

ADAM & YOSHI
A
Full Length Play

(B-VERSION 10-25-2013)

W.G.A.W. REG.# 1669057

CAST OF CHARACTERS

ADAM - 20's to 30's, a good looking, successful writer who creates comic books and super hero web series. Recently divorced, he is now living in his mother's home until the divorce is final where he creates from his bedroom.

YOSHI - 20's to 30's, an attractive woman who thinks she is a Superhero from another planet. She wears a mask and cape through most of the play. She can be manipulative, playful, loving soulful and evil. Like all superheroes, Yoshi hides a deep dark secret.

MOM - 50 and Up, woman. OFFSTAGE VOICE ONLY

Time: The Present

Place: Somewhere in America

Scene 1 - Adam's Bedroom (Unit Set), A week night in Summer

Scene 2 - Adam's Bedroom, the next morning.

SCENE 3 - Adam's Bedroom, later that night.

Scene 4 - Adam's Bedroom, later that night.

Scene 5 - Adam's Bedroom, the next day.

Scene 6 - Adam's Bedroom, weeks later.

ADAM & YOSHI

ACT 1, SCENE 1: ADAM'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Adam sits at his desk with his laptop open in front of him. He has a desk lamp on and stares at the screen. Adam tries to type, but gets up and crosses to the open window and looks outside. He comes back inside and sits down at his laptop again, disgusted.

ADAM

(Typing and talking)

"Yes, I know it was heartbreaking Shayla! I was orphaned from my parents the same way! As a baby, I was also placed in a rocket and shot into space by my father, Maou Shirou..."

Adam jumps to his feet crosses back to the window and looks outside again. He steps back, paces and sits.

ADAM

(Typing and talking)

Second Panel, same page... Astro Man and Astro Girl light up when Astro Girl says... "Maou Shirou? My father's name was Taou Shirou, you father's brother!"

As Adam is typing, a young, slender, girl wearing a superhero mask, cape and boots silently climbs in through the window.

ADAM

Still in the same panel, Astro Man fires back, "By the Sons of Anthar, you are my cousin!!!"

The girl makes her way closer and closer to Adam until she is standing right behind him still unnoticed.

ADAM

Astro Man and Astro Girl embrace and...

YOSHI

(Sarcastic)

How touching!

Adam yells as he jumps up.

ADAM

Aaaah! Damn, you scared me!!!

Adam collects himself.

ADAM

(Calmly)

And yes... It's extremely touching, they are reunited at last.

Yoshi takes a martial arts stand.

YOSHI

Dexter.

Adam takes his martial arts stand.

ADAM

Yoshi.

They circle each other.

YOSHI

"We know what we are, but know not what we may be"

Adam makes a karate move toward Yoshi and she counters.

ADAM

I like that. Who said it?

YOSHI

William...

Yoshi grabs Adam's arm.

YOSHI

Shakespeare.

Yoshi flips Adam who ends up on his back on the floor.

ADAM

Nice.

YOSHI

The flip?

ADAM

The quote!

They mix it up again and Yoshi gets a hold of Adam.

YOSHI

"If we don't know life..."

Yoshi makes her next move and bounces Adam off the wall.

YOSHI

"How can we know death?"

ADAM

(Stunned by hitting the wall head on.)

Who said that?

YOSHI

Confucius.

Adam is still dazed.

ADAM

Confusion?

YOSHI

You know what I said.

Adam tries to flip Yoshi, but she counters and leaves Adam on his back looking up at the ceiling.

ADAM

(On his back)

Oooooooooouuuuw!!!

Yoshi straddles over Adam.

YOSHI

Did that hurt?

ADAM

Yes.

YOSHI

(Lowering herself down on Adam)

I have you in my sphere of power.

ADAM

Okay, if you insist.

Yoshi is on top of Adam.

YOSHI

You cannot escape.

She moves closer as if they are going to kiss.

Thank God!

ADAM

Yoshi is about to kiss Adam when...

MOM
(Offstage yell)

Adam! What's all that noise up there?

ADAM

Ah shit!

Yoshi pulls back.

MOM
(Offstage yell)

It's late! Stop that banging!!!

ADAM
(Yells to the floor)

Don't worry Ma, you just stopped the banging.

MOM
(Offstage Yell)

Stop messing around and go to bed!

ADAM
(Yells)

I'm trying to, Mom!

Adam and Yoshi are now sitting away
from each other and on the floor.

MOM
(Offstage yell)

Whaaat?

ADAM
(Yells)

Nothing! Good night, Ma!

Pause.

YOSHI

You should be more respectful to your mother, Dexter.

ADAM

I am respectful.

YOSHI

Dexter, what is this "Ma"?

ADAM

Ma?

YOSHI

Yes.

ADAM

It's short for "Mom" which is short for "Mother".

YOSHI

On my home planet, calling your Birth Female a one syllable name is a sign of disrespect.

ADAM

Well, on Earth, it's endearing or just a sign of losing one's patience.

YOSHI

(Shaking her head "no")

Shame, shaaaame.

ADAM

What?

YOSHI

Dexter, you are showing no respect when you speak to your mother like that.

ADAM

Are you ever going to call me, Adam?

YOSHI

No.

ADAM

Tell me again, why am I, "Dexter"?

YOSHI

Because that's who you are.

ADAM

I am?

YOSHI

Shame, shame, shame, always playing games.

ADAM

It's not a game to me, I just, well it's kind of a game, but...

YOSHI

That's because of your high I.Q. and superior intelligence.

ADAM

(Smiles)

Exactly, that's what it is.

YOSHI

And your lack of self-esteem due to your lack of good looks.

Yoshi stands up and goes through some Tai Chi moves as Adam talks.

ADAM

Wait a minute, wait a minute! You don't complain about my looks when we're naked!

YOSHI

I don't, but that is not because of your looks.

ADAM

No?

YOSHI

We mate because I am following direct orders from the Vice-Archon of the Order of the Divine Nesparotu of the Kiuan.

ADAM

We "mate"? That's what you call what we do?

Adam stands up and walks to the opposite end of the room.

ADAM

We mate?

Adam turns his back to Yoshi.

YOSHI

Yes, of course...

(Yoshi comes up behind Adam)

I told you that...

(She places her arms around Adam.)

if we do not the human race will never develop the skills...

(Yoshi removes Adam's T-shirt)

to reach the next astral plane..

(She rubs her hands over Adam's chest as she speaks.)

and escape the inevitable...

(She gets sexier as she speaks)

demise...

(She kisses from his shoulder to his neck with each word.

And...

(Kiss)

Destruction...

(Kiss)

of the planet Earth.

(She finishes with kissing on the lips.)

ADAM

Oh, yeah, I forgot. We're doing this to save the world.

YOSHI

Everything I do is to protect and save this world, Dexter.

ADAM

Yes, I am Dexter! I am Dexter!!!

They kiss again

ADAM

Do you think we could do it without the mask this time?

Yoshi pulls away.

YOSHI

Oh, Dexter!

She steps away and pouts.

YOSHI

I can't do that!

ADAM

I know.

YOSHI

You should know! You designed it!!!

ADAM

I did?

YOSHI

Dexter?

ADAM

I mean I did! I did of course and I know and it's a good thing and it's still really sexy and all, but... it hurts sometimes... the mask hurts me in really weird places and.... I want to... I'd like to see your face. I mean just once.

YOSHI

Dexter! I can't!!!

ADAM

Come on!

YOSHI

I can remove all other pieces of my clothing, but I cannot remove my mask.

ADAM

Okay.... you...

Adam strategically moves into position.

ADAM

You win!

He rushes her and she takes evasive action. Adam crashes into the wall.

YOSHI

(Shaking her head "no".)

Ah-ah-aaah!

ADAM

Does it always have to be a battle?

Yoshi takes her stand and motions Adam on.

YOSHI

During the last migration of the Zoulinians on the rings of Gasparzo, General Cho himself advised me that all of life...

Adam gets back to his feet and takes his stand.

YOSHI

Is a battle.

ADAM

Tell General Cho "The higher a monkey climbs up a tree, the more he has to cover his ass."

Adam makes his move, but Yoshi counters by grabbing his fist in mid-air.

YOSHI

Who said that?

ADAM

U.F.C. fighting champ, Shonie Carter!

They make more moves and stand opposite each other.

YOSHI

You studied with Shonie Carter?

ADAM

No, but I watched him on Pay Per View! Yeeehhhaaaaawwww!

Adam spins and moves like a U.F.C Fighter, but Yoshi counters and Adam crashes on to the bed!

YOSHI
I have you now!

ADAM
Good, that's exactly what I was hoping for!

Yoshi runs and leaps on top of Adam.
They wrestle and laugh, but end up with
Yoshi on top kissing Adam.

ADAM
Guess what?

YOSHI
What?

ADAM
You win!

YOSHI
(Sexily)
I know!

