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ACT 1

1

SCENE: THE PARTY

1

Lights come up on an empty room. All is silent. We hear footsteps. Adam is coming home to his apartment. He is at the front door. He unlocks the lock and enters. He turns the lights on and out of nowhere all of his friends jump out and scream...

ALL
Surprise!!!!

Noise and laughter. Adam hugs everyone at the party.

ADAM
Oh my God, you people are crazy!

They all laugh.

ADAM (CONT'D)
Peter, you did this didn't you?

PETER
Adam, baby, you only turn 40 once.

ADAM
Thank God. Right?

ALL
(different variations
of...)
Yes.

LARRY
Oh, come on. It's not that bad.
Welcome to the club, Adam.

They all laugh.

GAVIN
Champagne! Champagne! We need
champagne.

ADAM
You brought champagne?

GAVIN
Duh.

PETER
A toast! A toast!

GAVIN
I'd like propose a toast! To our
host, the reason we're here: This
is for you, Adam.

All the guys hold up their glasses and toast.

ALL
Hear, hear!

GAVIN
Now, let's get drunk.

PETER
No, no. Presents. We have to do
presents before

we're too drunk to remember what we brought.

Let's open mine first.

LARRY
Peter, you're so impatient.

PETER
Well, what else are we going to do?

Play pin the tail on the Donkey?

BUD
That sounds fun. I'll be the
Donkey.

PETER
No, no, presents. Time for
presents.

LARRY
Fine, presents.

ALL
(something like)
Yes, presents.

Peter brings them over.

ADAM
Who's this from?

GAVIN
That's from me.

ADAM
Oh, it's a sweater.

GAVIN
It's to keep you warm in this San Francisco fog. And it's made from hemp.

PETER
Hemp? You mean, like pot?

GAVIN
Well, kind of. The same basic ingredient.

PETER
Well, look on the bright side, Adam. If it ever goes out of style then you can just smoke it.

ADAM
Shut up! Thank you, Gavin. I love it.

PETER
Here, open ours. It's not boring. It's not even remotely politically correct.

Adam opens the present from Kevin. It is wrapped in a big hefty bag. It is a full-sized-anatomically correct love-doll.

ADAM
Oh, my God.

LARRY
Peter, that's terrible. That's what you spent our money on?

GAVIN
Is that what I think it is?

PETER
Don't worry, Gav, it's organic.

LARRY
You are terrible.

PETER
What? He needs a boyfriend. He just needs to be blown...up.

BUD

Me first.

There is knock at the door. A cop, DAVID, is at the door.
GAVIN answers the door.

GAVIN

Hi, can I help you?

DAVID

Hi. I need to talk to the owner of
the house.

GAVIN

One second. Adam!

Adam heads over to the door to talk to the cop.

ADAM

What's up?

DAVID

Yes are you the owner of the house?

ADAM

Yes, officer, can I help you?

DAVID

Yes I'm sorry, we have a problem
with the music.

ADAM

Oh, I'm sorry, is it too loud?

DAVID

No...it's not loud enough!

The music blares and the cop begins to strip. All are
laughing. At the end of the strip they all sing Happy
Birthday.

ADAM

Peter you did this didn't you? You
are dead tomorrow at work!

GAVIN

You were great. Can I get you
something to drink? We have
champagne?

DAVID

That'd be great. Thanks.

BUD
You're hot. Where did they find
you?

DAVID
I have an ad in the yellow pages.

ADAM
Only in San Francisco.

PETER
Well, that was fun. Don't you think
Larry?

LARRY
I'm not sure what it was.

PETER
Oh, get over yourself.

DAVID
Thank you. You guys were a lot
better than my last gig.. Last week
I did a commitment ceremony and the
best man threw up all over my g-
string.

LARRY
Well, that's charming.

GAVIN
So, is this your full-time job?

DAVID
For now. I'm actually a
photographer but it doesn't pay the
bills-yet. But, if any of you wanna
have your picture taken...if you're
feeling brave. It's fun.

LARRY
Oh not me, thank you very much.

GAVIN
Posing how? You mean naked?

BUD
I'd do it. Sign me up.

LARRY
Oh please, Bud.

BUD

What? I'm serious. When do we start?

DAVID

When's good for you?

LARRY

Oh my God.

BUD

I don't know. I can call you and let you know.

DAVID

Great. Peter, can you give my number to, Bud?

PETER

Uh...sure....I'll bring it tomorrow.

DAVID

Great! Anybody else? Come on it's fun.

ADAM

Well, nobody'd want to see me, that's for sure.

DAVID

I would.

The room goes silent.

ADAM

You're just saying that because it's my birthday.

DAVID

No, I'm saying it because you're really cute.

(long pause, awkward
silence)

Is there a bathroom?

ADAM

No, uh yes, uh, right down the hall.

GAVIN

I'll show him.

PETER
 "No, I'm saying that because you're
 really cute."

ADAM
 Oh, stop it.

PETER
 Love at first sight. I guess you
 won't be needing that doll anymore.
 Do you mind if I borrow him?

PETER picks up the doll.

LARRY
 PETER!!!

PETER
 Come on, Larry. We can have a
 threesome.

LARRY
 Well, I hate to break up this very
 interesting party, but we better
 get going. I have a class in the
 morning.

PETER
 Do we need to stay and clean up?

ADAM
 No, no, it's fine.

PETER
 Oh, good, I wasn't going to help
 anyway, I was just being polite.

He walks them to the door.

LARRY
 Bud, I hope to see you in class
 bright an early tomorrow.

BUD
 Bright and early Herr Professor.

ADAM
 Thanks for coming guys. I know you
 have a long drive.

Larry and Peter exit. Gavin re-enters.

BUD
Gavin you want a ride?

GAVIN
Are you going home?

BUD
Yeah.

GAVIN
Oh great.

ADAM
When are you gonna get a car,
Gavin?

GAVIN
Never. I get a lot of exercise
walking. And besides, I love
public transportation.

ADAM
Yeah, Muni's great.

GAVIN
Happy Birthday. See you at yoga.

ADAM
You got it. Thanks for coming.

DAVID emerges from the bathroom. There is a long awkward
pause.

DAVID
You have a nice bathroom.

ADAM
Thank you. You have a nice...thank
you.

DAVID
So, what's your name?

ADAM
Oh, I'm sorry, I'm Adam.

DAVID
Hi Adam, I'm David.

ADAM
Hi David. It's like we're in our
own Cecil B. DeMille epic.

DAVID

Huh?

ADAM

Forget it. So, what do you do, you know, for real?

DAVID

What do you mean, for real?

ADAM

I mean, like, you can't make a living from stripping at birthday parties can you?

DAVID

Well, that's just part of it.

ADAM

So, what else do you do, you know, during the day?

DAVID

I do this. What I did tonight. That's what I do. Just different versions of it.

ADAM

What does that mean?

DAVID

Well, I guess...what I am...is...an exotic entertainer.

ADAM

An exotic entertainer? Why do I feel like I'm in a Lifetime Original Movie?

DAVID

I know, I don't like that term.

ADAM

What term do you prefer?

DAVID

Performance Artist?

ADAM

So, what exactly does a performance-artist/exotic entertainer do?

DAVID
Stripping. Dancing. Erotic Massage.
Layouts. Modeling. Porn.

ADAM
You do porn?

DAVID
I don't do it. I've done it.

ADAM
You've done porn?

DAVID
Some.

ADAM
How many?

DAVID
70, maybe?

ADAM
70? No way!

DAVID
Yes way.

ADAM
You're a porn star.

DAVID
I'm an adult erotic video
performer.

ADAM
You're a porn star!

DAVID
I'm a porn star. Are you shocked?

ADAM
A little, yeah.

DAVID
Why?

ADAM
I just...I don't know.

DAVID
What?

ADAM

I just...I just...Oh I don't know,
I just...I don't follow the porn.
Sorry I didn't recognize you.

DAVID

Don't sweat it.

ADAM

You don't seem like the porn star
type.

DAVID

What does the porn star type seem
like?

ADAM

The stereotype, I guess.

DAVID

Well, I am addicted to heroin, but
other than that...

