

Side Ten (A)

Maude's Roadside Retreat

One of Sweet Apple's "low dives" with its name proclaimed on a neon-sign. We notice a sign above the bar that says NO MINORS SERVED. Also, a door leading to a room upstage center, a small bar. HUGO, trying to look casual, saunters over to the bar and sits on a stool. The BARTENDER ignores him, continues polishing glasses. Music fades out.

HUGO. I'll have a double rocks on the scotch.

And put some rocks in it this time. Can you make me a vodka malted?

BARTENDER. How old are you?

HUGO. *(Taking no chances)* 32.

BARTENDER. Get out.

HUGO. What about a beer?

BARTENDER. Beat it.

HUGO. Just let me sit here with an empty glass in front of me.

BARTENDER. Out.

HUGO. I demand to see the manager. Where's Maude?

BARTENDER. I'm Maude. Charles F. Maude. *(Comes around the bar to HUGO)*

And if you're not out of here in one minute,

I'll take you by the scruff of the neck and throw you out!

HUGO. Okay, I'm going ... *(Crosses left, then turns)*

...This is the last time I do my drinking in this place!