

Radar Range

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### Cast of Characters

Hank, thirty year old police detective  
Doreen, fifty year old police detective  
Harvey, twenty-five year old slow witted man

Ensemble played by two actors, one male and one female

ACTOR ONE: Marriage Counselor, Animal Control, Dispatch,  
Harvey's Mother, Tow Truck Driver, Father, Medical Examiner,  
Minister

ACTOR TWO: Bystander, Bank Teller, Sarah 1 and 2, Stranger

### Time

The past and present. This is a memory play.

Act 1

SCENE 1

A CRIME IS COMMITTED IN THE  
PARKING GARAGE

HANK

(as narrator)

A cold day in December like every other cold day in December the last snowfall had turned to sludge and I had a hangover my partner Doreen and I got a call about a mugging in the parking garage

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

There were two of them wearing hoods mean looking you know and they just frisked this guy it was fast wouldn't you say it was fast

HANK

Can you describe them

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

Hoods like I said and I don't know spiky hair one of them

HANK

But he was wearing a hood

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

Spiking out of the hood spiky and the other one was skinny

HANK

What about their builds

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

Oh you know not too big is he okay

HANK

He's a little shaken up

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

How many women cops you got

HANK

So you would say they were both of medium build

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

Medium one was kind of little stocky but not bigger than me and I'm five five the other guy the spiky wait a minute wait a minute no spike was the five fiver the skinny guy was taller your height maybe

HANK

I'm six feet

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

Well something like that will I get my name in the paper

HANK

I'm not a reporter I'm a police officer

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

He okay

HANK

If you'll just fill this out for me I'll need your name and contact information

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

Oh sure sure they were nasty looking both of them I'm lucky it wasn't me

HANK

And sign right here

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

If a reporter wants to talk to me I work the night shift but I'm up by three he's got big arms that kid I don't know why he didn't deck them have you gotten a load of his arms

HANK

(to the audience)

I hadn't gotten a load Doreen was talking to him he was shaken up she had this way with people Harvey that was his name Harvey was crying when we arrived on the scene

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

Course he's what you call kind of you know

HANK

What

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

Well slow

DOREEN

Why don't you tell me what happened

HARVEY

They took my new iPod and my wallet they were mean I just bought it I was going to put Tom's music in it

HANK  
Why do you say that

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER  
I don't know the way he just started crying he's a man after  
all and he's got that look

HANK  
What look

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER  
Dumb dumb look you okay

HANK  
I'm fine

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER  
You don't look so good

HANK  
I get indigestion

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER  
Hah don't I know it

HANK  
Thanks for your help if we have any more questions

DOREEN  
Do you need a ride anywhere

HARVEY  
I've got my car I've got my where are my

HANK  
(to the audience)  
He had lost his car keys

HARVEY  
Where are my keys where are my keys

DOREEN  
It's okay they probably fell out when you took out your  
wallet

HARVEY  
I have to go home

DOREEN  
It's going to be all right

I have pets  
HARVEY

Please let go of me  
DOREEN

I have to find my keys  
HARVEY

Sir you're  
DOREEN

Let go of her  
HANK

Sorry I'm sorry I'm sorry I didn't sorry I'm sorry  
HARVEY

It's all right  
DOREEN

Stand away  
HANK

It's sorry  
HARVEY

Did you see that lug did you see him grab her I thought he was going to squeeze her arm off  
ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

I can arrest you for assaulting an officer  
HANK

Sorry  
HARVEY

He didn't he's just upset  
DOREEN

You'd better learn to keep your hands to yourself young man  
HANK

Sorry  
HARVEY

Would you stop  
DOREEN

Blubbering baby  
ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

DOREEN

Get the hell out of here before I arrest you

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

Jeez

DOREEN

All right it's all right can't you see anything let's look for your keys

HARVEY

Sorry they were in my pocket

DOREEN

Of course they were do you suppose they might still be in the car maybe you left them in the car

HARVEY

No I never leave them in the car the first rule is always lock the car and take the keys

DOREEN

We could just see

HANK

Where's your car okay okay jesus christ

DOREEN

You're scaring him let's go find your car

HANK

I'll just

DOREEN

Wait here

HANK

(to the audience)

When I was married a million years ago my wife and I went to a marriage counselor in a last ditch effort to save our marriage last ditch guess that describes it anyway she said

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

Couples have a sort of radar for each other it's no accident you're together each of us has emotional baggage from childhood and we look for a partner who can help us unpack it frankly the more troubles you have the more right you are for each other

HANK  
 (to the audience)  
 Except I almost killed her

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
 COUNSELOR  
 For example if you have abandonment issues you tend to find  
 someone who is likely to abandon you

HANK  
 (to the audience)  
 Great news

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
 COUNSELOR  
 So that you can work out your issues surrounding it what is  
 the major issue between you two

HANK  
 She's a bitch

ACTOR TWO AS WIFE  
 You see you see what's he's like

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
 COUNSELOR  
 Now that's not helpful

DOREEN  
 The car is locked

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
 COUNSELOR  
 Perhaps if you were to write down ten things that you really  
 appreciate about each other

DOREEN  
 I said the car is locked

ACTOR TWO AS WIFE  
 Ten you want ten

HANK  
 So we'll get a locksmith

DOREEN  
 He doesn't have any money

ACTOR TWO AS WIFE  
 Hank he wants ten things

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

Let's start with one

ACTOR TWO AS WIFE

Hah

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

Now that's not helpful

HARVEY

I have another key at home I can come back

DOREEN

We'll drive you

HARVEY

No I can walk

DOREEN

I said we'll drive you come on

THE POLICE CRUISER

HANK

(remembering)

Great tits before the girls were born she visits her mother  
month in the summer remembers to buy beer sleeps in the guest  
room how many is that

A SLAP

HANK

OW THAT HURTS

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

Move over

HANK

What are you doing

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

Riding in the back he's got big arms

HANK

You are not coming with us

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

How do you work this seat belt

HANK  
Jesus Christ

DOREEN  
What

HANK  
What's his address

DOREEN  
24 Nouth Winooski

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

Where were we

HANK  
I was counting my blessings

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR  
The marriage was doomed from the start I can always tell

HANK  
How's that

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR  
First question

HANK  
What

DOREEN  
Turn left

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR  
Describe the first time you ever met

HANK  
That's not a question

DOREEN  
Do you live alone Harvey

HARVEY

I have a roommate Tom do you want to see a picture

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

You're evading

HARVEY

Tom is my best friend we're going to open a pizzeria

DOREEN

Pizzeria takes a lot of money

HARVEY

Ten thousand dollars

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

Your wife said

ACTOR ONE AS WIFE

He got drunk and couldn't get it up

HANK

Where did you come from

HARVEY

That's what Tom said he said if we got ten thousand

DOREEN

Do you like pizza Harvey

HANK

I'd like to talk to this Tom

HARVEY

I like to make the dough I like the way it feels when you knead it

HANK

This is

HARVEY'S PLACE

DOREEN

24 North Winooski

HARVEY

I live in the back

HANK  
Where are you going

DOREEN  
We can't just leave him

HANK  
The hell we can't

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR  
You're evading

HANK  
Oh go to hell

DOREEN  
Harvey

HARVEY  
Do you like rabbits

HANK  
(to the audience)  
In the back yard if you can call it a yard a space maybe  
twenty by twenty there were cages

HARVEY  
You hungry

HANK  
(to the audience)  
And cages and cages and cages of

HARVEY  
I started with two and I didn't know that they were both  
going to have babies

DOREEN  
Harvey you can't have all these rabbits you simply cannot  
have

HARVEY  
You want to feel one this is Alice I named her Alice because  
of Alice in Wonderland

HANK  
(to the audience)  
There were three hundred forty two

HARVEY

See she has a black spot on her nose

DOREEN

Hank

HARVEY

Do you want to hold her she's very very soft

DOREEN

Harvey let's go inside and look for your keys

HANK

(to the audience)

Those keys if he hadn't lost the keys if we had never brought him home

DOREEN

Oh god

HARVEY

They got old and this one ate her babies I tried to stop her

DOREEN

Aaaah ughh blaah

HANK

(to the audience)

Actually we both threw up

DOREEN

Harvey get in the car

HARVEY

But you wanted me to look for my

DOREEN

Get in the car Hank get in the car I'll be right there blah

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE

COUNSELOR

For example something attracted you to this poor slob with the rabbits

HANK

Shut the fuck up

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE

COUNSELOR

Now that's uncalled for

HARVEY

I'm sorry I'm sorry can I just feed them before we go I'm sorry I'm sorry

DOREEN

Where is your family do you have a mother a father a sister a guardian

HARVEY

Yes I I I I

DOREEN

Who the hell is looking after you this is insane this is the most disgraceful mess I have ever seen you cannot keep animals like this it's cruel do you know that Harvey it's cruel

HARVEY

I'm nice to them I would never never

DOREEN

Look just shut up

HANK

What do you where

DOREEN

Just drive to the station just drive

HARVEY

What about my car

DOREEN

Just shut up

HARVEY

I didn't lock Alice's cage I forgot to lock it there are dogs

DOREEN

Harvey

HANK

(to the audience)

We actually had to go back there I went in the back yard again there was a crowd gathered by now

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

Hey you going to lock up this looney you can't have rabbits chickens they let you have but the smell of rabbit shit how many critters does he have back there anyway

HANK

(to the audience)

The neighborhood dogs had already broken through the fence somehow they knew the cage was unlocked had been waiting for the chance

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

I say get a gun and put the miserable bastards out of their misery you can't have rabbits like that it's not right he's on social security for dumbbells but this is too much

HARVEY

Is she all right

HANK

She's fine

HARVEY

Will I be back in an hour I want to get my car I want to go to the store I'm low on pellets I want to go to PetSmart and get some pellets