Yoshi goes back to kissing Adam when
there is a knocking at the door. They
stop in mid-kiss.

ADAM
Mom!

YOSHI
(Correcting)
Mother.

ADAM
Not now.

They scramble to their feet.

MOM
(From other side of door)
ADAM!!!

ADAM
(Confidently)
What the hell? I'm an adult. I'm grown. I can have a girl
in my room.

MOM
(From other side of the door)
Open up!

ADAM
 (Puts his shirt on)
 I'm going to introduce you as my girlfriend... please take
 the mask off.

YOSHI
 I can't just...

Mom is pounding on the door now.

MOM
 (From other side of the door)
 ADAM!!!

ADAM
 Just take it off, okay?

YOSHI
 Okay.

Adam turns to open the door for his
 mother. Yoshi goes back out the
 window. Adam puts his hand on the door
 knob and turns to Yoshi one last time,
 but she is gone. Adam looks around
 confused.

Adam runs to the window. Sees nothing,
 walks back to center and stands in
 front of his bed.

ADAM
 Getting weird. I have to stop this. I'm not Batman!

MOM
 (Offstage)
 ADAM!!!

Knock on door.

ADAM
 I know, ma. I mean, mother! I'm coming, jeez.

Adam goes to open the door as the
 lights change.

LIGHTS DIM:

SCENE 2: ADAM'S BEDROOM - THE NEXT MORNING

Adam is asleep in bed. There's sunlight coming through the window. Yoshi climbs through the window. She takes the chair from the desk and sits in it.

Yoshi watches Adam as he sleeps. She smiles.

MOM

(Offstage)

Adam!

(No response)

Adam, are you up?

(Still nothing)

MOM

I'm going shopping. Do you want anything?

(again no response)

Adam? If you're hearing any of this, I'll see you when I get back!

There's is the off stage sound of a door closing and then a car starting and pulling away.

Adam starts to wake up and once his eyes focus, he sees Yoshi and jumps out of bed.

ADAM

Aaaaah shit!

Gathers himself.

ADAM

Are you trying to give me a heart attack?

YOSHI

No, not at all. I just like watching you breathe. You look so peaceful.

ADAM

You disappeared last night.

YOSHI

Oh Dexter, I didn't disappear.

ADAM

I turned around and you were gone.

YOSHI

But I didn't disappear, I don't have that super power. I just went out the window.

ADAM

I wanted to introduce you.

YOSHI

Dexter, you're not ready for that.

ADAM

I'm not?

YOSHI

No, Dexter. Not at all.

ADAM

Try Adam, during the day.

YOSHI

Don't be silly, Dexter.

(She looks around.)

Your room looks different.

ADAM

Things usually do look different when the sun is up.

YOSHI

I know.

(Pause.)

Do I look different?

ADAM

Not really. This is a nice surprise, but umm... don't you have work?

YOSHI

Work?

ADAM

Yeah, a nine to five day job? Don't you have one?

YOSHI

Sometimes I work during the day.

ADAM

And... sometimes... you don't?

YOSHI

Exactly!

Yoshi moves a little closer.

YOSHI

Why aren't you at work?

ADAM

I'm always at work.

YOSHI

It's one o'clock in the afternoon and you were sleeping.

ADAM

I work all night and all day. That means I sleep when I can.

YOSHI

And in between, you write?

ADAM

Two successful comic books and a web series, need a lot of words.

YOSHI

Interesting.

ADAM

Why?

YOSHI

I never see you typing or taking notes.

ADAM

That's cause I don't let you see me when I'm writing.

YOSHI

Really, why?

ADAM

I'm very open and vulnerable when I'm writing. Too personal.

YOSHI

And having sex whenever we are in each other's presence, that isn't personal?

ADAM

It is. Sex is personal, but not as personal as reading your lover's writing.

YOSHI

Reading a lover's writing is more personal?

ADAM

Incredibly! If I let you read my writing then you'll know what I'm thinking.

YOSHI

Ever cross your mind that I already know what you're thinking?

Yoshi smirks and Adam takes a second before speaking.

ADAM

(Cautious)

Then you'd be in my head...and THAT... I'm not ready for, well, not yet.

YOSHI

Okay. This, I can respect.

ADAM

So you see the difference?

YOSHI

About your writing being more personal than having sex? Oh, yeah! Makes total sense.

ADAM

Good! I like that you can tell the difference, that says a lot.

YOSHI

Like what?

ADAM

Like even though you're from another planet, you understand me. That's a good thing.

YOSHI

Understanding you is part of my mission.

ADAM

What mission?

Yoshi looks around suspiciously.

YOSHI

I cannot talk about the mission. You know that?

ADAM

(Slightly frustrated)

I know. I know. We can't talk about the mission. We can't remove the mask. We can't hang out like normal couples. We can't call ourselves a couple and after last night, you can't stick around and meet my mother.

YOSHI

It would jeopardize everything.

ADAM

I know. I know. You've told me before.

Yoshi comes to the front of the bed and is doing some type of Martial Arts Kata.

ADAM

What are you doing?

YOSHI

My training. Join me?

ADAM

Working out? Oh no, I'm too comfortable.

YOSHI

Don't be silly. It's one o'clock in the afternoon and you need to get out of bed.

ADAM

This is early. Sometimes I sleep till three!

YOSHI

You should try this.

Adam tries to roll over go back to sleep.

ADAM

No can do, oh Princess of Power.

YOSHI

Slacker!

ADAM

Sticks and stones may... Is it may or can? How does that go?

YOSHI

How does what go?

ADAM

Sticks and stones? You know, "Sticks and stones will break my bones, but names will never hurt me"?

Yoshi continues to move and exercise.

ADAM

Don't you know that adage?

YOSHI

Adage? Adage... what is this thing you call adage?

ADAM

An adage is a... well, it's like a... mmmhhmmm... What the hell is it?

Yoshi is still doing her Kata exercises.

YOSHI

Why did you mention it, if you don't know what it is?

ADAM

I know what it is, but I just can't explain it.

YOSHI

That doesn't make sense.

ADAM

I said it because... I said it because...

Yoshi is making louder noises and strange poses.

ADAM

(Annoyed)

Stop that!

Yoshi smirks.

YOSHI

If you wish!

Yoshi jumps on the bed next to Adam and starts to massage his shoulders.

ADAM

(Putting it together)

An adage is a short, some what philosophical saying with some practical or skeptical comment on life.

She starts to kiss his neck and shoulders.

YOSHI

We don't have "Adages" on my planet.

ADAM

Really?

YOSHI

Sounds like an entertaining earthling diversion.

ADAM

Diversion?

YOSHI

Yes, an entertaining little snippets that keep you from what is really important.

ADAM

What on your planet is so important that you don't have the need for entertainment?

YOSHI

We train our minds. We train our bodies. We maintain peace and serenity.

ADAM

Anything else?

YOSHI

We mate and reproduce.

ADAM

You seem to like that.

YOSHI

What?

ADAM

Mating.

Adam winks, but Yoshi doesn't acknowledge it.

YOSHI

Of course I do. Don't you like when we perform the mating ritual?

ADAM

Uh, yeah.

YOSHI

Don't you like when we fight and spar?

ADAM

Yes, I do, but...

YOSHI

Don't you like when I wake you up out of a sound sleep by giving you oral pleasure?

ADAM

Hey, hey, hey, take it easy.

YOSHI

Why? Are you embarrassed?

ADAM

No, but I thought "that" was all part of your secret mission and we're not supposed to talk about it.

Yoshi gets in his face.

YOSHI

"Oral pleasure" is not part of my mission and as my Technical Designer and my personal Barrentona, you should know your place...

ADAM

My place?

YOSHI

Your place, yes, your place and you should be grateful when one from the female of the species pleasures you for your personal enjoyment in an action that is not part of the mating ritual!

ADAM

Well, when you put it like that.

YOSHI

Do not underestimate my role in this relationship. I know that I give you sexual pleasure, but do not think it's something you deserve or are entitled to. A Barrentona is the highest rank a human can achieve with my people.

ADAM

Barrentona?

YOSHI

Yes.

ADAM

What the hell is a Barrentona?

YOSHI

A sex slave, concubine or in Earthling Equestrian Terms, a stud!

Adam takes that in and smiles.

ADAM

Stud?

YOSHI

We wouldn't call it that back on my planet.

ADAM

What would you call it?

YOSHI

A Barrentona, weren't you paying attention?

ADAM

(To himself)

Barrentona... stud! I like the way that sounds.

Adam thinks about it and shakes it off.

YOSHI

Back on my planet we would be more than just two working class citizens. We would be Ambassadors; Representatives of our planets. The highest level of our Caste System. Royalty.

ADAM

Really?

YOSHI

Yes and we'd have the best of everything. Castles, Servants, Armies, all at our service.

ADAM

Wow.

Adam tries to roll over and go back to sleep.

YOSHI

You're not going to spend the whole day in bed are you?

ADAM

Maybe.

