The Bathroom Attendant
By Brendan Kent

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Setting:
A men’s restroom at a high end Midtown Manhattan restaurant, scene opens with Nelson standing at his station next to the sinks, urinals to the right of the sinks

Characters:

Nelson: a middle-aged, chipper bathroom attendant
Man #1: a man in his mid-twenties
Man #2: A jolly middle aged father who is very enthusiastic
Man #3: A stereotypical young New York businessman

(Nelson is folding a paper towel as a man enters and starts walking to one of the urinals)

Nelson: Hi (graciously)

Man #1: Hey (awkwardly)

(Man #1 goes up to the urinal and starts urinating)

Nelson: So how was your food?

Man #1: um, fine (awkward still)

Nelson: Great, great, I can see you’ve had a couple beers.

Man #1: Uhh, Yeah, how’d you know?

Nelson: Just the color of your urine, there’s certain tells

Man #1: really? (as if he doesn’t care)

Nelson: Whoa, more than two shakes is playing with yourself, lets not get too frisky here pal

(Man #1 looks at Nelson, then zips up his pants and walks over to the sink and starts to wash his hands)

Nelson: Forest Herbs or Sunset Smells?
Man #1: What?

Nelson: Your soap preference, of course

Man #1: Surprise me

Nelson: Sir, I’m afraid I can’t do that, you’ll have to choose for yourself

Man #1: why?

Nelson: Legal issues, I’d prefer not to go into detail.

Man #2: It’s soap

Nelson: I’m well aware of that sir, and I don’t know if it was intended or not but your tone is a little condescending right now, and to be honest, it’s making me a little uncomfortable.

Man #1: Well I’m sorry if I offended you.

(Man #1 grabs a paper towel and walks out as Man #2 enters)

Nelson: Hello!

Man #2: Hello yourself

(Man #2 starts urinating)

Nelson: Sir, I must complement you on your posture, it’s the best I’ve seen all day

Man #2: Why thank you, my good man

Nelson: You’re quite welcome, it’s nice to have a gentleman in here for once, the last man’s attitude was, dare I say, less than pleasant.

Man #2: Oh well that’s a shame

(Man #2 sips up pants and walks over to sinks)

Nelson: Indeed, indeed, Forest Herbs or Sunset smells?

Man #2: Forest Herbs sounds delightful

(Man #2 washes his hands and Nelson squirts some soap into them)
**Nelson:** Can I interest you in a piece of candy?

**Man #2:** I believe that could be arranged

*(Nelson hands Man #2 a piece of candy)*

**Nelson:** Alrighty, well you have a great day now!

**Man #2:** Will do

*(Man #2 exits, Nelson’s phone rings, he picks it up and presses talk)*

**Nelson:** Mom, I told you I can’t talk right now, these are my hours… No… well, just put it in the oven and I’ll eat it when I get home, oh and don’t touch the Tivo, I have it set to record Lost at 9…

*(Man #3 enters and walks up to urinals, looking at Nelson curiously)*

**Nelson:** O.K. I need to go… love you too, bye.

*(Nelson hangs up and puts the phone back in his pocket)*

**Nelson:** Mom’s right? But then again who would pour our cereal every morning

**Man #3:** Yup (awkwardly)

**Nelson:** You look rushed

**Man #3:** I have tickets to a show that starts in ten minutes

**Nelson:** Oh nice, may I ask what show?

**Man #3:** Uhh, Jersey Boys

**Nelson:** Ohh, I have a cousin who saw that, what a small world

*(Man #3 zips up his pants and hurries to the sink)*

**Nelson:** What soap would you prefer?

**Man #3:** I’m sorry, I really don’t have time for this

**Nelson:** But-

*(Man #3 gets his hands wet, grabs the towel and exits, as Man #2 re-enters)*
Nelson: Oh, it’s good to see a friendly face again, what can I do for you sir?

Man #3: I was hoping to get a piece of candy for my son

Nelson: Oh, most certainly

(Nelson hands Man #2 the candy bowl)

Nelson: See if you can find anything he’ll like

Man #2: Thank you

(Man #2 starts digging through the candy bowl)

Man #2: So how has you’re day been?

Nelson: Quite nice, thank you for asking

Man #2: And how long have you worked here?

Nelson: Oh, I don’t work here, I’m a volunteer

The End