

*Swiped*

A World Premiere of a Musical Comedy Operetta One Woman Show

Based on the life of Alena Bernardi

Book Developed By: Alena Bernardi & Carly Pandza

Music and Lyrics By: Alena Bernardi & Michael Armstrong

Some Additional Lyrics ("By When" & "Palaces") Written By: Carly Pandza

Directed By: Carly Pandza

Swiped premiered on the Hudson Theatre's main-stage  
in Los Angeles on June 21st, 2019

ACT I

SCENE 1

A BLANK STAGE

Lights up on POLLY.

POLLY

"BY WHEN"

BORN IN THE PLAINS OF ILLINOIS  
A SUBURB OF CHICAGO  
I'M SMART TO THE BONE FROM THE VERY START  
DRIVEN, WISE, AND PROUD  
I LOVE BARBIES, CATS, KAWALAS, AND ANYTHING PINK  
A 90'S PRIMA DONNA  
FROM PRESCHOOL TO THE PARK IN MY STYLISH JEEP  
I AM THE CUL-DE-SAC QUEEN

FIRST GRADE I WIN SECOND PLACE IN THE LOCAL STATE FAIR  
SPELLING BEE  
IN THIRD I AM CLASS TREASURER DETERMINED TO FIX ECONOMY  
LISA FRANK IS MY FAVORITE AESTHETIC, AND IN HER FUZZY JOURNAL  
I WRITE ALL MY GOALS  
I HAVE A PENCIL CASE OF SCRATCH AND SNIFF STICKERS  
I AM WELL ON MY WAY TO GRADE SCHOOL SUCCESS

BY WHEN I WIN A SPOT ON THE RELAY TEAM  
BY WHEN I HAVE MY FIRST BIRTHDAY SLEEPOVER  
BY WHEN I DEBUT IN THE NUTCRACKER  
BY WHEN  
TOMORROW?  
NEXT WEEK?  
ONE YEAR?!

AND IT IS ALL JUST GRAVY UP TO THIS POINT

I PLAY THE NURSE IN THE HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL  
SHE IS COMIC RELIEF  
EVERYONE LAUGHS WHEN I MUTTER THE LINE  
"YOU HAVE ACUTE APPENDICITIS...AND YOUR SPLEEN IS PRETTY HOT  
TOO"

I'M THE ONE TO ORGANIZE DITCH DAY  
THAT WEEKEND IS THE SAT'S  
I PULL OFF THE CLASS PRANK SWIMMINGLY AND SCORE A 1300  
NOW IT'S OFF TO COLLEGE AT CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY  
WITH TANNING BEDS AND THRIFT STORES

"SWIPED"

2.

GLEE CLUB IS MY RELEASE  
I JOT DOWN MY BRAND NEW MILESTONES IN MY NAVY BLUE MOLESKIN  
NOTEBOOK

I CAN CROSS OFF ALL THE TO-DO LISTS, I AM GOING TO ROCK AT  
THIS MILLENNIAL THING

BY WHEN I WILL FINISH WITH GRAD SCHOOL  
BY WHEN I WILL LEASE MY FIRST APARTMENT  
BY WHEN I WILL CASH MY FIRST PAYCHECK  
BY WHEN  
SIX MONTHS?  
ONE HOUR?  
TWO WEEKS?!

I'M LIVING DOWNTOWN, IN MY DREAM NEIGHBORHOOD  
I SPEND WEEKENDS AT IKEA  
SUNDAYS ARE FOR THE GIRLS  
MY JOB HAS BEEN GREAT  
I HAVE THE PERFECT CUBICLE  
AND MY BOSS LOOKS AND SAYS

BOSS

"WHY DON'T YOU BRING YOUR BOYFRIEND TO THE COMPANY MIXER?"

POLLY

MY BOYFRIEND?...I DON'T HAVE A BOYFRIEND...

WHEN I WAS A LITTLE GIRL  
MY DADDY HE SAID TO ME  
YOUR MOTHER I LOVE HER SWEETIE  
SHE IS SO DEAR TO ME  
WE'LL NEVER LEAVE EACH OTHER  
OUR LOVE IS JUST THAT TRUE  
SHE'S THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN I EVER KNEW

WELL MOMMY SHE DIDN'T FEEL THAT WAY  
MOMMY HAD OTHER PLANS  
LIKE DANCING TILL DAWN WITH STRANGERS  
AND TRAVELING TO FAR OFF LANDS

SO WHAT DID I DECIDE IN THAT MOMENT?  
WHAT DID I MAKE SURE THAT I DID?  
WHAT DID I DECIDE I WOULD DO FROM THEN ON?

"SWIPED"

3.

I WOULD MAKE SURE THAT WHATEVER MY PATH  
I COULD CONTROL THE OUTCOME  
MAKE SURE THAT WHATEVER SITUATION I PUT MYSELF IN  
I COULD CONTROL THE OUTCOME

BUT I'M HERE NOW  
I'M REALLY HERE NOW  
AND MAYBE IT'S TIME  
EVEN THOUGH I DON'T WANT TO  
MAYBE IT'S TIME THAT I  
YOU KNOW...FOUND SOMEBODY TOO

BY WHEN I WILL START MY NEXT JUICE CLEANSE  
BY WHEN I WILL FINISH MY TAXES  
BY WHEN I WILL FIND MY FIRST BOYFRIEND  
BY WHEN

SCENE 2

EXT. CONFESSION LIGHT

POLLY

A boyfriend? Yeah I guess that's one little thing I left out of my 5 year plan. In high school I dated a few guys but nothing serious. In college I wasn't really focused on it. I was getting my bachelors and then my masters and while I was running study group, attending the having-it-all-preparatory meetings, and leading glee club rehearsals-I was just too busy. I was busy!

