

# OPENING ACT ONE

# SCENE ONE - FRANKIE'S CLUB

Frankie walks on stage in a black tuxedo with his mobile phone on "Facepage". He also has full face makeup.

# FRANKIE

All my new friends... Accept accept accept! Ooh, no decline. Don't you just love this stuff? It's a voyeur's paradise. Ah, funny cat video, self help quote of the day, sad singles ads - as if he's really single - and oh, feet by the pool on holiday. Really, feet? Some people will just post anything.

Stardust storms onto the stage, half in drag costume. She is angry, outraged.

STARDUST

Frankie, this costume? These shoes? My high arches?

Stardust holds her foot up so that Frankie can see the shoes. Frankie looks, takes a picture of Stardust's foot. He then posts the pic.

# FRANKIE

Post!

STARDUST You bitch! I don't know why I bother! (She storms off) Tag me!

# FRANKIE

Now where was I...that's right. Getting all moral. Talking about how we're all getting obsessed with the cyber world and forgetting to live and feel the physical world. (He puts his phone on a table and walks away from it) At some point we have to put these things down and really talk, right?

Phone bings. Frankie freezes, he is in an agony of indecision. He signals "just a moment" to the audience and rushes back to the phone compulsively.

FRANKIE (CONT'D) Like, like, like, like, like. Oh, sad face. Ok I'm turning it off. I'd like to tell you a story about my two best friends - Kate and Jason. And how Facepage got them into a bit of a pickle. I didn't know it then, but this is how it all started.

Jason walks onto the stage.

JASON Where's Kate?

FRANKIE You've just missed her - probably a good thing really! She styled the guys really well tonight, though. You take...

Frankie waves his arms over Jason's styled suit.

# FRANKIE(CONT'D) ...this for granted. She does do you well, you know. Better than I used to do you in college, I hate to admit.

Stardust happens to be walking past at that moment, and gasps as he thinks he's heard a bit of juicy gossip.

JASON My clothes, Stardust.

Stardust makes a face and walks away. Frankie goes behind the bar and starts to pour a couple of drinks for them both.

FRANKIE Sit down. It's been too long between drinks for us!

# JASON

Well mate, you spend all your time with my wife these days. Our pub & footy nights are long gone with you opting for coffee and shopping sprees with Kate. I don't even get a look in! I don't get a look in with Kate either, as a matter of fact.

FRANKIE Green doesn't suit you. You're my mate, and Kate's my BFF.

JASON One question...Cocktails over beer - really?

## FRANKIE

"Cock-tails" - let's just think about that word for a minute. (Pause) Mate, I love you, I love Kate. Take her out, talk. Show her your feelings. Spice it up a bit. Write her some love letters, take her dancing!

JASON Dancing? Pfft. She's seen all my moves. FRANKIE Well let's see if we can't teach an old dog a new trick.

Jason holds out his hand.

FRANKIE (CONT'D) Ooh, I'll even let you lead.

The men embrace then Frankie stops.

FRANKIE (CONT'D) Well look at you, aren't you a regular Fred.

JASON Come on Ginger.

The men dance and compliment each others style.

FRANKIE Nice moves...perhaps all you've needed was the right partner.

### SONG: PENNED WITH INK

FRANKIE (CONT'D)

[Singing]

A story in show, form told in song, done the right way, can be lot's of fun.

JASON See how "Gen X" can loose their way. Keeping up with the lingo of the day. Gen Y has it covered or so they think.

JASON AND FRANKIE Nothing say's I love you more...when it's penned with INK!

Frankie talks and Jason exits.

FRANKIE So that's Jason. Hmm, cute. Now you need to meet Kate! As Frankie talks he removes his tux coat and bow tie. Kate starts to talk when he finishes his line and he walks over to the booth as she talks.

KATE (INSIDE BOOTH BEHIND CURTAIN) These are so beautiful. Oh, what colours are on point? Frankie?

