

INT. THERAPIST'S OFFICE - DAY

CHARLIE repeatedly bangs his head on a wall while the THERAPIST sits on a couch and watches.

THERAPIST

Charlie?

Charlie keeps banging his head.

THERAPIST (CONT'D)

Why don't you tell me how you feel  
the dinner went?

Charlie wheels around.

CHARLIE

Ahhhhh, fine! I'll do the dishes!  
You're just gonna make me do them  
anyway!

THERAPIST

No, no, no... Why do you assume I'm  
gonna make you do the dishes?

CHARLIE

Because it's Charlie work and I'm  
gonna get stuck with it, so I'll  
just do the dishes, God damnit.

THERAPIST

Charlie work? What's Charlie work?  
Fill me in.

Charlie's tone immediately changes and he sits down.

CHARLIE

Oh, right. You don't even know...  
Right. Well, Charlie work is like,  
you know... Basement stuff,  
cleaning urinals, uh... Bug stuff.  
Your basic slimes, your sludges,  
anything dead or decaying, I'm on  
it. I'm dealing with it.

THERAPIST

And you dislike it?

CHARLIE

Well, no, I mean, at it's core, I  
love it.

(MORE)

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

You know, I love the dark, I love slippery things, I love being naked in the sewer, bleach smells good, it tastes good, but it just... I don't like them telling me what to... Ugh.

THERAPIST

I'm sorry? I didn't get that last part.

CHARLIE

I don't like being told what to do. Everyone's always telling me what to do all the time.

THERAPIST

Got it.

CHARLIE

They kick me around... I'm probably like the weirdest guy in the universe, you know... Probably even weirder than someone from Saturn.

THERAPIST

Why do you think you're weird?

CHARLIE

I don't know, I'm just... Weird, I guess. What - What'd Dee tell you?

THERAPIST

I'm not at liberty to discuss other patients.

CHARLIE

I mean, would it be weird if you survived an abortion? You know, would it be weird if you shared a bed with a man who may or may not be your father?

THERAPIST

Well, again, I can't talk about --

CHARLIE

Would it be weird if you eat cat food to go to sleep and you have such a fascination with cats that you glue cat hair to the back of your neck every now and then?

THERAPIST

That's all new information that I haven't --

CHARLIE

You know what I mean? So, is that bad?

THERAPIST

No. No... Being comfortable in your own skin is never a bad thing.

CHARLIE

Oh my God, right. Okay, so if I got like, more skin or something, then I can never do a bad thing in my life, and maybe I never have done a bad thing, cause I have a lot of skin.

A long beat as the Therapist tries to decide how to respond.

THERAPIST

That's not what I'm saying... What I'm saying is, given your... Non-traditional life choices, you are surprisingly well-adjusted.

CHARLIE

Uh-huh. Yeah, I'm well-adjusted, you know? Because of my lack of... Traditions. And, I'll adjust to that, and...

Charlie trails off.

THERAPIST

I feel like you're mirroring my words, but you're not exactly understanding them.

CHARLIE

You're saying, like, do the things you do. Go even further with them, you know? Like maybe get a ton of cat hair, glue it all over your body. Walk around like a cat man in the night through the alleyways, and you know... And stop hiding the pigeon.

THERAPIST

The pigeon?

Charlie reaches into his jacket pocket.

CHARLIE

This one... Let him be who he wants, let him fly away.

He pulls out a pigeon.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Go!

He throws the pigeon into the air and it immediately thuds onto the table in front of him, dead. The Therapist watches in shock.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Ahhhhh, he's dead, I think...

THERAPIST

You've had a dead pigeon in your jacket pocket this whole time?

CHARLIE

He was alive at one point, you know... I'm not crazy, he's just... I think I might have hugged him a little too hard, just kinda smothered him a little bit. But uh...

(Upbeat)

Hey, we'll make an adjustment... Uh... To it and we'll make a tradition out of it.