On Vacation Not Together

By

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ACT I AT WORK

Scene 1

Stage set, work kitchen - table, chairs, stand w/microwave against wall, etc. Sitting in an office/lunchroom talking. JACK has his feet up on the table with newspaper around him. Gina is sitting, then standing, then walking around.

GINA
I feel played.

JACK
You were played. (reading newspaper)

GINA
Usually I’m smarter than that.

JACK
No you’re not.

GINA
(looking at him)
Yes I am. (annoyed)

JACK
Should I name names?

GINA
What are you talking about?

JACK
Robert with the blonde hair. Terrance with the glasses. Peter, for god’s sake, Peter with the tube socks.

GINA
What about them?

JACK
You were a melody played by each and every one of them. And the latest music was written by Harry; Harry the three piece suit playboy.

GINA
He was awesome. (ignoring JACK)

JACK
(over the newspaper)
He played you like a violin. Or a harp. Or whatever musical instrument you would like to be compared to. (puts down newspaper) How can you call him awesome? He was an ass.

(CONTINUED)
GINA
He was awesome while he lasted.

JACK
Why, because he was rich?

GINA
I don’t know, I don’t think so, not really. That was just a fascination because I’ve never had anybody rich, like that kind of rich, take me out before. I think it actually cost me money to go out with him because he kept taking me to nice places and I didn’t have anything to wear so I had to keep buying clothes…and shoes…

JACK
If he cared about you he would’ve realized that you never have any money and he would’ve been more considerate about where he took you. Or he would’ve offered to pay for your shoes.

GINA
He was so cool. (again not paying attention to JACK) He had that James Bond kind of charm about him. Every woman wanted him.

JACK
From what you told me every woman had him.

GINA
I know he couldn’t keep it in his pants. But he was so charming.

JACK
You have no sense of self preservation.

GINA
I wouldn’t go back with him.

JACK
Only because he hasn’t asked you.

GINA
That’s not true.

JACK
We’ll see.

GINA
(righteously)
I have never gone back with any of them.
JACK
OK OK point taken.

GINA
(pause) Why do you think I get guys like that?

JACK
Lack of self-esteem? Lack of judgment? Lack of restraint? You have lousy taste in men?

GINA
You’re hateful.

JACK
I’m not being mean I’m trying to be helpful. You should be listening to me, taking notes.

GINA
Why? To feel worse? I can feel bad all by myself I don’t need help with that.

JACK
I’m not trying to make you feel bad. I’m just saying.

GINA
Like you know anything about love.

JACK
I admit it, I haven’t a clue.

GINA
(pause) You know what I’m looking for?

JACK
I have no idea.

GINA
To fall passionately into someone’s arms. I can’t remember what that’s like.

JACK
You only just broke up a week ago.

GINA
I want some passion in my life. I don’t remember falling passionately into Harry’s arms.

JACK
I don’t remember anyone falling passionately into my arms. And neither do you because it doesn’t happen.

(CONTINUED)
GINA
Yes it does.

JACK
To who? If neither of us can remember it ever happening maybe you saw it in a movie. Movies are just illusions, somebody’s imaginary ideas of how things should be. Making the rest of us feel like crap because we never get it.

GINA
Geez Jack this is the last time I expect you to cheer me up.

JACK
Why would you come to me to cheer up? That’s just crazy talk.

GINA
Were you ever cheerful?

JACK
Once when the Cubs won the pennant. I smiled all day.

GINA
Oh for godssake has a woman ever made you smile?

JACK
Lots of times. But it doesn’t last.

GINA
You’ve had relationships.

JACK
What’s that got to do with smiling?

GINA
Surely one of your relationships has given you, I don’t know, joy. At least it should have at one time or another.

JACK
You’re asking me about emotions. Men don’t talk about emotions. We don’t like it. It makes us uneasy.

GINA
How does talking about sex make you feel?

JACK
Why? Do you want to talk dirty to me?
GINA
No. I’m trying to talk to you about relationships.

JACK
It’s not working. I mean, what does a relationship have to do with sex?

GINA
You’re so pathetic. You don’t even try. At least I try.

JACK
Try what? You lost me.

GINA
Try to have a real relationship. Sometimes I actually pick someone who makes me smile and that lasts longer than a day. Maybe you don’t know what a good relationship is. That’s why you’re all doom and gloom. You wouldn’t know one if you tripped over it. You’re all show, no substance.

JACK
You make me sound like some shallow pond. A mosquito hangout.

GINA
You pick a pretty face and then get disappointed when she has nothing to talk to you about. You listen to news radio and wonder why you’re depressed. You need air Jack. You need sunshine. You need to get out of the office, take a vacation.

JACK
I fry in the sun, I can’t go to the beach.

GINA
Who said anything about a beach?

JACK
Isn’t that where most people go on vacation?

GINA
(sits back down to face him)
Yes but you’re not most people. What about no streetlights? No cell phone? No internet connection?

JACK
How is that like a vacation? My heart stops from lack of stimulation. Who’s around to give me CPR? You suck at this.
GINA
   No seriously, I have a brochure. (pulls it out of her purse, holds it up) 3 days 3 nights, it’s like a ‘get away from it all’ place.

JACK
   It sounds like a ‘nobody around to hear you scream’ kind of place.

GINA
   It got 5 stars.

JACK
   From who? (grabs brochure)

GINA
   See? See?

JACK
   See what? Ah they have TV in the room, now it sounds like a vacation.

GINA
   Keep reading!

JACK
   OK. OK, get away from it all. That’s a cliche, we’ve already gone all through that.

GINA
   It’s like a Spa.

JACK
   OK you’ve just said the magic words to turn me off the whole idea. (throws down the brochure)

GINA
   It’s not a spa. I just meant it’s out in the country, and it has all the amenities.

JACK
   I thought rich people went to spas in the city.

GINA
   Those are day spas. These are overnight stays.

JACK
   I’m not going to a spa.

GINA
   I didn’t say you would be.

(continued)
JACK
   All right, so long as we agree.
GINA
   Yes we do. So we’re all set, let’s go.
JACK
   Where?
GINA
   On vacation.
JACK
   What?
GINA
   Why not? You call in sick tomorrow, so will I. We’ll take a long weekend.
JACK
   Together?
GINA
   No, not together.
JACK
   You just said we’ll take a long weekend.
GINA
JACK
   That’s together.
GINA
   No it’s not. I’ll take care of everything. You know you need this. You need some time off. I need some time off. We go and this way we’ll both know someone there.
JACK
   That’s together Gina. I don’t like it.
GINA
   You don’t like anything. So you can not like anything someplace other than here.
JACK
   I don’t want to go and I don’t want to go with you.
GINA
   Didn’t I just say we weren’t going together. Why don’t you go home and pack?

(CONTINUED)
JACK
I don’t want to go.

GINA
You said you didn’t want to go to a spa or the beach. This isn’t a spa or the beach. This is a vacation.

JACK
You keep saying that.

GINA
Yes I do.

JACK
Why are you so keen to have me go on vacation?

GINA
You need to get away, I see the stress lines, the tension in your face.

