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## WHEN CHAPLIN MET GANDHI

### Scene One

*La Brea Avenue, California, Charlie Chaplin's house, 1948. Chaplin is fuming over a scurrilous article about him in Hollywood's leading gossip mag, 'Hedda Hopper's Hollywood'. His wife Oona does her best to ignore him and mixes drinks.*

Chaplin: She's at it again, Oona.

Oona: Hmm?

Chaplin: I said, she's at it again.

Oona: Who's at it again?

Chaplin: Hedda Hopper. Who else?

Oona: Why do you persist in reading that trash, Charlie?

Chaplin: Because she's out to get me.

Oona: She's out to give you a hernia, darling ... and I think she's succeeding.

Chaplin: *(passing her the newspaper)* Read ...

Oona: Do I have to? *(reading)* 'Charlie Chaplin, at his press interview in New York, needed his former mouth-piece, Jerry Giesler, to supply his answers. Chaplin's didn't seem good enough. He was always better in silent pictures than in talkies'.

*Putting the paper down.* Chaplin scowls.

Well, honestly Charlie, it's pretty mild ... I mean, considering the other things the cow's said ...

Chaplin: The other things ...?

Oona: Yes Charlie, you know what I mean, your private life ...

Chaplin: Which of course is my business.