

"Saving Manny"

by

David Dalton & Chad Schnackel

Pages: 2+

Characters: 2 women

Willow, 30+

Nicole, 30+

Synopsis: Willow prepares for an intervention for her boyfriend, Manny. Her friend Nicole tries to comfort her.

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Mock Sides, Volume 1: Original Scripts for Workshop Actors

THE INTERVENTION

INT - DINING ROOM -NIGHT

Nicole is laying out place mats, plastic ware and napkins on the table. Willow enters with a bowls of snacks and places them on the table.

NICOLE

Wow, we have enough food for thirty people. How many do you have coming?

WILLOW

Let's see ...Jack, Ellen, Tammy, Mike, and of course Dr. Brown and some of Manny's old church friends. About twelve, I guess. That's alright. I'm sure people will want to stuff their faces before we start.

NICOLE

You got this place decorated like there's some kind of celebration. I mean, this is not supposed to be a party, right? It's kind of weird. Do you think people are really going to be in the mood to eat anything. I'm sure Manny won't be.

WILLOW

(agitated)

I don't know, Nicole! I never done this before.

NICOLE

Sorry. When's the "guest of honor" supposed to come?

WILLOW

I told him to stop by around eight, which he means he will probably get here around 9:30. If he even decides to show up.

NICOLE

What did you tell him this was about?

WILLOW

I didn't exactly say. I just told him that we were having a couple friends over for a few drinks.

NICOLE

Really? You told him drinks? Well, he should show up, then. Boy is he going to be pissed.

(CONTINUED)

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WILLOW

(she begins to cry from a
myriad of emotions)

Yes, I know. And that's just too damn
bad.

Willow tries to compose her self. She exits the room and
returns a moment later with plates. She stops and freezes.

WILLOW

I'm really scared, Nicole.

NICOLE

Scared? Yeah, I guess this is going to
get intense. But at least that doctor guy
will be here. He knows what he's doing,
right?

WILLOW

That's not what I'm scared of.

NICOLE

What? Don't tell me your afraid there
won't be enough food?

WILLOW

(laughing through the tears)

No. Although it would be funny if
everything was eaten up out of
nervousness.

NICOLE

Yeah, they're either going to stuff their
faces or just stare at it all night.

WILLOW

I'm going to lose Manny.

NICOLE

What?

WILLOW

I know this is for his own good. And I
also know it's going to get a lot uglier
before it gets better. But what I'm
really afraid of is...that Manny's either
going to leave me ...or he's going to get
better. Either way, I'm going to lose the
Manny I've always known. Is it selfish to
think that?

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NICOLE

I don't know, Willow. You've always been the one who takes care of people. I can't imagine you being selfish about anything.

WILLOW

Well, I didn't take care of Manny very well.

NICOLE

Hey, his drinking problem is *his* problem. It's always been his problem.

WILLOW

If only I had done something sooner. I was enabling him for too long. ***That*** was selfish.

NICOLE

Well then, don't you think it would be even more selfish to let him go on like this ...until he dies from his disease. You're doing the right thing, Willow.

CUT TO:

END