

Chipper + SoTan

by johnmichael rossi

CHARACTERS:

SoTan
Chipper

[SoTan, an old man with a turban walks in. he looks both ways; sits down.]

SOTAN

(jumps to his feet)

darn mosquitos!

stay off my ankles! that blood is not for you!

CHIPPER

(slightly older... a Sammy

Davis cap)

Told you, Vinegar. I told you.

SOTAN

You told me nothin'

CHIPPER

I tell you something every day.

SOTAN

And every day, I tell you to go away. Go away!

CHIPPER

I'll be back.

(leaves)

SOTAN

know. I know.

(he sits down, pulls a bottle
of Vinegar out from inside his
breast)

(he licks his fingers after
sprinkling it to his ankles)

The life of a mosquito.

So quickly racing towards its end.

frantic, frenetic

hopped up on an overdose of life's caffeine

The circumstances of a mosquito

are utterly depressing

An overload. A constant overload of imagery
and activity
looking to suck blood
always risking the swat of a giant's hand
to be a mosquito...

(he sits and seems to daydream
for some time; we
wait)(Chipper returns)

CHIPPER

I'm back.

SOTAN

You're back.

CHIPPER

It's that time of day again.

SOTAN

Eatin'. Whitchoo got?

CHIPPER

Nuts.

SOTAN

Nuts... always nuts.

CHIPPER

Today! Pistachio.

SOTAN

No way! Where'd you find dem?

CHIPPER

I can't tell you.

SOTAN

You can't tell me? Why the hell not?

CHIPPER

I was sworn to secrecy.

SOTAN

Secrecy shmecrecy. Where'd you get em?

CHIPPER

Other side of the river.

SOTAN

You went to the other side of the river?

CHIPPER

No.

SOTAN

Don't make me remove this headgear and whoop your ass, old man.

CHIPPER

I'd like to see you try, old man.

SOTAN

So the pistachios are from the other side of the river, but you didn't dare take your precious feet over dere for an and adventure, so where'd you get them from?

CHIPPER

I can't tell you.

SOTAN

Tell me.

CHIPPER

I can't.

SOTAN

You can. Tell me!

CHIPPER

I can't. I was sworn to secrecy. I swear.

SOTAN

Unswear yourself.

CHIPPER

Never!

SOTAN

You and your swears, always swearing secrecy to someone.

(a calm... passes... silence...

acceptance that he will not

tell him)

Can I have a pistachio?

CHIPPER

Sure! Here, have two. No, three, four!

SOTAN

No, you keep some for yourself.

CHIPPER

No, no. You have them. Have them all.

SOTAN

Okay. Don't mind if i do.

[the end].