



Transcript for Strip

287 — Howzzat Again?

Panel 1: Theo, our white tiger, is in his cubicle at work; we see him in his tiger form since no one else can see him. Speaking to a caller via his headset, he says, “Thank you for calling Last Hope Help Desk; my name is Theo. How may I assist you?” The voice on the phone replies, “I need to register my purchase with you.”

Panel 2: Ready to assist, Theo replies, “Certainly, sir. Could I have your name, please?” The caller answers, “Wolodmyr Pryjmak.”

Panel 3: Considering for a moment, Theo says, “Could you pronounce that for me, sir?” Confused, the client asks, “...I just did, didn't I?”

Panel 4: Sympathetically, Theo observes, “Yes, but our readers can't hear you, and they're probably wondering how to pronounce it.” The caller grumbles, “If this wasn't the last panel, I'd have some choice words for that smart-tushy cartoonist...”

I've worked on help desks before; where else do you imagine I've collected such interesting names to use in my writings? Hearing them for the first time can be problematic. If the person is in good humor, the encounter can be fun. I've found that many such folk can enjoy making a game out of it. Educator and lecturer Leo Buscaglia had great stories about his name, and his was much easier than the one in this comic!