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

HEY DUMBELL BLACKIE AND PRINCESS ARE HAVING RABBIT STEW SHOULD I THROW IN SOME CARROTS

HANK

(to the audience)

We called animal control

ACTOR ONE AS ANIMAL CONTROL

Tyvek suits gloves masks brace yourselves ladies and gentlemen this is going to be bad three hundred forty two rabbits one rabbit pelt formerly known as Alice and three garbage containers with carcasses whew this one has been here a while

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

That guy's a loonie

ACTOR ONE AS ANIMAL CONTROL

Inside the premises oh boy oh oh boy I didn't expect this oh boy better bring in we're going to have to tent this one ooh baby those are some skinny looking rabbits hand me a camera thank you must be a guess would be wow I don't believe this once I was in a house where the rodent population had gotten out of control but this well strictly speaking these are rodents big big scrawny rodents must be five hundred of them in here

DOREEN

Harvey is there someone we can call

HARVEY

About what

DOREEN

A friend someone you can stay with

HANK

(to the audience)

A report came in from dispatch about a robbery on North Ave  
People's United Bank

HARVEY'S PLACE/POLICE STATION

ACTOR ONE AS DISPATCH

Suspect is medium build white male the bank teller described  
him as having strong arms

HARVEY

Do you think you'll find the guys that took my iPod

ACTOR ONE AS DISPATCH

Security cameras disclose the car was a tan colored Chevy or  
maybe a Saturn rusted on the driver's side

ACTOR TWO AS BANK TELLER

Oh it was just awful I live in fear of this sort of thing and  
I just sort of panicked and gave him the money that's how  
we're trained just give him the money it's always a him well  
sometimes the accomplice is a her but in this case

ACTOR ONE AS DISPATCH

Just the details please

ACTOR TWO AS BANK TELLER

I remember his eyes he had on a sort of a mask but his eyes  
well I hate to say this kind of thing it's not exactly  
politically whatever

ACTOR ONE AS DISPATCH

What about his eyes

ACTOR TWO AS BANK TELLER

Kind of dumb kind of a dumbbell would be my guess

HANK

There's a surveillance video

ACTOR TWO AS BANK TELLER

Well he was wearing a mask but he was a big motherfucker did I just say that

HARVEY

I just bought it I like the Temptations I'm going to put it on my iPod when I get it back do you think you'll find the guys

DOREEN

Harvey you must have one friend we could call one relative

HANK

(to the audience)

Not that he knew anyone's phone number in any case I knew Doreen that is I knew her in the carnal sense and not much more she was my partner and occasionally we got drunk together but that was all still I could see she had a soft spot for him like I guess I had a soft spot for her

DOREEN

You can't go back home Harvey

HARVEY

What

DOREEN

I said you can't go back home

HARVEY

But my rabbits

DOREEN

You can't take care of them

HARVEY

What

DOREEN

You can't take care of them someone is coming to find homes for them

HARVEY

They're my rabbits they're soft rabbits my friends

DOREEN

You have too many it's not good for them they need homes one rabbit for a home maybe two but Harvey

ACTOR ONE AS ANIMAL CONTROL

Okay here's the final count eight hundred sixteen alive

DOREEN

In that house in that yard in that condition

ACTOR ONE AS ANIMAL CONTROL

Kind of hard to get a count on the carcasses what with decay some of them had actually petrified onto the floor but here's a good estimate

DOREEN

They're all going to go to good homes

ACTOR ONE AS ANIMAL CONTROL

Makes sense to euthanise them right here hey we're going to need a boatload of syringes

HARVEY

But I'll be alone

ACTOR ONE AS ANIMAL CONTROL

All right hand me the first one ain't never going to get home for dinner tonight

HANK

You want to get a drink after this

ACTOR ONE AS DISPATCH

We've got the tape coming over a fax of the bank robber kind of hard to tell with that mask but something about the eyes

HARVEY

Could I at least keep Alice

DOREEN

I guess

HARVEY

I could

DOREEN

No I mean the drink yes no Alice doesn't do you know Tom's phone number

HARVEY

Hm

DOREEN

Is it a local number

HARVEY

Hm

HANK  
Does it start with 802

HARVEY  
It might

DOREEN  
Perhaps you have it written down somewhere maybe in your pocket

HARVEY  
Don't think so

DOREEN  
What's this

HARVEY  
Squirt gun I play with it

DOREEN  
It's probably not a good idea to play with any kind of guns Harvey unless you're at home and even then

HARVEY  
I just play with it I just pretend

HANK  
We're clocking out in fifteen minutes

HARVEY  
Can I go home now

DOREEN  
No Harvey you can't go home Hank Hank we've got to call someone a social worker

HANK  
Hah good luck

DOREEN  
Think Harvey is there someone where are you parents

HARVEY  
My mother well she's not usually in a good mood so I wouldn't go and bother her

DOREEN  
Does she live nearby

HARVEY  
Well

What's her address  
DOREEN

HANK  
(to the audience)  
Turns out she lives in the same neighborhood three streets  
over on Williams and she didn't have any rabbits excuse me a  
minute ooh don't get an ulcer get anything else but don't get  
an ulcer I've got to mm heave

You okay  
DOREEN

Indigestion  
HANK

That looks like blood  
DOREEN

I had a tooth extracted still a little raw  
HANK

Jesus christ okay Harvey we're going to take you to your  
mother's house  
DOREEN

She'll be mad  
HARVEY

I'll talk to her  
DOREEN

Please don't tell her nothing about Tom  
HARVEY

What would I tell her about Tom  
DOREEN

Just don't say nothing what is that  
HARVEY

What is what  
DOREEN

That  
HARVEY

It's a fax  
DOREEN

Oh  
HARVEY

DOREEN  
Means facsimile something that's like something

HARVEY  
But not really something

DOREEN  
Right so Detective Hank and I are going to take you to your  
mother's because you mustn't go home

HARVEY  
What about the rabbits

DOREEN  
I already told you they're are going to good homes

HARVEY  
Oh

DOREEN  
Please don't cry

HARVEY  
Oh oh sob can't I at least say goodbye

DOREEN  
We'll bring one of the rabbits over to your mother's later

HARVEY  
I want Alice

DOREEN  
Okay we'll bring Alice

HANK  
Psst

DOREEN  
What

HANK  
You can't bring Alice

DOREEN  
Why not oh you're kidding

HANK  
Let's go

You're coming  
 DOREEN

What and miss this  
 HANK

What about my car  
 HARVEY

Did you get your keys  
 HANK

They're in the house  
 HARVEY

Oh god we'll get them tomorrow  
 HANK

I need my car  
 HARVEY

It's going to have to wait Harvey  
 DOREEN

The bank teller's coming in she wants to make a statement  
 ACTOR ONE AS DISPATCH

We're just leaving  
 DOREEN

There's got to be an officer  
 ACTOR ONE AS DISPATCH

Didn't she make a statement  
 HANK

She wants to make another one she's coming in you'll have to wait it out here she is she's coming in  
 ACTOR ONE AS DISPATCH

I've got a statement to make  
 ACTOR TWO AS BANK TELLER

Course you do  
 HANK

There's something I forgot to tell something that just came on me  
 ACTOR TWO AS BANK TELLER



HARVEY

She'll get mad if she thinks I'm in trouble

HANK

Why would you be in trouble

HARVEY

I don't know

DOREEN

We're just giving you a ride home

HARVEY

That's her house

DOREEN

With the lawn

HARVEY

I used to mow it for her but Tom

HANK

What about Tom

HARVEY

Tom and my mother had a fight and I didn't go back there

HARVEY'S MOTHER'S HOUSE

ACTOR ONE AS MOTHER

What's he done now that's that big lug come on out with it  
I'm not paying a red cent for anything why did you bring him  
here

HANK

She was two fifty maybe three hundred pounds

ACTOR ONE AS MOTHER

I got out of my chair for this

HANK

And there certainly weren't any rabbits in her house

ACTOR ONE AS MOTHER

Go on Mittens scat scat I'm tired of you

HANK

But there were cats big cats black cats yellow cats striped  
cats litters of cats stuffed cats cats salt and pepper  
shakers

ACTOR ONE AS MOTHER

I got this one in Niagra Falls look it's a cat in a barrel  
what are you touching

HARVEY

Nothing

ACTOR ONE AS MOTHER

You're not to touch nothing

DOREEN

His house he can't go back to his house

ACTOR ONE AS MOTHER

What and you think he's going to stay here

DOREEN

His house

ACTOR ONE AS MOTHER

I don't give a rat's ass about that house I did my job I  
raised him

DOREEN

Are there any other relatives

ACTOR ONE AS MOTHER

Hah

DOREEN

Or friends

ACTOR ONE AS MOTHER

Hah he's burned those bridges him and that Tom where is that  
loafer Fluffy Fluffy come here come to mama do you have any  
cats I mean kids

DOREEN

No

ACTOR ONE AS MOTHER

So you don't know you don't know what it's like well I can  
tell you it's one big disappointment are you in the kitchen  
you stay out of that refrigerator unless you plan to put  
money on the table he ate me out of house and home and that  
Tom oh he's a charmer all right

HANK

It would be helpful if you'd let him stay until we he can  
make other arrangements

ACTOR ONE AS MOTHER

Oh what the hay

DOREEN

Harvey I'm going to give you my card and here is my home number in case you need to call me later you're going to be fine I'm going to call somebody tomorrow

HARVEY

Who

DOREEN

Somebody who can help you find another apartment

HARVEY

When are you bringing my rabbit Alice

ACTOR ONE AS MOTHER

You think you're going to have a rabbit in here I'll boot your ass out on the street

