

PET NAMES
by
Phil Clarke Jr.

copyright 2009
doglebe@yahoo.com

INT. BAR. -NIGHT

Any run of the mill bar, dimly lit, partially filled with casually-dressed people. Rock music plays in the background.

STEVEN (O.C.)
What about 'the rod?'

CLAUDE (O.C.)
The rod? No....

STEVEN (O.C.)
'Snake?'

CLAUDE (O.C.)
I don't think so.

STEVEN and CLAUDE (both 30) sit at the bar. Steven wears a suit with his tie pulled down and his top button unbuttoned. Claude wears an old denim jacket over a golf shirt.

STEVEN
'Mister Happy?'

CLAUDE
Lame. Sounds too much like a Chinese restaurant.

STEVEN
What about 'the gun?'

CLAUDE
Gun?

STEVEN
The gun.

CLAUDE
Too violent. Chicks don't dig violent. How about 'wang?'

A bartender walks by. Claude points to the near empty bottles in front of him and Steven.

STEVEN
Wang? You just said that Mister Happy sounded too much like a Chinese restaurant--

CLAUDE
You got a point there. Do you think the people in China know that we use that name for a guy's dick?

STEVEN
They probably do. What about
'monster?'

Claude SNICKERS as he takes a sip of beer.

CLAUDE
Monster? Are you that big?
Seriously?

STEVEN
Am I...what?

CLAUDE
Cause if you're not a monster,
she's just going to laugh at you..

STEVEN
You think?

CLAUDE
During sex, she's gonna be saying
shit like--
(girlish)
Oh no, the monster! The monster's
coming--

Claude flails his arms around, mimicking panic. Steven
brings his beer to his mouth, watching.

CLAUDE
It's gonna plant it's seed in me
like I'm a Japanese anime
schoolgirl! Save me, Akira!

Steven spits his drink out.

STEVEN
Jesus!

He grabs a napkin from the bar and quickly cleans up after
himself.

CLAUDE
(normal voice)
I can't believe we're having this
conversation--

STEVEN
I know, but you gotta help me.

The bartender puts fresh beers in front of the two.

CLAUDE

I don't even get it. Why do you suddenly want to give your dick a nickname? Isn't 'dick' enough?

STEVEN

Karen doesn't like it.

CLAUDE

She doesn't like dick? What is she? A lesbian...?

STEVEN

No. I mean...she likes to talk during sex...

CLAUDE

She likes to talk dirty?

STEVEN

No. She just...talks.

CLAUDE

Talks? About what?

Claude drinks his beer.

STEVEN

She... likes to talk about what we're doing. But she doesn't like it vulgar. She doesn't like the words 'dick' or 'cock.'

CLAUDE

She doesn't like the word 'cock?' What's wrong with 'cock?'

The bartender walks by.

CLAUDE

I like 'cock.'

The bartender and Claude look at each other. Steven covers his face, embarrassed.

The bartender walks away.

CLAUDE

Let's get out of here.

He finishes his beer.

STEVEN
Where we going?

Claude stands up as Steven takes a chug from his beer.

CLAUDE
Anywhere. Just let's go before
that bartender either beats the
shit out of me or gives me his
number.

The two walk toward the door.

STEVEN
What about--?

CLAUDE
We'll talk about your problem
wherever we end up, okay?

The two pass MAGGIE and SHEILA (both 30), sitting at the bar.

MAGGIE
So, how long have you been thinking
about this?

SHEILA
A long time. It's just how do you
tell a guy?

MAGGIE
But a nickname for your--

SHEILA
Help me out, please.

MAGGIE
Okay. Okay. What have you got?

She sips her drinks.

SHEILA
I was thinking 'rosebud.'

MAGGIE
That's nice. Rosebud...

SHEILA
You don't like it?

MAGGIE
It's nice. Rosebud. It's a good
start. What else?

SHEILA
How about 'lilac?'

MAGGIE
I think I like rosebud better.

SHEILA
Really? How about 'tiger lily?'

MAGGIE
Bright orange and spotty? I don't
know... Hey, if you're working with
a flower theme, here, why not
'tulips?'

SHEILA
Why tulips?

Sheila sips her drink and BURSTS OUT laughing. Maggie
giggles at her reaction.

FINAL FADE OUT.

SHEILA
I get it now.