A fellow comic, she beams, a mixture of pride and envy. Also there are comics, RALPH KING, African American, early thirties, as overweight as he is hilarious, and Sully. Bill rushes in from his set.

RALPH

Stort

You do know when Arnie flashes the lights it means get the fuck off the stage, right?

BILL

(eyes glued to set)
I get off the fucking stage when
they stop laughing.

SULLY

(mock explaining to Ralph) "Laughing" Ralph, is the noise people make when they hear something funny.

BILL

(off Clay)
How's he doing?

CASSIE

He's killing.

BILL

(clearly jealous)

Great.

RALPH

Bill man, that ain't no "great" face. That's a why-don't-Johnny-love-me-face.

BILL

Why couldn't they have shot you in Nam?

SULLY

Yeah Ralph, are black hippos sacred there or something?

Bill and the comics snicker.

RALPH

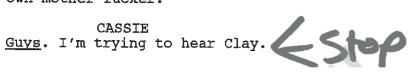
I was lean and mean in Nam. Charlie was terrified of me. Called me the black beast.

SULLY

Is it weird that's the same thing they call you at MacDonalds?

RALPH

Keep talking, Sully. When the revolution happens you're on your own mother-fucker.



RALPH

INT. GOLDIE'S BAR AREA - LATER

We are close on Angie laughing while dabbing her eyes, her eyebrows thick with crab ointment. The comics are all laughing as Ralph finishes up a story about him and Clay.

RALPH

... So Clay introduces us and the girls ask how we know each other. Clay tells them totally straight faced, "We're cousins through rape."

Everyone cracks up.

Then he went on giving a history lesson about how the Moors who were black, invaded, raped and pillaged Sicily. But it was in the past and now we're one big happy family.

(beat)

Neither of us got laid that night.

Everyone laughs including Angie as Ralph crosses and hugs her.