HANK

Why don't we wait until we get you settled

HARVEY

Somebody's got to feed them

HANK

It's all under control

ACTOR ONE AS MOTHER

Loop de loop

DOREEN

Will you stay with me tonight

DOREEN'S PLACE

HANK

(to the audience)

I'd never been to Doreen's house before she spent the night with me once and in the morning well let's just say it could have gone either way we could have smiled when we woke up and reached for each other but something was in the way I didn't know then and I wish I didn't know now

DOREEN

Do you want something to drink

HANK

What do you have

Everything  
DOREEN

HANK  
(to the audience)  
I guess I never wondered what her place would look like it's just not the kind of thing that goes through my mind but when we got there I couldn't help but notice

How about Scotch  
DOREEN

HANK  
(to the audience)  
It was as if nobody lived there a couch a television books that looked like somebody had bought a box at a yard sale and put them on the shelves but no pictures no knickknacks

Do you like it with ice  
DOREEN

Yeah and maybe milk  
HANK

Ooh how about some hot chocolate then  
DOREEN

How about not  
HANK

What do you  
DOREEN

HANK  
You just you  
(to the audience)  
I took her clothes off and carried her into the bedroom and laid her on the bed I was running my hand down her stomach she's ever so slim but there is this little bulge I had never noticed it before

Don't touch me there  
DOREEN

What what is it  
HANK

Just don't touch me  
DOREEN

Is it a scar oh HANK

Oh what do you mean DOREEN

Nothing HANK

It's a scar I'm scarred DOREEN

Did it hurt HANK

It was a long time ago DOREEN

Okay HANK

How could she how could Harvey's mother DOREEN

It's a rough world let's don't worry about Harvey come back here HANK

I almost died DOREEN

You what HANK

In childbirth this is a Cesarean this is from that the doctor waited and waited and I almost died that's why it looks like this and then it almost didn't heal DOREEN

Were you very young HANK

You have no idea DOREEN

When my ex-wife had our first daughter HANK

DOREEN

I don't care I don't want to hear about birth stories I'm just telling you why I look like that every time I look in the mirror after I shower that's what I see and I hate it I hate it I hate it

HANK

Sh

DOREEN

I hate it

HANK

Sh

DOREEN

Mm

HANK

(to the audience)

It's interesting what you see in people when they aren't aware they are being watched Doreen fell asleep later turned toward me and as the light faded from the room her face started telling me a story so she was a mother had been a mother I knew that now but I could see tenderness there something rich and deep experience her face reflected the face or faces of her children I could see that she had known them I say them I already knew there had to have been more than one the tenderness perhaps I mean the pain was so deep I knew nothing about her but what she showed me in the dying light of day surrendered and surrounded by soft sheets was more than I had ever known about anybody

SCENE 2

THE MORNING AFTER AT DOREEN'S  
PLACE

DOREEN

What time is it

HANK

It's eight I think

DOREEN

Oh wow

HANK

You hungry

DOREEN  
I guess is it morning

HANK  
No still night still now

DOREEN  
I was dreaming

HANK  
Uh huh

DOREEN  
About rabbits I think I think there were rabbits

HANK  
Not surprising

DOREEN  
Poor poor creatures

HANK  
(to the audience)  
But she wasn't thinking about the rabbits

DOREEN  
I wish I had never seen them

HANK  
(to the audience)  
And then she was suddenly embarrassed

DOREEN  
Do you mind hand me that

HANK  
(to the audience)  
She went into the bathroom so I did what anybody would do I turned on the light and looked around the room neat but with a few blouses hanging on a chair a secret vice she was a little bit messy the shower came on I got up from her Swedish bed another vice not so secret she loved a comfortable bed big down puffy comforters there were feathers here and there I went to the window and pulled the shade there on the window sill was a cloth doll and a cloth pony someone had sewn them and not recently and then I heard her voice

DOREEN  
It's part of my punishment

What is HANK

Please don't touch them DOREEN

Sorry HANK

I haven't seen my children in twenty-five years I keep these dolls so that the pain never completely fades DOREEN

Like the scar HANK

No the scar is who I am the toys the children they are outside of me DOREEN

Do you want to HANK

What's to say I abandoned my children I walked out of the house when they were five and seven left them with my husband and for all I know they are married or dead DOREEN

Where HANK

Minnesota DOREEN

But surely they would love to see you HANK

What about your kids DOREEN

They hate me HANK

See DOREEN

But I cheated on their mother walked out HANK

I cheated too DOREEN

I don't believe it  
HANK

Well believe it and don't touch my dolls ever again  
DOREEN

Sorry  
HANK

I'd like you to go  
DOREEN

Sorry  
HANK

Stop saying you're sorry  
DOREEN

Sorry  
HANK

Aah  
DOREEN

Shit  
HANK

Just come here  
DOREEN

She's sending you mixed signals  
ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

You think I don't know that  
HANK

She wants you she hates you she wants you she hates you what  
was your relationship with your mother like  
ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

Take that off  
DOREEN

No more talk about mothers  
HANK

Okay  
DOREEN

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

This is a great opportunity for you to get to the bottom of why you cheated on your wife

HANK

How about no sex for six months how about withholding marital duties

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

Look if you want this to work you can't build a relationship on sex it's thin it's superficial how long did you know your wife before you jumped in the sack

HANK

I don't know

ACTOR TWO AS WIFE

Not long enough

DOREEN

Shut up

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

She just told you the biggest secret of her life well part of it anyway it's called a bid for intimacy what about your secret

HANK

I told her I cheated on my wife

ACTOR TWO AS WIFE

That's no secret

HANK

All right I cheat on my income taxes

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

How about your own mother hm isn't there something you might want to share

ACTOR TWO AS WIFE

God don't get him started on his mother

DOREEN

Don't turn on the light

I want to see you  
 HANK  
 No and I'm old  
 DOREEN  
 You're not old  
 HANK  
 I'm old this is crazy you're young enough to be my son  
 DOREEN  
 And I've already ruined my life  
 HANK  
 So what do you want with me  
 DOREEN  
 I don't know maybe the truth  
 HANK  
 I already told you the truth I left my children  
 DOREEN  
 I don't believe you I don't believe it's that simple  
 HANK  
 Oh an idealist  
 DOREEN  
 Maybe  
 HANK  
 Or a savior you want to save me Hank is that what you want to do  
 DOREEN  
 Maybe I'm the one that needs saving  
 HANK  
 Oh that's rich that's really really  
 DOREEN  
 I know what I saw when you were sleeping I saw the tenderness the regret I know you're carrying a lot of pain look I'm just a divorced guy with an bleeding ulcer who hasn't seen his own kids in two months  
 HANK  
 So we're alike  
 DOREEN

HANK

Is that so bad

DOREEN

Maybe together we can heal each other is that it

HANK

No yes what I mean is that you need someone I need someone

DOREEN

You want the truth okay here's the truth I woke up one morning Christmas eve the presents weren't wrapped because I hadn't bought them yet I hadn't bought them because I didn't have any money to buy them so I got my paycheck and cashed it and went to the Sears store and picked out the first twenty things I saw by midnight the kids were in bed the tree was trimmed I had even made cookies for god's sake I got into bed and realized I didn't have the slightest idea what I had bought or whose name I had written on the wrapping paper and I went into their bedrooms but found them sleeping together looking like little angels and I wanted to put a pillow to their faces and smother the life out of them and I don't mean for a moment I don't mean for a minute I had to go downstairs and drink a glass of scotch and so I put on my coat and I walked out the door and I have never ever looked back is that enough truth for you

HANK

That's enough truth for me

DOREEN

So now we know each other

HANK

Does that mean we can have sex again if that means we can have sex again

DOREEN

I'm old enough to be your mother

HANK

I know

SCENE 3

REVELATIONS AT THE CITY GARAGE

HANK

(as narrator)

Before we could go back and get Harvey's car the it was towed to the city garage funny thing though a bystander noticed that it matched the description of the getaway car from the bank robbery

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

Dollars to donuts this is the getaway car wow do you suppose a TV crew is going to show up

ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK

DRIVER

No gawking the police will handle this go on now this is private property

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

Funny him leaving the car in a parking garage what kind of dumbbell would do that

ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK

DRIVER

Nothing's funny in this life

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

I'll bet the bank robber is still here I'll bet he lives in the North End can't believe he'd leave the car behind like that who's name is on it

ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK

DRIVER

Go on now get this is private property

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

You mind if I take a picture stand right there this might be worth money we could sell a picture like this to the newspapers

ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK

DRIVER

All right but just one

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

Make it look like you're doing something don't smile

ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK

DRIVER

Can I comb my hair

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

Act like you think something is fishy make a fishy face  
that's it wow Hollywood could use a face like yours

HANK

This the car

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

This is it all right

HANK

And you are

ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK  
DRIVER

Go on now get this is private property

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

I'll call up the papers wink wink

DOREEN

Do you have something to get the door open with

ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK  
DRIVER

Sure

DOREEN

We'd like to look inside

ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK  
DRIVER

Stand back there you go

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

I've seen this on CSI you're looking for DNA aren't you

ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK  
DRIVER

Go on now get

ACTOR TWO BYSTANDER

Gary Sinise coming he's my favorite

HANK

Check the glove compartment

DOREEN

I know my job

There a registration  
 HANK  
 Got it  
 DOREEN  
 Okay we're going to impound this vehicle do you have an open  
 bay  
 HANK  
 I can clear one for you  
 ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK  
 DRIVER  
 You got the registration  
 HANK  
 I told you I've got it  
 DOREEN  
 What's the name  
 ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER  
 Would you get the hell out of here  
 ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK  
 DRIVER /HANK/DOREEN  
 Jeez just asking  
 ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER  
 Anything else you need  
 ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK  
 DRIVER  
 A team will show up later to take the car apart  
 HANK  
 This the car  
 ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK  
 DRIVER  
 We don't know  
 HANK  
 Cause if this is the car it's one sorry ass car you can kind  
 of tell why someone driving this car would rob a bank I mean  
 look at it sorry ass car  
 ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK  
 DRIVER