ADAM

Are you really?

DAVID

No, I was joking. It was a joke. I
am not addicted to heroin. I'm
addicted to a lot of things but
heroin is not one of them.

ADAM

So what are you addicted to?

DAVID

Working out, going to the movies.
Oh, and The Anna Nicole Show...I'm
addicted to that!

ADAM

I'm sorry. Anything else?

DAVID

Sex. With the right person, of
course. I want to have fun. Aren't
you addicted to anything?

ADAM

Just two things: Ben and Jerry. I
don't have time for any other
addictions.

DAVID
Why what do you do?

ADAM
Oh, I'm an associate editor at the Chronicle Book Review . It's very boring. I argue with people all day.

DAVID
You don't sound like you enjoy it.

ADAM
I'm over it!

DAVID
So quit.

ADAM
You're very refreshing.

DAVID
I'm done with porn. I'm moving on. I'm getting into photography. What's stopping you from moving on? Under contract?

ADAM
Yea, but I can quit if I want to.

DAVID
So just quit. Just say, "I'm tired. I work too hard. I'm killing myself. I need a break. I'm quitting. Goodbye!" You just do it.

ADAM
That is so Dr. Phil.

DAVID
I'm serious. We should go away for a weekend.

ADAM
I don't even know you.

DAVID
So?

ADAM
So, you could be an axe murderer or something.

DAVID
I'm not an axe murderer.

ADAM
Why would you possibly want to go
away with me?

DAVID
I told you. I think you're cute
and you seem nice and it's your
birthday.

ADAM
Ah, so this is pity attention.

DAVID
That's enough. Come on. Lets do it.
Right now.

ADAM
What?

DAVID
Take a break. Go away. Relax. Lay
down.

ADAM
What?

DAVID
Lie down.

ADAM
Where?

DAVID
Right here. Now. Lie down.

ADAM
Why?

DAVID
Don't question everything. Just do
it. Lie down.

Adam lies down. David rubs his hands all over Adam's back,
Adam moans.

DAVID (CONT'D)
Close your eyes. Close them.

He rubs his back more.

DAVID (CONT'D)
Relax. Don't think. Feel

He continues to rub.

ADAM
That feels so good.

DAVID
When was the last time you had a
full body massage?

ADAM
Never.

DAVID
Oh, come on.

ADAM
I never have.

DAVID
Seriously?

ADAM
I've just been busy.

DAVID
Your whole life?

They both laugh and settle.

ADAM
Oh, my god. You are so amazing.

DAVID
Just relax.

ADAM
Did my friends pay you to do this?

DAVID
No.

ADAM
Are you sure?

DAVID
I'm off the clock. This isn't work,
it's play. In fact I think I'm
enjoying this more than you are.

ADAM

No, I'm really enjoying it.

They continue for a while in silence.

DAVID

Roll over.

Adam does not move, frightened.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Adam? Roll over.

Adam finally does, he lays on his back .

DAVID (CONT'D)

Adam, would you just relax?

Long silence.

DAVID (CONT'D)

I want to kiss you.

Adam is silent.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Is that O.K.? Can I kiss you?

Adam is silent and nods enthusiastically, they kiss as the lights dim.

2

SCENE: LARRY AND PETER AFTER THE PARTY

2

Larry and PETER are getting home from the party. Larry is holding a coffee mug and a paper plate with a pastry. PETER is holding a balloon from the party. Larry goes to the desk and checks his calendar for the next day.

PETER

Why haven't we had sex in three months?

LARRY

Excuse me.

PETER

Why haven't we had sex in three months?

LARRY

It has not been three months.

PETER
2 months 3 weeks and 4 days?

LARRY
I'm going to bed.

PETER
I'm reaching my limit, Larry. I'm serious. What's going on?

LARRY
Can you give it a rest?

PETER
What's wrong here?

LARRY
Peter, it's three in the morning. I need to get some sleep.

PETER
Can I have a kiss good night.
Please.
(long pause)
I just want you to touch me.

Larry goes to him and kisses him dispassionately. Then Peter tries to initiate sex.

LARRY
I have to work in the morning. I'm sorry. I'm going to bed.

3 SCENE: BUD AND GAVIN IN BUDS APT.

3

Bud and GAVIN enter right away with throw pillows...and sit down...

GAVIN
Bud, can I tell you something?

BUD
Sure.

GAVIN
I think you're terrific. But I never understood what you saw in Danny. You could do so much better. I'd hear you guys fighting from upstairs and I thought, " He could do so much better." When you guys finally broke up I was so happy.

(MORE)

GAVIN (cont'd)

I have this feeling that you're gonna meet someone fabulous then you'll see what a waste of time Danny was. You know what you need?

BUD

What do I need?

GAVIN

Tea.

BUD

Tea?

GAVIN

Yeah. What?

BUD

I thought you were gonna say a martini.

GAVIN

Just humor me, alright?

BUD

Fine. Tea it is.

GAVIN

Ok, I'm gonna run upstairs. I'll be back in, like, three minutes.

BUD

Why are you so nice to me?

GAVIN

It's nothing.

Gavin exits and Bud is left alone onstage thinking.

4

SCENE: LARRY TEACHES CLASS

4

LARRY

The thing that strikes me most is the prevalence of sex. Now, I know that sex sells, I'm not so naïve as to not recognize that, but I mean it's everywhere. Just look through something as innocuous as the Gay Yellow Pages. Why is it necessary to have a picture of a half naked guy in an ad for a car dealership?

(MORE)

LARRY (cont'd)

And it's in virtually every ad-
dentists, hardware stores, lawyers-
"Ooh, he's hot, I want him to
represent me in my DUI case." I
know people who actually bought a
Dell computer because they thought
that Dell kid was "cute". I mean,
we are adults, are we not? We're
not 13 anymore. All I'm suggesting
is that perhaps it is time to leave
our adolescence behind once and for
all. As it stands I think we can
look safely around us, at what
passes for gay culture these days,
the drugs, the porn, the gym
mentality, and we can say, "What
the hell happened?"

Music cue-

5 SCENE: YOGA CLASS

5

As the music plays, one by one all the actors enter and begin stretching. As the first actor enters, Bud exits, does a quick change off stage and re-enters for the class. Once Gavin enters the aerobic class begins. Musical sequence.

GAVIN

Breathe. Breathe. Breathe. Let go.
Don't hold on. Let go. Let it all
go. Repeat after me. I am
cleansed.

ALL

I am cleansed.

GAVIN

I am energy.

ALL

I am energy.

BUD

I am fucking exhausted.

ALL

I am fucking exhausted.

After the class all the men put the room back together....Adam gets dressed for work and PETER gives David's phone number to Bud.

6

SCENE: ADAM GETS FLOWERS AT HIS OFFICE

6

Adam walks in to his office, he is just coming back from yoga holding a duffel bag, he sees a bouquet of flowers on his desk. He opens the card to the flowers, reads it, smiles, he suspects they are from David, he goes to his phone and makes a call. David appears answering the phone.

DAVID

Hello.

ADAM

Hey David, it's me, Adam.

DAVID

Hey, how was your lunch?

ADAM

What lunch?

DAVID

Weren't you at lunch?

ADAM

No. I was at yoga.

DAVID

Your secretary said you were at lunch.

ADAM

That's what I tell him to say. I don't want people knowing I do yoga. It's too Gwyneth Paltrow. So listen, I got flowers today...

DAVID

You did?

ADAM

Yes, I did, and the card says from a secret admirer, is that you by any chance?

DAVID

I have no idea what you're talking about.

ADAM

I don't believe you.

They laugh. Beat.

DAVID
So, what are you doing now?

ADAM
I'm working.

DAVID
How boring!

ADAM
I know.

DAVID
Come over, leave early.

ADAM
I can't.

DAVID
You know, I can still smell you
from last night.

ADAM
Come again? I mean excuse me?

DAVID
Sit on the desk.

ADAM
David, not now, I'm working?

DAVID
Adam, listen to me. Are you
listening?

ADAM
Yes.

DAVID
Sit...on...the desk.

ADAM
David?

