

THE GAME OF LIFE

a one act comedy

by Christopher M. Connors

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THE GAME OF LIFE

(Entire show takes place at a bus stop on a bench)

MILTON

Ok so how does this work exactly?

LUIS

Well there are rules, you see. First, we need to get a job.

MILTON

A job? Ok easy enough. What else?

LUIS

Well...it says here we have to meet a girl, fall in love,
and get married.

MILTON

Do I pay someone to do that or is there like a list of
people I get to pick from?

LUIS

Well, I did some research. Apparently what happens when
two people get married they have to love each other for
better or for worse, through sickness and in health, except
for Sundays during Football season.

MILTON

Well that sounds reasonable enough.

LUIS

The wife's job is to make babies and makes sure the husband
eats by cooking him a nice dinner, and the husband kills
the bugs and lies to his wife about how good her cooking is
and tells her she doesn't look fat in those jeans.

MILTON

Well ok then! So how do we find someone to marry?

LUIS

Well each weekend the male is supposed to go out with a
herd of other testosterone driven, women deprived males and
hunt for a mate.

(Pause)

So I guess that's what we'll do today..

MILTON

I don't know, I'm not a very smooth guy, especially with
women...

LUIS

Oh don't worry you'll do fine! There are three important

things to remember when talking to a girl. One: compliment her on her outfit, she may have spent all night trying to pick it out, appreciate her. Two: Tell her you like her shoes.

And three: and most importantly, if she makes a mistake, apologize!

MILTON

You mean if I make a mistake..

LUIS

No if you make a mistake you never admit it, if she makes a mistake you apologize. That way she'll know for sure that you're ready for marriage!

MILTON

Ok...women are confusing..

LUIS

Shhh...be quiet here comes one now!

(Girl (Ann) enters sits down on the bench at the opposite side)

LUIS

(Whisper)

Well...go on talk to her.

MILTON

(Frantic whisper, scared)

What? You mean me, now, with her...a girl..

(LUIS taps on the Ann's (Girl) shoulder and the girl turns assuming it was MILTON)

MILTON

(LUIS tries to push A down the bench towards the girl secretly.)

(Long awkward stare)

I like your shoes!

ANN

Umm...what?

MILTON

Uh...sorry!

(MILTON turns away awkwardly, and slides back down the bench)

LUIS

(Sarcastically)

Nice.

(Realizing ANN doesn't know what time it is she internally debates whether or not to ask MILTON for the time. She makes several double takes as she debates within herself)

MILTON
(Noticing what is going on)
Its 9:35...

ANN
(Pleasantly stunned and surprised but trying to hide it)
Oh...Thank you.

LUIS
(To MILTON in a whisper)
That's it now start up a conversation!

MILTON
(Innocent like a puppy)
I really like your shoes!

ANN
(Amused, she giggles)
Thank you. I'm Ann

(MILTON stares at her with a smile on his face not realizing he hasn't told her his name)

ANN
(Confused, but still amused)
And you are?

(LUIS quietly slips away)

MILTON
(Realizing he hasn't introduced himself)
Oh! I'm Milton from California! Nice to meet you.

(They shake hands and ANN laughs)

ANN
You're an interesting man, Milton from California.

MILTON
Sorry if I frightened you...I'm kind of awkward at times.

ANN
(Amused, smiley and upbeat-like a mother almost)
Well I think you very nice.
(Jokingly)
But you didn't have to bump into me so hard to get my attention.

MILTON
(To himself, but Ann can overhear)
Damn it...sorry that was my friend, he...

(Looks around for his friend, but can't find him. Confused)

He's not here...hmm...I guess he ran off...

ANN

Oh to bad I didn't get to meet him. If he's anything like yourself I'm sure we would get along very well.

(C turns back to herself and MILTON attempts to look busy and not be awkward)

MILTON

(Innocent, naïve)

Do you want to marry me?

ANN

(Surprise, but a little intrigued)

Excuse me?

MILTON

(As if the question were very normal)

Yeh, you know marriage, you want to do it?

ANN

(Now starting to get offended. stern)

I don't know what you're trying to do here but it's not very amusing.

MILTON

Wait! No I'm sorry, I didn't mean too...

LUIS

(Over MILTON's shoulder in his ear)

No don't apologize. What are you doing!

