CHARACTERS:

Trinh, Asian American

Huang, Asian

Chong, Asian American

Server, Asian

SETTING:

A busy restaurant at night time. Trinh, Huang, and Chong are sitting at a table, surrounding a lone piece of gimbab on a large white plate.

TRINH

God, I'm full.

HUANG

Never. Again. I think this will take me three days to sweat this all off.

CHONG

Fucking shit.

Server comes to the table.

Server

Are you all done eating? Oh, you might want to finish that dish. We charge for leftovers.

Server leaves. They all stare at the gimbab.

TRINH

(disbelief)

And then there was one.

HUANG

(uncertain)

Uhoh.

CHONG

(disgust)

God damn it.

HUANG

Who wants this one? Trinh?

TRINH

No thanks, this is one challenge I'll hand over to Chong.

CHONG

Screw you. Huang you take it, you're the only one who works out here.

HUANG

It is too fat, I would take it if it were slimmer.

TRINH

I mean, it's not that fat, but it could lose a piece or two. I'll take it if someone takes the rice. Or we just "forget" and-

CHONG

We leave anything and they charge us.

TRINH

(sarcastic)

Thanks for playing along. Can we at least split it?

CHONG

Hell no, don't be a wimp. All or nothing.

HUANG

That is just weird, why can't we just throw it away?

CHONG

And waste food?! Don't be stupid, Huang.

Chong glares at the gimbab.

CHONG

It's not even aesthetic! If I could have a good shot with it for my IG I'd take it.

Chong leans in for a closer inspection.

CHONG

Ugly lil' turd, aren't ya?

Trinh rolls eyes.

TRINH

Oh my god Chong, it doesn't even look that bad. It's just food. You pick it up, take a quick picture with it, and get it over with.

HUANG

(pouting)

It should have at least tried to come out good. The other ones looked better.

TRINH

Y'all need to chill, it's not that fat and it's not that fugly-

Chong clears throat once at the beginning and once at the end.

CHONG

(lowkey)

Butt fuckin' ugly!

TRINH

It's just... Uninteresting. Like why couldn't it try to be less, I don't know, boring? It's just there all alone looking sad. A puppy without the pack. A tree without its leaves. You know, if it just wasn't there, I think we would all be better off.

HUANG

Yes!

CHONG

The fucking things I would do for this thing to be gone.

Server comes back to the table.

Server

Have you decided to eat this piece or ...?

Each character stands up and looks at the gimbab as they say their lines.

TRINH

You know what? I'm good, let's just go pay at the register.

HUANG

Yes, this is too much effort for one piece of food.

CHONG

Kill yourself!

Trinh, Huang, and Chong leave the stage. Server comes back to the table with a trash bag.

Server

(tsk tsk)

Such a shame. The last piece of gimbab, abandoned by its former admirers. It wasn't even the competition that killed it, there just wasn't enough appetite to go around.

Server picks up the gimbab and holds it above their head towards the light.

Server

You're too fat, too ugly, and too boring. What a combination, huh, friend? I feel sorry for you, you deserve better than this. The chef made you the way you are, so you are fine just the way you are. At least they gave you a shot, right?

A beat. Server continues holding up the gimbab and examining it like a jewel.

Server

It's okay, someone will eat you. Maybe it'll be the chef. Maybe it'll be a homeless man. Maybe it'll be a rat or a raccoon that decides to dig around in our trash again.

Server

(smirking)

Maybe it'll even be me.

Server lowers the gimbab to the front of their mouth, as if they're going to eat it.

Server

(as if nothing happened)

Okay, in you go!

Server tosses the gimbab into the trash bag and leaves the stage. Lights.