

6/11/94

1765

EINSTEIN

Ah. At night...at night, the stars come out.

GERMAINE

The stars in the sky?

EINSTEIN

The stars in my head.

GERMAINE

And after the stars in your head come out?

EINSTEIN

I write it down.

FREDDY

Uh huh. You been published?

EINSTEIN

No, no not yet.

FREDDY

Yeah, well, we're all writers, aren't we? He's a writer that hasn't been published and I'm a writer who hasn't written anything. (he goes back to his bills)

GERMAINE

And you're welcome here. We get a lot of artist types; writers, poets, painters. What do you write about?

EINSTEIN

I...I...I can't even begin to explain.

GERMAINE

Try. Simplify it.

EINSTEIN

It's about everything.

GERMAINE

You mean like relationships between men and women?

EINSTEIN

Bigger.

GERMAINE

You mean like life from birth to death?

EINSTEIN

Uh, bigger.

GERMAINE

Like the warring of nations and the movements of people?

EINSTEIN

Bigger.

GERMAINE

I see, sort of like the earth and its place in the solar system?

EINSTEIN

Keep going.

GERMAINE

(growing exasperation) Okay. You're dealing with the universe and everything contained in it.

EINSTEIN

Why stop there?

GERMAINE

(giving up) Okay. Okay. How big is this book?

EINSTEIN

About 70 pages.

GERMAINE

Hmm, not too long. That's good. Maybe we can put you in contact with some of our publisher friends. What's the title?

EINSTEIN

The Special Theory of Relativity.

FREDDY

(sincere)

Catchy.

GASTON

Judging from the title alone, I think it will sell at least as well as the Critique of Pure Reason.

GERMAINE

Is it funny?

EINSTEIN

(thinks) Well....GERMAINE

Because if it's funny, you can really sell a lot of books.

EINSTEIN

It's very funny.

GERMAINE

Ah! It's very funny.

EINSTEIN

Well, actually, that depends on what you mean by funny.

GERMAINE

Well, does it make you laugh?

EINSTEIN

No.

GERMAINE

Chuckle?

EINSTEIN

No.

GERMAINE

Smile?

EINSTEIN

I wish I could say yes.

GERMAINE

So it's not funny.

EINSTEIN

No.

GERMAINE

But you just said it was funny.

EINSTEIN

I was trying to sell more books.

GERMAINE

(exasperated)

Could it have illustrations?

EINSTEIN

Impossible.

GERMAINE

Why not? Might look good, give it some zip.

EINSTEIN

Illustrations are two-dimensional.

GERMAINE

I know what you mean, but a good draftsman can give very realistic three dimensional drawings.

EINSTEIN

I need four.

GERMAINE

Einstein, I'm trying to help you here. You want your book to have impact don't you?

EINSTEIN

Sure.

GERMAINE

And if you want it to have impact you've got to have people read it don't you?

EINSTEIN

Yes...

GERMAINE

Okay, in your field, how many people do you figure have to read your book to have some impact?

EINSTEIN

One.

GERMAINE

No, no, no. In order for your book to have impact, you've got to have a lot of people read it; every man in the street has got to have one.

EINSTEIN

No only one. Max.

GERMAINE

Max?

EINSTEIN

Max Planck, a German physicist, very influential. If he reads it, ~~he makes my reputation.~~ *my reputation is made*

GERMAINE

Well, you're lucky. If your market is one person and you know his name you can put a limit on what you're going to spend on advertising. ~~How old are you?~~

EINSTEIN

I'm 25.

GASTON

You don't look 25.