

RED TUXEDO

by

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INT. PENTHOUSE - NEW YORK CITY

MR. BERGUER is hosting the event and has asked MR. SANDERS to enter his meeting quarters to negotiate a deal.

MR. BERGUER
Please, take a seat Mr. Sanders.

MR. SANDERS
I rather stand but I'll be polite.

MR. BERGUER
Appreciated. (beat) What do you think of the party tonight?

MR. SANDERS
It's becoming of you. Your typical bourgeois nonsense.

MR. BERGUER
Yes, it is quite a bit of nonsense, I must agree but necessary nonsense I'm afraid. Can I offer you a cigar? My collection spans the globe.

MR. SANDERS
I don't smoke.

MR. BERGUER
Pity.

Mr. Berguer lights his cigar.
May I offer you a drink? Surely, you drink. Scotch? Brandy?

MR. SANDERS
Bourbon.

MR. BERGUER
My pleasure.

Mr. Berguer pours Mr. Sanders bourbon.
You may be wondering why I've asked you to come here.

MR. SANDERS
I know exactly why you've sent for me.

MR. BERGUER
Do tell.

MR. SANDERS
Patents.

MR. BERGUER
Yes, the patents.

MR. SANDERS
Perhaps we should cut to the chase, Mr. Berguer. We are both business men, are we not? No need to beat around the bush.

MR. BERGUER
That is correct, Mr. Sanders. Should I offer my proposition or would you prefer to offer yours?

MR. SANDERS
I know what you want and I know how you go about getting what you want. I understand the importance of this deal, for my sake. I'm prepared to give you my full forty-percent.

MR. BERGUER
In exchange?

MR. SANDERS
Nothing.

Mr. Sanders pulls out an envelope and hands it to Mr. Berguer.

I've completely signed over all my rights. You have full control. (beat) Don't look so alarmed. I'm giving you exactly what you wish.

MR. BERGUER
Why no fuss? Surely, there must be something you desire?

MR. SANDERS
I understand your power Mr. Berguer. I know how you go about your business. I've thought over this quite a bit these past few weeks. I believe I'm making a very smart, successful decision with you. Am I not?

MR. BERGUER
I wouldn't disagree, Mr. Sanders.

Pause.

MR. SANDERS
Will that be all?

MR. BERGUER

Indeed. (beat) You are a much more dangerous man than I previously imagined. There is a great deal of respect that divides our interests.

MR. SANDERS

I appreciate your modesty.

MR. BERGUER

Enjoy the rest of the party.

MR. SANDERS

Good evening.