

# NATHAN, BENNY, NICELY, BIG JULE, HARRY.

ACT II, Scene 12, Crap game in the server

P95-102

## ~~# 24A - THE CRAPSHOOTER'S DANCE~~

*There is a crap shooter sitting on pipe up R. HARRY THE HORSE and a crap shooter are standing on the platform R.C. upstage.*

*Two crap shooters are hanging on ladder upstage C. watching the dance.*

*BENNY, ANGIE THE OX, BIG JULE, SOCIETY MAX and one other crap shooter are standing on platform up L.C.*

*NATHAN DETROIT is standing in front of platform L.C.*

*When the dance is finished all the CRAP SHOOTERS move downstage, putting their coats on and some are putting ties on. They all wear red carnations. Most of them are getting ready to leave the game.*

### BIG JULE

Wait a minute. Where you all going. I came here to shoot crap.

### PLAYER ONE

We had enough.

*(Ad libs from the crowd)*

### PLAYER Two

Let's go home.

### NATHAN

You see, Big Jule, the boys are slightly fatigued from weariness, having been shooting crap for quite a while now, namely twenty four hours.

*(Ad libs from crowd)*

### BIG JULE

I do not care who is tired. I am out twenty-five G's so nobody leaves.

*(He moves to Nathan and pats his shoulder revolver threateningly)*

### NATHAN

Gentlemen, I begin to see the logic of Big Jule. It is not that Big Jule is a bad loser; it is merely that he prefers to win. Right, Big Jule?

**BIG JULE**

Give me the dice. I'm shooting five hundred.

**BENNY**

Take two hundred.

*(The PLAYERS are a little slow in getting their money up and they all groan)*

**PLAYER 3**

I'm half dead.

**HARRY**

If you do not shut up, Big Jule will arrange the other half.

*(PLAYERS put their money up quickly)*

**BIG JULE**

*(As he rolls)*

Hah!

**NATHAN**

And it's a one and a one. Snake eyes. You lose.

*(Ad lib. Reaches for his take)*

And fifty dollars for the house.

*(Crosses to table)*

But the dice are still yours, and your luck is bound to—

**BIG JULE**

Shut up! Another five.

**BENNY**

Two hundred more.

*(The GUYS cover him again, but very reluctantly)*

**NATHAN**

And here comes that big lucky roll.

**BIG JULE**

*(As he throws)*

Haaah!

**NATHAN**

And it's—snake eyes again.

*(THEY all grab their money)*



BENNY

Tough luck, Big Jule.

BIG JULE

Well, that cleans me.

*(Ad lib and general relaxing, even expressions of pleasure)*

But I ain't through yet.

*(General apprehension. Ad lib)*

I will now play on credit.

*(Many groans - ad lib)*

NATHAN

You see, Big Jule, the fellows are pretty tired. Of course me, personally, I am fresh as a daisy.

BIG JULE

Then I will play with you.

NATHAN

Me?

BIG JULE

Yeah, you. You been rakin' down out of every pot - you must have by now quite a bundle.

NATHAN

Well, being I assume the risk it is only fair I should assume some dough.

BIG JULE

Detroit, I am going to roll you, willy or nilly. If I lose, I will give you my marker.

*(Starts writing)*

NATHAN

And if I lose?

HARRY

You will give him cash.

NATHAN

Let me hear from Big Jule.

BIG JULE

You will give me cash.

NATHAN

Now I heard it.

*(BENNY crosses down L., back of Nathan)*

BIG JULE

Here is my marker.

*(NATHAN looks at it - then at Big Jule)*

Put up your dough. Is anything wrong?

NATHAN

No—no. "I.O.U. one thousand dollars." Signed X!

*(Reaching into his pocket)*

How is it you can write one thousand, but you cannot write your signature?

BIG JULE

I was good in arithmetic, but I stunk in English.

NATHAN

*(His money now out - puts it down)*

Here! This will put you through Harvard.

BIG JULE

I'm rolling a thousand. And to change my luck I will use my own dice.

NATHAN

*(Horried)*

Your own dice!

BIG JULE

I had them made for me especially in Chicago.

NATHAN

Big Jule, you cannot interpolate Chicago dice in a New York crap game.

BENNY

That is a breach of etiquette.