Kate pulls back the curtain with a swish. She's got a dress on with tags poking out, over the top of her active wear.

KATE (CONT'D) I think blue.

She poses. Frankie gets his phone ready for a photo.

FRANKIE Tuck shop arms, quick.

KATE Oh, right.

Kate grabs at the flesh on her arms to make them appear thinner and smiles for the photo.

FRANKIE Smile darling, that's gorgeous.

Kate looks in pain, obviously uncomfortable in the dress; she whines like a child.

KATE But it's itchy. Quick take the picture - now!

Frankie takes sequence photos, then looks at his phone, and closes the curtain on Kate.

FRANKIE There's got to be one here I can work with...(he's scrolling through the photos)

KATE (CALLING OUT) Put a filter on it - Valencia! No, Crema!

FRANKIE And....Post! Hurry hurry hurry I need espresso!! Frankie continues to scroll on his phone and suddenly comes across something that makes him gasp. Kate instantly sticks her head out of the curtain, and then walks out of the booth, dressed in activewear.

# KATE

What?

# FRANKIE Oh Kate. It's nothing I'm sure.

# KATE I'll be the judge of nothing!

Kate playfully grabs the phone and looks. She gasps in horror. The mood suddenly changes.

# KATE (CONT'D) Jason? (pause) I can't be here right now. I've got to go home.

Kate runs offstage, Frankie looks after her.

FRANKIE Lucky she wore her active wear.

# SCENE TWO - KATE'S HOUSE

Kate storms in and throws herself on the couch.

# KATE

I'll kill him! No I won't, that's too good for him. How could he do this to me? Ha, why not me? It happens all the time. The humiliation of it. I have to do something or respond somehow. What if the kids see this? I'll have to block them. I'd call if they'd answer their phones. I'll message them now. Still, that doesn't stop the problem - now all of my '200' best friends know! Maybe I could make him up a profile and have him pledge his undying love begging me for forgiveness. He'd never know. He hates this social media stuff. That way I keep face, dumping him for all my 200 best friends to see.

The phone beeps, interrupts her thoughts.

KATE (CONT'D) Ooh a friend request! (as she "accepts") Yes! Now where was I...oh, that's right. Dump him on Facepage for all my 200 'and One' best friends to see.

No-one treats me like that!

The spot light turns to the door. Kate is sitting in the dark with her chair facing the door so when Jason enters, Kate is the first thing he sees. Jason comes through the door.

> JASON Hi darling, why are you sitting there like that? Did someone die?

KATE No, not someone, something.

JASON What are you talking about?

KATE Just our marriage.

Jason looks surprised then goes into defence mode.

JASON Have you and Roxy been into the grape juice?

KATE Don't bring my sister into this, and no, I have not had anything to drink...but I'm gonna!

Kate heads for the door and grabs her coat off the coat stand.

JASON

Hey, where are you going?

KATE I just told you. See how you never listen to me. Let me spell it out for you. I'm going to get 'AP'!

# JASON

AP?

KATE 'Absolutely Plastered'. I can't believe I had to find out through Facepage friends.

### JASON

Facepage friends? You think these people are your friends. Do you really care what she said or what he said - really? Kate these people aren't real. When was the last time you caught up with Debbie from Texas and had a coffee?

I know! Never! And you know why I know? Because you've never been to Texas.

So why did you spend two minutes of your life adding her as a friend?

# KATE

That's how little you know. De-bo-rah happens to be Janet's best friends cousin.

# JASON

I'm 'soz' [sarcastically]. Didn't know you were so close to Janet. Who 'BTW' lives where?

# KATE

This is just like you changing the subject. They told me. Them, all of them...and not you...and I see you everyday.

Jason is confused and frustrated. He can see he's not going to get anywhere in the conversation.

# JASON

I...I....got nothing right now.

I'm going to the gym. We'll talk when you've calmed down.

Jason walks out and Kate throws a cushion and screams in frustration after him.

