



*Between Here
and
Where You Are*



Bambi Everson

BETWEEN HERE AND WHERE YOU ARE

One act, approx. 20 minutes

CHARACTERS

KAREN (any age or ethnicity): Good friend and upstairs neighbor of Leslie. Think Ethel Mertz from “I Love Lucy.” She is tightly wrapped, bossy, but her concern for her friend is genuine.

DAVE (any age or ethnicity): Karen’s long suffering partner. He is used to Karen’s histrionics, but adores her just the same. He is quiet, aloof, and not one to jump to conclusions.

LESLIE (any age or ethnicity): A movie geek to the Nth degree. Having recently lost the love of her life, she is lost, struggling to move on with her life, but not sure if she wants to.

TIME: Present day.

PLACE: Leslie’s apartment in Manhattan. Afternoon.

SYNOPSIS: A woman straddles two worlds after the loss of her partner.

SCENE ONE

Lights up on Leslie's apartment in Manhattan. Cluttered but not untidy. Play begins with a moment of silence. Then we hear voices from outside the door.

KAREN

(knocking)

Leslie? It's Karen. Open the door.

DAVE

Maybe she's not home.

KAREN

It's been ten days. Something's not right.

DAVE

Maybe she just doesn't want to be bothered.

KAREN

She would tell me if she was going off the grid.

More knocking and bell ringing.

KAREN (CON'T)

Okay, Leslie, I am coming in.

Karen opens the door slowly with her key. Karen and Dave enter the apartment. Karen is scared and anxious. Dave is annoyed.

KAREN (CON'T)

Do you smell anything?

DAVE

Like what?

KAREN

Like a dead person. Or a dead cat.

DAVE

Oh my God! We would have smelled a dead cat from upstairs. Remember when there was a dead mouse behind the desk? We were both gagging. You are over reacting.

KAREN

I know you go months without talking to your so-called best friends, but a week in girl time - that's an eternity.

DAVE

Look! There's fresh food in the cat dish. Mystery solved. Let's get out of here.

KAREN

Oh my God! Here's her purse.

(starts digging in her bag)

DAVE

What are you doing?

KAREN

Looking for her keys. Maybe she was abducted while she was out running.

DAVE

And her abductor is an animal lover who returns every day to feed the cat? Unlikely. You watch too many Lifetime movies.

KAREN

Okay. I found her keys but she could have a spare set. Where is her phone? Dave, look around in the kitchen for her phone. And check all the closets.

DAVE

Am I looking for a cat, a woman, or a man in a ski mask with an axe?

KAREN

Just look!

(frantically trying to get on Leslie's laptop.)

Damn! What do you think her password is? I tried Charlie's birthday, her birthday and the cat.

DAVE

Knowing Charlie, it's probably something like "Tor Johnson forever" with zeros for O's and threes for E's.

KAREN

(typing)

Nope.

DAVE

Enough's enough. Why are you hacking into her computer?

KAREN

Maybe she met someone online. There could be clues here.

DAVE

What is this? An episode of CSI? Let's go home. We can call the police if you really want to, but right now we are just breaking and entering. Tainting any forensic evidence there might be.

Leslie walks out of the back room wrapped in a towel with headphones on.

KAREN

I'm checking the bathroom first. Come with me.

LESLIE

Karen?? What's going on?

KAREN

(screams in fright)

Oh, thank God! You're alive!

(hugs her maybe a little too enthusiastically)

LESLIE

Apparently so.

KAREN

Turn on your damn phone!

LESLIE

What?

KAREN

Turn on your phone. I must have left you 50 messages. I have been hysterical.

DAVE

That's her natural state. Sorry, we'll be going now.

KAREN

I'm not going anywhere. You've got some 'splaining to do, Missy.