JACK
Since when do you care about my face? (dawning) Hey wait a minute! You already made reservations.

GINA
(pause)
Yes I did.

JACK
How? Why? (mouth open)

GINA
You can afford it and I’m paying it off.

JACK
(standing up, pointing, gesturing) You were going to go with the jerk Harry boyfriend and since he broke up with you, you came crawling to me.

GINA
I’m not crawling. You need this, you know you do. You’re arguing for the sake of arguing, that’s just stupid. Don’t be stupid. Take this chance that life is offering. It’s probably in your horoscope.

JACK
I don’t believe you.

GINA
Oh just stop it Jack. You act like I’m trying to sucker you into something. You don’t have a girlfriend. You have zero plans for this weekend. What’s the big deal?

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

JACK
I. Don’t. Want. To. Go.

GINA
Fine Jack who’s the jerk now? (gets up)

JACK
I’m not a jerk. How is this my fault?

GINA
Nothing’s your fault, nobody said it was your fault.

JACK
I know what you’re doing. You’re trying to make me feel guilty for this. I didn’t do anything.

GINA
No, you never do anything. Which is why I thought you might enjoy an opportunity TO do something.

JACK
I just don’t want to go.

GINA
It’s OK, don’t worry about it.

JACK
I’m not.

Gina storms out, Jack sits for a second, then picks up the brochure, stage goes dark.

SCENE 2 GINA’S HOUSE

Gina takes off her office blazer, kicks off her shoes, walks to the other side of the stage which is set with a dresser, a bed, clothes all over it, suitcase half packed. She messes up her hair, takes off her jewelry, her phone rings and she picks up

GINA
Hello? Oh hi. No. I thought it was a good idea. But no. He won’t go. Because he’s an ass that’s why he won’t go. Oh look it’s him calling now. No I’m not picking up. Why do I want to argue? I’ll just go alone. (she continues packing with one hand) He was a last ditch effort anyway. You’re nuts. He was probably drunk. He only likes me when he’s drunk. Or maybe he thought I was somebody else. What look? He was glassy-eyed. I’m not devastated I just didn’t want to go alone. It seems like such a loser thing to do. That’s what I get for planning ahead. If I’d been spontaneous I wouldn’t be (MORE)

(CONTINUED)
GINA (cont’d)
out my $150 because I never would’ve booked this trip in the first place. Look I’m going to go, if I stay on the phone I’ll just keep whining. I’ll talk to you when I get back. Yeah I’ll try.

hangs up phone rings she glares at it, presses a button and the ringing stops. She picks it up, turns it on vibrate, puts it down and it vibrates off the bed onto the floor. She grabs her suitcase, throws it on the bed and continues packing. Stage goes dark.

Scene 3 The next day

Other side of the stage, just a door and a street. GINA locking the door of her house. She picks up her bag and JACK comes up.

GINA
What do you want? (she starts walking)

JACK
I’m here. (he follows along with her)

GINA
So?

JACK
Come on.

GINA
What? (stops)

JACK
I’ll drive. (stops)

GINA
What are you talking about?

JACK
Come on I parked over there. Get in the car so we can go to this stupid place not together.

GINA
I don’t want to go with you.

JACK
You did yesterday.

GINA
And you said you didn’t want to go. You convinced me you shouldn’t go. Go home.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

JACK
I already called in sick.

GINA
Sounds like a personal problem to me.

JACK
I should just get in my car and drive away.

GINA
Yes you should.

JACK
OK. I’m sorry OK? I’m sorry.

GINA
Oh? About what?

JACK
I didn’t mean what I said. You’re right. I didn’t have any plans for this weekend. I do need a vacation. But I have a right to be peeved. You tried to trick me.

GINA
I didn’t try to trick you. I was just trying to find a way to talk to you. You’re impossible.

JACK
I...

GINA
You’re a jerk.

JACK
Yes I am. But I admit it. And you’re a loser if you go alone.

GINA
What did you say?

JACK
You heard me. Who goes on vacation by themselves? It’s such a loser thing to do.

GINA
(pause)
OK we agree on something.

JACK
OK follow me.

(CONTINUED)
GINA (stops)
How did you know what time I would be leaving?

JACK
I called Carol, you wouldn’t answer your phone.

GINA
How’d you get Carol’s number?

JACK
I sent her an e-mail asking for her phone number and she gave it to me. Unlike you she checks her e-mail.

GINA
Why didn’t you just ask her in the e-mail?

JACK
What?

GINA
Why didn’t you just ask her in the e-mail what time I was leaving instead of asking for her number so you could call her? You could’ve cut out a step.

JACK
Who are you? Sally Timesaver?

GINA
Just pointing out what you could’ve done.

JACK
It’s annoying.

GINA
Why?

JACK
Because it is. It isn’t important how I contacted Carol why did you have to correct me? What difference does it make?

GINA
None.

JACK
What?

GINA
You’re annoyed right?

(Continued)
JACK
   Yes I’m annoyed.

GINA
   Good. I’m glad I annoyed you. The purpose of that was to annoy you and it worked. It wasn’t important how you contacted Carol and it didn’t make a difference. Just like it’s not important how I got reservations and if we go together.

JACK
   (Silence)
   You are -

GINA
   I know.

JACK
   I’m sorry I came. I knew it was a mistake.

GINA
   And you came anyway (kisses his cheek) that was nice.

JACK
   It’s gonna take more than that to convince me you’re not insane and this is a good idea. (thunder, lightning) OK that was pretty convincing. Let’s go.

SCENE 4 AT THE LODGE

The stage set is a hotel front desk. JACK and GINA walk onstage wet. The guy at the desk greets them

CLERK
   Good afternoon.

GINA
   Not really. I had a reservation, Louis.

CLERK
   Yes (checking) Ms. Louis. We have you in Cabin 6. (getting key) It is a little wet right now for outdoor activities but we hope it will clear up in time for you to be able to eat dinner outside on our lovely patio. The indoor pool is open as well as the sauna. You of course are welcome to get a massage, pedicure, manicure, or visit our salon for a haircut or waxing; we have body, lip and eyebrow. The gym is available to you as well as the yoga or aerobics classes. There is also a stress free seminar every hour on the hour. Lunch is served between 11 and 2. Dinner anytime after 6:00 pm until 11:00 pm. The bar opens at 10 AM and closes at 2:00 AM. There is a breakfast buffet in the (MORE)

(CONTINUED)
CLERK (cont’d)
   morning starting at 7:30 am. If you have any questions
   or concerns, please just call the desk.

GINA
   (waving and finally getting his
   attention since she hadn’t listened to a
   thing he said)
   What do you mean cabin 6?

CLERK
   Excuse me?

GINA
   What do you mean Cabin 6? I made a reservation at the
   Lodge, in here, with all the people.

CLERK
   You were upgraded to a cabin, no extra charge.

GINA
   But we don’t want a cabin. We’re not here together.

CLERK
   (eyeing them both) Oh you’re not here together? I’m
   sorry I thought you were together. I’ll be right with
   you sir.

