# **NEVILLE AND ADOLF IN MUNICH – A ONE ACT MUSICAL EVENT**

By Phillip W. Weiss

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This play was inspired by a historical event, the Munich Conference, but is a work of fiction. The dialogue has been invented. Furthermore, the persons and characters portrayed bear absolutely no resemblance whatever to the persons who were actually involved in the events described in this play.

## Synopsis of

# **NEVILLE AND ADOLF IN MUNICH – A ONE ACT MUSICAL EVENT**

In September 1938, an angry and surly British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain meets Adolf Hitler in Munich, Germany, to discuss Hitler's demand for the Sudetenland. At the meeting Chamberlain refuses to accede to Hitler's demand and instead chides, mocks, and berates Hitler who soon becomes an unwilling straight man to the "fast-talkin', highstruttin', street-wise" Chamberlain. Frequently, to emphasize a point, Chamberlain reverts to rap, revealing a startling and unexpected talent for rhythmic expression, which further enhances his already formidable presence as a most memorable, amazing, and entertaining character. After a tense and acrimonious series of exchanges, which includes a physical altercation, Chamberlain and Hitler reach an impasse, with a grim Chamberlain issuing a somber warning. Although the prospect for peace is still uncertain, Chamberlain emerges as a hero who successfully defies an evil dictator.

# CAST OF CHARACTERS

**NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN – Prime Minister of Great Britain.** 

JOACHIM VON RIBBENTROP – Foreign Minister of Germany.

ADOLF HITLER – Fuhrer of Germany.

HERMAN GOERING – Reichmarshall of Germany.

CHAMBERLAIN'S ENTOURAGE.

## THE TIME:

September, 1938

This is a One-Act play:

**SCENE ONE – Heathrow Airport, London** 

**SCENE TWO – Munich Airport, Germany** 

**SCENE THREE – Adolf Hitler's office, Munich, Germany** 

## **MUSICAL NUMBERS**

"My Name is Neville"	Neville Chamberlain
"You'll Be Going Down Inside of Four"	Neville Chamberlain
"You Really Got Me Truly Mad"	Neville Chamberlain
"You Took Me For a Silly Ride"	Neville Chamberlain
"I'll First Decide to Leave You Be"	Neville Chamberlain
"I Know Now That You're Really Sick"	Neville Chamberlain

#### SCENE ONE

(At center stage is a billboard-size photograph of the smiling British Prime Minister, NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN, standing at a microphone with a piece of paper in his hand. Otherwise, the stage is empty.)

## BOMBASTIC VOICE (offstage)

The time – September, 1938. The place – London's Heathrow Airport. British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain has just returned from Munich, Germany, and, with a broad smile on his face and a paper he is waying in his hand, triumphantly declares that he has reached an agreement with Adolf Hitler over Czechoslovakia and that war has been averted. His announcement is greeted with tumultuous applause. Neville Chamberlain is the hero of the hour. This is a great moment indeed. Chamberlain has kept Great Britain out of war and has preserved the peace in Europe. For a while war had seemed inevitable. In 1938, Adolf Hitler decided that it was time to incorporate the Sudetenland into the Third Reich and threatened to go to war if Czechoslovakia resisted. The British found themselves in a quandary. On the one hand they wanted to stop further German expansion; on the other hand they did not feel strong enough to fight. So the British, led by Neville Chamberlain, decided to give in to Hitler's demand and signed the Munich Pact, which gave Hitler the Sudetenland in exchange for Hitler's promise that he would make no further territorial demands. The crisis was over, so it seemed. Europe was still at peace. Six months later Hitler would occupy the rest of Czechoslovakia; Neville Chamberlain's policy of appeasement would be completely discredited, and in September 1939, war would break out in Europe and the Munich Pact would forever become a symbol of futility, failure, and lack of resolve. But what would have happened at Munich if instead of meeting the mildmannered, timid, and soft-spoken Neville Chamberlain – the Neville Chamberlain known to history – Hitler had met a different Neville Chamberlain: a fast-talkin', high-strutin', streetwise dude who would "take no bull" and "say it like it is"? Perhaps the result would have gone something like this:

(Lights go out.)

#### SCENE TWO

(The lights go on. A sign on the stage says "Munich Airfield." NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN is standing next to the fuselage of an airplane. CHAMBERLAIN is met by a well-dressed man who offers his hand. CHAMBERLAIN ignores the man's outstretched hand. The man withdraws his hand. CHAMBERLAIN is accompanied by an entourage of burly-looking men and has a scowl on his face.)

#### CHAMBERLAIN

(Angry and surly, speaking to the man)

If Hitler attempts to grab even one square inch of Czechoslovakia without my okay, he'll hafta deal with ME! Who does he think he is and who does he think he's dealin' with? (CHAMBERLAIN then raps:)

I'm the man, I'm the man, I'm the man, man, man! Who's the man? I'm the man! I'm the man, man, man!

An' don't anybody fahget that! Now, where's Hitler? An' who are you?

## MAN GREETING CHAMBERLAIN

I am German foreign minister Joachim von Ribbentrop. On behalf of the Fuhrer and the German people, I want to welcome you to Germany.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

Listen, Ribbentrop. Cut the garbage. I'm here ta take care of business. Now, before I meet wid Hitler, I wanna check out the accommodations, an' they betta be nice, otherwise you'll be hearin' from me.

### RIBBENTROP

I assure you that you will be pleased with your accommodations. However, the Fuhrer wants to meet with you now.

## CHAMBERLAIN

#### (indignant)

Now!? Listen, pal! I jus' got here. You tell ya boss that I'll be there in my own good time and that he betta be waitin' fa me when I get there because (CHAMBERLAIN then raps:)

if I arrive and he's not there, I'll grunt and growl just like a bear. Then cause your boss to feel despair by showing him that I will not scare.

Also, make sure ta tell 'im that if he tries ta get pushy wid me again, (CHAMBERLAIN then raps:)

I'm gonna give him up to number five and make him take a straight-line dive and tell him where this situation's at when dealin' with this ally cat.

Okay? Now let's go!

(Lights go out.)

#### SCENE THREE

(The lights go on, CHAMBERLAIN and his entourage are barging into an office. In the office is a desk and a chair which is situated at the front of the desk. Sitting behind the desk is ADOLF HITLER. HITLER is dressed in a plain military uniform. Standing at either side of Hitler are RIBBENTROP and another man, REICHMARSHALL HERMAN GOERING. GOERING is dressed in a full military uniform with medals covering his entire chest.)

#### CHAMBERLAIN

(Glaring at HITLER, strides up to HITLER'S desk and speaks:)

I'm here. Let's talk. An' tell that guy there (*points to GOERING*) to keep quiet, because I'm here ta talk only wid you, and not ta him. You got that?

## HITLER

## (Startled, then regaining his composure)

I agree with those conditions, Herr Chamberlain. Now, regarding the issue at question, the Sudetenland should rightfully become part of the German Reich and I'm losing my patience with Benes over this issue, and if you don't take care of this, I will.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

Listen, pal. I don't know what ya tryin' ta pull, but if ya think ya gonna scare me ya betta think again. Now whadya sayin'? If I don't help ya get what ya want, ya gonna start a fight?

#### HITLER

We don't want to fight, but the Sudetenland is rightfully ours and we will take whatever measures are necessary to assert our interests if this matter cannot be settled amicably.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

Let's say I agree ta ya movin' in on the Sudentenland. Whad do I get in return?