YOSHI

What a waste.

Yoshi jumps out of bed and looks around.

YOSHI

Adam, can I ask you something?

Adam is still trying to sleep.

ADAM

If I answer will you stop talking and let me go back to sleep?

YOSHI

Probably not.

Adam sits up.

ADAM

Ask any-way.

YOSHI

Why do you still live with your mother?

ADAM

I don't live with my mother. I just happen to be staying in her house.

YOSHI

She owns the house and lives downstairs, right?

ADAM

Yeah.

YOSHI

So you live with your mother.

ADAM

No, no, it's not the same. I'm just here in a transitional period of my life. I gave my ex-wife the house and the other property we owned so that she didn't get any of the rights to my work.

YOSHI

You gave her your living quarters?

ADAM

In exchange for something that is way more valuable. Soon as this is all settled I'll buy a new place.

YOSHI

On my planet there is no ownership or property. Everyone is provided for.

ADAM

We should move there.

YOSHI

Moving to my planet would be wonderful!

ADAM

I'd like to bring my things. What would we have to do to get there? Rocket ship or Space Shuttle or...

(Snaps out of it again)

Wait a minute.

(To himself)

What am I doing? This place isn't real.

YOSHI

(Innocently)

Of course it's real.

Adam and Yoshi just stare at each other for a few seconds.

ADAM

This planet of yours, where is it and what is it called.

YOSHI

My planet is on the crest of the Crab Nebula it is called?

Yoshi stands with her hand over her heart.

YOSHI

Darden.

Yoshi bows her head as in prayer.

ADAM

Darden?

YOSHI

Bow your head.

ADAM

What?

YOSHI

Don't be disrespectful. Bow your head.

Adam bows his head along side of Yoshi and looks over at her.

ADAM

(To himself again)

Oh, I have to do this when I say Darden?

(He realizes what he is doing and starts to laugh.)

That's good. You even got me to do the salute. Are you making this up as we go along?

YOSHI

Making it up?

ADAM

Yeah, I mean I have a great imagination, it's a gift that's done a lot for me, but you got me beat.

YOSHI

Why are you asking me now?

ADAM

It's been months and you never talk about where you're from.

YOSHI

Maybe it's better you don't know?

ADAM

You know everything about me, I should at least know where you grew up, how you were raised, your home.

YOSHI

What's the difference? You don't think it's real.

ADAM

I don't know what to think anymore.

YOSHI

What do you mean?

ADAM

We don't go out...

YOSHI

You never try to take me out.

ADAM

I like things the way they are, but I should know more about you. Don't you think?

Pause.

YOSHI

(Playful)

I think... maybe if you improved your body along with that great imagination, maybe you could see things the way I see them.

ADAM

If it was all real, I wouldn't need to use my "great" imagination now, would I?

YOSHI

(Back to serious)

You're just afraid.

ADAM

Afraid of what?

YOSHI

That my way of thinking is right and you're wrong.

ADAM

I'm not afraid.

YOSHI

It's okay. You're not the first. Earthling men are like that. It's what you humans call an ego thing.

ADAM

I don't have an "ego thing".

YOSHI

I think you do. A stronger more superior female from another race makes you feel inferior.

ADAM

Now I have an inferiority complex?

YOSHI

Doesn't matter. It's okay.

ADAM

What is?

YOSHI

The fact that you feel inferior to me and fear you could lose to me in any kind of competition.

Yoshi gets up and walks away from the bed.

YOSHI

Besides, your body is so out of shape, you couldn't handle it.

Adam stands up.

ADAM

I am not that out of shape.

YOSHI

(Smirks)

See it your way. I see the truth.

ADAM

Don't I hold my own when we spar?

YOSHI

Not really. I've been helping.

ADAM

You've been carrying me?

YOSHI

Carrying you?

ADAM

That's a boxing term.

YOSHI

Oh... well... in that case, YES! I have been carrying you.

ADAM
Okay big shot, let's go.

YOSHI
Go where?

ADAM
Right here, right now.

YOSHI
What?

ADAM
Training. Let's start. Do those things you were doing.

YOSHI
My Katala?

ADAM
Yeah, fire 'em up! Let's go.

YOSHI
(Big smile)
Okay! This is gonna be fun!

Yoshi takes a position.

YOSHI
First, you stand like this.

Adam follows.

YOSHI
Then you slide into this... putting the weight on your left leg, bringing the right leg forward...

ADAM
Got it.

YOSHI
And then bend your knees into...

ADAM
This isn't so bad.

YOSHI
Then place your hands between your feet and raise the rest of your body up off the ground.

Yoshi does the move with ease (The Warrior III Pose or Virabhadrasana III), but Adam struggles.

ADAM

(Trying)

Raise your body up off the...

Yoshi comes out of the pose and just watches.

ADAM

Place your hands on the ground and raise your body....

Yoshi smirks and Adam looks more determined.

ADAM

Body up off the ground and...

Adam falls backwards and is laid out on his back on the floor in front of Yoshi. Yoshi laughs.

ADAM

(Very serious)

No, laughing.

YOSHI

I wasn't laughing.

ADAM

You weren't laughing at me? Do they have another name for it on "your" planet?

YOSHI

You're right, I was laughing at you.

Yoshi sits down on the floor next to Adam.

YOSHI

Don't feel bad. Not everyone can assume the "Sai Tou" position so early in one's training.

Adam looks humiliated.

YOSHI

Besides, there are other ways of working out...

Yoshi moves closer and behind Adam.

YOSHI

On my planet, there are several extreme workouts...

Yoshi starts to kiss Adam's neck.

YOSHI
Workouts that are more pleasurable and erotic.

Yoshi starts to run her hand on Adam's chest.

YOSHI
Maybe it's time.

ADAM
Time for what?

YOSHI
Time to take our Mating Ritual, combine it with workouts and take us to the highest physical pleasure level possible.

Yoshi is now kissing Adam with more and more passion.

ADAM
(Being seduced)
Okay... um... yeah...
(Higher pitched voice like he's about to burst.)
Let's take it to the next level!

Yoshi laughs, pushes Adam to the floor, mounts him and kisses him.

BLACK OUT:

SCENE 3: ADAM'S BEDROOM, LATER THAT NIGHT

Adam & Yoshi are asleep in the bed.
Yoshi wakes up and looks around.
Adam's laptop is open and on the desk.
Yoshi gets up and crosses to the laptop. She starts to read

Adam starts to wake up.

ADAM
What are you doing?

YOSHI
Reading your work.

ADAM
Please, don't do that.

Yoshi reads more.

YOSHI

(Shocked)

You think I'm crazy?

ADAM

That's not what I meant.

YOSHI

No? It's what you wrote!

ADAM

That doesn't mean anything.

YOSHI

Yeah, sure! I know what I'm reading.

ADAM

I don't mean it that way. It's just me writing out my thoughts. I never show anyone my free writes. It's just writing out the story in my head.

YOSHI

Why do you have to write about me? Why not one of your comic book creations, one of your superheroes?

ADAM

I don't know. I guess you're more interesting than they are.

YOSHI

How can you tell? According to this; you think I'm "some nut job who might have..."

(She turns back and looks at Adam's laptop)

How did you say it? Oh, here, yeah, right here...

(Looks at Adam)

And I quote, "Some kind of looney bird with a cape and a mask!" OH! Look at this! "I'm not sure if she's just some character in my head or she's really a superhero from another planet, but being from another planet..."

(Yells)

...MIGHT EXPLAIN THE GREAT SEX!"

ADAM

Some people would take that as a compliment.

YOSHI

That's not funny!

ADAM

Yes it is, in fact this whole thing is ridiculous!

YOSHI

Do you think that I am just another character in your head?

ADAM

Well, are you?

YOSHI

Depends. Do you sleep with all your female characters?

There's a long silence.

YOSHI

Really? You need that much time to think about it? There's been that many other masked women in your love life?

ADAM

(Confused)

No, there hasn't but... I don't know. I guess, well, yeah in a way.

YOSHI

(Yells)

In a way???

ADAM

Well, I guess all the female characters I've created, I've loved and... you know.... been with... in my head.

YOSHI

Until now? Now it's finally real.

ADAM

Maybe?

YOSHI

MAYBE!

ADAM

I'm not sure.

YOSHI

You're just like all the human men on this planet!

ADAM

I told you not to read my writing.

YOSHI

You were chosen for a reason, Dexter.

ADAM

My name is Adam.

YOSHI

You were sitting there on that panel at the comic book convention and you were so smart and intelligent. When you talked to the crowd I thought you were talking directly to me.

All those things you said on that stage about female heroes and women protagonists, I sat in that audience and just melted. My legs got weak and I was thinking, "Wow! This guy understands. He really knows what it's like to be... what it's like to be me... and I love that."

ADAM

I was talking about comic book characters, not real life people.

YOSHI

See! You don't think I'm real!