HARRY

Show me where it says that in Emily Post.

NATHAN

Not that I wish to seem petty, but could I look at these dice?

*(ALL MEN crowd around looking at dice. BIG JULE takes them out, gives them to Nathan)*

But these—these dice ain't got no spots on 'em. They're blank.



**BIG JULE**

I had the spots taken off for luck. But I remember where the spots formerly were.

**NATHAN**

You are going to roll blank dice and call 'em from remembering where the spots formerly was?

**BIG JULE**

*(Threateningly)*

Why not?

*(Pulls NATHAN up by coat)*

**NATHAN**

*(Wipes perspiration from his forehead)*

I see no reason.

**BIG JULE**

*(He rolls)*

A five—and a five. My point is ten.

**NATHAN**

Well, I still got a chance.

**BIG JULE**

*(Shaking the dice)*

Tensy! Come againsy!

**NATHAN**

I wish he'd fall down on his endsy.

**BIG JULE**

Heah!

*(He rolls)*

A ten! I win!

**NATHAN**

A ten?

**BIG JULE**

*(Pointing)*

A six and a four.

**NATHAN**

*(Looking)*

Which is the six and which is the four?

BIG JULE

Either way—

*(Picks up dice)*

Now I'm shooting two thousand. Get it up!

NATHAN

*(Looks at his watch)*

I just remembered. I'm eloping tonight. Adelaide is waiting for me.

*(Starts to exit. BIG JULE grabs him and pulls him back)*

BIG JULE

Get up the two thousand.

NATHAN

How about letting some of the other chaps in on the fun?

*(Ad lib — "Ah no.")*

BIG JULE

After I'm through with you! — Two thousand.

*(NATHAN puts it up, reluctantly. BIG JULE shakes dice, rolls)*

Haah! Seven! I win.

NATHAN

*(Swallowing hard)*

What a surprise.

BIG JULE

*(Picks up dice)*

Detroit, I think I will take it easy this time.

NATHAN

What do you mean?

BIG JULE

I am shooting one dollar.

NATHAN

I'll take all of it.

*(BIG JULE puts it down)*

BIG JULE

*(Rolls)*

How do you like that? Snake eyes! I lose.



NATHAN

For this I got to bend down.

BIG JULE

Now I will give you a chance. I will roll for you three thousand.

NATHAN

Three G's?

BIG JULE

*(Picks up dice - firm)*

I am rolling you for three G's. Put it down there.

*(NATHAN counts out the money. Puts his hands over his eyes as BIG JULE starts to roll)*

NATHAN

Wouldn't it be more convenient if I put it right into your pocket?

BIG JULE

Get it up!

*(Rolling)*

Haaah! - Eleven. I win.

NATHAN

That cleans me.

BIG JULE

*(To the others, picks up dice and money)*

Now I will play with *you* guys.

*(Ad lib)*

NATHAN

Wait a minute! You gotta give me a chance to get even. I will roll *you*, with my dice.

BIG JULE

All right, Detroit, that's fair. What are you gonna use for money?

NATHAN

I will give you my marker.

HARRY

And you want Big Jule to put up cash?

BENNY

Nathan done it.

NATHAN

Sure I done it. What kind of a deal is this, anyway?

BENNY

Take it easy, Nathan.

NATHAN

Him with his no-spot dice! Somebody ought to knock the spots off him.

*(Stands right up to Big Jule)*

HARRY

Nathan, don't make Big Jule have to do something to you.

BIG JULE

Yeah, I am on my vacation.

NATHAN

Go ahead—Shoot me. Put me in cement. At least I would know where I am. Here I risk my neck to set up a crap game. I even promise to get married on account of it. So look how I wind up. Broke in a sewer. Believe me, my tough friend from Chicago, there is nothing you could do to me that would not cheer me up.

*(NICELY enters)*

NICELY

*(Motioning to someone)*

Here they are.

*(SKY enters)*

SKY

Good evening, gentlemen.

BIG JULE

*(Crosses to Sky)*

Well, fresh blood. You looking for some action?

SKY

Not at the moment. I would like to talk to some of you guys.

BIG JULE

We ain't talking. We're shooting crap.

SKY

*(Quietly)*

I am asking for only one minute.