

This play was first performed on March 7, 2007 in the Upstage of Stephen F. Austin State University School of Theatre. The cast and production staff was as follows.

Anne- Izchel Hernandez

Sam- Christian Lara

Lance- Micheal Morrison

Andy- Nate Reid

Nick- Jason Zednick

Directed and based off the idea from Sarah McKinney

Stage Manager- Jeremy Roberts

Lights- Weston W

Sound-

Advised by Professor Alan Oster

Circled In Red
By: Aslan Hollier

Time: Present

Place: A bar and an apartment. In any city and any town.

Characters:

Sam- Early twenties, sweet, innocent and sincere

Anne- Mid twenties, typical woman, should be played over the top, very exaggerated

Lance- Mid - late twenties, direct, wise leader,

Andy- Early-mid twenties, funny and sarcastic

Nick-Early- mid twenties, stoner skater

Blue lights are dim on three guys at a table and red lights are up on Anne in the bed. There are tissue balls around her and a few empty chip bags. Sam is there trying to get her up.

SAM

Come on baby wake up.

(She groans)

At least for a few minutes. *(Kisses on her neck trying to have some fun)* Please baby.

(She groans)

I'm going to persist even if you just lay there the whole time.

(She turns over on her stomach and he just looks at her ass and smiles)

That doesn't help you very much. *(continuing to persist)* Come on. At least come to the bar and meet my friends. You haven't done anything the past few days. You need to get out of the house.

(Groans yet again)

Ok fine. Just sleep and grunt like a caveman, or cavewoman, whatever.

(Starts walking off and notices an open planner on the floor. He goes and picks it up.)

Is this yours? This planner? Why is the date circled in red a few days ago? Did you miss an appointment?

ANNE

I made that one. It's a good thing, trust me.

SAM

(Drops planner) Now you're going to talk?

(She groans)

Right. Ok well, I'm going to the bar. Meet me there later if you want. Bye.

(He walks off and the red lights go out behind him and blue lights come up all the way on the three guys sitting at a table. They are just conversating. They have beer mugs. Sam enters and sits.)

SAM

Sorry I'm late guys.

ANDY

Hey, Sam that's cool man. Glad you made it.

NICK

No worries. Get a beer man.

LANCE

No problem. What was the hold up?

SAM

The girlfriend won't stop sleeping. She's been lying around a lot the past few days. I was trying to have some fun before I came, but she just laid there and groaned.

LANCE

Must be that time of the month.

SAM

How do you figure?

LANCE

Some girls get really sleepy at that time.

SAM

Really? I thought they just got real pissy.

ANDY

Ha! It can tend to be a bit more than that.

NICK

Yeah, you never know what can happen. Every girl reacts differently.

LANCE

Every guy has that one that stands out though. Reacts so crazily. Just stands out above all the others.

SAM

Really?

ANDY

Do you know anything about women?

NICK

Just been holding his junk on his own a bit too long.

SAM

I guess so. This is the first girlfriend I've had staying with me.

ANDY

Oh shit! Well, you've got a lot ahead of you.

LANCE

You need to be schooled old boy.

NICK

That time of the month is the most feared moment of any man's life.

SAM

What? Do yall have a doctor's degree on the subject?

ALL 3

Yes!

LANCE

You need to.

NICK

Got to be prepared.

ANDY

Can never be too cautious.

SAM

Well, I guess I'm going to war! Come on great wise men of women and their private months. Inform me. What can I expect for years to come?

LANCE

Ok smart ass. Your about to be schooled in Period 101. When I said that one girl stands out because of her craziness, I meant it. I dated this one girl, she didn't just get pissy, she got PISSED OFF! At everything. I remember one night in particular, she went nuts. I was getting ready to go out right.

(The blue lights on the guys at the table dim. A harpy kind of music plays as transition. Lance stands and walks to the other side of the stage and red lights come up. He sits on the couch looking through a magazine or something.)

LANCE

Baby! You almost ready?

ANNE

(Offstage) Yes! Don't rush me! I don't like to be rushed.

LANCE

I'm not rushing, just checking up.

ANNE

(Offstage) Oh, am I a kid now? I need to be checked up on?