ADAM

It's been six months and the only thing I know of you to be real is that we met at a comic book convention. We talked and then when we walked out to my car and you kissed me.

YOSHI

Big mistake!

ADAM

Kissing me?

YOSHI

NO! CHOOSING YOU!

Yoshi starts to walk towards the window.

ADAM

Why don't you try using the door?

YOSHI

Would that make a difference? Would that make me sane? Normal? Human? Real?

ADAM

It'd be a switch.

YOSHI

Think I can't?

ADAM

I think you should.

Yoshi looks Adam in the eye and then looks at the door. She crosses to the door, raises her hand to grab it when we hear...

MOM

(Offstage Yell)

Adam? Adam, I'm home!

Yoshi spins around and head straight for the window.

YOSHI

Mission scrubbed! We will maintain our regular flight pattern.

ADAM

Flight pattern? Am I also supposed to believe that you fly in and out of that window every night?

YOSHI

It's not important what you believe anymore. Now, it's only important what I believe!

Yoshi steps up onto the window sill.

ADAM

(Calm and cool)

Do you think it's some great mystery the way you get up and down from the street to this third-floor room?

Yoshi stops and turns back to Adam.

ADAM

You think I don't know how you do it?

Yoshi shoots Adam a look.

ADAM

It's not the power of your cape or a spider web shooting out of your hand. Hell! It's not even a Bat Hook at the end of a Bat Rope. It's something I've been doing since the eighth grade.

YOSHI

(Smirks)

Really? You think you can leave this room through the window, like I do?

Adam crosses to Yoshi and looks her in the eye.

ADAM

(Smug)

Out the window and across the over hang, jump down to the roof of the garage and crossover to the very edge of it, stand right on the corner over the driveway and then walk across the large branch of the crab apple tree, climb down the tree and SHAZAM! You're on the lawn, safe and sound.

YOSHI

You think it's that simple?

ADAM

Too simple and it doesn't take super powers to do it.

YOSHI

Wanna bet?

ADAM

I've been climbing with no net since I wanted to meet Sherry Rothstein at Scott Kearney's house for a make-out session in Junior High.

YOSHI

That was a long time ago, Boy Wonder.

ADAM

I got skills you ain't seen yet, Yoshi-San.

YOSHI

Go for it.

Yoshi jumps down out off of the window sill and smartly steps aside.

ADAM

(Gather his confidence as he crosses the room)

Able to leap small buildings in a single bound.

YOSHI

That's Superman! He was from Krypton.

ADAM

Yeah, I know. I'm just an earthling, but... I'm not wrong about this!

Adam climbs up onto the window sill.

ADAM

Wait a minute! What do I get if I pull this off?

YOSHI

I will remove my mask, meet your mother, and we can even start dating in public places.

ADAM

Like a normal human couple?

YOSHI

Okay, but if you fail... nothing changes and we continue going on exactly the way we have been until I say different.

ADAM

There is no fail, only do.

Adam goes out the window.

ADAM

(Off stage)

Okay! I'm out the window!!!

Yoshi crosses to the window and looks out.

ADAM

(Off stage)

This overhang wasn't as narrow back in the eighth grade.

YOSHI

Maybe somebody got wider and bigger.

ADAM

Okay. Crossed the overhang and now I have to...

There is a loud thud.

YOSHI

(Concerned)

ADAM?

ADAM

(Off stage.)

No, problem. Not a problem. It was just a farther drop to the garage roof than I remember.

(Laughing)

See this ain't nothing. I can do this!

YOSHI

Now the tree, tough guy.

ADAM

I know.

YOSHI

Then why are you stopping.

ADAM

I'm not stopping, I'm just thinking.

YOSHI

Thinking about what?

ADAM

How crazy this is? Okay! Here we go! It's just like walking a tight rope. One step at a time, slowly and steadily until...

(Sound of cracking)

until...

(Sound of the limb breaking.)

until... AAAAAAAAH SHIIIT!

(Sounds of a very large THUD.)

YOSHI

Dexter?

(Yells)

ADAM?

(Still no response)

Oh, Adam.

Yoshi adjusts her mask, fluffs her
cape, jumps up onto the window sill.

YOSHI

(YELLS)

Yoshi to the rescue!!!

Yoshi jumps out the window.

BLACK OUT:

SCENE 4: ADAM'S BEDROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT

Adam is lying in the bed asleep. He
has a bandage on his arm and an ice
pack on his head.

Yoshi is sitting at the end of the bed,
watching the movie, STAR TREK; THE
WRATH OF KAHN. Yoshi mouths the words
along with the movie.

TV SET

Khan : "I've done far worse than kill you. I've hurt you. And
I wish to go on hurting you. I shall leave you as you left
me, as you left her - marooned for all eternity in the center
of a dead planet. Buried alive. Buried alive..."

Yoshi speaks the same words with the
television.

YOSHI

"I've done far worse than kill you. I've hurt you. And I wish to go on hurting you. I shall leave you as you left me, as you left her - marooned for all eternity in the center of a dead planet. Buried alive. Buried alive..."

The TV set alone.

TV SET

Kirk : "KHHHHHHHHHAAAAAAAAAAAAANNNNNNNNNNNNNN!!!"

Yoshi shuts off the TV set.

YOSHI

(In a half voice)

"KHHHHHHHHHHHAAAAAAAAAAAAANNNNNNNNNNNNNN!!!"

ADAM

Hey?

YOSHI

You're awake. Good.

ADAM

Yeah... I huh...

(Adam tries to move.)

Ouw, ouw, ouw!

YOSHI

Careful.

ADAM

Anything broken?

YOSHI

No, just banged up.

ADAM

What are you watching?

YOSHI

Star Trek; The Wrath of Kahn, it's my favorite.

ADAM

I haven't seen that in years.

YOSHI

I love this movie. Watch it with me?

ADAM

My head hurts.

YOSHI

You hit it on the way down.

I know. ADAM

A pretty big fall. YOSHI

I don't remember that tree being that tall. ADAM

Last time you tried, you were in the 8th grade. YOSHI

What was I thinking? ADAM
(Slumps down)

Yoshi gets up and takes the ice pack off of Adam's head.

You were thinking with your ego, not your brain. YOSHI

You're right. ADAM

Earthling men often think with their ego. YOSHI

They don't on your planet? ADAM

No, the men of Darden... YOSHI
(Yoshi bows her head and salutes)
Know their place in society.

What place is that? ADAM

How to love, support and honor their female counterparts. YOSHI

"Counterparts'?" ADAM

I think you call them "soul mates" here. YOSHI

Maybe. ADAM

Why maybe? YOSHI

ADAM

I never had one.

YOSHI

A girlfriend?

ADAM

No, I had plenty of them, even had a wife, but no one so serious that I would ever call them my "soul mate".

YOSHI

You can never call me your soul mate.

ADAM

Why not?

YOSHI

It's the warrior princess who gets to make that decision.

ADAM

Until then I'm just your "boy slave", I guess?

YOSHI

I don't know what you are... yet.

Yoshi smirks as she gets up and takes off her backpack that is under her cape.

YOSHI

Your bandages need to be changed.

Adam watches Yoshi.

ADAM

There's a backpack under there?

YOSHI

See, I'm full of surprises.

ADAM

(Looks over at the window.)

Obviously.

(Starts to think)

Hey... huh... how did you... I'm wondering... um ... How did you get me back up here?

YOSHI

What do you mean?

ADAM

When I fell, I hit the ground, right?

YOSHI

Yes.

ADAM

The limb of the tree broke and...

YOSHI

You hit your head on the way down.

ADAM

And landed on the ground?

YOSHI

Of course.

ADAM

So, how did you get me back up here?

YOSHI

How do you think?

Yoshi crosses back and starts to change the bandage on Adam's arm.

ADAM

Did you come through the house?

YOSHI

Of course not.

ADAM

Did you climb back up the...

YOSHI

Climb back up the tree? No, you broke that big branch that you cross to the roof on. You were too heavy and it snapped.

ADAM

Really?

YOSHI

Yes and that's something you should work on.

ADAM

Climbing?

YOSHI

No your weight. You need to lose some pounds.

ADAM

So, you definitely did not climb back up the tree then?

YOSHI

No reason to, the branch is gone.

ADAM

Did my Mom help carry me through the house?

YOSHI

I told you I didn't come that way.

ADAM

(Really confused.)

You didn't... we didn't... fly back up here?

Yoshi slowly looks at Adam and smiles.

YOSHI

I'm not answering that question.

ADAM

What?

YOSHI

No matter which answer I give, I'm going to be wrong, so you're going to have to figure it out, all by yourself.

Silence.

ADAM

(Serious)

Wow! This is really freaking me out.

YOSHI

You should be resting.

Long pause as Adam thinks.

ADAM

We need to talk.

YOSHI

Rest first.

ADAM

There's a lot I've been thinking about for the last few days and... well... Yoshi?

YOSHI

Yes, Dexter?

