

Stalled  
by  
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A BATHROOM

*The stage is set like that of a public bathroom found in meeting halls across America.*

*Frank enters. Max is staring at one of the stalls.*

First time? MAX

Excuse me? FRANK

*Is this your first time?* MAX

Er, no, actually I come to these things every year- FRANK

Not the conference. MAX

Oh? FRANK

In here. MAX

The bathroom? FRANK

*This bathroom. Tonight.* MAX

No, I... Why? FRANK

You were here before. MAX

Yes, I, earlier. FRANK

So then, you've seen it? MAX

I don't think I know what- FRANK

The shit. MAX

The... FRANK

MAX  
SHIT, King Kong of all turds?

FRANK  
(pale)  
You mean, it's still there?

MAX  
Yup.

FRANK  
Jesus. I thought by now, I mean, surely someone... No-one's...taken care of it?

MAX  
It's marked territory.

FRANK  
Excuse me?

MAX  
Men walk in here, tall, proud. They all leave like you-

FRANK  
Hey-

MAX  
Sweaty, small, defeated.

FRANK  
Don't you think you're getting a little-

MAX  
You came back in here to see it, didn't you? Take another look?

FRANK  
No.

MAX  
Assure yourself?

FRANK  
No! I came back in here because I have to...to... *Use the facilities.*

MAX  
But you were here earlier and failed.

FRANK  
I... wasn't ready.

MAX  
Intimidated-

FRANK  
No-

Humbled-  
MAX

I just needed-  
FRANK

To see it.  
MAX

-some more time!  
FRANK

Why didn't you flush?  
MAX

I didn't want to touch, anything. You know, germs and, stuff-

*Max laughs.*

FRANK (CONT'D)  
(flustered)  
You can catch all sorts of diseases from unclean, places-

*Max laughs again.*

*Frank looks in the stall, looks at Max.*

FRANK (CONT'D)  
Say, you didn't.. Did you?

Did I what?  
MAX

You know-  
FRANK

You think it's mine?  
MAX

Well-  
FRANK

MAX  
You think I look like the kind of man who walks into a room, a small, poorly ventilated cubicle like this, and leaves that kind of calling card?

Well, maybe-  
FRANK

MAX  
And then I stand here and stare at it?