SALT AND PEPPER SHAKIN' THINGS UP

Emily Aberg

Character List: Salt Shaker, Pepper Shaker, disembodied hand, Garlic Salt, Celery Salt

INT - KITCHEN - DAY

A SALT and PEPPER shaker sit on a kitchen counter, next to a stove. Something is sizzling in a pan nearby.

SALT

(excited)

Woohoo, you smell that, Pepper? Something's cooking!

PEPPER

(equally excited)
Hell yeah, Salt! Something is
DEFINITELY cooking! You know what that
means?

SALT

Someone's gonna need--

SALT AND PEPPER

SEASONING!

PEPPER

I love it when they're cooking food, and then they taste the food, and then they go "Hmm, needs some pepper!"

SALT

I know! My favorite part is when they taste the food and then they're like, "That could use some salt!"

A shadow falls over SALT and PEPPER.

PEPPER

Here comes the hand, here comes the hand!

The DISEMBODIED HAND comes into frame and picks up PEPPER. The hand shakes PEPPER over the food.

PEPPER

(makes barfing sounds)
BLAAAARFF BARF BARF

The HAND puts PEPPER back on the counter.

SALT

You did awesome!

PEPPER

(Wipes his mouth)

Thanks, what a rush!

SALT

(hopeful)

Me next, me next, me next!

The hand's shadow hovers over SALT for a minute, then disappears.

SALT

(confused and angry)

Wait, what gives?

PEPPER

(Also confused and angry) C'mon, Hand! You just used Pepper, now's the time for Salt! Don't be a chump!

GARLIC SALT

(Offstage)

Maybe it's looking for something a little more-

CELERY SALT

(Offstage)

-interesting.

GARLIC and CELERY SALT hustle onstage. They're flashy, sassy, and full of themselves. The mean girls of the spice cabinet.

SALT

Garlic and Celery Salt! Who invited you two?

GARLIC SALT

Oh, we heard there was something cooking in the kitchen and we thought, What the hell-

CELERY SALT

-why not take a little trip to the stove and see if we can't offer the chef a little inspiration? PEPPER

(backing up his buddy SALT)
You guys are just a bunch of overblown
flavor dust! I've met packets of
cheese in boxes of macaroni with more
personality than you!

GARLIC SALT

(Flips her hair)

Sounds like something only the jealous type would say.

CELERY SALT

(Looking up in the air as the hand shadow appears again) Why don't we let the hand decide?

The disembodied HAND reappears. SALT is anxious with excitement. But the shadow passes over SALT, PEPPER, and CELERY SALT and picks up GARLIC SALT.

GARLIC SALT

(Absolutely losing her cool with joy and excitement)

YES! YES! YES! I WAS BORN FOR THIS MOMENT!

The HAND shakes GARLIC SALT into the pan.

GARLIC SALT

(barfing sounds)

BLEEAAARF BERF BARF BERF

The HAND puts GARLIC SALT back on the counter, next to the other seasonings.

GARLIC SALT

(Flipping her hair back over her head, regaining composure) Oh my god, that was AMAZING!

CELERY SALT

(Trying not to look jealous)
Oh my god, you crushed it!

GARLIC SALT

(Rudely)

Oh my god, you never shut up!

SALT

(to PEPPER)

What if the hand doesn't pick me next?

PEPPER

(to SALT)

You got this, don't worry, you got this!

The shadow passes over everyone again, and this time picks up CELERY SALT. SALT is crushed.

CELERY SALT

(So excited)

EEEEEEEEEEYES!

(Makes barfing sounds. These are noticeably more subtle.)

ACK, BERF-BERF-BERF

The HAND returns CELERY SALT back to the counter.

GARLIC SALT

I guess they didn't need very much of you, huh.

CELERY SALT

(Defensively)

Everyone knows a little of me goes a long way.

SALT is freaking out, near tears.

SALT

What if the hand just doesn't need me any more? What if I get put in the back of the cabinet, next to Nutmeg and Bay Leaves?

PEPPER

(Slaps SALT across the face)
You listen to me! You're Salt, for
Christ's sake! You make everything
flavorful and incredible! You're a
taste explosion! You're umami! You're
not going anywhere!

A voice — the one attached to the HAND — speaks. The spices freeze. SALT looks hopeful again.

V.O.

Hmm. It's still missing something.

Like it could still use... Some salt.

SALT and PEPPER lose their shit.

SALT AND PEPPER

OH MY GOD, OH MY GOD!!!

The HAND moves to grab SALT, who weeps tears of joy. PEPPER jumps up and down, and CELERY and GARLIC look put out and a little aghast.

SALT

(Lots of barfing sounds)
BAAARF BORF BARF BLURF BAAAARF BARF
BORF BARF BEEEEERRRRRFFFFF

SALT rejoins the group. PEPPER gives SALT a high five. GARLIC and CELERY SALT continue make sour faces.

SALT

YES! YES! I still got it, baby! I still got it!

PEPPER

You're unstoppable! That means nothing can stop you! You're a legend!

Freeze frame on their high five as the theme song comes up:

THEMESONG V.O.

Salt and Pepper

friends forever

through thick and thin

they're a flavor win

They just make everything better by barfing on it!