GINA
   No, no, no you have it wrong. We’re here.
   Together.(using her hands) But we’re not together. We
   want to be in the Lodge with all the other people who
   are here not together with anybody else.

CLERK
   (long pause)
   Excuse me?

GINA
   How much clearer can I make it?? We want to be in the
   Lodge.

CLERK
   (pause)
   I’m sorry but nothing is available in the lodge this
   weekend.

   Gina looks likes she’s going to cry, Jack shakes
   his head and steps up to the counter.

(CONTINUED)
JACK
Where’s the cabin?

CLERK
Turn right at the road where you came in and make the first left turn, you can’t miss it. They really are very, very, very nice, you should enjoy it.

JACK
Thank you. (He takes the key, turns and goes, Gina follows him out)

stage goes black

Scene 5 The Cabin

The stage is set for a very nice living room suite, big tv, fireplace, sofa. A door opens at the side of the stage and GINA and JACK walk in, put their suitcases down. Big screen TV to the side, fireplace, couch, off to the other side, doors for bedroom/bath, the kitchen shows

GINA
Wow this is really nice. Can I take a bath? (wanders into the bathroom)

JACK
Sure. (looks at the fireplace, tries to light it, can’t, wanders into the kitchen)

GINA
Huh. (she wanders out of the bathroom back into the living room, lights the fireplace, picks up her suitcase, goes back in the bathroom, closes the door)

JACK
Nice.

(walks out of the kitchen with a beer in his hand, drinking, goes to the living room, turns on the big flat-screen TV, lays down, room goes dark, then light comes on when Gina comes out of the bathroom dressed to go out)

GINA
Jack? (she comes out of the bathroom dressed, working on her hair) Jack do you need to get in here? I can do my hair in the bedroom.

JACK
zzzz snores

(CONTINUED)
Gina goes back into the bathroom then comes out again after her hair is done

GINA
Jack? (She finishes her hair comes back out and shakes him) Jack? I’m going out to get something to eat do you want to come?

JACK
mmm? (snorks awake) nnnnnnnnn.

GINA
OK see you later
(she leaves, Jack goes back to sleep, stage goes dark)

light comes on to shine on a person carrying a clock out on the stage, they move the hands around to indicate a few hours passing - GINA comes back into the room, Jack is in the shower, she kicks off her shoes lays on the couch.

JACK
Gina? (walks out of the shower)

GINA
Hmm?

JACK
Hey how was it? I missed lunch, I think I’m going over for a drink and some dinner, you hungry? You want to go out again?

GINA
zzzz (snores)

JACK
OK (pulling on pants and a shirt) see you later.

dark

Scene 6 In the Bar

Bar set up, JACK sits facing the stage. Gina walks up to Jack sitting at the bar by himself watching TV

GINA
Hey Big Spender.
JACK
Hey yourself. You finally woke up?

GINA
That's what a vacation is all about right? Eating and sleeping. Going to the gym. Having a massage and sauna. Getting your nails done. I did it all. How about you?

JACK
I had dinner with a bunch of guys.

GINA
(sarcastic)
Well that's different.

JACK
They're here at a bachelor party get away. One of the guys is getting married. I guess it's popular now to go away for the weekend. I don't get it. Whatever happened to a couple hours at the strip club?

GINA
Apparently there are men who don't appreciate strip clubs. You never got invited to a bachelor weekend getaway?

JACK
I don't have any friends that have gotten married lately.

GINA
You don't have any friends period.

JACK
I do too.

GINA
Not any new ones, or you wouldn't be sitting here by yourself.

JACK
I could still be sitting with the bachelor party but chose not to.

GINA
Why?

JACK
They were too drunk to talk to and I didn't want to get puked on.
GINA
OK that puts you in the clear. But you’re not with any women either.

JACK
They’re all sitting in groups. I’m just not up for it.

GINA
You aren’t user-friendly.

JACK
I’m boring. You’re confusing that with anti-social. And I’m apathetic as well remember? A lethal combination.

GINA
How many friends do you have?

JACK
I don’t know.

GINA
If you were to count them.

JACK
You can’t count friends and get an actual number! They’re not countable. You always leave somebody out.

GINA
Approximately.

JACK
150.

GINA
Come on.

JACK
I don’t know, why are you asking me?

GINA
It’s an embarrassingly low number isn’t it?

JACK
Why do you think I need to be fixed?

GINA
I’m not trying to fix you. You’re just sitting here watching TV. You could be – I don’t know, talking to someone in the room, doing something you normally don’t do. (to bartender) Margarita on the rocks please.
JACK
You don’t like it that I’m not like you. Maybe I’m just naturally weird and nothing can be done to make me fit your idea of what I should be like. I like to watch TV. There’s a game on. I’m watching the game. I’m entertained. I’m perfectly happy. Apparently you’re the unhappy one. Don’t you have anybody you can find to talk to other than me?

GINA
I’m shy with low self-esteem and poor judgment remember? I rely on others to come talk to me first.

JACK
By others you mean men?

GINA
I guess.

JACK
And what if they don’t?

GINA
Poor me I’m glad I have Jack here to talk to.

JACK
Are you serious?

GINA
About what?

JACK
About waiting around for a man to come over and talk to you?

GINA
Yes.

JACK
So what if they don’t?

GINA
I give them the eye. I try to catch their attention. (sips drink)

JACK
What if that doesn’t work?

GINA
I try harder.
JACK
Are you telling me you wouldn’t go over and talk to a man?? I hate women like you.

GINA
What? If they don’t come to talk to me I just figure they’re not interested. So what’s the point?

JACK
I thought you had more balls than that.

GINA
Girls don’t have balls.

JACK
Yeah right. I can’t believe you wait for the man to come up to you. That’s just stupid. If you want to talk to somebody go talk to them.

GINA
It always makes me nervous to talk to a stranger and it’s so awkward. What if they blow me off? I don’t want to be rejected.

JACK
Has it ever happened?

GINA
What?

JACK
Have you ever gone up to talk to someone and they rejected you?

GINA
I don’t know.

JACK
You don’t know??

GINA
I guess it must have.

JACK
But you can’t recall a specific time and place where it did?

GINA
No.

JACK
Really think about it.
GINA
No. OK? No, I can’t think of a time when I went up to talk to somebody and got rejected.

JACK
So this fear you have is totally unwarranted. No basis for it. No relevant incident caused it; needless worry.

GINA
Shut up will you?

JACK
Ah fixing Gina is a different story. Who would you like to talk to in here?

GINA
Nobody.

JACK
Seriously, pick a guy.

GINA
You are such an ass.

JACK
This can be our little experiment. Pick.

GINA
That one, he’s like the cutest guy in here. (pause) You know, that I don’t know I mean.

JACK
No offense taken, but pick another one, he’s married his wife’s in the bathroom or something I saw them earlier.

GINA
Oh for godssake no. There isn’t anybody else I want to talk to.

JACK
How did you manage to pick so many losers being as fussy as you are?

GINA
I didn’t pick them, they came and talked to me first, remember?

JACK
And you let them.

(CONTINUED)
GINA  You’re depressing me again can we talk about something else? I mean do I look like a loser?

