

Whiskey in the Heat
By Hannah Li-Epstein

Characters:

Big Papa – Older southern gentleman. Cordelia's father.

Billy Bob – between 25-35 years old. Simple minded.

Cordelia aka Cordie – between 25-35-years old. Southern Belle.

Props:

Three drinking glasses

Mini or regular bat

Cat carrier

Cher fan

A whiskey bottle or two

Ring

Gun or other blunt object

Notes:

Stage directions in **bold** on the right.

(italic) = stage directions in dialogue.

As the play progresses they get more and more drunk.

Backstory and whatnots:

Billy Bob and Cordelia have been in an off and on relationship since high school, right now they're off because Cordelia caught Billy Bob cheating. He lost his job and was living with his brother for a while. Big Papa lent Billy Bob some money to buy his own trailer and the deadline to pay him back has already passed.

When Cordelia's mother passed away about 10-20 years ago (depending on Cordelia's age), her father Big Papa began to take a few liberties with her which she grew accustomed to and sometimes even enjoy.

Jimmy is Big Papa's down-low buddy. Billy Bob knows about Jimmy because he needed a favor and traded a blow-job for a mechanic job.

Setting:

Somewhere in the South on Big Papa's porch. Night time. The crickets and bugs are chirping. There's a table and a bunch of chairs, maybe a rocking chair. It's about ninety degrees out. It's hot and sticky.

Billy Bob is sitting and drinking whiskey.

BIG PAPA
Whatcha say to me boy?

Big Papa enters with a drink in his hand.

BIG PAPA
You best be holdin' yer tongue.

BILLY BOB
Nothin'.
(Kicks the cat carrier)
Hey, what you got this cage for?

BIG PAPA
I was fixin' to get me a coon. Dang critter keep on tryin' to get in.

BILLY BOB
Whatcha usin' for bait?

BIG PAPA
Sweet corn.

BILLY BOB
Why you ain't usin meat. Best thang there is.

BIG PAPA
I ain't givin' that thin my bacon. Gonna catch 'um an haul it on over to Jimmy's.

BILLY BOB
Jimmy huh?

BIG PAPA
Whatcha know about Jimmy?

BILLY BOB
Enough. You ever gonna tell Cordie about him?

BIG PAPA
I reckon no, so hush yo' mouth about that boy.
(Big Papa pours more whiskey)
I ain't drunk enough for this yet so you keep that lid tight.

BILLY BOB
But-

BIG PAPA
Do I gotta tell you twice?

BILLY BOB
Like the time yer wife came home with a black eye?

BIG PAPA
After that I only did have to tell her once.
(a pause)
God rest her soul. She was a fine woman I'll tell you what.

BILLY BOB
She sure was. One thin about that woman, she hugs you an yer hers.

BIG PAPA
Damn right.

They cheers.

BILLY BOB
Cordie is lookin' more 'n more like her every day. Where she at?

BIG PAPA
Workin'. She'll be along dereckly.

A pause.

BIG PAPA
You got somthin' to say cause it's time I klect.

BILLY BOB
I ain't tellin' you nothin'.

BIG PAPA
Spit it out.

BILLY BOB
I don't mean to be colder then a bankers heart but I don't got the money. I'm cotton short Big Papa.

BIG PAPA
You passed the deadline. I ain't to keen on you right now boy.

BILLY BOB
I got 'n idea, a big one.

BIG PAPA
Let's hear it.

Cordelia enters.

CORDELIA

Well look what the cat dragged in. How ya'll doin'?

Southern style, the men stand.

Big Papa goes to kiss Cordelia but she avoids him.

BIG PAPA

Why, I'm as fine as a frog hair. Thanks for askin' baby girl.

Cordelia goes up to Billy Bob and hangs on him.

CORDELIA

What 'bout you BB?

BILLY BOB

It's Billy Bob.

CORDELIA

Bless yer heart, yer as slow as molasses aren't ya sugar.

BIG PAPA

I'm gonna go in an fix me a drink, you want anythin' darlin'?

CORDELIA

(Super sexy)

Yea, I got a hankerin' for honey whiskey.

Big Papa exits with the empty bottle.

Cordelia waits till Big Papa is all the way off stage until she lets go of Billy Bob

CORDELIA

(With distaste)

Why you here Billy Bob?

BILLY BOB

Cause I'm sweet on you.

CORDELIA

I ain't no prom queen no more. You done gone an broke my hot last year so don't go on sayin' you sweet on me.

BILLY BOB

It don't matter none now. I done got me a job, I done got me a trailer-

CORDELIA

An yet you sittin' here on Big Papa's porch sippin' on my whiskey. I've been through the ringer with you once, no twice even, an it ain't gonna happen no more. I'm strong now.

BILLY BOB

I told you Cordie, I ain't the man I used to be.

CORDELIA

So what kinda man are you then?

BILLY BOB

I may be a jack-leg mechanic but I'm the kinda man that got somethin' to say.

CORDELIA

I ain't listenin'.

Billy Bob gets on one knee and pulls out a ring.

BILLY BOB

I'm gonna merry you.

Cordelia goes to slap Billy Bob when Big Papa enters.

BIG PAPA

Now what is goin' on here?

Billy Bob stands up from the ground.

CORDELIA

Looks like we're hitchin' up!

Cordelia jumps on Billy Bob and he swings her around as they laugh.