ADAM

Stop calling me, Dexter. This is serious. Yoshi, I don't think we should see each other anymore.

YOSHI

You're breaking up with me?

ADAM

Not breaking up, just taking a break.

Yoshi starts to laugh.

YOSHI

You can't take a break from me.

ADAM

I can't.

YOSHI

No. Human men don't get to break up with me.

ADAM

Okay, well this is a first in Inter-Galactic history.

Yoshi laughs again.

ADAM

What is so funny?

YOSHI

The Lords of Kiuan will not allow it.

ADAM

What Lords?

YOSHI

My planet's most sacred religion.

ADAM

And they know about me?

YOSHI

Through my daily Planetary Reports.

ADAM

You report on me to someone?

YOSHI

Of course.

Adam looks around and has a realization.

ADAM

Wow!

YOSHI

What?

ADAM

I thought all this Cosplay you were into was just a way of expressing your art, but...

YOSHI

But?

ADAM

Your whole superhero thing.

YOSHI

What about it?

ADAM

It's gone too far!

YOSHI

I don't think so.

ADAM

You don't? Did you ever notice you are the only one in the room wearing a cape? Ever notice when you are out in the real world that there's no one with a red cape calling himself Thor at the Supermarket? No one in the bank wearing Boy Wonder booties calling himself Robin? And there's definitely no one at the Laundromat making change with a giant "S" on their chest!

Yoshi looks like she's about to cry.

YOSHI

I thought you were different.

ADAM

Why because I let you call me "Dexter"? My name is Adam.
(He gets louder)

ADAM! My name is ADAM!

Yoshi steps closer.

YOSHI

I thought you were different, ADAM, because you seemed to care. You seemed to really care about me. Because I am not crazy and I am real.

Yoshi grabs Adam's arm and flips him to the ground.

YOSHI

Was that real enough for you? I am from another planet. I am something special. I am not just some pleasure machine you can have sex with and throw away!

Yoshi stands over Adam with the broom
at his throat like a weapon.

YOSHI

(Yells)

I am Yoshi, Warrior Princess of the Divine order of Nesparotu
of the Kiuan on the planet Darden and NEVER FORGET THAT!

ADAM

Yoshi! Yoshi you're hurting me... Yoshi!

Yoshi realizes what she's doing.

YOSHI

Oh Adam... I'm sorry.

Yoshi stops, turns and starts to exit
through the window.

ADAM

Wait... Yoshi don't go. I'm handling this all wrong.

Adam tries to get up, but the pain is
too much.

ADAM

We should talk about this.

He sits on the end of the bed.

ADAM

Please stay.

YOSHI

Why should I bother? You're just like every powerful man on
this planet. You take, take, take and replenish nothing.
Crushing every inch of beauty and leaving barren wastelands
behind.

Pause.

ADAM

I'm sorry.

YOSHI

No, you're not.

ADAM

I am.

YOSHI

What do you want?

ADAM

I want to apologize and I want to... I think we should start over again.

YOSHI

Why? What's the sense?

ADAM

Because I liked our relationship. It was fun. It was wild. It was...

YOSHI

Crazy. You think I'm crazy.

ADAM

Well, maybe, I just... maybe, I'm not use to dating someone from another universe. You've dated Earthlings before.

YOSHI

I have.

ADAM

See! You're the one with all the experience. Haven't other Earthling Men acted the way I do?

YOSHI

All of them.

ADAM

I'm normal then.

YOSHI

Unfortunately.

ADAM

Maybe you can teach me to be different?

YOSHI

Me teach you?

ADAM

Yes.

YOSHI

How?

ADAM

I don't know, like Luke Skywalker and Obi Wan Kenobi?

YOSHI

You want to be my Jedi Apprentice?

ADAM

Kinda.

YOSHI

Luke saved The Republic for Obi Wan. What do I get out of it?

ADAM

A boyfriend.

YOSHI

(Turns away)

Not worth it. Too much for so little in return.

ADAM

I could be your "Barrentona"?

YOSHI

I tried that and you rejected me. You'll just do it again.

She turns away from Adam again.

ADAM

I can be your Technical Designer then.

Slowly turns back to him.

YOSHI

You'll let me call you Dexter?

ADAM

Absolutely.

YOSHI

And... will you... wear the clothes of a Technical Designer?

ADAM

Depends.

YOSHI

Depends?

ADAM

(Hesitant)

I'm afraid to ask this...

(Takes a deep breath)

What does a Technical Designer wear?

Yoshi starts to look through her backpack to dress Adam accordingly.

YOSHI

(Excited)

Nothing weird, I promise. It's all so very normal. You don't wear glasses by any chance do you?

ADAM

I don't.

YOSHI

No problem. I have a picture of it in here!

ADAM

We're okay then?

YOSHI

Well, yeah... Yoshi needs her Dexter. Every Warrior Princess of the Divine order of Nesparotu needs a Technical Designer.

ADAM

(Smiles)

Cool. Good. What does a Technical Designer do?

YOSHI

You build the weapons, maintain my costumes, shine my boots and fight along side of me when we are outnumbered.

ADAM

Do I get a weapon?

YOSHI

A sidearm, a laser pistol.

ADAM

Good, this way I can shoot myself right after the first boot-polishing session.

Yoshi looks excited.

YOSHI

Oh this is great!

ADAM

Good.

YOSHI

And you watch the baby when I'm out fighting crime.

Yoshi continues to look through her things.

ADAM

Huh? Wait a minute.

YOSHI

I can't find it. I thought I had a picture out of the comic book in here, but it must be home.

ADAM
Wait!

Yoshi stops and looks up.

ADAM
Could we go over what's expected of me again?

YOSHI
You build the weapons.

ADAM
Okay.

YOSHI
Maintain my costumes.

ADAM
Got that.

YOSHI
Shine my boots.

ADAM
Polish the boots.

YOSHI
And you fight along side of me when we are outnumbered.

ADAM
I understand that. It was the thing you said right after that.

YOSHI
Wear a lab coat?

ADAM
No, no, no right before that and right after the fighting part.

YOSHI
Oh... you mean... watch the baby when I'm out fighting crime?

ADAM
I'm hoping somewhere in your life outside of this room, there is a little cat you refer to as "your baby".

YOSHI
I didn't know how to tell you.

ADAM
You're pregnant?

YOSHI

Well, not officially. I haven't been able to send in my latest Planetary Report to the High Priests of the Kiuan. Once I do that then it will be official and I can proceed with my mission.

ADAM

A baby? A baby.

YOSHI

It is YOUR baby, not just "A" baby.

ADAM

Say it again.

YOSHI

Your baby.

Yoshi goes back to looking through her costumes.

ADAM

Who knew four letters in front of the word baby could be so frightening.

Yoshi is digging through her things when she screams.

ADAM

What?

YOSHI

I found it!

ADAM

Found what?

YOSHI

The picture!

Yoshi tries to hand Adam the picture.

YOSHI

Here!

ADAM

Not right now.

YOSHI

But you said...

ADAM

I know what I said, but that was before.

YOSHI
Yeah, but...

ADAM
How long?

YOSHI
A little over two months.

ADAM
So this was the best way you could tell me?

YOSHI
I thought so.

ADAM
I am not ready to be a father!

YOSHI
No you're not, but you will be. I will train you in that also!

ADAM
That's not what I want to hear.

YOSHI
What do you want to hear?

ADAM
We can't have a baby together. I don't even know your real name!

YOSHI
Lois Lane never knew Superman's real name?

ADAM
She did.

YOSHI
No, not for a really long time.

ADAM
Well, depends on what version you're talking about, even in the movie she learned his name, but then he...

YOSHI
Then he went back in time and she forgot it, oh yeah!

ADAM
But in the comic book originals she... WAIT A MINUTE! We're not going to Krypton with this conversation!

YOSHI
Silly, we can't go to Krypton... it was destroyed.

ADAM

I know and... wait... I.... Yoshi... I'm not ready for a baby and neither are you.

YOSHI

Why not?

ADAM

Do you plan on breast feeding with the mask on or off?

YOSHI

Does it matter?

ADAM

I've never seen your face! I don't know your real name! I've never even been to your house.

YOSHI

It's an apartment.

ADAM

Exactly! I didn't know that till now!

YOSHI

Those are trivial facts. Does any of it really matter?

ADAM

Yes, it does! If I'm going to have a baby with someone, I should know what she looks like!

YOSHI

The mask again! Why is it so important to you?

ADAM

A lot of reasons.

YOSHI

Name one good one!

Adam thinks about it.

ADAM

A kid needs a normal mother.

YOSHI

You have a normal mother. Are you the better for it?

ADAM

My mother isn't crazy.

YOSHI

You didn't mind crazy when we were having sex!

ADAM

That was different.

YOSHI

Really, why?

ADAM

That was you know, "YEEEHAW" crazy. You can't raise a kid on earth dressed as a Warrior Princess.