## HITLER

I will personally guarantee that the Sudetenland will be my last territorial demand.

# (Scornfully)

A guarantee! From you? Whadya think I am? Stupid? Lemme tell ya somethin', pal, and get this straight. I think that this is nothin' bud a shakedown. Furthamore, ya want me ta turn the screws on my friend Benes, and that jus' won't happen. Okay, pal? So ya betta come up with somethin' a liddle bit betta an' a lot more reasonable, otherwise we have nothin' ta talk about and I mighd as well leave now and not waste anymore of my time.

#### HITLER

(Shouts)

Herr Chamberlain! I warn you that if this matter cannot be settled now, the consequences may be grave!

#### CHAMBERLAIN

(Shouts back) Am I hearin' ya right? Ya threatenin' me? (Speaking to his ENTOURAGE:) Did ya hear that, boys? He wants ta bury me!

#### CHAMBERLAIN'S ENTOURAGE

#### (Various comments)

We heard it, boss. We don't like it. Who does this guy think he is? Let's take care of this guy now.

#### HITLER

(*More calmly*) Herr Chamberlain, I have the means to settle this matter myself if you do not want to talk. So tell me what you want to do.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

Listen, pal. Don't you even think about tryin' ta strong arm me. Hey, ya not jus' talkin' ta me. Ya talkin' ta the entire British Empire, of which I am da boss, an' if ya don't stop tryin' ta threaten me, I'm gonna hit ya so hard that ya gonna think ya travelin' ta the moon. Jus' rememba, we've dealt with tougha guys than you an' beat 'em all. Ask Kaisa Bill. He'll tell ya.

## HITLER

You won the last war because we we're sold out by traitors.

Come off it, chump. That's a lotta gump. Ya lost because we beat ya fair and square and ya couldn't accept it. An' I think we let ya country off kinda easy, considerin' all the trouble ya caused. An' now ya startin' all ova again. What's wrong wid you people anyway? One war wasn't enough? Do ya think that we're gonna pud up with ya garbage faheva? Enough is enough awready. Back off, pal, and I suggest that ya stop blamin' otha people fa what ya did ta yaselves.

#### HITLER

# (Shouting)

Herr Chamberlain, I refuse to discuss this matter with you any further. (*More calmly*) Now, how shall we resolve the Sudetenland problem?

## CHAMBERLAIN

Not the way you wan' to, that's fa sure, and if ya try ta be tough, I'm gonna get rough and give it ta ya like ya neva got it before. (*CHAMBERLAIN then raps:*)

So just be cool and don't be a fool because if you act I'm gonna hit you back.

Dig it?

### HITLER What is this "it" that you are threatening me with?

#### CHAMBERLAIN

You'll find out real fast, an' jus' rememba (CHAMBERLAIN then raps:)

My name is Neville; I'm as mad as the devil; I'm feeling blue and it's because of you.

I am a Brit and I'm full of grit, so let's be friends and make amends. If you mess with me, I'm gonna make you flee; so take my advice and try to be nice.

But if you want to fight, I'll put out your lights, and you'll go down like a silly clown.

This ain't no jive, so let's high five, 'cause if you don't I'm gonna sink your boat.

We won the war, so don't be a bore; so let's cut a deal which will be ideal.

Who wants to fight to prove who's right when there should be a way to avoid a fray.

But if you choose to Mein Kampf me too, I'll call your bluff and show you my stuff.

Okay, pal?

## HITLER

Are you trying to scare me, Herr Chamberlain? Let me remind you that I have the strongest air force in Europe and showed the world what my air force could do in our operations in Spain.

## CHAMBERLAIN

Listen, pal. Ya doin' it again, tryin' ta scare me. Ya think that jus' because ya have an air force I'm sapposed to be afraida ya? We have an air force too, and don't fahget about our navy which I'll float up ya nose if ya don't stop threatenin' me. Now, I'm runnin' the show, not you! And I'm also in tight with Frank D. Roosevelt, who happens ta be a personal frienda mine. So don't mess with me, pal, because otherwise (CHAMBERLAIN then raps:)

I'll slam you up and slam you down and swing you 'round and 'round and 'round, and then cause you to get a look that's similar to a worn-out book.

And I'm not foolin'.

### HITLER

Roosevelt wouldn't raise a finger to help you.

## CHAMBERLAIN

Ya think I'm bluffin', pal? Well, ya wrong and ya don't know what ya talkin' about. All I have ta do is ged on the phone and give Frank a call, an' we'd be on ya like papah with glue.

#### HITLER

Herr Chamberlain, I am not convinced.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

I don't care what ya think. Okay?

#### HITLER

Does that also apply to the Sudetenland question?

#### CHAMBERLAIN

Yeah, it does, until ya come down ta earth and make a deal that won't insult my intelligence. Listen, pal, ya wanted this meetin', not me. That's why I flew here at my own expense - ta try ta work things out. And all ya've said so far is that ya gonna start somethin' if ya don't get ya way, and I'm tellin' ya right now, that that won't work with me, and I have the muscle ta back up whad I say.

# HITLER

Now I know you're bluffing. We have five times as manu planes as you and three times as many tanks, so there is no way that you could defeat us in a war.

#### (Sneering)

I don't know where ya get ya information, but ya bein' sold a billa goods. Great Britain's the most powerful country in the world, an' if ya don't believe me, ya betta think twice before startin' somethin' wit' me because if ya do (CHAMBERLAIN then raps:)

> I'm gonna punch your really nasty head until it feels like a glob of greasy lead, then drag you to the filthy ground and then make sure that you're never found.

An' this aint jive.

#### HITLER

Big talk, but talk is cheap. You sound just like a Hollywood tough guy.

## CHAMBERLAIN

Whadya sayin'? That I'm puttin' on an act or that I'm jokin' or somethin'? Well, listen pal, I'm not actin' an' if ya think I am, then ya betta think again. If anyone is actin', it's you, with ya phony baloney yappin' about how ya gonna save Germany. Whad a buncha garbage!

## HITLER

(Screams)

I speak the truth!

#### CHAMBERLAIN

#### (Screams back)

Ya talkin' garbage! An' who d'ya think ya are anyway? Some kinda messiah who's gonna lead Germany ta some promised land – at somebody else's expense no less? Ged off it already, pal. Ya way off course, and ya leadin' ya country down the road ta major problems. An' ya betta stop yellin' at me, right now!

## HITLER

# (Calmer)

My program will benefit all the German people who were grievously wronged by your country after the war.

# (Indignant)

Stop talkin' ta me like I'm a fool! We didn't wrong anybody, okay, pal? An' all this guff about wantin' the Sudetenland is jus' part of a crazy scheme ta make yaself the big honcho in Europe, an' I jus' can't allow that ta happen because if it does, it's gonna lead ta problems, big time.

## HITLER

Says you.

#### **CHAMBERLAIN**

That's right, pal. Says me. An' if ya yell at me again (CHAMBERLAIN then raps:)

I'll hammer you real good and hard, and mash you into a pile of lard, if you ever yell at me again or say bad things that do offend.

So chew on that, pal.

#### HITLER

Big talk, Herr Chamberlain, but nonetheless, your empire has become nothing but a paper tiger that could never defeat the Third Reich.

# CHAMBERLAIN

(Screams)

Oh yeah?

#### HITLER

(Screams)

Yeah!

