

DO I?

BY

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PLAYERS

Narrator [Offstage female voice]
Woman [Onstage female performer]
Man [Onstage male performer]
Minister [Offstage male voice]

STAGE SET-UP

[Lighting is only standard stage lighting, no spotlights. Only props are two chairs that are easily moveable]

PLAY

[Stage lights go up. Two chairs are set up catty-corner from each other stage right, angled toward the audience. Man is bent over tying his shoe stage left, upstage. Woman is standing downstage stage left, a short distance from Man]

Narrator: He's kinda cute. [Woman makes her way a little closer to Man] I've seen him around a few times. Hmm, he's really cute. Do I ask him out? No. Yeah. No.

[Woman is now right next to Man] It's now or never, chicken. [Man looks up and smiles] Yeah. Maybe, just some coffee. [Woman starts talking to Man. Man has finished tying his shoe and is talking back] Okay,

Narrator: he's nice. Just like I thought he'd be. Okay, you've talked about the weather, how his shoe got untied, blah, blah, blah. I can do it. Just ask him for coffee. [Woman asks Man a question with a shrug of her shoulders. Man nods in agreement] Yes! Coffee. Make that coffee for two. [Lights dim and Woman and Man make their way over to the chairs. As they do so, Woman looks at the audience] Jessica, eat your heart out. I can get dates, too. [Woman and Man get to the chairs, sit, and act like they are drinking coffee, lights up] What do I say, what do I say? [Man puts down coffee and starts talking to woman] Thank God. [Woman puts down her coffee and starts talking] Yeah, backpacking through China would be cool. Huh, he's deep. What video went viral? [Narrator laughs] Yeah, I've got that one, too. Wow, he's funny. [Woman and Man talk for a moment] I hope he wants to see me again. [Narrator pauses] I guess I'll wait for him to call. [Narrator pauses] I hope he'll call. [Man asks Woman a question] What? Going to the movies is kinda old fashioned, [Woman nods her head] but yeah. No waiting around this time for a call. [Stage lights dim. Woman and man move chairs center stage, right next to each other, facing the audience and sit down. Lights up] Never heard of this movie. I hope this isn't some explosion fest, bikini-clad thing. [Woman and Man watch the movie for a moment. Woman looks over at Man who

Narrator: smiles at her] Meh, who cares what it is. As long as I'm with him. [Woman continues to watch the movie] Not too bad. Haven't seen one thing blow up yet, and only two bikinis. [Woman looks down at herself, then back up] I bet if I didn't eat, I'd look like that in a bikini, too. [Man offers Woman some popcorn] Maybe just a piece or two, just so he doesn't think I'm being rude. [Woman takes and eats two small handfuls] That was good. Real good. [Man offers Woman some more popcorn. Woman declines it] I don't want him thinking I'm an oinker or anything. [Man puts his arm casually around woman] He's smooth. Not even the old yawn trick. [After watching the movie for another moment the Woman and Man get up and make their way downstage, center stage] Don't really remember what we saw. Don't really care. [Once Woman and Man are downstage, center stage, they start walking toward stage left] He's too good to be true. He's deep, he's funny, and now he's walking me to my door. This is like one of those romantic comedies, but real. [Woman and Man stop near stage left exit and they talk for a moment then Man gives Woman a kiss and walks back] And, he's one hell of a kisser! He's not too good to be true. It's just true that he's good.

[Stage lights off. Darkness for fifteen seconds. Lights go back up and show two chairs center stage facing each other, several feet apart. Woman and Man sitting in chairs]

Narrator: I've never been to such a nice place. [Woman looks around] I bet that chandelier is real crystal.

[Woman picks up a glass from the table between her and Man] I bet even these glasses are in a place like this.

[Woman puts down glass. Woman and man pick up menus]

Ummm, I can't read any of this. Who makes menus you can't read? I should've taken French instead of Spanish in high school. Not that I would've paid attention, probably. Maybe I should look up some French stuff when I get home, so I'm ready if we come here again.

[Man talks to Woman. Woman nods her head and puts down the menu] I'm glad he knows French. [Man turns to an unseen person and orders] I hope he didn't order me frog legs, or snails, or something too gross. [Woman and Man start talking after he has ordered and put down the menu] Huh, I never knew French fries weren't French. That's weird. He's smart. [Man starts telling an involved story with a lot of hand gestures] What?

[Narrator laughs] He tried to ride a wild donkey?

[Man makes a sweeping motion with a hand, then suddenly jumps up, upset] Oh, what a mess, it's all over him. That sucks. [Man starts yelling at an unseen person] She didn't mean to spill it on you. [While man is still yelling, Woman picks up a napkin from the floor and tries to hand it to Man and calm him down] She seems real sorry. [Man takes the napkin and throws it down while still yelling at the unseen person. Woman looks

Narrator: around the room] Everyone's staring. [Woman sinks down into her chair a little] I wish he'd just stop. [Man abruptly grabs Woman and hustles her out of the restaurant. They both walk with upset expressions towards stage left] Geez. It wasn't that big of a deal or anything. [Woman and Man stop where they previously stopped at her door. Man starts apologizing] Yeah, I get it. He wanted it to be perfect. He still didn't need to freak out though. [Man starts nearly begging] Do I forgive him? [Narrator pauses] Yeah, we all make mistakes.