DOREEN  
Thanks for your help

ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK  
DRIVER  
I had a car like this in the demolition derby if you get my  
drift probably shouldn't even be on the road all right moving  
out

HANK  
What's it say

DOREEN  
There's no registration

HANK  
Course not what was in there

DOREEN  
Fast food menus napkins I've got it all here

ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK  
DRIVER  
Funny smell coming out of there like I don't know hay or shit  
shitty hay

HANK  
We can run it for fingerprints

DOREEN  
The car is probably stolen

ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK  
DRIVER  
Who'd steal that sorry ass

DOREEN  
Thank you

ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK  
DRIVER  
Oh your welcome we see all kinds of things around here

HANK  
Can you open the trunk

ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK  
DRIVER  
Oh sure

You okay  
HANK

Fine  
DOREEN

Sure  
HANK

Ugh mphhf sort of stuck stand back whamo oh jesus  
ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK  
DRIVER

Shit  
HANK

Oh no  
DOREEN

That is not good  
ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK  
DRIVER

Want a picture should I take a picture  
ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

Better call this in  
DOREEN

Now that is what I call dead the television crews are going  
to want to get a load of this why is his face all purple  
ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK  
DRIVER

We don't know strangled probably  
DOREEN

Whistle what a way to go  
ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK  
DRIVER

This is Officer Doreen we're at the city parking lot we've  
got a body  
DOREEN

HANK

(to the audience)

Sometimes you feel like you're on a runaway train it's just a feeling you're going fast but you feel the track underneath still so you feel this false sense of security but trains don't just run away they're on a track to somewhere even if that somewhere is a cliff or in this case another runaway train coming from the other direction that's life that's the way it is you can't change that sort of thing it changes you

DOREEN

White male maybe twenty-five years old black hair medium build I'd say recently in the last forty-eight hours ten four

ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK  
DRIVER

You think this is the bank robber how the hell did he get in the trunk of that car in the parking garage I know this must have been the getaway driver they always work in teams ever since Butch Cassidy and Sundance and you know how that ended hey you throwing up blood that's gross

HANK

It just happens sometimes

ACTOR ONE AS TOW TRUCK  
DRIVER

Stress I'll bet don't know how you do it criminals wife beaters suicides all the shit comes your way it's a dirty job ha ha someone's got to do it

ACTOR TWO AS BYSTANDER

I'll bet he's got a bleeding ulcer in there that is nothing to screw around with my stepfather died of a bleeding ulcer best day of my life now that is a dead man I've got to get a picture of this

HANK

What's that

DOREEN

What's what

HANK

In your pocket what did you put in your pocket

DOREEN

Nothing

HANK

I saw you it was in that envelope you took out of the glove compartment

DOREEN

I was just wiping my hand

HANK

Doreen

DOREEN

Oh shit

HANK

What is

DOREEN

What does it look like

HANK

It looks like  
 (to the audience)  
 A rabbit's foot

SCENE 4

HANK'S CHILDHOOD

HANK

I haven't mentioned it was Christmas well almost Christmas it had been a mild December but that day we were in the city parking lot looking at the strangled man it started to snow I have a hard time in December no wonder my ulcer was acting up the last time I ever saw my mother was Christmas eve I was seven years old she put me and my sister to bed like every night but it was of course Christmas

DOREEN

(as his mother)

Hank Sarah look at the time

HANK

What what it's only seven thirty

DOREEN

You know you'll be up at five

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

We want to stay up we want to stay up

DOREEN

Come on put on your pajamas and I'll read you a story

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Rudolph tell rudolph rudolph

DOREEN

Sh sh your father is in the study we mustn't disturb him

HANK

He's doing his work isn't he mother

DOREEN

Yes you know he works very hard

HANK

One day I'm going to work in the bank with him he's already told me that I must start at the bottom but I'll work very hard and one day I'll be running things

DOREEN

Your father is a wonderful man

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

He adores us

DOREEN

And so do I

HANK

And we adore you and father

DOREEN

God has been good

HANK

Why are you crying mother

DOREEN

I'm not crying I'm laughing

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Then why are there tears on your face

DOREEN

One day you'll have children of your own and you'll discover that joy has many different sides

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

And some of them make you cry

HANK

I'm always going to protect you

DOREEN

What do you mean protect me it's my job to protect you

HANK

Yes but you're a girl and girl's need protection

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

I'm not afraid of a bear

HANK

Roar

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Mother make him stop

DOREEN

Now stop there are no bears here well not anywhere they can get at you and it's Christmas you must only think of reindeer and presents and the big meal you are going to have tomorrow

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Are we having a goose

DOREEN

Yes we are I've made it all Mrs. Henry needs to do is put it in the oven everything's ready for tomorrow so that anyone with a little bit of help can make the most wonderful Christmas meal possible one that you will always remember

HANK

I remember every minute with you every single thing you do and say if I wasn't your son when I grow up I would marry you

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Hank's going to marry mommy Hank's going to marry mommy

DOREEN

Now you're both silly Hank will grow up and marry whoever he likes she might not even live here

HANK

Well she better because I'm going to work at the bank

DOREEN

Perhaps you'll meet her at college and she'll move here

HANK

I suppose it's possible but father says that girls like to live near their families so I'll probably marry Louisa or Carole

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Ha ha

HANK

Don't say anything about that I haven't asked them

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

I'm going to marry Bruce and how do I know because he has already asked me

DOREEN

You'll both have wonderful lives I just know it

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Let's not talk about happiness anymore it just makes mommy cry

HANK

Are we very rich mother

DOREEN

You're we're going to be your father has worked very hard and the bank is doing well

HANK

So we don't have any worries

DOREEN

You don't have any worries

HANK

Is Santa bringing me a train in that case

DOREEN

I wouldn't know and I wouldn't say oh there's someone at the door now listen children I want you to remember something

HANK

Yes

DOREEN

I love you very very much no matter what happens

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

What's going to happen

HANK

Sh

DOREEN

Nothing's going to happen but sometimes I just like to say these kinds of things because it's Christmas and I feel my love and responsibility towards you even more if I should have to go away to help someone for example if a friend was in need and I had to go away and help them and you had to stay here and help your father

HANK

I understand

DOREEN

Do you

HANK

Yes we're not always going to be children and we can't just think of ourselves we have to think of others

DOREEN

Something like that and you must always think of your sister

HANK

I'll protect her

DOREEN

That's a man's job

HANK

Someone is still knocking do you want me to go and see

DOREEN

No no I'll go I'll go

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Oh you're squeezing me

DOREEN

Sorry it's just because I love you so much now close your eyes and when you open them it will be Christmas

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Can you hand me my dolly

DOREEN

Here she is

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Give Hank his pony Lily loves his pony she can't sleep without him

DOREEN

There you go kisses kisses kisses

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Do you think Santa really will come

HANK

Why wouldn't he come

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Jill says he doesn't come to her house

HANK

That's because she's Jewish jews don't like Christmas

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

We like Christmas

HANK

We're not jews

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Jews killed christ

HANK

No the romans did

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Christ died for us because he loves us

HANK

Sh

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

What

HANK

I think mommy and daddy are talking and I want to hear

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

What are they saying

HANK

Sh

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Are they talking about Christmas

HANK

I think so

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

I'm expecting a bake oven not a real one a pretend one because my dolls get hungry and I don't want to give them mommy's cookies they're too big the bake oven comes with sandwiches and cakes that are the right size and I'm getting a new red dress I know because I heard mommy talking

HANK

Don't you yell at her don't you say that

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

What's he saying

HANK

Nothing she is the sweetest kindest mother in the whole world

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

So why is daddy yelling

HANK

Because he's happy he's yelling because he's happy sometimes grown ups do that but I wish he would stop because it's Christmas

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Maybe we're not getting any presents after all maybe we're just going to get handmade things like last year

HANK

No I already saw them in the basement all wrapped

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

You mean Santa has already been here

HANK

No just the boxes he puts them in the boxes afterwards

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

But how do you know maybe Mommy will just put the home made dolls in there like she did last year

HANK

They were too big one is big enough for the doll oven

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Jill says there is no Santa because she's jewish and she just doesn't know

HANK

She's the best mother in the whole world you just stop it when I grow up I'm going to kill him

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

You're going to kill daddy

HANK

We're going to go live in another town

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Tonight

HANK

Yes get dressed

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

But how are we going to do that

HANK

We just are get dressed

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Okay but how will Santa know where to bring the presents

HANK

Don't worry about Santa just get dressed

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

It's cold out look it's snowing do we have to move tonight

HANK

I'm in charge now didn't mother tell you to listen to me

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Yes no

HANK

Well she has said that many times and we're going to take her out of here

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

But then daddy won't have anyone to live with except Mrs. Henry and she goes home on the weekends

HANK

I don't care he can go to hell

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Now you'll go to hell

HANK

You're going to have to be brave

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

I don't know how

HANK

Yes you do just pretend that we're on a mission like the people that go to Africa

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Is that where we're going

HANK

No just to Owensville to our cousins house I know how to get there put on your socks and boots though because it's a long walk

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

How are we going to walk to Owensville it's already past our bedtimes can't we just go in the morning after we open our presents maybe daddy won't be so happy then and we can stay

HANK

He makes mother sad that's why she was crying he says things that hurt her and I'm going to kill him one day

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Now we're all going to hell look look

HANK

What

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Mommy is that mommy outside she's walking to Owensville please please don't go don't go