LANCE

No, I didn't mean it like that.

ANNE

That's how it sounded.

(Walks on and looks around furiously)

Where are my shoes? I can't find my shoes. Of course this would happen. Can you find my shoes? I have to go put in my earrings.

(Walks off)

LANCE

Yeah, sure I'll find them.

(Walks to couch and looks behind it and finds the shoes)

Found them.

ANNE

Where are my earrings?!

LANCE

What's wrong with the ones you wore earlier today?

ANNE

They don't go with the outfit! Did you find my shoes?

LANCE

Yes.

ANNE

Ah, here are my earrings. What were they doing in the medicine cabinet?

LANCE

What movie do you want to see?

ANNE

I'm sure whatever you pick is fine. You're the guy you have to arrange these things.

LANCE

Ok, well we need to hurry, it starts in 45min, and it takes 25 min to get there.

ANNE

(from behind the couch on her knees looking for her shoes) Hey!

LANCE

Just saying.

ANNE

We don't need to be there 20 min early. They have 15min of previews.

LANCE

(bit of a wine) I like the previews.

ANNE

Grow up! Where are my shoes?

LANCE

In my hand.

ANNE

Well, give them to me and we can so see your stupid previews.

(He hands them to her)

LANCE

(claps hands and begins to walk) Ok let's go!

(She gives him a look)

Joke, joke. Calm down.

ANNE

(points at him) Don't! Play with me. Let's go!

(They walk off and lights go down. Lights back up and they walk back up and they walk on. The night is over.)

ANNE

That was the worst night ever.

LANCE

Sorry I tried.

ANNE

Hardly! What makes you think I would want to see a zombie movie?!

LANCE

It was a romantic comedy. I thought you would like it.

ANNE

Please!

LANCE

It was called Zombies in Love.

ANNE

I love you; let me eat your heart!

LANCE

I asked what you wanted, and you said it was my job as a man to pick.

ANNE

And I hate Chinese.

LANCE

I offered Italian.

ANNE

Bitter.

LANCE

Japanese.

ANNE

Raw fish!

LANCE

Mexican

ANNE

You know what it does to us!

LANCE

That's it unless you want hamburgers.

ANNE
(Glares and growls) You didn't even try!

ANNE
Were you with Jenny last night?

LANCE
Yeah, for work. Why? Where did that come from?

ANNE
Are you cheating on me?!

LANCE
No it was for work.

ANNE
You're lying!

LANCE
She's married!

ANNE
You got her cheating on her husband!?

LANCE
What?

ANNE
You're a pig!

LANCE
I can't deal with this. I'm leaving.

(Starts to walk off)

ANNE
Good! Go see Jenny!

LANCE
I'm not... never mind I'm going to the bar. *(Walks off)*

ANNE

Say hi to Jenny for me! *(Throws something)*

(Red lights go out on that side of the stage and blue lights on the table are back up. Lance sits.)

LANCE

Crazy broad.

ANDY

I'll say.

NICK

Damn, she is nuts.

SAM

Shit.

LANCE

Yeah, so I dumped her after that night. Too physco for me.

ANDY

Yeah well yours got pissed off, mine, well she ate a lot. For a while I thought she was pregnant.

LANCE

Really?

ANDY

Yeah, she was eating constantly. She ate most of my money away.

SAM

What did she eat?

ANDY

You think we like to mix stuff together. Well, at least our mixtures make sense. This girl was all salts and sweets.

NICK

Well, come on with the story.

ANDY

Ok, one night in particular was real weird.

(Blue Lights on the table dim. Andy gets up and walks to the other side. Harpy music and red lights up on Anne sitting in pajamas on the couch eating a bag of chips.)

ANDY

Hey, what's up?

ANNE

Watching a movie

ANDY

You are exactly where I left you this morning. Watching the same movie I see.

ANNE

Yeah, so. This guy is so romantic and this movie is so funny. And sad to. *(Sniffle)* It's perfect.

ANDY

You didn't go to work did you?

ANNE

No, I didn't feel to well.

ANDY

Ok. *(Walks offstage)* What do you want for dinner?

