

Glazed Donuts

by

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Cast of Characters

<u>HAUDU</u> :	50 's
<u>NELLA</u> :	20 's
<u>GINO</u> :	30 's

Place
Donut shop

Time
Day

Setting: The play takes place inside a family owned donut shop. There is a counter angled stage left with a register and a donut display behind glass. The front entrance door is angled stage right. A large menu is also display behind the counter on the wall showcasing more products and prices.

At Rise: The play opens with Gino entering the donut shop and Haudu sitting on a stool looking down at the floor unaware that Gino has entered until he starts speaking.

Haudu sits on the stool and stares at the floor.

GINO: Hey...hey, what's wrong with you?

HAUDU: Me?

GINO: No, the donut. Yeah, you!

HAUDU: I don't---

GINO: Every time I come in here you give me the wrong stuff.

HAUDU: Wrong st--

GINO: The donuts. I asked you for a glazed and you give me a chocolate. How do you confuse the two?

HAUDU: I will give you a glazed donut--

GINO: But this is every time man. Why don't you get my order right the first time, so I don't always have to come back in here? I can't remember the last time you got my shit right.

HAUDU: I'll do better next time. Sorry, sir. *(hands donut bag to Gino while his hand shakes)* I give you extra donuts for the mistake.

GINO *(calming)*: Alright. Listen, I, I didn't mean to come in here upset and everything. I mean, I did but I shouldn't have gotten--

HAUDU: It's okay sir, no worries.

GINO: I didn't mean to—I'm sorry for getting loud.

HAUDU: No, no sir, it's no worry, really, I, I apologize to you.

GINO: Well, I apologize to you for being rude about it.

NELLA: Poppa, is everything okay?

HAUDU: Everything is fine.

NELLA: Why are you shouting at my father?

HAUDU: No, no---

GINO: I didn't mean to shout--

NELLA: Go! You have your free donuts now so go!

HAUDU: Nella, please.

GINO: I was just leaving.

NELLA: Leave!

NELLA (cont'd): And don't come back!

GINO: You don't want me to come back?

NELLA: Don't ever come back!

Gino exits the shop shaking his head.

HAUDU: Nella!

HAUDU: Why do you do such things?

NELLA: I will not tolerate my father being shouted at like you are some dog.

HAUDU: The man apologized for his behavior.

NELLA: He should respect his elders.

HAUDU: Maybe he is only having a bad day.

Haudu wipes his forehead with a handkerchief.

NELLA: Still no excuse. (*observing Haudu*) Are you okay?

Haudu sits down on a nearby stool.

HAUDU: (nodding) I am fine dear.

*Nella rushes to get her father water.
She hands him a cup of water.*

NELLA: Drink, dad, drink.

Haudu drinks from the cup of water.

HAUDU (sighs): Ahh, I am fine.

NELLA: This is too much.

HAUDU: We need to get the air conditioning fixed.

NELLA: I told you to stay home today.

HAUDU: No, no.

NELLA: There are things I can handle.

HAUDU: No--

NELLA: Why don't you trust me?

HAUDU: You are my daughter, of course I trust you.

NELLA: Let me run the store without you.

HAUDU: I need to be here.

NELLA: That's all in your mind.

HAUDU: You are too temperamental.

NELLA: So?

HAUDU: You cannot be that way with customers.

NELLA: That man came in here and shouted at you. What if he was to turn violent and physically harm you? With all this crap going on in the world today, anything can happen at anytime.

HAUDU: He would have done no such thing.

NELLA: You never show backbone.

HAUDU: One does not need to show backbone unless absolutely necessary.

NELLA: Necessary?

HAUDU: Correct. Violence breeds violence. I wish to live in a civilized world or at least as civilized as can be. If I were to shout back at that man, meeting confrontation with confrontation, it may have gotten worse and for what? Tell me, what would be the point of shouting back? The man was clearly right, I gave him the wrong donut. Yes, he did not need to behave as he did but rather than making matters worse, I remained calm and he apologized to me and I appreciated his apology. It mattered. You come storming upstairs and want to match him with shouting and telling him to not come back and not only are you putting yourself at risk, you put your father at risk and we have lost a longtime customer; he will only have bad things to say about us now, which isn't good for business. You ask me, why don't I let you run the store alone? Well, I think today's demonstration proves why I must continue being here.

NELLA: I really think that it's your pride.

HAUDU: Did you say 'my pride'?

NELLA: You are too proud to let me run the shop without you.

HAUDU: ...That may be partially true.

NELLA: It is true.

HAUDU: Partially.

NELLA: Why are you so difficult? You are so stubborn.

HAUDU: Nella...

NELLA: ...What?

HAUDU: You are right.

NELLA: I am?

HAUDU: Partially.

They both laugh.

NELLA: You drive me crazy, Poppa.

HAUDU: But if you are partially right, I am partially right as well. This means we are also both partially wrong, no?

NELLA: Mm-hm.

HAUDU: It's the wrong bits that need adjusting, no?

NELLA: Yes.

HAUDU: *(coughs)*

NELLA: ...It's over one hundred degrees outside and in here we are boiling.

HAUDU: *(nodding in agreement)*

Haudu drinks cup of water, hands it finished to Nella.

NELLA: Why don't you take a rest in the basement where it is cooler?

HAUDU: No, I cannot.

Haudu stands up and wobbles.

NELLA: Father!

Nella grabs hold of Haudu.

HAUDU: Shh, shh I am fine my dear, I am fine. It is only the blood rushing to my head.

NELLA: Are you sure?

HAUDU: Yes, yes...call mother and tell her I will be coming home early today.

NELLA: You are?

HAUDU: I think so.

NELLA: Why don't you go home now?

HAUDU: Listen to your father when I talk.

NELLA: But I am worried about your health.

HAUDU: Best I could do is leave early. I have to do some work in the front yard.

NELLA: NO. Not today.

HAUDU: Stop telling me what to do.

Haudu stumbles again and sits on stool.

NELLA: Dad, why do you keep moving funny? Are you not feeling well?

HAUDU: Call your mother.

NELLA: Why?

HAUDU: To tell her..

Nella gives Haudu a bottle of water.

NELLA: Drink. Your sugar is low. Did you take your shot today?

HAUDU: This morning, I think.

NELLA: Do you think or do you know?

HAUDU: Yes, yes, I took it.

NELLA: Have you eaten?

HAUDU: I don't remember.

NELLA: Why don't you remember?

HAUDU: Nella, please, stop being so--

NELLA: You worry me.

HAUDU: I have to bring the next batch of glazed donuts up.

NELLA: No, you sit here and I'll do it. Drink your water.

(pause.)

Haudu drinks his water.

HAUDU: Go.

Nella stares at Haudu before going downstairs.

Haudu sits on the stool and stares at the floor.

END OF PLAY