HANK

Mother mom mommy

DOREEN

Go back to bed

HANK

No it's it's the storm there's a storm where are you what are you

DOREEN

Listen to me no don't listen

HANK

Stop please

DOREEN

Go back in the house and go to bed

HANK

Please please please sob mom mommy what did you do

ACTOR ONE AS FATHER

I don't

HANK

What did you do I hate you I hate you I hate you

ACTOR ONE AS FATHER

She's just going a sick friend

HANK

No you made her go you did what you always do you make her worried

ACTOR ONE AS FATHER

It'll be all right in the morning you'll see a sick friend she hates to go she'll be back after breakfast she said come in come back in please please please it's Christmas everything is going to be all right

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Where's mommy

ACTOR ONE AS FATHER

A sick friend

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Who sick friend

ACTOR ONE AS FATHER

Carla her friend Carla

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Hank are you going to sleep with me

ACTOR ONE AS FATHER

Of course he is go on up go on I'll be up

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Will you tell me a story

HANK

I don't feel like it

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Can I tell you one

HANK

No

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Mommy forgot to tell us she was going to tell the rudolph

HANK

I don't care about rudolph and I don't care about you now  
stop that

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Boo hoo

HANK

Stop that it's Christmas you can't cry on Christmas okay okay  
I'll tell it rudolph rudolph was a red nose reindeer and all  
the other reindeer made fun of him and wouldn't let him join  
in any reindeer games

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Because he was different

HANK

Things like who could fly the fastest who could count with  
their hooves who could eat the most pie

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

I like chocolate

HANK

Then one day it was very foggy and santa asked rudolph if he  
could fly in the front of the pack but when the time came to  
leave rudolph was nowhere to be found

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

He wasn't

HANK

He had gone down to the pond that day and gotten his coat wet  
and gotten very sick because it froze so when it came to be  
time he was in his bed sneezing so his nose wasn't glowing  
anymore it was all foggy too

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

But then it got better and he led the sleigh

HANK

By morning he was dead and it was too late anyway because Christmas was over and now there is no Christmas

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

None of that is true

HANK

It is true it's what happened that's why we aren't going to have Christmas tomorrow rudolph is dead

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

I'm telling mommy

HANK

She's dead too

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

No go and sleep in your own room

HANK

Okay then

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

I hate you

HANK

I hate you too

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

I said go on

HANK

I'll leave when I'm ready

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

You're the meanest brother who ever lived where's my doll

HANK

It was right here with your pony

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

Where

HANK

You had it

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

I can't sleep without it

HANK

Then I don't know

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 1

I can't sleep without it so you have to stay where's my doll  
why is daddy crying

HANK

Because he's happy

SCENE 5

THE GUY IN THE TRUNK AT THE  
MORGUE

HANK

(to the audience)

Doreen and I followed the coroner to the morgue it was  
getting late and the temperature was dropping fast and  
wouldn't you know the goddamn heater in the cruiser wasn't  
working

(to Doreen)

You cold

HANK

(to the audience)

She didn't answer me she hadn't said much since the last time  
we made love since she told me I didn't believe her anyway  
not that there wasn't probably some truth in it the bonds of  
responsibility the stress of never having enough money never  
having enough time sometimes I used to sometimes even now I  
allow myself to imagine that I had never married my wife we  
had never had our daughters and here's the big fantasy I live  
someplace warm someplace tropical and for a living I fish I  
take people out in a boat and I show them where the fish are  
I meet people from all walks of life and the only thing we  
have in common is a yearning to be out on the water with a  
rod in our hands

DOREEN

No I don't

HANK

Don't what

DOREEN

I don't fish

HANK

What

DOREEN

You asked me if I liked to fish I don't like to fish I don't even like to eat fish

HANK

Oh

DOREEN

Let's get the coroner's report and get the hell out of here what are you doing

HANK

I can't seem to

DOREEN

What

HANK

Get my hands off the wheel they're stuck

DOREEN

Here let me help

HANK

I can't it's like a cramp

DOREEN

It's all right here how's that

HANK

Thank you

ACTOR ONE AS CORONER

Oh yeah uh huh look at this

DOREEN

It looks like a bruise

ACTOR ONE AS CORONER

Thumb print someone squeezed really hard right there I'd say the cause of death is thumb squeezing

HANK

Asphyxiation

ACTOR ONE AS CORONER

Broke right through to the back of his neck I'd say thumb squeezing never saw anything like it before at least it was quick snapped his neck like a fox with a squirrel or something like that do you know who the fellow is

No ID on him  
 HANK  
 Smells kind of funny like hay or poop poop hay can't quite place it  
 ACTOR ONE AS CORONER  
 Thanks for your help  
 HANK  
 Dead is dead  
 ACTOR ONE AS CORONER  
 Still  
 HANK  
 Oh you might want his clothes  
 ACTOR ONE AS CORONER  
 Why would we want his clothes  
 HANK  
 Stuffed with tens twenties fifties hundreds  
 ACTOR ONE AS CORONER  
 What  
 DOREEN  
 Nice and crisp too  
 ACTOR ONE AS CORONER  
 Oh god  
 DOREEN  
 He won't have much use for it now he he he what a mess I've got to think about finding some other line of work one of these days  
 ACTOR ONE AS CORONER  
 I'll bring him in  
 DOREEN  
 Not by yourself  
 HANK  
 He's harmless  
 DOREEN  
 He's a murderer  
 HANK



Yes  
 ACTOR TWO AS STRANGER

HANK  
 Are you um I just you look familiar but of course you can't  
 be you're do you have any children

Excuse me  
 ACTOR TWO AS STRANGER

HANK  
 You just remind me of someone

DOREEN  
 What was that

HANK  
 Craziness

DOREEN  
 What was that

HANK  
 She looks like my mother and if that isn't stupid she can't  
 possibly be my mother because

DOREEN  
 Your mother's dead

HANK  
 And she would be in her fifties that woman is younger than me  
 but of course she was younger than me now when she died

DOREEN  
 Let's go find Harvey

HANK  
 I guess I'll always have this picture of her in my head

DOREEN  
 Let's go find him

SCENE 6

HARVEY'S MOTHER AGAIN

ACTOR ONE AS MOTHER  
 Well I ain't seen him not since the night you drug him over  
 here eat me out of house and home where's your money and he  
 said Tom took it where's Tom he says he don't know

HANK  
Tom is dead

ACTOR ONE AS MOTHER  
Dead how is he dead

HANK  
Some kind of accident

ACTOR ONE AS MOTHER  
No kidding no kidding well I'm not surprised he was nice enough but hung out with the wrong crew he and Harvey would get into terrible fights well Harvey always ended up crying Tom would go down to the bar and wouldn't let Harvey go said he ruined his chances with the women and I can tell you that was probably true enough

DOREEN  
Do you know where he might have gone

ACTOR ONE AS MOTHER  
Home I expect tell him not to darken my door until next month when my social security check comes I can't feed him and theses cats too get down Precious now that's enough he's over there with those rabbits I told him they'd be the end of doom one day enough to give you nightmares I hate those pink eyed varmits

HANK  
(to the audience)  
We drove over to Harvey's place

HARVEY'S PLACE

DOREEN  
Harvey

HANK  
(to the audience)  
The snow was really coming down now you could barely see in front of you

DOREEN  
Harvey are you in there

HANK  
(to the audience)  
He had started a fire in the back yard we would never have even found the front door otherwise

DOREEN

Harvey what are you doing

HANK

(to the audience)

He was burning rabbits

HARVEY

They're dead they're all dead I don't know how but they're all dead

DOREEN

Some of them were very sick

HARVEY

I smell something I smell something bad somebody sprayed them that's the only way this could have happened sob

DOREEN

Harvey we need to talk to you about your car

HARVEY

I don't have a car

DOREEN

The car you left at the garage Harvey what happened to Tom

HARVEY

That's Tom's car I don't have a license I took the test but they didn't pass me I drove Tom's car

HANK

We searched the car and found something very bad

HARVEY

What

HANK

Is Tom dead Harvey

HARVEY

I don't know how would I know if he was dead

DOREEN

Because he is dead we found him in the trunk of the car and money stuffed in his pockets

HANK

Did you have a fight with him did the two of you have a fight

HARVEY

I haven't seen him since the day we went to the mall he said he was going to Owensille that's what he said now I remember go to Owensville and you'll find him he said he was going to find his mother he said she lived there but he wouldn't take me he had a big fight with his father and said damn him to hell

DOREEN

I know people in Owensville what is Tom's last name

HARVEY

Knutsen Tom Knutsen that's his name and he was going to Owensville

DOREEN

Oh no

HANK

What's the matter

DOREEN

Oh god

HARVEY

You're very soft

HANK

Don't touch her

HARVEY

Like a rabbit your hair is so so soft

DOREEN

It can't be

HANK

You killed him Harvey

HARVEY

No I didn't he just went to Owensville

DOREEN

I can't stand it

HANK

Harvey Stoddard you have the right to remain silent if you give up that right anything you say can and will be used against you

That hurts  
HARVEY

You have the right to an attorney  
HANK

Don't you see don't you know  
DOREEN

If you can't afford an attorney the court will appoint one  
for you  
HANK

He was my son  
DOREEN

## Act 2

## SCENE 1

## MEMORY IS A FUNNY THING

HANK

(to the audience)

Radar the marriage counselor said people had a certain radar for each other my mother walked out into the snow one night went to see a sick friend and got sick herself and died I spent the rest of my life blaming her hating her and all she did was go to help a sick friend before my father died

DOREEN

I can't handle this case Hank I just can't if you could please please

HANK

I already took care of it sh it's all right it's going to be all right

ACTOR ONE AS FATHER

Hank I wish you could find a girl someone like your mother I don't care about grandchildren I won't live to see them but if you and your sister die alone then what was the reason for bringing you into this world for your mother god rest her soul to carry you and bear you and worry about you she wouldn't even see you before she died she was so worried about infection

