

The Captain Coleman Finale
from THICKER THAN WATER

by Arthur M. Jolly

Serio-comic

Woman (20's-40's)

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SALLY is talking to her live-in boyfriend on the night he has walked in the door with unexplained blood splashed on his shoes. Sally holds up as best she can, but eventually loses it - and reveals she has a phobia about blood.

SALLY

I was in the audience. It's like a sick joke - the last thing my Dad ever gave me. Tickets to Captain Coleman, the day the guy got stabbed. What is that, ironic?

(Beat)

The guy that played Hippy the Clown takes an eight inch kitchen knife, sticks it through a paper plate, covers it with whipped cream, and goes out and pies him. Stabs him in the face on national television in front of a million screaming kids. Defines my generation - our parents remember where they were when Kennedy got shot, we knew where we were when Captain Coleman finally got pied.

(Beat)

Hippy always tried. He'd sneak up with a pie every episode, and then he'd trip, or the door would get opened or something - and he'd get it himself. I hated that. Even as a kid, I just thought that was so unfair - just once, just once, I wanted to see him make it. Pie that smug bastard, right in the face. ... It was... I mean, total shock. Hippy just walked up and - pow! Cream pie, right in the Captain's face! We were all thinking - he did it. He

actually, finally did it, and we were there for it. We went nuts. I was laughing my six year old ass off. And then I saw this handle - black, knife handle - two silver rivets - sticking out of the plate. Hippy was just standing there, and the Captain hadn't moved. Just sitting at his desk, and the blood... it wasn't like the movies, like a -- it was like a sheet. Just - whoom. And his shirt bloomed... whaaa... it was like magic - the amazing color changing shirt, stripes vanishing, the whole thing transforming into maroon. I... I couldn't stop laughing, it was the most amazing thing. Hippy finally pied the Captain, and it was magical. ... He screamed then, I remember that - it was pretty jarring... but he couldn't get the pie off. The pie was stuck to his face, and he's jerking around, and yelling, and then he tried to run, clawing at the pie that was still stuck there... and all these people came running on stage... Hippy just stood there. And I laughed and laughed. Funniest damn thing I ever saw.

(Beat)

I still dream about it, sometimes.

END OF MONOLOGUE