SONG: SHE SAID THEY SAID

#### KATE

She said that you've been round a few times, Said that you've been telling me

lies,

She said that you've been at her side.

She said that its more than a one night.

Your boots been under another bed, Another pillow been resting your head.

You say you're working late earning more bread,

That's what you said, what you

said, what you said.

She said that you've been driving

her wild

She said that you've been there

night after night.

She said come the morning light. I'm still none the wiser.

# ENSEMBLE

She said, I said, he said, you said, they said, this said, think you better stop said. They said, you said, why said, can't said, this said, who said, think you better change said. She said, I said, he said, we said, they said, he said, think you better stop said. They said, you said, why said, can't said, him said, instead think we better change said.

#### KATE

So when we're you going to tell me, Did it enter your head, Now I'm hurt and angry all because of what she said, Don't you mind what you do, Don't you mind what you say, Didn't have the guts to tell me are these the games you play. I told you last time, things between us had to change, Now I'm out of my mind, Cause you accused me instead, instead. Oh, woe, she said that you've been driving her wild, She said that you've been there night after night, She said come the morning light,

#### ENSEMBLE

I'm still none the wiser.

She said, I said, he said, you said, they said, this said, think you better stop said. They said, you said, why said, can't said, this said, who said, think you better change said. She said, I said, he said, we said, they said, he said, think you better stop said they said. You said, why said, can't said, him said, instead think we better change said.

# SCENE THREE- KATE'S HOUSE

Facetime call from Roxy to Kate. Roxy in the dance studio, stretching.

ROXY (ON SCREEN) Well, I'm back into it after the girls. I've just been shopping for new bras. You can have my old ones, they're small.

KATE Are you happy now, have you finished?

ROXY (ON SCREEN) Well, I don't know if I'll ever be finished. I'm like a blank canvas.

KATE

That has been drawn over a few times.

ROXY (ON SCREEN) Now, before therapy I would have taken that as smug or mean.

KATE Seriously, I am really happy for all three of you. I think my marriage is over.

ROXY(ON SCREEN) What?

Stretching and reaching.

KATE My marriage is finished! Ka-put! Done!

ROXY(ON SCREEN) Why, what happened?

Stretching and reaching.

ROXY (CONT'D) Nearly got it. Ahh, there you are.

Roxy's arm appears back on screen with a glass of wine.

KATE My life is falling apart. What the hell am I supposed to do?

ROXY(ON SCREEN) Well nothing rash darling. What did he do?

KATE It's all so clichŽ... He's having an affair!

Roxy loses balance off the beam and falls out of sight.

KATE (CONT'D) Rox, are you ok?

Roxy raises her glass showing that she didn't spill any, then she looks straight into the camera.

# ROXY(ON SCREEN) Classes are finished. I'm coming over with the rest of this bottle. Where are the kids?

### KATE

They're both going over to Ma's place this afternoon.

ROXY(ON SCREEN) Hold on girl. Get off the phone. Don't change your status. I'll be there asap!

KATE

Leave now!

Roxy grabs the whole bottle of wine and hangs up. Screen is blacked out. A Skype call comes through from Frankie. Kate answers.

> FRANKIE(ON SCREEN) Are you OK?

KATE No...(whining)are you alone?

Kate blows her nose into a tissue.

FRANKIE(ON SCREEN) Yes, its just you and me, sugar puss.

In the background a half-naked young man with a towel wrapped around his waist walks past.

KATE Frankie!

FRANKIE(ON SCREEN) What? You look awful.

KATE I know. Right now I hate men!

FRANKIE(ON SCREEN) Ahh, me too. Good men are so hard, hard, HARD to find. Trying to find a classy guy is like trying to find a size 13 shoe that makes my foot look petit. But this just isn't adding up...Jason loves you. Come to the club. We'll talk. Hugs N Kisses, Frankie-out.