JACK  No you look like you deserve someone special. That’s what scares everybody away.

GINA  Yeah right, so how does somebody like me get a date?

JACK  Go find one. You know, talk to him first.

GINA  What do you do when you see somebody you like?

JACK  I try to catch her eye, get noticed. Then I wait for her to come up and talk to me.

GINA  You do not, come on.

JACK  I watch her. I decide what my opening line will be. Then I stand up and go over to her, predator to prey — is that what you want to hear?

GINA  I just want to know how men think.

JACK  We decide what our chances are. Then we go up and talk to her anyway. You keep swinging eventually you hit something.

GINA  What if I turn you down?

JACK  I go away and try somebody else.

GINA  Why? Why wouldn’t you try harder?

JACK  Why would I?

GINA  Because what if I just want to see how much you really like me? Maybe I play hard to get.
JACK
Women make everything complicated. You don’t like anything simple.

GINA
Sometimes we just want to see how serious you are. You know, find out if you really like us or if you’re just trying to get us in the sack.

JACK
We’re always trying to get you in the sack.

GINA
Yeah that’s the bottom line but how much wooing will there be first?

JACK
With me, very little. I suppose others put forth more effort than I do though.

GINA
You’re lazy?

JACK
It’s just not worth it. If I have to work that hard the next thing is a down payment on a hall and I have no interest in commitment.

GINA
You’re an obvious commit-o-phobe.

JACK
Obvious huh?

GINA
Yes. It’s written all over you. And if someone can’t read, you’ll just come right out with it. You can’t commit to doing something next week let alone next month.

JACK
So?

GINA
Nothing wrong with that except it looks like you’re afraid.

JACK
I am afraid.

GINA
Everybody is to some extent but you go to the extreme.

(Continued)
JACK
So? I admit it readily. Commitment is like a ball and chain. A whole set of rules where I can’t do this or I can’t do that. And of course if I can’t do it I want to. So why start in the first place?

GINA
So you don’t commit in the first place –

JACK
Thereby not ruining anyone’s expectations or my own.

GINA
That’s just like being afraid to fail so you never try anything.

JACK
You try?

GINA
Yes! I am afraid to commit too but I do. A little. I give a little, see how it goes. I’m afraid but I still try, at least I try.

JACK
So you think everything I do is from a fear base.

GINA
Well (thinking) I guess I do.

JACK
And that’s bad.

GINA
Yes, that’s bad.

JACK
I disagree.

GINA
You always do.

JACK
Being afraid is a survivor tactic.

GINA
What are you surviving?

JACK
Women. Women trying to change you. They think you don’t mean it when you say you don’t want to commit. They think they are the one to change your mind.
GINA That’s because we believe in love and romance. We think if you found the right person you wouldn’t feel that way anymore, you’d want to commit.

JACK And they think they’re the right person?

GINA They think so, yes.

JACK But they never are.

GINA But they don’t know that. Even you don’t know that, how can you be so sure?

JACK Because I don’t pick the right one for me on purpose, how’s that? I haven’t picked the right one yet and the right one hasn’t picked me either so I think we’re pretty much set on the subject.

GINA You don’t believe there’s a right one for you?

JACK I don’t think so, no.

GINA You expect to be alone forever??

JACK No I don’t expect to be alone forever. I’m not that ugly or mean. I expect I’ll find some girlfriends out there who will put up with me for a little while.

GINA So you want a girlfriend for awhile.

JACK Yes.

GINA Just not forever.

JACK What is it with this forever thing?? Does anything last forever except maybe Styrofoam? Come on it’s the exception to the rule that two people stay together for their whole lives.
GINA
I know, I mean everybody knows. But you see the end before you even begin. I don’t understand how you can go into a relationship saying oh this’ll last a week or a month or 2 months, then I’ll move on. Nobody has a crystal ball I mean why can’t you just go with the flow? Maybe it’s a trust issue.

JACK
What?

GINA
That’s what a ring means right? Exclusivity. You’re wearing my ring you’re mine, no one else can have you.

JACK
How did we get from a week-long relationship to talking about rings? It’s like commitment central around here.

GINA
Trust, I was talking about trust and relationships and why you give someone a ring.

JACK
No you weren’t. You started off talking about my pessimistic attitude on relationships. And then you went to trust. The ring part you never even got to and suddenly it’s the whole point.

GINA
Jack, will you just keep up?

JACK
How can I keep up with something that makes no sense?

GINA
Look, forget about it. I’m trying to be serious and you’re clowning around.

JACK
I’m not clowning around. You said you give someone a ring because you don’t trust them!

GINA
Well you might trust them but you don’t trust anybody around them. You see? So you give them a ring with the notion that others see the ring, and they know somebody’s taken. No guessing game. Back off.

JACK
OK I’m following until you jump ship again. So you look for a ring on the person’s finger?
GINA
Always. Don’t you?

JACK
I (rolls his eyes) don’t think about it I guess, I don’t make it a habit to go out with married women though.

GINA
We think differently.

JACK
Yeah but I knew that before.

GINA
What about romance?

JACK
You’re doing it again! What are you talking about now?

GINA
What do you think when I say romance?

JACK
Thank god I’ve been drinking.

GINA
Romance makes you wish you were drunk?

JACK
No, but this conversation does. Romance: some woman making me listen to background music and lighting candles.

GINA
What about passion?

JACK
Sex.

GINA
Really?

JACK
Yeah, why, was that the wrong answer, doctor?

GINA
I’m not a shrink I’m just saying. Passion is so much more than that. It’s romance, it’s desire.

JACK
It’s sex.

(CONTINUED)
GINA
It’s push me up against the wall and kiss me like at that moment in time you want no one but me.

JACK
OK. And then we have sex.

GINA
Oh all right, yeah, the passion is the foreplay part. Certainly you’ve had that before, where you rip off your clothes and you can’t stop kissing.

JACK
Yeah right before sex.

GINA
God, OK yes, then you know what I mean. On occasion, you need passion.

JACK
What if I get the occasion wrong?

GINA
What happens if you don’t?

JACK
Risk factor too high, I’d rather play it safe.

GINA
Safe is boring.

JACK
Boring but safe.

GINA
And then you move on so it doesn’t matter right if you get it right or not, safe as you are.

JACK
Something like that.

GINA
Ever wish you hadn’t moved on?

JACK
You mean regret?

GINA
Yeah, have any regrets?

JACK
No.
GINA
You didn’t even think about it.

JACK
I don’t have to. Regrets about people is a bad thing. People change, and we remember them like the last time we saw them and say oh what if? But you can’t turn back the clock. People change, they don’t stand still in time waiting for us. (moves) I don’t know how women can talk like this all the time. I’m exhausted.

GINA
Yeah, you’ve probably used parts of your brain you’ve never used before.

JACK
Probably. And I hope I never have to use them again. I like being a man who doesn’t talk much. It suits me. I don’t want to have to figure out other people. I don’t really care about other people.

GINA
You’re going to go through life a lonely old man.

JACK
What do you care?

GINA
I’m your friend, I care.

JACK
You’ll have to do better than that.