DAVID
Right now.
(he does)
Did you do it?

ADAM
Yes.

DAVID
Undo your pants.

ADAM
You're making me so hard.

DAVID
Put your hand down your pants.

ADAM
David...

DAVID
Do it. Now! Stroke it.
(he does)
Are you stroking yourself?

ADAM
Yes.

DAVID
Are you?

ADAM
Yes.

DAVID
Don't lie to me.

ADAM
I'm not.

DAVID
Are you hard?

ADAM
Are you kidding me?

DAVID
Stroke that cock and don't you dare drop the phone, hear my voice, see my face. God you look hot. I've fantasized about fucking you on your desk Mr. Executive. Coming around from behind you when you are on the phone. Unbuckling your belt, you try to turn around but I don't let you. Close your eyes and don't look back. I bend you over the desk.

ADAM

Oh my God. Oh my God. Oh my God. Oh
My God.

Peter enters and stands inside the door, shocked but can't look away.

Adam sees Peter.

ADAM (CONT'D)

OH MY GOD!!!

Peter runs out.

ADAM (CONT'D)

(frantic)

Somebody just walked in! Listen, I gotta go! Oh My God! I'll call you later!!! PETER, PETER, PETER...

He opens the door to reveal Peter standing in the doorway shocked.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Peter, honestly, how much did you see?

PETER

You're such a slut!

Adam slams door on Peter, Peter re-opens it.

PETER (CONT'D)

I am so jealous.

Again, Adam slams door on Peter, Peter re-opens it.

PETER (CONT'D)

So who was on the phone?

ADAM

It is none of your business.

PETER

I didn't know you had such a big cock.

ADAM

Shut up Peter.

PETER

Was it one of those 900 lines?

ADAM

Oh, God no.

PETER

I had no idea you were into that..

ADAM

Okay, do you promise not to tell?

PETER

Adam, I'm your best friend. I'll tell everyone.

ADAM

It was the stripper.

PETER

The stripper?

ADAM

Yes. From last night. I know, it's so weird. He stayed over. That was him on the phone. He seems to like me, although I don't know why.

PETER

Would you cut that out. He likes you because he does.

ADAM

But look at him, and look at me.

PETER

Not everyone cares about that stuff. You're funny, you've got a great personality.

ADAM

Okay, now you sound like my mother.

PETER

Well someone obviously has to because I can't believe you spent the night with a hustler.

ADAM

It wasn't not like that.

PETER

He's an escort Adam. Wake up. I found him in the yellow pages.

ADAM
He didn't charge me.

PETER
He's still a whore. He's a walking
Petri dish.

David and Bud enter and start getting ready for the photo
shoot.

ADAM
Don't say that..

PETER
Adam. You deserve some fun. God
knows at least one of us does. But
I thought you wanted a boyfriend. I
thought you wanted something
serious.

ADAM
I do want that.

PETER
But you don't find a husband in the
yellow pages. You don't go
shopping for a Mercedes at a Toyota
dealership.

ADAM
He's not a Toyota.

PETER
No he's a taxi. He'll give anybody
a ride. You can't date a hustler.

7 SCENE: BUDS PHOTO SHOOT

7

Bud is getting ready to pose for David.

BUD
David Cassidy Beckworth. That's my
name. I know, I know. What can I
say? My mom was a fucking
Partridge groupie.

DAVID
So how did you get the nickname
Bud?

BUD

From my first and only boyfriend,
Danny. We were together for two
years.

DAVID

He gave you that name?

BUD

Kind of. We were together for six
months before he started dealing.
At first it was just pot then it
was whatever he could get his hands
on. E, G, K-anything with one
initial. Oh, then the big
one...crystal. About six months
after that we were always fucked
up. Until I finally got sick of
being out of control all the time
so I stopped-or tried to stop.
Danny didn't like getting high by
himself se he'd always try to get
me to join him. "Come on, just one
bump...just do one bump...just this
once and I 'll never ask again."
Every other night it was the same
fucking thing. So, one night we
were at the bar and it was the same
old shit and I told him that I
wasn't in the mood. So I went to
the bathroom and when I came back I
saw him pour something into my beer
and I just freaked. I picked up
the bottle and smashed it and held
the broken end to his face and I
screamed, "Leave me the fuck alone,
Danny. I never want to see your
fucking face again." He was
totally shocked. I was totally
shocked. It was like all the air
had gone out of the room. Everyone
was staring. Finally, he just
turned around and left. The rest
of the bar kind of steered clear of
me that night. And it was great
because I'd never won before. Not
with him. But it also sucked
because I did love him. And I
probably still do. And after that
everyone kept calling me Bud cause
it was a broken Budweiser bottle I
was holding.

(MORE)

BUD (cont'd)

And then every time I came to the bar, I'd walk in and they'd say the same thing, "watch out, here comes Bud" or they'd grab my butt and say, "I need a Bud." Or someone would pick me up and say, "oh it's a Bud-lite." And after a while it just stuck. I just wish it was a little more fabulous, like Corona. Ah, well, I don't want to talk about him any more. I'm trying to forget about him. I want to move on, I really do. But Danny did something to me...I don't know...have you ever met someone who just ruined you for love?

8

SCENE: GAVIN AND PETER AT THE RESTAURANT

8

GAVIN

I think I'm in love.

PETER

Seriously? With who?

GAVIN

With Bud.

PETER

Bud? Irresponsible Bud? Bud, the student?

GAVIN

No, Bud, the person.

PETER

He's a student. He's broke.

GAVIN

I don't care about that. Weren't you a starving student when you met Larry? Look how great you turned out.

PETER

Yeah, look how great we turned out.

GAVIN

You know, I've been single for so long and I'm sick of it. If I'm so willing and open, and, you know, ready for a boyfriend, then why is nothing coming to me? It's so frustrating!

(MORE)

GAVIN (cont'd)

So, I went for a run last night. I ran for miles, just thinking and thinking. And you know what came to me? Proust! Proust said, "The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having new eyes."

PETER

You read Proust?

GAVIN

No. I read it in Oprah magazine.

PETER

You read Oprah Magazine?

GAVIN

I love it.

PETER

She's on every cover!

GAVIN

That's why it's called Oprah Magazine. It's very inspiring! You and Larry should get it.

PETER

Oh, please! You know how Larry feels about anything remotely "too gay".

GAVIN

I wish he would just get over that. He teaches a gay studies class now, for God's sake.

PETER

I know! But it's all very serious and academic. I just wish he would go crazy sometime and, I don't know, rent a porno and go to the fucking white party?

GAVIN

We should surprise him some night and kidnap him and force him to a drag show.

PETER

Oh my God, I think he'd go into cardiac arrest.

GAVIN

Did I tell you that I entered a drag contest once?

PETER

No you never told me that.

GAVIN

It was Halloween. I didn't win. They said I had to shave my armpits. Can you believe that? I was so offended.

9

SCENE: BUD AND LARRY AT SCHOOL

9

Bud and Larry are sitting on the desk talking.

LARRY

I can't fathom why you would possibly want to pose naked for someone.

BUD

I just did it for fun. Just think, I'll be immortalized forever. When I'm 80, I can dig the pictures out and say, "Damn, I was hot."

LARRY

It's just so typical.

BUD

What does that mean?

LARRY

It means that this David person is probably just getting off taking pictures of hot young guys. Do you really think he'd want to take naked pictures of me?

BUD

I'm sure he would. He made the offer to all of us at Adam's party.

LARRY

Open your eyes, Bud. The only way to get noticed in this day and age is to be young, muscular, and to have your cock hanging out.

BUD

Geez, Larry, you're a bundle of laughs today.

LARRY

No, you're missing the point. Did we really go through Stonewall and years of oppression for the right to get strung out on crystal meth and have a circle jerk in a public bathroom? You're right, I'm not a bundle of laughs today. I'm just profoundly disappointed in us...in all of us. When I was younger I was really into comic books. I know, it's true. I was just a regular kid. I collected them all at one point or another; but my favorite was The Justice League. I was so taken with the fact that Superman, Batman, and Wonder Woman could put aside their personal differences for the purpose of saving the world. How great is that? And now my entire adult perceptions are molded by these rigid, two-dimensional ideals. I don't know, I just wish we'd think of something other than our cocks.