Luckily now I have the best job in the world. I am in publishing. Teen romance novels. Ironic, I know considering this predicament I find myself in. Why did my boss ask me that? He didn't ask Jerry if he was bringing his girlfriend. Jerry's my co-worker.

JERRY

Hey Captain Marvel!

POLLY

(thinking/to Jerry)

So how do you find girls to go on dates with?

JERRY

Some people go bars if that's your thing. I was reading this article the other day that said most people meet their future spouse where they go to school or their workplace.

(beat)

Or I mean almost everyone is on those dating apps now-a-days

"SWIPED"

4.

POLLY  
(excited/discovery)

ONLINE DATING! I've never tried that. I mean  
how hard could it be to find a guy in this  
city? Apparently there's an app for that.

"THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT"

OPEN THE BROWSER  
OK LET'S TRY GOOGLE  
HOW DO I FIND THE PERFECT RELATIONSHIP?

IT SHOULDN'T BE TOO DIFFICULT  
GOOGLE HAS THE ANSWER TO EVERYTHING

I KNOW IF I JUST TYPE THE RIGHT KEY WORDS I'LL DISCOVER

HOW I FIND HIM  
OH HIM  
HOW DO I FIND HIM

I MEAN I CAN MANIFEST A DIPLOMA  
OR A JOB OR A PET  
BUT MANIFESTING A...MAN  
IS THERE AN APP FOR THAT?

I SAY YES  
TO HINGE TINDER THE LEAGUE  
BUMBLE, MATCH, ELITE SINGLES  
THEN THERE'S E-HARMONY

I MEAN I CAN MANIFEST AN APARTMENT  
A WINDOW SEAT ON A PLANE  
BUT MANIFESTING A PERSON  
THAT I CAN'T EXPLAIN!

SO I SAY YES  
TO HINGE TINDER THE LEAGUE  
BUMBLE, MATCH, ELITE SINGLES  
THEN THERE'S E-HARMONY

TINDER'S FOR FUN HOOK-UPS  
BUMBLE'S FOR THE LADIES  
MATCH IS FOR A SLIGHTLY MORE MATURE CROWD  
THE LEAGUE IS FOR MILLIONAIRES  
HINGE IS FOR YOUR FRIENDS OF FRIENDS ON FACEBOOK  
ELITE SINGLES IS FOR THE OPTIMISTIC  
E-HARMONY IS REVIEWED EXTENSIVELY  
I THINK I'LL CHOOSE THIS ONE

"SWIPED"

5.

INT. CONFESSION LIGHT

POLLY

So there is certain way to use each app. I poke over here, wink over there, wave to this one and nudge to that one. I think I'm starting to get the hang of this!

"I SWIPE"

"WITH ONLY A PHOTO TO JUDGE I WILL CATEGORIZE AND DECIDE WHO I'LL MESSAGE TODAY THERE'S SO MANY TO CHOOSE FROM BUT ONLY A FEW SOME WILL END UP GETTING A DATE

THEY COME IN ALL SIZES ALL HAIRCUTS AND DISGUISES MASTERFULLY HIDING THEIR DEMONS WITH MANICURED FACES OF ALL DIFFERENT RACES, AN ATTEMPT TO LOOK PERFECTLY DECENT

AND I SWIPE AND I SWIPE AND I SWIPE, LEFT RIGHT AND RIGHT LEFT AND LEFT RIGHT

IF THIS THUMB IS THE ONLY WAY I HAVE TO FIND HIM THEN LEAVE ALL THE THUMBING TO ME

AHHHH!!

AHHHH!!!

AHH!

AHH!

AHHHH!!!!

THEY ARE VIDEOGAMERS, CLUBBERS AND HIKERS, BAD BOYS, POSERS AND PREPS WHO ARE FACEBOOK EMPLOYEES, ARTISTIC DIRECTORS, FILMMAKERS, AND CLOTHING BRAND REPS.

THOUGHTFUL AND WITTY THEIR PROFILES INTELLIGENTLY HEADLINE THEIR FINEST OF TRAITS WITH PICTURES OF FAMILIES, HOBBIES, AND EXES THEIR CASTING AND I AM THE BAIT

AND I SWIPE AND I SWIPE AND I SWIPE, LEFT RIGHT AND RIGHT LEFT AND LEFT RIGHT

AS THIS THUMB KEEPS ON THUMBING I'LL IGNORE ALL THE NUMBING I EXPERIENCE EMOTIONALLY

AHHHHH

AHHHHHHH!!

"SWIPED"

6.

AHHHHHHHHH!!!!

AHHHHHHHHH!!!

AHHHHH!

AH! AH! AH! AH!

AND I WILL TRY MY BEST TO MAKE MY MOTHER AND FATHER PROUD OF ME BUT I CAN GUARANTEE I'LL CHOOSE THE ONE WHOSE BEST FOR ME. BECAUSE MAYBE I'LL ACCIDENTALLY CHOOSE THE ONE WHO HAS A TEMPER LIKE MOTHER AND THE ONE WHO IS AS CRITICAL AND JUDGMENTAL AS FATHER AND INEVITABLY END UP JUST AS JUST AS UNHAPPY AS THEY TURNED OUT TO BE.

