

**Start**  
**NOEL**

I've seen the movie the Blue Angel about a billion and one times... If there is something better on this earth than Marlene Dietrich playing Lola Lola, (the original broken woman. Or as the French say, La Femme Brisee), I don't even want to hear about it... I tried to go as her every year for Halloween – I always chickened out... And I'd go as something like C3P-O... but in my heart, I was Lola Lola, dressed up as C3P-O... that was always my Halloween costume's subtext. Mom tells me I've got to try to blend in, so I tried really hard to dial it back... I had to... we live in a town where every year on July 11th when Seven Eleven gives out free Slurpees it's like seriously, the major cultural event of the year... I'm not even making a joke right now. It's like, a Slurpee Woodstock. I was born in the wrong town, the wrong country, the wrong era! I wanted to feel. I wanted to love.

**NOEL (CONT'D)**

I wanted to have philosophical discussions with a starving poet... wearing a beret... 'til sunrise... underscored by a monkey playing the accordion...

*(A slide comes up of NOEL in a Taco Bell uniform.)*

*(Slightly horrified)*

What's that?

**KARNAK**

I was hoping you could tell me.

**NOEL**

No!

*(muttering)*

I worked at the Taco Bell, in the food court of the Mega Mall just outside Uranium City.

*(defeated)*

I had to work somewhere, we had no money. I was saving up to move to France.

**KARNAK**

They named a meal after your passing, "The Noel Gruber Hungry Hombre Meal." They catered your funeral for free. They even played Christina Aguilera's "Beautiful" on the bagpipes.

**NOEL**

I only said I liked that song once. Ironically...  **End**