

# **Pre-Post-Eros**

A One Act Play by  
Bo Anderson

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**About the Author:**

Robert "Bo" Anderson was raised in the temperate rainforests of Southeast Alaska, where he has been pursuing his interest in the arts. He graduated from the University of Alaska Fairbanks in 2004 with a B.A. in Theatre Performance and a minor in Art, and currently works at Perseverance Theatre in Juneau, Alaska as their Master Carpenter.

## List of Characters:

### Men:

**John-** 20's dressed in a suite  
**Man-** 30's dressed in very much the same suit  
**Paul-** 40's dressed in very much the same suit

### Women:

**Strange Woman-** Wearing nice dress that smells second hand  
**Waitress-** peach dress with cream apron  
**Woman One-** dressed very much the same as strange woman  
**Woman Two-** dressed very much the same as Woman One

**Youth:** A baby boy between 2 and 20 in diapers with a pacifier

### Time:

The Present

### Setting:

Interior Dennies-esque Restaurant

<John, Man, and Paul, are seated in three separate and identical booths; all dressed the same, drinking coffee and reading the same paper. Man is in the center booth.>

<Enter Strange Woman. The three men watch her.>

<She sits in booth with Man, he pretends not to notice>

<Pause>

<Bored Strange Woman speaks>

Strange Woman: Tell me a story.

Man: Excuse me... What?

Strange Woman: Tell me a story!

Man: What? No!

Strange Woman: Come on, tell me a story.

Man: No. I don't even know who you are.

Strange Woman: Let's just say that I am a strange beautiful woman that wants to hear you talk about yourself, could you want for anything more?

Man: Moons Over My Hammy

Strange Woman: Excuse me?

Man: Moons Over My Hammy, that's what I ordered.

Strange Woman: From the waitress.

Man: Yes from the waitress, who else?

S. Woman: Was she pretty?

Man: I didn't notice.

S. Woman: Yes, yes you did.

Man: What? No I didn't!

Strange Woman: You certainly noticed when she bent over to fill your coffee... you looked down her shirt, and you started to fantasize about c-

Man: --I most certainly did not--!

S. Woman: Was it good?

Man: Was what good?

S. Woman: The sex with the waitress.

Man: I didn't have sex with any waitress!

S. Woman: No, you fucked her, and all I want to know is if you think she was pretty?

Man: She had nice tits and I stared at them and yes I fantasized, that is all, I did not fuck the waitress, I simply thought about it.

S. Woman: Is there a difference?

Man: What are you kidding? Is there a difference, the difference is that I didn't fuck the waitress THAT is the Fucking difference!!!!

S. Woman: Yes, you did. Now don't get excited, honey, and tell me a story.

Man: You come in here... I don't even know who you are... <Pause> and you want me to tell you a story... <Pause> About myself?

S. Woman: Who else silly? At least try it, it's really not that hard.

Man: Maybe for you-

S. Woman: -try it...

Man: <Frustrated but trying> Okay, so I am at a crappy restaurant, waiting for my damn breakfast, sipping my coffee, reading my paper, when some crazy random bitch starts pestering me to tell her a story!

S. Woman: When did this happen?

Man: Yesterday.

S. Woman: Really?

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Man: NO! What the hell is wrong with you?

S. Woman: Nothing is wrong with me, but we can't really say the same for you.

Man: You are saying that nothing is wrong with you?

S. Woman: Well yeah.

Man: Well then, there is nothing wrong with me either, now if you wouldn't mind--

S. Woman: -Oh, but there is something so very wonderfully wrong with you.

Man: Look, I can't tell you how fun this has been, I really love talking with people from crazy land and all, but I'd rather like to get back to not knowing you. So look, what would be the simplest, most polite way to remove you from this booth and my life?

S. Woman: Actually it's rather simple.

Man: It is?

S. Woman: Yes. All you have to do is fuck me, ask for my number and then never call me.

Man: That is polite?

S. Woman: Yeah.

Man: You think that is polite?

S. Woman: Well, yeah. But we both know you won't take my number because you know all too well that you will never call me. Ruining your sex life over a few clumsy, misguided morals, it's rather sweet in a way-

Man: -What? That's absurd!

S. Woman: No, no, not absurd, it is preposterous! Listen John-

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<Enter Woman One, nods and smiles to Strange Woman and sits at booth with John>

Man: That's not my name.