YOSHI

You think it hasn't been done before? There are lots of Princess Warriors in powerful positions that have raised totally normal children despite their weak, inferior, male counterparts!

ADAM

Really, who?

YOSHI

Hilary Clinton!

ADAM

WHAAAT?

YOSHI

It's true!

ADAM

Hilary Clinton is a Warrior Princess from another planet?

YOSHI

Did I say another planet?

ADAM

No, but... she is a... you're getting me all confused! Look, there are other options. You don't have to have this baby.

YOSHI

(Shocked)

Adam!

ADAM

What?

YOSHI

(Hurt)

That's our baby you are talking about.

ADAM

I'm sorry.

YOSHI

There's no "options", Adam. I am having this baby with you or without you.

ADAM

Yeah, but...

YOSHI

There are no "buts", Adam! You can either be a part of this baby's life or not, but I am having this baby.

Silence

ADAM

I'm sorry. You just surprised me. I wasn't expecting all this.

(Thinking)

ADAM

Maybe we should think about getting married?

Yoshi pulls away.

YOSHI

A... no.

ADAM

No?

YOSHI

I want the baby. I don't necessarily want to be married.

ADAM

Yeah, but...

YOSHI

Just 'cause I want you as my Technical Director, doesn't mean I want you as my life partner.

Yoshi pulls away from Adam.

ADAM

I'm so confused.

YOSHI

I want you next to me always, but I don't want you as my husband. I don't want that!

ADAM

But, a baby needs a Dad.

YOSHI

You will be a good Dad. I just don't need you as a husband.

ADAM

Why?

YOSHI

Because.

Yoshi goes back to looking for more things for Adam to wear.

ADAM

That's a juvenile evasion!

YOSHI

It's the answer you're going to have to settle on.

ADAM

No, I want to know why?

Yoshi stops what she was doing and comes back to Adam.

YOSHI

Because human marriages do not work. If we were to do this right, we would have to fly to Darden and ask permission from High Priest, wait for the approval, which could take a month and then live on Darden for five years minimum.

ADAM

What's so bad about living on Darden?

YOSHI

Nothing.

ADAM

So why don't you want to live there?

YOSHI

Because Earth needs Warrior Princesses. There's no battles to be fought on Darden. It's a VERY peaceful planet.

ADAM

Don't you want to raise a baby on a peaceful planet and not... wait a minute...

(Outloud to himself)

What am I talking about? It's a comic book planet!

(Back to Yoshi)

Wait. Sit down. Let's work this out. You don't want to get married. Do you want to live with me?

YOSHI

Maybe.

ADAM

You don't want to raise this baby alone, do you?

YOSHI

No, you will be by my side, but I just don't know if I can trust you.

ADAM

You can trust me!!!

YOSHI

Come on, Dexter. Your track record hasn't been that great!

ADAM

I haven't done anything wrong.

YOSHI

You've never once tried to take me somewhere outside of this bedroom. I know what you're doing. I'm your secret. Your non-commitment, on the sly, secret little adventure.

ADAM

I just got out of a marriage. I wasn't really sure what I was doing.

YOSHI

You were sure that night at the convention. You thought this "little groupie" with the mask would be easy.

ADAM

You kissed me first.

YOSHI

You didn't say no.

ADAM

You pushed me up against my car, I had no where else to go.

YOSHI

Oh you were the victim?

ADAM

You were the one with the mask on.

YOSHI

So sex with no baby was okay all this time. Just like never asking me to meet in public?

ADAM

I tried! I even tried to introduce you to my mother, but you ran away.

YOSHI

She wasn't ready to meet me!

ADAM

How do you know?

YOSHI

You don't accept me for who I am. You said it yourself, you still have a problem with my mask! She would too!

ADAM

You have to take it off in front of me sometime!

YOSHI

No, never.

ADAM

Why not?

YOSHI

Personal reasons.

ADAM

That's not good enough.

YOSHI

It will have to be.

ADAM

Take it off.

YOSHI

NO!

ADAM

(Yells)

Take it off right now or we are done! Baby or no baby!

YOSHI

I can't, Adam!

ADAM

This will never work!

YOSHI

Just leave it be.

ADAM

I want to see your face.

YOSHI

You can't.

ADAM

I have to.

Adam grabs Yoshi and they struggle.

YOSHI

No, Adam! Stop it! Noooo!

Yoshi ends up kicking Adam in the groin. They both collapse to the ground. Adam in pain, Yoshi as if she has been violated.

YOSHI

I can't! Don't you see! I can't. If I take the mask off, I won't be able to touch you. I won't be able to love you. I won't be able to ever make love to you again!

Yoshi steps away from Adam.

YOSHI

(In tears)

I was raised different. My parents are very religious. Sex is evil. Touching sexually is forbidden. I can't touch you with the mask off. I have to have the mask on to be with you. I can't be with you when I'm that other girl. When I'm "her" I can't be with you! I can when I'm Yoshi. Don't you see? Without the mask, I won't be able to love you.

She breaks down crying.

YOSHI

Without the mask, I can't be touched.

Silence.

ADAM

You love me?

Adam slides over and consoles her.

ADAM

(Softly)

It's okay. It's alright. It's okay.

YOSHI

I'm sorry. I'm so sorry.

ADAM

Don't be sorry. I'm the sorry one.

Pause.

YOSHI

Do you hate me?

ADAM

No, I love you. You confuse me sometimes and I don't really understand all this, but I've always loved you.

They start to kiss passionately.

BLACK OUT:

SCENE 5: ADAM'S BEDROOM - THE NEXT DAY

Yoshi is on the floor exercising.

YOSHI

And one and two and three and four and five and...

(She stops for a second)

Dexter!

(No response)

Six and seven and eight and nine and...

(She stops again)

Dexter, are you ever going to come out of there?

Adam is behind the door in his bathroom. He talks through the door.

ADAM

(Yells)

Nooo!

YOSHI

You have to come out sometime!

ADAM

You said this costume...

YOSHI

Not costume... uniform!

ADAM

You said this uniform was gonna be normal.

YOSHI

It is normal! Every Technical Designer wears one.

Adam reluctantly walks out. He is completely dressed as DEXTER with black, thick frame, horn rimmed glasses, a white lab coat with light purple, spandex body suit under it and a "D" on the chest.

ADAM

(Humiliated)

Is the "D" for Dexter?

YOSHI

You can't button up the coat like that.

ADAM

I feel naked without it.

YOSHI

You're not naked, silly.

ADAM

I wish I was... it'd be easier than wearing this!

YOSHI

It's for Darden.

(She bows her head.)

ADAM

What is?

YOSHI

The "D". Before you asked what it stands for.

ADAM

Oh yeah.

YOSHI

Are you prepared to engage in the Katala Training System.

ADAM

I don't think I could fight anyone wearing this outfit.

YOSHI

Of course you could. It allows for movement and energy flow.

ADAM

I feel like a figure skater on crack.

YOSHI

You're so funny.

ADAM

Glad one of us finds it amusing.

Adam looks at himself in a mirror.

ADAM

I can't wear this in public. And forget about trying to fight with another guy. If this were a living comic book, they'd laugh me off the page.

YOSHI

See, it takes more courage to live a super heroes life than you thought.

ADAM

Living like this could make you a recluse.

YOSHI

I'm not a recluse.

ADAM

If I have to wear this daily, I will be!

YOSHI

(Laughing)

Noooo, you won't. You look very handsome.

ADAM

In this? I couldn't look handsome in this if I were George Clooney, Val Kilmer and Brad Pitt combined.

YOSHI

They all looked great in the Bat mask and tights, except Brad Pitt. He was never Batman.

ADAM

And I now know why they call them tights.

Adam moves around

ADAM

They kinda grab you in places... I've never had grabbed before.

Yoshi crosses to Adam's desk.

YOSHI

(Excited)

Your laptop is on!

ADAM

Yeah.

YOSHI

Does that mean you were writing?

ADAM

I like to keep it on in case I get an idea. This way I can sit down and type it out immediately.

YOSHI

Would you rather write now and train later?

ADAM

No, that's okay. I'll be able to sit down eventually.

Yoshi looks disappointed.

YOSHI

I see...

ADAM

What?

YOSHI

I never see you write.

ADAM

I write. I just don't do it as much as I was because, well, because there's been so many changes in my life.

YOSHI

I know, but it just doesn't seem like you're very dedicated to your craft.

ADAM

Writing's not something you can turn on and off like a TV set.

YOSHI

Why not?

ADAM

Because... well... I don't know.

YOSHI

I think you should train and condition your mind for the task at hand.

ADAM

The task at hand right now is figuring out how much longer I have to wear this outfit.

YOSHI

I'm the only one who sees you like this.

ADAM

Yeah, but I have to go out sometime.

YOSHI

Once you get used to it and believe in yourself again, you won't care what people think about you or what you're wearing.

