

TAO YANG - BUTLER PARTY

INT. BALLROOM - NIGHT

It's a party of butlers headed by MAXIMILLIAN.

MAXMILLIAN

(frustrated)

Another year another butler academy reunion. Now, I know butling is in your blood but maybe this will be the first class to actually enjoy their party for once. Now, I'll be getting a drink.

ALL BUTLERS

(rushing over)

Let me get that for you, ma'am!

MAXIMILLIAN

No, please. I can do it. Don't Serve Me. Party! Gossip about the affairs your lords and ladies are having.

They all gasp and shout some version of "NEVER."

MAXIMILLIAN

Okay, don't do that. JUST PARTY.

Maximillian walks to get her own drink. All the other butlers stand in line at a ready position.

MAXIMILLIAN

DON'T STAND AT ATTENTION. Tonight, YOU are the lords and ladies. Someone just take a seat and relax.

BUTLER 1 walks over to a chair and pulls it out and presents it to Butler 2.

BUTLER 1

After you.

Butler 2 grabs the chair and presents it to Butler 3 until we run out of Butlers.

BUTLERS

Have a seat / a stool / a perch for you / give your feet a rest / a shelf for your butt?

They're going in an infinite circle.

MAXIMILLIAN

Okay, stop!

ALL BUTLERS

Yes, ma'am!

MAXIMILLIAN

You're all so damn proper. Oh, take off your coats. Maybe that's keeping you all stiff.

ALL BUTLERS

Yes ma'am.

The butlers pair off. In each pair, one butler offers to take the coat off another.1

MAXIMILLIAN

Okay, at least this won't go on forever.

The other butler offers to take off the other butler's coat. And then the first butler offers to put the coat back on the second butler.

MAXIMILLIAN

Are you all lemmings?

ALL BUTLERS

No ma'am.

MAXIMILLIAN

Everyone, stop dressing and undressing each other.

ALL BUTLERS

Yes, ma'am.

MAXIMILLIAN

(to Butler 1)  
Nestor.

NESTOR

Yes, ma'am! Nestor, at your service.

MAXIMILIAN

You're a married lad, aren't you?  
How is your wife doing?

Nestor turns to the other butlers and mimes argues with them trying to figure out what to say.

NESTOR

Ma'am, my wife was wondering if you need another drink.

MAXIMILIAN

God damn it, Nestor.

(LOSES HER MIND)

You can't even answer one trivial question. I guess I trained you all too well.

ALL BUTLERS

Yes, ma'am!

MAXIMILLIAN

Okay, you know what.

She spills some of her drink. All the butlers rush to go clean it up.

MAXIMILLIAN

Everyone hold it! I will revoke the butler license of anyone who cleans that spill.

There's a long silence. It gnaws at them not being able to clean. NESTOR walks over.

MAXIMILLIAN

Nestor...don't you dare.

Nestor freezes and stares at Maximillian. She scrambles to the floor to clean. The other butlers all dive towards the spill and clean it.

MAXIMILLIAN

Alright then all of your licenses have been revoked. You are all no longer butlers.

They all scream.

MAXIMILLIAN

Now, we can finally have a fun party. Nestor, please, tell me how your wife is doing?

NESTOR

She's in a coma, ma'am.

MAXIMILLIAN

Oh!

**BLACKOUT**