

THE MASSACRE ON VALENTINE'S DAY

by

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Challenge 14 - Due 15/02 at 10am GMT

Let's be super duper strict. Below are the rules for your play:

- 1. There are six named characters in the play, but only four of them appear*
- 2. One of the characters begins every sentence with the letter B (every sentence, not every line), another starts every other sentence with Y.*
- 3. You may use between 5-9 pauses in the play, but at least two of them need to be in the middle of a speech. 1>2m>*
- 4. One of the characters is over 70*
- 5. Every line of dialogue must have one of the following: either 6 words, 13 words, 19 words, 27 words, 54 words or 113 words (you can punctuate as you see fit)*
- 6. The play will contain four scenes/acts*
- 7. One of the scenes will be without words, but all the characters are present on stage, and the action should last a minimum of 5 minutes.*
- 8. The other three scenes have a minimum of 15 lines of dialogue, and each must contain one silent action*
- 9. Two of the characters fall in love during the play, and two fall out (can be the same two, if you like)*
- 10. Wine will be drunk, wine will be spilled, wine will be thrown*

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CHARACTERS

JAME: School pupil romantically inclined toward Biss and begins every sentence with a B.

BISS: School pupil romantically inclined toward Jame and begins every sentence with a Y.

LINN: Biss's friend

OLD MAN JEPP: Septuagenarian school handyman

QUEENIE JELLA: The school ace-face, desired by all, aloof (DOESN'T APPEAR)

DANTON: Frustrated youth in love with Queenie Jella, who shoots up the school (DOESN'T APPEAR)

SCENE 1

SCHOOL

RULES: 15 LINES, TWO CHARS FALL IN LOVE,
ONE SILENT ACTION, B, Y, 6/13/27 WORD
SENTENCES, 2 MID-CONVO PAUSES OF 5

JAME: Biss, have you heard the mad shit Danton's been saying about Queenie Jella?

BISS: You heard that as well then? Yeah, but she's never gonna be his Valentine's date, no way in hell.

JAME: But Danton says he'll kill Queenie Jella and everyone else if she doesn't.

BISS: Yeah but he's a punk and a runt and spends most of his time at school getting bog washed in the toilets by the duke boys. You know he's a ticking time bomb for some massive spazz-out, right.

JAME: Bet he doesn't, he's pretty weird but not that weird like dangerous weird.

BISS: Yeah, it's not like anything bad's gonna happen if Queenie Jella doesn't go to the Valentine's thing is it?

JAME: Bad things never happen to Jella.

BISS: Yeah, all the guys would like to be with her, she's so aloof.

JAME: Biss, have you got anyone to go to the Valentine's thing with yet?

BISS: Yeah, well, no, I hoped you... You know, I hoped you'd ask.

JAME: Biss, I never thought that you'd... Biss, I thought, I assumed you already had someone you were going with.

BISS: You're sweet, I really think I'm... falling in love with you, you know?

JAME: Biss, what just happened to us?

THEY SILENTLY KISS

JAME: Biss, Old Man Jepp is coming!

OLD MAN JEPP: Break it up, you two kids!

THEY LAUGH

he's trying to get hold of you, What should I do? You gonna speak to him, Biss?

BISS: You can let it ring cos I'm not gonna speak to him ever.

SHE SILENTLY PASSES THE PHONE BACK

LINN: I'm sure you're breaking his heart.

BISS: Yeah, maybe he should form a Loser's Heartbreak Club with Danton and they can dick about with guns together and moan about how awful all girls are.

LINN: Those gaywads with their stupid hair.

BISS: You're going to Valentine's aren't you?

LINN: I've got noone to go with. I'm gonna wait and turn up. Some other loser will be there.

BISS: You're not a loser babe, come on!

LINN: Jame is ringing my phone again. I might just answer it, all right, what shall I say to him?

BISS: You can tell Jame he can be my Valentine when Hell freezes over. You can tell him there's more chance of Queenie Jella going to the Valentine's ball with Danton, or of Danton coming in and shooting up the school.

SHE THROWS HER PLASTIC GLASS OF WINE AT
THE BATHROOM MIRROR

SCENE 3

SCHOOL HALL

RULES: NO WORDS, MIN 5MIN, WINE IS SPILLED,
ALL CHARACTERS PRESENT.

ABTRUPTTEST TRANSITION TO VIEW OF BEHIND
THE SLOPED SEATING IN THE SCHOOL HALL.
HALL INTERIOR NOT VISIBLE.

MID SOUNDS OF GUNFIRE, FLASHING LIGHTS,
SCREAMING.

ENTER CHARACTERS HIDE BEHIND THE STAGE
IN VIEW, HIDING FROM THE GUNMAN

A WINE GLASS IS KICKED OVER IN THEIR
HURRY.

JAME AND BISS HUG IN CLOSE AND LINN IS
EXTREMELY DISTRAUGHT. EVERYONE IS
CRYING AND SHAKING

THEY LOOK UP TRYING TO SEE IF THEY CAN GO
YET, KEEP CHECKING. HANDS OVER EARS.
CRYING. BEING SILENT. THE NOISE KEEPS UP.

OLD MAN JEPPI JOINS THEM

JEPPI THINKS HE HAS SEEN AN OPPORTUNITY
TO GO AND STANDS, BECKONS TO THE OTHERS
AND SILENTLY COUNTS 1-2-3 THEN SEES
SOMETHING AND DUCKS THEM BACK DOWN
AGAIN.

THEY KEEP COWERING UNDER THE SLOPED
SEATING WHILE THE GUNS FIRE AND THE
SCREAMING.

ABRUPT CURTAIN OR CUT

SCENE 4

SCHOOL

RULES: 15 LINES, 1 SILENT ACTION, WINE IS
DRUNK, B, Y, 6/13/19 WORD SENTENCES, 2
PAUSES OF 5, 1 MIDSPEECH

JAME: Biss, how are you doing now?

BISS: You know, a lot has happened.

JAME: But are you feeling all right?

BISS: Yes, I'm feeling all right now. You know, it changes things
doesn't it, everything that's happened at the school.

JAME: Biss, what are you talking about?

BISS: You and me, I guess: us. Yesterday I realized that all this
we'd put ourselves through was just silly, ridiculous and I
think I want...

JAME: Biss, I've been thinking about you and remembering how it
used to be then. Being with you, then without you...

BISS: Yes, it's weird isn't it, Danton and everything has kind of

made it, made us, brought us, maybe nearer.

JAME: But if all that hadn't happened. Biss, let's have a glass of wine.

BISS: Yes, okay, I'll have some wine.

THEY SILENTLY POURS SOME WINE INTO THEIR MOUTHS

JAME: Biss, I don't think anything can ever be the same again really, after what happened, after everything with us and with Danton, it's all just so shocking.

BISS: You and I, we'll take our time I guess. Yes, time will wash the blood away forever, forever.

JAME: But how can things ever be the same again for either of us? Biss, what if all the blood never washes away?

BISS: You'll see, maybe it will, maybe it won't, but can we just 12 get by for a while even if we're hurting, even if there's

JAME: Blood, so much blood, the blood can never be washed away, what if -- Biss, will the blood ever stop?

[END]