



The Sand Dance

Ala pavement coffee shop KELLY is explaining to two friends, Hugh and Katie, an idea for a school review.

KELLY: Now, I'm directing the school review this year. So, this is the plan. I've been studying comedy acts and there's this really funny one on YouTube called Wilson, Keppel and Betty and they do this funny dance. So what I thought was we'd enter from stage right dressed as Egyptian attendants.

(Waitress appears. To friends) Oh yes, what do you want?

(To waitress) Coke, orange juice and a double mocha for me please.

(Waitress exits. Gets out pad and pencil from school bag)

I think we'll need some Egyptian headdresses like this ... *(Drawing them)* ... And, well, jewellery. *(Notices their reaction)* You know, bangles and things...

No Hugh, nothing through the nose.

(To Katie) Of course sandals and skirts.

Oh sorry, I mean shirts not skirts.

(Notices waitress hovering. Reacts to waitress) ... Oh I see. No double mocha? *(Looking at menu)* Well, I'll have a straight mocha then.

(Quietly to friends) So, skirts, Egyptian skirts. They're like kilts really -men's skirts, and we'll do this dance — it's easy. I'll show you.

(Stands in a pose with bended knees and head in profile about to launch into the dance when interrupted by the waitress) What, no mocha either? *(Flustered)* Okay, I'll have a cappuccino then.

(Making sure waitress is gone before continuing) You put your hands like this, both sides of you, bend your knees and jut your head backwards and forwards like a chicken.

(As KELLY demonstrates this the waitress suddenly appears)

That was quick! (*Embarrassed. Returns to the table. To waitress*)
Thank you.

(*Quietly to friends*) Stop laughing! | thought we could start with that, then get Hugh to do his belly dance. Actually, you should be really good at it. You do it like this! (*Checking waitress is not around KELLY stands and demonstrates belly dance*) You'll enter through those net curtains your mum lent us Katie. Then we'll escort Hugh to the throne, like this.

(*Standing, sashays across courtyard with head moving like a chicken, Turns, and is suddenly face to face with the waitress*) ...
Oh, the bill. Thank you.

(*Sees Hugh and Katie have left*) Where've they gone?

(*Quickly collects school bag. Finds coins in pocket which he tosses on the table. To waitress*) It wasn't that bad, was it?

By Clare Price