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Imaginary Something

A 10-Minute Play

by Greg Freier

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Imaginary Something

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CHARACTERS

1F /1M

JOAN PEMPLEBROOK: *An a attractive woman in her 30's; willing to settle for much less.*

ARTHUR RIGSBY: *her boss; a chauvinistic fool who can't keep his eyes off her breasts.*

SETTING

An Office

PRODUCTION NOTE

*A good portion of the play takes place in the two characters' heads.
Voiceovers are used to create this illusion.*

Imaginary Something

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SETTING: *An office. There is a desk stage left angled towards the door stage right. Another desk sits along the back wall. A coat rack sits along the back wall as well.*

AT RISE: *ARTHUR is seated at his desk in a nice dark suit. He's busy staring at JOAN, who is wearing a rather low cut, provocative dress. She's busy working on her computer, which she does throughout.*

ARTHUR
(Voiceover)

My god, would you look at those breasts...

ARTHUR
(Aloud)

...They're exquisite.

JOAN
I'm sorry. Did you just say something Mr. Rigsby?

ARTHUR
No. Definitely not. I'm absolutely positive I said nothing out loud.

JOAN
(Voiceover)
He was staring at my breasts again no doubt.

ARTHUR
(Voiceover)
I need to do a better job of not staring at her breasts. But what can I do...

ARTHUR
(Again, aloud)
...They're absolutely exquisite.

JOAN
I'm sure you said something that time.

ARTHUR

Yes, I did that time Miss Pemplebrook. *(He starts looking around the room)* I was commenting on...on...on the...the um...the coat rack. Yes, the coat rack. I was noticing how exquisite it looks with uh...coats on it.

JOAN looks at the coat rack.

JOAN

Yes, you're quite right.

ARTHUR

(Voiceover)

Coat rack? That's the best you can do Rigsby? I mean you might as well stick an ice pick in your head if you're going to be that stupid.

JOAN

(Voiceover)

He was definitely staring at my breasts again. *(Adjusts her breasts)* But he is right. They are exquisite.

ARTHUR

(Voiceover)

I mean just look at the way she moves them. It's like she has a little man in there she's trying to suffocate.

JOAN

(Voiceover)

One would think the poor man has never seen a pair of breasts before.

ARTHUR

(Voiceover)

What I wouldn't give just to see them once. Even if it was a poorly developed picture that was in black and white and you really couldn't tell what the picture was.

JOAN

(Voiceover)

Is that drool coming out of his mouth?

ARTHUR

(Voiceover)

She's looking at my mouth. Hopefully I'm not drooling again.

JOAN

Don't forget you have a ten o'clock call with C.K.

ARTHUR

No I haven't forgotten Miss Pemplebrook. Did he happen to mention what the call was about?

JOAN

Something to do with production being down...that and attendance appears to be down as well.

ARTHUR

Probably because everyone hates him.

JOAN

(Nods)

That would be my guess.

ARTHUR

(Voiceover)

I love it when she nods her head. It's like she's some kind of professional. Seductive yet with a certain suppleness.

JOAN

(Voiceover)

I was right. He is drooling.

ARTHUR

(Voiceover; wipes his mouth)

I have to learn to not drool. She's going to think I'm some rabid animal. Soon I'll be foaming at the mouth and she'll have me shot, or better yet, castrated.

JOAN

(Voiceover)

Although I have to admit, he's kind of childlike when he drools.

ARTHUR

(Voiceover)

I mean how can a grown man not control his own drool.

JOAN

Would you like me to pull the numbers on the production and attendance?

ARTHUR

(Voiceover)

You know what I'd really like you to pull....

ARTHUR

(Aloud)

Yes, please Miss Pemplebrook, that would be most helpful.

JOAN

I'll get right on it then.

ARTHUR

(Voiceover)

And then when you're done getting on that, I have something else you can get on.

ARTHUR snickers

JOAN

I'm sorry. Did I miss something?

ARTHUR

No...no...definitely not...I was just thinking of something that happened yesterday... yesterday when I was somewhere else...in the men's room to be exact.

JOAN

I see.

ARTHUR

(Voiceover)

Men's room? You're pathetic Rigsby. Now she's going to think you're some kind of pervert.

