

TOD: 'Cause Katie Johnson always brings a boring lunch to school and Courtney Shuler smells like horses.

GIRL: You've got a lot of girlfriends.

TOD: Yeah, will you be my girlfriend?

GIRL: (*Sarcastically giving in.*) Sure, why not . . . I'd be honored to be one of your girlfriends. But only if you pay for dinner.

TOD: Okay.

(*He produces a huge piggy bank and begins emptying change. Scene.*)

#### SCENE 8

(*SOPHIE enters the restaurant. She is a very old woman, edging toward the table in a walker. GUY just stares. Scene.*)

#### SCENE 9

(*BRANDON and GIRL are in mid-laugh.*)

BRANDON: I didn't even—

GIRL: —I know, I know—

BRANDON: —I mean, seriously! Jeez!

GIRL: —I know, right?

(*They settle down from the laughter.*)

BRANDON: So listen—all joking aside . . . this is fun! I'm really loving hanging out with you!

GIRL: Me too! This has been really, really great.

BRANDON: Hasn't it? Neat.

GIRL: Uh! There's a fly in my water.

BRANDON: Gross. Here, take mine. (*To offstage.*) Waiter? Can we get another water here?

GIRL: You are so—sweet.

BRANDON: Ah, c'mon.

GIRL: No, really.

BRANDON: Anyone would do that.

GIRL: Actually, you'd be surprised. With the luck I've been having lately with dating . . .

BRANDON: Really? But you're so fun. And beautiful.

GIRL: Oh, please.

BRANDON: No. I mean it.

GIRL: You are just too good to be true.

BRANDON: Oh, Terry, stop.

(*Pause.*)

GIRL: What?

BRANDON: What?

GIRL: Who?

BRANDON: What?

GIRL: Who's Teri?

BRANDON: What do you mean?

GIRL: You just called me Teri, who's Teri?

(BRANDON *fidgets.*)

GIRL: Is it your girlfriend?

BRANDON: Nooo! No.

GIRL: Who is she?

BRANDON: He.

(*Beat.*)

GIRL: He?

BRANDON: He.

GIRL: You're gay?

BRANDON: No! Well, yes. But Terry is my agent. (*Beat.*) I'm an actor.

GIRL: You're gay.

BRANDON: Yeah.

(*Pause.*)

GIRL: And why am I on a date with you?

BRANDON: Okay . . . I'm sorry I didn't tell you this sooner, but it would've totally backfired if I did. Here's what's going on: I'll be playing Stanley in a local production of *Streetcar*, and since I'm a method actor, I won't be able to get the part down until I method-act straight.

GIRL: Method-act.

BRANDON: Yes. I can't be Stanley Kowalski until I truly experience what it feels like to woo a woman.

*(Pause.)*

GIRL: So you're telling me you asked me out on a date, had me get dressed up for a nice dinner, drive myself all the way downtown, and then completely get my hopes destroyed after thinking I had finally met a decent guy—all so you could get a better feel for being straight?

*(Beat.)*

BRANDON: Yes. I hope that wasn't unfair to you or anything.

*(Pause. She takes her glass of water and douses his face. Pause.)*

BRANDON: Oh, my God. That was perfect! The ultimate heterosexual dating moment! I've got it! I'm in! I'm straight! STELLAAAAA.

*(She grabs the other glass of water and douses his face again.)*

BRANDON: I deserved that.

*(Scene.)*

*(Note: The character of BRANDON should NOT be played as flamboyantly gay; the audience should be made aware of that fact only when he*