The screen blacks out and Kate lays on her bed crying. There is a loud knock at the door. Roxy enters the room, slaps Kate on the backside grabs her suitcase from the top of the wardrobe.

ROXY I've got an idea. I - you - we need girl time. Let's go away - Dr Dick's treat - he'd want it that way.

KATE What? I just can't up and leave. What about the kids?

Roxy is going through Kate's wardrobe, inspecting dresses.

ROXY Ma will look after the kids. She'll love it.

KATE I don't know if Ma's really that keen to have them anymore. Maybe I'm just imagining things.

ROXY Ah you think too much. She's fine. What about this?

Roxy holds up a flimsy negligee. Kate makes a face.

KATE What about you? You can't just leave the dance studio.

ROXY School holidays darling..and my kids are off with Dr Dick and his foetus in some Pacific Five-Star whatever! KATE It's nice how Richard takes the kids somewhere tropical when he has them for holidays.

ROXY He's just acclimatising to the warm weather in preparation for his eternity in hell.

Roxy changing the subject.

ROXY (CONT'D) Anyway, this is not about my divorce. This is about your marriage...and we need some sister time.

Roxy packing Kate's suitcase and singing.

# SONG: HOLIDAY

[Singing]

KATE Staring out the window, virtual display. 200 friends on Facepage, haven't been out in days. Text-ing and Like-ing. I need to get away.

ROXY Rainy weather it doesn't bother me, all my time in bed. Love me, shake me, move me, take me all the way. Holiday.

KATE AND ROXY Sea shells, by the sea shore. Sea shells by the sea shore. Holiday. Ah-ha, holiday.

ROXY Jumping jack flash. Feeling the sun down on my back. KATE Taking it easy, just laying back. I love this time away. Holiday.

KATE AND ROXY Mmm, holiday.

Roxy closes the suitcase.

ROXY There, all packed.

Facetime call comes through, it says Ma calling. Roxy and Kate make a face to each other. They silently decide whether or not to answer. Roxy doesn't want to, Kate does. Kate wins.

GLORIA(ON SCREEN) I just got a cold shiver like someone walking over my grave. And then I thought of you, Kate!

KATE Oh, good. Actually, I, well I ...

GLORIA(ON SCREEN) I know all about it Kate. Debbie from Texas tagged me.

KATE Oh my god. This isn't happening.

Roxy is violently gesturing for Kate to ask Gloria to take the kids.

KATE (CONT'D) Roxy's got something to ask you.

She turns the phone on Roxy who quickly changes her demeanor, and smiles sweetly.

ROXY Oh hi Ma! How are you? Oh, are they highlights?

Gloria pats her hair.

GLORIA(ON SCREEN) Why yes they are, Roxy, thanks for noticing. Not like anyone else notices around here. She casts a glance over her shoulder where we can see Father asleep in the background.

ROXY Ma, Kate really needs your help.

GLORIA(ON SCREEN) Oh, well, of course, I've got the hairdresser's number here somewhere.

Roxy looks at Kate critically.

ROXY I will get that number from you later. But just now there's something else. Can you take Kate's kids for a couple of days while we go have some girl time?

GLORIA (ON SCREEN) Two girls out licking their wounds. Have I taught you girls nothing? You can't run away from things. You have to stand and face them. Otherwise you'll be all the time running. That could get pretty exhausting don't you think?

ROXY So will you take the kids?

GLORIA(ON SCREEN) Well far be it from me to tell you anything. I'm just saying, I think by running, you create more distance. I say no more. I have my own problems.

ROXY So that's a yes?

GLORIA(ON SCREEN) (Falsely, forced) Love too! Of course! Love them to bits! And how long will you be gone?

Roxy walks over so that she and Kate together are talking to Gloria on the screen.

#### ROXY

Not too long, just time to clear her head.

GLORIA(ON SCREEN) Well that's nice. But don't stay too long. You know it's better to face your problems than run away. You can't let sleeping dogs lie.