BUD

Well, Larry, I know for a fact that you like to think of my cock. Especially when I'm fucking your face.

LARRY

Bud, that's different.

BUD

How is it different?

LARRY

I'm your teacher.

10

SCENE: THE CAFE

10

Peter and Gavin are at a table at Gavin's cafe.

PETER

He doesn't even pay attention to me anymore.

(MORE)

PETER (cont'd)

It's like I'm not even there. I think he's having an affair.

GAVIN

Oh, come on. I'm sure Larry is not having an affair.

PETER

Oh please. We haven't had sex in months

GAVIN

For real?

PETER

For real. I am so jealous of these fags that just go into bushes and get off any time they want. I just can't work up the nerve.

GAVIN

It's not always so satisfying.

PETER

Are you kidding? What could be more satisfying? Sex. Pure unfiltered sex. What's wrong with me?

GAVIN

First of all, there's a lot more to sex than just getting off.

PETER

Well I'm horny and Larry ain't doing it. I think if I just could have sex on my own things would be a lot better.

GAVIN

Maybe, you should talk to a therapist.

PETER

Fuck that. I'm done talking. Talk. Talk. Talk. I'm sick of processing. I just want to fuck and get fucked pure and simple. Wham bam thank you ma'am.

GAVIN

Why don't you place an ad?

PETER

A personal ad? I couldn't.
Really? You think? What would I
say?

GAVIN

Aggressive bottom seeks sleazy slut
for sex, sex, sex.

PETER

Can you say that ten times fast?

GAVIN

(fast)
Aggressive bottom seeks Sleazy Slut
for sex, sex, sex.

PETER

Very good.

11 SCENE: LARRY TEACHES CLASS

11

LARRY

As we move into the section on gay
theatre and gay cinema I think we
need to follow each back to their
beginnings which can both be,
arguably, traced back to the early
80s. Films and plays like Parting
Glances, As Is, Longtime
Companion, and The Normal Heart
all have the common theme of AIDS
and were as much a reaction to what
was happening when the disease was
new as anything. Even a "romantic
comedy" like Jeffrey throws in an
AIDS subplot. Pretty soon it
became just another plot point,
it's own sub-genre like musicals or
action flicks. "Here comes another
AIDS movie" until we tired of the
whole thing and moved on. And what
we've moved on to are things like
Trick and The Fluffer-and the less
we say about that, the better.
What's really intriguing to me is
that the lesbians seem to have
gotten it right, in films anyway,
as there is still a surprising lack
of lesbian theatre. In most
lesbian comedies romance is the
key, disease and sex don't take
center stage.

(MORE)

LARRY (cont'd)

Kissing Jessica Stein is a good example of a film where nothing much happens except that two girls fall in love. What I would like to see is what used to be called an "entertainment". A sweet story in which nothing much happens except that that two healthy men fall in love.

12

SCENE: ADAM AND DAVID'S SECOND DATE-DAVID'S HOUSE

12

David and Adam enter on the second Aggressive Bottom line so that they are both at the door ready for the next scene.

Adam knocks, David answers the door and Adam enters.

ADAM

Excuse me? Are you the Ass-Pounding Porn Star seeking casual encounters but maybe more.

DAVID

Are you the cubbish cocksucking executive seeking fun times, fine dining and walks on the beach?

ADAM

That's me.

DAVID

Come on in.

ADAM

Wow. This is where you live? I feel like I'm in Aaron Spelling's house or something. It's so fancy.

(they kiss)

You know the last time I saw you, you were dressed as a cop.

DAVID

You look good.

ADAM

Thank you. So do you.

DAVID

You look like you're in the gay mafia.

ADAM

It's my power suit. Do I look powerful?

DAVID
You look uncomfortable.

ADAM
I am.

DAVID
Take off your jacket. Relax.

ADAM takes off his jacket.

DAVID (CONT'D)
Now, you look like a gay Kevin
Spacey.

ADAM
That's redundant.

DAVID
(they kiss)
You're funny.

ADAM
Well, thank you.

DAVID
You wanna dance?

ADAM
Uh...sure. I'd love to.

David goes off-stage to put on a CD. He comes back and they begin to slow dance.

Music Cue-

DAVID
You really know how to move.

ADAM
Not as good as you.

They continue to slow dance.

DAVID
You wanna drink?

ADAM
I'd love one.

DAVID
Be right back.

ADAM

So, is this where you do all your photography?

DAVID

Just for now, until I get a studio.

ADAM

I'd love to see your photos. If you don't mind?

DAVID

I don't show many people. I get kind of embarrassed. I'm not a Mapplethorpe or anything. But eventually I hope to have a book published. Like one of those big coffee table books.

ADAM

I'd buy it.

DAVID

These are a few.

Gives him a photo album.

DAVID (CONT'D)

I have about 600.

ADAM looks and comments on each photo.

ADAM

Wow. Wow. Wow. These are amazing. Wow. That's funny. That's hot. Wow. David, you're really good. You should submit these to magazines.

DAVID

Oh please, Adam, who's gonna publish a picture of a fag with a shaved head and a bone through his nose? Would your magazine publish it?

ADAM

Probably not.

DAVID

See.

ADAM

You could self-publish.

DAVID
How does that work?

ADAM
Oh it's easy.

DAVID
So, lets do it.

ADAM
Do what?

DAVID
Let's publish these. If it's so
easy. If you really think

they'd make a great book...let's do it. I've got some money
saved up. Let's do it. Seriously. You said you hate your
job. Just take six months off.

ADAM
Six months off? I can't take six
months off.

13 SCENE: LARRY AND PETERS HOUSE

13

Peter is rushing out the door.

PETER
He's taking six months off. That's
what he said. "I'm taking 6 months
off to do something really big."

LARRY
Like what?

PETER
He wants to tell me over lunch.
We're meeting at Gavin's. I gotta
go. I don't want to be late.

LARRY
Bye

PETER
Bye.

14 SCENE: BUD CALLS DANNY

14

BUD
Hey, Danny, are you there? Well, I
guess you're not. I was just
thinking about you.
(MORE)

BUD (cont'd)

I just did a cool photo shoot for this book, I wanted to tell you about it. I'm gonna be in a book. Isn't that cool? Yeah, I just was excited and wanted to tell someone. But, I guess I'm telling your machine instead. Well, I should go. I just wanted to say hi. Give me a call sometime if you want. I still have the same number. Talk to you soon.

15 SCENE: GAVIN'S RESTAURANT 15

GAVIN, DAVID and ADAM at the cafe.

PETER

Hi.

16 DAVID ADAM AND GAVIN 16

Hi.

PETER

I'm sorry I'm late.

ADAM

Hi, you're not late, thanks for coming!

PETER

The traffic was a nightmare.

GAVIN

I'll get you some menus.

GAVIN exits.

ADAM

So, David and I have a proposition for you. You know how David makes a living, right?

DAVID

He means porn.

PETER

Really, I didn't know?

DAVID

I loved it, but I'm ready to move on.

PETER

Yeah? What is it, the long hours...no health insurance...

DAVID

Well, there is all that but really it's about self-respect...

ADAM

ANYWAY... we have this idea.

DAVID

We want your expert marketing advice.

ADAM

I'm taking six months off work.

DAVID

We wanna put a book together.

ADAM

Of David's photos.

DAVID

I've got a lot already. A few more and I've got a book.

PETER

Slow down, slow down. What kind of photos?

ADAM

You know...

DAVID

Hot naked studs.

ADAM

Man on man action.

DAVID

Well, not like that exactly...I mean there's no actual penetration shots.

ADAM

You know what I mean, erotica or whatever they're calling it these days.

PETER

Are you kidding? That's the worst idea I've ever heard. There are already a million of these books out there. Tom Bianchi, David Morgan, Herb Ritts—may he rest in peace. I've never even seen your stuff, David. I'm sure you're talented and all, but come on. This is crazy. You'll never even find a publisher.

ADAM

We were thinking of doing it ourselves. And we'd like you to sign on as our PR guru.