(LUIS disappears off stage)

MILTON

(Without looking back at LUIS)

Shut up, Luis!

ANN

(Confused and annoyed. With an upset tone)

Who are you yelling at?!

MILTON

Luis!

(Turns around to see LUIS is no longer there)

What? He was just here!

ANN

(Afraid and outraged)

You're crazy! Don't talk to me again. And you'd better not follow me!

(ANN exits)

(MILTON sits at the bus stop annoyed and heartbroken for having gained and lost a friend so fast)

(LUIS enters without being seen by MILTON)

LUIS
(Nonchalant attitude)
Women, am I right?

MILTON
Luis! What the hell happened, you ran away right when things were going well! She'll never marry me now...

LUIS
Well marriage isn't even the most important part of life. The most important part of life is getting a job...

(Dark, almost like MILTON's subconscious is speaking)
Get a good job...make money...make money or nobody will like you...

MILTON
Oh...well how do I get a job?

LUIS
Well it's absolutely necessary that you go to school for a long time, and learn skills you'll never use, then base your career off the first person who offers you a job.

(WOMAN1 enters in suit. LUIS IS EXTREMELY close to WOMAN1 but does not seem to see him despite WOMAN1 walking right in front of him. *Important that WOMAN1 does not have to avoid LUIS*)

MILTON
(LUIS walks off stage)
So I need to get a job...

LUIS
(Without looking for LUIS)
But Luis, how am I supposed to get a job?

(Looks towards where LUIS originally was)

WOMAN1
Excuse me?

MILTON
Oh, I'm sorry. I was talking to my friend.
(Looks around for LUIS and notices he is gone again)

(Confused)
Hmm...Looks like he ran off again.

WOMAN1
(On the phone)
(Nasty tone)
No for god's sake, Gerrard fire him! If he wants to show up a minute and thirty seconds late because his "pregnant wife went into labor" then he can spend the rest of his life with her and forget about going to work!

(LUIS reappears behind MILTON)

LUIS
Aren't you going to ask?

MILTON
Luis? Where did you come from?

LUIS
This is the perfect opportunity to get a job! Ask her!

(MILTON looks towards the woman. LUIS exits without MILTON knowing)

(MILTON slides down the bench bumping into WOMAN1 as if LUIS slid him down the bench just as he did before, only this time LUIS is not on stage)

MILTON
(Annoyed and embarrassed)
Hey! Luis stop doing that!

WOMAN1
(Annoyed)
Can I help you?

MILTON
I'm really sorry, my friend Luis..

(MILTON looks around again for LUIS)
Is gone. Again. Typical! Hey...um can I have a job?

WOMAN1
A what?

MILTON
A Job.

(LUIS enters)

WOMAN1
(Humorous)
Sure.

MILTON
Wow thank you!

LUIS
Good job. Now when do we start?

MILTON
(Without looking back at LUIS)
Good point Luis. Oh and you should get a job too!

WOMAN1
(Confused and worried)
Who are you talking too?

MILTON
Oh my friend Luis. We can start working now if you want!

WOMAN1
(Perplexed, confused, looking at MILTON like he is crazy)
Who's Luis?

MILTON
My friend.

(LUIS moves behind WOMAN1)

WOMAN1
Ok, and where is he?

MILTON
(Innocent, happy)
Ha-ha...He's right behind you.

(WOMAN1 turns around slowly and stares right through LUIS)

WOMAN1
(Speaking to MILTON. Slowly stands up and backs away)
Ok buddy stay away from me.

MILTON
(Approaches WOMAN1)
What? Wait! Uh...I like your shoes!
(LUIS exits without MILTON seeing)

WOMAN1
Stay back!

(WOMAN1 runs off stage)

MILTON
What was her problem?
(Looks around for LUIS)

What is going on? It's like she didn't even see Luis.

(LUIS enters)

LUIS
Why should she?

MILTON
Luis something weird is going on here.

LUIS
(Whisper)
MILTON...

MILTON
That lady...she didn't see you.

LUIS
(Whisper)
Milton...

(MAN1 enters stage and sits down on bench)

MILTON
And the girl before that...

LUIS
(Whisper)
Milton...

MILTON
(Finally annoyed from LUIS's whispering. He screams.)
What!