CONTEXT: The CAPTAIN (HEUSTACE PANTALOON), owner of the Bee Hive Hostel, makes his sitcom debut.

The front door of the Bee Hive set swings open and **THE CAPTAIN** enters. He rampages down into centre stage ,singing happily -

CAPTAIN

Character: CAPTAIN

A-ten hut! Captain on deck!

"Aloft there, aloft!" our jolly boatswain cries,
Blow high, blow low, and so sailed we...'

The CAPTAIN stops short, his mood instantly shifting. At a nearby microwave, an "employee" (RUDY) has finished heating a meal and is trying to hurry away, but has the door left open.

CAPTAIN

You there, private! About face!

RUDY looks around in desperation. The CAPTAIN storms across, pointing with his cane.

CAPTAIN

Tell me, Unsat - What be the meaning of this sloppy disregard for discipline? T'were you birthed in a barn, or just reared in one? Hm?

PEDROLINA

Mssr. Pantaloon! Such an honour to have our illustrious Capitan back upon deck...

CAPTAIN

Pedrolina, why are atomic cook-ovens adorning the walls of my foyer? Have I not made clear my disdain for modern trinkets in my establishments? We are a proud institution, not Yorkshire peasantry!

PEDROLINA

Of course, my esteemed Capitan. Uh, if it pleases you, the new recruits are assembled for inspection...

The CAPTAIN nods, shushing her with a light swing of his cane – he crosses to VIVIAN.

CAPTAIN

Aaaah, outstanding, First Mate. I see they're quite the nubile cohort. What's your name, sailor?

VIVIAN makes a sound half amused and half disgusted. GRACE nudges her, and VIVIAN gives her name apprehensively.

CAPTAIN

Mmm, tell me Vivian - are you experienced with handling a bilge pump?

The audience finds this funny.

PEDROLINA

Captain, may I present our new manag-errrr 'First Mate', Ms. Grace! She's much smarter than she appears. Grace, say something smart.

GRACE

Uh... Semper paratus?

PEDROLINA

She? She speaks Russian! I told you she was clever.

The audience chuckles. The CAPTAIN shakes his head, unimpressed.

CAPTAIN

I tell you, Ms. Pedrolina... radioactive doors ajar, women-folk manning the decks... now communists in our ranks! Bah! Young people today - ruined by their "liberal" universities and pumpkin soy double... disgraceful! Times were, I'd have you all packed up and sent to the colonies - killing a few Mysores would straighten you kids out quick smart. But now... I dare say this regiment is in dire need of a firm hand! A stronger Pantaloon influence!

END OF SCENE.