AWKWARD SELFIE UPON SELFIE UPON SELFIE UPON SELFIE I SCROLL WHILE I'M IMAGINING THE GENTLEMAN ATHLETIC, SWEET, FUNNY, AND NERDY WHO WILL SOON BE MATCHING WITH ME

AHHHH! I SWIPE AND I SWIPE AND I SWIPE, LEFT RIGHT, RIGHT LEFT, AND LEFT RIGHT

AS THIS THUMB KEEPS ON THUMBING AND THUMBING AND THUMBING AS THIS THUMB KEEPS ON THUMBING I KNOW HE'LL BE COMING AS THIS THUMB KEEPS ON THUMBING I'LL IGNORE ALL THE NUMBING I'M EXPERIENCING EMOTIONALLY

AHH!!!!

AHHH!!

EXT. CONFESSION LIGHT

POLLY

This is quite overwhelming but hey I'm determined. As my mother always said "You can't eat an elephant in one bite." I hate that expression. But maybe she's right. Let's do this. One profile at a time. And call me an overachiever but right away I found the perfect guy. MATT!

"I COULD GET USED TO THIS"

MAN IS HE CUTE, BIG BLUE EYES AND A PERFECT HEAD OF HAIR. AND HE PLAYS SPORTS, FOOTBALL, LACROSSE, SOCCER, AND MORE.

AND HE BLENDS UP MY GREEN SMOOTHIES AND HE DOES ALL THE SHOPPING WITH THAT GORGEOUS AND FLAWLESS SMILE

HE IS SO FUNNY, SOMETIMES OBSCENELY SO BUT I DON'T CARE.

"SWIPED"

7.

HE MAKES UP FOR IT WITH HIS PECKS, THEY'RE RIGHT ABOVE HIS PERFECTLY PLACED ABS

HE GIVE ME MESSAGES, AND WE WORK OUT TOGETHER, AND MAKES ME PANCAKES IN THE MORNING

I COULD REALLY GET USED TO THIS, OH YEAH  
I COULD REALLY GET USED TO THIS, OH YEAH  
I COULD REALLY GET USED TO RIGHT NOW

HE'S GOT A GREAT FAMILY, THEY LIVE UP NORTH RIGHT ACROSS TOWN FROM MINE.

WE GO FOR A VISIT, ALTHOUGH THEY VOTED FOR TRUMP THEY'RE STILL REALLY NICE

AND WE GO RUNNING IN THE PARK, AND DINING IN THE DARK, OH BOY I THINK HE MIGHT BE THE ONE

I COULD REALLY GET USED TO THIS, OH YEAH  
I COULD REALLY GET USED TO THIS, OH YEAH  
I COULD REALLY GET USED TO RIGHT NOW

\*PHONE RINGS\*

POLLY (CONT'D)

Hey!

MATT

Hey I have to tell you something. I have a warrant out for my arrest and I may be going to jail when I get back into town.

POLLY

Why is there a warrant out for your arrest?

MATT

My ex business partner and I got int a fight and I punched him in the face, but like screen that guy they can come get me!

I'M KINDA GETTING USED TO THIS...I'LL JUST IGNORE ALL THE REST

I'M KINDA GETTING USED TO THIS...I'LL JUST PRETEND AND MAKE IT THE BEST

AND WE GO OUT TO PARTIES AND SNUGGLE LIKE BUNNIES, DANCING ALL THROUGH THE NIGHT

AND I'M KINDA GETTIN USED TO THIS, JUST LET ME STAY IN THIS DREAMLAND A LITTLE WHILE LONGER

POLLY

So, why did you and your ex-business partner get in a fight?



MATT

Well when we first started to work together  
he'd give me money so I let him do coke and get  
me drunk and suck my (\*BLEEP CENSOR\*)

I'M A LITTLE FREAKED OUT BY THIS  
WHAT THE HELL HAVE I GOTTEN MYSELF INTO  
I'M A LITTLE FREAKED OUT BY THIS  
AND NOW HE'S BASICALLY LIVING ON MY COUCH

SO HOW DO I TELL HIM THAT THIS ISN'T WORKING SO THAT HE  
DOESN'T NOW PUNCH ME IN THE FACE?

POLLY

Matt it's over!

WHO KNEW THIS WOULD BE HARD OH YEAH  
WHO KNEW THIS WOULD BE HARD OH YEAH  
WHO KNEW THIS WOULD BE HARD RIGHT NOW

INT. OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

JERRY

What's up with you?

POLLY

This whole finding a relationship thing isn't  
going very smoothly.

JERRY

What happened?

POLLY

I don't know I -

(discovers)

Oh my GOD I know what I did wrong! How I've  
gotten to where I am today is through planning  
meticulously. I've planned out my whole life,  
but when I decided to get myself into a  
relationship I didn't make a plan.

JERRY

A plan? You're pretty strategic aren't you?

POLLY

What I need is an algorithm!

(beat)

If I go on 3 first dates a week those should  
result in 12 second dates by the end of the  
month and by the end of 2 months I'll narrow it  
down to 6 third dates and if I do the math  
correctly by the end of the 3rd month the  
probability of me finding the perfect  
relationship is 85%. Those are some really good  
odds!

JERRY

Glad I could help.

POLLY

I feel like I need some advice from a 3rd party.

JERRY

You know sometimes the person that you need is right front of your face.

Looks directly at him and then has a brilliant idea.

POLLY

MY GRANDMOTHER! I called her Granny B. She's super smart and the 1st female scientist in her hometown. She moved to the city at 22 and that's where she met my grandpa who she's been married to for 40 years. She'll probably have expert advice.

Lights change.

