

CHARLEY: What is your pleasure, Heine? I am serving hot Tom and Jerry for this festive—for no reason at all, if you like to join us in a glass... of something. *(He sets a glass down on the bar.)*

*(HEINE picks up the glass. He barely flicks his wrist, and the glass flies out of his hand and hits the wall with an unmerging crash.)*

*(Silence)*

BLONDY: What brings you to the West Side, Heine?

HEINE: You will find this an interesting story. I am in the neighborhood to visit my brother-in-law and to throw some business his way, because I am in the market for a little bangle. My brother-in-law is Joseph Shapiro. Of Shapiro's Fine Jewelry.

BLONDY: I once buy a ring there myself. A very fine establishment.

HEINE: You always have good taste, Blondy. There is an unfortunate occurrence at Shapiro's store today. An unknown individual enters illegally upon the premises and knocks the joint off.

BLONDY: This is sad news indeed.

HEINE: Yes, very sad news. I must now find another establishment where to make my purchase. But I figure, as I am in the neighborhood, I think to look up an old acquaintance or two. I come here in the hope I see Dancing Dan. I have a proposition of great interest for him. Do any of you know where I will find Dancing Dan?

*(BLONDY, THE DUTCHMAN, and CHARLEY shake their heads.)*

CHARLEY: I do not see him all day.

BLONDY: No. I am busy showing my cousin from Sweden around town. *(He gestures to DANCING DAN in*

*his Santa costume.)* He does not speak English, but he is an old hand at playing Saint Nick back home. We are on our way to hand out gifts at an old dolls' home. He is not right in the noggin. A sad story.

HEINE: Yeah, well, I am most eager to talk with Dancing Dan.

BLONDY: I have not heard of Dancing Dan for quite sometime.

THE DUTCHMAN: He is probably off on a Christmas holiday with Miss M... *(He stops himself.)*

HEINE: With who?

THE DUTCHMAN: I don't know.

HEINE: Miss Muriel O'Neill? You think Miss Muriel O'Neill would go on a Christmas holiday with Dancing Dan? Do you?

THE DUTCHMAN: What do I know, Heine?

HEINE: That's right. What do you know? Miss Muriel O'Neill has better things to do. And better people than Dancing Dan with whom to do them with. Do you understand me? Besides, she works this afternoon at the Half Moon Club. How do I know this? Because I already go to the club and speak with her. She does not see Dancing Dan all day either. But I will find him. And when I do... *(Surveys the group one last time)* Enjoy your hot Tom and Jer'. *(He strolls out the door.)*

*(CHARLEY, BLONDY, and THE DUTCHMAN simultaneously look at DANCING DAN.)*

DANCING DAN: Say, Charley, how about another one of these delicious hot Tom and Jer's?

CHARLEY: Whatever you say, Dancing Dan.

DANCING DAN: Anyone for another song?

*(No takers. The guys drink in silence. Then...)*