ALL ABOARD

CHARACTERS:

CONDUCTOR #1: tall, middle-aged

CONDUCTOR’S VOICE #2: (voice only)

JEREMIAH, lawyer for a bank: age - 60’ish, super pressed suit.

JOSIE, secretary: age - early 20’s

[Metronorth train platform. People are scurrying to make the train as ‘All Aboard’ is heard. They are dressed in suits and dresses, as if the end of a long work day.]

[Jeremiah and Josie are the last to board the railroad car. They sit in the front seat near the door together, but apart.]

CONDUCTOR VOICE: [speaker has a very long drawn-out Long Island accent]

La-dies and gent-tleman. This is the only train leaving Grand Central on the metronorth peoples’ railroad at 7:37 pm this beautiful day of September, 2016.

JEREMIAH [resentfully]:

 Oh, my God. We have to get one of these conductors.

JOSIE [nervously]:

What do you mean?

JEREMIAH:

Some of these guys are so full of … themselves.

CONDUCTOR VOICE:

We all together will be sailing along the beautiful coast of Connecticut, one of the original 13 British colonies.

JEREMIAH:

OK, I give up.

JOSIE:

What’s the matter? [JEREMIAH doesn’t answer.] Did you get into a bad mood at the bank?

JEREMIAH:

Well, yes, that damn bank examiner doesn’t know what’s good for his career and kept blasting me with emails about this financial and that financial.

JOSIE:

Oh.

JEREMIAH:

He just doesn’t get it. J.P. Morgan is the New York Fed. You leave J.P. Morgan alone…. [angrily] or else.

JOSIE:

Oh.

CONDUCTOR’S VOICE:

Okay, La-dies and Gent-lemen. We will soon be sailing into the first harbor of Stamford, Connecticut. Many of you fine people will be leaving us here and I’m wishing you a very good weekend, since this here is Friday.

JEREMIAH:

Jesus Christ!

JOSIE:

He’s kind of cute.

[CONDUCTOR #1 comes down the aisle to collect tickets, and stops next to JEREMIAH and JOSIE.]

CONDUCTOR #1:

How do, folks. Tickets?

[JEREMIAH and JOSIE both show passes.]

CONDUCTOR #1:

Thank you very much.

JOSIE:

Conductor, are you the nice voice over the loudspeaker making all the announcements?

CONDUCTOR #1

Oh, no, miss. That’s old Lewis. He’s been on these trains many more years than me.

JOSIE:

He has such a nice voice.

CONDUCTOR #1:

Yes, he does. And he loves to use it. [ He smiles.]

JOSIE:

Oh [not understanding]… that’s good.

JEREMIAH:

Josie, take out that set of emails from the Executive Committee.

JOSIE:

The ones about … [whispering] you know what.

JEREMIAH:

Yes, yes. [impatiently]

CONDUCTOR’S VOICE:

Well, La-dies and Gent-lemen. We are sailing through the heart of our financial world. Do you realize we are all part of the Second District – yes, we are all part of the New York Federal Reserve. Yes, sir, that’s the Kingpin, the super duper trans-national heart of this beast consuming our nation.

JEREMIAH: [strong whisper]

What the hell?

JOSIE:

The conductor knows about the New York Federal Reserve Bank?

CONDUCTOR’S VOICE:

Yes, the heart of the system. Owned 50% by J.P. Morgan Chase bank.

JEREMIAH: [strong whisper]

How the hell does he …

CONDUCTOR’S VOICE:

And owned 25% by Citibank –

JEREMIAH:

Why did I have to get this guy?

JOSIE:

Jeremiah, it’s sort of interesting.

[JEREMIAH glares at her.]

CONDUCTOR’S VOICE:

Yes, those banks own the New York Fed. In fact, they own our politicians too. In fact, they own all our money supply.

[There is a long pause. Conductor #1 comes down the aisle.]

JEREMIAH:

Conductor, do you think we could have some quiet over the loudspeaker?

CONDUCTOR #1:

Oh, I know, sometimes Lewis gets carried away. I’ll see.

[CONDUCTOR #1 walks back out of the railway car.]

[There is another long pause. Then one hears some scratching sounds comes over the loudspeaker.]

CONDUCTOR’S VOICE:

Well, La-dies and Gent-lemen. I’m going to end my little discourse tonight with just a few facts. I just want all of you nice people to know the truth about our money. Our money – mine, yours, all of ours – is created by private commercial banks like the aforesaid J.P. Morgan Chase and Citibank.

Our money – mine, yours, all of ours – is not made by our government, like we’re told. And don’t let any academic try to tell you it is. The End.

[Loudspeaker goes dead.]

JEREMIAH:

Well, peace at last!

JOSIE:

Jeremiah, how unusual! He sounded so knowledgeable. But our money does come from our government, right?

JEREMIAH:

We’ll discuss it later. Give me those “for CEO’s eyes only” emails.

THE END