PETER

Do you know how hard this is going to be?

ADAM

Yeah, but with your help.

PETER

I can't help you! You're crazy. I'm married. We have a mortgage. And Larry would never want to be associated with something like this. This would be like blowing a hole into the bottom of our sinking ship. What were you thinking?

ADAM

I was thinking of having some fun for a while. I thought you hated your job.

GAVIN re-enters.

PETER

I do, but I'm not quitting my job for nothing. Jesus! Grow up, you're acting like Judy Garland and Mickey Rooney on crack. I don't have time for this bullshit. I wish I did but I don't. I have to work for a living. I have to go! I'm on a deadline, I work 9-5, I'm boring. Good luck with your book! Send me a copy!

PETER exits.

GAVIN
What was that all about?

ADAM
He's upset because we're gonna
publish a book, Gavin, full of
naked men.

GAVIN
Oh, really? I want to be in it.
Fuck Peter.

Flashes his cock.

GAVIN (CONT'D)
Put me in it!

They all laugh and exit.

17 SCENE: LARRY AND PETERS HOUSE

17

Peter is now home and in a foul mood.

PETER
He's quitting his job to print a
porno book. That's what he said.

LARRY
Just what the world needs. Another
book of naked men. How unique

PETER
Oh, lighten up. I'd buy it.

LARRY
That's pathetic.

PETER
It's not pathetic, Larry. It's
exciting. It's the kind of stuff
you would have done before you
became a boring academic.

LARRY
What's wrong with you?

PETER

We're dying here Larry. When we started dating all those years ago we agreed on two things: That we'd never go to bed angry and if one of us fucked around we'd talk about it.

LARRY

And?

PETER

And...I think you've been fucking around and I've been going to bed angry for a long time. Just tell me, are you having an affair?

LARRY

Of course not.

PETER

Are you sure?

LARRY

I'm sure.

PETER

Do you ever think about it though?

LARRY

What?

PETER

Having an affair? Do you ever think about having an affair?

LARRY

Never.

PETER

I don't believe you.

LARRY

Why would I lie?

PETER

I think about it. I think about having an affair everyday. I think about having an affair with every guy I see. You should have seen Adam and David together just now. They were so happy. They couldn't keep their hands off each other.

(MORE)

PETER (cont'd)
 I felt like throwing up. They reminded me of us when we first met. I'm tired of trying all the time. I'm leaving you Larry. I'm leaving you for someone else.

LARRY
 Who?

PETER
 I don't know yet. Don't pressure me.

Peter storms out. LARRY sits alone.

18

SCENE: ADAM SHOOTS DAVID-DAVID TELLS HIS STORY

18

DAVID enters and sets up his photo equipment...loads his camera...finally...

DAVID
 Are you ready?

ADAM
 Yeah.

DAVID
 (walks in)
 All set?

ADAM
 Maybe.

DAVID
 Well, you look great.

ADAM
 Thanks.

DAVID
 You ready?

ADAM
 I feel naked.

DAVID
 You haven't even taken your robe off.

ADAM
 I know but I still feel naked....
 (beat)
 and exhilarated. This is so public. I'm not public.
 (MORE)

ADAM (cont'd)

I mean, I'm still not even comfortable being naked with you let alone having my...everything...in a book...on the counters of Barnes and Noble...

DAVID

O.K.

ADAM

I'm not that way. I'm not like you.

DAVID

Adam, we'll do whatever you want. We can take a series in this robe for all I care. People usually think I just want to see them naked. But that's not it. I just like stripping everything away and seeing who people are...where they've been.

ADAM

Ok, well, where have you been? Tell me.

DAVID

I prefer to do the listening.

ADAM

No, come on. Where have you been?

DAVID

Where haven't I been? I've probably done just about everything you could imagine. And some shit you couldn't imagine

ADAM

Was it all just one big party?

DAVID

No. Not all of it. I was married...that wasn't fun.

ADAM

Married?

DAVID

I married my high school girlfriend.

ADAM

You were married to a woman?

DAVID

I grew up in Utah. It was what you did.

ADAM

I'm dating a married man?

DAVID

Well not exactly. We got divorced. That's the other thing you did.

ADAM

Is this your mid-life crisis? What are you taking a test run with me? I've been married. I think I'll try a man now. Then, maybe a sea turtle."

DAVID

No.

ADAM

And when I'm done with guys maybe I'll move on to...

DAVID

To what?

ADAM

To what? Exactly. To what? I'm not experimenting. I know what I want. I want a Mercedes.

DAVID

What?

ADAM

I'm sorry. That was weird. Forget that. I'm a little overwhelmed.

DAVID

I'm not experimenting either. I know what I want, too.

(MORE)

DAVID (cont'd)

I was on a set,...two years ago...I was on a porn set...in a dirty studio...in the middle of Burbank..and I was waiting for my co-star to get hard and I looked up and the director's boyfriend had stopped by and they were just talking-but totally unaware that anyone was watching them and they were so fucking happy to be with each other, you know...they were just so close. And I remember thinking, well they shouldn't be here...not on a porn set...not in Burbank...And I thought, God, I'll never have that.... the trust...the intimacy. I'll never have that...at least not with any men I know...and then I meet you...and it happened...I found it...

ADAM

I'm just shocked. I can't believe you're married. It's just very, Anne Heche.

PETER enters.

PETER

Am I interrupting?

DAVID

No, no come in.

PETER

David, I need to talk to Adam, do you mind?

DAVID

No, that's cool. I'll just leave you two alone.

ADAM

You're awesome.

DAVID

Me?

ADAM

Yes, you!

PETER

Byyyyyyye.

ADAM
Bye...

DAVID
Bye.

DAVID is gone.

ADAM
You look good.

PETER
Thank you, I feel good.

ADAM
So what's up?

PETER
I'm leaving Larry.

ADAM
Oh God, no.

PETER
Oh God yes. It's a good thing.
He's an asshole, I deserve better.
He hasn't looked at me for a long
time. Look at me, Adam; I need
someone who appreciates me. Someone
besides Larry.

ADAM
Who?

PETER
You.

ADAM
Me?

PETER
Is that shocking?

ADAM
You don't want me.

PETER
Yes, I do.

ADAM
No you don't.

DAVID

Why not?

ADAM

I'm your best friend.

PETER

That's why it's perfect.

ADAM

But Peter, what about David?

PETER

David? You just met him. He's a
porn star. Porn stars don't date.
How serious can it be?

ADAM

I really like him.

PETER

You're just having sex.

ADAM

No Peter, I think we're dating.

Peter looks at his watch.

PETER

Well how long do you see it
lasting?

ADAM

What are you talking about?

PETER

Well like a month, three months,
six months, a year, can you make an
estimate?

ADAM

No, I can't give you an estimate.

PETER

(after a beat)

Well, will you keep me in mind?

ADAM

For what?

PETER

For us! For later. After you've
finished with David.

ADAM

Peter, have you lost your mind? I can't have a relationship with you like that. You're my best friend. I don't think of you sexually.

PETER

Why not?

ADAM

What do you mean, "why not?" Because I don't.

PETER

(long pause)

Well fuck you too!

PETER storms out. ADAM is dumbfounded and shocked.

19

SCENE: BUD, GAVIN AND LARRY

19

GAVIN

Bud? Bud? Bud are you home?

BUD

Hey, Gavin. What's up?

GAVIN

Guess what I've got. Free passes for the Castro, tonight. They're playing Valley of the Dolls.

BUD

What's Valley of the Dolls?

GAVIN

And you're taking a gay studies class? It's a fabulous movie about women and Broadway and pills.

BUD

It sounds stupid.

GAVIN

Oh no it's not. It's action-packed. These women become stars and become addicted to pills and have sex. It's very exciting.

BUD

I don't know, Gavin. I just don't think I'd like it.

GAVIN
Do you like me?

BUD
Of course I do. I love hanging out
with you.

GAVIN
No. Really? I sometimes feel
like a pest.

BUD
I've just been busy.

GAVIN
Don't lead me on, Bud.

BUD
I'm not.