GRANNY BEA

(singing)

With my years of masterful experience, I'm so glad that you came to me. I will show you the ways of the dating world but mostly how promiscuous you should be specifically...

"SHOW HIM SOME SKIN"

HIT IT BOYS!!!!!!!!!!

MARTINIS MANHATTANS AND CIGARETTES  
FRIDAY FISH FRY'S ON THE PIER  
AND IT'S A DANGEROUS GAME FOR THE LOVE STRUCK  
IN OLD CHICAGO MY DEAR

AND IT'S A TOWN OF SNOOPY NEIGHBORS  
SO LEAVE THE BACK DOOR IN CASE LATER

YOU WANT TO SHOW HIM A FAVOR  
FOR GETTING ALL DRESSED UP AND TREATING YOU TO A STEAK DINNER

MASHED POTATOES AND BACON DON'T BUY THEMSELVES PAULINE

NOW TAKE OUT YOUR PINK DRESS  
WITH THE BIRDS AND THE FRILLS ON THE NECK  
LOOK IN THE MIRROR AND  
SAY TO YOURSELF  
I'M A BEAUTIFUL FLOWER, AND I'M GONNA EAT WELL TONIGHT

BUT JUST ONE HAND ON THE LEG LOOK SEE OR A THE SLIGHTEST  
BRUSH OF YOUR BREAST PAULINE

YOU'RE STARTING TO GET THE HANG OF IT!

NOW IF HE TAKES YOU TO THE WEEKLY MOVIES  
THAT A WHOLE DIFFERENT SCENE  
THERE'S NO NEED FOR WHOLE APARTMENT THING  
YOU CAN MAKE OUT IN YOUR SEATS  
THE DORIS DAY PICTURES', THE PRIMER  
FOR SLIPPERY TONGUES, LOCKED LIPS IN BLACK THEATRES

JUST WAIT TILL THE SAD PART, SO YOU CAN TUNE OUT, FRENCH, PAY  
YOUR DUES AND WALK OUT ALL FRESH FACED

BECAUSE NO MAN LIKES A WOMAN WHO SOBS AT MADE UP THINGS

NOW TAKE OUT YOUR PINK DRESS  
WITH THE BIRDS AND THE FRILLS ON THE NECK  
LOOK IN THE MIRROR AND  
SAY TO YOURSELF  
I'M A BEAUTIFUL FLOWER, AND I'M GONNA EAT WELL TONIGHT

BUT JUST ONE HAND ON THE LEG LOOK SEE OR A THE SLIGHTEST  
BRUSH OF YOUR BREAST PAULINE

\*FLUTE SOLO\*

POLLY

NOW TAKE OUT YOUR PINK DRESS  
WITH THE BIRDS AND THE FRILLS ON THE NECK  
LOOK IN THE MIRROR AND  
SAY TO MYSELF  
I'M A BEAUTIFUL FLOWER, AND I'M GONNA EAT WELL TONIGHT

BUT JUST ONE HAND ON THE LEG LOOK SEE OR A THE SLIGHTEST  
BRUSH OF MY BREAST - GRANNY BEA!

GRANNY BEA

YES!  
JUST A HAND ON YOUR DÉCOLLETAGE

POLLY

OR THE TINIEST BIT OF A SHOULDER MASSAGE  
JUST A SLIP OF THE INSIDE WRIST

GRANNY BEA

OR A DELIBERATE LICK OF A MILKSHAKE ON YOUR LIPS!  
YES POLLY! DANCE WITH ME!!!  
WAIT

BUT IF HE TAKES YOU AWAY  
LIKE A BEACHY CENTENNIAL DAY  
OR SKIING ON THE WILMONT PEAKS  
THOSE SLOPES YOU JUST CAN'T BEAT

FEEL THE MOMENT, MAKE SURE THE TIME IS RIGHT  
AND THEN YOU SHOW HIM  
THEN YOU SHOW HIM

AND THEN YOU SHOW HIM  
THEN YOU SHOW HIM  
AND THEN YOU SHOW HIM  
THEN YOU SHOW HIM  
AND THEN YOU SHOW HIM SOME SKIN  
AND THEN YOU SHOW HIM SOME SKIN  
AND THEN YOU SHOW HIM SOME SKIN  
AND THEN YOU SHOW HIM SOME SKIN!!!!

\*FLUTE SOLO OUTRO LICK\*

\*Phone rings.\*

POLLY

Hello.  
(to audience)  
It's my boss.

BOSS

I need a new house.

\*He hangs up. Hang Up Nose.\*

POLLY

Siri, what's the best app for buying a house?

SIRI

Zillow.

POLLY

Oh my goodness these houses are gorgeous...

(She slowly walks to this amazing house)

POLLY (CONT'D)

I walk in to my first open house.  
The lights are low and there are candles  
burning in every room. And then I see this  
gorgeous guy and he's just staring at me, it's  
like he can see right through me. Hi I'm Polly.  
Who are you?

BRAD

Your Real Estate Agent.

POLLY

He shows me all around the house. The pool  
(\*Pool Splash\*), the gardens (\*Gardens\*), the  
balcony (\*Balcony\*).

BRAD

You are so stunning. You must be an actress.

POLLY  
(blushing)

I'm not but I did some acting in high school.

BRAD  
(under his breath)

Perfect. You know I'm also a screenwriter and I'm working this project.

\*Palaces\* beat starts playing.

