

MADAME ZOOPENKA AND MEREDITH

MADAME ZOOPENKA: I've just seen the light. I'm going to get my Mel.

MEREDITH: Who's Mel?

MADAME ZOOPENKA: Mel wants to marry me. I've been putting him off and putting him off 'cause I've been waiting too. Only I've been waiting for one of those tall, dark and handsome types. Someone who drives a motorcycle and has long curly hair.

MEREDITH: You see. You know what you want. My mother was right. Why settle?

MADAME ZOOPENKA: 'Cause this whole wait for the man of your dreams thing is crackers in your head. Who says the man of your dreams is going to come? What if you wait forever and you lose your Sherm and I lose my Mel and we're both bitter old women, the kind with lots of cats and dust balls for company. Kids on the street will pass by our houses and snigger. I do not want that to happen to me. I'm going to marry a man who loves me and I love him and who cares if he has a lisp and a handlebar moustache and likes Country and Western? Do you love your Sherm?

MEREDITH: Yes but –

MADAME ZOOPENKA: Neh, Neh, Neh. Do you love your Sherm?

MEREDITH: Of course I do.

MADAME ZOOPENKA: Then stop whinging and stop waiting for a man who's living in your head. I will wait no longer. (*calling out as she leaves*) Mel! Mel! Fire up the station wagon and the Johnny Cash. We're going to Vegas.

MEREDITH: (*running after*) Wait! Wait!

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TERA AND AMY

PLAY: Pressure

GENRE: Drama

TIME: 2:00

DESCRIPTION

Tera has just accepted a date from Dave Laberge, a basketball star. Amy has something she wants to tell Tera about Dave, but it's too painful to reveal.

ACTING HINTS

This is an intense scene. Amy desperately tries to reveal a terrible secret and Tera is desperately trying to fit into high school society.

Make it as difficult as possible for Amy to say what she has to say. The more she struggles, the more impatient Tera should act: it will create great conflict in the scene. Don't be afraid to play with pauses.

TERA stands centre stage. She is looking through a notebook. AMY enters, slowly making her way to TERA. TERA looks up.

TERA: Hi.

AMY doesn't answer.

TERA: Ok. Is there something wrong? Am I supposed to know you?

AMY doesn't answer.

TERA: Ok. Look I'm kinda busy right now so...

AMY: You're going to the prom with Dave Laberge.

TERA: Yeah. How did you... Boy, news travels fast.

AMY: I wasn't going to say anything but it's not right. I saw you talking together. I saw him pull out the tickets. I saw you talking together. He asked you this afternoon.

TERA: That's right.

TERA AND AMY

AMY: I... have to talk to you. About Dave.

TERA: You're not his girlfriend are you? Aw man... I knew this was too good to be true.

AMY: I'm not his girlfriend.

TERA: Does he have a girlfriend?

AMY: No. Look. I have to... I went to the prom with Dave last year. It was... You shouldn't go with him. He's trouble. You should stay away.

TERA: Why? Did he dump you or something?

AMY: No. Yes.

TERA: Which is it?

AMY: It's both. I mean... It's a game. You shouldn't go; can't we just leave it at that?

TERA: No. No. I don't even...

AMY: I know it sounds bad but I'm telling you...

TERA: Amy. I'm new here. I have had a pretty rotten year and this is the first time something really nice has happened. Why are you trying to ruin it?

AMY: He'll pick you up in a limo. And it will be really fun at first, his friends will be there and everyone will be making jokes. Only none of his friends have dates. And everything will stop being fun when Dave pulls out a mickey. I... We... We never made it to the prom.

TERA: That's not true. I don't believe... He said he picked me out special. I have never heard anything like this about Dave Laberge.

TERA AND AMY

AMY: You're new. You said it yourself.

TERA: I think you're jealous.

AMY: I'm trying to help you.

TERA: By ruining my first prom.

AMY: Just ask him. Go ahead. Ask him if he's going to drink beforehand. I gotta catch my bus.

TERA: If he did something so bad, why didn't you tell anyone?

AMY: Everyone thinks the world of Dave Laberge. He's a star. He's going to school in the States. I'm a nobody. I said yes. *(She runs off)*

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