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WINK

A FARCE IN ONE ACT

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WINK - A FARCE IN ONE ACT

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Synopsis

Ted is about to experience the most feared requirement of dating – the first meet. Internet dating offers little to no relief from this sometimes rewarding, mostly harrowing ritual leaving Ted to discover love found unexpectedly proves best.

Cast of Characters

CHERYL

TED

BETH

Place

A small coffee shop

Time

Afternoon

ACT I

Scene 1

Setting: A small coffee shop with a few tables and chairs. A counter nearby with a coffee urn and cups.

At Rise: CHERYL the waitress carries a carafe to TED sitting at a table nervously looking from His watch to the entrance, stage left. A cup and a Rose is on the table.

CHERYL

Another?

TED

What? Oh, yeah... I suppose so.

CHERYL

(filling his cup)

Is she late?

TED

Late? Who?

CHERYL

The woman you're waiting for.

TED

What makes you think I'm waiting for someone?

CHERYL

Rose kinda tipped me off.

TED

Yeah, you're right. I am expecting to meet a, um, friend...

CHERYL

First date, huh?

TED

That obvious, huh?

CHERYL

I've seen plenty of first meets here. You've been fidgeting since you got here, looking from the front door to your watch. I'd say I was right and she was late.

TED

Yeah, I made a date for coffee through an Internet dating site. I sent her a Wink to-

CHERYL *(interrupts)*

To see if you like each other enough to have a real date.

TED

Right again, and she is a little late, and I am a bit nervous. This is my first Wink.

CHERYL

Nervous? You're kidding?

TED

You know about Winks?

CHERYL

Sure, don't you think I date?

TED

I assumed an attractive woman wouldn't need a dating service.

CHERYL

Aw, thanks. I signed up a few months ago, got a few Winks but honestly, I'm too busy. Maybe someday. Listen, relax. Your wink will show. It's just part of the womanly psyche to be late. It creates a mystique to throw a man off his game, giving her the upper hand.

TED

Really?

CHERYL

Sure, and being a woman makes it easy to confirm what I'm saying. Here's a little tip. One of the most used ploys to get out of a meeting is the cellphone.

TED

Yeah? How's that work?

CHERYL

A woman will have a friend call a few minutes after meeting her Wink. If she likes the guy she tells the caller wrong number. But if she wants to leave she tells the guy it was an emergency call, hurt child, house on fire...

TED

Ah, an excuse to leave or a signal all is well.

CHERYL

Exactly.

TED

Have any of the Winks you've witnessed seemed successful?

CHERYL

Well, most are genuinely nervous and shy but after awhile the ice breaks and they're chatting away. Several have used the cellphone trick and a few are so flustered they say things that would make your head spin.

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TED

It's Ted, not Fred.

(CHERYL returns.)

TED

Cellphone ploy. Hurt daughter.

CHERYL *(sits)*

I heard... but she did say to call her.

TED

She never gave me a number.

CHERYL

Well, wasn't meant to be, I guess.

TED

I guess I'm destined to be a monk.

CHERYL

Don't be to hard on yourself. She doesn't know what a nice guy she's missing out on.

TED

Think so?

CHERYL

Yes, I do. Her loss. Someone else's gain.

(TED hands CHERYL the rose.)

TED

For you.

CHERYL

Really? Thank you so much. It's been a long time since someone gave me a flower.

TED

Their loss.

CHERYL

Should I consider this my Wink?

TED

I'd like that.

CHERYL

Me too.

TED

Your cellphone isn't about to ring is it?

CHERYL

If it does I'll toss it out the door.

(They gaze happily at one another.)

(LIGHTS: down)

(FINAL CURTAIN)



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