HANK

(to the audience)

I couldn't forgive her in my mind she had abandoned us I remember a fight that night my father screaming my mother crying and then running into the snow after her

ACTOR ONE AS FATHER

A bad dream boy you used to have it night after night I could never convince you

HANK

(to the audience)

Watching her slim back as she walked further and further into the night

ACTOR ONE AS FATHER

It never happened Doris picked her up that was Grace's sister and off she went said she'd be home in an hour by morning she was sickly and a week later she was dead pneumonia Doris never forgave herself

HANK

Why wouldn't you let us see her at the funeral home

ACTOR ONE AS FATHER

She wouldn't have wanted it the roses were gone from her cheeks do you remember her rosy cheeks Hank she had the prettiest roses in her cheeks no I wanted you to remember her the way she looked on Christmas eve in her red dress with the holly earrings she wore you'd think I'd hate Christmas after all that but I can still see her standing there she had put a white wool coat on over that red dress and the hem was just peeking out

DOREEN

(as his wife)

They'll want a story oh I hate leaving you all like this

ACTOR ONE AS FATHER

Don't go

DOREEN

(as his wife)

Just for an hour Doris needs to run to the store Belmain's is open until nine she'll pick up some things and I'll come right back Grace will be happy to see another face they get sick of each other and sweetheart it's Christmas give the kids a kiss for me tell them that I love them very much and to go right to sleep so Santa can come and do his work we'll wrap the doll house when I get home Sarah will go completely out of her mind in the morning

ACTOR ONE AS FATHER

Don't be long

DOREEN

(as his wife)

What on Christmas I'll be right back

## ACTOR ONE AS FATHER

Memory is a funny thing I kept all her clothes jewelry books just put them in boxes and then sorted through them a few months ago I wanted to give you and your sister things things I thought you'd like I don't know why I hadn't done it years ago too painful I expect anyway I came to her dresses and I was looking for that red dress I wanted to put it on a hanger and look at it and damned if there wasn't a red dress to be found thought maybe it was at Grace's all these years so I called her and she said she remembered she showed up in plaid pants now I never knew your mother to wear plaid pants but Grace swore it and you'll never guess what she took out a picture album and there she was at Grace's bedside in those plaid pants I guess it must be the last picture of her and I thought you might want to have it

## HANK RETURNS TO THE PRESENT

DOREEN

(as herself)

That's your mother you look like her

HANK

I don't see it

DOREEN

The eyes

HANK

I don't I guess I don't really remember her I had a pony like that when I was a kid

DOREEN

Well you're young enough to be my son

HANK

Glad I'm not

DOREEN

How can you say anything to me

HANK

Because I love you

DOREEN

You what

HANK

I love you

That's impossible  
DOREEN

But it's true  
HANK

Well I don't love you  
DOREEN

Okay  
HANK

I can't I don't feel love I'm not normal  
DOREEN

What's normal we're here you're in my arms we've both had a  
terrible day  
HANK

Don't say it don't say I lost my son I lost him twenty-five  
years ago and if I thought about him at all it was to imagine  
him working in a bank with his father looking like him acting  
like him my son grew up to live with Harvey Stoddard and very  
likely rob a bank it's hard to sort out the truth from the  
fiction with that retarded guy but it would appear that Tom  
robbed the bank went home to grab some things and Harvey got  
upset and killed him and he thought so little about what he  
did that he stuffed him in the car and drove to the mall and  
bought an iPod and you know it doesn't even mean very much to  
me  
DOREEN

The iPod  
HANK

Don't be smart the day Tom the rabbits all of it are you  
happy now are you in love now  
DOREEN

Shut up you don't make any sense when you talk but I watched  
you when you were sleeping when your defenses were down and  
you were just you and I saw through all this crap  
HANK

You love me because of the way I look when I sleep  
DOREEN

Why not  
HANK

DOREEN

Why not because because you can't because if you love me then you're not worth a damn oh stop that oh oh mm I wish you would

HANK

Shut up

SCENE 2

A RIDE WITH DOREEN

HANK

(to the audience)

Couples have a sort of radar for each other okay I got that I connected that when I fell in love with Doreen I was acting out the abandoned mother syndrome only she was the mother who had abandoned her children so what I need is to say goodbye to my mother she needs to what ask for forgiveness return to them accept the past stop running she didn't seem interested in any of that but she didn't leave me and she said she didn't love me but I knew better I had seen the tenderness in her face when she was sleeping but there was something else something that I had missed Harvey was a different matter I couldn't get him out of my head we were done with him he was in jail he pled guilty to manslaughter

HARVEY

Why am I guilty I didn't do anything

HANK

(to the audience)

I didn't see him again after we turned him over to another pair of detectives

HARVEY

Are there rabbits in prison

HANK

(to the audience)

What did I need with Harvey why couldn't I get that poor slob out of my head we were attached somehow Tom the car the goddamn rabbits Doreen

(to Doreen)

Don't you feel anything

DOREEN

What

HANK

What do you mean what we're talking about Tom

It's not my business  
DOREEN

He was your son  
HANK

So so I didn't know him he didn't know me it's ancient  
history  
DOREEN

We're going to his funeral  
HANK

Why  
DOREEN

Because that's what you do that's what you do when your son  
dies is killed and I'm your friend your lover so that's what  
I do I go with you  
HANK

I don't want to see them  
DOREEN

You don't have to talk to anybody we'll just sit in the back  
but this is important it's called closure  
HANK

All right  
DOREEN

The funeral is in Bethel that's where his father lives  
HANK

I said all right  
DOREEN

It's a three hour drive  
HANK

You think I don't know  
DOREEN

I don't know what you know  
HANK

There  
DOREEN

What's  
HANK

DOREEN

I cut out everything I could find every time they moved I to subscribed to the newspaper Tom played soccer once upon a time

HANK

What what happened

DOREEN

I don't know drugs pressure he turned eighteen and he dropped out

HANK

I think there was some

DOREEN

What

HANK

Mental illness we found prescriptions in Harvey's apartment lithium halcion serax xanax

DOREEN

Stop it

HANK

Manic depressive most likely

DOREEN

Oh

HANK

You know how many boys we have locked up that have manic depression

DOREEN

Not my boy my boy is dead but I couldn't help him then I can't help him now so what's the point

HANK

Maybe you're the point did you ever think of that maybe you're worth saving

DOREEN

For what

HANK

For me

DOREEN

Get another mother I don't want to be one I don't know how to be anything I proved that

HANK

You think any of us come into this world with any idea of what to do you either want to save the world or jump off it

DOREEN

What do you want from me

HANK

You're on my radar so put on your coat and let's go to the funeral

LOVE AND GEORGE'S FUNERAL

HANK

(to the audience)

It was snowing on the way to Tom's funeral but we made it on time everyone was in their seats the minister was poised to speak so when we entered it was as if they had been waiting for us I spotted her husband right away tall and gaunt back stiff as a board facing forward he was the only one who didn't turn his head and seated next to him was a slightly smaller blonder prettier and much younger version of Doreen she must have been about thirty my sister's age and I realized when I read the funeral program that Tom and I were born eleven days apart yes she could have been my mother and Sarah her name was Sarah like my sister but I didn't make the connection that she could be my sister all I could think was that I wished she could be my wife

ACTOR ONE AS MINISTER

Let us pray

HANK

(to the audience)

And when she lowered her head to pray her hair fell away exposing a long white neck and I had a terrible urge to kiss her there I thought I was losing my mind

ACTOR ONE AS MINISTER

Dear lord we are gathered here today to celebrate the life of your servant Tom Knutsen who was taken from us in the prime of his young and vital life life life life what is it for what can it all mean when such a tragedy befalls someone with such great promise and character we all knew him and loved him

HANK

(to the audience)

She turned her head to look at me and her mother and I realized what I had seen in Doreen's sleeping face that time I had seen the soul of this angel

ACTOR ONE AS MINISTER

Although he had been away for the past ten years all of us remember him running up and down that soccer field the pride and joy of his high school a hero a model of sportsmanship and camaraderie all who knew him loved him and all who loved him mourn this day

HANK

(to the audience)

I could see that she held a piece of paper no doubt the speech she intended to give about her poor miserable brother who was lying dead in that box in front of her

DOREEN

Please let's leave

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2

I hadn't seen my brother in a couple of years and I just want to say that what I remember the most about him is how much he loved

HANK

(to the audience)

And that is when she saw Doreen I mean really saw her

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2

I

DOREEN

Please

ACTOR ONE AS MINISTER

Go on

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2

I don't think I can

ACTOR ONE AS MINISTER

Of course this is a sad day perhaps you'd like someone else to read your speech Ms. Knutsen

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2

I'm sorry I can't

DOREEN  
I told you this was a bad idea let's go

ACTOR ONE AS MINISTER  
Now let's turn in our bibles to second Corinthians

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2  
Please

DOREEN  
I'm sorry I didn't mean to upset you

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2  
It's you

DOREEN  
I heard about about Tom

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2  
Won't you stay

DOREEN  
You're all grown up

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2  
You look the same

DOREEN  
That's impossible

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2  
I would have recognized you anywhere

DOREEN  
Um this is my co-worker Hank

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2  
Hi

HANK  
I'm so sorry for your loss

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2  
Yes well

HANK  
I have a sister named Sarah

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2  
Oh

HANK

She doesn't look like you

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2

It's horrible it's all horrible that man that murderer they say he's a monster

DOREEN

Just slow dim developmentally slow

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2

I want to go to the trial I want to see him

HANK

There won't be a trial he's pled guilty to manslaughter

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2

Manslaughter he strangled him

HANK

It was an accident

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2

How do you accidentally strangle someone

HANK

He's slow and strong he doesn't know his own strength

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2

He raised me he did I don't know what I would have done without him father was he had these moods I was frightened all the time and Tom used to tell me stories every night about a mother who was kidnapped and couldn't come back and he would devise a different ending each time but always it resulted in her return he was looking for you you know always always looking they say he was bi-polar but he had a vision a dream recurring dream and in it you were looking down on him the snow falling around you