POLLY

"PALACES"

HOLLYWOOD NIGHTS BENEATH SATELLITES  
MIDNIGHT KISSES UNDER MOONLIT SKIES  
WE DON'T KNOW WHO WE WANNA BE  
SEARCHING FOR SOMEBODY TO NOTICE AND VISIT THE

PALACES

I TAKE MY TIME SO I CAN VET  
HIDDEN STORIES YET TO BE LIVED  
WE'RE ALL FINDING OUR WAY TO GET  
TO THE PALACES

HE TAKES ME RIGHT OUTSIDE TO THE BALCONY  
MARBLE FLOORS, IT'S A DYNASTY  
WAIT FOR IT HE SAYS "DO YOU TRUST ME?"  
SETS THE CAMERA UP "ARE YOU FILMING?"

HANDS ON MY WAIST STRETCHES OUT MY ARMS  
OPENS MY EYES HE SAYS "SAY YOU'RE FLYING"  
FLYING  
SHHHHH!  
"YOU'RE MY STAR, COME JOSEPHINE"  
COMING!  
"I HAVE A SURPRISE YOU, DO YOU LIKE POTTERY?"

PALACES

I NEED TO TAKE MY TIME SO I CAN VET  
HIDDEN STORIES YET TO BE LIVED  
WE'RE ALL FINDING OUR WAY TO GET  
TO THE PALACES  
PALACES TAKE ME THERE AND YOU'LL RECEIVE A GIFT  
OF HIDDEN CINEMA THAT FLOURISHES  
I'LL WAIT FOR YOU TO SATISFY MY ITCH  
IN THE PALACES

"I'VE GOT IT ALL SET UP IN THE BACK HERE'S A SHIRT"  
HANDS ME A WHITE BUTTON UP AND LEAVES  
LIGHTS ALL AROUND, IT'S BLINDING  
A POTTERY WHEEL IS WINDING

PRESSES HIS CHEST INTO MY BACK  
CLAY IS DRIPPING AND THE RED LIGHT GLEAMS  
POTTERY!

AHHHH...

OUR FINGERS INTERTWINING  
I'M BUZZING AS HE'S HOLDING ME  
PINCH ME, I THINK I'M DREAMING

PALACES

I NEED TO TAKE MY TIME SO I CAN VET  
HIDDEN STORIES YET TO BE LIVED  
WE'RE ALL FINDING OUR WAY TO GET  
TO THE PALACES

I STEP INTO THE SHOWER CLAY HARDENED MY SKIN  
EAGER FOR THE FALLING WATER WARM AND DRIPPING  
CURTAIN DRAWS  
I'M SCREAMING

AHHH! "IS A REAL KNIFE?"

"NO SILLY IT'S A PROP" HE RESPONDS A BIT ANNOYED  
BUT OBVIOUSLY I'M AM STILL TERRIFIED

AHHH! I'M SCREAMING

HE SQUIRTS KETCHUP AND PRETENDS TO STAB ME.

CEILING CAMERA IS WATCHING

HE'S INSANE I AM A LITTLE INTRIGUED

PALACES

TAKE ME THERE AND YOU'LL RECEIVE A GIFT  
OF HIDDEN CINEMA THAT FLOURISHES  
I'LL WAIT FOR YOU TO SATISFY MY ITCH  
IN THE PALACES

I'M RINSING OFF HE'S ONTO THE NEXT THING  
I HAVE AN IDEA AS I'M DRYING  
I WRAP THE BLUE TOWEL AROUND MY HEAD  
MOVE THE CAMERA AND GO

\*DIVA DANCE FROM FIFTH ELEMENT\*

AHHHHHH!

AHHHHHHHHHH!

AHHHHHHH!!

"WHAT ARE YOU DOING?"

"UHHHH"

"YOU JUST RUINED MY ENTIRE MOVIE!"

"I'M SORRY"

"AND I NEED TO SHOW A HOUSE IN 30 MINUTES"

"LET ME COME WITH YOU"

"FRANKLY MY DEAR I DON'T GIVE A DAMN!"

\*DOOR SLAM\*

PALACES

I NEED TO TAKE MY TIME SO I CAN VET  
HIDDEN STORIES YET TO BE LIVED  
WE'RE ALL FINDING OUR WAY TO GET  
TO THE PALACES

POLLY (CONT'D)

That was so weird.

\*Phone rings.\*

BOSS

We bought the house!

\*Phone hangs up.\*

POLLY

Great!

JERRY

Great job on the house! You were like Wonder Women when comes out into No Man's Land and is blocking the bullets with her wrist shields.

POLLY

(confused, giggle)

Thank you.

JERRY

Hey so I was thinking, I'm happy to look over your code for you. I think I could improve your algorithm

POLLY

(discovery)

I didn't follow my algorithm! I have to meet him on a DATING app. That's part of the plan.

JERRY

Yeah I mean people clearly don't meet in person anymore.

POLLY

(to self)

Polly, just follow the plan.

INT. POLLY'S APARTMENT - LATER

POLLY

(to self)

Ok, Match.com. You make a video. Hi, I'm Polly.

I'm an in publishing. Young Adult romance novels. I'm kind of am a hopeless romantic. One of my favorite things to do is play the ukulele on my lunch breaks. Sitting there all these melodies come to me from I dunno where...the Universe? I love music so much. It makes me feel so connected to the whole world. Is that too much information? Whatever Polly just send.

(beat)

HOLY MOLY! \*Many Dings Noise\* 100 responses within an hour and 500 by the end of the day!

(MORE)

POLLY (CONT'D)

(anxious)

So I start sifting through them and I narrow it down to the all the ones that have a job, live alone, and seemed relatively normal.

(beat)

And then I found this guy...

She looks at the screen and takes a big breath.