CHAMBERLAIN (stands up, looks directly at HITLER, and screams): We'll see about that. (Speaking to his ENTOURAGE, shouts:) Call London an' get me the Minista of War! (Speaking to HITLER, shouts:) Ya think that you can bully me!? Well, I'm John Bull, not you, and I've had enough of ya. (CHAMBERLAIN then raps:)

> So you better give me lots of space, or I'll knock you into another place, and then I'll smash you all about, until you're a pile of sauerkraut.

(*Calming down*) Please calm down, Herr Chamberlain. There is no need to do anything rash.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

Okay, pal.

#### (Calming down, Chamberlain sits down.)

But ya betta watch what ya say ta me because I'm THE MAN, the big honcho, the big shot, an' I always get my way, and no two-bit clown like you is gonna tell me wha' ta do or how ta do it. So ya want the Sudetenland? Whadaya willin' ta give in return? Ya betta come up with somethin' nice that I can touch, see, or spend.

#### HITLER

I don't know what you're talking about, Herr Chamberlain. The Sudetenland is rightfully ours and I don't think I should give you a thing.

#### **CHAMBERLAIN**

Listen, pal. What's ya problem? Do ya think I'm gonna give ya somethin' fa nothin'? (*Speaking to his entourage:*) Whadaya think about that, boys?

#### CHAMBERLAIN'S ENTOURAGE

#### (Various comments)

The guy's batty. He's dreamin'. Let's take him out now. Who's he think he's talkin' to?

#### HITLER

My friend, you're very difficult to deal with.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

First of all, I'm not ya friend. Second of all, ya the one who's difficult ta deal with because ya don't wanna deal! All ya wanna do is take, take, take, without givin' anything in return, an' ya tryin' ta get me ta do ya dirty work fa ya because Benes is tellin' ya where ta get off, an' I don't blame 'im. If I give ya the Sudetenland, ya may try ta grab England too!

#### HITLER

You're exaggerating, of course.

Knowin' you, pal, I wouldn't put it past ya ta wanna try it. But dig this (CHAMBERLAIN then raps:)

You think you're really slick and smart, but you're nothing but a foolish upstart. So get off from my personal case, or I'll punch you in your silly face.

#### HITLER

Look, all I want is the Sudetenland.

## CHAMBERLAIN

Yeah, right. Jus' like all ya wanted was the Rhineland an' Austria. Stop it awready! I'm not a jerk!

# HITLER

Those regions belonged in the Third Reich.

## CHAMBERLAIN

That's a buncha malarky! You grabbed those places because ya thought ya could get away with it, and we let ya do it. But that's ova now. Now it's time ta deal and I'm the man ta deal with. Okay? So let's talk!

# HITLER

I have nothing to offer except the promise of peace.

## CHAMBERLAIN

Who are YOU? The angel of peace? Whadda joke! Ya betta come up with somethin' betta than that because I'm beginnin' ta lose my patience with ya.

# HITLER

# (Placating)

Herr Chamberlain, you have nothing to fear from me. We should be allies. You should be worrying about the Russians.

Why? Are the Russians makin' a move on Czechoslovakia? And besides, who went inta da Rhineland? You or da Russians? And why did ya hafta go into da Rhineland anyway? Because ya didn't like the Versailles Treaty? So what? A deal is a deal, but ya decided ta trash it, and now I'm sapposed ta trust ya?

## HITLER

The Versailles Treaty was squeezing the life out of Germany and so the treaty needed to be revised.

## CHAMBERLAIN

(*With disdain*) Oh, so we're squeezin' the life outta ya? I don't think so, pal! Ya the one threatenin' me; I'm not the one threatenin' you! So let's get that straight right now. And if ya were havin' problems with the treaty, ya coulda come ta me and we woulda fixed things up. Instead, ya made me look bad. (*CHAMBERLAIN then raps:*)

> So you better look and listen up 'cause I'm gonna make you cringe and jump and beat you on your big ol' rump if you treat me like some kind of chump.

And don't fahget that.

#### HITLER

I must insist that we confine our discussion to the Sudetenland question.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

(Scowling, points at Hitler)

Hey, listen, pal. I'll say whateva I want, and if ya don't like it, we can stop talkin' right now! Okay?

#### HITLER

## (Shouting)

You're behavior is outrageous! I can't deal with you! (*To GOERING*): Goering, prepare for action!

## GOERING

Yes, my Fuhrer!

# (GOERING gathers up papers and is preparing to leave.)

# CHAMBERLAIN (Speaking to GOERING, shouts:) Hey, where d'ya think ya goin'?

# (GOERING stops gathering papers.)

## GOERING

Nowhere, Herr Chamberlain.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

Good! (*Speaking to HITLER, shouts:*) Hey, ya betta back off now because if ya don't, I'm gonna hit ya so hard that when ya look up ya gonna think ya lookin' down!

# HITLER (*Hoarse with anger*) Don't threaten me, Chamberlain! I warn you!

# CHAMBERLAIN (Shouts louder) Ya warnin' me!? Listen, pal. Let's take it outside right now!

# (Both CHAMBERLAIN and HITLER jump up from their chairs and approach each other like they are going to fight. But they are restrained by the others in the room and are led back to their chairs.)

## CHAMBERLAIN

Okay, boys. I'm calma now. (*Speaking to HITLER:*) So whadaya wanna do? Talk or fight? Either way is fine by me.

# HITLER

(*Who has also calmed down*) All I want is the Sudetenland. It's not asking for much.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

Says you! Okay. Whadaya willin' ta gimme in return?

I have to think about that.

### CHAMBERLAIN

What's there ta think about?

#### HITLER

A lot.

## CHAMBERLAIN

I don't get it. Aren't ya Germany's boss? Or am I talkin' ta the wrong guy?

# HITLER

No. I am the leader of the German nation.

## CHAMBERLAIN

Okay. If that's so, then quit stallin' and gimme an answer.

(HITLER gets up from his chair and walks over to the far corner of the room where he huddles with GOERING and RIBBENTROP. A few moments later the huddle breaks up and HITLER returns to his desk and sits in his chair.)

# HITLER

In exchange for the Sudetenland, we are prepared to enter into a secret alliance with you against Russia.

## CHAMBERLAIN

## (Outraged)

Ya nuts! I don't wanna fight Russia! Ya givin' me nothin'! And when the Russians find out about this, I'll have Joe Stalin on my back!

# HITLER

But don't you want to destroy bolshevism?

Listen. Those commies make me sick, but that don't mean I'm gonna join a skunk like you to attack Russia. And knowin' you, you'd sell out the commies the first chance you had, and of course ya'd do it behind my back. Right?

#### HITLER

I would never do anything like that?

# CHAMBERLAIN

Yeah. Right. So tell me somethin' else.

# HITLER

(*Exasperated*) Herr Chamberlain. What do you want me to say?

#### CHAMBERLAIN

Whadabout givin' back some of the land ya grabbed.

#### HITLER

What are you talking about?

# CHAMBERLAIN

The Rhineland, fer instance?

HITLER

The Rhineland is German territory.

# CHAMBERLAIN

Yeah. That's right. But who said you could put ya troops there?

# HITLER

We had every right to do that.

CHAMBERLAIN Without first talkin' with us?