GINA
(pause)
I don’t know Jack, if you can grow old and be miserable it could happen to me too.

JACK
So if it doesn’t happen to me it won’t happen to you? I don’t know that it’s contagious.

GINA
It’s the best I could come up with. I don’t have a boyfriend. But you could probably go out tomorrow and get yourself a girlfriend.

JACK
Even if I could, and even if I did, it probably wouldn’t last long.

(CONTINUED)
GINA
   It’s still better than not having one at all.

JACK
   Well I would say quality counts more than quantity in this instance. (gets up) I’m going back to the room, watch some TV.

GINA
   You’re going to watch TV?

JACK
   Yes I am. Why what would you rather I do?

GINA
   Nothing.

JACK
   There was tone there I believe.

GINA
   No, no tone. I can’t decide what I want to do is all. Maybe I’ll walk back with you. Or maybe I’ll just take a walk.

JACK
   You can’t go walking around out there, it’s late, it’s dark.

GINA
   So? We’re at some kind of resort.

JACK
   I don’t care, you could get killed out there.

GINA
   Jack!

JACK
   It’s true, we’re in the middle of nowhere. Who knows who else is around?

GINA
   All right.

JACK
   Why can’t women just go back to the room and watch TV? Why do they always want to take a walk after dinner?

GINA
   It’s to annoy the men in their lives.
JACK
And it works every time.

GINA
OK I’ll walk back to the cabin, with you as my protector. (they leave)

JACK
I’m sleeping in the bed.

GINA
I called the bedroom!

JACK
You did not. I called it, just now.

GINA
That doesn’t count!

JACK
Yes it does. I’m sleeping in the bed.

GINA
Well then so am I!

JACK
What?

GINA
You heard me.

JACK
Fine, join me.

GINA
I will.

JACK
I sleep naked.

GINA
I don’t.

JACK
What if you did?

GINA
I don’t.

JACK
But just this once.

(continued)
GINA Are you propositioning me?

JACK I don’t know.

GINA You can’t even make up your mind about that.

JACK It depends on how you look naked.

GINA Ugh. (they arrive)

JACK I’m going to take a shower.

GINA First let me brush my teeth.

(she goes in, JACK turns on TV, she comes out and lays on the couch, he goes in to take a shower)

JACK So (coming out of the shower) you ready for bed? (he goes over and she’s asleep on the couch. He covers her up and then lays on the other end and changes the channel)
ACT 2 THE NEXT DAY

Scene 1

Someone knocking at the door. Jack comes out of the bedroom yawning, Gina is still sleeping on the couch, someone’s still knocking at the door, Jack goes and answers it. Guy is standing there with a tennis racket.

TENNIS GUY
Is Gina here?

JACK
Uh, yeah, she’s still sleeping.

TENNIS GUY
She said she’d play tennis with me this morning.

JACK
Oh in that case, let me go get her. (goes to the couch and shakes her)

GINA
What? (annoyed)

JACK
What’s your name? (he yells to the guy still standing in the doorway)

TENNIS GUY
Sam.

JACK
Sam’s here to play tennis with you.

GINA
(sits straight up and looks at Sam) Oh hi, sorry, what time do you have the court for?

TENNIS GUY
A half hour from now.

GINA
It’ll only take me a minute. (jumps up and goes into the bathroom)

JACK stands there. SAM stands there.

JACK
Coffee? (he doesn’t wait for an answer but shuffles off to the kitchen. Sam comes in, shuts door, joins him)
TENNIS GUY
I like this place it looks just like mine. I come here as often as I can. (JACK is still making coffee) How do you like it?

JACK
Huh? Here? OK I guess.

TENNIS GUY
Gina said you were friends, that you worked together.

JACK
Yeah.

TENNIS GUY
What do you do?

JACK
(dully) Finance Consultant.

TENNIS GUY
I’m an Insurance Adjuster.

JACK
I bet you are.

TENNIS GUY
What?

JACK
I bet that’s interesting.

TENNIS GUY
It really is you know. Most people hear "insurance" and they run away because I mean who wants to talk about insurance? All the bad press that goes with it, it’s like who wants to talk to a lawyer? Nobody wants to hang with the land sharks.

JACK
My dad’s a lawyer.

TENNIS GUY
Then you probably understand what I mean.

JACK
No. My father is brilliant. I like hanging out with him. Everything he says is fascinating.

Gina walks out of the bathroom with a towel on her head.

(CONTINUED)
GINA
I’ll only be a couple more minutes. (she goes into bedroom and closes door)

Jack pours himself a cup of coffee. He shuffles out of the kitchen and into the living room and turns on the TV. SAM just stands there with a dumb look on his face. Gina comes out of the bedroom.

GINA
OK ready to go. Let me just get a cup of coffee. Do you want one Sam?

TENNIS GUY
Sure if it’s not too much trouble.

GINA
No trouble. Milk? Sugar?

TENNIS GUY
No black is fine.

GINA
OK (adds milk to hers). Jack made the coffee right?

Sam sips and coughs.

GINA
Yeah, it’d be strong. (Jack smiles) Seems a tad stronger than usual Jack.

JACK
Don’t know why that’d be, Gina.

Gina glares at Jack.

TENNIS GUY
Shall we go? (putting down almost full coffee cup) Nice meeting you.

JACK
(grunts, waves. Gina and SAM leave. After they go there’s a knock at the door) Come in! (yells instead of getting up)

BACHELOR PARTY GUY
(doors opens carefully) Jack?

JACK
(looking) Oh hi.

(CONTINUED)
BACHELOR PARTY GUY

Yeah it’s Bud. you want to go out on the lake with us?
We’re renting a boat.

JACK

Do any of you know how to drive a boat?

BACHELOR PARTY GUY

We figure there’s not much to it. Want to come?

JACK

(shrugs) Sure, one minute. (goes in the bedroom comes out in swimsuit, t-shirt, sunglasses, holding sunscreen) OK all set

BACHELOR PARTY GUY

Cool. (they leave)

curtain

Scene 2

Gina’s at the bar, facing the audience. She’s wearing bathing suit, sunglasses, sitting with a handsome guy DAVE

GINA

You were right, this hits the spot.

DAVE

I like this little resort. I’ve been here a couple times before I think it’s very relaxing.

GINA

Do you usually come alone?

DAVE

Yes. Although I hear you have a roommate.

GINA

Yes. Jack is my friend, he never goes anywhere so I figured he’d be free to drive over with me. It’s easier with 2 drivers.

DAVE

(smiling) Oh so you’re just friends.

GINA

Yes.

Jack staggers into view with the rest of the bachelor party crowd. They are all drunk. The other guys are waving good-bye to Jack as he spots Gina and makes his way over to her.

(Continued)
CONTINUED:

JACK
Gina!

GINA
(startled) Jack!

JACK
I love you Gina. (Jack picks her up and kisses her, lets her fall back into the chair.)

GINA
You’re drunk Jack!

JACK
I know Gina.

DAVE
(raises eyebrows) I guess I’ll leave you two alone.

GINA
(disappointed) No really he’s just drunk.

DAVE
I see that. (leaves)

JACK
(waving) Bye bye. (to Gina) I’m better looking than he is.

