

**EXCERPT FROM *LEFT-OVERS* BY GARY YOUNG**

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In the scene from the movie, "Godfather," where Michael Coroleone kills Police Captain McClusky and Sollozzo, the waiter who serves the food is around when the murders happen. He is speechless and retreats into the kitchen. This is HIS story.

Guiseppi Parda, age 35, enters in a panic, slamming the door behind. He stands there with his back to the door, in terror, as if keeping the door from flinging open.

He looks at Sophia, age 29, frozen. Sophia is startled by his appearance. He runs to her and throws her to the ground, his body covering hers.

An Italian accent would be nice. Especially with the "a" added to the end of some words. It is just suggested here in the dialogue.

Shots are fired. Guiseppi enters in a panic and covers Sophia with his body.

SOPHIA

Guiseppi! Get off! Get off! I  
can not-a breathe.

GUISEPPI

Sophia. Shhhh! Do not-a say a  
word. Listen to me.

SOPHIA

Ummm. I can not-a breathe.

GUISEPPI

Did you not hear-a the shots in the  
dining-a room? There are gangsters  
in there. Gangsters. Big-a men  
from the mob.

SOPHIA  
Like-a always.

HE gets up and goes to the door and listens.

GUISEPPI  
Shhhh. I cannot-a hear anything.

SOPHIA gets up and follows him to the door.

GUISEPPI  
No, you mustn't come over here.

SOPHIA  
Don't-a handle me, Guiseppi.

HE tries to move her to the far side of the room. She slaps his hands.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)  
Stop.

GUISEPPI  
Shhh. (HE puts his finger across her mouth) Do you hear anything.

SOPHIA  
(Abruptly removing his finger) How can I hear anything from over here?

GUISEPPI  
Ahm-a gonna peek.

SOPHIA tip toes over to get a little peek also.

GUISEPPI (CONT'D)  
Shhh. If you gotta be here, you gotta be quite. I'm-a gonna peek now.

HE carefully cracks the door just a little. THEY look at the open door in fear. The GANGSTER on the other side is not seen by the audience. We hear the sound of a gun dropping on the floor as he exits. The sound of music from the Godfather fills the room. THEY look around as if wondering where the music came from.

GUISEPPI (CONT'D)

Did you see that?

SOPHIA

I couldn't see anything. Your head was in the way. Move-a your head so I can-a see.

GUISEPPI

I don't-a think you want to see. It's gruesome.

SOPHIA pushes GUISEPPI to the side and looks through the door. SHE straightens up, looking serious but not grossed out.

GUISEPPI (CONT'D)

I told you. It's-a terrible. And look, the linguini is hardly even touched. Not even a last meal. The one with his head in the Oso Buco ate a little more. They had two glasses of wine before dinner. At least that...wait.

SOPHIA

You know-a these people?

HE looks again through the door, above Sophia. Looks around, makes a mad dash off stage in the direction of the dining room.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)  
Guiseppi, where are you-a going?  
Guiseppi!

GUISEPPI returns

GUISEPPI  
Nobody paid-a for the meal! No  
tip, no pay, I gotta mess to clean  
up, and the cops will-a be here and  
nobody will come-a here to eat ever  
again.