

# ***Pizza from Carlos***

*by*

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Cast of Characters

MOE: Early 30's  
SAUL: Early 30's  
CORKY: Late 20's

Place

Saul/Moe Apartment

Time

Afternoon

**MOE:** It's a ventilated sneaker, so, the way it works is that if you was to, let's say, go outside on a blistering hot day, like a heat wave sorta day, right, and your burning up, this sneaker will keep your feet cool, like, it's an air conditioner for your feet and it's got a dial at the back of the heel, like, behind your heel, right, and there's a dial, you know how there's those dials inside refrigerators? Yeah! And ya can put the dial on whatever level you want, based on how hot you are. Like that one?

**SAUL:** So, it's a freezer for your foot.

**MOE:** Like an air conditioner, yeah.

**SAUL:** Not bad. How would you develop something like that?

**MOE:** I just come up with the ideas, you gotta do the research and put it all together.

**SAUL:** I don't know nothing about technology.

**MOE:** Yeah, but you have a brain, don't ya?

**SAUL:** YOU got a freaking brain too, ya know.

**MOE:** Yeah, but different brains function in different ways. Don't you know that? MY brain is more of an imagination type brain and YOUR brain is more of an accountant type brain.

**SAUL:** Accountant?

**MOE:** Yeah, you're more organized and me, I'm all over the place but by being all over the place, I get concepts and these concepts lead to things, like inventive ideas.

**SAUL:** So, you had one decent idea your whole existence. Congratulations!

**MOE:** No! I've had way more than that, Saul.

**SAUL:** I've known you since forever. I ain't ever heard of a single idea ever come out your mouth, until today.

**MOE:** So? I gotta tell you everthing? That just means I decided to tell you something.

**SAUL:** Share another one.

**MOE:** No, you think I want to tell you all my genius ideas?

**SAUL:** Prove it.

**MOE:** Prove what?

**SAUL:** Prove to me that you're a genius.

**MOE:** No.

**SAUL:** Cause you're full of shit.

**MOE:** But I'm not though.

**SAUL:** Yeah, yeah, yeah bullshit artist.

**MOE:** You know when Jesus was in the desert and the devil kept trying to tempt him, like, he kept giving Jesus a way out and Jesus kept telling him to take a walk, remember that?

**SAUL:** And?

**MOE:** You're tempting me like the devil.

**SAUL:** Forget it, you're a genius. Happy?

**MOE:** I'm not a genius but I have genius ideas.

**SAUL:** Everybody on planet Earth has ideas.

**MOE:** But my ideas are good.

**SAUL:** I wouldn't know.

**MOE:** You saying my air conditioned sneaker is no good? You wouldn't wear a sneaker that can cool you down or warm your feet up?

**SAUL:** So, now it warms up feet?

**MOE:** It's dual purpose.

**SAUL:** You're an ass.

**MOE:** Would you wear my sneaker or not?

**SAUL:** If you made them I bet they'd either set me on fire or give me frostbite.

**MOE:** We'll see.

**SAUL:** We'll see nothing cause you ain't gonna make them.

**MOE:** Never said I would make them. I'm just the idea man.

**SAUL:** (sarcastic) No kidding?

**MOE:** Would you wear 'em?

**SAUL:** I'd wear 'em if Leonardo Da Vinci made them.

**MOE:** He's dead.

**SAUL:** And so is your idea.

**MOE:** If he was alive, you think he'd make 'em?

**SAUL:** No.

**MOE:** Why not?

**SAUL:** Cause he's Da Vinci, he's interested in more important things, he won't have time for air conditioned sneakers.

**MOE:** It's challenging.

**SAUL:** For him it's probably laughable.

**MOE:** He'd like my idea.

**SAUL:** You will never know.

**MOE:** Just as good.

**SAUL:** What?

**MOE:** I think my ideas are just as good as Da Vinci's.

**SAUL:** Now I know you are out of your mind.

**MOE:** I don't care what you think.

**SAUL:** You should! I'm the only one with reason.

**MOE:** I have ideas! I have great ideas!

**SAUL:** So, change the world.

**MOE:** I have forward thinking ideas!

**SAUL:** Here's an idea..make rent. You figure that out yet Einstein? Huh? How we making this month's rent?

**MOE:** Earn money. Borrow money. Steal money.

**SAUL:** Very good. Which one's it gonna be?

**MOE:** Well, I've earned a little but not enough. I can borrow some but not all and I can steal the rest.

**SAUL:** How you gonna steal the rest?

**MOE:** I know a place.

**SAUL:** Yeah?

**MOE:** Yeah...I know a place but I think I can't do it.

**SAUL:** No, huh? Why don't you just borrow the rest?

**MOE:** It's too much to ask for.

**SAUL:** I guess you're screwed.

**MOE:** Guess I am. I can talk to the landlord, ask for an extension, maybe---

**SAUL:** There is no extensions, Moe! We're already three months behind. We're gonna get thrown out. Is that what you want?

