEN TRIES ONE OF THE DOORS. IT'S LOCKED. AT THAT MOMENT, A STAGEHAND COMES OUT, DOESN'T NOTICE PAUL AND MOVES OUT OF SCENE. PAUL CATCHES THE DOOR BEFORE IT SWINGS CLOSED. KEEPING THE DOOR OPEN WITH HIS FOOT, HE PEERS INSIDE. HE THEN REMOVES HIS HEAD AND LOOKS AT THE CAMERA, DAZED AT WHAT HE'S SEEN. BRACING HIMSELF, HE LOOKS BACK INSIDE AND TAKES A COUPLE OF PHOTOFLASH SHOTS WITH HIS CAMERA. WE SEE A HAND COME INTO SCENE, GRAB PAUL BY THE SHOULDER AND PULL HIM OUT. IT'S THE SAME STAGEHAND WE SAW A MOMENT BEFORE.

STAGEHAND

Look, Mac, if you want to see them
naked, you gotta buy tickets like
everybody else.

PAUL

(FLUSTERED) Are you insinuating I'm
peeping?

STAGEHAND

Peeping and snapping.

HE GRABS THE CAMERA FROM PAUL, OPENS IT AND PULLS OUT THE FILM, WHICH REMAINS HANGING FROM THE SPOOL.

PAUL

Hey! You have no right to ruin that film. There's a picture of my wife on that roll.

STAGEHAND

If you want to snap her nude, you can snap her at home.

PAUL

I wasn't taking pictures of nude women!

STAGEHAND

Nude boys?

HE SHOVES THE CAMERA BACK INTO PAUL'S HANDS.

STAGEHAND (CONTINUED)

Now beat it, you dirty old man. (STARTS BACK INSIDE)

PAUL

I'm going to sue you. I'm going to...

J.J.

(ENTERING) ...come back to the office and stop acting like Billy Sunday.

PAUL

(TURNS, SURPRISED) J.J.! How did you know I was here?

J.J.

Your confidential secretary told me.

PAUL REACTS.

*THAT LOOKS A LITTLE OVER-
LYPESOO*

PAUL

~~J.J., do you know what's going on in there?~~~~Or should I say -- coming off?~~ *how in there.*

J.J.

(NODS) Paul, I just talked to the Mayor.

What's this nonsense about your looking for
an ordinance to close "Oh, Bombay?"

PAUL

And I can do it, too. I can nail them
on a fire ordinance. They've got five
hundred extra folding chairs in there.
They're not only nude -- they're greedy.

J.J.

Not so fast, Paul.

PAUL

There's no stopping me, J.J. If that doesn't
work, I found a loophole...

J.J.

(HOLDS UP HIS HAND) Hold it. Do you know who's
producing that show?

PAUL

Some feeble-minded sex maniac.

J.J.

Right. The Mayor's brother-in-law.

PAUL

So that's why this is suddenly naked city.

J.J.

(PLACATINGLY) Look, Paul. You know that the Mayor's been supporting his brother-in-law for years. Now he has a chance to get this free-loader off his back.

PAUL

I have a son-in-law who never intends to leave college... the Mayor has all my sympathy but he shouldn't resort to nudie nepotism.

J.J.

Why are you making such a big deal about a little thing like nudie?

PAUL

You call people parading around on the stage nude a little thing?

J.J.

That depends on who's doing the parading.

You've got a son PAUL *5'9"*

You wouldn't take this so lightly if you had a fourteen-year-old daughter ~~with over-developed gonads!~~ *WHAT?*

J.J.

~~I'll give it to you straight, Paul. The Mayor liked the way we handled the zoning problem. He's thinking of throwing a lot more business our way.~~

*THIS
DICK.*

DEMON

A FATHER

PAUL

That doesn't cut any ice with me...

(INDICATING BOOK)...this ordinance goes back to 19...

J.J.

You're not listening. That loophole's going to become a noose around your neck.

PAUL

I'm sorry, J.J. My integrity is at stake.

J.J.

