

LAURENCE ANYWAYS

Written by

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INT. APARTMENT - DAY

FRED enters the apartment. LAURENCE has been waiting for her.

LAURENCE

Where were you? Were you at your mom's? Why is her damn number still not listed?

FRED

Why didn't you tell me you were gay?

LAURENCE

Because I'm not gay.

FRED

Why didn't you tell me you were gay? Did you picture me as a man?

LAURENCE

I'm not gay, Fred.

LAURENCE (CONT'D)

Stop fucking with me. Laurence, you're a fag, you're gay! It's not the end of the world! You're gay.

LAURENCE (CONT'D)

Fred, it's not that I like men, it's just that I'm not made to be one, and that's different. Right, Fred? You see? This isn't me, neither is this. This, this disgusts me as well. This isn't me Fred. I've been living like this for 35 years and that's a crime! And I'm a criminal for stealing this person's life.

FRED

Whose life did you steal, Laurence?

LAURENCE

The life of the woman I was born to be. (beat) Fred...

FRED

Everything I love about you, you hate about yourself, is that what you're telling me? Is that it?

LAURENCE  
Is that all you love about me?

FRED  
So everything we've been through  
means... nothing ? Everything must  
be reinterpreted.

Laurence sits down.

FRED (CONT'D)  
I'm not stupid. I would've known. I  
would've seen it. I would have felt  
it. You'd have done something,  
dress yourself up as a woman...

Long beat. She's afraid to ask the following:

FRED (CONT'D)  
Did you dress up?

LAURENCE  
No.

FRED  
Did you dress up?

LAURENCE  
No! No! No! NO NO NO NO!

FRED  
What did you wear?

LAURENCE  
Nothing.

FRED  
What do you wear.

LAURENCE  
Nothing!

FRED  
What do you wear Laurence? A dress,  
a sweater...

LAURENCE  
Nothing. Anything.

FRED

Okay, okay. Okay do you... Tell me what you've been wearing. A dress?

LAURENCE

Clothes I bought. I didn't want to wear yours. Out of respect for you, I... then I got rid of the clothes afterwards. But Fred... Fred I've done it two, maybe three times. Ten times tops.

FRED

Do you put make-up on?

LAURENCE

No, not at all.

FRED

Are you wearing make-up?

LAURENCE

No.

FRED

Yes, you do.. Did you ever... Did you trie on my underwear?

LAURENCE

No. (beat) Once, I put on a pink bra. Uhhhh, pink yeah. (beat) I didn't kill anybody, Fred

FRED

Not with a white shirt, I hope.

LAURENCE

No, with a black shirt, of course.

Long beat.

FRED

What about your job?

LAURENCE

What about it ?

FRED

What are you, what are you going to do?

LAURENCE

Well, I'll go in as a woman.

FRED

Okay, okay.

LAURENCE

After Christmas, after the holidays.

FRED

I'll write it down: "Upcoming event, save the date".

LAURENCE

The list of Upcoming Events.

FRED

It's not funny. It's not funny at all.

LAURENCE

I'm not really living right now, my life's on hold.

FRED

Yes, I'm sure you're now. What we're living isn't real Laurence, it's just an 'on hold' thing, right? Waiting for real life. Waiting for me to realize that you've been lying to me for two years?

LAURENCE

No, I didn't lie. I just didn't say anything.

FRED

I need time away from you, I need time to think.

LAURENCE

Do you hate me?