GINA
You certainly are drunker than he is. Come on. (helps him up and starts toward the cabin)

JACK
Where are we going?

GINA
Back to the cabin.

JACK
Are we going to make love?

GINA
I doubt you’ll remain conscious long enough for that.

JACK
What’s conscious? Come on let’s go to bed.

GINA
I think you should go to bed yes.

(CONTINUED)
JACK
  You come with me.

GINA
  (opening door to cabin) OK we’re home.

JACK
  That was nice.

GINA
  What?

JACK
  The kiss.

GINA
  What kiss? (Gina gets him on the couch)

JACK
  In the bar. Even though you weren’t ready for it, it was nice.

GINA
  Yeah you’re a good kisser Jack.

JACK
  I think I need to lay down.

GINA
  (helps him on the couch) You are.

JACK
  Good. (Jack passes out)

GINA
  (sighs, goes back to the bar, orders a drink, looks around for Dave)

SOME GIRL
  (comes up and sits next to GINA) Hey, you were with that drunk guy!

GINA
  We’re not together.

SOME GIRL
  Oh good! Can you tell me what room he’s in? I saw him out on a boat today, we had so much fun!

GINA
  A boat? Jack was on a boat?

(CONTINUED)
SOME GIRL
With a whole bunch of other guys, a bachelor weekend.

GINA
Oh. Yeah Jack’s a fun guy. (pauses) You know, I don’t know what room he’s in. I left him with some guy in the lodge who said he’d take care of him.

LINDA
Oh. That’s too bad. Well OK, thanks anyway. (leaves)

GINA
How do they do it? (to herself)

Party groom comes up to her

BUD
Mind if I sit here?

GINA
No. Aren’t you with the bachelor weekend?

BUD
Yeah I am! And you’re with Jack! Want a drink?

GINA
Haven’t you had enough to drink?

BUD
I wasn’t drinking. I mean I had a drink in my hand but it wasn’t alcoholic.

GINA
Why not?

BUD
I’m really not much of a drinker, but I don’t want to ruin everybody else’s good time. It’s more fun to watch sometimes anyway. Jack was talking about you.

GINA
He likes me when he’s drunk.

BUD
It sounded like it. What about when he’s sober?

GINA
He could care less about me.

BUD
It doesn’t seem like it would be hard to keep him drunk.

(CONTINUED)
GINA  
(laughs) No it probably wouldn’t be. You’re getting married?

BUD  
Yeah.

GINA  
Are you happy about it? Excited?

BUD  
I can’t believe we’re really going to do it. We talked about it for a year before I even gave her the ring.

GINA  
Got cold feet?

BUD  
I can’t really picture myself married with kids.

GINA  
Who can?

BUD  
So you think that’s normal?

GINA  
That’s what I think. Where’s the rest of the pack?

BUD  
Passed out somewhere.

GINA  
Do you love her?

BUD  
With all my heart.

GINA  
Then it’ll be just fine.

BUD  
That’s all it takes huh?

GINA  
Well that and a good job. And compassion and empathy and caring and honesty.

BUD  
Girls want a lot.
GINA
So do boys. They just don’t say it out loud.

BUD
I don’t think so. Well I got to go.

GINA
Good luck.

BUD
Thanks.
ACT 3 THE LAST DAY

Scene 1

Gina is packing, it’s raining. Jack is in the shower. The lights flicker and go out, she lights candles. There is a knock at the door, Gina answers it

CLERK
So sorry to bother you, I had to let you know the main road is closed, the storm and all. There is no food service, the electricity is off. You had ordered sandwiches to go today, and here they are.

GINA
I did? Oh, when I made the reservations.

CLERK
Yes ma’am. There is no charge for staying the extra night since you have no choice, but the facilities will be closed. Everyone is usually gone by now you see and we have no new guests until Thursday. Have a nice night.

GINA
Thank you (takes basket and closes door).

She goes back to packing and Jack eventually comes out of the bathroom in a towel.

JACK
My head hurts. And my shower was not hot. It was dark. I’m not sure if I got all the soap out of my hair.

GINA
The electricity’s off because of the storm.

JACK
Ah. I followed the light out here. Now the darkness makes sense.

GINA
How’s your head?

JACK
It doesn’t feel like a hangover, it feels more like somebody kicked my head. Hard. Repeatedly.

GINA
Nobody kicked you in the head.

(CONTINUED)
JACK
Are you sure? How can you be sure?

GINA
After you chased away the cute guy I was talking to I brought you back here and helped you to the couch. Oh you’re right, then I kicked you in the head.

JACK
I knew it.

GINA
If only.

JACK
What do you mean chased away your cute guy?

GINA
I was talking to a cute guy at the bar. You came up, told me you loved me, and kissed me.

JACK
Wow really?

GINA
Yes.

JACK
I’m sorry.

GINA
So was I. The only time you like me is when you’re drunk.

JACK
I can’t help it, I like everybody when I’m drunk.

GINA
I suppose that’s useful information.

JACK
So, what happened with the cute guy after you dropped me off here?

GINA
He left.

JACK
I’m sorry.

GINA
It’s fine. I was looking to meet some new people and I did.

(CONTINUED)
JACK
Did you have a nice vacation?

GINA
It was fine.

JACK
That means it was a wash. When a woman says something was fine they never mean it.

GINA
You’re smart beyond your years.

JACK
Except when I drink.

GINA
Yeah. The guy from the lodge came over and said the main road is closed.

JACK
You mean we’re stuck here?

GINA
In the rain, with no electricity. No food service.

JACK
No food?

GINA
You’re hungry?

JACK
I’m working on it. I just drank a couple gallons of water. I think I might need a couple more. (walks over to the picnic basket, comes back with a sandwich) These are awesome. Where did they come from?

GINA
I had ordered a picnic to go when I made reservations. Don’t eat that if you’re just going to throw it up, we’re rationing.

JACK
I’m not going to puke.

GINA
I hope you’re sure.

JACK
What I wouldn’t give for coffee.

(CONTINUED)
GINA
I found a French press in the cupboard. If you can find a way to boil some water, we can have coffee.

JACK
What’s a French press? It sounds dirty.

GINA
It’s a coffee press, you put the coffee in, add boiling water, push down on the top – I’ll show you if you get me some hot water.

JACK
Isn’t this a gas stove?

GINA
No pilot light.

JACK
Let’s see – matches?

GINA
I don’t have any. Maybe if you got out of your towel and into your clothes you would have pockets to search.

JACK
True. (leaves, comes back dressed, holding up his hand) Matches!

GINA
Good give it a shot. (he does and it works) Ah you are good for something.

JACK
Yes I am. I need something to put water in.

GINA
Here’s a tea kettle. (she leaves to continue packing)

JACK
Thank you. (fills kettle, lights stove) There, that shouldn’t take long. (looks at phone) No cell service?

GINA
No.

JACK
So we can’t call into work?

GINA
Not now anyway. Maybe it’ll all clear up and we can leave tomorrow early and just be very, very late.

(CONTINUED)
JACK
Yeah. It wouldn’t be the first time.

