

## ACT 1

*(Spring - 1973. Press room on the roof of Fenway Park. Square shaped room with brown-orange rug and tacky wood paneling. A dozen small square tables, each able to accommodate four chairs, fill the room. A large color television is attached to a corner of the wall about eight feet off the ground. A long buffet table, adjacent to a door that leads to the unseen kitchen, lines one of the walls. It contains sandwiches, coffee and other food items. A small table, a few feet from the buffet table, contains a telephone. About a dozen middle-aged men, all Boston sports writers, also fill the room. A few are sitting at their tables reading newspapers or typing their columns. LENNY CRAFFEY and TONY DEGREGORIO stand over the buffet table, holding their trays. SAMMY LEVINE, wearing wrinkled slacks and a Hawaiian shirt, obviously disturbed, bustles into the room, running towards the phone. No one seems to be alarmed or surprised by his behavior.)*

### *Scene 1 The Ransom of Sammy's Teeth*

TONY

*(Smiling at Sammy)*

Hey Sammy, like the shirt.

SAMMY

*(Looks towards Tony and GRUNTS.)*

LENNY

What the hell is wrong with you?

*(Sammy does not respond but picks up telephone.)*

SAMMY

Yeah.....I weed an ouside wine! ( Pause) I said I  
WEED AN OUSIDE WINE!

*(Tony and Lenny look at each other, obviously concerned. They slowly approach Sammy.)*

SAMMY

Hi! Wis is me! I wanna a pwace a bet on the fif wace at Hiaweea  
(Pause) Its me....Ammmy. (Pause) Hewooo....Hewooo. Are you  
till dere?

*(Tony takes telephone from Sammy's hand and places it back on the table.)*

TONY  
*(To Sammy)*  
Where are they now?

SAMMY  
*(Dignified)*  
Wher's wha?

TONY  
You know what I'm talking about. Your teeth....Who has your teeth today?

SAMMY  
Oh does? *(Now ashamed)* Oh....Morris is howding dem for me!

TONY  
*(Glancing towards Lenny)*  
Oh, did you hear that Lenny? Morris is holding Sammy's teeth for him.

LENNY  
Well.....without the benefit of your translation, no....I actually didn't hear that?

*(Sammy begins to walk away)*

SAMMY  
I'll be ine!!! Don orry about me!

TONY  
Sammy....*(thinking)*....Say – “Hello ladies and gentlemen... boys and girls....and welcome to Fenway Park!”

*(Sammy stops. He adjusts the collar on his shirt. Raises his head and squares his shoulders. Everyone in the room stops to watch and listen.)*

SAMMY  
*(Proudly)*  
Hewwoo Wadies and Gennlement.....Toys and Gulls...  
An Wewcum to Enway Ark!

*(Everyone in the room grimaces and moans.)*  
“UP ON THE ROOF”

ONE SPORTSWRITER

“ENWAY ARK?” I’ve heard of Noah’s ark but not  
Enway ark.

ANOTHER SPORTSWRITER

“TOYS AND GULLS?”

TONY

OK...Say this....”Playing shortstop....and batting seventh...  
Rico Petrocelli!”

SAMMY

*(Now worried)*

Ayying Shorsop and Atting eventh.....(Now voice trembling)  
ICO.....ETTROSSELIL....

LENNY

Well if they take Petrocelli....and Conigliaro....and Yaztremski  
out of the line-up tonight, he may get away with it.

TONY

*(To Sammy)*

How much?

SAMMY

*(Ashamed)*

Twee undwed and tirty

TONY

Three hundred and thirty dollars?

SAMMY

Wight

LENNY

*(Looking around room)*

OK fellas....I need your attention. As you know, we don’t have  
A dental plan here....and Sammy has the need for some emergency  
Dental work....I’m gonna pass the hat....we need three hundred and  
Thirty dollars by 7’ o’clock.....*(looks to Sammy.)*