

Tales From A Dressing Room

A 10 Minute Play

by
Nash Johns

Nash Johns
50 Quentin Rd. Rochester, NY 14609
5859935064

CHARACTER

Jimmy Harris AKA Diana Carcrash

Lisa Newcar

Mildreadful Pierce

Time: Present

Place: Full Tilt, an NYC Gay Bar

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

A young makeup influencer turned Drag Queen

A rough and tough Drag Queen, a hostess

Another Drag Queen

PRODUCTION COPY ONLY

Lights up on a run down dressing room, we are behind the stage of Full Tilt, a NYC gay bar. Front and center is the counter where the queens get ready, we are essentially viewing them from inside the mirror of the vanity. In the back of the dressing room is a door, this leads to the stage. Through out the action of the play, we hear the thump of club music, the roar of the crowd, and lipsyncs of the queens performing. At lights up, Jimmy is listening to “Material Girl” by Madonna, and lipsyncing along while applying, finishing touches on his makeup, Mildreadful enters, Jimmy doesn’t notice.

MILDREADFUL

You got real talent kid.

JIMMY

Thanks...

MILDREADFUL

You don’t sound so sure.

JIMMY

I’m just a little jittery; first time nerves. How many people do you think are out there?

MILDREADFUL

Oh, I’m not sure, I’d say about 3 to 700.

JIMMY

Jesus Christ...

MILDREADFUL

And they’re all here to see you honey!

JIMMY

Wearing my -

MILDREADFUL

Wearing your Tee-Shirts!

JIMMY

Mildreadful?

MILDREADFUL

Yes Honey?

JIMMY

Will... Will you watch my lipsync? Prematurely.

MILDREADFUL

If it will calm your nerves, of course.

Jimmy puts on "Material Girl" once again and starts to go into the lipsync. Long story short, its bad, he stumbles in his heels and has a hard time staying upright. Mildreadful smiles in anguish, Lisa enters unseen by Jimmy.

LISA

Dear god.

Jimmy stops, startled, he laughs.

MILDREADFUL

You want me to be honest?

JIMMY

Good, right? I think I got it down cold.

LISA

I'll be real with you honey, you may have the face, but the personality to pull off that song you do not.

JIMMY

Personality?!

LISA

Yes, *personality*. That trivial little thing you seem to be lacking in.

MILDREADFUL

Lisa, Lisa, Lisa. You may be having a hard time because your Sugar Daddy just cut you off, but please don't take it out on the kid, okay?

(Turning to Jimmy)

What about the costume?

LISA

Where the hell did you hear I have a Sugar Daddy?!

Jimmy goes to his bag and pulls out a hideous pant suit that might work if it was for “Vogue,” but this is “Material Girl.” He’s very proud of it.

MILDREADFUL

Oh no...

JIMMY

It’s great right!?

LISA

Blind and Dumb, what next?! Love, did you research Madonna at all before picking any of this?

JIMMY

(He Hesitates)

I guess... I just really like the song.

Lisa and Mildreadful let out a groan.

LISA

What kind of gay are you?

MILDREADFUL

A millennial one. The ones who think this shit is easy.

Lisa sits Jimmy down at the mirror and sits down beside him, Mildreadful is fixing her makeup.

LISA

Listen baby, it’s nothing personal, you have a very pretty mug, but unfortunately that's not all it takes; you have to *feel* your lyrics; your outfit has to match the vibe; and your wig -

JIMMY

OH MY GOD!

He startles Mildreadful, who now has a big Mascara blob on her face.

MILDREADFUL

FUCK!

JIMMY

Oh my god! I'm so so sorry!

MILDREADFUL

(After a breath of rage)

It's okay honey, I can fix it...

LISA

Why did you just freak out?

JIMMY

I... I don't have a wig...

LISA

How did you expect to pull any of this off?!

JIMMY

I thought this was easier! My followers made it seem like it was just the next step. Plop on a face, move my mouth, and people will eat that shit up!

MILDREADFUL

Yeah, and James Charles thinks he can sing.

LISA

Listen, I have to go out there and introduce Millie, but I will help you this one time, because my motherly instinct is kicking in. Millie, are you ready?

MILDREADFUL

As I'll ever be.

The two exit the dressing room, Jimmy is starting to put on the pant suit and trying to perfect his dance steps, while this is happening we hear from the stage...

LISA (OFF STAGE)

ALRIGHT LADIES AND GERMS! Are you ready to see a fuckin show tonight?!

