

DIALOGUE SAMPLE ONLY

**Play title: And They Lived Happily Ever After
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[Tybalt's apartment]

TYBALT

Will, I know you're there. Come on, pick up the phone. Will? Pick it up or I swear I'll leave the world's longest message. Will? Are you okay? Will?
[Aside] Goddammit! *[Into phone]* Call me. I love you. *[Hangs up, double takes]* "I love you"? Great. That was just great.

[Picks up teddy bear, shakes it, looking for a response, but gets none. Throws bear off stage. Goes to desk, opens drawer, pulls out bottle of Jack Daniels, drinks. Farcical music starts up¹; TEDDYBEAR comes dancing out, rubs his eyes as if waking up, smiles gaily and waves at TYBALT, who waves back. TEDDYBEAR dances around stage once, waves to audience, shakes his tail, does a quick do-se-do with TYBALT, then sits at desk and pulls out a joint from behind his ear, which he lights.

TEDDYBEAR

Want some?

TYBALT

God no. Do you have to do that?

TEDDYBEAR

What are you, my parole officer? A simple "No, thank you" would be polite.

TYBALT

No, thank you. Omigod you're such a bad influence.

TEDDYBEAR

Am not! By definition. I'm your teddy bear! I'm your best friend.

TYBALT

You're my best friend?

TEDDYBEAR

Absolutely. I'm your safe space. Look: I am soft and furry to give you somewhere to snuggle when you feel down. I have a big smile to make you feel happy. I am absorbent to catch your late-night tears. And when all else turns against you, I am always here, right where you left me. Always. Waiting.

[Pulls out tray of cocaine, snorts one line]

¹ We used the theme from tv's "Gentle Ben."

TYBALT

Are you doing lines? Where did you get that?

TEDDYBEAR

Your guy on 38th Street.

TYBALT

You went to 38th Street?

TEDDYBEAR

It's good stuff. Come on, try some.

TYBALT

You are insane! You are a teddy bear! A stuffed animal! You don't have organs. Or lungs. Or a diaphragm. You have stuffing. You can't inhale! You don't have nasal passages! Or brain receptors! It's impossible!

[TEDDYBEAR snorts two hefty lines]

TYBALT

Jeezus Christmas.

TEDDYBEAR

Dude. Let it go and sit your ass down here. This is good shit.

TYBALT

I don't want it!

TEDDYBEAR

Yeah, right.

TYBALT

And stay away from my desk drawer!

TEDDYBEAR

So put the bottle somewhere else then. I'm not snooping or nothing. I don't give a shit about what else you got in there. Want some? No, that's right. You're a good boy. Hah!

TYBALT

How come I never see problems like this on Jerry Springer?

TEDDYBEAR

Because people with this degree of severe paranoia are usually making clay bunnies in the sunshine, and watched closely by people dressed in white. Like your mom was. Someone oughta put her back in the rubber room before she goes after the evil spirits in the shopping mall with a machete. Lock her crazy ass right up.

TYBALT

She was locked up. They didn't watch her enough.

TEDDYBEAR

You ain't responsible for her, y'know.

TYBALT

Somebody has to be!

TEDDYBEAR

Yeah. Her. Don't be such an asshole about it. She'll do what she wants regardless of whatever you do. Like the last time. And the time before that. Lucky you were there or she'd be six feet under by now. You have as much effect on her as a fly fart in a hurricane.

TYBALT

But I can't watch her every minute. And sleeping pills are available everywhere.

TEDDYBEAR

You ain't her mother. She's yours. Get over it. She doesn't even care.

TYBALT

Gotta do something.

TEDDYBEAR

Then call your old man and get his rich lazy ass on the stick. Man, you're missing some good shit here.

TYBALT

[*Dialing cell phone*] He's probably not even in town. On a book tour or something. Why have all the numbers changed? [*TEDDYBEAR grabs phone, throws it away*] Crap! Where'd it go? [*Remembers*] Whadyou mean "doesn't care"?

TEDDYBEAR

Dude, she's probably forgotten you were even there.

TYBALT

What?

TEDDYBEAR

Think about it. She's probably out having a great time, getting fucked up and grabbing some guy for the night. Why would she think about you?

TYBALT

I'm her son...

TEDDYBEAR

Don't matter. You ain't that important.

TYBALT

She loves me.

TEDDYBEAR

Yeah, right. That's why she tried to poison you twice.

TYBALT

She doesn't know what she's doing.

TEDDYBEAR

Dude, you're a pest. A nuisance. Insignificant in her world. She doesn't care, doesn't think about you except when you do that "I'm your son" pain in the ass bit. If you dropped off the face of the planet she'd notice for about a minute, then go on like nothing happened. And the same is true for that wimpy-ass boyfriend of yours, too. Why should he settle for you when he can do better?

TYBALT

That's not true. It's—

TEDDYBEAR

C'mere, kid. Lemme give you a hug. Just pull right in here. That's it. It's a sad thing, it is. But—look at the bright side—you got me. I'm always gonna be here for you.