



Transcript for Strip

292 — High Stakes Comedy

Panel 1: Theo (white tiger) and Lightfoot (red fox) are standing together as if preparing to launch another joke at us, which they are. “Lightfoot,” Theo asks, “why is it dangerous to graze beef cattle on marijuana?” Lightfoot makes the reply you probably already know: “Because the steaks are too high!”

Panel 2: Like the vaudeville entertainers of old, they face us with upstage arms up high, downstage arms down, grinning and waiting for applause as paper banners fall like confetti around them.

Panel 3: They now realize that the audience is dead quiet. They look at each other, their grins starting to fade, and sweat drops appear on their faces.

Panel 4: Cringing, they try to recover their ground. Theo observes, “Okay, that sounded better in rehearsal.” Lightfoot, waving his forepaws, says, “That wouldn’t sound better if it were underscored by John Williams.”

This strip came about from chats with friends who are, as I am, awestruck by John Williams’ compositions. We know his works primarily from films. If you listen to the complete soundtrack to the first produced *Star Wars* film (as I have, often), you can relive the entire movie in your head. I offer him this backward homage by saying that even he can’t save this old dad joke from bombing.