ANNE

I'm up for anything. I am kind of hungry.

(Andy walks back on stage with a couple of empty bags of chips, cookies and a 2liter coke.)

ANDY

What is this?

ANNE

What?

ANDY

All these empty food packages.

ANNE

It's been a long day.

ANDY

I was gone eight hours. This isn't even half the empty stuff in there. There is shit everywhere.

ANNE

I got hungry.

ANDY

You've been sitting on the couch watching the same movie. How can you get that hungry? *(Puts stuff down and sits next to her on the couch)*

ANNE

I just do.

ANDY

No wonder you didn't feel well. You act like your pregnant or something.

ANNE

Are you calling me fat?

ANDY

Not yet!

ANNE

I can burn it off.

ANDY

I don't even think there is food left for dinner.

ANNE

That's not true. I can easily find something good.

ANDY

Be my guest.

(Anne walks off. Andy notices he is sitting on something; he pulls it out and looks at it. It's a planner. A few seconds later comes in with a huge bowl and 2 big spoons)

ANNE

Found something.

ANDY

Me to. Is this your planner?

ANNE

Yeah.

ANDY

What is this? It's circled in red.

ANNE

That's the reason I'm eating. Want some?

ANDY

What is that?

ANNE

Stuff to eat.

ANDY

But what is it?

ANNE

Stuff.

ANDY

What the hell does that mean? *(Looks in the bowl)* What the hell is in that?

ANNE

Leftover chips, cookies, ice cream, chocolate and vanilla, M&Ms, some cereal, cookie dough, whip cream, and yeah I think that's it.

ANDY

Holey shit!

ANNE

(Looks in it) Oh, and pickles! Try some?

ANDY

God no!

ANNE

It's actually really good.

ANDY

That's disgusting. I don't know anyone who can eat stuff like that.

ANNE

Well I can. Sure you don't want some?

ANDY

I think I'm going to be sick. *(Pause)* You know I think I saw popcorn in there. I'm sure that would top it off.

(She walks off)

I'm outta here. I'm going out to eat.

ANNE

(Offstage) Can I come?

ANDY

No! *(Walking off and says to himself)* God no.

ANNE

Well can you bring back some chili cheese fries and a pizza? And flaun? Baby? Baby?

(Red lights down on that side and back up at the table. Andy sits.)

LANCE

Totally disgusting.

NICK

I can't even think of eating all that.

ANDY

Yeah.

LANCE

Damn dude. That's nuts.

NICK

I'm kind of interested to know what it tastes like though.

ANDY

You shut the hell up. You didn't see it or smell it.

LANCE

Well, Nick what about you? What's your story?

NICK

Well Lance, mine didn't get pissed off. She didn't eat heavily like Andy's. Mine was a crier.

LANCE

I hate those.

SAM

What's wrong with crying?

ANDY

You don't know shit do you?

NICK

It's not just crying. It's bawling, about anything. I can't find the right shoes to match; I think I'll cry about it.

SAM

Oh.

LANCE

Well?

NICK

Ok, so one night I get home and can't find her. She was in bed. I thought she was waiting for me, but I was wrong.

(Blue lights dim at the table. Harpy music and red lights up on the other side with Anne lying in bed with toilet paper balls all over the place with a roll mostly gone in her hand, crying of course. Nick begins to walk.)

Baby? You here?

(She cries loudly)

Uh, oh. *(Goes to her)* You ok?

ANNE

No.

NICK

What's wrong?

ANNE

Do you think I'm attractive?

NICK

Yes, very, why do you ask?

ANNE

These girls on this show are so beautiful.

NICK

(Looks at TV) Honey, your watching the Miss America pageant.

ANNE
(Sniffles) Are they prettier than me?

NICK
(Pause) Of course not.

(Anne smiles and wines out of sweetness).

Don't even worry about it. All those girls are too skinny.

ANNE
(big cry) Now I'm fat?

NICK
I didn't say that.

ANNE
You implied it.

NICK
I didn't mean it like...*(trying to change the subject)* What did you do today?