BIG PAPA

Now we're celebratin'.

Big Papa hands the drinks around and puts a bottle on the table.

BIG PAPA

To my darlin' an her new found happiness.

They cheers and drink everything down.

Cordelia is looking through her purse.

Big Papa pours more drinks.

BILLY BOB

Watcha got in yer pocketbook?

CORDELIA

This.

Cordelia pulls out her Cher fan and starts fanning herself with it.

CORDELIA

It's hawt out.

BILLY BOB

What is that?

BIG PAPA

It's creepin' me out.

CORDELIA

Now don't you two start on Cher, she is everything woman, you got that. Cher's been through some stuff, hard stuff, unlike you two. She had to deal with a devorce from a controllin man. An nobody can keep her down even though they try to. An her legs are real.
An to frost the cake, her daughter became her son.

A pause.

BIG PAPA

How do you figure?

CORDELIA

Bless her heart, he got one of those sex change thingies. An now she's a he. I don't mind it much though cause he ain't hurtin' no one.

BILLY BOB

Yea he is, he's hurtin' my head with all this thinkin'.

BIG PAPA

Is he one of those gays?

CORDELIA

Guess he used to be when he was a she but she's a he now.

BILLY BOB

What are you sayin' woman?

CORDELIA

(snaps)

I ain't speakin' clearly enough for you?

Cordelia pours the rest of the liquor into her glass.

She holds the bottle upside-down over Billy Bob.

BILLY BOB
I'm gettin' a drink.

Billy Bob takes the bottle and exits.

BIG PAPA
I don't like this one bit. He ain't good nuf for you.

CORDELIA
I know Big Papa. He's as dumb as an alligator in heat.

BIG PAPA
That ain't what I'm talkin' about.

CORDELIA
(Seriously)
Well I gotta leave you sometime. I ain't gonna sit on this porch an grow old. I wanna move to the city one day.

BIG PAPA
He ain't gonna get you there. Billy Bob is so poor he can't pay attention.

CORDELIA
I don't care 'bout that one bit. I've been fixin' to move out anyhow.

Billy Bob enters with full bottle of whiskey.

BIG PAPA
Were you now?

CORDELIA
After Ma passed...

Big Papa grabs Cordelia by the arm.

BIG PAPA
After Ma passed what?

CORDELIA
It just got difficult. I'm all stove up.

BILLY BOB
Here come's the hissy fit.

CORDELIA

Yer the awfulest. All's I do all day is work an when I get home I gotta give the house a lick an a promise while the 'ol man sits on his ass an y'all's drink my whiskey. Now give it here.

**Billy Bob hands Cordelia the whiskey.
Cordelia chugs the whiskey.**

BIG PAPA
An I thank you for that baby doll.

BILLY BOB
I think you had nuff.

BIG PAPA
Oooohhh! Better watch out or she'll whop up on ya. My baby girl has got herself a temper.

A dreadfully long pause.

CORDELIA
(Smiling)
Be right back.

**Cordelia drinks down her drink and exits.
Big Papa waits until Cordelia is completely off stage.**

BIG PAPA
So this is yer big idea. Gonna merry my daughter an expect I'll let it go? Got her thinkin' you bought that trailer on yer own.

BILLY BOB
I'll pay you back.

BIG PAPA
How you gonna do that boy? You gonna suck my dick?

BILLY BOB
What?

BIG PAPA
Yup, that's just what you gonna do.
(Big Papa walks up to Billy Bob)
Tryin' to talk to me about Jimmy.
(Big Papa pushes Billy Bob's face to his crotch)
I know all about you boy y'heah.

Billy Bob backs away from Big Papa and falls to the ground.

BILLY BOB

You can't... you won't...

**Cordelia enters with a baseball bat.
She slams it on Billy Bob's hand and he screams in agony.**

CORDELIA

(Pointing the bat)

You ain't never gonna tell me I had nuff.

Big Papa stands behind Cordelia as she bends over Billy Bob.

BIG PAPA

That's right baby girl, you hold yer own.

I'm gonna go take a piss.

**Big Papa exits
Billy is holding his sore hand.**

BILLY BOB

Why you gotta do me like that?

CORDELIA

Cause I've been thinkin'. Why you wanna merry me? Wha'd you do?

BILLY BOB

Why Cordelia, whatever do you mean?

CORDELIA

Now don't you go takin' that sweet tone with me sugar. I know you been foolin' around again, haven't you?

BILLY BOB

It ain't foolin' around if we ain't together.

CORDELIA

Okay smart ass, if you wanna play, I'll play.

**Billy Bob goes for the bat.
There's a struggle that turns into making out sexyness.
Billy Bob starts taking off his clothes.
Big Papa enters.
Big Papa pistol whips Billy Bob who falls to the ground.
Cordelia checks to make sure Billy Bob is still breathing.
Cordelia is on all fours facing Big Papa.**

CORDELIA

(Super sexy)

It sure is hawt out tonight.

Cordelia starts crawling toward Big Papa.

BIG PAPA

Yup.

(A pause)

Watcha doin' tomorrow?

Big Papa undoes his belt.

CORDELIA

Workin'.

(A pause)

What bout you?

Big Papa kicks Billy Bob.

BIG PAPA

Makin' me some coon bate.

Big Papa undoes his zipper.

Blackout.