**MOE:** That's not what I want.

**SAUL:** I'm disgusted. I'm broke. I'm hungry.

**MOE:** I'm sorry.

**SAUL:** I'm fed up.

**MOE:** I'm depressed.

**SAUL:** I'm gonna choke you!

**MOE:** I'm serious.

**SAUL:** I'm serious, too!

**MOE:** I'm gonna kill myself.

**SAUL:** I'm gonna let you. Go grab a knife and end it. At least it will buy me more time with the landlord.

**MOE:** You really don't give a shit, do ya?

[doorbell buzzes]

**MOE:** Who's that?

**SAUL:** What am I a psychic? You expecting somebody?

**MOE:** I only know you and one other person, no.

**SAUL:** Who's the other person?

**MOE:** My brother.

**SAUL:** You expecting him?

**MOE:** No, he's in California, anyway, no.

[Saul goes to intercom at wall]

**SAUL:** Who is it?

**CORKY:** Corky.

**SAUL:** Who?

**CORKY:** Saul, stop fucking around and buzz me in, I'm not in the mood.

**SAUL:** Who is this?

**CORKY:** CORKY! It's Corky, you idiot!

[to Moe]

**SAUL:** Who the fuck is Corky?

**MOE:** I don't know a Corky.

**SAUL:** She knows my name!

**MOE:** Let her in!

**SAUL:** I'm not gonna let her in!

[Moe and Saul get physical at the intercom, until Moe finally presses the intercom button to let Corky enter the building]

**SAUL:** Why did you do that?!

**MOE:** It's Corky.

**SAUL:** Who's Corky?

**MOE:** I have no freaking idea.

[Corky enters the apartment. She tosses a box of pizza on the coffee table, kicks off her shoes, puts a 12 pack of beer in the fridge but not before taking one out and popping the cap. Mascara is smeared down her cheeks from crying.]

[Corky downs half her Paris Blu beer.]

**CORKY:** What's the matter with you two assholes? You know I hate the heat. Brought you morons some pizza from Carlos. Eat, eat, eat.

[Saul and Moe look at one another. Moe goes to the pizza box and takes out a slice. Saul eventually does the same.]

I don't have patience. If there is one thing I wish I could change about myself, it's patience. I've gotten better at it, over the years, I've improved. I've learned how to let the steam out, before I blow...but I can do better, I should do better, I HAVE TO DO BETTER!!!

Buttons get pushed, my heart starts beating, grinding my teeth or humming, I hum, I hum frustrated tunes to myself in order to release all this pent up steam...I'll breathe, take deep breaths but ultimately, I'm a failure...I lose my battle against myself and I'm a woman who has strong will power, believe me...it's the one thing though, that one freaking thing I constantly fight against...myself.

There's guilt, anger, violence. Can't tell you how many times I've punched something, whether it's a bookcase or a door, a wall, a person. Yeah. (holds up her index finger) My index finger always blows up, gets swollen. All from a previous injury I got way back when. Another bitch, another story. Fuckers.

The aftermath is always the same; I feel like a piece of shit, a real low life, cause I failed. I failed to keep it together.

There's that image I have that burns in my brain. It will be with me forever. The look I was given...her eyes...there is nothing worse than that look she gave me...nothing worse...

[Corky cries.]

[Corky downs the rest of her beer.]

Grab me another Paris Blu.

[Saul gets up and grabs the beer, handing it to Corky who downs half the bottle.]

To think, I love this woman, actually love her more than anything in this world...why is it so fucking hard to control our emotions? (beat) I'm asking you guys...why?

**MOE:** (clears his throat) Uh, maybe we're all not fully developed.

**CORKY:** Fully developed?

**MOE:** Yeah.

**CORKY:** So, you're saying that I'm not fully developed?

**MOE:** Uh, maybe some of us are more developed than others.

**CORKY:** That's the worst thing I've heard, ever.

**MOE:** Makes sense, right?

**CORKY:** Maybe there's no hope for me cause I'll never be developed enough.

**MOE:** I wouldn't say that.

**CORKY:** But you did just say that.

**MOE:** Maybe we develop as we go along. I don't know.

**SAUL:** (sarcastic) Cause you're a genius.

**MOE:** Shut up, Saul. Least I'm trying to help her.

**SAUL:** You don't help nobody with your stupid philosophies.

**MOE:** I don't think it's stupid, what I'm sayin'.

**SAUL:** (to Corky) Is he making sense to you or what?

**CORKY:** It's depressing.

**SAUL:** See? You're making her worse.

**MOE:** I'm not trying to make her worse.

**CORKY:** Shut up!!!

(both men get quiet)

I'm having a painful crises over here and all you two idiots do is fight and you know, I brought over pizza and beer and the least you can do is be a friend to me. I'm hopeless, can't you see I'm hopeless?