That is correct. The reoccupation of the Rhineland was a purely defensive measure.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

That's baloney! Who'd ya think was gonna attack ya? France? Afta the beating they took in the war, France isn't about to attack anyone! Lemme tell ya somethin', pal (*CHAMBERLAIN then raps:*)

The Rhineland ain't no silly joke, and I'm not a simple stupid blok. So get your flimsy story straight before things heat up and it becomes too late.

Okay, pal?

#### HITLER

I will not discuss the Rhineland.

### CHAMBERLAIN

Oh, really? (*Mimicking HITLER*) You will not discuss the Rhineland? (Several seconds of silence, then CHAMBERLAIN jumps up and shouts:) Well, I will!

# HITLER

(Jumps up and shouts back:)

Well, I won't!

CHAMBERLAIN (*Still standing, shouts:*) Well, I will! An' ya betta not say ya won't!

## HITLER

(Still standing, shouts:) What is there to talk about? You and the French let me go in there! And besides, the Rhineland belongs to us!

## CHAMBERLAIN

(Still standing, shouts:)

That's a bunchagump, pal! Ya put ya troops there because ya knew the French wouldn't do anything aboud it! But that's in the past! Try somethin' like that again! I dare ya! We'll hit ya so hard that you'll be runnin' back ta Austria where ya came from!

# (Still standing, shouts:)

Herr Chamberlain, I am getting tired of your insolence and if you keep this up, I shall end this meeting now and resolve the Sudetenland question my way!

## CHAMBERLAIN

(Still standing, shouts:) Well, I've had it with you too, pal! And if ya don't back off from me right now (CHAMBERLAIN then raps:)

> I'll treat you like a punching bag, which I know will make you sink and sag, then I'll kick your body all around until ya slinkin' like a depressed hound.

And don't think I won't do it!

(CHAMBERLAIN walks around the desk with fists clenched and takes several steps towards HITLER who, alarmed, starts backing away, visibly frightened. GOERING then steps in between CHAMBERLAIN and HITLER.)

## GOERING

(Speaking to CHAMBERLAIN, imploring) Please, Herr Chamberlain, go back to your chair. I'll speak with the Fuhrer.

#### **CHAMBERLAIN**

Okay, pal. But tell ya boy there that if he opens up his mouth again ta me l'm gonna (*CHAMBERLAIN then raps:*)

treat your silly little guy like a flimsy nothing two-bit fly, by flicking him onto the floor and then sweeping him out through the door.

You tell 'im that!

(CHAMBERLAIN returns to his chair and sits down while GOERING and RIBBENTROP take HITLER aside and again huddle. After a few moments the huddle ends and HITLER, more composed, returns to his chair.)

Perhaps, Herr Chamberlain, there's been a slight misunderstanding.

# **CHAMBERLAIN**

Whadaya talkin' about? I got no problem understandin' ya! Ya nothin' but a connivin' bully who's tryin' ta push me aroun' an' I don't take that. You try a Rhineland stunt on me and I'll make ya pay! Big time!

## HITLER

The Rhineland matter is closed.

# CHAMBERLAIN

(Sneering) No way, pal! It's give back time. First, get ya troops outta the Rhineland an' then we'll talk about the Sudetendland.

## HITLER

I can't do that.

## CHAMBERLAIN

Why not? You had no problem puttin' 'em there.

# HITLER

The Rhineland is part of the Reich and you have no right dictating where I should station my troops, especially in my own country.

## CHAMBERLAIN

Carrect me if I'm wrong, but I seem ta rememba that afta the war your country, as you put it, agreed that there'd be no German troops in the Rhineland. Is that right or wrong?

## HITLER

Germany was coerced into agreeing to that.

## CHAMBERLAIN

Coerced, nothin'! You started the war an' you Germans showed that ya couldn't be trusted. So fa ya own good we insisted that there'd be no troops in the Rhineland so you Germans wouldn't be tempted ta start trouble again. But now that ya troops are there again, ya just gonna be startin' trouble again.

I only want what is rightfully Germany's

### CHAMBERLAIN

Yeah, and wheneva you Germans say that, I say ta myself, here we go again. More whinin', more complainin'! But ya betta not try anything stupid with me because (*CHAMBERLAIN then raps:*)

I'm not a puny little lamb and I've got myself a real good plan to ruin your home and smash your clan if you keep on messin' with the man.

An' I'm not jokin'.

## HITLER

Please take care not to forget who you are talking to.

# CHAMBERLAIN

#### (Sarcastically)

Who're you? The Fuhra? Big deal! You don't impress me. Ya think ya hot stuff, (*scornfully*) but ya nothin' but a phony, a fake, an' a fraud. An' ya think that ya gonna push me around? Ya betta think again.

#### HITLER

I speak for all the German people.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

Ya dreamin', pal. Ya jus' speakin' fa yaself and ya lackey clowns. If ya speak fa all the German people, then why d'ya need all those concentration camps of yours?

## HITLER

We must re-educate those elements among our people who are interfering with the creation of our new social order.

## CHAMBERLAIN

In otha words, pal, if someone says that ya fulla hot air, ya put 'im away. Right? Isn't that what ya'd like to do with me?

I have no desire to, as you put it, put you away. I respect you as the leader of a great nation with whom I wish to arrive at an understanding.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

Ya only sayin' that because ya don't have the muscle ta get me in line with ya program. So ya gotta talk with me because ya know that if ya try ta pull somethin' fast (*CHAMBERLAIN then raps:*)

> I'll put you down in less than three and hit you with a big oak tree and then I'll make you want to flee if you try to mess things up with me.

#### HITLER

There is no need to threaten me. Furthermore, our complaints are legitimate. Your country and your allies inflicted severe deprivations on the German people after the war and your unfair and dishonorable treatment of us must stop now!

#### CHAMBERLAIN

We all suffad afta the war, a war you people started. You people knew what would happen if Austria started somethin' wit' Serbia. So whad the Kaisa do? He gave Austria the green light ta mess wit' Serbia. Thank you very much, Germany. And fa a country that is so deprived, ya seem ta be doin' pretty good fa yaselves. Ya real gripe is that ya can't accept the fact that ya country lost the war. So insteada complainin' about the Versaille Treaty, why don't ya get that chip off ya shoulders and get it through ya head, once 'n' fa all, that (*shouts*) Germany lost the war!

## HITLER

(*Jumps up and shouts:*) You're crazy! And I don't have a chip on my shoulders!

## CHAMBERLAIN

(Jumps up and shouts:)

I'm crazy? Listen, pal! Ya betta mind what ya say ta me! Ya take the Rhineland; ya take Austria; now ya want the Sudentenland, and ya callin' me crazy!? I'm not crazy! You're crazy!

## HITLER

(*Still standing, shouts:*) The Versailles Treaty was a disgrace and we will no longer tolerate being treated as a second-class nation!

## (Still standing, shouts:)

Secon' class, nothin'! Ya no class, without class! Ya wouldn't know what class was if I put it on ya lap! You Nazis are incredible! Ya think ya betta than everyone else and that we owe ya somethin'. But ya betta think again, pal! We don't owe ya anything! Understand? (CHAMBERLAIN then raps:)

As a Nazi you're an incredible bore and you're just plain rotten to the core. So before you talk, just watch what you say, or the time will come when I'll make you pay.

So jus' rememba that, mista no class.