<S. Woman staring at Woman One, and suddenly back to Man>

S. Woman: I'm sorry?

Man: John, my Name is not John.

S. Woman: How is that relevant? <Pause> Fine, I'll start, would you please tell me your name?

Man: What? I'm not telling you my name!

S. Woman: Why not? Do I frighten you? I can see it in your eyes; you're like a lost little baby frightened of the world. Well don't worry little guy, mommies going to take care of you now, and I will name you Paul. Paul is such a good boy, yes he is.

Man: Lady my name is not Paul!

<Enter Woman Two, intimidating smile and nod to S. Woman as she sits in booth with Paul>

<S. Woman is distracted by Woman 2's entrance>

<Snapping his fingers in front of S. Woman's face>

Man: Hello! My Name's not Paul! Paul is not my name. You got my name wrong again, hello? Hello, hello, hello! Are you ok? Are you there? Paul is not my name!

<S. Woman slaps snapping fingers out of her face>

S. Woman: Who Gives A Fuck!

Man: <afearred> Ah!

<S. Woman un-wraps napkin and grabs butter knife>

<Woman One and Two do the same, but less violently>

<S. Woman stands up in booth>

S. Woman: Oh, IM SORRY! AM I FRIGHTENING YOU?

<Threatening him with the butter knife, Man nods yes>

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S. Woman: ARE YOU INTIMIDATED BY ME, IS THIS SCARRY FOR YOU! Is this getting a little too intense for you right

now? Damn it! Damn you! I'm perfect for you, haven't you figured that out by now! You and I were made for each other! Is there something wrong with meeting your equal in a shitty ass breakfast diner? Well where the fuck did you want to meet me, the shampoo isle of your local grocer, is that somehow more romantic because it is statistically more accurate. Probabilities only get you so far! This is where we are. I'm right here, right now, staring you in the face and you are about to crap your pants!

<S. Woman takes butter knife reaches into the next booth over and from behind puts her knife to Paul's throat. All three women do that same action at once. Woman One has her arm w/knife to Man's throat, Woman 2 has her arm reaching off stage putting her knife to an unseen mans throat, and an arm from offstage right reaches in to put a knife to John's throat>

S. Woman: Now... Tell me what you want, and be honest...

Man: <whispers something>

S. Woman: I can't hear you!!

<The Women pull butter knife tighter against the Men's throats>

Man: I want... I want you.

S. Woman: There, was that so hard?

<Women 1 and 2 release John and Paul, they go back to reading the paper meal trying to ignore the women>  
<Women continue to watch what is happening and keep Man under knife>  
<S. Woman crawls over the table, and sits on top of it, both of them are breathing heavily>  
<S. Woman starts giving Man a hand job>

S. Woman: Do you like that?

Man: Yes! Yes! YES!

S. Woman: Take your pants off!

<Man pulls his pants down around his ankles, leaving on his boxers. S. Woman turns around and sits on top of him giving him a "lap dance">

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Man: Ooh! Ah! Yes!!!!

<Man is having the best sex of his life while S. Woman is giving him her all in hip movement>

S. Woman: The kid in the red shirt.

Man: What-aahhh! Oh, ah! What are you taaaah!

<Man groans throughout, is turned on and confused>

<S. Woman is not getting off on sex, she is still searching for a connection, but every time Man tries to respond S. Woman grinds into him>

S. Woman: The kid in the red shirt is chasing you.

<Man Groans>

S. Woman: You ran away, but he is faster so much bigger and faster than you and he's gaining on you, getting closer and closer, can you hear him, the sound of his breath behind you...

Man: How do you... Ahhh!

S. Woman: He's running after you and you are running away...

<Man groans>

S. Woman: He chased after you until you could run no father and you curled up into a little ball on the playground too terrified to move...

Man: Yes but... Ah! How... Ohh Ohhh ohh!

S. Woman: But he didn't expect that and that kid in the red shirt he was running so fast that he couldn't stop could he? He tripped over you and broke the fall with his nose, he laid there in front of you bleeding but you didn't get up did you, you just stayed there curled up in a ball of fear.

Man: AH!!! <Pleasure/Pain/Confusion>

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S. Woman: All you had to do was stand up, but you did nothing. He was just as afraid as you were and in a lot

more pain. You chose to stay as equals rather than assume dominance, and for the rest of your life you have considered this cowardice, and it is precisely the reason that I love you!!

