

WHAT'S HER PROBLEM?

by John C. Havens

GENRE: Drama

SYNOPSIS: A jilted boyfriend tells his buddy why his girlfriend dumped him. While he wonders what her problem is, it becomes all too clear that he is blind to his own problems.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: The actor should play the monologue as if talking to someone in the audience. Rather than picking an audience member, have the actor address a spot slightly above the audience's heads.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 1

TOPIC: Relationship, Self Image/Self Esteem, Youth

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Matthew 5:27-28

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Bible Study on Relationships, Youth Group, Men's Group / Women's Group

CHARACTERS: Jim – A jilted boyfriend

PROPS: None

COSTUMES: Contemporary clothing, appropriate to character

SOUND: One wireless mike

LIGHTING: General Stage

SETTING: Generic stage

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Scene opens with JIM on stage

JIM: So listen to this, Bill. I'm freaking out all night, thinking, "How am I gonna' tell her?" How am I going to tell her I was flirting with another girl at Rick's party on Saturday. First of all, I wouldn't even really call it flirting. I mean, technically, yes, she did kiss me on the cheek and then I kissed her back on the cheek and we talked for, like, I don't know, 45 minutes to an hour. And yes, she gave me her number, but I mentioned Julie like, twice in that whole conversation. I mean, I actually said something like, "Well, my girlfriend, Julie said ..." You know? So I'm cool. I was not "flirting."

Anyway. Julie and I are out last night, and even though I have nothing to feel guilty about, I figured I should talk to her about this girl. Who knows, maybe she'll find out about it from someone else. I don't want her to get the wrong idea. So after we see a movie, we go out to have a bite to eat and I bring up the subject. I mentioned that I chatted very briefly with this girl at Rick's party and that she gave me her number and that it was no big deal. So guess what happens. I was thinking, maybe she'll be jealous, maybe she'll get mad, but nothing serious. I mean, it's not like I kissed the girl or whatever.

Julie breaks up with me! And she wasn't crying or in a rage either. That's the worst part. She's like, totally calm. After I tell her the whole story, she pauses and thinks for a long moment, and then says, "Jimmy, I think we should stop seeing each other until you're willing to deal with your self-esteem issues." I mean, what is that all about? She says, "You always have to flirt with other women to prove something to yourself. That you're desirable or interesting or something. It's not about me. It's about you liking yourself." How do you like that? She actually had the nerve to say, "It's not about me."

So then she smiles at me and says, "Call me when you figure out what I'm talking about." Well, Bill, let's just hope she's not waiting by the phone.

Pause

My "self-esteem" issues. What's her problem?

..... *Lights down*

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