## HITLER (Still standing, derisive) No class? Me? Look who's talking!

## CHAMBERLAIN

## (Still standing, with scorn and contempt)

That's right, pal. I can talk. You have no class. Compared ta you, I'm royalty. Where'd ya come from? The streets. Right? Then ya always goin' aroun' beatin' up people an' burnin' books an' makin' a messa things. Is that sapposed ta be class?

#### HITLER

# (Sits down)

We have to take certain measures to maintain order in our country. Some of our methids may be harsh, but the problems are formidable.

### CHAMBERLAIN

## (Sits down)

Mista, I have no idea what ya talkin' about. You people talk about law and orda when all ya doin' is legalizin' disorder and rilin' up people and makin' 'em feel sad. That's not orda in my book. Ya jus' a powa-hungry fake who's lookin' ta pull the wool ova the people's eyes so they won't know what ya doin'. I dunno who's worse. You or Stalin.

## HITLER

## (Indignant)

How dare you compare me to Stalin! My party is supported by the mass of the German people. Can the same be said for the Bolsheviks?

Ya both gangstas. All the both of ya know is ta blowpeople away when they don't agree with ya, and that's what ya wanna do with me! Well, it ain't gonna work, pal. Get it?

#### HITLER

I'm not trying to force you to do anything. I want to talk.

#### **CHAMBERLAIN**

Ya jus' lookin' ta distract me while ya try ta set me up. But I don't like it, so ya betta stop it because (*CHAMBERLAIN then raps:*)

You'll be going down inside of four if you push and hassle me some more and that's the truth to the real hard core and a fact you just best not ignore.

So you better talk to me real straight or it may become a little too late to keep the lid on that rusty can so that the crud won't hit the spinnin' fan.

And if you think that I'm not right, you might as well just fly a kite and tell me "Nev, have a real good night, tomorrow we're gonna have a fight."

That certainly would be sad indeed, that you know that you'd be taking the lead in startin' somethin' we don't need but for which you've planted a big ripe seed.

So what I say do keep in mind or I may become a little unkind and put you in a real tight bind which will make you feel like you're in a grind.

I wish that things were not like this; I'd prefer goodwill and peace and bliss; but sometimes that just cannot be when two parties cannot agree.

So please quit goofin' and jivin' me like I'm some kind of foolish enemy, but if you don't want to be my friend, you're gonna be finished, big time, in the end. You now have my direct warning; my scorn and anger is now forming. So tell me what you're gonna do, the rest is now all up to you.

So don't mess wit' me.

#### HITLER

Why must you keep yelling at me?

## CHAMBERLAIN

I'm only copyin' ya style, pal.

#### HITLER

I do not yell. I speak forcefully.

## CHAMBERLAIN

Ta me it sounds like yellin'. (*Speaking to his entourage:*) Whadaya think, boys?

## CHAMBERLAIN'S ENTOURAGE

(Various comments)

Yeah, boss! The guy's a yella! Boy, does that guy yell! What a blabbermouth!

#### CHAMBERLAIN

(Speaking to HITLER)

Well, my boys think ya yell.

### HITLER

Well, who cares about that anyway? And besides, that's not what we're here to talk about.

## CHAMBERLAIN

That's right, pal. We're here ta talk about ya tryin' ta grab more turf that's not yours.

#### HITLER

No, that's not the issue. We're here to talk about re-adjusting the borders of the German Reich to conform with the legitimate national aspirations of the German people.

## (Annoyed)

Would ya min' translatin' that high-brow gobbleygook inta somethin' I can understand?

#### HITLER

(*Patronizing*) If course, Herr Chamberlain. To put is simply ...

# CHAMBERLAIN

(Angry)

Ya callin' me simple?

#### HITLER

I did not say you were simple.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

(Calmer)

Well, okay then. But ya betta watch what ya say.

### HITLER

Of course, Herr Chamberlain. As I was saying, to put it ... ah ... another way, we feel that there is a region of Czechoslovakia that rightfully should be a part of Germany.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

Why didn't ya say that in the firs' place!? So we're back ta talkin' about the Sudetenland again. Ya see? I'm able ta put one 'n one togetha too!

## HITLER

Now you have me confused. What are you trying to say?

#### CHAMBERLAIN

I was jus' tryin' ta show ya that I knew what ya were talkin' about when ya said somethin' about a region in Czechoslovakia. HITLER Permit me to ask you something personal.

## CHAMBERLAIN

All right, pal.

# HITLER

How did you become Prime Minister?

## **CHAMBERLAIN**

I became Prime Minista because my pals in the Commons said that I should be the boss. They came to me and said, "Neville, old pal, we want ya ta be boss." An' I said, "Okay, boys, I'm the boss, and don't fahget it. But if you guys do fahget it (*CHAMBERLAIN then raps:*)

I'm gonna take you all right to the mat like a nasty, onery alley cat, and pull you guys by your dirty ears until y'all be makin' lots of tears."

An' that's how I became PM. An' whadabout you? How'd you become chancella?

## HITLER

(*Pompous*) I was appointed by President Paul von Hindenburg.

## **CHAMBERLAIN**

Hindenburg!? I heard that Hindenburg was spaced out when he made ya chancella.

#### HITLER

What do you mean by spaced out?

## CHAMBERLAIN

Lost his marbles. Loose screws in 'is head. No all there. In other words, pal, maybe he didn't know what he was doin' when he made ya chancella.

#### HITLER

I resent that.

What's the problem? Ya got in, pal. That's what counts. Right? So what's the big deal if the guy didn't know what he was doin'? For all ya know, he may have thought that you were Kaisa Bill (*laughs*).

## HITLER

Sir, President von Hindenburg was in complete control of his faculties when he appointed me chancellor.

# CHAMBERLAIN

Gimme a break, pal! Why would Hindenburg wanna make a jerk like you chancella? You bein' chancella is a laugh. Ya not exactly Bismarck.

HITLER What's wrong with me being chancellor?

## CHAMBERLAIN

Everything, pal. Everything.

#### HITLER

Like what, for instance?

## CHAMBERLAIN

Like ya a nobody and ya a loud-mouthed weirdo who belongs in a looney bin with all ya crazy ideas and the way ya rant 'n' rave all the time.

#### HITLER

Am I ranting and raving now?

## CHAMBERLAIN

No, because I won't let ya push me around so ya gotta control yaself.

#### HITLER

I'm getting completely fed up with you.

Ya jus' don't wanna hear the truth. Ya do get outta control. Or maybe it's just an act.

#### HITLER

## (Pontifical)

I speak for the German people from the heart and I express what the German people feel.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

Are ya sayin' that the German people agree with all the garbage ya wrote in Mein Kampf?

## HITLER

#### (Still pontifical)

I embody the spirit of the German nation and what I wrote was inspired by my love for the German people.

## CHAMBERLAIN

Now I know ya nuts. A frienda mine who's a shrink told me that ya grandiose. Do you know what that means?

#### HITLER

I believe I do, but perhaps you should tell me.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

#### (Indignant)

Whadaya doin'? Tryin' ta test me? Okay, then, pal, I'll tell ya whad it means. It means that ya have big ideas about yaself that don't jive with the facts. In other words, (*sarcastic*) Mr. Chancella, ya think ya a guy who's been given some kinda important mission ta change the world, but it's all in ya head. Okay? Did I pass the test?

## HITLER

I just wanted to make sure that you understood what the word meant.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

I bet ya didn't know what it meant, so ya figured that ya's try ta make me look stupid. But I fooled ya, right? You are an intelligent man, Herr Chamberlain. But I assure you that I was not trying to test you. I only wanted to clarify your understanding of the meaning of the word before I responded to your allegation.