POLLY (CONT'D)

Sebastian. He's a conductor.

\*A ding\*

POLLY (CONT'D)

He wants to meet for dinner and he says the reason he reached out to me is because of our shared love of music. Our relationship began, and it was like living my very own symphony.

"MAESTRO"

\*MORNING MOOD GRIEG\*

DOWN CATALINA SHORES, ZIP LINE AND TUNA TAR TAR CHAMPAGNE  
FLOWING I'M FLOATING  
OOOLONG TEA WEST HOLLYWOOD NIGHTS IN HIGH RISE HOTELS SEE THE  
CITY LIGHTS SHINING

FINALLY FOUND HIM HE'S SWEET SINCERE, BEING WITH HIM I  
REMEMBER WHAT LOVE REALLY IS

LOVE REALLY IS, DON'T YOU FEEL IT?

LOVE REALLY IS, DON'T YOU FEEL IT?

LOVE IS

LOVE IS

LOVE IS

LOVE IS

\*DANCE OF THE SUGAR PLUM FAIRIES TCHAIKOVSKY\*

IT'S THE WEEKEND WE ARE OUT WITH FRIENDS

AND I DRINK

VODKA IT'S

FLOWING THROUGH MY VEINS

I GET UP TO PEE

PHONE IS LYING

ON THE

TABLE IT'S

SCREEN IS FACE UP

AND A TEXT POPS UP AND SAYS

FROM A BUMBLE GUY

BUMBLE GUY

HEY HOW ARE YOU, IT'S BEEN WAY TO LONG SO LET'S GRAB COFFEE  
SOMETIME THAT WOULD BE FUN



POLLY

I GET BACK AND LOOK  
AND IT'S LIKE  
I'M A FRIENDLY GIRL  
SO I SAY  
HA HA HA HA  
I AM GREAT  
HOPE YOU'RE DOING WELL  
SOUNDS GOOD

SEBASTIAN

WHY DID YOU JUST ANSWER HIM?

POLLY

I WAS JUST BEING NICE. IT'S NOTHING. NOT A BIG DEAL. ARE YOU  
OK? YOU SEEM VERY RED.

SEBASTIAN

ARE THERE OTHER MEN IN HERE? DO THE MEN THAT YOU'VE DATED  
STILL TALK TO YOU DO YOU STILL TEXT THEM ALTHOUGH YOU ARE NOW  
DATING ME?"

\*RIDE OF THE VALKYRIES\*

POLLY

I MEAN I DON'T KNOW I...DON'T REALLY KNOW HOW... THIS REALLY  
GOES...WITH GUYS ON MY PHONE.

SEBASTIAN

WELL THEN WHO IS THIS ONE? LARRY FROM STARBUCKS, HOT GUY AT  
NEW YEARS AND TINDER DAN?

POLLY

3 DAYS GO BY AND HE'S VERY UPSET. I REALLY CARE ABOUT THIS  
GUY. I DON'T WANT TO LOSE HIM. I SEND HIM DOZENS OF TEXTS  
'WHAT CAN I DO TO MAKE IT UP TO YOU? I'M SO SORRY. I DIDN'T  
REALIZE THIS WOULD UPSET YOU THIS MUCH.'

\*LES TOREADORS BIZET\*

SEBASTIAN

IF IT IS TRUE THAT YOU ARE SERIOUSLY THINKING ABOUT BEING  
WITH ME THEN HERE'S THE DEAL.

"SWIPED"

17.

I NEED THE PASSWORDS TO YOUR EVERYTHING FACEBOOK, TWITTER,  
INSTAGRAM AND GOOGLE PLUS

THIS IS THE ONLY WAY THAT I CAN TRUST YOU DON'T YOU SEE THEN  
I CAN KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON

I AM NOT CRAZY YOU JUST SEEM LIKE YOU'VE DATED A LOT AND I  
WANT TO CHECK IN

IF THERE'S NOTHING WRONG I SEE THEN ALL SHOULD BE GOOD AND  
WE'LL MOVE ON  
IF YOU ARE NOT HIDING THINGS THEN IT SHOULD BE NO BIG DEAL I  
THINK"

POLLY

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS  
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS

SEBASTIAN

IF IT IS TRUE THAT YOU ARE SERIOUSLY THINKING ABOUT BEING  
WITH ME THEN HERE'S THE DEAL.

I NEED THE PASSWORDS TO YOUR EVERYTHING FACEBOOK, TWITTER,  
INSTAGRAM AND GOOGLE PLUS

THIS IS THE ONLY WAY THAT I CAN TRUST YOU DON'T YOU SEE THEN  
I CAN KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON

I AM NOT CRAZY YOU JUST SEEM LIKE YOU'VE DATED A LOT AND I  
WANT TO CHECK IN"

POLLY

(to audience)

Well what do you guys think? Do you think I  
should give him the passwords to all of my  
accounts?

POLLY (CONT'D)

As a wise man once said -

(singing)

'I WOULD DO ANYTHING FOR LOVE!'

TAKE THEM. I YIELD.

POLLY (CONT'D)

(speaking)

Needless to say in 24 hours he discovers that I  
frequently "love" the pictures on Facebook that  
my high school crush posts...and that last year  
I hooked up with my writing partner from my  
final masters project...and that my best friend  
at one point did ask me for a threesome.

\*CRICKETS\*

POLLY (CONT'D)

Well if you thought he was upset before. At this point I have to decide whether or not I am going to apologize and fight for this relationship or move on. So naturally being who I am I've made a list of pros and cons.