I respect integrity, but I have a four hundred dollar a month mortgage on my house and a wife who loves jewelry and beautiful clothes. And whenever I tell her she's spending more than I make, she asks me why I took you in as a partner instead of keeping all the money myself. And I've always had an answer for that...up until now. And I'd hate to see you and your integrity standing in the unemployment line.

PAUL

I think I know what you're getting at, J.J.
(CLOSES BOOK OF ORDINANCES) And the next time you see Mayor Skofield, tell him if he's not re-elected, he can always run for Mayor of Copenhagen.

FLIP TO:

INT. SIMMS LIVING ROOM - DAY

MARTHA IS IN HER TENNIS OUTFIT, AND IS DIGGING HER TENNIS RACKET OUT OF THE CLOSET AS HOWIE AND BARBARA ENTER THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR.

BARBARA

(SEEING MARTHA) Mar... Howie found a job!

MARTHA

How wonderful.

HOWIE

And I only have to work a couple of hours a night.

BARBARA

Tell her the big news. (TO MARTHA)

He'll be making two hundred dollars a week!

MARTHA

For a part time job? Your father will be delirious. What's the job?

HOWIE

The actor who plays the bartender in "Oh
Rangoon" caught cold, and I got his part.

MARTHA

"Oh Bombay?" The nude show?

BARBARA

Don't worry. Howie only works
a couple of minutes without his clothes on.

MARTHA

I was wrong. Your father won't be delirious.
He'll be hysterical.

SHE SINKS ONTO THE COUCH AS WE:

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

EXT. SIMMS PATIO - DAY

MARTHA IS SITTING BY THE POOL STILL IN HER TENNIS OUTFIT. THERE IS A PITCHER OF MARTINIS IN FRONT OF HER AND ONE GLASS. PAUL ENTERS FROM THE PATIO GATE.

PAUL

(PLEASED) Ah, that's real service...
martinis at the pool.

MARTHA

I thought you might like one...or maybe
two before you go inside.

SHE HANDS HIM GLASS.

PAUL

Your ESP is good. I could use two.
J.J. convinced me of something. I
have to accept nudity as part of today's
living.

MARTHA

You couldn't have picked a better time.

PAUL

You're right. My job was at stake.

MARTHA

(TENTATIVELY) Paul, speaking of jobs...Howie has one.

PAUL

(EXUBERANTLY) Now we have something to celebrate. (SIPS HIS DRINK)

MARTHA

You might want to celebrate a lot.

PAUL

What kind of a job is it?

MARTHA

(EVASIVELY) It pays two hundred dollars a week.

PAUL

(REPEATING) Two hundred...

MARTHA

There are a couple of things you ought to know about the job.

SHE FILLS HIS GLASS.

PAUL

If he's working and making two hundred dollars a week, I don't have to know anything more.

MARTHA

It's not an ordinary job.

PAUL

Is it honest? I mean he isn't pushing pot or...

MARTHA

No, no, it's perfectly honest. It doesn't interfere with his studies and he only has to work a couple of hours a night.

PAUL

It sounds perfect. There doesn't seem to be anything missing.

MARTHA

That's a moot point.

PAUL

(STARTING FOR THE DOOR) I knew he had good stuff in him...I'm going to congratulate him.

MARTHA

(CALLING AFTER HIM) Paul...

SHE SHRUGS AND DOWNS THE REST OF THE MARTINI THAT PAUL LEFT BEHIND.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

HOWIE IS STANDING BEHIND THE BAR. WE SEE HIS NAKED TORSO ABOVE THE BAR LEVEL. BARBARA IS SEATED ON A BAR STOOL CUEING HOWIE FROM A SCRIPT OF "OH, BOMBAY".

BARBARA

Speak loud and clear, Howie, so everybody in the theater can hear you.

HOWIE

(IN EFFECTED VOICE, OFFERING A DRINK)

Here you are, a vodka gimlet, Miss Thorndike.

(NORMAL VOICE) What do you think, Honey?

BARBARA

I don't know, Howie. I think you'd be more believable as a butler if you were wearing a uniform.

PAUL

(AS HE ENTERS) Howie, I just heard about the job. Congratulations.

