

## JANE AND MONSTER

JANE: All these people have monsters inside of them?

MONSTER: This is just the tip of the iceberg. Monsters are everywhere, Jane. Just because you don't see them doesn't mean they aren't there; hiding in your ear, sitting on your shoulder, sucking up your thoughts. And once you let a monster out, it's practically impossible to get rid of it.

JANE: Impossible?

MONSTER: That's right.

JANE: (*hopelessly*) Impossible.

MONSTER: I've no time for small talk, Jane. Mingle, mingle.

JANE: I don't want to mingle with monsters. They look awful.

MONSTER: Who said you had a choice?

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## MADAME ZOOBENKA AND MEREDITH

PLAY: Wait Wait Bo Bait

GENRE: Comedy

TIME: 4:00

## DESCRIPTION

The setting is a fortune teller's salon. Meredith is determined to get the answer to a very important question.

## ACTING HINTS

Both characters are fakes to a certain degree: Madame Zoobanka fakes an accent (and perhaps her fortunes), Meredith has a "fake" relationship while she unrealistically waits for the man of her dreams. Make sure you show both sides of the character in the scene: their fake personas, and what lies beneath.

Is this the first time Meredith has gone to a fortune teller?

Think about who your ideal man is. Would you wait for a fantasy or are you more realistic?

*MEREDITH enters slowly.*

MADAME ZOOBENKA: (*using an Eastern European accent*) Come in. Come in. What do you want to know? Madame Zoobanka sees all.

MEREDITH: Thank you. I just have one question.

MADAME ZOOBENKA: Madame Zoobanka knows all.

MEREDITH: What I want to know is –

MADAME ZOOBENKA: (*interrupting*) Cash up front, honey. \$24.50 including tax. (*MEREDITH pays*) What is it? What do you want to know? Your hands are very descriptive. Your face has interesting shadows. This is going to be a most fascinating session. Ask your question and Madame Zoobanka will answer. She will tell all.

MEREDITH: Ok. (*She takes a deep breath*) Ok. This is what I want to know. How long am I supposed to wait for the man of my

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dreams?

MADAME ZOOBENKA: Come again?

MEREDITH: My Prince Charming. My knight in shining armour. The one who's going to sweep me off my feet and make me happy for the rest of my life. How long am I supposed to wait?

MADAME ZOOBENKA: You watch too much TV.

MEREDITH: You're supposed to see into the future. So look into the future and tell me when he's going to come.

MADAME ZOOBENKA: Oh honey. Here, take your money back. Go put an ad in the paper. Better yet, stand on a street corner with a sign: "Wanted: One man of dreams." You'll be farther ahead than anything I can tell you.

MEREDITH: Chad said you could tell me. Chad said you were the best.

MADAME ZOOBENKA: (*Losing accent*) Chad gets paid to say that. Look. I can do wealth and prosperity. I can do great romance and when's the best time of year to buy a house. I can usually make a stab at children. But how long you should wait for the man of your dreams? If I could do that do you think I'd be sitting here? Do you know how long I've been waiting for the man of my dreams? It ain't been a minute and it ain't been pretty.

MEREDITH: What happened to your accent?

MADAME ZOOBENKA: Huh? Oh that's just for show. The future is easier to believe when it comes from Eastern Europe. Don't ask me why; I just follow the trends.

MEREDITH: Well this is no good. I mean if I had a timeline - you will wait x number of years and then open the door, I'd be willing to wait. For the man of my dreams I'm willing to wait. My mother always said, "Don't settle. Don't give away your dreams. I settled

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for a car salesman and I've been kicking myself ever since."

MADAME ZOOBENKA: Used or new?

MEREDITH: Used.

MADAME ZOOBENKA: The poor dear.

MEREDITH: But now, I don't know. It's so unpredictable. And it's so unfair to Sherm.

MADAME ZOOBENKA: Who's Sherm?

MEREDITH: My boyfriend.

MADAME ZOOBENKA: Hold the phone. Hold the phone. Why are you looking for a white knight when you already have a Sherm? You're here with your don't-settle-for-a-car-salesman sob story and you have a Sherm? Do you know how many people out there are waiting for a knight and have no back-up Sherm to lean on?

MEREDITH: Sherm is great, don't get me wrong. He's sweet and kind and he loves me and -

MADAME ZOOBENKA: And?

MEREDITH: He's short. My friends make fun of me all the time. He can barely kiss me without standing on tiptoe. He's not man-of-my-dreams material. He's not the one I've been waiting for.

MADAME ZOOBENKA: How do you know?

MEREDITH: His name is Sherm! The man of your dreams doesn't get off a horse and say, "Hello. My name is Sherm." It doesn't work like that.

MADAME ZOOBENKA: (*standing up*) You watch way too much TV.

MEREDITH: Hey. Where are you going? What about my future!

## MADAME ZOOBENKA AND MEREDITH

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

MEREDITH: Who's Mel?

MADAME ZOOBENKA: 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 ZOOBENKA: '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 ZOOBENKA: Neh, Neh, Neh. Do you love your Sherm?

MEREDITH: Of course I do.

MADAME ZOOBENKA: 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.