Man: Oh!

S. Woman: I love you!

<S. Woman angrily starts ridding him hard now>

Man: Oh!

S. Woman: I said I love you!

Man: Ah!

S. Woman: I love you!

Man: Ahhhhh! <And he's spent>

<Woman 1 finally takes the knife away from Man's throat>  
<Man falls back into the booth a sweaty and exhausted mess>

S. Woman: If you will excuse me I need to freshen up a bit.

Man: <hardly enough energy to speak> yeah sure...

<S. Woman climbs out of booth over table, Woman 1 and 2 follow her to the Ladies Room>  
<Man breathes heavily>  
<Pause>  
<Man recuperates and puts his pants back on and readjusts his tie with an odd smile on his face>  
<Silence while Man recuperates>  
<S. Woman returns from bathroom leading a baby by the hand>

Man: <The smile is gone> What is this?

Strange Woman: This is our child.

Man: <Alarmed> What? No! No, no, no...

Strange Woman: Yes.

<Waitress enters with meal for Man>

Waitress: Here is your cheese burger and fries.

Man: <to Waitress> Wait! I didn't order this!

<Waitress doesn't respond and leaves>

Strange Woman: Neither did I, but regardless we have to deal with this now.

<S. Woman picks up kid and puts him on the table>

Man: <to the waitress who is no longer there>  
...And I'm not paying for it!

Strange Woman: Oh, you are not only paying for this child but we are going to have to provide for him for the rest of our lives.

Man: What, I wasn't talking to you I was talking about my food.

Strange Woman: Talking to that waitress?

Man: Yes.

Strange Woman: Why are you still worrying about that bitch? We have a child together, do you understand that? The polite thing to do now would be to get down on your knees and confess your undying love for me.

Man: Get down on my knees?

Strange Woman: I don't think you understand; this is our child.

Man: That's preposterous; I only, we only, you know a few minutes ago!

Strange Woman: So what the consequences are the same.

Man: That is not my child. <To waitress offstage> Check Please!!

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<Baby starts eating fries and such that are on the table>

Strange Woman: Oh, but it is.

Man: Can I get my CHECK PLEASE!! NOW PLEASE!!! Whatever, you are crazy lady. I am getting out of here. <Throws a fat wad of cash on the table> That should cover the meal with a little extra for the waitress.

<Man leaves>

Strange Woman: Shit!

<Strange Woman gets up, stuffs wad of cash in her bra, takes kid over to A Man's booth>

Strange Woman: <to baby> And now I'd like you to meet your father...

Paul: What is all this about?

Strange Woman: This is our child.

Paul: Wait, you are trying to telling me that this is our child?

Strange Woman: Yes.

Paul: But I have never had sex with you.

Strange Woman: Well, neither have I, regardless we have to deal with it now.

Paul: Deal with what?

Strange Woman: We have a child together do you understand that? The polite thing to do now would be to get down on your knees and tell me how happy you are and how much you love me.

A Man: Love you? I don't even know you. Look Lady, I don't know if you realize this, but we have never even met until you sat down here at this booth.

Strange Woman: I don't think you understand; this is our child.

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A Man: But I don't know who you are.

Strange Woman: So what the consequences are the same.

A Man: That is not my child.

Strange Woman: Oh but it is.

A Man: Yeah, well, oh, look at the time I'm late for work, I've got to go to work, you understand right?

<He throws down a fat wad of cash on the table>

A Man: That should cover the coffee and anything else you want to get for your self, try and leave a little something for the waitress would you? Thanks.

<A Man exits>

Strange Woman: Shit! <Pounds on the table with her fist>

<S. Woman Grabs wad of cash>

<Strange Woman gets up out of booth and starts walking child over to Man A's booth, he notices her coming>

John: Awe... hell no!

<Man A gets up and runs away>

Strange Woman: Shit!

<Baby tugs on the bottom of Strange Woman's dress>

<Baby opens arms expecting to get picked up and held>

Strange Woman: What? <Pause> What the hell do you want?

<Woman smiles, pats the baby on the head>

S. Woman: My advice to you kid is to keep your head down and make like everyone else does, that way no one can blame you for anything. It sucks but get used to it.

<S. Woman exits Stage Right leaving baby center stage>

<Baby stares blankly into the audience>

<Slow Fade Out>

THE END