

THE LITTLE PEST

A Ten Minute Play

by

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FOR READING ONLY

please contact Kyla for production purposes

Dramatists Personae

AMY: Clara's older sister, an artist

CLARA: Amy's younger sister, the "pest" of the cousins

SETTING: A small living room.

AT RISE: AMY is sitting on the couch doodling in her sketchbook.
CLARA sneaks up behind her and jumps on the couch scaring the former.

Boo!
CLARA

Jeez you didn't have to sneak up on me like that
AMY

Sorry
CLARA

It's fine...
AMY

So what are you drawing?
CLARA

Nothing.
AMY

I can see your hand moving.
CLARA

Doesn't mean I'm drawing.
AMY

Then what else would you be doing?
CLARA

Homework. AMY

In your sketchbook? CLARA

Mhmm.... It's math. AMY

I don't think you're supposed to be doing that in green colored pencil. CLARA

I can if I want to. AMY

Ms. Jenson says we have to use pencil for math. CLARA

I am. AMY

It's colored. CLARA

Yup. AMY

You can't use that. CLARA

Too bad. AMY

What if you make mistakes? CLARA

I have an eraser. AMY

CLARA

Oh.

AMY

Yeah.

CLARA

I don't think you're doing math.

AMY

Why's that?

CLARA

Well A) that's green.

AMY

Good observation.

CLARA

B) Why would you take homework to thanksgiving.?

AMY

To get ahead.

CLARA

You already have a 100 or something.

AMY

That's not true... it's a 98.

CLARA

Same difference!. And besides those aren't number or letter movements.

AMY

What are you talking about?

CLARA

Your hands are doing shading moves, not writing.

AMY

Okay, fine, I'm not doing math.

I knew it.

CLARA

Yeah.

AMY

CLARA goes to look at the sketch book

CLARA

That's a pretty tree.

AMY immediately slams it closed making a noise with the force.

AMY

Can you stop?

CLARA

I'm just looking.

AMY

Well don't.

CLARA

Well *sorry*.

AMY

Why are you here?.

CLARA

I was bored.

AMY

And sitting here is better?

CLARA

You're here too.

AMY

So?

CLARA

It's better than the kids table alone.

AMY

All the cousins are with you.

CLARA

Nobody knows I'm there.

AMY

You were at the table.

CLARA

They don't talk to me.

AMY

Sure they do.

CLARA

Nu ugh.

AMY

What are you talking about?

CLARA

They like *you*, not me.

AMY

That's not true.

CLARA

They told me.

AMY

You're kidding.

CLARA

Am not! I'm just a pest.

AMY

Thats-

CLARA

“Why don’t you just shut up Clara. You’re just an annoying *pest* and nobody wants you here anyways. You’re not even as good as Amy.”

AMY

Who said that?

CLARA

It’s not important.

AMY

Yes it is. You may like to pester people but that doesn’t make you a pest. Well... not all of the time at least.

CLARA

They didn’t tell me my singing was ugly this time.

AMY

They did that?

CLARA

Yeah.

AMY

I’m going to-!

CLARA

Amy! Calm down!

AMY

Nobody treats my little sister like that.

CLARA

It’s fine.

AMY

No it’s not.

CLARA

They do it all the time.

AMY

You know what they're saying isn't true right?

CLARA

Tell them that.

AMY

Believe me, I will.

CLARA

Amy?

AMY

Mhm?

CLARA

Do you think they would notice if I didn't come back to the table?

AMY

Oh we're going back to that table.

CLARA

Why?

AMY

Because they need to see they can't hurt you.

CLARA

But they did.

AMY

And? They don't need to know that.

CLARA

But I ran away.

AMY

Just say you wanted to see me.

CLARA

Okay.

AMY

And you know what we're going to do?

CLARA

What?

AMY

We're going to talk and laugh real loud and they'll be so upset that they're missing out that they'll wish they were nice to you.

CLARA

Really?

AMY

Really. Really.

CLARA

Okay.

AMY

Do you want to...?

CLARA

Can we stay here for a bit?

AMY

Of course.

CLARA

Thanks.

AMY

Come closer.

CLARA

Why?

AMY

Well how else are you going to watch my hand making “shading movements”

CLARA

I can watch you draw?

AMY

Just until dinner’s ready.

CLARA

Can you draw flowers?

AMY

Sure. What color do you want?

CLARA

Purple!

AMY

Of course you do.

They sit for a while in silence. CLARA leaning on AMY’s shoulder while the latter draws purple flowers in her sketchbook.

CLARA

Hey Amy?

AMY

Mhmm?

CLARA

Thanks.

AMY

For what?

CLARA

Everything.

AMY

Of course.

CLARA

I love you.

AMY

Likewise.

CLARA

You have to say it back.

AMY

(mumbling)
Fine.... I love you too.

CLARA

What was that?

AMY

I'm not saying it again.

CLARA

It was worth a shot.

AMY

Of course. Now... you ready to conquer the kid's table?

CLARA

I guess so.

AMY

They're just pests. If you need to you can just picture squashing them with your shoe.

CLARA

Really?

AMY

Who's gonna know? Now come on! Those sweet potatoes aren't going to eat themselves.

CLARA

Do you think mom put the marshmallows on them?

AMY

She always does.

AMY takes CLARA'S hand and they walk out of the room with their heads held high as the lights slowly fade to black.

END OF PLAY