

- 1 CARLA: I bet I can get those quarters off the floor.
2 KINSEY: *(In her own little world)* And why wouldn't everyone
3 want to be me?
4 ANGELA: What's your idea?
5 KINSEY: Because if I wasn't me, then I'd wish I could be me.
6 CARLA: I have some fingernail polish remover and maybe we
7 could drip it around the edges, and then pry it up.
8 ANGELA: Good idea.
9 KINSEY: *(Steps away from the girls and throws her hands in the*
10 *air.)* Kinsey was here!

15. Free As a Bird

CAST: (1M, 1F) ANNA, CHRIS

- 1 ANNA: *(Alone, she rehearses what she will say to her boyfriend.)*
2 Chris, it's not you, it's me. *(Pause)* Chris, it's me, not you.
3 *(Pause)* Chris, I don't know how to tell you this, but ... it's
4 you ... I mean, it's me ... I mean, I feel like I can't breathe.
5 *(Gasps for air.)* Chris, don't hate me, but ... *(Quickly blurts it*
6 *out)* I want to break up! *(Takes a deep breath.)*
7 CHRIS: *(Enters, looking at his watch.)* I know, I know, I'm late.
8 Sorry.
9 ANNA: It's all right.
10 CHRIS: Me and the guys were shooting some baskets. I lost
11 track of time. Sorry.
12 ANNA: It's OK.
13 CHRIS: So, you wanted to talk?
14 ANNA: Yeah.
15 CHRIS: About?
16 ANNA: Well, I, uh ...
17 CHRIS: You said it was important. What's going on?
18 ANNA: Chris, this is hard for me.
19 CHRIS: What's wrong? Are you sick? Oh my gosh! Have you
20 been diagnosed with some fatal disease?
21 ANNA: No!
22 CHRIS: Then what? You said something major! Wait! I know!
23 You're moving! Your dad got transferred to another city!
24 But what does that mean for us? You think we can handle
25 a long-distance relationship?
26 ANNA: No!

1 CHRIS: We can't? Are you sure?
 2 ANNA: Chris, I'm not moving!
 3 CHRIS: Oh.
 4 ANNA: Gosh, you almost sound disappointed!
 5 CHRIS: No, I was just trying to guess what this major ordeal
 6 was. *(Snaps fingers.)* I know!
 7 ANNA: I doubt it.
 8 CHRIS: You want to break up!
 9 ANNA: How did you know?
 10 CHRIS: That's it?
 11 ANNA: Well, I ...
 12 CHRIS: You do?
 13 ANNA: Well, I ... you see, I, uh ...
 14 CHRIS: I can't believe this!
 15 ANNA: But it's better than me dying or moving, isn't it?
 16 CHRIS: No!
 17 ANNA: No?
 18 CHRIS: Well, if you died, well, gee, I could be happy knowing
 19 you died loving me!
 20 ANNA: You could be happy?
 21 CHRIS: And if you were moving, well then I could find a way to
 22 make this work. We could still talk on the phone, e-mail
 23 each other ... But this ... this ... How could you do this to
 24 me?
 25 ANNA: I ... uh ... I feel like I can't breathe.
 26 CHRIS: You can't breathe around me?
 27 ANNA: I feel choked.
 28 CHRIS: Choked?
 29 ANNA: It's me.
 30 CHRIS: You?
 31 ANNA: It's not you, it's me.
 32 CHRIS: You think I'm choking you?
 33 ANNA: I don't think you're choking me! I just need space.
 34 CHRIS: Space, huh?
 35 ANNA: I guess I like my freedom.

1 CHRIS: Then that's what you're going to have!
 2 ANNA: I'm sorry.
 3 CHRIS: *(Takes a deep breath.)* You know what? This is strange,
 4 but I suddenly feel like I can breathe again.
 5 ANNA: Again?
 6 CHRIS: *(Smiles.)* Yes! *(Another deep breath)* I forgot what it was
 7 like to be free! *(Stretches arms.)* Free as a bird!
 8 ANNA: So I made you feel like you were caged up?
 9 CHRIS: I never thought so before, but just now when you broke
 10 up with me and I realized I was free ... *(Deep breath)*
 11 Ahhhh ...
 12 ANNA: You don't have to act so happy about it!
 13 CHRIS: *(Gives her a hug.)* Thank you, Anna.
 14 ANNA: You're thanking me?
 15 CHRIS: Thank you for realizing that we didn't belong together.
 16 ANNA: It was just this feeling I had ...
 17 CHRIS: You felt choked! And now I understand! Because now
 18 I'm free! *(Hollers.)* I'm Free!
 19 ANNA: *(Glares at him.)* So what are you planning to do with your
 20 newfound freedom?
 21 CHRIS: Enjoy life once again!
 22 ANNA: What?
 23 CHRIS: No more late night conversations about icky feelings!
 24 No more chick flicks at the movie theatre! No more
 25 carrying books around that aren't even mine! And no
 26 more worrying if I smell bad after shooting baskets with
 27 the guys! Finally, I can be me! Free!
 28 ANNA: Sorry I drug you down, Chris!
 29 CHRIS: No, no, it's OK. It wasn't you, it was me! I'm not the kind
 30 of guy who likes to be changed, and to be quite honest; you
 31 were trying to change me.
 32 ANNA: I was not!
 33 CHRIS: No, it's OK. I'm not mad. It's just a girl thing. Change
 34 the guy into what she wants. It's normal. But now ... now ...
 35 I'm free!

- 1 ANNA: Chris, stop acting so happy! I broke up with you!
- 2 Remember?
- 3 CHRIS: *(Takes her hand.)* And Anna, I appreciate you doing this.
- 4 ANNA: *(Snatches hand away.)* Stop it! Can't you cry or something?
- 5 CHRIS: *(Laughs.)* But I feel so happy! And so free! *(Moves around*
- 6 *the stage.)* I'm free! I'm free! I'm free!
- 7 ANNA: Stop it, Chris! Stop it!
- 8 CHRIS: *(Stops and looks at her.)* What?
- 9 ANNA: I've changed my mind.
- 10 CHRIS: About what?
- 11 ANNA: Breaking up.
- 12 CHRIS: You don't want to break up anymore?
- 13 ANNA: No. I take it back.
- 14 CHRIS: But you can't take it back!
- 15 ANNA: Yes, I can! I take it back! So, we're not broken up. I'm
- 16 still your girlfriend. Let's just say we had a little
- 17 misunderstanding.
- 18 CHRIS: But ...
- 19 ANNA: And tomorrow is our anniversary.
- 20 CHRIS: But ...
- 21 ANNA: Are you going to buy me something?
- 22 CHRIS: No.
- 23 ANNA: No?
- 24 CHRIS: Anna, I'm sorry, but I want to break up. I didn't realize
- 25 it until we had our little misunderstanding a few minutes
- 26 ago, but ...
- 27 ANNA: You want to break up?
- 28 CHRIS: Anna, it's not you, it's me.
- 29 ANNA: It's me?
- 30 CHRIS: It's me. For the first time in three weeks ... OK, almost
- 31 four weeks, I feel like I can breathe!
- 32 ANNA: Chris, you are such a jerk!
- 33 CHRIS: I don't mean to hurt you, Anna.
- 34 ANNA: Hurt? I'm not hurt! I'm happy! Can't you see that I'm
- 35 happy?

- 1 CHRIS: *(Looking at her)* No.
- 2 ANNA: *(Angrily)* Well, I am! 'Cause now I'm free! Free! Free!
- 3 *(Exits.)*
- 4 CHRIS: *(Takes a deep breath and smiles.)* Free!