JOAN

(Voiceover)

I think it might be best if I took back the childlike comment.

ARTHUR

Actually I didn't mean the men's room, I meant church. I was in church yesterday.

JOAN

Yesterday was Tuesday.

ARTHUR

Yes, I know. It was Leviticus Tuesday.

JOAN

I've never heard of Leviticus Tuesday.

ARTHUR

That's because it's new in my religion. It's a special service they hold once every four weeks for people with thinning hair.

JOAN

Apparently I must be of the wrong religion then.

ARTHUR

(Voiceover)

Well then you might want to consider joining my religion Miss Pemplebrook. You can apply for one of the missionary positions.

JOAN

(Voiceover)

Is that foam coming out of his mouth now?

ARTHUR

(Voiceover)

I think she's falling in love with me.

JOAN

I just sent you all the numbers you'll need for your meeting with C.K.

ARTHUR

Excellent. I'm sure they're perfect.

ARTHUR

(Voiceover)

Just like you Miss Pemplebrook.

JOAN

I'm also sending you the data on quality, quotas, number of temps versus perms, salary breakdown of quality with temps versus perms, salary breakdown of quotas with temps versus perms, salary breakdown of happiness with temps versus perms, and also the meal satisfaction ratings with fish sticks every Wednesday.

ARTHUR

What would I ever do without you Miss Pemplebrook?

JOAN

(Voiceover)

Drool much less would be my guess.

ARTHUR

(Voiceover)

If only she was naked.

JOAN

Is there any other data you think you'll need before your 10 o'clock with C.K.?

ARTHUR

(Voiceover)

Just number of freckles on your thighs.

ARTHUR

(Aloud)

No, I believe that should be more than enough.

JOAN

Would you care for some more coffee then?

ARTHUR

No thanks. I always prefer to be a little less than alert when dealing with C.K. I find that when I'm too alert with C.K. he expects more.

ARTHUR

(Voiceover)

Plus I'm saving my extra alertness for you my darling.

JOAN

(Voiceover)

It's a wonder his wife hasn't turned him into a eunuch as of yet.

ARTHUR

Have I mentioned that my wife seems to have died about six months ago?

JOAN

No, I'm afraid you haven't.

ARTHUR

Piranhas.

JOAN

Piranhas?

ARTHUR

Yes, piranhas. Fishing accident from what I've been told.

JOAN

Where does one have a fishing accident around here with piranhas?

ARTHUR

(Beat)

Did I say piranhas? I meant she was hit by a bus.

ARTHUR
(Voiceover)

You're an idiot Rigsby.

JOAN
That's awful. Why didn't you mention this before?

ARTHUR
I didn't want to upset you. I know how much you loved my wife.

JOAN
I've never met your wife.

ARTHUR
That's right, you hadn't. But I knew if you had, you would have loved her. She was very sterile. Clean. Great knees.

ARTHUR
(Voiceover; looks up)
Please take me now.

JOAN
(Voiceover; with fear)
He's going to ask me to marry him.

ARTHUR
(Voiceover)
What am I going to do when she finds out my wife's not really dead?

JOAN
(Voiceover)
Although he does have very kind eyes.

ARTHUR
(Voiceover)
There's only one thing left to do. Kill my wife.

JOAN
(Voiceover)
And it's not like I've ever had any great offers so far.

ARTHUR
(Voiceover)
How exactly does one kill his wife? Especially one that's bigger than he is.

JOAN

(Voiceover)

I mean, sure he's disgusting. But I'm sure he has a good heart.

ARTHUR

(Voiceover)

I could get her a pet wolverine I suppose.

JOAN

(Voiceover)

And he's much older than me, so it's not like I'd have to spend my entire life with him.

ARTHUR

(Voiceover)

Where does one find a wolverine?

JOAN

(Voiceover)

I could certainly do worse...although not by much.

ARTHUR

(Voiceover)

But you're forgetting one small thing, Rigsby...

JOAN

(Voiceover)

How hard can it be to love someone you detest?

ARTHUR

(Voiceover)

Your wife's parents are loaded and almost dead.

This is Not the End of the Play

Ending Intentionally Omitted for Security Purposes