DOREEN

I have to go

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2

Please you have to stay where do you live how can I see you

HANK

I'll call you it's just too much for her right now

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2

Too much



ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2

I want to know what happened that day I know it sounds crazy  
but I just need to know please can you find out can you

HANK

Uh oh what

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

Uh oh this isn't good didn't you see the graduate

HANK

This is not a comedy

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

You can't pursue this one

HANK

What about the radar

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

Lesson over whatever you were supposed to learn from this  
experience move on do not I repeat do not get involved with  
that girl

HANK

I think I love her

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

You love her mother

HANK

The girl Sarah was on my radar I just didn't know it I got  
confused

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

You cannot sleep with both of them one of you or all of you  
will be doomed to die it's the order of the universe no  
exceptions I'm telling you to listen to me

DOREEN

I'm leaving I'm not waiting

HANK

(to the audience)

We were all doomed of course from the beginning from before the beginning someone once told me that we choose our suffering and I hope he's right I hope that when this is over we really do walk off the stage and fall laughing into each other's arms wasn't that a hoot did you see the way he drove her crazy what about that misery loneliness bankruptcy disillusionment tears sickness mouth sores wasn't that a blast didn't we pull that off in style

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

It's your funeral

SCENE 3

SARAH

HANK

(to the audience)

I drove Doreen home three hours in a blizzard and then turned around

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

I simply cannot watch this

HANK

Then get out of the car

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

I have an obligation to your wife

HANK

My ex-wife

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

Not until later this month

HANK

And I don't need any advice from you

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR

That's not what the court says that's not how you're going to get visitation with your children

HANK  
I never touched her and I never touched them

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR  
Never Hank

HANK  
If I touched them I didn't I wasn't there are such things as  
accidents

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR  
Anger is no accident

HANK  
Okay I'm angry

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR  
You're furious

HANK  
Sometimes

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR  
What you need is a good night's sleep I could recommend a  
doctor

HANK  
Pills

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR  
Big pills horses pills

HANK  
No thanks

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR  
This Sarah

HANK  
What about her

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR  
She's already broken she's like a broken doll

HANK  
Plenty of kids grow up without a mother

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR  
Yes but how many mothers have contemplated matricide she  
needs somebody it's just not you

HANK  
Get out

ACTOR ONE AS MARRIAGE  
COUNSELOR  
This won't look good with the court

HANK  
I said get out  
(to the audience)  
I knew where she lived one of the perks of being a cop you  
can find out just about anything about anybody so I drove up  
to her house

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH  
Oh it's you

HANK  
(to audience)  
I told her I had forgotten my hat at the church

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH  
I could call someone

HANK  
(to the audience)  
No no not I'll get it in the morning I got a room at an inn I  
told her the roads were simply too dangerous to return  
tonight I noticed she was wearing blue fluffy slippers

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH  
Won't you come in won't you please come in out of that  
weather

HANK  
(to the audience)  
And it was really that simple

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH  
I was just reheating some soup would you care to join me

HANK

(to the audience)

She had decorated for Christmas the way some people do ornaments she had collected since childhood a tree in the window and honest to god real candles lit in the branches

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH

Oh I know it's a fire hazard but I'm very careful I only light them for an hour or so just at dark I was just about to blow them out would you like to do that while I set the table and oh I've poached a fish

HANK

(to the audience)

I stared into the firelight and listened as she moved around in the kitchen and the dining room she lit candles again I could hear the hiss of the match and I turned just as she slipped from my view the rustle of her funeral dress and the click of her heels she had found her shoes she had dressed back up just for me

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH

And a salad

HANK

(to the audience)

I blew out the last of the candles and came to the table she had placed a vase of chrysanthemums in the center and sat opposite me

(to Sarah)

The house looks beautiful

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH

I've always loved Christmas Tommy Tom how he hated to be called Tommy Tom and I made a pact a long time ago that we would always keep Christmas special no matter I'm sorry

HANK

No please it's my fault of course this must be impossibly hard

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH

You being here helps company is nice

HANK

I wish I had brought a bottle of wine

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH

Oh I have one would you like some wine

HANK

Maybe after dinner maybe we'll relight the candles on the tree

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH

That's what we'll do what are you doing for Christmas

HANK

What am I doing what am I doing I don't have any plans

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH

Oh

HANK

My kids are away will be away with their mother my ex-wife we'll have Christmas later but for this coming december 25 I don't have any plans at all

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH

Oh

HANK

This fish is very good

SCENE 4

HARD TIMES IN HARVEY'S JAIL CELL

HANK

(to the audience)

We watched the candles safely burn down and I put on my coat and went to the inn when I got up in the morning there was a note on my windshield

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH

I checked the church and there was no sign of your hat

HANK

(to the audience)

I had forgotten the lie

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH

But we'll put a notice in the bulletin this Sunday and then next week next Sunday

HANK

(to the audience)

This was the best part

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH

Next Sunday is Christmas and if you're not doing anything why don't you come to dinner

HANK

(to the audience)

I folded the note to put it away and saw that she had written something on the back

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH

I would like to write to this Harvey I would like to ask him about Tom if you could please see about this for me I would be more than grateful

HANK

(to the audience)

I would do anything for her of course even take her by the hand and lead her into the gates of hell

HARVEY

I'm cold can I have another blanket this one has holes I shivered last night all night and couldn't sleep I get tired when I don't sleep can you please bring me one my mother said she would but she hasn't had time yet wait a minute wait a minute please can you bring me another blanket I'm cold this one has holes

HANK

Hi Harvey

HARVEY

Hank Hank Hank they won't bring me another blanket this one has holes

HANK

I'll talk to them

HARVEY

No they won't do it and I can't sleep I get tired when I can't sleep

HANK

I'll bring you a blanket

HARVEY

I don't like it in here am I punished enough yet can I go home

HANK

I don't think you're going home for a while Harvey

HARVEY

Tom is going to wonder where I am and my rabbits oh Hank I'm so worried about my rabbits

HANK

Remember I told you they all went to good homes

HARVEY

Oh yeah but can I have them back when I get out

HANK

Of course you can

HARVEY

You have all the addresses

HANK

I have it at the office Harvey

HARVEY

You're a good friend Hank thank you can you tell Tom to bring me a blanket

HANK

I'll tell him

HARVEY

What's that

HANK

It's a present it's a Christmas present

HARVEY

For me

HANK

Sure

HARVEY

Can I open it

HANK

Sure

HARVEY

Oh I love presents I love the wrapping paper did you wrap this Hank

HANK

The lady at the store did

HARVEY

Mm smells good she wears perfume oh my oh oh oh thank you  
thank you

HANK

Your welcome

HARVEY

It looks just like Alice and soft so so soft I love soft  
things do you

HANK

I do too

HARVEY

Oh oh rub rub rub rub rub rub

HANK

I'm glad you like it

HARVEY

I'm going to keep and sleep with it can you get me another  
blanket Hank I'm cold at night and I don't sleep good and I'm  
tired when I don't sleep

HANK

I told you yes I'm going to get you a blanket Harvey Harvey  
do you want to tell me about Tom

HARVEY

Tom is my roommate

HANK

I know but what else can you tell me about him

HARVEY

Tom and I are going to open a pizzeria we're going to get  
fifteen thousand dollars sometimes Tom gets mad and says he's  
going to do it without me when I'm a knucklehead

HANK

That day that day you left the car in the garage the day you  
bought the iPod

HARVEY

It was must my imagination running away with me

HANK

Do you remember seeing Tom that day

HARVEY

I shouldn't have bought the iPod with my social security money and then those boys took it they took my iPod and I lost my car keys

HANK

I know but before you came to the garage did you see Tom

HARVEY

Tom is my roommate

HANK

And what happened that day what happened with Tom it's okay for you to tell me do you know why because I know his sister and she wants you to know she won't be mad I told her about you and she said you sounded like a very nice person

HARVEY

She did

HANK

And she's really pretty too do you want to see a picture

HARVEY

Oh yes yes I do

HANK

Here this is what she looks like

HARVEY

She's pretty she's beautiful and pretty is she soft

HANK

I imagine she's soft

HARVEY

I like yellow hair almost as much as I like white hair

HANK

She very much wants to know about her brother she wants to write to you maybe even talk to you

HARVEY

Can I meet her

HANK

Maybe eventually she's very sad right now because of Tom

HARVEY

What's the matter with Tom

HANK

He's dead

HARVEY

He's dead he died

HANK

When people die their relatives always want to know the details they need to know it's a way to make them stop being sad this pretty girl is sad right now and she will feel better if she knows what happened to Tom that day

HARVEY

Tom is going to open a pizzeria he's going to call it Tom and Harvey's Place

HANK

Tom is dead Harvey

HARVEY

I know he's dead I know he's dead I'm not stupid you already told me he was dead five times

HANK

We think you killed him Harvey

HARVEY

Now you're really talking stupid stupid why would I kill my friend that I was going to open a pizzeria with why would even a stupid person do that

HANK

Did you kill him Harvey

HARVEY

No why would I kill Tom he's my friend

HANK

Did you have an argument that day

HARVEY

I don't want to talk any more

HANK

This girl her name is Sarah she would like to know what happened to her brother she's very sad now