# CHAMBERLAIN

(*Exasperated*) Again with the high-brow talk. Not only are ya grandiose, ya use big words too. Why can't ya talk normal? Why all these big words?

# HITLER

First of all, I am not grandiose. (*Again pontifical*): I've been chosen to lead the German people back to their rightful place on the world. The fact that I am the Fuhrer proves that. And as for my vocabulary, I do speak plainly and to the point, for the whole world to hear.

# CHAMBERLAIN

Ta me it sounds like a buncha mumbo-jumbo, and I still think ya nuts! And besides, who made you Fuhra?

# HITLER

# (Pompously)

The German people, who have put their faith in me to undo the damage caused by the treacherous traitors who sold out Germany to end the war and then let Germany degenerate into a culturally depraved and politically impotent ...

# CHAMBERLAIN

(*Interrupting*) Whadaya mean by impotent? You Nazis have a sex problem?

# HITLER

(Surprised) Who's talking about sex? I'm talking about the national aspirations of the German people.

CHAMBERLAIN Ya shoulda said that in the first place!

As I was saying, (again pompous) Germany had become completely degenerate and need a strong leader who would end the political chaos that had brought Germany to her knees and who would direct the energy of the German people toward the creation of a new German state to replace the wreckage left behind by the Weimar regime which was led by a clique of banal politicians ...

#### **CHAMBERLAIN**

(*Interrupting*) Ya think I'm a banal politician?

#### HITLER

I would never suggest such a thing.

## CHAMBERLAIN

Lemme tell ya somethin', pal. I'm prouda bein' banal, even if I don't know whad it means, because if bein' banal ta you is somethin' bad, then it really must be somethin' good. By the way, are you a commie?

#### HITLER

(Startled)

Am I a commie?

#### CHAMBERLAIN

Yeah. Why not? Ya always complainin' about rich people. So, doesn't that make ya a commie? An' don't you Nazis call yaselves National Socialists?

#### HITLER

What are you saying? That I'm creating a Soviet state in Germany?

#### CHAMBERLAIN

(*Annoyed*) What does that hafta do with my question?

### HITLER

I'm responding to your suggestion that I am a communist, which is ridiculous. To me, communism must be eradicated from the face of the earth. In Germany, communism is completely outlawed.

Whadaya tryin' ta do? Mess up my head? Ya tellin' me that ya got ridda the commies, while ya callin' yaself a socialist? It doesn't figure.

#### HITLER

I can assure you, Herr Chamberlain, that I am not a communist nor would I want to have any dealings with them.

## CHAMBERLAIN

Oh really? I bet if ya could get somethin' out of it, you'd deal with them.

### HITLER

That will never happen.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

Pal, I think ya pullin' my leg again. The way ya go aroun' tellin' everybody that ya wanna get ridda the commies when ya really jus' like 'em. Gettin' ridda the commies in Germany don't mean nothin'. Ya got ridda tham because the kinda socialism they wanted wasn't the same as the kinda socialism you want, which ta me is a muddled mess of mixed up muck. I think ya like the Joe Stalin kinda socialism betta. That's why dealin' with ya is a joke. I wouldn't be saprised if one day you and Joe Stalin cut a deal. But whateva, I can't believe anything ya say, which gets us back ta my havin' ta believe ya when ya say that ya won't want anymore turf if ya get the Sudetenland.

## HITLER

## (Pompously)

Sir, as the head of the German state I pledge that the Sudetenland will be the final territorial readjustment that Germany will seek.

## **CHAMBERLAIN**

Yeah, and who's ta say that ya won't change ya mind if it suits ya purposes? I heard that millions of Germans live in the States. Ya wanna bring them inta ya reich too?

### HITLER

I do not want to discuss that here. However, it's something that I may consider at a later date. When Germany was weak and disunited, millions of Germans left Germany. Now that Germany is strong and united, it may be a good time for them to return. They certainly would be welcomed back to the Reich.

What a lame-brain scheme! Ya talkin' about U.S. citizens, pal, an' I think that Frank Roosevelt would have somethin' ta say about that!

#### HITLER

(Pompous)

It is the destinty of the German people to be reunited as one great nation.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

With you in charge, of course.

#### HITLER

(Still pompous) I was chosen by fate to lead the German people to their destiny.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

You keep talkin' like that, pal, an' ya gonna lead Germany down the tubes and ya may wind up in the nut house.

#### HITLER

Why do you say that?

## CHAMBERLAIN

Because ya crazy, an' bein' the cunnin' nut that ya are, ya bamboozled the German people inta thinkin' that ya have the answers ta their problems, which only goes ta show that when people feel desperate or angry enough, they'll believe any garbage dished out ta them, even from a creep like you.

## HITLER

Now you're calling me names again. It's unbecoming a head of state to talk that way.

### CHAMBERLAIN

Oh, excuse me! And how'd you talk ta Schussnigg when ya heard that he was gonna hold that plebescite in Austria? You bullied 'im, jus' like ya wanna bully me. Right?

Yeah, with a little outside help from you. How come ya didn't want that plebescite?

## HITLER

Schussnigg would have rigged it in his favor.

## CHAMBERLAIN

Whadaya tellin' me now? That the Austrians wanted ta be parta Germany?

## HITLER

(Smug)

That is correct.

## CHAMBERLAIN

Are ya sure about that, pal?

HITLER

(*Again pompous*) Germany and Austria have historical and cultural bonds which transcend political borders.

## CHAMBERLAIN

All ya givin' me is more of ya gobbley-gook. The truth is, pal, is that ya grabbed Austria when ya thought ya could get away with it.

## HITLER

(Stands up and shouts) No! Schussnigg was desperate to stay in power and would have done anything to defy the will of the Austrian people!

## CHAMBERLAIN

If ya don't sit down, I'm gonna pop ya! (*Hitler sits down*) How'd ya know what the Austrian people wanted?

Because the Austrians are a Germanic people.

## CHAMBERLAIN

Now ya really pullin' my leg. The Austrians are Austrians, and the Germans are Germans. Two separate people. In fact, ya not even German yaself!

## HITLER

## (Shouts)

I am German! I fought in the German army and was awarded the Iron Cross!

## CHAMBERLAIN

(Shouts)

So what!? That doesn't make ya a German. You have some crazy ideas.

## HITLER

## (Shouts)

You just don't understand, Herr Chamberlain! (*Exasperated*) You just don't understand.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

I do understand! Ya peddlin' thus crazy idea about all Germans havin' ta be united as an excuse ta move in on otha people'sturf. Ya fulla baloney, pal, and I'm gettin' tired of ya talkin' ta me like I'm a fool. So ya betta stop it because (CHAMBERLAIN then raps:)

> They'll be a lot for you to have to pay if you keep on jivin' me this way because this game I will not play and believe me this just aint some hay.

So enough already!

#### HITLER

Don't the needs of the German people deserve serious consideration? You have an empire. Right? So Germany should have adequate space to live too.

Look here, pal. We have an empire, but we're gradually givin' it up. But ya want more and more and what ya want awready happens ta be owned by ya neighbas, and all this was settled afta the war.

#### HITLER

Well, we want to renegotiate the settlement, which I was not a part of.

## CHAMBERLAIN

(*Jumps from his chair and shouts:*) No! What ya wanna do is shake me down, but that won't happen! Not with me it won't!