GAVIN
I'm too old for games. If you need
some space just tell me. It's
okay. Really. I'm strong. I can
handle it. Tell me.

BUD
I need some space.

GAVIN
You do?

BUD
I do.

GAVIN
Why?

BUD
Why what?

GAVIN
You're 22. How could you need
space?

BUD
Cause you just said...

GAVIN
I didn't mean it.

BUD
Oh.

GAVIN
Are you telling me to fuck off?

BUD
I don't mean it like that.

GAVIN
Oh my God...I'm being dumped. I
feel like I'm back in high school.

BUD
I didn't know we were dating.

GAVIN
You didn't?

BUD
No.

GAVIN
I thought you knew.

BUD
I'm sorry.

GAVIN
I'm so embarrassed.

BUD
Don't be embarrassed.

GAVIN
I am such a fool. Okay I need to
go. I'm really embarrassed!
Uh...do me a favor. Don't call me,
okay. I need some space.

GAVIN leaves. Bud shuts door. LARRY enters from bedroom.

LARRY
You're very popular.

BUD
I feel bad for him.

LARRY
How did he get in here in the first
place?

BUD
I never lock my doors.

LARRY

Why? Anybody could just walk in. We could have doing it on the kitchen floor. We could get caught.

BUD

So...

LARRY

I don't want anyone to get hurt.

BUD

I think that's unavoidable.

20

SCENE: GAVINS PHOTO SHOOT

20

DAVID, ADAM and GAVIN are setting up for Gavin's photo shoot.

ADAM

And then he goes, "I'm in love with you what are you gonna do about it?" He's in love with me and he wants me to tell him what I'm gonna do about it. I mean he's crazy.

DAVID

I think it's kind of refreshing. I wish more guys were like that

ADAM

No, you don't!!! Believe me, it was totally awkward. It sounds refreshing but it wasn't it was completely embarrassing!

GAVIN

I dated a guy like that once. It turned me on. He was this total drama queen. He'd cause these scenes in shopping malls and we'd get kicked out and on the way home he'd blame it all on me! And then we'd get home and have great sex! You always have the hottest sex with the crazy ones. It's true!

ADAM

Maybe you and Peter should get together!

DAVID

Okay, should we get started?

ADAM
Are you ready?

GAVIN
Ready as I'll ever be!

ADAM
I'll let you two get to work. Have fun!

ADAM exits.

DAVID
All right....feeling fearless?

GAVIN
No, not really. I've actually been really depressed the past couple of days.

DAVID
Why? What's wrong?

GAVIN
Nothing. It's boring. Nothing I can't handle or haven't already handled, but just can't understand why I keep repeating my same old tired patterns. But I guess we all do right?

DAVID
Not me. I'm perfect.

GAVIN
I'm sure you are. Ok, let's do this.

Gavin takes off his clothes.

GAVIN
Oh, I feel like a stripper. God, my family would shit right now if they knew what I was doing.

DAVID
Are you close to your folks?

GAVIN
Are you kidding? The kids in Annie had it better than I did. I used to dream Miss Hannigan was my mother.

(MORE)

GAVIN (cont'd)

No, I hated my life, I hated myself, I hated my parents, I hated my town, so one night I just chucked it all. I just ran to the bus station and bought a ticket to the farthest, wildest place I could think of. San Francisco! The city of free love. I got off the bus and I knew I was home. For months, I wandered the streets with nothing to do. Just hanging out, meeting people. I don't remember a damn thing. But I was happy and I was depressed and I was lonely and I met a million people. And there were drugs. Lots of drugs. But they made me feel better. And one day I'm at a party and there's all these people and all these drugs and everyone's rolling around in this big old run down house. And I'm on the toilet and I am so dizzy and there is no toilet paper, just the left over cardboard roll. So I think, "maybe I'll just pull it apart and use that." And I think this is pretty bad when I am willing to wipe my ass with ripped cardboard. But then, like a miracle, I see they have some paper napkins on the sink and I reach over and I just use those. And then this guy walks in, I must have forgotten to lock the door, and he say's, "Where's the paper?" And I say, "They're out, I had to use this napkin and it was the last one." And he turns white, "You idiot, you wiped your ass with my fucking acid!" And he disappears and I'm getting dizzy. I just did a huge booty bump of LSD! Who knows how many hits were in me! And I'm getting warm and dizzier. And I lock the doors and sat back down with my shorts around my ankles. And there in the bathroom I sat for...I don't know how many hours. And then I saw a vision. I heard this voice. And it was so calming, you know? I mean, I know I was totally fucked up. But I listened. And the voice told me I was O.K. And I just sat there smiling.

Music cue-

As the music plays GAVIN strikes a series of poses. GAVIN and DAVID exit as LARRY and ADAM enter.

21

SCENE: LARRY AND ADAM

21

LARRY

In the 1990s, gay theatre took on a new twist with the arrival of naked theatre. Plays moved away from the AIDS crisis—as did most everyone else—and back into the realm of sex. Suddenly, nudity was everywhere. From the pre-show to the curtain call, the only place to see more naked men was at the bathhouses. And at first it was a little shocking but exhilarating at the same time. It was fresh. But little did we know at the time that that would become the hard and fast rule for plays. “The more nudity, the better.” Then porn stars got in on the act. Ryan Idol and Jeff Stryker became the new Carol Channing and Bernadette Peters. It became physically impossible to see a play without the word “naked” in the title. But what is really interesting to me is the critical response. Now reviewers feel compelled to write, “Ah, yes, another gay play with nudity.” Or, on the rare occasion where there is no one undressed they point that out too. “Finally, a gay play with no nudity. And where do we go from here? How can we be expected to grow and evolve when everyone is already fixated on one thing: nudity. Or at least by the possibility of nudity?”

And that seems to be all we have time for today. I’ll see you next week.

Larry goes to his desk and starts packing up his things.

ADAM

Knock knock!

LARRY

(seeing ADAM)

Adam . Finally. Oh, it's so good
to see you! Come in.

(they hug)

ADAM

It's so strange to be back in a
classroom.

LARRY

It has been awhile, hasn't it?

ADAM

I guess we've been avoiding each
other.

LARRY

No. You've been avoiding me.

ADAM

Well, I knew that you wouldn't
approve of my little adventure.

LARRY

Adam, how far back do we go?

ADAM

Pretty far.

LARRY

And we can still be honest with
each other, right?

ADAM

Of course. I'm sorry about you and
Peter.

LARRY

How much has he told you?

ADAM

He just said basically that he
hates your guts.

LARRY

That's an understatement.

ADAM

Where is he staying?

LARRY

With a friend in Berkley.

ADAM

I'm sorry.

LARRY

Peter tells me that you're dating.
I'm glad.

ADAM

Thanks. So far, so good.

LARRY

I met him at the party. He
seemed...uh...interesting.

ADAM

Yeah.....so how's school going?

LARRY

It's fine.

ADAM

I'm glad.

LARRY

About this...book, Adam, I don't
really understand it. Why would
you throw your career away for
something like this?

ADAM

Well, Larry, you haven't even seen
it.

LARRY

No, but I've seen dozens like it.

ADAM

I really don't want to get into
this.

LARRY

It's like you've stopped thinking.

ADAM

No Larry, I've started thinking.
And having fun. I feel alive again.
I know what I want to do with my
life now. Do you know what that
feels like? Do not make me the
enemy. You should be happy that
I'm happy. This book has nothing
to do with you. It's about me.

LARRY

Well that's perfectly selfish.

ADAM

Fuck you, Larry.

LARRY

Adam, I'm only thinking of you here. And for you, obviously. You're heading down a slippery slope but you can't see it. You're blind. This book is banality, Adam. It's cheap and it's beneath you and you know it.

ADAM

I really didn't come here for a lecture.

LARRY

Listen to me.

ADAM

I'm really not interested.

LARRY

It's reckless.

ADAM

I can't believe you're lecturing me.

LARRY

It's just so standard.

ADAM

I can't listen to this, anymore.

LARRY

I'm trying to talk to you.

ADAM

But you sound like a goddamned broken record.

LARRY

But you know I'm right.

ADAM

I know you think you're right!