HE REACHES ACROSS THE BAR TO SHAKE HOWIE'S HAND.

HOWIE

Thanks, Mr. Simms.

(CORRECTING HIM) Dad. (NOTICING HOWIE'S ATTIRE)

But, son, I still wish you wouldn't come
in from the pool with just your trunks on.
It somehow seems indecent.

HOWIE

I'm not wearing trunks.

PAUL

Oh, good. Now what kind of a job did you...
(REACTING) What was that again?

HOWIE

I'm not wearing trunks.

PAUL

You mean you don't have anything...there's
nothing between you and...

BARBARA

Howie's rehearsing.

PAUL LOOKS AT HIM DAZED.

HOWIE

I'm playing a small part as a bartender
in "Oh, Bombay"...dad.

PAUL

Mr. Simms. Or better yet, don't call me
anything at all. I'd rather not admit I
know you.

BARBARA

Daddy, you're the one who's been bugging
him about getting a night job.

PAUL

Not as a bottomless bartender.

BARBARA

I was shocked, too, at first. It just takes a little getting used to.

HOWIE

I have to get used to it myself. That's why I'm rehearsing like this. I thought I'd lose my self-consciousness in front of an audience if I first walked around nude in front of the family.

PAUL

I've had nightmares that were more fun than this. How did it all start anyway? You've never been an actor.

BARBARA

Yes, he was. He played "Charley's Aunt" in his college production.

HOWIE

I got ten curtain calls.

PAUL

But with your clothes on.

HOWIE

Well, sure. Otherwise, they'd have thought I was Charley's Uncle.

THE KIDS LAUGH...IT DIES AS PAUL GLARES.

PAUL

I will not stand here and debate with a nudie looney.

PAUL TAKES OFF HIS COAT, OFFERING IT TO HOWIE.

PAUL (CONTINUED)

Now, throw my coat around you and go put your clothes on.

SALLY'S VOICE

Why does he have them off?

ANGLE WIDENS TO REVEAL SALLY STANDING IN THE OPEN FRONT DOOR WITH HER SCHOOL BOOKS. AS SHE ENTERS, PAUL NOW USES HIS COAT TO THROW OVER SALLY'S HEAD.

SALLY

(YELLING, MUFFLED) Hey, let me out!

MARTHA ENTERS WITH THE MARTINI PITCHER IN HAND. SHE LOOKS AT THE ACTION IN AMAZEMENT.

PAUL

(TO MARTHA, AS IF THIS EXPLAINS EVERYTHING)

She has homework to do.

MARTHA

Blindfolded?

PAUL (ACCUSATIVELY)

Martha, you knew Howie had a job in

"Oh, Bombay".

SHE OFFERS HIM THE MARTINI PITCHER.

MARTHA

Have another martini.

PAUL

Have another martini...have another martini...

By Thursday, I won't have a liver. Martha, why didn't you tell me about this?

SALLY

(FROM UNDER COAT) She wanted to get you
tanked first.

PAUL

(VOCIFEROUSLY) OUT!

PAUL GRABS HIS COAT AS SALLY EXITS UP THE STAIRS.

PAUL (CONTINUED)

(TURNING ON MARTHA) Do you know Howie's
standing behind that bar naked...He thinks
he's the Playboy of the Month.

MARTHA

(SPECULATIVELY) It certainly seems that way.
But seeing is believing.

SHE MARCHES TOWARD THE BAR.

PAUL

Martha, stop! Don't be lewd.

MARTHA

I'm a married woman.

PAUL

To me, not him!

MARTHA LEANS OVER THE BAR AND LOOKS.

MARTHA

I thought so. Howie, come out from
behind the bar this minute.

HOWIE SMILES SHEEPISHLY, AND STEPS OUT FROM BEHIND THE BAR.
HE'S WEARING CANDYSTRIPTED SHORTS.

PAUL

(ACCUSATIVELY) You said you didn't have
your trunks on!

HOWIE

I don't. I have my shorts on.

PAUL

(TO THE OTHERS) Oh, they're gonna' drop a net over him. (TO HOWIE) You deliberately misled me. You let me think you were naked!