## HITLER

(*Jumps from his chair and shouts:*) Well, you shook us down after the war and we had to take it!

## CHAMBERLAIN

## (Still standing, shouts:)

Oh yeah? That's because we didn't want ya ta start somethin' again! But it didn't work because here ya go again, tryin' ta start somethin'!

#### HITLER

(*Still standing, shouts:*) We deserve better treatment!

## CHAMBERLAIN

(Still standing, shouts:) Listen ta me, ya crummy Nazi! If ya don't shud up right now (CHAMBERLAIN then raps:)

> I'm gonna make you go down really soon and evict you from this stiflin' room, then hit you till you sweat and drool if you keep on talkin' like a fool.

So shud up and sit down!

## HITLER

(Still angry, sits down) You British think that you own the world! But we will see about that!

## (Also sits down)

I jus' wanna make sure that ya stay in line and don't rock the boat no more because ya disturbin' me 'n' my pals. I'm the big honcho, not you! Get that straight or it's out the gate! Aw right!

## HITLER

All right. But Germany will have its day in the sun yet!

## CHAMBERLAIN

Says you! And ya might as well jus' give up on getting' me ta help ya get the Sudetenland.

## HITLER I will not give up my demand for the Sudetenland. Never!

#### CHAMBERLAIN

That sounds like a real threat, pal. If ya try anything (CHAMBERLAIN then raps:)

I'm gonna put you down by number four and push you through this creaky floor and then pound you more and more and more until you're beaten up right to the core.

Putz!

#### HITLER

You leave me no choice but to use other means to accomplish my objective.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

Like what?

## HITLER

(*Coyly*) Wouldn't you like to know.

Oh, so ya wanna play games? Awright. I'll play ya game, ya sap. (*CHAMBERLAIN speaks to his entourage:*) Our pal here is lookin' for a fight. Call the airport and tell my pilot that we'll be leavin' soon. Okay?

## CHAMBERLAIN'S ENTOURAGE (Various comments)

Okay boss. Will do.

## CHAMBERLAIN

(Speaking to HITLER:) I'll give ya five minutes ta change ya mind. An' I'm warnin' ya. If ya don't, you'll be makin' a big mistake.

HITLER All talk, Herr Chamberlain. Nothing but hot air.

## CHAMBERLAIN

Hot air can burn if it's hot enough, and I'm pretty hot right now.

## HITLER

You have nothing to fight with except big words.

## CHAMBERLAIN

Don't test me, pal.

HITLER You don't scare me, Herr Chamberlain.

CHAMBERLAIN Listen! If ya start somethin', I'm gonna finish it!

## HITLER (Stands up and shouts:)

Oh yeah?

## CHAMBERLAIN (Stands up and shouts:)

Yeah!

HITLER (*Still standing, shouts:*) You're nothing, a nobody!

CHAMBERLAIN (*Still standing, shouts:*) Ya betta take that back right now, pal!

#### HITLER

(*Still standing, shouts:*) I'm not taking anything back!

## (CHAMBERLAIN punches HITLER on the nose. HITLER falls backward onto the floor. RIBBENTROP and GOERING rush over to HITLER. Gloating over the prostrate HITLER, CHAMBERLAIN raps:)

You really got me truly mad and how I feel is not a fad. So don't treat me like a simple lad because if you do, it's gonna be bad.

So now you have a clear-cut cue of what I intend to do to you when you make me feel real sad and blue and mad enough to wanna sue.

So get up off that dirty floor so I can knock you down at least once more and show you that I'm really the man and not some garbage in a can.

Ged up now!

(RIBBENTROP and GOERING assist HITLER to his feet and escort HITLER back to his chair. HITLER is holding a handkerchief over his nose.)

## (Angry, looking up at CHAMBERLAIN who is still standing:) You're lucky that I am a gentleman. Otherwise I would have had you

shot!

## CHAMBERLAIN

#### (Still standing)

Oh really!? That's ya style, awright. Ta threaten an unarmed man, jus' like ya shake down otha countries that can't fight back!

## HITLER

## (Still wiping his nose)

Come off it, Chamberlain! You British have employed the same methods when it's been in your interests to do so. So don't try acting so superior to me.

## CHAMBERLAIN

(Sits down)

That may be true, pal. But we're talkin' about Czechoslovakia, and not some far off place on anotha continent. Oh, by the way, I have a plane waitin' fa me at the airport. So should I leave or stay? It's up ta you, pal.

## HITLER

(*Calming down, puts handkerchief away*) All right, Chamberlain. Let's keep talking.

## CHAMBERLAIN

(Speaking to his entourage:) Call the airport and tell my pilot that I'm not leavin' yet.

## CHAMBERLAIN'S ENTOURAGE (Various comments) Right away, boss! Will do! We'll get on it right now!

## CHAMBERLAIN (Speaking to HITLER)

Okay. Talk.

#### HITLER

I've already explained my position regarding the Sudetenland.

## (Annoyed)

And I've already explained my position regardin' your position, an' I don't like your position.

## HITLER

Then maybe further discussion will be futile.

## CHAMBERLAIN

## (Angry and bitter)

That's okay by me. This meetin' was a stupid waste a my time, and I blame it all on you. Ya didn't wanna talk. All ya wanted ta do was try ta get somethin' fa nothin', an' now that ya know that won't happen, ya wanna stop talkin'. Well, suit yaself, pal, but I won't fahget this. (*Speaks to his entourage:*) Time ta split, boys.

(CHAMBERLAIN gets up and he and his entourage prepare to leave the stage.)

#### HITLER

Wait a moment, Herr Chamberlain.

(CHAMBERLAIN turns and faces HITLER.)

## CHAMBERLAIN

Whad is it?

## HITLER

I've reconsidered. Perhaps this problem can be settled.

## CHAMBERLAIN

You created this problem, pal. But okay, I'll listen ta what ya hafta say.

(CHAMBERLAIN walks back to his chair and sits down.)

## HITLER

May I talk to you privately?

CHAMBERLAIN Why d'ya need privacy? (Speaks to his entourage:) Whadaya think about that, boys? Adolf wants ta be alone with me!

## CHAMBERLAIN'S ENTOURAGE (*Various comments, laughter*) Go for it, boss! Maybe he'll take ya out ta dinner!

#### CHAMBERLAIN

(*Laughing*) Aw right, boys. I'll go for it.

# (CHAMBERLAIN'S ENTOURAGE, RIBBENTROP, and GOERING leave the stage.)

## CHAMBERLAIN

Okay, pal. Ya got ya wish. Now, what's on ya mind?

HITLER How much are you paid as Prime Minister?

CHAMBERLAIN What does that hafta do with anything?

#### HITLER

It's important.

## CHAMBERLAIN

Important fa what?

HITLER Important for what I'm about to offer you.

CHAMBERLAIN Whadaya drivin' at, pal?

I'll make a deal regarding the Sudetenland that will be worth your while.

#### **CHAMBERLAIN**

Am I hearin' ya right?

#### HITLER

You are.

## CHAMBERLAIN

Ya wanna offa me money ta get Benes ta give ya his turf? Are ya kiddin' me, or what?

## HITLER

I wouldn't put it like that.

## CHAMBERLAIN

(*Indignant*) Well, how would you put it, then?

#### HITLER

Let's just say that I'm offering to pay for the cost of your trip to attend this official conference.