The crowd roars.

LISA (OFF STAGE CON'T.)

Please give a huge warm welcome to Mildreadful Pierce!

The crowd roars and we hear, muffled through the door, "Turn Back Time" by Cher. Lisa reenters, Jimmy is now fully dressed and stumbling through his dance.

LISA

Oh boy...

JIMMY

Is it still bad? I'm trying so hard...

LISA

I know hon. What do you have on under that jacket?

JIMMY

(opening the jacket)

A blouse.

Lisa lets out a groan and goes to a box that's placed under the counter, she pulls out a corset.

LISA

Good lord. Good thing, I keep these things around in case of emergencies, take off the jacket. Now place both hands onto the counter and hold on!

Jimmy does so, and Lisa pulls the corset as tight as it can possibly go, Jimmy lets out a couple yelps.

JIMMY

Does it have to be this tight?!

LISA

My God! Jim - Hon, what's your drag name.

JIMMY

Diana Carcrash.

LISA

(Looking to the heavens)

Bless your sense of humor! Anyway! You have a Body - Ody -Ody Hon!

JIMMY

Really?

LISA

Yes! Here take these too!

She pulls a bra out of the box with large bosoms attached.

JIMMY

What do I -

LISA

(Blunt)

Take off the shirt and put 'em on.

JIMMY

Got it.

Jimmy takes off the blouse and put on the bra, then puts the shirt and the jacket back on.

LISA

Well it's a start. Let's find you a wig!

JIMMY

Something blonde?

LISA

You're doing Madonna, *of coarse* it's gonna be blonde.

Lisa tears through the box again, throwing out wig after wig, she finally stops at a short, blonde, pin-curl wig.

LISA (CON'T.)

Perfect! Hand me that duct tape honey!

Jimmy grabs a roll of beige duct tape off the counter.

JIMMY

What's this for?

LISA

You'll see.

She pulls the duct tape to make a big *RIP* sound.

LISA (CON'T.)

Put on that wig cap.

Jimmy grabs and puts on the wig cap.

JIMMY

Okay, but I still don't get why we need the du -

Lisa slaps the duct tape around Jimmy's head, securing the wig cap.

LISA

It's called Wig Security baby, let mama Lisa take care of you!

She run back to the counter, she grabs a paint brush and spirit gum and slathers it to the duct tape, then firmly fashions the wig to his head, Mildreadful reenters.

MILDREADFUL

Well, well, who's this lovely lady I see before me?

LISA

Shit! Millie, finish him up, I have to go on!

MILDREADFUL

Wait what? Lisa! I can't -

Lisa's gone before she can even get a word out.

MILDREADFUL (CON'T.)

Well, you look a lot better then when I left.

JIMMY

Thanks...

MILDREADFUL

Okay, lets see the lipsync.

(Jimmy presses play on his phone, it's still
bad, maybe worse than before)

Okay, okay. Stop, Stop, stop. I'm gonna teach you how to make the crowd love you, and guess what, you don't even have to move. I was once in your shoes, and here I am, 20 years later.

JIMMY

20 years?!

MILDREADFUL

Don't.

(Mildreadful starts the song over and gives a
lot of upper body and arm moves)

Get the picture?

JIMMY

I think so...

MILDREADFUL

Give it a try.

(Jimmy replicates what Mildreadful showed
him, with a little added flair)

Okay! I see you! You catch on fast! Now also remember, if you forget the words just say "Watermelon, Peanut Butter" and you'll be golden!

JIMMY

I was always told it was "Watermelon, Motherfucker."

MILDREADFUL

Yeah, whatever, same thing. The big thing you have to remember is confidence! You have that and you're golden; a pretty face without confidence, is just another pretty face, and there's hundreds of them in this world.

Lisa reenters.

LISA

Millie, Diana! You gotta get out there! The crowd is gonna tear the place apart!

MILDREADFUL

You can do this kid, just remember what *we* taught you.

They start to go.

JIMMY

Lisa? Mildreadful?

LISA/MILDREADFUL

Yes baby?

JIMMY

Thank you.

They smile and go, Jimmy is alone for a moment.

LISA (OFF STAGE)

NOW THE ONE YOU'VE BEEN WAITING ALL NIGHT FOR! GIVE A WARM WELCOME TO DIANA CARCRASH!

The crowd cheers, Jimmy Turns to the mirror and lets out a breath. *BLACKOUT*.

END OF PLAY