[Stage lights off. Darkness for fifteen seconds. Lights go back up and show two chairs center stage facing each other, pushed against each other to make a "bed". Woman has her hand on the back of one of the chairs. Man is a little distance away]

Narrator: I can't believe that a shoelace led me to his bed. [Man slowly walks towards Woman] I'm ready for this. It's been a couple of dates. Now we sleep together. That's how it is. Those are the rules. [Man caresses Woman's face] Mmm, I like that. Can't complain about the rules too much. [Man kisses Woman] Still one hell of a kisser. Maybe even better than that first time. [Man kisses Woman again] Definitely better. [Man starts to caress Woman's shoulder] I'm glad I wore my pretty panties. Oh God, I hope he has a condom. [Man asks Woman a question] No, I don't want to do that. [Man asks more insistently while caressing Woman's

Narrator: face. Woman starts looking uncomfortable] How do I tell him no, and not ruin the moment? [Man asks again. Woman shakes her head no. Man steps back and starts to yell at Woman] I just don't feel comfortable. Why can't he understand? [Man backhands Woman and stalks offstage] What the hell? How am I gonna get home now? [Woman starts massaging her face] He said I was a whore for not doing what he wanted, but only a whore would do that. I never thought of myself that way. But, maybe...should I...do I do what he wants?

[Stage lights off. Darkness for fifteen seconds. Lights go back up and show two chairs at an angle to each other, stage right, one facing the audience. Woman is sitting in the audience facing chair]

Narrator: Where is he? [Woman shifts nervously in her chair] Where is he? He should have been home hours ago. Maybe he had a late meeting. No. He would've called. He usually calls. [Woman hurriedly gets up and looks out a window] Nope. Not his car. [Woman starts pacing] Maybe he got into an accident. Maybe he's hurt. Maybe that's why he hasn't called. [Woman sit down in chair and huddles in on herself] Oh God, what if he's dead? [Woman sits for a moment, then gets up quickly] I'll call the hospital. [Woman reaches in her pocket for her cellphone, pulls it out, and starts to dial. Man enters stage left. Woman shoves phone back into her pocket] He's all right. Thank God.

Narrator: Doesn't he know I've been going crazy? [Woman asks Man. Man just shrugs it off and tries to ignore Woman] Damnit, he's got to tell me. [Woman asks more stridently. Man turns to Woman and starts to tell her] What? No. Why? [Man gets mad. Woman gets mad and the two start to argue. Woman puts a hand on Man's shoulder. Man backhands Woman. Woman falls to the ground and Man kicks her. Woman starts to get up. Man pushes her down, yells at Woman, then storms out stage left. Woman lies there as Narrator speaks] I only asked why he slept with Jessica when he says he loves me. [Narrator sobbingly laughs] He said, it was because she was willing to do anything he asked. [After a moment, Woman sits up and pulls a cellphone from her pocket. Woman dials and talks on it for a little bit, then hangs up and drops the phone on the floor] Called mom. Couldn't tell her everything, couldn't tell her anything. Asked, do I give him up? She said, it's not easy to find someone these days.

[Stage lights off. Darkness for fifteen seconds. Lights go back up and show Man standing center stage, down stage, standing slightly with his side to the audience. Traditional Wedding March plays softly. Woman enters from stage right, upstage]

Narrator: Hmm Hm Hm Hmm, Hmm Hm Hm Hmm. [Narrator sighs as Woman starts slowly walking towards Man] This is the longest aisle I have ever seen in my life. And at the end is... him... He's deep, and funny, and [Narrator pauses]

Narrator: hurts me. [Woman looks down at her arms] I'm glad I wore a long-sleeve dress. Do I run? Just hike up my dress and run, never looking back? [Woman stares at the audience] No. Look at everyone out there. It's too late. Or is it? There's got to be somebody better out there for me. [Narrator has a long pause] But, it's not easy to find someone. He's still nice some of the time. [Woman stops across from Man. Man smiles. Woman gives a feeble smile back] Marriage is supposed to be forever. I don't want a forever of him, of this. [Woman looks behind her] Forever's too long. [Woman's head jerks back around at the sound of Minister's voice]

Minister: Do you solemnly swear to love and to cherish...

Narrator: Love and cherish? I know I love him, but cherish?

Minister: ...to take this man as your lawfully wedded husband?

Woman: [Woman looks down. After a pause the Man squeezes Woman's hand hard and Woman grimaces in pain. Woman looks at the crowd miserably] I do.

[Stage Lights off. Darkness lasts, pantomime is finished]