## CHAMBERLAIN

## (Angry)

In all my years in politics I nevva thought I'd evva come across somethin' like this! You mus' really be desperate ta wanna make me this deal.

#### HITLER

So will you accept my offer?

## CHAMBERLAIN

(Silent for a few moments, then speaks:) Listen, pal. If ya think ya can buy me off, fahget it! I don't need ya stinkin' money an' I don't need ta deal with anymore of ya malarkey! (To

## his entourage, shouts:) Boys!

## (CHAMBERLAIN'S ENTOURAGE rush onto the stage.)

## CHAMBERLAIN'S ENTOURAGE

(Various comments)

What's the problem, boss? What's goin' on? Did the guy put the make on ya?

## CHAMBERLAIN

(Speaking to his entourage:) When I tell ya what this guy wanted ta do, it'll make ya sick.

## (RIBBENTROP and GOERING enter the stage.)

## HITLER

(Speaking to RIBBENTROP and GOERING:) Herr Chamberlain refused a most generous offer to resolve the crisis.

## CHAMBERLAIN

(Incensed, speaks to HITLER:) Why ya smug liddle twirp! What ya wanted ta do was buy me off! Also known as a bribe or a sell out! Listen, pal (CHAMBERLAIN then raps:)

> You took me for a silly ride and then I let you slip and slide, but that's a phase that's finished now; it's time for you to take your bow.

I did not have the slightest clue of what you really intended to do, but if I had known your plans before I would have flipped your bod' onto the floor.

I know that money really talks and what you want to do is buy me off, but ya better put your cash away or I'll pound you into a clump of clay.

So get ridda that money!

## HITLER

I'm not trying to bribe you.

Whadaya call it, then?

## HITLER

Negotiations. I give you something and you give me something.

## **CHAMBERLAIN**

If I take the money, then what?

## HITLER

Then you go to Benes and tell him to give me the Sudetenland.

CHAMBERLAIN (Sarcastically) Simple. Jus' like that! Right?

## HITLER

That's right.

CHAMBERLAIN Let me tell ya somethin', pal. (CHAMBERLAIN then raps:)

> I'm gonna put you down in one-two-three and hit you with my powerful knee and throw you in the Baltic sea if you do not take me seriously.

So stop talkin' ta me like l'm a jerk!

HITLER

So you are a man with principles.

## CHAMBERLAIN

I dunno about any principles, but I do know that I don't need ya money an' I'm not about ta become ys lackey.

## HITLER

Perhaps I can induce you to come to terms in some other way.

## CHAMBERLAIN What's goin' on here? Ya wanna seduce me?

#### HITLER

Induce you, not seduce you.

## CHAMBERLAIN

Ya betta watch ya mouth! I'm here ta talk, nothin' more. If ya wanna fool aroun', ya betta find someone else. Ya not exactly my type.

HITLER What are you talking about, Herr Chamberlain?

## CHAMBERLAIN

It sounds like ya wanna take me out on a date.

#### HITLER

Where did you get that idea?

## CHAMBERLAIN

From you! Ya said ya wanted ta seduce me!

#### HITLER

I repeat, Herr Chamberlain, I do not want to seduce you!

## CHAMBERLAIN

Boy, ya sure one funny guy. I thought ya have a girl friend.

## HITLER

I do, but so what?

CHAMBERLAIN So stop comin' on ta me. Okay? HITLER You've completely misunderstood me, Herr Chamberlain.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

No I didn't. Now I know why ya wanted ta get tagetha with me. Ya used the Sudetenland as an excuse ta get me here because ya have the hots fa me. Well, listen, pal. I'm not interested. Period.

## HITLER

(Shouts:)

That is outrageous!

CHAMBERLAIN (Shouts back:) Well, it's true! You wanna seduce me!

## HITLER

(Shouts back:) How can you say such a thing?

CHAMBERLAIN

(Shouts back:) Because it's true! The way ya look at me!

#### HITLER

(Shouts back:) What are you talking about?

CHAMBERLAIN (Shouts back:) You! I think ya turned on ta me!

## HITLER

(*Enraged*) You're absolutely impossible to deal with!

CHAMBERLAIN (Shouts:) Why? Because I'm hard-to-get?

(Shouts back:) You are really taxing my patience! Why do you want to mock me?

#### CHAMBERLAIN

(*Calming down*) Ya doin' a fine job mockin' yaself, pal. First ya have me come all the way ta Munich, then ya hassle me, and then ya deny that ya tryin' ta seduce me! What's with ya, pal?

## HITLER

#### (Calming down)

Herr Chamberlain, I intended to have a serious discussion with you about issues of mutual interest to both our countries, and you have made this meeting a complete travesty.

#### CHAMBERLAIN

Ya wanna be serious with me? Are ya jokin' or what? Who can believe anything ya say?! Ya nothin' but a two-bit Nazi jerk who wants ta push otha people aroun' and take 'em fa all they're worth, but that won't happen here because if ya try that with me (CHAMBERLAIN then raps:)

> I'll first decide to leave you be and have myself a cup of tea and then figure out what I should do to make you feel extremely blue.

I surely know what you want right now and it really makes me want to frown. So give it up before you make an irreversibly dumb mistake.

To back off now is smart indeed, it's something for which you should take the lead because of you don't you'll become a case if you keep on pushing into my face.

So try to put yourself in place or I may have to get onto your case and help you get yourself in line and stop being so uncool and unkind.

The world really cannot afford to experience anymore discord, so just give up this stupid fight because what you're doing simply ain't right. Get my drift?

## HITLER

I have no idea what you are talking about.

## CHAMBERLAIN

Are ya fa real or what? (Yells) Back off now, pal!! Understand!?

HITLER No. It's you who's been trying to push ME around!

## CHAMBERLAIN

How d'ya figure that?

## HITLER

The way you talked to me, your pushy, arrogant and aggressive attitude, and your unwillingness to compromise.

## CHAMBERLAIN

You started all this. It's you who wants the Sudetenland, not me. An' ya wan' it fa nothin', which ta me amounts to a shakedown. So listen, pal. Stop lookin' fa trouble. Nobody wants ta fight Germany, but if ya wanna make trouble fa me, I'll defend myself and my country because what ya doin' is jus' plain wrong. Ya want the Sudetenland? Deal with Benes yaself. But if you two guys strike up a deal that I don't like, you'll be hearin' from me an' I'll be in no mood ta talk. Okay, pal?

## HITLER

You're making a big mistake, Herr Chamberlain.

## CHAMBERLAIN

Says you! Ya wanted me ta help ya rip off Czechoslovakia, an' I jus' won't do it.

## HITLER

If that's how you feel, then we have nothing more to talk about.

(Somber)

Guess not, pal. (Speaking to his entourage:) Boys, it's time ta go home.

## CHAMBERLAIN'S ENTOURAGE (Various comments) Okay, boss. We'll take care of everything.

## CHAMBERLAIN

(Speaking to HITLER:) Before I leave, I have one more thing I wanna tell ya (CHAMBERLAIN then raps:)

> I know now that you're really sick and that you need a good, swift kick, because what to you is a serious gripe is to me nothing but a phony hype.

I came to you to talk things out, but instead you had a nasty pout, which made me want to bash you down and treat you like a silly clown.

So who knows now what is in store for the world which is in a real uproar and what has happened here today is the start of a truly tragic play.

The End.