

*(The Oval Office. Only props required are a desk and a hat/coat rack. STRANGE is alone. He is preparing three drinks.)*

**STRANGE:** I know this could get me into a lot of trouble. But those two don't give me much choice. There are only so many errands I can ask them to run. And they're so efficient, they always get back before I have time to turn around. I thought that crossword puzzle I gave them to do once would take an hour, but they were done in ten minutes! They must have cheated!

**STRANGE** *(reading from piece of paper)*: Mix one-fourth teaspoon of powder into an 8-ounce drink to incapacitate person for up to four hours. Amazing what you can find on the internet these days!

*(STRANGE drops powder into two of the glasses and stirs.)*  
That should be enough to keep them napping for a while.

**STRANGE** *(to offstage)*: Fellas, can you come in for a moment?

*(STOUT and STRONG enter.)*

**STRONG:** Is there a problem, sir? Do you need something? Maybe a glass of water?

**STOUT:** I know sometimes you want a late night snack. Could we get you a sandwich ..

**STRANGE** *(to STOUT, interrupting)*: No, no. No problem; and I don't need anything, Steven.

**STOUT** *(pointing at STRONG)*: Sir, he's Steven. I'm Stanley.

*(All seem confused.)*

**STRANGE:** Are you sure?? Doesn't matter.. Anyway.. I was just thinking that I never really show my gratitude for everything you do for me. I thought maybe we could share a drink together.

**STRONG:** Oh sir, thank you, but we couldn't drink on duty!

**STRANGE:** Oh, of course! It's just ginger ale. I'd like to make a toast to Steven Stout...

*(STRANGE points tentatively to STRONG and is corrected.)*

...and Stanley Strong, my faithful protectors and constant companions. I don't know what I would do without you. (*under his breath:*) But it's going to be nice to find out.

*(All drink.)*

*[music]*

**STRANGE** (*speaking*): Another toast. Here's to success in the election, and another long four years together! (Oh, so very long!)

*(All drink again.)*

*[music]*

*(STRANGE puts his arms around their shoulders.)*

**STRANGE** (*speaking*): One more toast, to my two best buddies!

**STOUT:** Are you sure this is just ginger ale?

**STRONG:** Yeah, I'm feeling a little funny.

**STRANGE:** Oh yes, only the finest ginger ale for my two best friends. I think you're just getting very tired. It's been a long day.

*(They drink again, finishing their glasses.)*

*[music]*

*(They pass out, holding onto each other, and leaning against the hat rack.)*

**STRANGE** (*saluting them*): Remember fellas: They also serve who only stand and wait!