

“NEXT SEASON”

**Characters:**

Ron – 45, Artistic director, “suit”  
Jake – 47, Artistic director, “slob”  
A Waiter

**PLACE:** A restaurant.

**SET:** Table and two chairs

**TIME:** Present day.

*JAKE is waiting at the table, looks SR as RON enters.)*

JAKE

Ronnie!

RON

Jake.

*They shake hands and give each other a “guy hug”: a hug while still shaking hands that includes each one giving the other three pats on the back.*

JAKE

Pleased

RON

Likewise

JAKE

Been?

RON

Good

JAKE

And?

RON

You?

JAKE

Well...

RON

Good?

Shoulder	JAKE
Injury?	RON
Combat	JAKE
Fighting?	RON
Rehearsing	JAKE
Swords?	RON
Henry four.	JAKE
Drag	RON
Absolutely	JAKE
So?...	RON
How	JAKE
Are	RON
You?	JAKE
Busy	RON
Planning?	JAKE
Productions	RON
for...	JAKE

theater's	RON
Next?	JAKE
Season	RON
With?	JAKE
Mamet!	RON <i>Pause, then...</i>
Shit!	JAKE
What?	RON
Fuck!	JAKE
You?	RON
Damn!	JAKE <i>nodding in agreement</i>
Producing?	RON
Fuck!	JAKE
Both	RON <i>acknowledging both of them.</i>
Shit!	JAKE
What?	RON

Must JAKE

Decide RON

Who JAKE

gets RON

the JAKE

Mamet RON

Fuck! JAKE

So... RON

Decide JAKE

Here? RON

Now! JAKE

Us? RON

Yes! JAKE

Okay! RON

*They each hold out their right hands – they are going to play “Rock, Paper, Scissors” to determine who will produce the Mamet.*

One... JAKE

Two...	RON
Three!	JAKE
	<i>JAKE throws Scissors, RON throws Paper.</i>
Shit	RON
Mamet!	JAKE <i>in victory.</i>
Fuck	RON
Victory!	JAKE
Asshole!	RON <i>starts to leave.</i>
Sit.	JAKE
So?	RON
Then?	JAKE
Next?	RON
Season	JAKE
Glass	RON <i>Pause.</i>
Menagerie?	JAKE <i>Relieved.</i>

No  
Slipper?  
Idiot!  
Hey!  
Okay  
Philip?  
Bingo!  
Philip?  
Bingo!  
Philip!  
Bingo!  
Philip!  
Bingo!  
Glass.  
Philip!

RON  
JAKE  
*A little more concerned.*  
RON  
*Insulted.*  
JAKE  
RON  
JAKE  
*Hesitates to say it.*  
RON  
JAKE  
RON  
JAKE  
RON  
JAKE  
RON  
JAKE  
RON

***(END OF EXCERPT.)***