HOWIE

And when you thought that, I was immoral and immodest. But with my shorts on, I'm as proper as you. Right?

PAUL

Wrong. I wouldn't be caught dead in candy-striped shorts.

BARBARA

Howie's wearing shorts to gradually get used to the idea of total nudity.

PAUL

Martha, your son-in-law is going to stand on that stage, in front of the whole town, in his birthday suit.

HOWIE

That's how man began...in his birthday suit. He only invented clothes because the winters were cold.

SALLY'S VOICE

And the bushes were thorny.

PAUL

(SHOUTING) Shut that door...and your mouth.

WE HEAR THE DOOR SLAM SHUT. PAUL TURNS TO HOWIE.

PAUL (CONTINUED)

You're not going to perform in that bare-bottomed bonanza. I forbid it...you're doing it just to embarrass me.

BARBARA

Daddy, you're only worried about being embarrassed...you don't care about freedom.

MARTHA

Howie, won't you be embarrassed...standing on stage like that in front of all your friends?

PAUL

Without his clothes, maybe no one will recognize him.

HOWIE

Mr. Simms, you just don't understand me.

PAUL

Yes I do. You're nuts.

HOWIE

It's just that everyone should have the freedom to do his own thing. The Supreme Court upheld nudity in the case of the City of Nogales versus the producers of "Skin and Bones".

PAUL

Don't pull the Supreme Court on me. What do you expect from nine dirty old men?

BARBARA

(TO HOWIE) Come on, Honey, we'll go upstairs and rehearse. (THEY EXIT)

PAUL

(TO MARTHA) Martha, don't you have anything to say about this?

MARTHA

Certainly. (LIFTS MARTINI PITCHER)

Bottoms up.

PAUL

(GRABS PITCHER) Don't say that! I tell you this whole family's disintegrating.

(THOUGHTFULLY) Martha, do you think it's time I went into business for myself?

MARTHA

You're the best lawyer in California... but why would you want to leave McNish?

PAUL

I think it's going to be J.L.'s idea and it will occur to him immediately after I tell the Mayor that I've come up with a City Ordinance that will close "Oh, Bombay".

MARTHA

Paul, don't do anything rash.

PAUL

We can't let our daughter's husband appear nude in that show...unless he's willing to resign as our daughter's husband. (DOORBELL RINGS) I'll get it.

MARTHA

I'll see about dinner.

PAUL GOES TO THE DOOR, OPENS IT, REVEALING MAYOR SCOFIELD.
AS HE ENTERS:

MAYOR

Hello, Paul. Just thought I'd drop by
on my way home and thank you.

PAUL FOLLOWS THE MAYOR D.S.

PAUL

For what?

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MAYOR

(INDICATING THE PITCHER IN PAUL'S HAND)

For that martini you're about to offer
me.

PAUL REACTS AS HE REALIZES HE'S STILL HOLDING THE PITCHER, THEN
CROSSES TO THE BAR TO GET A GLASS.

MAYOR (CONTINUED)

I knew you weren't going to drink all
that yourself. (HE CHUCKLES)

PAUL

Don't bet on it.

PAUL POURS, HANDS THE MAYOR THE MARTINI. THE MAYOR TOASTS.

MAYOR

To your good judgement today, Paul.

J.J. told me about your change in attitude.

PAUL

Oh, that, well, I...

MAYOR

And you and J.J. won't be sorry. I've
always believed that one hand washes the
other. And I have enough soap to keep
your firm in business for a long time.

THE MAYOR CHUCKLES. PAUL JUST STARES AT HIM, STEALS HIMSELF.

PAUL

Mayor Scofield, as the responsible Mayor of
this town, I know you will be interested to
learn that I've found a city ordinance that will
close "Oh, Bombay". (SIPS HIS MARTINI)

MAYOR

(STUNNED) There is no such thing.

PAUL

Oh, really! What about 234B of the City Code?

MAYOR

That ordinance only applies to indecent exposure on public beaches.

PAUL

Exactly! The Civic Auditorium is on pilings over the beach. The moment those actors come on stage nude...you grab 'em.