LARRY

I am right Adam, that's why you're being defensive. There are so many other things that you could do with your money. Start a foundation, start a scholarship. But don't cater to the lowest common denominator. I want you to be happy, I do. You wanna make money? You wanna make books? You wanna be an entrepreneur? Fine! Go do it. But all I ask is that you don't turn into a whore like you're little boyfriend.

ADAM starts to walk out.

ADAM

That was way out of line and this is really pointless...

LARRY

Oh, that's really mature, Adam. Just walk out in the middle of the discussion.

ADAM

This is not a discussion. It's a rant! It's a one-man show. I feel like I'm back in class listening to you drone on and on. I'm falling asleep here. You're not interested in one word I have to say!

LARRY

I've listened to every word you've said.

ADAM

You don't know how to listen. All you do is talk and I'm sick of it. And everyone who knows you is sick of it. You need to shut the fuck up and get out of the way. You're a dinosaur, Larry! Your time is over. Your ideas are dead. It's the 21st century. Anyone can do and be whatever the fuck they want. You're so focused on one tiny aspect of the gay community. Move on! It's not interesting! It's okay to be gay and have sex and be open!

(MORE)

ADAM (cont'd)

Ellen made the cover of Time Magazine. Will and Grace is a big huge hit. Harvey Fierstein is the biggest thing on Broadway.

LARRY

Big deal! My God, Adam, open your eyes. Is this the argument you want to have? Fine. Will has never had a serious boyfriend while Grace is happily married. And Harvey Fierstein is wearing a dress. What kind of progress do you call that?

ADAM

It's so much easier for you to focus on the bad because you're too afraid to experience the good. But let me enjoy it. So join me or don't join me but don't make me the villain and just write me off.

LARRY

You are so naive.

ADAM

Larry, I am not your student anymore.

LARRY

I don't know what you are but if it makes you happy go be it just don't come to me for approval.

ADAM

I did not come to you for approval.

LARRY

Then why did you come?

ADAM

I don't know. (long pause) All I know is that I should never have had sex with you.

LARRY

That was a long time ago.

ADAM

Not long enough.

Adam exits, Larry sits alone on stage for a few beats.

22

SCENE: DAVIDS STUDIO

22

DAVID

Peter, what are you talking about?
I thought you didn't approve of the
book.

PETER

No. That's Larry. Larry doesn't
approve of anything. I love the
idea.

DAVID

But at the restaurant you said it
was a bad idea.

PETER

David. I was jealous. I was jealous
that you guys were really doing
something with each other and I was
just stuck with Larry. But listen,
I want to pose for you. Gavin said
it was fun. Bud did it. Why not me?
Do you think I'd be a good?

Peter starts striking erotic poses.

DAVID

Ummm....sure Peter....

PETER

Really? Do wanna shoot the
pictures now? Let's just do it.
(Starts taking off his
clothes.)

You know, I use to fantasize about
being a porn star.

DAVID

Peter, trust me, you do not want to
be a porn star.

PETER

Well, I don't think I have the
right look for porn, necessarily,
but maybe if I was a few years
younger?

DAVID

I guess....

PETER

Well, what about Adam? We're roughly the same size. If you'd met me first, how would I rate?

DAVID

Peter, come on, I don't think we should...

PETER

I want your honest opinion. How do I rate?

DAVID

Compared to what?

PETER

How do I rate on a scale of 1 to 10? Assuming, of course, that Adam is a 10 and, say, Lyle Lovett is a 1.

DAVID

You look good. Put your clothes back on.

PETER

But am I a 4 or a 5 or a 7 or a 10?

DAVID

You're a 10 Peter. Please put your clothes back on.

PETER

Am I really?

DAVID

Yes. Now please put your clothes back on.

PETER suddenly hugs DAVID.

PETER

Thank you David. I haven't been feeling good about myself. You have no idea how much I needed to hear that right now.

ADAM walks in.

ADAM

David, I.....

All three instantly freeze in their tracks. ADAM is stunned and silent.

DAVID
Get off me!

ADAM
Am I interrupting something?

DAVID
No. Not at all.

PETER
Um...I was just leaving.

PETER and DAVID stand up.

DAVID
Peter, just go.

PETER puts his shirt on and leaves as DAVID and ADAM stay on stage.

DAVID (CONT'D)
Adam, I swear to god, Peter is crazy! You have to believe me. He started talking about porn, he pulled her shirt off he started hugging me and then you walked in. We were not doing anything I promise you. I told him to put his shirt on and he wouldn't.

23 SCENE: BUD CALLS DANNY ONE LAST TIME

23

BUD
Well, Danny, I guess it's over. I just wish you would call me once. I just wanted to say goodbye to you and not to your machine. I don't even know if you're getting these messages. I assume you are but I hope you're not because I can't believe you would just ignore me. Can you just call me back please?

24 SCENE: ADAM AND DAVID

24

ADAM is upset but not at DAVID as much as himself and his own paranoia.

ADAM

(after a long pause)

I like you. I like you a lot but we are very, very different. Sex is easy for you. It's not for me. I came out in college and it was very, very hard. And very lonely. And then I met Larry. He was teaching sociology then. There was no such thing as gay studies twenty years ago.

LARRY enters and we see him in a dim-light. He sits at his office desk and starts working.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Anyway, he knew right away what I was and he took care of me. I was a great student. A total over-achiever. It impressed him. So I became his assistant. We worked long hours together. We ate lunch together, he'd drive me home. And then the rumors started. Everyone knew what Larry was except me. To me he was just a great teacher. We never talked about sex. It was all very professional. Or so I thought. And the rumors still persisted and one day I sat down with Larry and I said, people think you're gay, Why do they think that? And he said,

LARRY

(long pause)

Because I am.

ADAM

And then he said, and I've never forgotten this, he said...

LARRY

Other people always see you clearer than you see yourself. Always.

ADAM

And I knew what he was implying, and I knew he was right, but it wasn't what I wanted to hear in that moment. And then he said,

LARRY

Besides Adam, rumors are always true. Always.

ADAM

And I wanted to kill him for saying that. I wanted him to be wrong. Just once. But he wasn't. Two weeks later we started sleeping together. I'd never had sex with anyone before. And then we fell in love. Well, I fell in love. He became my life. My grades went down, I became obsessive, it was not pretty. And then one day it just stopped. Larry grew distant. He became very focused on his work. Which of course was just a distraction for the fact that there was a new student hanging around him. Peter Anderson.

Bud enters next to LARRY and hands him a cup of coffee.

ADAM (CONT'D)

There were new rumors but I ignored them. Until one day I stopped at his apartment and walked in on them. I drove home fuming and went to bed. I slept 18 hours. And when I woke up the next day. I felt nothing at all. I was over it. I'd grown up over night. I woke up jaded and cynical and sarcastic-in other words: a gay man And I've lived the same way ever since.

(long pause)

But then you come along and you fuck everything up. I haven't felt this way in a very long time. And it's scary. And I walk in to the studio just now and I see Peter and you and all those old emotions are right there. And it's like I'm 18 and I'm the odd-man out...again.

(long pause)

Don't hurt me, David.

(pause)

I'll kill you if you do.

They kiss and exit.

Please note: In the above scene the LARRY comments are meant to be as flashbacks spoken in a spotlight. LARRY makes his comments straight out, not looking at ADAM. When "Peter Anderson" enters he is played by Bud but there should be no costume change or acting change. Bud may sit with his back to the audience until the next scene. The imagery should suggest the patterns in LARRY' life without being distracting or confusing.

25

SCENE: LARRY AND BUD HAVING COFFEE

25

LARRY

Bud, do you think I'm unprofessional?

BUD

Larry, do you think you're unprofessional?

LARRY

I worry sometimes.

BUD

Peter was a student when you met right?

LARRY

Graduate student.

BUD

Like me.

LARRY

Like you.

BUD

So what do you think it all means?

LARRY

It means that I'm very unprofessional and hypocritical?

LARRY and Bud move to front of desk.

BUD

I didn't say that.

LARRY

But you think it.

BUD

I think you think it.

LARRY

I don't know what I think anymore.

