

Audition piece Mike/Lars

Mike Because just from lying about it I think I'm beginning to develop a bit of an aspirational fantasy in that direction

Lars Are you?

Mike Do aspirational fantasies generally start out as lies, Lars? Because just to come back to telling the truth for a minute – now that we're on the level – I'd like to ask you something

Lars Fire away

Mike Do you believe everything it says in your book?

Lars Absolutely

Mike Do you live by it?

Lars Of course

Mike You think you're the god of your own psyche-drive?

Lars Who isn't, Mike?

Mike And you can control your own destiny and everything just by wanting it to happen?

Lars I follow the primary life-force instinct

Mike Sorry, which is?

Wynne The instinct of I Want

Mike OK. So don't you think you might be living a lie?

Lars Why would I think that?

Wynne Mike, you haven't even read it yet

Mike You're right. So help me with something: supposing it was my aspirational fantasy to come here and join your party tonight? As a nobody with a shit-boring job, suppose I thought I could change my life by eating with you kind and shining people here? That if I was to sit with you at your table, I'd somehow leave a different man? What would your book tell me to do?

Lars It would tell you to be audacious

Mike Right

Lars It would tell you to do or die

Mike Do or die; right. And supposing, once I'd achieved my fantasy – been accepted at your table and treated like your home was mine – supposing I found that the shining people were actually hollow and lost and alone?

Suppose I found that for all their glittering ideas they were twice as empty and miserable as me? You see, what if my aspirational fantasy turned out to be shit in my hands? What would your book tell me then?

Pause.

Lars It would say you've actually achieved it. When your fantasy loses it, allure you move on

Mike What to?

Lars The Consumption of Experience'

Mike I'd be consuming experience? Like food? But there's always a waste product with food, isn't there? I mean whether you've consumed lobster or a curry or whatever. What's the waste product with experience?

I mean what do you do with it?

Lars Listen, Mike

Mike I just want to know what you do with your shit