ADAM

I believe in myself, I just don't believe in me wearing light purple spandex. Hey! How come I don't get a mask with this get up? It would make it a hell of a lot easier walking through the mall if no one could see my face.

YOSHI

You have to earn the privilege of wearing the mask.

ADAM

The privilege?

YOSHI

Absolutely. It's not just anyone that can put on the mask and the colors of Darden.

(Bows her head)

ADAM

I don't see how it's a privilege, but I could see how it would be easy to hide behind the mask.

Silence.

ADAM

Do you think that's an advantage to wearing the mask?

Yoshi turns her back on him.

(Pause)

ADAM

Do you think that you just might be hiding your personal problems by putting on the mask?

YOSHI

Everyone has their own reason for wearing their mask. Yes, some people might wear it to hide their true selves, but most superheroes just wear it to protect their secret identities.

ADAM

Okay, I can understand that, but you can't wear it when you meet my mother.

YOSHI

(A nervous, slight, growl)

Grrrrrrrrr....

ADAM

You have to meet her sometime.

YOSHI

Parents make me nervous. Especially mothers.

ADAM

Really? Why?

YOSHI

There's a weird thing between a mother and a son. In the past they've always felt threatened by me.

ADAM

Not my mom. We should do this now.

YOSHI

What are you gonna do, just open the door and ask her in?

ADAM

I was hoping to.

YOSHI

No, that would be too uncomfortable for both of us.

ADAM

Maybe over lunch or drinks... less pressure than a dinner and then we wouldn't have to get all dressed up.

YOSHI

What would we dress up as?

ADAM

Anything you want as long as you lose "the mask".

YOSHI

Then your mother doesn't want to meet me.

ADAM

Please, I'm asking you to meet my mom.

YOSHI

It would be nice, but...

ADAM

Take off the mask and I'll ask her in, right now.

YOSHI

Adam! I can't! That's not me. This is me. This is the girl you love, right?

ADAM

You don't understand. This is important to me.

YOSHI

Yes, I do! I understand completely! You want to take the easy way out!!!

ADAM

Easier, not easy.

YOSHI

You are not a warrior.

ADAM

That's right, I'm not.

YOSHI

This is the warrior's way. I am happy being me. I want people to accept me for me. I will live my life this way and I will raise "MY" baby in this manner.

Adam takes off his Dexter coat and glasses.

ADAM

Your Baby. Your way. Your warrior way. That's what you want? Fine! Why does it all have to be your way? Oh! And I am not wearing any silly Cosplay costume.

YOSHI

Do you want the baby to grow up the way you did? You had the best of everything and look how happy it's made you.

ADAM

I might not have been happy, but I didn't grow up just to hide behind some mask.

YOSHI

You were hiding and you are still hiding!

ADAM

Really, how?

YOSHI

Behind your writing. Your mask is your writing. You hide out in your room and you live through your characters.

ADAM

No way!

YOSHI

Are you kidding? That's why we met!

ADAM

What?

YOSHI

You just got tired of writing about women super heroes, so you came looking for me!

ADAM

(Yells)

I wasn't looking for you! I was looking for sex!

Yoshi is stunned.

YOSHI

Oh... Adam.

ADAM

I'm sorry. I didn't mean to say that.

YOSHI

Came out that way.

ADAM

Sorry.

YOSHI

Why can't you just accept me? Why do you want to change me?

ADAM

My Ex-wife use to say that.

YOSHI

Just cause you can control the lives of your comic book creations doesn't mean you can control other people's lives.

Yoshi grabs her things and crosses to the window.

ADAM

Where are you going?

YOSHI

I need time to think.

ADAM

About what?

YOSHI

I don't know if I can exist like this anymore.

ADAM

What does that mean?

YOSHI

If I stop coming here, what would you do?

ADAM

Why would you stop coming up here?

YOSHI

Maybe I was wrong. Maybe this wasn't the way to go.

ADAM

What are you talking about?

YOSHI

I was assigned my mission and I chose the path that I thought was best to complete it, but...

ADAM

Was I your path?

YOSHI

I think I made a mistake.

Yoshi climbs up on the window sill.

ADAM

Don't go.

YOSHI

Why? You obviously don't have a problem being alone. You seem to be better that way.

ADAM

I told you, I'm sorry. I'm just in this transitional space between divorce and single life. I'm really confused.

YOSHI

You're not the only one confused.

Adam notices a change.

ADAM

You sound different. You never sounded like this before.

YOSHI

Never felt like this before.

ADAM

I'm sorry.

YOSHI

This is so painful. Now I know how Phoenix felt.

ADAM

Phoenix?

YOSHI

She did it all for her lover, Cyclops.

ADAM

Phoenix committed suicide.

YOSHI

No, she sacrificed herself for him.

ADAM

That's suicide.

YOSHI

A lot of superheroes have done it.

ADAM

Not true.

YOSHI

Mr. Immortal tries all the time

Yoshi starts to cry.

ADAM

Yeah, but he can never do it! That's why he's Mr. Immortal.

YOSHI

Sometimes you just have to kill off your superhero side, just to save your human side.

ADAM

Don't talk like that.

YOSHI

Why? All I have to do is take off my cape, take off my mask and jump.

Yoshi jumps off the window sill and lands on the floor.

ADAM

No!

YOSHI

If I could live without the mask and cape, you'd like me better, you said it yourself.

ADAM

No, I just want you to meet my family without the mask because I don't want them to judge you. I want them to like you!

YOSHI

Adam you were right. We should break up. Stop seeing each other.

ADAM

We can't now.

Yoshi places her hand on her stomach.

YOSHI

Because of the baby?

ADAM

Well... yeah.

YOSHI

You weren't so worried about the baby when you first found out. You said "We have options." Well... I have an option.

ADAM

No.

YOSHI

It's for me to decide. I make that decision. No one else.

Yoshi gets back up on the window sill.

ADAM

Don't go.

YOSHI

I have to.

ADAM

You won't try to...

YOSHI

I don't know. I have to think.

ADAM

(Raising his voice as he
speaks.)

No, wait. I want you to stay. Don't do anything crazy!
We'll work this out. Please, don't go. Please don't...

Yoshi blows Adam a kiss and jumps out
the window.

ADAM

Yoshi, no! Please wait! Don't go!

There's a banging on the floor under
Adam's feet.

Adam runs to the window

MOM

(Offstage)

Adam! Adam! Who are you talking to now? Are you on the
phone? Why are you yelling?

ADAM

(Yells)

It's alright. I'm alright.

MOM

(Offstage)

Are you sure?

ADAM

(Loud & confused.)

It's okay, Ma. Mother... uh... Mom... it's okay.

(Changes to speaking voice)

ADAM

What did I do?

LIGHTS CHANGE:

SCENE 6: ADAM'S BEDROOM - WEEKS LATER.

Adam sits at his desk in front of his laptop in a pool of light.

ADAM

I sat at the window every night for a week and waited for her to come back, but she never did. Hours turned into days and days into weeks, but I heard nothing. I never had her phone number, so there was no one to call. I had no email for her or any social media and cause I didn't know her real name, I couldn't find her on Facebook. I replayed all the love-making, all the arguments, all the words we said to each other over and over again in my head. Sometimes I said the words out loud and tried to correct what I had said. Now I know why those people that talk to no one out on the street are doing it. The conversation that they regret for their entire life, the words they hear in their head are continuous and can never be fixed. They're trying to find the right words, the words that will finally fix that one important conversation they are still having. I was trying to fix mine and then it hit me. "Maybe I was right all along. Maybe she wasn't real and was just some fantasy I created. A fantasy I needed and now that she is gone I need that fantasy to come back so bad that I'm only wishing she is real. This is worse than any break up, worse than my divorce. What was I thinking? Why didn't I just leave it alone? Why did I try to change her when I liked her the way she was? I wonder about it all the time. Some good did come out of it. I have only one way to get it out of my mind, out of my system... through my finger tips. WRITING. So here I sit, getting it out and choosing all the right words, but no matter what comes out, no matter what I put on this page... I still miss her.

MOM

(Offstage)

Adam?

Adam is still typing.

MOM

Adam?

ADAM

Yes, Ma?

There is a knock at the door. Adam crosses to the door.

MOM

Open up, please.

ADAM

Yes, Mom what do you....

Adam opens the door.

Yoshi is standing in there, but she is in jeans, boots, a simple, but "cute" top. Her hair is up and she is wearing thick, black framed, reading glasses.

ADAM

YOU?

They stand there and stare at each other.

ADAM

Yoshi, I'm so sorry for the other night.

Pause.

YOSHI

My name's Allyson.

ADAM

Allyson?

YOSHI

Yes, Allyson Jenkins.

ADAM

(Softly)

Wow!

YOSHI

Can I come in?

ADAM

Umm, yeah, I mean sure. I'm sorry, please come in.

Pause

YOSHI

I met your mom. She's very nice.

ADAM

Thanks, yeah... good.. yes, she is.

