

Tucker likes to write sketch comedy and this is one of his best works. Scenes like this would fit best as a sketch at the beginning or in between main sketches on show like Monty Python. Tucker is a delight to work with. He writes sketches about anything he finds amusing and they turn out great.

~Adam Lehmann, Tutor

The Sleeping Disorder

By Tucker Diedrich

(Scene takes place in a doctor's office. The doctor is sitting behind his desk looking over some paper work when his intercom sounds.)

RECEPTIONIST: *(over the intercom)* Dr. Johnson, Mr. Smith is ready to see you.

DOCTOR: Great, send him in.

(Patient walks into office)

DOCTOR: *(Doctor stands)* Mr. Smith, please sit down. *(He motions to the chair and the patient sits down.)* Ok, well, Mr. Smith how are you feeling today; have you been able to get some sleep?

PATIENT: No, sir. I haven't been able to get a good night's sleep at all. I still stay up all night and then, during the middle of the day, I'll want to sleep and take little naps. It's almost as bad as when I first came in.

DOCTOR: Mr. Smith, as you know, the results of your tests are back. I have been looking them over and I don't know how to tell you this...

PATIENT: Is it really that bad?

DOCTOR: Well it's not terrible. The tests have produced some unusual results. I don't know how to put this. Mr. Smith you are actually French.

PATIENT: What?!

DOCTOR: Yeah, you are French; you should be living in France.

PATIENT: UHHH I don't think I understand.

DOCTOR: Well, it's quite simple actually. For instance, you indicated that you usually sleep comfortably between the hours of 3 PM and 11 PM.

PATIENT: Yes.

DOCTOR: Well, we are 7 hours behind the French. So if you are getting comfortable sleep between those hours then you are actually getting the recommended sleep that a Frenchman would get.

PATIENT: How can I be French? I've lived in Wisconsin my entire life!

DOCTOR: Mr. Smith, I know it's a hard pill to swallow. Allow me to explain this a little better. (*Walks over to a dry erase board and draws two clocks.*) Okay so here in Wisconsin right now it is 2 PM, but in France it is 9 PM. Now chances are when you get home from this appointment you will more than likely feel a little drowsy, won't you?

PATIENT: Well, I am a little drowsy—

DOCTOR: Precisely! In France people are just getting done with a big meal. You see in France people have dinner at around 8 PM. Mr. Smith when do you usually eat lunch?

PATIENT: At about 1 or 2, I suppose.

DOCTOR: You see Mr. Smith you are overcome by what doctors like to call a “food coma.” You eat a lot of food, get tired, and fall asleep for a little nap. For you sometimes you wake up shortly after sometimes you wake up a little later. The inconvenience, obviously, is that this is the only time you are able to get sleep; and this is a great inconvenience. But if you were in France this would be absolutely normal and you would be getting fine sleep.

PATIENT: But if I've never been to France in my entire life; how is it possible for me to be on a French person's sleep schedule?

DOCTOR: It actually isn't that far-fetched when you think about. Mr. Smith where did your ancestors come from?

PATIENT: Most were German and some were Prussian.

DOCTOR: Hmm, that is interesting. The French have a natural hatred for the Germans, and the British for that matter. (*Laughing as if everyone knows this fact*) I mean Otto Von Bismarck's march across Prussia and Germany into France and proclaiming the unity of Prussia and Germany in the Paris capitol building has never sit well with most French, but I diverge from the fact. I think that there is a possibility that one of your ancestors had an estranged affair with a French person.

PATIENT: That doesn't even make sense.

DOCTOR: Or does it make perfect sense?

PATIENT: It doesn't make any sense.

DOCTOR: Well, that's your opinion; let's just remember that I am the one who is the doctor around here. (*Points at diplomas on wall*)

PATIENT: Alright, alright. So, Doc, what are you recommending?

DOCTOR: I think it's quite simple; you are going to have to move to France.

PATIENT: What?!

DOCTOR: I'm sorry, Mr. Smith but it may be the only thing that could save your life.

PATIENT: I can't just move to France! My wife and kids love it in America we love it in Wisconsin. We both grew up in Wisconsin and it's great. I don't want to give up all that we have here for some silly solution like moving to France.

DOCTOR: Your wife will love it in France! It's one of the most romantic countries in the world. This could be the spark your marriage needs.

PATIENT: Spark? Our marriage is fine.

DOCTOR: Live in denial if you want Mr. Smith, but the fact is simply this: you must move to France to get some sleep that actually will make you a fully functioning human, and probably save your marriage.

PATIENT: Isn't there a procedure or some medication that I could take?

DOCTOR: *(Starts writing on a tablet.)* Yes, there is something that we could possibly do.

PATIENT: Good, I thought you were serious about moving to France.

DOCTOR: Oh I'm still serious about you moving to France; I'm referring you to a dialect coach who can give you a convincing French accent. He is amazing; I'm sure you will fit in perfectly in France. *(Hands the patient the slip.)*

PATIENT: I can't believe you're serious about this!

DOCTOR: He's a good coach; he helped me with my Southern Hillbilly accent.
(Demonstrates)

PATIENT: Well, that was kind of good. WAIT, no, this is ridiculous, I still can't believe you are serious about this.

DOCTOR: Yup, I am. So unless you want to pay overtime fees you better leave. I have another patient coming in; so enjoy your new life in France. *(Standing up while saying this and pushing the patient out of the office. Shuts the door and goes back to his desk and picks up the phone.)*

END SCENE