ANNE
I went shopping and tried on some clothes and nothing fit me. The ones that did made me look fat. And some Spanish guys kept staring at me speaking Spanish, and I think they were making fun of me.

NICK
I don't think that's true.

ANNE
They said muy caliente, which I think means big cow.

NICK
No, no, no, honey it means very hot.

ANNE
Really?

NICK
Yeah, I think so.

ANNE
(cries) You think so? *(Cries)*

NICK

(reassuring) It does, it does. What else did you do?

ANNE

Well, since I thought they were making fun of me, I got depressed, and went to the candy shop. Halfway through the box of chocolates I started crying even more because I figured out why I was getting fat. It's because I've been forgetting to get the *low fat chocolates*.

NICK

Its ok, you're fine. Does that even matter if they're low fat or not? You know what ? Don't even think about it.

ANNE

Then I watched a movie and they killed a dog. *(whimper)* I love dogs.

NICK

What movie?

ANNE

Old Yeller.

NICK

Oh, that dog had to die.

ANNE

Why he was just in a bad mood. We all have bad days.

NICK

That's not why...

ANNE

Then I couldn't stop crying because I burnt the potpie I was going to make for lunch, so I watched a romantic comedy to try and cheer up.

NICK

Well, I bet that cheered you up if it was funny.

ANNE

Yeah, until I realized how romantic the guy was. How come you don't do anything romantic for me?

NICK

Like what?

ANNE
Buy me chocolates.

NICK
You said they make you fat.

ANNE
Take me to a nice restraunt.

NICK
We can go this weekend.

ANNE
Buy me flowers.

NICK
I did that yesterday.

ANNE
They died. *(Cries even more and louder)*

NICK
Oh my... Why are you crying?

ANNE
I don't know. I'm just crying because I'm crying. It's a vicious cycle.

NICK
You have to cheer up. *(Thinks)* I know what will make you feel better.

ANNE
What?

NICK
Want to take a shower with me?

ANNE
What?

NICK
Come on, it will be fun. You look so damn sexy when you're all wet.

ANNE
Really?

NICK

Yeah, and it will be so relaxing. We can even take a bubble bath if you want. Play some happy music. Anything you want.

ANNE

Ok, I guess. Sounds good.

(They get up and walk offstage)

Wait, I'm not sexy when I'm not wet?

*(Nick walks to the other side to the table and the lights go down and come up .
Nick sits)*

NICK

It was like that the whole night. Who cries during sex?!

(They all make a gross sound)

ANDY

You had sex with her? That can be messy.

NICK

We were in the shower.

ANDY

Oh, well.

LANCE

True

NICK

Talk about dampening your self-esteem.

LANCE

I'll say.

SAM

Those girls are nuts! I'm glad mine just sleeps. No bullshit to deal with. Just sleeps it off and be fine later.

LANCE

Yeah well she could change on you.

SAM

Oh look, there she is. Anne!

(Anne walks up and Sam holds her. She notices the others and they notice her. No one says a word just all reactions, it's totally awkward. She just walks off.)

Wait where are you going?

(The three guys have wide eyes and mouths wide open)

ALL 3

(Pointing) Anne! That's your girlfriend?! *(Look at each other)* Yours to? Hell no!

NICK

That's fucked up.

ANDY

Crazy bitch.

LANCE

I can't believe that.

SAM

What? What's going on?

LANCE

The same girl you're going out with is the same girl we were just talking about.

SAM

What? Really?

ALL 3

Yeah!

SAM

Shit.

ANDY

Get rid of her

LANCE

Was she really on her period?

NICK

Or just a crazy bitch?

Never know. ANDY

How does this happen? Did yall know? SAM

Hell no. ANDY

Nope LANCE

No clue. NICK

If I would've known. SAM

Yeah. ALL 3

Well, that's why we need to warn each other. LANCE

Crazy bitch alert. NICK

Waitress! Beers for all of us! LANCE

And some shots. ANDY

Hell yeah! I'll get the next round. NICK

We need it. SAM

Crazy broads. ALL

LANCE

(holds up mug) Let's make a toast. To having penises.

ALL

(hold up mugs and toast to the middle) To penises!

(They all finish their drinks. Lights fade. End.)