GINA
What?

JACK
Coming into the office late. (puts phone away) I think I hear the water boiling.

GINA
That was pretty fast did you put any water in there at all?

JACK
Yes I put in just enough. How much boiling does it need to do before it’s ready?

GINA
I’m not sure. I think any kind of boiling will do.

JACK
Come here and check.

GINA
I think it whistles.

JACK
What whistles?

GINA
The tea kettle. Haven’t you ever boiled water in a tea kettle before?

JACK
No. It’s not whistling. But I think it’s boiling.

GINA
Let it whistle.

JACK
OK. Ah! Do you hear that? Whistling.

GINA
OK, turn it off. (she grabs coffee press) You put the coffee in like this. Then pour the water in. I need milk, can you get it for me?

JACK
You think it’s still good?
GINA  The electricity’s only been out since this morning, isn’t the fridge still cold on the inside?

JACK  Yes OK.

GINA  Yes. Pour the water in up to here. Yes. That looks pretty good.

JACK  When do you push down on the thing?

GINA  Give it a minute.

JACK  Can I push now?

GINA  No.

JACK  I’m sorry about last night.

GINA  I think you said that already.

JACK  Can I push now?

GINA  No.

JACK  But I sincerely mean it this time. About being sorry I mean. Can I push now?

GINA  No. I thought you sincerely meant it last time.

JACK  I did.

GINA  So why are you telling me again?

JACK  Because I feel the need. Can I push now?
GINA  
Yes you can push now. You can stop saying you’re sorry. you didn’t ruin anything. (he pours 2 coffees) This trip was all just a by product of a bad relationship. It probably would’ve been cheaper to just toss the reservations.

JACK  
Cheaper how?

GINA  
I don’t know. It probably could’ve saved a couple arguments.

JACK  
Those don’t cost much. And I would never have learned about a French press. Thank you for taking me along.

GINA  
You’re the same person you were before, why thank me for this?

JACK  
What is that supposed to mean? This was a vacation right? Not some sort of religious experience. Was I supposed to go through some life-altering change?

GINA  
I don’t know.

JACK  
Again, women and change. You think I needed it more than you?

GINA  
No, I would’ve liked to have had an epiphany as well. You know, wake up to a revelation without having to go through some life or death experience to get there. I always expect something to be different. But this time it’s not.

JACK  
So you don’t want to just fix me you want to fix yourself as well.

GINA  
Well yeah, why wouldn’t I? And why wouldn’t you? I still say you will be a sorry old man.

JACK  
That seems to bother you more than it bothers me.
GINA
I know, why is that?

JACK
You’re more emotional than me. I think you have a better imagination than me. You want a white knight on a white horse and live in a castle surrounded by a picket fence.

GINA
I wouldn’t go as far as a knight on a horse. And nobody does picket fences anymore.

JACK
What about living in a castle?

GINA
Why live in a castle if you don’t have a knight?

JACK
Make up your mind.

GINA
You’re the one talking about castles and knights...

JACK
That’s true but only because you started it. (pause) What are we going to do now? No electricity, no TV, no lights. We have food. Want to have sex?

GINA
No. Usually you only want to do that with me if you’re drunk.

JACK
It’s not true. I’d have sex with you now and I’m not drunk. I don’t even want to think about drinking again.

GINA
It’s not funny Jack

JACK
I can tell, you’re not laughing. What’s not funny?

GINA
Everything’s a joke to you. Me, this place, us.

JACK
Us? There’s an us?

GINA
See? Yes there’s an us. You are my friend. I am your friend. But you keep asking me to have sex with you

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)
GINA (cont’d)
when you’re drunk. And when you’re sober you could care
less.

JACK
Not true. I always want sex. And I just asked you if
you wanted to have sex, and I’m sober.

GINA
You weren’t serious.

JACK
Gina, am I serious when I’m drunk and ask you??

GINA
We’re talking about me not you. What is it with me?

JACK
I don’t know. You are my friend. And sometimes I forget
that, and I think of you as a woman. But it’s why we’ve
stayed friends all this time – we haven’t crossed that
line.

GINA
What if I want to cross?

JACK
You have high ethical standards. I’m relying on that to
keep us apart.

GINA
What if I just want to have sex with you?

JACK
Gina you don’t want to just have sex with anybody. You
want to fix and change and take your boyfriend
shopping. You’re not the tumble in the sack kind of
girl. There’s nothing wrong with that. There’s nothing
wrong with you.

GINA
(reaches over and kisses him) Well?

JACK
(stunned) Well what?

GINA
(kisses him again) I don’t know.

JACK
(pulling her close and kissing her back) Me either.

There’s a knock at the door. They both ignore it
at first. Knock grows louder, more insistent.

(CONTINUED)
GINA  
(yelling) What? Who is it?

SAM  
(from behind door) Gina?

GINA  
(untangles herself from JACK and goes and opens door, JACK sits on the couch) Sam?

SAM  
Hi! Some of us are getting together at the lodge to play cards. Want to come?

JACK  
(yelling from the couch) What kind of cards?

SAM  
Whatever there are enough people for. Just put on a raincoat and come over to the main lodge lobby. They’re setting up tables now. I’ve got a couple more cabins to go to. See you there!

    Gina closes the door and stomps back to the couch.

GINA  
Cards??

JACK  
(holds up a hand to protect his head) Well I thought I’d check what kind.

GINA  
We were kissing!

JACK  
You answered the door.

    Another knock at the door. Gina stomps back and opens it again.

CLERK  
Did Sam already invite you to the card party?

GINA  
As a matter of fact he did.

CLERK  
That’s good! I hope you can come!

GINA  
Thanks.

(CONTINUED)
slams door, walks back to JACK, pulls him up, starts kissing him again, knocks him back on the couch, falling on top of him when crack the couch breaks. Gina rolls off dragging Jack with her

JACK
Ugh! Gina! Ugh!

GINA
Jack? Are you OK?

GINA jumps off of him and frantically jumps up and down

JACK
No! My arm! Ugh!

GINA
What’s wrong? Is it broken?

JACK
I don’t know! it hurts like hell!

GINA
Let me see it!

JACK
No! Don’t touch it!

GINA
I’m sorry, I’m sorry, let’s get you up. (tries to help him up)

JACK
Ugh! No! God! Gina!

GINA
I’m sorry, I’m not any good at this.

JACK
I can see that!

GINA
I’m not a nurse!

JACK
I could’ve guessed that too.

GINA
What do you want me to do?
JACK

Don’t touch me! (getting up) OK! I’m going to go to the main lodge, maybe they have an emergency med kit or something.

GINA

I’ll come with you. (runs to the closet, digging around) I have an umbrella and look, a rain poncho! You don’t want to go out there and get soaked.

JACK

I don’t really care.

GINA

You will when you’re sitting there all wet. Come let me help you put this on. (starts putting on the poncho)

JACK

Hey!

GINA

Look, I’ll be careful.

JACK

Just – OK wait – Stop – Gina – Stop! Back away!

GINA

Oh come on Jack.

JACK

Come on what?

GINA

Stop being such a baby!