\*FUNERAL MARCH AND WILLIAM TELL OVERTURE:

Pro

HE IS ALWAYS THERE FOR ME LIKE THAT ONE TIME I BURNED MY HAND ON A COFFEE MAKER AT WORK!

What? he brought me burn aid! It was really sweet!

Con

OBSESSIVELY CHECKING ALL MY INTERNET ACCOUNTS

Pro

HE IS SUCCESSFUL PASSIONATE TALENTED AND LIKES TO TAKE ME TO THE HIPPEST SPOTS

Con

I AM EMBARRASSED TO TELL MY FRIENDS AND FAMILY, HE CHECKS MY PHONE, EMAIL, FACEBOOK CHAT AND TEXTS

Pro

HE DOESN'T THINK I'M WEIRD FOR HAVING TWO CATS

Con

I HAVE TWO CATS

POLLY (CONT'D)

Ugh, Polly who are you kidding? This man is nuts. \*BEETHOVEN'S 5TH\*

THIS MAN IS NUTS

THIS MAN IS NUTS

THIS MAN IS NUTS

THIS MAN IS NUTS

THIS MAN IS NUTS

THIS MAN IS NUTS

THIS MAN IS NUTS

THIS MAN IS NUTS

THIS MAN IS NUTS

THIS MAN IS NUTS

THIS MAN IS REALLY NUTS

THIS MAN IS NUTS

\*CARMEN CAN CAN OFFENBACH\*

MAE-STRO I'M AFRAID THAT,  
YOUR HEAD'S STUCK IN THE CLOUD  
THE CLOUD  
THE CLOUD  
THE CLOUD  
THE CLOUD  
THE CLOUD  
THE CLOUD  
THE CLOUD  
THE CLOUD  
THE CLOUD  
THE CLOUD  
THE CLOUD  
THE CLOUD  
THE CLOUD

OBSESSED AND YOU CAN'T GET OUT  
YOU'VE GOT NO FREEDOM TO THINK  
BECAUSE YOU'RE AFRAID THAT IF YOU BLINK THAT  
YOU'LL DISCOVER A SIGN  
OF MY UNFAITHFUL RESIGN  
BUT WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW  
IS I'M A--BOUT TO GO  
IS I'M A--BOUT TO GO  
ABOUT TO GO  
ABOUT TO GO  
ABOUT TO GO  
YOU SHOULD SEEK HELP  
FROM A MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL

POLLY (CONT'D)

What is wrong with my algorithm. It's failing.  
And it was foolproof!

"THIS IS WEIRD"

WHAT AM I DOING WRONG? WHY AM I ATTRACTING THIS?  
I DESERVE SO MUCH MORE THAN THIS...

WHY DO I FIND MYSELF ALWAYS IN THESE SITUATIONS?  
WHY I DO I FIND MYSELF ALWAYS BETWEEN THE WRONG AND THE  
WRONG?  
THEY WERE THERE AND IT WAS REALLY NICE AND I WAS HAVING A  
GREAT TIME  
BUT NOW IT JUST LIKE WHAT THE EFF

WHY DO I FIND MYSELF ALWAYS IN THIS SAME PLACE?  
THEY'RE SWEET AT FIRST, AND I FEEL SPECIAL, THEN IT ALL FALLS  
APART  
GRANNY SAYS TO BE PRUDE, MY GIRLFRIENDS SAY TO BE FUN BUT I  
JUST WANNA RUN  
AWAY FROM THIS MESS THAT IS MY LIFE

THIS IS WEIRD  
THIS IS WEIRD  
THIS IS REALLY REALLY WEIRD.

THIS IS WEIRD  
THIS IS WEIRD  
THIS IS REALLY EFFING WEIRD.

THIS HAS TO BE SOMETHING NEW  
SOMETHING THAT'S CHANGED WITH THE TIMES  
IT COULDN'T HAVE ALWAYS BEEN THIS HARD  
TELL ME  
IT HASN'T ALWAYS BEEN THIS HARD

MY HEART IS BROKEN, MY EGO'S CRUSHED  
MY LIVELIHOOD'S BEEN STOLEN IN THE SPAN OF 9 MONTHS  
I AM A GOOD PERSON  
I DO THE RIGHT THINGS  
WHY CAN'T I DO THIS RIGHT?

THIS IS WEIRD  
THIS IS WEIRD  
THIS IS REALLY REALLY WEIRD

THIS IS WEIRD  
THIS IS WEIRD  
THIS IS REALLY EFFING WEIRD

THIS ONE TOLD ME I AM BEAUTIFUL  
NOW HE SAYS ME I AM NEEDY  
THAT ONE SAYS I FLIRT TOO MUCH  
BUT I KNOW THAT HE MESSAGES WOMEN  
THERE'S ONE THAT SAID THAT I AM SELFISH  
BUT REALLY HE IS JUST A DRUNK  
THE THINGS THEY SAY GO ON AND ON BUT I'M DONE, I'M DONE, I'M  
DONE

AND IT'S STRANGE, 'CAUSE THERE'S A PART OF ME THAT'S NOT EVEN  
MAD  
THERE'S A PART OF ME THAT THINKS MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE EXPECTED  
THIS  
THERE'S A PART OF ME THAT BLAMES MYSELF

POLLY, YOU SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER  
POLLY, YOU CAN DO BETTER  
POLLY, YOU DESERVE LOVE  
YOU DESERVE LOVE  
YOU DESERVE LOVE  
I DESERVE LOVE  
I DESERVE LOVE

POLLY (CONT'D)  
I'm gonna be okay.

