

THEA & LILY

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a ten-minute play

by

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## CHARACTERS

- THEA: A woman. Trans or cis, any race, any look, any age.  
LILY: A woman. Trans or cis, any race, and look. Same-ish age as Thea.  
SIR: A disembodied voice who's about to have a bad day

## Scene

Somewhere forsaken. Close to a gas station.

## Time

Now

*(THEA punches LILY. A bit of pain.)*

LILY  
Do it again

THEA  
Really?

LILY  
Yes! It's gotta be believable!

*(THEA prepares. The punch. Pain for both - including blood around LILY's mouth.)*

LILY/THEA  
shiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiit

*(Any gracious numbness is gone. More pain.)*

THEA  
God  
oh my god  
it looks bad are you okay?  
are you okay?  
do you need me to get some/ice or something

LILY  
I'm fine  
relatively

THEA  
god  
there's blood  
is there supposed to be  
blood  
I tried not to hit you too hard

LILY  
No no that was me  
Bit my lip

THEA  
oh god  
I might be sick

LILY  
Good that'll look good  
They'll think you threw up from fear

THEA  
That's not a thing  
Is that a thing

LILY  
It's a thing

THEA  
How do you know all this stuff

LILY  
You know, junior high

THEA  
...Sure

*(LILY accidentally wipes some blood across her face.)*

LILY  
I mean, eighth wasn't so bad but seventh grade, fuck

THEA  
Actually I don't. I don't think  
I want to know

LILY  
Sure.

THEA  
Sorry

LILY  
No, it's cool.

*(Another feeling out of the sore knuckles, a tongue  
against the bit lip.)*

LILY  
Okay, your turn

THEA  
Mmm

LILY  
Ready?

THEA  
Actually I'm not gonna  
I'm not  
Gonna  
do it

*(LILY stares in disbelief.)*

THEA  
Look  
I didn't want to do this part,  
I said this was gonna suck  
I said let's do a different story  
I said how about the pregnant lady routine  
I didn't want to punch you twice  
You said to punch you twice

LILY  
It's gotta be believable

THEA  
Sure  
But  
So  
Here's the thing -  
who's to say  
I wasn't in the bathroom

THEA (*cont'd*)  
when you got punched  
Or maybe I gave in easy  
Or maybe they didn't want to hit my  
my  
face

LILY  
Oh, sure

THEA  
Which one

LILY  
You gave in easy

THEA  
Oh. Ha.  
But really

LILY  
And also fuck you?  
Maybe they didn't want to hit your face but mine, yeah, believable?

THEA  
That's not what I meant

LILY  
It's what you said

THEA  
Come on

LILY  
No no no I know it wasn't what you meant, I know. This is just really fucking stressful for me too you know and you're acting like the worst thing in the world that could happen to you is being punched, instead of everything that stranded us in this this

THEA  
Shithole

LILY

Shithole anyway.

And also, I mean, I did it.

Why's it always okay for me to do the crappy stuff but not you

THEA

This was your idea

I said I didn't want to do it

I said

LILY

Yeah yeah yeah

Whatever

THEA

I don't know what Battle Royale junior high you went to but I have never

Not once

Ever

Been punched in the face

and I really thought

I really thought

I would live my entire life without that experience

And I didn't ask for this

Or want to do this

And it's uncool that you're pushing me to

And. And I'm sorry

about your face

LILY

You're the worst

*(Pause.)*

LILY

I'm not gonna punch you.

Maybe you should roll in the dirt or something though

*(LILY starts scuffling with THEA.  
It's a joke. THEA plays along.)*

LILY

Need to look a little scuffed up at least  
Look like you walked straight out of a  
Jcpenney ad

*(LILY pretends to pull THEA to the ground, or picks at her  
clothes. In an instant, THEA elbows LILY in the stomach.  
Hard.)*

LILY

Fuck!

THEA

Oh god  
I'm sorry  
I'm  
I'm so sorry  
I just, it was like a a a  
Knee-jerk reaction  
Elbow-jerk  
Elbow-jerk reaction  
God are you okay

LILY

Are you  
kidding me

THEA

I'm so so sorry

*(LILY takes a moment.  
Maybe a groan or two for good measure and then:)*

LILY

I don't know what  
kinda  
Battle Royale junior high you went to  
but I never

THEA  
Oh stop

LILY  
I said I have never!

THEA  
Come on

LILY  
I have never been treated thus!

THEA  
Thus?

LILY  
Like this!

*(They scuffle again. It starts good-naturedly*

*But*

*maybe an air of desperation, frustration, and general done-with-it-ness begin to permeate and darken the fun until both THEA and LILY wonder if they're capable of breaking the other's nose. They don't. But they wonder if they could.*

*And now they are too exhausted to fight (or play?) anymore. They take a long moment to breathe, resting across each other.)*

THEA  
I'm sorry.

LILY  
I know.

THEA  
No, I mean

LILY  
I know.

THEA

Can you just let me say it outloud?

I'm sorry. For all of it.

We both know.

Well.

It's my fault we're up here

LILY

and stranded

THEA

and stranded

and I'm sorry

and...

Well.

you can punch me if you think it will help.

LILY

Really?

THEA

Really.

LILY

Maybe I'll just hold onto it  
save it for a different rainy day  
next time you get us in trouble,  
probably, punch you then.

THEA

Sure. Okay, yeah, okay. I can handle that.

LILY

Anyways, we're probably banged up enough now.

*(The sound of a car on gravel. They become vigilant.)*

THEA

Ready to go?

LILY  
Yeah, yeah  
I think I am

THEA  
Me, too, actually  
Like I feel, really  
Like ready and kinda  
PUMPED  
you know

LILY  
...Sure.

THEA  
Let's get paid.

*(They head offstage. The dialogue continues.)*

THEA  
Sir, sir, oh thank god you're here  
can you help us  
my friend

SIR  
Shit, what happened

LILY  
They came out of nowhere, hit me and just, they just ran off with my bag, card, license,  
phone

THEA  
I was in the bathroom

SIR  
They still around, where'd they go

LILY  
Oh, you're gonna, okay, they, uh

THEA  
They went that way

*(Running boots. A car starting and racing away,  
maybe even a couple of shrieks. Running boots.)*

SIR  
Shit!