JACK

I’m not! I’m hurt and you keep on hurting me!

GINA

You’re only half way covered come here, there, come on.

JACK

I don’t really want you to help me, I don’t want to wear the poncho.

GINA

You’ll feel better dry.

JACK

I don’t care. We have an umbrella.
GINA: It’s pouring outside. I just, come on, let me put this on you!

JACK: ENOUGH! Stop it, just stop it I don’t want the poncho!

GINA: (starting to cry) Fine. Fine you don’t want it. I was just trying to help.

JACK: You weren’t helping, you were insisting!

GINA: But you don’t want to get wet!

JACK: YOU don’t want to get wet. I don’t care! Listen to what I’m saying!

GINA: Fine. I have the umbrella, let’s go.

JACK: I want the umbrella. You put on the poncho.

GINA: Fine. (she puts it on) No, I have the umbrella. (opens it and almost hits JACK)

JACK: Watch that umbrella!

GINA: What? (starting to cry again)

JACK: You’re trying to kill me.

GINA: I am not!

JACK: Let’s go. Watch my arm. Careful!

GINA: We can both fit under the umbrella if you just watch what you’re doing.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

JACK
ME? You’ve got the poncho on, why do you need to be under the umbrella? I thought that was the deal!

GINA
I need both! I hate getting wet!

JACK
What are you going to do next Gina, push me off a cliff?

GINA
What cliff? There are no cliffs around here. (opens the door) Oh it’s pouring.

JACK
You don’t say.

GINA
Don’t worry Jack, we’ll get to the lodge in no time. (walks out the door and JACK falls down) Jack! Jack are you OK?

JACK
No, don’t touch me. (yelling from off stage)

Scene 2

They’re sitting at the bar at the lodge, drinking. Jack has his arm in a sling, Gina has her arm in a sling, they both hold drinks. They are all wet, the broken umbrella and torn poncho are on the floor. They look defeated. They stare straight ahead at the audience.

JACK
(after a silence)
Nice of them to open the bar. (sips drink)

GINA
They probably did it because you threatened them with a lawsuit if they didn’t. (sips drink)

JACK
(pause)
That was a pretty good line wasn’t it? I was pretty convincing. (sips drink)

GINA
Yes. Yes you were. I was impressed. (pause) It was almost as if you’d had legal training. (sips drink)

(CONTINUED)
JACK
  Yes. (pause) Sometimes I am awesome. (sips drink)

GINA
  (long pause)
  They’re still playing cards in there. Want to play cards? (sips drink)

JACK
  (pause)
  How? (sips drink)

GINA
  We could be a team. I hold the cards and you play them. Or something. (sips drink)

JACK
  You’d have to sit in my lap for that to work. I don’t think you’d enjoy it. You know, hitting the table with your legs, trying to get comfortable. (pause) Failing.

GINA
  We’re never going to have sex are we? (sips drink)

JACK
  No I don’t think so. (sips drink)

GINA
  It wouldn’t have lasted if we did would it?

JACK
  No, I don’t think so.

GINA
  Think we’ll stay friends?

JACK
  (looks at her) Yes I do.

GINA
  Are you sure?

JACK
  Why wouldn’t we? This trip only hurt us physically. I’m sure emotionally we’ve grown and expanded and gotten further down our path of friendship.

GINA
  (Looks at him)
  What?
JACK
I thought that was a very feminine thing to say and you’d like to hear it.

GINA
But do like me enough to have sex with me?

JACK
Are you drunk?

GINA
I don’t think so.

JACK
Gina, I’m a man. You’re a woman. Of course I like you enough to have sex with you. Haven’t we been over this a million times already just this weekend?

GINA
Yeah you’re a man. Do you mean you’d only have sex with me because I’m just some woman? (starting to cry) Not because I’m me?

JACK
Why are you insulted that we never had a one-night stand?

GINA
I don’t know. I just feel left out.

JACK
Oh for godssake Gina you are fabulous.

GINA
True.

JACK
You only want me because you don’t have a boyfriend at the moment.

GINA
True.

JACK
If you had a boyfriend, you wouldn’t even consider me.

GINA
True.

JACK
You don’t have to agree to everything.

(Continued)
GINA
   Hm. (pause) What about later?
JACK
   Later what?
GINA
   If you never find anyone. And you’re all alone. And old.
JACK
   What’s your point?
GINA
   I mean could we have sex then?
JACK
   You’d have to be alone and old too.
GINA
   If I didn’t find anyone I would be.
JACK
   You mean if you end up like me?
GINA
   Yes.
JACK
   Would I have sex with you then? Maybe a relationship?
GINA
   Yeah I mean you’d be old, not much time left. Forever isn’t so long, you know?
JACK
   You want me to be your ace in the hole?
GINA
   Yeah. My Plan B.
JACK
   I don’t think you’ll need it. (sighs) But I would be happy, and probably grateful, if you would even consider having sex and a relationship with me when I’m old and lonely.
GINA
   Really? I mean you’re not just saying that?
JACK
   (leans over and kisses her) I really mean it.

(CONTINUED)
GINA
I feel better.

JACK
I’m glad.

The lights suddenly come back on in the room

JACK
Oh the power’s back on.

SAM
(walking in the room) Hey the rain’s stopping. They’re saying they think the roads should be clear enough to leave in a couple hours or so.

CLERK
(walking in)
That is correct. I’m going to have to close the bar and ask you to leave.

GINA
(blinking in the light) They’re kicking us out.

JACK
(blinking) Do you want to stay? I could make them let us stay.

GINA
No. No more trouble. I’m ready to go. We can go home now.

JACK
Yeah. I don’t think I’m going in to work tomorrow.

GINA
Me either. My arm hurts. How about you?

JACK
The ice helped. (holds up his glass with ice cubes)

GINA
At least it wasn’t broken.

JACK
Or yours.

GINA
It was kind of an adventure?

JACK
Adventure is one way to put it.
GINA
Are you sorry you came?

JACK
I wouldn’t have missed it for the world.

GINA
(pause)
You’re just saying that aren’t you?

JACK
Pretty much. But it doesn’t mean that I don’t like you or that I don’t want to be your friend. I will miss you when I’m old and lonely and you’re married with 12 kids in a castle.

GINA
(leaning her head on his shoulder, smiling)
12 kids?

JACK
You know, filling the castle.

GINA
Ah I get it. Well no, I don’t. But thanks.

JACK
Can we go now?

GINA
Yes. We can go now.

JACK
Thanks for asking me to go on vacation not together.

GINA
(smiling)
Thanks for insisting.

CLERK
Who is paying?

JACK
(frowning)
I am. (pulls out money)

CLERK
Thank you, have a nice day.

JACK
Why are you smiling?

(CONTINUED)
GINA

Because I know now that we’ll always have something holding us together.

JACK

(nervously)
And that means - what?

GINA

That we’re friends.

JACK

(relieved)
Ah. OK. So we can go get in the car and leave now?

GINA

Yes we can.

JACK

No hard feelings?

GINA

Only soft ones.

JACK

(smiling)
OK.

They climb off the bar stools and walk out of the room.