MAYOR

Fine...Paul, why are you so insistent on finding a way for me to close "Oh, Bombay"?

PAUL

I'll answer you in your own words that may sound strange to you -- civic pride.

DURING THE ABOVE SPEECH, BARBARA COMES DOWN THE STAIRS.

BARBARA

Dad, won't you change your mind about tonight?

PAUL

Later, Barbara, much later.

BARBARA

I know how you feel about "Oh, Bombay" but Howie would be a lot happier if you and Mom could go and see him in the dress rehearsal.

THE MAYOR REACTS SURPRISED.

PAUL

(GRIMLY) Thanks, Barbara. Now you can go back to your lair.

BARBARA REACTS AND EXITS UP THE STAIRS.

MAYOR

(SMILING) Well, well, Mr. Civic Pride, so you have a pornographic son-in-law.

PAUL

That has nothing to do with it. It's my integrity.

MAYOR

I'd think it over, Paul. You're going to hit the news media big. I can just hear the newscaster on the seven o'clock news. The law firm of McNish and Simms has come up with an ordinance to close "Oh, Bombay" not in the public interest, but because Paul Simms has a nudie son-in-law.

THE MAYOR PUTS DOWN HIS MARTINI AND CROSSES TO THE DOOR, PAUL FOLLOWING. AS THEY GO:

PAUL

Why would a newscaster say a thing like that?

MAYOR

Possibly because he's my nephew.

PAUL

That's blackmail.

MAYOR

Oh, no. I just want to keep the public completely informed. I don't want a communications gap in my administration.

THE MAYOR OPENS THE DOOR.

MAYOR (CONTINUED)

My suggestion, Paul, is to leave the show open and close down your son-in-law.

In fact, Paul, I'll drop in with my nephew tomorrow to tape an interview. You know -- me congratulating you on how you handled the zoning case for the city. It's been a pleasure rapping with you and thanks for the martini.

THE MAYOR EXITS, CLOSING THE DOOR, AS MARTHA APPEARS. PAUL STARES INTO SPACE.

MARTHA

What are you thinking about, dear?

PAUL

Just day-dreaming.

MARTHA

What about?

PAUL

Thinking how nice it would be to get Howie and the Mayor together...as stowaways on the next moon launch.

FLIT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

HOWIE AND BARBARA STAND AT THE FOOT OF THE STAIRS AND CALL UP.

BARBARA
We're going!

MARTHA
(COMES DOWN THE STAIRS) Wait a minute.
Dad and I are going to the dress rehearsal
with you.

HOWIE
No kidding.

BARBARA
How come?

MARTHA
Well, your father has proven to be more
open-minded than I thought.

BARBARA
(TO HOWIE) It must have been your speech on
freedom that got to him.

HOWIE
Honey, we'd better get going...I don't
want to be late for the performance.

PAUL'S VOICE

That's right...you'll barely have time to get

to the theater to take your clothes off.

PAUL APPEARS ON THE STAIRS. HE IS WEARING A SHORT CAR COAT AND BOW TIE...AND NOTHING ELSE.

PAUL

Well, I'm ready. Let's go.

HOWIE

Go? Where?

MARTHA

To the show. I told you your father was going to lend you moral support.

HOWIE

But you don't have any shoes or pants on.

PAUL

That's to go with the shirt and shorts I don't have on.

BARBARA

Daddy, are you out of your mind?

PAUL

No, just my clothes. (INDICATING HOWIE)

He's going to be nude on stage. Why can't

I be nude in the audience? It takes one

to watch one. Right, Martha?

MARTHA

Right, Dimples.

BARBARA

Daddy, I won't go to the theater if you're going to sit there naked.

PAUL

You're going with your husband, and he's going to be on the stage naked.

BARBARA

But you're different than Howie...I mean, you're respectable. (CORRECTS HERSELF TO HOWIE) I didn't mean that the way it sounds, Honey.

HOWIE

That's all right...but don't worry -- your Dad's just bluffing.

PAUL

Not at all. I'm just going along with your idea of freedom.

PAUL CROSSES TO THE DOOR.

