

NORTH STAR

A Ten Minute Play

by

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FOR READING ONLY

please contact Kyla for production purposes

Dramatists Personae

ABBY: Has the wisdom of the world.

EMILY: Grounded, the light in the dark.

SETTING: A mountain top in the middle of nowhere. They are at a clearing on the peak looking out at the world below them. The lighting is dim as the sun is setting as they watch the view.

AT RISE: The two are slowly walking onstage. They are carrying hiking gear (ie- water bottles, hiking poles, etc.)

EMILY

Are we almost there?

ABBY

I told you it was just around the corner like a minute ago.

EMILY

And it wasn't!

ABBY

Well it is now.

EMILY

Promise?

ABBY

Pinky promise.

EMILY

For real this time?

ABBY

Will you just look around you?

They look around at the scenery, taking in the view. Emily walks to the edge of the cliff and looks off the edge.

EMILY

Woah!

ABBY

I know.

EMILY

I wonder if I could see my house from here!

ABBY

Probably not.

EMILY

Why do you have to be such a pessimist all the time?

ABBY

I'm not.

EMILY

Sure you aren't

ABBY

I just want to look... okay?

EMILY

What are we supposed to be looking for?

ABBY

Nothing... everything.... I don't know...

EMILY

I mean that tree is pretty cool.

ABBY

Which one?

EMILY

The one with the twists and the knots.

ABBY

That could be like fifteen different trees here.

EMILY

Yeah. But I'm talking about that one.

ABBY

With the woodpecker holes?

EMILY

Yeah!

ABBY

I think it's sickly.

EMILY

How do you know?

ABBY

Just look at it and try to tell me its healthy.

EMILY

Oh.

ABBY

Yeah.

EMILY

...

ABBY

...

EMILY

It's still a pretty view.

ABBY

It's my favorite.

EMILY

Really?

ABBY

Yeah.

EMILY

Why?

ABBY

I'm not really sure.... My dad used to bring me up here when I was little. And we'd just stare at the world below. It was like we were... sharing a secret or something. Just the two of us against the universe... He always said something about wanting to share his heart with another person. That you couldn't do that unless you could... sit in silence and admire the world? And I guess, I've always wanted to do the same.

EMILY

That's kind of beautiful.

ABBY

Pretty much everything he ever said was.

EMILY

Was?

ABBY

Yeah... was.

EMILY

I wish I could have met him.

ABBY

I mean you kind of get to.

EMILY

Huh?

ABBY

I was *his* mountain. He told me to only take people to our place if I knew they were special. And I mean you're the first one who's been to his spot so that has to mean something I think. Sometimes I can feel him here with me. His hand on my shoulder. Watching from the stars.... Maybe he's here right now. And your souls can meet or something.

EMILY

That's a wonderful image.

ABBY

Thanks.

They sit for a bit just staring off at the view

EMILY

It's a gorgeous place.

ABBY

It's more than that though.

EMILY

What do you mean?

ABBY

I don't really know. It just... is.

EMILY

Can you explain it to me?

ABBY

It's vast and daunting I guess.

EMILY

And that's a good thing?

ABBY

Not really... It's terrifying but it's also comforting... you know?

EMILY

I think so? It's...the feeling of being limitless right? Of looking over the trees and feeling like a giant.

ABBY

But the stars still make you feel like a speck.

EMILY

But if the stars disappeared... there would be nothing holding you.

ABBY

I'd still have the trees around me and the wind to keep me sane.

EMILY

Doesn't it make you want to just float away though?

ABBY

Yeah. That's why I brought you silly.

EMILY

To be your anchor?

ABBY

To guide me home.

EMILY

Like the stars?

ABBY

Like the stars.

EMILY

You know they have trail maps for that right?

ABBY

Yeah. But that takes work.

EMILY

You just want me to do everything for you.

ABBY

Pretty much.

EMILY

One day I'm going to have to start saying no.

ABBY

I didn't know that word was in your vocabulary.

EMILY

Oh how funny.

ABBY

I was thinking about becoming a comedian.

EMILY

I'd keep your side job.

ABBY

And what would that be?

EMILY

I don't know.

ABBY

Then I guess we'll just have to figure *something* out.

EMILY

I guess so

ABBY

You'll have to get a job eventually.

EMILY

So do you! I can't pay for our entire future together Abby!

ABBY

You see me in your future?

EMILY

I mean...yeah. Unless I'm not in yours, in which case no! I.. I.. I... I don't because I don't want to make things weird and we have a really great thing going that I don't want to ruin or anything because-

ABBY

Emily! It's okay. I think about it too.

EMILY

Really?

ABBY

Yeah. I don't know where you are yet. But I wouldn't have brought you up here if I didn't. It's been years since I've ever felt this comfortable with someone. Or this... this safe.

EMILY

Yeah.

ABBY

I'm sorry if that was too much.

EMILY

It wasn't..... I feel the same way. I don't know exactly how to describe it... but it's definitely there.

ABBY

I feel it too.

EMILY

Yeah... I kind of like it?

ABBY

Yeah.

A few seconds pass.

EMILY

Do you think your dad would have liked me?

ABBY

I don't see why he wouldn't.

EMILY

I don't typically get "parents' approval".

ABBY

Who cares what everyone else says? I think he'd like you.

EMILY

I think so too.

ABBY

He'd probably call you my "north star" or something.

EMILY

What?

ABBY

He had this *thing* about people coming into our lives when we least expect them and guiding us on our path.

EMILY

He sounds amazing.

ABBY

He was. Sometimes when we were up her he would just take my hand and dance with me. I miss it sometimes.

They stare at each other for a short moment before EMILY looks at her hand and offers it out to ABBY

EMILY

Would you like to dance?

ABBY

We don't have to.

EMILY

Come on! Just pretend your dancing with him.

ABBY

That's kind of creepy.

EMILY

No really.

ABBY

There's no music.

EMILY

Just listen to the crickets mixed with the pulsing of the stars.

ABBY

You're ridiculous...

EMILY

Hey! It's a great soundtrack.

ABBY

Oh really?

EMILY

Just listen will you?

ABBY

If you insist.

ABBY and EMILY dance for a while the sound of crickets surrounding them as EMILY hums some unknown melody.

EMILY

Hey Abby?

ABBY

Mhmm?

EMILY

I think we can stop looking for it.

EMILY

Yeah... me too.

Lights fade to black as the two hold each other in a dance.

END OF PLAY