Willy's Farce

Ву

Matt Caton

(A Play In One Act)

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This script is not to be performed in any way without the consent of the writer.

CAST

- 3 Women, any age
- 1 Man, any age

SETTING AND TIME

Non Specific

ACT I

Scene 1

Two women sit on chairs on either side of the stage, facing front; both are in a spotlight.

They look awkward and unsure

SUSANNA

(Prompt Side)

So...

Pause

ANNE

(Off Prompt Side)

So...

Pause

SUSANNA

Well. What are we supposed to do now?

ANNE

I dunno. He might still make it.

SUSANNA

(annoyed)

He... He might still make it you say?

ANNE

Yeah... there is still time.

SUSANNA

You do realise it's already started? Look.

(points to the audience)

They are already seated. Looking at us. And we have no damn script!

ANNE

He's coming, and he assures me it will be brilliant.

SUSANNA

Sounds like Willy... promising the world and not delivering.

ANNE

Excuse me?

(getting annoyed)

That's my husband you're talking about Susanna.

SUSANNA

I know. I'm sorry. I'm just annoyed.

CONTINUED: (2) 3.

ANNE

Oh don't worry sister, you're not the only one.

SUSANNA

And it's not the first time he's done this...

ANNE

I know. Believe me, anything you can say right now... I know.

Pause

SUSANNA

So...

Pause

ANNE

So, what?

SUSANNA

So...

ANNE

So...

SUSANNA

So... So we are actually on stage, in a one act play festival, with no script. And no idea what the hell to do. Does this not bother you at all?

ANNE

I have faith.

SUSANNA

In what?

ANNE

In William.

SUSANNA

How can you have faith? He's already failed! WE ARE ON STAGE RIGHT NOW!

ANNE

(getting very offended)

There is no need to yell at me.

SUSANNA

Well you got me into this, so yeah, there kinda is.

ANNE

Oh to hell with this.

Anne jumps out of her seat, and storms off stage (OP)

CONTINUED: (3)

4.

Susanna jumps up and runs after her. She runs to Anne's chair and calls after her.

SUSANNA

Anne... Anne... What are you doing?

JUDITH enters (P), running, and out of breath. She takes place at Susanna's initial chair (Prompt side)

JUDITH

I'm sorry I'm late...

SUSANNA

(Startled)

Huh? Who are you.

JUDITH

Oh... I'm sorry. I'm Judith, I was looking for Anne. (Whispers)

Have we already started?

SUSANNA

What do you think? How any times you had an audience this big to a rehearsal?

JUDITH

Oh... well... yes. So, where's the script?

SUSANNA

We haven't got one. He hasn't shown up yet.

JUDITH

Really? That's very unlike him.

SUSANNA

(laughs)

It's exactly like Willy.

JUDITH

Willy?

SUSANNA

Willy! Anne's husband? The writer? If you could call him that...

JUDITH

Oh I thought Chris Hodson was writing?

SUSANNA

Chris? Pfft... he's way too busy to write something for us. You think we'd be using ol' Willy's scripts if Chris Hodson was available?

JUDITH

Oh, well, I kinda only signed up because I thought Chris was writing the script.

CONTINUED: (4) 5.

SUSANNA

Well you are here now, so grab a seat and get comfy.

Susanna sinks into her chair.

JUDITH

But shouldn't we look for Anne?

SUSANNA

What good is it going to do? We still have no script.

JUDITH

Oh yeah, good point.

Judith sits down.

Pause

So...

SUSANNA

So what?

JUDITH

What do we do now?

SUSANNA

We wait.

JUDITH

For what?

SUSANNA

For William.

Pause

JUDITH

Hey, maybe that could be the play. Just us waiting around for William?

SUSANNA

(Laughs)

Hey yeah, maybe we could get a tree in the middle somewhere?

JUDITH

What do you mean?

SUSANNA

I mean it's been done before love. The whole, sitting around, talking nonsense, boring everybody to death with bizarre comings and goings, waiting...

JUDITH

(laughing)

Oh yes, of course. Seinfeld.