



DEEP AND SERIOUS: a short play

Ernest Kinnie

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A short play.

Marilyn, Sirena, George and Fredric want to join a playwriting group. They are more for fun than serious playwriting, but think they can learn something. They write a funny skit, but decide that won't impress them, so they turn it into a deep and serious play. Not easy.

The living room of an upscale condo. Fredric is an old guy sitting on a bench, center stage, head back, eyes closed. A cane is leaning against the bench. He jerks awake as his wife Marilyn walks in right center followed by George, who stops just onstage. George is in his early 20's, nervous and not too bright. Marilyn is in her 60's, stiff in dress and manner, and does not look happy.

MARILYN

Time to leave, Fredric. The mover is here.

FREDRIC

I'm not going!

MARILYN

(A long suffering sigh)

Yes, yes dear. I know. Now let me help you up. It's time to go.

FREDRIC

(Grabs the cane and waves it in the air.)

Get away from me you old witch.

MARILYN

Ok, Fredric. Do I have to go get Sirena to drag you out the door?

FREDRIC

Oh yeah, sure. You'd use my own daughter against me.

MARILYN

If that's what it takes, that's what I'll do.

(George is embarrassed and starts to leave.)

Hey! Come back here!

FREDRIC

Then go get her. She loves me a whole lot more than she loves you.

MARILYN

Sure she does, Fredric. You old, blind fool. She loves your money.

FREDRIC

Like daughter like mother, eh?

MARILYN

Of course I married you for your money. Why else would I marry you?

FREDRIC

And why do you think I married you?

MARILYN

You wanted a trophy wife. You got a trophy wife.

FREDRIC

Well yeah, right, but that was a long, long time ago, sweetheart. Now all I got is an old bag---stitched and stuffed by a bunch of money grubbing quacks.

(Marilyn motions George to begin. As he picks up a chair, Fredric jumps up, and waves his cane.)

Don't you touch that chair. We changed our mind. We're not moving.

MARILYN

No! No! We're moving! He has Alzheimer's. Ignore him.

FREDRIC

Alzheimer's like Hell. This crazy woman should be locked up. Go away. We're not moving.

MARILYN

We have quite a few boxes in the next room, but you can start here with the furniture.

FREDRIC

Like Hell you can. Don't you touch that chair.

(George picks up the chair anyway and Fredric takes a swing at him with his cane.)

GEORGE

Damn! Watch it old man. Ok, Ok, lady. When you and Rambo get straight, you let me know.

(He leaves right center.)

MARILYN

(She rushes out after him.)

No! Wait!

FREDRIC

(Fredric waves his cane in the air with a big grin, and shouts.)

Geronimo!

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