YOSHI

Are you okay?

ADAM

I uh... I'm not sure.

Really?
YOSHI

ADAM
It's kinda like a dream.

YOSHI
No, it's real. It's not a dream.

ADAM
You... you look so different.

YOSHI
(Yoshi places her hand on her
stomach)
I'm not showing yet, but...

ADAM
Oh jees, sorry, please...

Adam slides over his desk chair.

ADAM
Please, sit.

Yoshi sits.

ADAM
I've been trying to find you. I don't have your phone number or an address or anything. I've been googling and searching and coming up with nothing, but...

YOSHI
Oh, I'll give you my contact information.

ADAM
I'm so glad you're here. There's a lot I want to say and well, first... I just, uh... You need to know that... oh man, I played this out in my mind so many times, I mean I actually practiced it and well, I just want to say I'm sorry and I...

YOSHI
Adam, that's okay. You don't have to apologize.

ADAM
No, I should, because you left and I said all the wrong things and...

YOSHI
No, you didn't.

ADAM
I didn't?

YOSHI

There were no right answers. There were no right things to say.

ADAM

Yes, there was! I could've handled it better and...

YOSHI

No, you just never knew who you were dealing with.

ADAM

Listen, there's something I have to say...

YOSHI

Look, I just...

ADAM

No, wait. I have to get this out now and I have to say it...

YOSHI

I just want to...

Adam gets down on one knee and takes Yoshi's hand.

ADAM

Yoshi, I mean Allyson, would you...

Yoshi places her hand over Adam's mouth.

YOSHI

Adam, no. Don't do that. I'm not here for the reason you...

Yoshi stands up, her hand still over Adam's mouth.

YOSHI

I'm going to take my hand away from your mouth and I want you to say nothing and just sit down in this chair. Nod your head "yes" if you understand.

Adam nods. Yoshi removes her hand and Adam sits on the chair. Yoshi takes a few steps away from Adam as if she is searching for the right words.

YOSHI

Adam, you know nothing about me and I... I know everything there is about you. I've read everything I could about you on the internet. Looked up all the facts I could find on you and when I found out that you were scheduled to speak on that panel, I made sure I was there. Nothing was by chance or spontaneous... it was all planned.

ADAM

Why?

YOSHI

I told you not to speak.

She crosses back to Adam.

YOSHI

Have you ever noticed that female super heroes... they're always a bit off? There's always something missing in their lives, in their personalities that makes them different, makes them loners. They never really fit in, even if they're on a super team or have partners. They're still... super loners.

She turns away from him.

YOSHI

And so am I.

She takes a few steps away.

YOSHI

I don't fit in, even when I'm with a boyfriend or with a lover. It just doesn't match up. I'm like a piece of a puzzle that fell out of the box and the box gets sent to somewhere like Japan. I don't have that perfect fit, never did and never will, I know it. I just do. So when you don't fit in like that, you can do one of two things... you can force yourself to fit into someone else's puzzle, but that never works or... you can create and invent your own puzzle, your own world, your own universe. That's what I did. The most serene, perfect world in another universe, Darden.

(No salute)

ADAM

You didn't salute.

YOSHI

If something doesn't exist, you don't salute it.

ADAM

I think I liked things better when they existed.

YOSHI

That's why it existed. It was there for you and everyone to like and it helped me. The planet, the cape and the mask, all of it, but especially the mask, it allowed me to be anything I wanted, someone new, someone different, someone from another planet.

Yoshi steps towards the audience not looking at Adam.

YOSHI

But more importantly, the power of the mask makes you fit in, even though underneath... the truth is, you really don't.

Yoshi crosses slowly to the window as she speaks.

YOSHI

People like you better when they're attracted to all the things they wish they could be.

ADAM

I don't understand. What do I have to do with any of this?

YOSHI

You? You're the most important part.

Yoshi turns from Adam and stares out the window as she speaks.

YOSHI

The first time was Comic Con in San Diego. I heard you speak and the things you said, well, I just knew. You were to be the one. So, next came San Francisco and Anaheim, those were big ones. I took you in. Absorbed your every word, every idea, "Female superheroes are just as interesting and able to hold a protagonist position as male superheroes." You were smart and talented and well, that's when I chose you and made my move.

ADAM

Chose me?

YOSHI

Yes, you were chosen.

ADAM

For what?

YOSHI

My mission.

Adam looks confused.

ADAM

Like I was a piece of meat or cattle or...

YOSHI

Like any stud who was about to provide stud services.

ADAM

(Shocked)

The baby?

YOSHI

I will finally have something, someone that loves me back unconditionally. I will love this baby and it will never hurt me or stop loving me.

Pause.

ADAM

I can love you like that.

YOSHI

Too late. You can't. Almost did, thought you were able to, but in the end like all comic book characters, you can save the world, but never completely. And there's always that one failure that you have to carry with you for the rest of your life.

Yoshi crosses to Adam and places a card on the bed next to him.

YOSHI

Hold on to this. You're going to need it.

Adam picks up the card and reads it.

ADAM

Gary R. Johnson, Attorney at Law?

YOSHI

You can contact me through him.

ADAM

Why a lawyer?

YOSHI

In case you try some thing.

ADAM

What do you mean?

YOSHI

Once I leave here, you will never hear from me. I have what I want from you and we won't need to talk anymore.

ADAM

We?

YOSHI

The mission is complete. That is and always was The Mission.

ADAM
Getting pregnant? Our baby?

YOSHI
My baby. That's the way he or she will be raised, as my baby.

ADAM
I have rights.

YOSHI
No, you don't.

ADAM
You're crazy.

YOSHI
Really?

ADAM
I have a lawyer too and if you think that you're going to just walk...

YOSHI
Walk away?

Yoshi laughs at him.

YOSHI
I can walk away or I can fly away, but either way, Adam, after I leave here tonight, you won't know a thing about me. You won't know any-thing and most important...

Yoshi looks away from Adam and out into the audience.

YOSHI
You won't know if there really is a baby.

Silence

YOSHI
You're quiet. Does that mean you are starting to understand?

Silence

YOSHI
Despite what you think, this has never been about you. I wanted a baby who will be smart, talented, imaginative and if needed "Well Off". See, if you try to come close and take this baby from me, I will disappear forever. Even the name on that card, won't be able to help you. It's not that hard to do. A plane ticket can take us anywhere and I can turn into anyone I want. You've seen it first hand.

She crosses back to Adam as she speaks and opens her purse.

YOSHI

You should really thank me.

ADAM

(Yells)

WHAT?

YOSHI

(Smirks)

Don't raise your voice.

She takes her mask out of her purse.

YOSHI

You can keep your life. You can live here and get over your divorce. Thinking about me and guessing about the baby will keep your mind off of all that, but what you should really thank me for is the fact that I don't want anything from you until we need it. I have everything I need and everything the baby needs, but if things don't go as planned, well, then you will have to step up. That's when the name on that card will contact you and discuss payments and fees to cover your responsibilities, but until we need your money, you won't have to pay for a thing.

ADAM

I can go after you legally. I'm not afraid of you.

YOSHI

But, you should be! You try anything like that and I will unleash a story to the press, to the world on how a successful writer and comic book man seduced a young fan at a comic book convention and then tried to get her to abort his child! People send their kids to those things all the time. The same people and kids who buy your comic books and give you a living as a successful writer. How fast would they stop buying your words, if they thought the worst of you?

She places her mask on the desk next to his laptop.

YOSHI

I'm leaving this as a reminder. Not about the things you know, but as a reminder about the things you don't know. Is there a baby? Where has she gone? Will she ever contact me again? Every time you see this mask or even someone with a mask, all those questions will pop into your head. Those thoughts and memories of me will always be with you.

Yoshi crosses to the door.

YOSHI

Who knows? You might even get brave and make the mask work for you. You might use it's powers to fight crime or maybe develop a nicer persona for the next masked female you try to seduce and write about.

Yoshi stands at the door and is about to leave...

ADAM

Why are you doing this?

YOSHI

(Laughs)

I told you, I wanted a baby with a man who is smart, talented and wealthy.

Yoshi turns and faces Adam.

YOSHI

"I've done far worse than kill you. I've hurt you. And I wish to go on hurting you. I shall leave you as you left me, as you left her - marooned for all eternity in the center of a dead planet. Buried alive. Buried alive..." Goodbye Adam.

Yoshi walks out the door, closing it behind her. Adam looks around confused. He takes a few steps toward the door and stops, turns back, and runs to the open window slamming it shut.

He looks a mess, like he doesn't know what to do, takes a few steps towards center and then sits on the edge of the bed.

ADAM

Oh my god.

He sits there in shock for a moment and then notices the mask on top of his laptop. He crosses picks up the mask. Adam slowly crosses to center as he examines the mask. He raises it and places the mask on his face. He looks straight out into the audience.

ADAM

"Buried alive. Buried alive..."

BLACK OUT:

THE END