

Please locate and read the entire play – the monologue below is merely a suggested one.

An excerpt from: **So What's New** by Fatima Dike

Lights down on Mercedes, she exits. Lights up on Pat as she enters through the front door into the lounge for monologue.

Mercedes exits. Pat enters

PAT: Hey what a night! I slept over in Mercedes' bed because there was no way I could go home. I was lying in bed listening to the guns shooting and when the shooting was at its hottest, my bloody throat decided it wanted a drink of water. I said "Voetsak, you stay thirsty!" I was afraid to go to the kitchen in case someone saw me and took a shot at me. But my throat nagged and nagged and nagged. Finally I couldn't anymore. I crept to the door of the room, suddenly it was dead quiet, I reached for the door handle and pulled it down very, very gently. It Squeaked! My heart stopped. I listened for a while, then I pulled the door handle down very, very slowly. Whenever it creaked, I'd stop, wait, then I pulled the door handle a little further again. This went on until I got the door open wide enough for me to crawl out. I crept across the lounge. When I got to the kitchen, the shooting had stopped. Then I realized that if I opened the cupboard to look for a glass I would make a noise. Instead, I bent down, covered the tap with my mouth, and opened it very, very slowly. I was still drinking this beautiful cold water when the shooting started again. I just ducked down and crept right back into Mercedes' bed. When the shooting was over, I just lay there listening to the water running.