HARVEY

This girl is sad

HANK  
Yes

HARVEY  
She doesn't look sad

HANK  
She's smiling in that picture but she's very very sad

HARVEY  
Tom said not to tell no matter what not to tell

HANK  
You can tell me Harvey

HARVEY  
Tom is dead right

HANK  
Tom is dead

HARVEY  
He came home with those two boys

HANK  
What two boys

HARVEY  
The boys that took my iPod Tom and these boys told me to get in the car so I went and then they came and told me to drive to the mall and then they left me and I was supposed to say we were all there all the time in case anybody asked so I bought my iPod and when I came out they were waiting in the car and they said where were we today and I said we were in the mall and then I said where's Tom and they said he was making a deposit at the bank and then I got mad

HANK  
Why did you get mad

HARVEY  
Because I knew Tom wasn't making a deposit Tom doesn't have a bank account

HANK  
Do you know where they live do you have a phone number

HARVEY  
You know what I think Hank I think they robbed a bank that day that's what I think and you know why

HANK

Why Harvey

HARVEY

Because they had all this money stuffed in their pockets

HANK

Harvey there's a tape of the robbery

HARVEY

But I didn't do it

HANK

We can see that it's you wearing a mask

HARVEY

I'm wearing a mask

HANK

Harvey come on

HARVEY

That's Lenny wearing a mask

HANK

Lenny is he

HARVEY

He's a big motherfucker look I have a picture they let me keep my pictures there's Tom and me and there's Lenny

HANK

He's a big motherfucker

HARVEY

Does that mean I get to go home

HANK

(to the audience)

I could have left it at that the story didn't make any sense but nothing Harvey ever said made sense but if there was one thing I had learned in my years on the police force it was to tell when someone was lying and this poor slob didn't have the faintest clue how to lie how to dissemble in the end for him it didn't matter he wasn't going to live outside prison walls no matter what I did he was in my range on my radar and we were all destined to go down together this dumb bell pulled us all down with him

## SCENE 5

## RADAR RANGE, THE DEATH OF SARAH

DOREEN

How do I look

HANK

(to the audience)

I was picking up Doreen at her place she looked well she looked

DOREEN

I'm nervous

HANK

(to the audience)

She looked old enough to be my mother

(to Doreen)

You shouldn't be she's a wonderful girl she's I imagine she's just like you were

DOREEN

I was never like her calm accepting I mean maybe from the outside but inside I was always scheming always trying to stay one step ahead of someone god it wore me out you know I barely remember her I remember Tom he was older more involved I guess Sarah was like a little doll you wound her up and she said all the right things I don't even know what I'm saying I just remember thinking she was a doll that I played with I didn't really have the faintest idea what to do with her I had a sense of boys a man's world how things worked in it but I lost my own mother when I was young so I was always immersed in my father what he needed then Harold and then Tom and now Sarah she's lost to me I don't understand her now and I didn't understand her then but I can see that she's very very kind much kinder than I ever was she's deeply kind and soft

HANK

She seems like a wonderful person

DOREEN

Yes

HANK

Soft and kind yes

DOREEN

You're in love with her

I'm what HANK

In love with her DOREEN

I don't even know her HANK

Kiss me DOREEN

All right HANK

DOREEN  
Yes you are you don't know her but I know enough about men to know that look well well isn't that funny isn't that the funniest thing in the world

HANK  
You're jumping to conclusions

DOREEN  
And not once have you said no I don't love her I love you

HANK  
We are not having this conversation we are waiting for Sarah to take her to meet Harvey so she can see for herself where he lived and where he died

DOREEN  
It's all right you know

HANK  
What's all right

DOREEN  
Whatever I won't say anything to her about us

HANK  
There is nothing no reason

DOREEN  
Look it's been fun but it didn't mean anything god I almost said you're young enough to be my son well well maybe you'll be my son-in-law except it won't matter because I'm leaving this was never meant to be we were never meant to be I am not cut out to be a mother-in-law or a grandmother or for that matter a mother certainly not a wife

HANK

Look I don't have to go with you

DOREEN

Oh but you do you do you started all this you're going to finish it

HANK

She's late maybe she's not coming

DOREEN

Not possible

HANK

You gave her your address

DOREEN

I told her to meet us at Harvey's

HANK

What

DOREEN

I thought they should have a little time to talk just the two of them

HANK

What are you

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2

Hello are you

HARVEY

You're the girl in the picture

HANK

She wouldn't know where he lives

HARVEY

Do you like rabbits

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2

I do I love rabbits why do you have rabbits

DOREEN

I called her I gave it to her you think

HANK

Why would you do that

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2  
My name is Sarah and you are

HANK  
Harvey

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2  
I'm Tom's sister

DOREEN  
You wanted the truth right well here's the truth I don't need  
her and I don't need you I should have put that pillow to  
their faces I should have murdered them in their sleep

HARVEY  
I don't have rabbits anymore but I'm going to get a pet rat  
do you like rats

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2  
Not particularly although I know they can be sweet are Hank  
and Doreen here yet I'm supposed to meet them here

HARVEY  
I like your dress

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2  
Thank you it was my mother's

HARVEY  
Red is my favorite color do you want to see something

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2  
What

HARVEY  
In here look

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2  
Are those

HARVEY  
Rabbit pelts I skinned them myself after my rabbits died  
sometimes they died on accident I would skin them with my  
knife and put them in here I like to touch things that are  
soft

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2  
I'm going to wait outside I think that's what Hank said to do  
was to wait outside until he came he's a police officer

HARVEY

I know who Hank is

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2

And Doreen do you know her she's my mother she cares a lot about me

HARVEY

She's pretty but not as pretty as you are

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2

I would like to go outside now

HARVEY

I want you to feel my rabbit skin

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2

Please

HARVEY

You have very soft hair I like yellow hair a lot

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2

Please let go of me

HARVEY

I just want to touch the softness of your hair

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2

Please

HARVEY

Soft

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2

Oh

HARVEY

Soft soft soft soft

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2

No please no aah aaaaaah

SCENE 6

EPILOGUE, THE CITY STREET

HANK

(to the audience)

When I had dinner with Sarah that night I found out all kinds of wonderful things she had almost gotten married once but a respectable amount of time before the ceremony she called it off she just decided she didn't love him enough she was going to wait for the right person she wasn't going to settle for anyone that's what she suspected her mother did she said settled but I didn't want to talk about her mother I wanted to know about her

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2

I cry at movies happy movies sad movies action movies something about all those characters wanting so much so much what is it to want things so much is that what life is supposed to be like I would like to think so

HANK

(to the audience)

I imagine that I introduce her to my daughters Jenny and Sarah yes in my mind I have named one of my daughters Sarah after my sister after this Sarah who I would one day meet and love and marry and live happily ever after with and they love her too somehow they're not jealous they accept her and in my mind my ex-wife falls off a cliff and Sarah and I and Jenny and Sarah

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2

What do you want for Christmas you know I have always loved this time of year and nothing has ever spoiled it for me

HANK

(to the audience)

We walk along the marketplace and the lights are brilliant and the snow is falling all around us and music music is piped through the street have yourself a merry little Christmas and I have never been so happy so content it's enough for once it's finally enough just to be alive and breathe the air and be in love

ACTOR TWO AS SARAH 2

I know this time of year is hard for you so let's make a pact let's make a pact that it is going to be special for us you know those plastic bubbles filled with pretend snow and a Christmas scene that is going to be us in a bubble in our own world and nothing can interfere nothing that came before nothing that lies ahead

HANK

(to the audience)

Who is to say that love can't be like that who is to say that it doesn't need to end in tragedy if I dream hard and long enough yes yes we are on that street and the snow has caught on her eyelashes and in fifteen minutes we'll be in front of a fire and the kids will come downstairs and if I look out the window just turn my head out of the corner of my eye I'll see my mother coming up the drive running up the drive in that red dress

DOREEN

(as his mother)

Oh sweetheart sweetheart it's cold out there brr your Aunt Grace my goodness what a scare I had but she's better she's all better and you had better get to bed it's Christmas Eve goodness sake you think Santa Claus is going to come while you're still up

HANK

(to the audience)

I hear her voice and it tinkles like the music in the street she is here she is there she is everywhere

HARVEY

(as Santa Claus)

Ho ho ho Merry Christmas come on there sit on Santa's lap have you been a good little boy this year

HANK

(to the audience)

I thought I could look into someone's eyes and see the truth I always prided myself on my ability to see through to the other side but now it simply more convenient for me to make up my own truth but then don't we all

ACTOR ONE AS CITIZEN

Evening Officer cold enough for you

HANK

I like the cold

ACTOR TWO AS CITIZEN

Well Merry Christmas you all right

HANK

Fine you need a hand with that

ACTOR TWO AS CITIZEN

No no thanks for asking it's the funniest thing I always wait until Christmas eve to buy presents for my kids I always think I'm going to shop early but I never do but

HANK

What

ACTOR ONE AS CITIZEN

It makes it more special somehow

HANK

(to the audience)

The snow is falling and I can see shapes in the darkness but I can't quite make them out perhaps they are coming for me perhaps they have come and gone love is like that shapes in the darkness I make of it what I will

THE END

#### ARTISTIC STATEMENT

Whenever I develop a new play, I always work with actors and rewrite after readings. On average, a new play goes through about twenty-five drafts. This play - I think my most imaginative and experimental - has had four drafts. I have never had the opportunity to work in a setting like The O'Neill provides. I tend to work with different actors until I settle on a cast and then we see the script through to production. In some ways, I think I slant the script to accommodate what the actors bring to the story and I am grateful for that. But I think in a setting like this, we would all work to serve the interests of the play first and foremost without the added pressure of a production. In terms of the future artistic development of this play, I guess I want to give this play a chance to grow up and find what it needs to truly and fully express itself.