

The Ass End of Something

A Short Play

By

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Characters:

LISA A 22 year old woman.

BRAD A 25 year old man.

Setting:

A secluded city sidewalk at night.

(City street, night. LISA, 22, attempts to walk away from BRAD, 25. BRAD impedes her progress.)

LISA

You realize there are laws against following people around—

BRAD

Is there a law against loving?

LISA

Against stalking. Don't be cute.

BRAD

So you admit it. You find me attractive.

LISA

No. That's not what I—I am not, nor was I ever, attracted to you.

BRAD

We connected. Remember? At Walgreens.

LISA

No we didn't, you kept pestering me—

BRAD

You showed me which buttons to push on the register. You touched my hand.

LISA

By accident. I was training you. Get away. I'm taking self defense lessons. I'll destroy you.

BRAD

Good. If I cannot love you, I'd rather die. Here. Strike my throat. Right here, it only takes a little pressure to crush my windpipe.

(LISA, disgusted, turns to walk away.)

BRAD

Lisa. Wait. Wait, Lisa. I wrote you a poem. Here, take it.

LISA

I don't want your degenerate poems. If Ray finds out you've been following me, he'll—

BRAD

(Talking over LISA. While BRAD speaks, LISA attempts to interrupt him or sneak away, to no avail.) I don't care what becomes of me. True love never dies. This body, though. It's

impermanent...a delicate, inconsequential vessel. The muscles, the bones, the brain, all of it will wither and rot away. But my love for you, is like a...a very long tapeworm. Yes, that's it. The longest, thickest tapeworm on record. Segments the size of large marshmallows. The worm, I mean my love, it might break into pieces, fragment into many independent parts. But all of these segments will continue to operate as individual units. Growing, thriving. Teeming with eggs. Eggs of love. I need to write this down...

LISA

(Fed up.) Get away from me, I'm warning you.

BRAD

(Writing in pocket journal.) Wait, wait...fragment...into...eggs of...love. Wait. At least allow me to walk you to wherever you are going. To protect you from danger.

LISA

You're the only thing dangerous around here.

(LISA takes out a cellphone and dials.)

BRAD

Yes. That's right. If anyone so much as harms a hair on your head, I will...destroy them. I am your guardian angel. Your eternal golem, protector of the innocent.

LISA

(On phone.) Ray, it's me Lisa. Call me back as soon as you can. That guy, he's following me again. I think I'm gonna call the police. Bye.

BRAD

Where's Ray? Lisa, where is he?

(LISA ignores him, continues walking.)

BRAD

I would always answer your calls. He doesn't love you like I do. *(Looks at her legs.)* You walk very fast. I've always admired your long legs. Such a stride.

LISA

I'll scream.

BRAD

No, please, darling. Wait. Let me just. Give me a kiss—and I'll leave you alone. Okay?

LISA

(Pauses to contemplate.) Forever?

BRAD

Just one kiss. I'll cherish it forever, and you won't see me. For a...very long time. (*Mumbling:*)
A few weeks or something.

LISA

I didn't hear that last part.

BRAD

Trivial details. Please. Kiss me.

LISA

(*Pause to steel herself.*) Okay. But Brad? Can you do me a favor? Your breath, it...

BRAD

Oh. Is it? I had some garlic pizza. Across the street from where you work. I'm so embarrassed.

LISA

Here, I have some...some Binaca in my purse. Let me. Come closer. I'll spray a few blasts in your mouth. It's cinnamon flavor. A little spicy.

BRAD

I love spicy.

(*LISA holds the device near his eyes and sprays. BRAD grabs his face, attempts to get away, she keeps spraying. BRAD is on the ground, writhing in excruciating pain.*)

BRAD

Ahhh, oh god my eyes, aahh. Ahh Jesus.

(*LISA rears back and kicks or stomps BRAD in the groin. BRAD screams and jibbers.*)

LISA

(*Looking at audience.*) Did you see that man? He attacked me! I'm defending myself. (*Kicks BRAD again.*) See that? That threatening movement? He tried to roll toward me. Self defense. It's either him or me.