**SAUL:** ...No, no, you ain't hopeless, Corky, you, we all, we're all screwed up, each in our own special way.

**MOE:** Yeah.

**SAUL:** And, you know, nobody is perfect.

**MOE:** Right.

**CORKY:** I feel like giving up.

**SAUL:** No, no, no...no, no, no. You can't, you can't.

**CORKY:** You ever feel like the life you're living, isn't supposed to be the life you're living?

**SAUL:** Yeah.

**CORKY:** You just sayin' that or are you serious?

**MOE:** He's serious. He tells me how miserable he is every single day.

**SAUL:** Shut up, Moe.

**MOE:** It's true, though.

**CORKY:** What if I'm not good enough to be good enough?

**SAUL:** I don't think I'm good enough to answer that.

**CORKY:** Moe?

**MOE:** Yeah?

**CORKY:** What if I'm not good enough?

**MOE:** Oh, well, I ain't ever been good enough for anything my whole life. I've done just about every kinda job there is, good and bad, and I suck at all of 'em. But, uh, I just keep going cause maybe I'm too dumb to know any better or maybe I keep hoping that some day I'm gonna find the one thing I'm good at...you know, maybe the one thing I'm good at is not finding the one thing I'm good at, maybe I'm supposed to go through life always hoping and wondering cause life could be pretty boring at times...so, somehow it all makes sense cause I'm trying, I keep trying and if you keep trying, if you keep at it until the end, maybe it don't matter whether or not you're good enough cause maybe what matters is that you didn't give up trying, so...

**CORKY:** That's fucked up.

**SAUL:** (to Moe) You see? You make everything worse, Moe!

**CORKY:** It's fucked up cause it's true.

**MOE/SAUL:** It is???

**CORKY:** ...Maybe I'll never be good enough but why should I lay down and die, right?

*Moe and Saul both nod.*

*Corky downs the rest of her beer and lights a cigarette.*

Maybe, I'm destined to be someone who goes through life trying to be good enough and that's my calling...like, those Buddhists in the mountains, trying to evolve to the next level of being. Maybe I gotta go to Tibet and wear a robe and walk through forests and meditate, cause everything I've been doing up to this point isn't working, and I gotta do something drastic before it's too late.

**SAUL:** That sounds important.

**CORKY:** It's everything!

**MOE:** But what's too late?

**CORKY:** The love of my life. Don't you guys see? If I don't evolve to a higher level I'm destined to reamain as I am and lose the love of my life. I probably already did.

**MOE:** How? Why?

**CORKY:** I got physical.

**MOE:** With who?

**CORKY:** With Penelope.

**MOE:** Your girlfriend?

**CORKY:** Yeah, my girlfriend! What's wrong with you guys today?

**MOE:** Sorry.

**CORKY:** I gotta do something and I gotta do it now! I'm gonna book myself a plane ticket and I'm gonna change. I'm gonna reach the next level. I'm gonna force myself to do it and if I don't, if I'm not able to make the leap forward...I'm gonna kill myself.

**SAUL:** No, don't do that.

**CORKY:** No, no, cause fuck this shit man. I'm sorry but I'm not gonna spend the next fifty odd years of my life wasting away cause I can't get it up. It's now or never. I either have an awakening or die.

**MOE:** That's really intense.

**CORKY:** Damn straight! I'm gonna tell Penelope about my plan. I'm gonna tell her exactly what I'm doing and this is my last ditch effort boys.

[Corky gets her shoes back on. Kisses both Saul and Moe on the cheek.]

I'm going to Tibet. You both really helped me see the direction I need to go in.

[Corky exits out the door.]

**SAUL:** What in the hell do you make of all that?

**MOE:** I have no idea. I like her though.

**SAUL:** Do you think she'll ever come back?

**MOE:** I hope she does.

**SAUL:** Me, too.

**MOE:** You think she's really going to Tibet?

**SAUL:** Without a doubt.

**MOE:** You think she'll come back and see us again?

**SAUL:** I'm speechless.

**MOE:** Wow. I wish I had money to go to Tibet.

**SAUL:** You don't even have money to make the rent.

**MOE:** I know, I was just saying.

**SAUL:** What?

**MOE:** That it would be nice.

**SAUL:** It's be nice if you made your end of the rent.

**MOE:** I know, I know.

**SAUL:** For once.

**MOE:** I know!

**END OF PLAY**