Bud, slightly bored, takes off his shirt and lays down on the platform like he is outside sunbathing.

LARRY (CONT'D)

When I was younger I had it all figured out. Life was so clear to me. But now, it's shifted. It's like the older I get, the less I understand.

(short pause)

Maybe I am a hypocrite.

BUD

Larry, you think too much.

LARRY moves in and gives Bud a massage as Bud speaks.

BUD (CONT'D)

So do I. Look at David and Adam. It's a ridiculous relationship. But it works. Adam's happy now. He's unemployed, but he's happy. I think that's the point Larry. Ya gotta be happy. Life is too short. Kiss me. Does it feel good?

LARRY

Yes.

BUD

Then let's do it again.

(kiss)

Does it still feel good?

(yes)

Then let's do it again. Let's keep doing it. And when it stops feeling good, we'll stop doing it. We'll find new people to kiss.

26

SCENE: PETER CALLS PHONE SEX

26

PETER enters on the phone looking at an SF Weekly. He sits.

PETER

Hi. I've never called one of these before. I'm a little nervous. So how are you? Well that's good. Oh I'm fine. I'm just a little lonely these days. Actually that's a lie.

(MORE)

PETER (cont'd)

I'm not a little lonely...I'm a lot lonely. I'm sorry excuse me...

(short pause)

What am I wearing? Um a t-shirt and jeans. Some tennis shoes. What are you wearing? That's all? Hmmm that's interesting...Um, by the way, what will it say on my phone bill. Will it say phonesex? Oh good. I just got out of a ten-year relationship but he still pays the bills and he'd be pissed if he knew I was calling! Yeah, it's been really tough. You know, you sound really nice. We should meet for coffee, sometime. My treat. Where do you live? Atlanta? You live in Atlanta? This ad says "Local Jocks waiting to talk to you." LOCAL. I'm in San Francisco. How is that local? Hmmm? That's false advertising! Can I talk to your supervisor, please!

27

SCENE: LARRY BUD AND PETER CONFRONTATION

27

LARRY

So when do you want to move in?

BUD

When do you want me to?

LARRY

Now.

BUD

What about Peter?

LARRY

He's never coming back.

BUD

Ever?

LARRY

Well he still has a few boxes. Some clothes. But other than that he's gone.

BUD

Did you ever tell him about us?

LARRY

Oh, God no.

BUD

What do you think he'll do when he finds out.

LARRY

He's not going to find out.

BUD

But if he does.

LARRY

I don't wanna think about it. It wouldn't be pretty. He asked me once if I was having an affair.

BUD

And what did you say?

LARRY

I lied.

BUD

Don't ever lie to me.

LARRY

I never will.

BUD

You promise?

LARRY

I promise.

LARRY and Bud kiss again. LARRY works Bud's pants down. PETER can be seen approaching the front door. He walks in the door, sees them on top of each other stops for a beat then tries to be completely blasé'.

PETER

Hi guys. I just came for the rest of my stuff. I'll only be a minute.

LARRY and Bud are in shock. PETER goes in to the kitchen. All of a sudden we hear sounds of dishes being broken. PETER screams from off stage. All of the sudden the noise stops. Bud and LARRY are terrified. PETER re-appears with the box of sweaters and once again he is completely blasé'.

PETER (CONT'D)
 Okay. I think that's it. All
 right...well take care you guys. It
 was good to see you. Larry you
 have my number if you need
 anything, Bud you have a nice ass
 and...um...I'm going
 now...so...ok...bye.

PETER leaves.

BUD
 Oh my God! He's crazy!

PETER bursts back in to the door.

PETER
 (calmly)
 I heard that you motherfucker! Do
 not fuck with me! If you have
 something to say to me asshole, you
 say it to me face. You hear me,
 bitch?

They are dead silent.

PETER (CONT'D)
 Okie-dokie, I'm taking off. See ya
 guys around. Take care.

LARRY and Bud stay silent for a long time.

BUD
 Do you think he's gone?

LARRY
 Shhhhh...

28

SCENE: PETER AND GAVIN AT THE CAFE

28

PETER
 I can't believe Larry and I were
 together for so long.

GAVIN
 So it's really over?

PETER
 It's really over. Men are pigs.

GAVIN
 Amen.

PETER

(pause)

Okay, so what does a lesbian take on a second date?

(beat)

A U-Haul. What does a gay man take on a second date?

(beat)

What second date?

GAVIN

Are you drunk already?

PETER

I'm getting there.

GAVIN

You're cute, Peter. Do you know that?

PETER

No.

GAVIN

You are.

PETER

Everyone thinks I'm crazy.

GAVIN

You're not crazy. You're funny and cute and anyone would be lucky to have you.

PETER

They would?

GAVIN

I always thought Larry was so lucky.

PETER

Shut up!

GAVIN

I did! I was so jealous.

PETER

You were?

GAVIN

Yes. We could go out sometime if you wanted. I promise there would be a second date.

PETER

You don't want me.

GAVIN

Why not?

PETER

I'm crazy.

GAVIN

That means we'd have hot sex.

PETER

Really?

GAVIN

I want to take you home. I want to make you tea. You do like tea, don't you?

PETER

I love tea.

They kiss.

29

SCENE: THE BOOK

29

ADAM brings DAVID on with the book in a brown paper bag. They sit at the desk.

ADAM

It's not the finished product, but it's where the pictures will go...and the text...and the lay out...and this is the cover but it'll be on glossy paper.....and I'm trying to work out a deal with Amazon.com. We might be selling books much sooner than you think.

DAVID

Unbelievable!

ADAM

And then there's this.

DAVID

Oh good, more film.

ADAM
It's not film, David.

ADAM gives him a film box, containing a ring. DAVID opens it. He is shocked.

DAVID
What is this?

ADAM
What do you think it is?

DAVID
I'm not sure.

ADAM
Well, what does it look like?

DAVID
A ring.

They kiss

Music cue

30

SCENE: THE BEACH

30

As we move to the beach each couple enters separately and stake out their areas and lay out the towels and other beach stuff. The music drops out as each couple speaks but comes back up as the next couple enter. By the end of the scene all the couples are lined up on their towels at the lip of the stage.

Bud and LARRY enter dressed for the beach with beach towels.

Music down.

They set their beach area up.

LARRY
I told you that your stuff would fit into my apartment.

BUD
And how perfect is this day? Not too hot, not too cold. Just right.

Music up.

GAVIN and PETER enter dressed for the beach with beach towels too.

Music down.

PETER

Gav, put that away you can't drink wine on the beach.

GAVIN

Sure you can it's Santa Cruz. Anything goes.

Suddenly, the two couples see each other and their mouths drop. They try to pretend they did not see each other.

LARRY

Oh my God.

PETER

Oh my God.

BUD

Oh my God.

GAVIN

Oh my God.

Music up.

ADAM and DAVID enter, also dressed for the beach with towels and other beach stuff and sit in the middle of the couples. ADAM and DAVID are talking loudly and as DAVID and ADAM gossip, the other's mouths drop.

Music down.

DAVID

Well, did you know Bud was sleeping with Larry?

ADAM

I had no idea. But I'm not surprised

DAVID

Well after what you told me about Larry, I'm not surprised either.

ADAM

He's disgusting, pure and simple! He's a slut with tenure. And no wonder PETER was psychotic. He just needed to get laid he sure wasn't getting it from Larry.

DAVID
Yeah, Bud was getting all the cock.

ADAM
Yeah, but that won't last. Bud just moved in with Larry because of the nice house. The minute someone else comes along Bud'll drop Larry like a ton of bricks.

DAVID
What a mess.

ADAM
And Gavin wants a project not a boyfriend. How tired does that nurturing crap get?

DAVID
Tired! Please!

ADAM
And where are we?

DAVID
I think we're in love.

ADAM
Still?

DAVID
Still.

ADAM
How romantic.

They begin to kiss, but before they do, they see over each other's shoulders and spot the other couples watching them. DAVID and ADAM shocked!

ALL
(GAVIN, PETER, LARRY &
Bud)
Surprise!

Music up.

Blackout

Curtain Call