KATE Speaking of sleeping, Ma, why is Daddy -

Gloria interrupts and leans to that she's blocking the view of Daddy asleep in the background.

GLORIA(ON SCREEN) Okay, gotta go, kids are fine, call me when you get back, I mean the minute you get back Kate, mwah, mwah. Bye bye bye -

Gloria hangs up quickly.

ROXY

Done.

KATE But I'll need my little black dress. I'll have to go to the club and get it back off Frankie.

ROXY What's Frankie doing with your LBD?

KATE Really. You have to ask? Actually it's quite a funny story. He...

ROXY (Interrupting) Just go and get the dress. I'll go do, I'll book, I'll pack, and I'll meet you later at the club.

Roxy heads towards the door.

KATE

### Just make sure it's somewhere warm!

Kate follows Roxy out the door.

### SCENE FOUR - FRANKIE'S NIGHTCLUB

Props stage with red velvet drapes. Enter Frankie, on stage for his drag queen show at his cabaret night club. The club is full of very interesting and varied characters.

# SONG: DANCE

[Singing]

FRANKIE I heard it was the place to go, The music soft and low, I saw your eyes looking over me. I suddenly felt alone, The music way down low, Electric lights came down and there you were in front of me. Dance. You said dance. You said dance. You said dance. We danced, around the floor. We danced, a little more. We danced, we danced, we danced, we danced. We danced into the night, The stars were burning bright, Your lips pressed against mine, And then we danced some more. Your eyes locked on mine, And we were moving in time, I felt your hands caress all around my sole. You said dance. Oh, you said dance. You said dance, you said dance. We danced, around the floor, We danced, a little more, We danced, we danced, we danced, we danced. We danced.

We danced, we danced.

We danced. We danced, we danced. We danced. We danced, we danced, we danced.

Frankie bows for his crowd, smiles at Kate as she walks over to the stage.

FRANKIE (CONT'D) Hello Sugar Puss.

Frankie looks her up and down. Poor you!...but your hairs holding up great. Looks like you could do with a good stiff... (Frankie calls out to the bar) Paulie! Two orgasms over here, pronto.

Turning back to Kate.

FRANKIE (CONT'D) Now darling, spill. Tell me everything you know...and don't spare any gories.

KATE Frankie, I'm not staying. Roxy and I are heading off for some "girl time". I've just come to get the dress I lent you.

Frankie pauses to think for a moment.

FRANKIE Good to see you ready to get back on the horse...or, is it back in the saddle. Anyway, either sounds fabulous.

KATE Frankie! The LBD.

FRANKIE What does it look like?

KATE It's little...and black. You've only got one of my dresses, don't you? Frankie turns away slightly.

FRANKIE Mmm. Yes...just the one [cunningly]. Wait here, I'll get it.

He stops and looks her up and down then throws his pink boa around her neck.

FRANKIE (CONT'D) There. Now you look a bit more sjhooshed. Anyway, make sure you have both orgasms before I get back, alright?

KATE Good grief, I couldn't have two!

FRANKIE Oh, poor you. Maybe you have been married too long...just saying.

Frankie exits. Kate sits alone, sad.

KATE Oh, how did I get here?

The night club goes quiet and a spot light shines on Kate as she begins to sing.

SONG: OUT OF THE CAST

[Singing]

# KATE (CONT'D)

Looking through the program where your name was supposed to be. Now I'm playing the perfect part, but your not playing opposite me. Rehearsals just ain't the same, but it's the same choreography. You said it was just a play for you. It seems so real to me. Your no longer in the play, and I'm standing alone on the stage.

You had the part.

You knew it by heart, and then you leave me.

Your no longer in the cast, and I'm

standing alone in the dark. You held me tight. I'd look in your eyes, and then you kiss me.

[music changes at 1:25]

Jason enters the club and a change of mood and music happen. The dancers (ensemble)pair up and Tango as Jason sings to Kate

SONG: THE BOMB

[Singing]