

[You Can't Figure]

7

[????] [You Can't Figure on A Lifetime No More?] NOW I'M SITTING ON HIM

“Tell how it was in some gayer city or brighter place, speak of some bloodier, hungrier, more treacherous time any other age, any far land”

(She is a thin, timid gum-chewing typist/ The bones of her hips show beneath the gay dress from Klein's. the wrist under the novelty trinket from Hearn's is too sharp, [?] the calves of her legs are too skinny under the sheer hose, 69c special, the pale chestnut hair too Garbo-like against the anxious eyes. If you took the bravery out of the smile and the baby trust out of the eyes you'd have [?] a skeleton wage slave with [?] dreams of an island [?] and Brian Aherne. In fact, if you struck her too deep, the eyes would fill with helpless, angry [?] tears.) In 5/10/39 [[?] D.A Sheet?]

FOLKLORE

NEW YORK 300 [7?] 4 copies Forms to be Filled out for Each Interview

FORM A Circumstances of Interview

STATE

NAME OF WORKER Herman Partnow

ADDRESS 557 West 144 Street

DATE May 9, 1939

Library of Congress

SUBJECT Unemployed fringe

1. Date and time of interview

April 10, 1939

2. Place of interview

Automat, 14 Street and Fourth Avenue

3. Name and address of informant

Anonymous

4. Name and address of person, if any, who put you in touch with informant.

5. Name and address of person, if any, accompanying you

6. Description of room, house, surroundings, etc.

FOLKLORE

NEW YORK

FORM C Text of Interview (Unedited)

STATE

NAME OF WORKER Herman Partnow

ADDRESS 557 West 144 Street

Library of Congress

DATE May 9, 1939

SUBJECT YOU CAN'T FIGURE ON A LIFETIME NO MORE

YOU CAN'T FIGURE ON A LIFETIME

My boss, that nosey thing, he was always sittin one on me with them over-developed muscles until I got sick and tired. Where [?] I got the incentitive that day I don't know. Maybe it was because I was wearing white. I like white, I wear everything with a collar, it makes me feel good. [???] # The boss was in the front with a big customer And I was sitting there and typing like my heart would break, I was hankering for life. Rose, I said to myself, in this day and age you can't figure on a lifetime. Marriage is getting pushed further and further in the background, if you're single it's no stigma, I got up from my desk, I opened the boss's door and I yelled: Look, Mr. Sternberg, you can wait a hundred years and you'll never get a typist like me. Look at my hair, my white blouse, my nails/ never look unruly, I'm never idle a minute, [???] and I got artistic ability besides. Next payday I want twelve dollars. Leave as is

It's a Jewish trait. In front of a customer a goy would think but say something? Never. But he [?] He [???] He opened up hil his big mouth right away and pushed out his muscles and he yelled: Miss Rosenthal, see me in the back. The most terrible thing, you understand, see me in the back. I don't know [?????], I wasn't even scared. I was in the mood of makin money, nothing bothered me.

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Listen, don't you think they know if you're worth it to them? They got big mouths but they know if you're worth it, don't worry. You think he fired me?

I'm telling you from that day until he lost his business he was so nice to me - like my office boy, he used to bring me up milk shakes. He was at my beck and call.

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Before he was sitting on me, in the future everything was in reverse, I was sitting on him.