EXT. OFFICE

POLLY

(\*Chirping begins softly\*)

Every time I hear the birds I remember that I'm  
not alone.

(\*CHIRPING\*)

If I listen really closely... I can hear...

\*Chirping Fades. Uke begins.\*

"BIRDIES"

THERE'S A PLACE THAT I GO, WHEN I'M FAST ASLEEP, A PLACE  
THAT'S ONLY FOR ME, AND I'M SAFE AND I'M HAPPY, I'M WARM AND  
I'M STRONG, 'CAUSE I KNOW, THEY'LL VISIT ME

BIRDIES

CHIRPIN', TWEETIN', AND WHISPERIN'  
SPEAKIN', LISTENIN', AND SINGIN'  
ALL THEIR LESSONS TO ME

BIRDIES

WHEN THEY COME I AM HAPPY  
CONNECTED TO SOMETHING ABOVE ME  
SOMETHING THAT I CAN'T SEE

THOSE LITTLE WHITE DOVES PAINT THEIR PICTURES INSIDE OF MY  
HEAD AS I DREAM MAGICALLY  
THEIR SONGS AND THEIR MELODIES SING SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL I  
CAN'T BELIEVE THEY CHOSE ME

BIRDIES

LITTLE LITTLE BIRDIES  
LITTLE CHIRPIN' BIRDIES  
TWEETIN IN ME

THEY COME

HAPPILY FLAPPIN' AND AND LIFTIN'  
MY SPIRITS SO HIGH I AM SOARING  
ABOVE THESE CITY STREETS  
THOSE LITTLE WHITE DOVES PAINT THEIR PICTURES INSIDE OF MY  
HEAD AS I DREAM MAGICALLY  
THEIR SONGS AND THEIR MELODIES SING SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL I  
CAN'T BELIEVE THEY CHOSE ME

WE'VE GOT DUCKS AND GEESE AND FALCONS AND SPOONBILLS,  
PHEASANTS, DOVES, CUCKOOS AND CHICKADEES, PELICANS, CRANES,  
NIGHTINGALES, AND WOODPECKERS, HUMMINGBIRDS, KINGFISHERS AND  
QUAILS, LONGSPURS, WATERFOWL, WIGEONS, AND SPARROWS, BARN  
OWLS, COOTS, GNATCHATERS AND WRENS, SNOW GOOSE, ROSS'S GOOSE,  
GREAT WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE, AND THE BARROW'S GOLDEN EYE

THOSE LITTLE WHITE DOVES PAINT THEIR PICTURES INSIDE OF MY  
HEAD AS I DREAM MAGICALLY  
THEIR SONGS AND THEIR MELODIES SING SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL I  
CAN'T BELIEVE THEY CHOSE ME

JERRY  
Did you write that?

POLLY  
Yeah.

JERRY  
(VERY LOUD)  
POLLY I LIKE YOU AND WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF YOU  
WANNA GO ON A DATE SOMETIME.

POLLY  
(Shocked)  
You do?

POLLY (CONT'D)  
(to self)  
I don't know. Maybe I should take a break? I  
feel like I'm finally OK with just  
me...alone...I don't wanna lose myself  
again...lose sight of who I am.

\*Looks at herself in the mirror.\*

"I THINK ITS TIME TO DREAM"

I THINK ITS TIME TO DREAM  
I THINK ITS TIME TO FALL  
I THINK ITS TIME TO RUN  
OR DO NOTHING AT ALL

I THINK THAT IT'S TIME TO LOOK PAST THE THINGS THAT WE KNEW  
WERE TRUE  
I KNOW THAT IT'S TIME, THAT I SAW YOU.

I LIKE YOUR SMILE  
NOT JUST ON THE SCREEN  
BUT I LIKE YOUR SMILE  
AS IT SHINES BACK AT ME

AND THE COLORS THEY ALL SEEM BRIGHTER  
THE FLOWERS WAFT A MORE PUNGENT SCENT  
THE SUNSHINE GLEAMS IN WAYS I CHOSE TO FORGET

AND I, I'LL FOLLOW THROUGH  
WHEN THE WORLD IS PUSHING AGAINST YOU  
AND YOU, YOU LIFT ME UP  
IN THIS UNIVERSE OF WONDER  
THE STARS ALIGN AND ALL I SEE IS YOU

I'LL FOLLOW THROUGH

I LOVE YOUR HEART,  
YOU'VE MADE ROOM ENOUGH FOR ME  
INSIDE YOUR HEART  
WE'VE GOT A PLAYGROUND OF FANTASIES

AND WHO KNOWS WHERE THIS LOVE WILL TAKE US  
LET IT BE A MYSTERY  
ONE THING I KNOW IS I CHOOSE THIS FEELING

AND I, I'LL FOLLOW THROUGH  
WHEN THE WORLD IS PUSHING AGAINST YOU  
AND YOU, YOU LIFT ME UP  
IN THIS UNIVERSE OF WONDER  
THE STARS ALIGN AND ALL I SEE IS YOU  
I'LL FOLLOW THROUGH

OH I'LL FOLLOW THROUGH  
OH I'LL FOLLOW THROUGH  
OH I'LL FOLLOW THROUGH

I'LL FOLLOW THROUGH!

POLLY (CONT'D)

Go out with you? Yeah. I'd like that. But let's  
take it slow.

JERRY

Great! Slow is good. How about tonight?!

POLLY

(laughs)

Tonight I think I just need to be alone. Next  
week?

JERRY

Sounds good.

POLLY

Perfect.

THE END