BARBARA

But, Daddy, what are my friends going to say?

PAUL

(FROM THE DOOR) That's one of the problems of total freedom. But like Howie says -- he has the right to do his own thing and so do I.

BARBARA

Mother, is he serious?

MARTHA

(UNCERTAINLY) I don't know. He's got blood in his eye.

HOWIE

He's just putting us on.

PAUL

(THIS GALL RISING) Oh really? Want to try me?

BARBARA

It won't work, Dad. You wouldn't even step out of the house wearing just that topcoat.

PAUL

(ACCEPTING THE CHALLENGE) You're wrong... I'll even step out of this house without this topcoat.

HE THROWS OPEN THE FRONT DOOR, DISAPPEARS OUTSIDE, THEN THROWS THE COAT BACK IN. BARBARA GAPS IN HORROR.

MARTHA

(HORRIFIED) He's flipped!

HOWIE

(LOUD VOICE) Don't worry, Mrs. Simms... he's wearing shorts.

PAUL'S VOICE

Oh, yeah...

A PAIR OF SHORTS COME FLYING IN.

MARTHA

(STUNNED, TO BARBARA) It finally happened... your father's brain broke.

PAUL'S VOICE

(HORRIFIED) OH, MY GOODNESS!!!

MARTHA RUNS TO THE DOOR, LOOKS OUTSIDE.

MARTHA

Good grief! It's the Mayor.

DURING THE ABOVE SHE SCOOPS UP PAUL'S TOPCOAT AND THROWS IT OUT THE DOOR.

PAUL'S VOICE

What...what are you doing here, Mayor?

PAUL APPEARS IN THE LIVING ROOM, FOLLOWED BY THE MAYOR AND A YOUNG MAN WITH A HAND HELD CAMERA AND SOUND EQUIPMENT. PAUL IS ADJUSTING HIS COAT AND TURNS TO OBSERVE THE YOUNG MAN.

PAUL

And who's that?

MAYOR

This is my nephew, the newscaster. I think if we hurry we can make the seven o'clock news. Or -- have you changed your stand on nudity?

PAUL

Do you have to ask?

MAYOR

Paul, when you change your point of view, you don't kid around, do you?

PAUL

Thanks to you, Howie, this family now has two nudie looneys.

FADE OUT:

INT. PAUL'S OFFICE - DAY
PAUL IS AT HIS DESK. J.J. IS CONFRONTING HIM.

(IRATELY) I don't understand you. You talked Howie into quitting "Oh, Rangoon." But you still embarrassed the Mayor into closing the show. Have you lost your mind?

PAUL

What I lost was my integrity. But I got it back.

J.J.

Something we'll never get back is any of the city's legal business. I've been trying to apologize to the Mayor all morning, but his lines were tied up.

PAUL

We can get along without the city's legal business, J.J.

J.J.

But I can't get along without my wife, who
thinks I can get along without you.

THE MAYOR APPEARS IN THE OPEN DOOR.

MAYOR

(HAPPILY) Afternoon, Paul...J.J...

J.J.

(TURNS IN SURPRISE) Mayor, I've been
trying to get through to you all morning.
I had nothing to do with it. (INDICATING
PAUL) He's the one with the integrity.

MAYOR

I know that.

J.J.

And he's going to be laughing all the way
to another law firm.

MAYOR

I want to thank you, Paul.

PAUL

Mayor, that's big of you...considering youR
lost ^{THAT} show ~~and regained your~~ (brother-in-law.)

MAYOR

BUT I ~~also~~ got a couple of hundred calls from
my constituents congratulating me for
closing down the show and keeping my
campaign promise to run a clean town. Integrity
pays off.

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I'LL BE RIGHT WITH
YOU.

PAUL — WHAT'S HAPPENING TO YOUR SENSE
OF HUMOR?
YOU GOING TO ANOTHER LAW FIRM,
THAT JUST WOULDN'T BE POSSIBLE
— AFFILIATION
WHAT — PAUL YOU CAN'T DO THAT ALL
THOSE YEARS — IT WOULDN'T BE FAIR.