

ALMOST WATERSHEDS

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CHARACTERS

SAM	Spontaneous, erratic, acts from the heart, loving (has never been known as Samantha).
HARRY	The sensible one (except when it comes to Sam).

TIME

Moves through a lifetime in the 10 minutes of the play. We see both characters grow from being children in Scene 1, to very old in the final scene.

SCENE 1

(On an empty stage a dog bowl, water bottle, plastic party cup, another giant sized water bottle, McDonalds disposable cup, gumboot, sauce pan, vase and watering can are lined up in the centre. They are all full of water. To the left of the line, HARRY and SAM are rolled up on the floor as tight as possible, making two human balls at the start of the line of objects.)

SAM

(Unrolls into a 'tree' shape, with complete commitment)

Breathe in through your nose, out through your mouth.

HARRY

I've got a cold- I can't breathe through my nose!

SAM

Breathe in through your mouth, and out through your mouth... let your arms discover what it means to be branches...

(HARRY laughs)

SAM

I'm doing it exactly how my teacher does it- why aren't you becoming a tree?

HARRY

I don't want to be a tree! I wanna be... a dog!

(HARRY gets on the ground)

SAM

Okay, let's be dogs!

(starts enthusiastically panting and twitching her 'ears' that she makes with her hands)

HARRY

I dare you to drink your dog's water.

SAM

Woof!

(she goes over to the bowl and after a slight moment of hesitation, starts lapping)

HARRY

Stop it! What are you doing?

SAM

I'm being a...

HARRY

Why can't you just be normal?

(HARRY storms off. SAM, still as a dog, ears' droop.)

SCENE 2

(A school bell rings. SAM runs on, being chased by HARRY, who grabs the water bottle (the second object in the line). They run onstage and offstage for the first lines.)

SAM

I swear if you get me Harry...

HARRY

Yeah?

SAM

If you get me...

(HARRY is closing in on SAM.)

HARRY

I'm going to get you.

SAM

If you get me I'll...

(HARRY backs her into the side of the stage and holds the water bottle over her)

I'll never let you borrow my homework and I won't be your science lab partner and, and I'll scream really really loud!

(She realizes HARRY is just holding the water bottle, and could have already poured it).

Now is probably when you pour that...

(HARRY kisses her)

Whoa what was that?

HARRY

I'm sorry, I...

SAM

No, don't apologize...

(SAM kisses HARRY)

SCENE 3

(Dance music is blaring. SAM is dancing. HARRY is holding the plastic cup.)

SAM

I just want to dance, it's our first real college party!

HARRY

I don't care about you dancing- I care about you making out with some random!

SAM

It just happens! You dance and it happens. It doesn't mean anything.

HARRY

It means something to me.

SAM

Well if you danced it wouldn't be an issue!

HARRY

(sarcastic)

I know, I'm boring, you've told me before! Listen, you've got to stop it. It really doesn't look good when you're all over some guy in the middle of the room, it just makes you look cheap...

(SAM grabs his drink, throws it on him and storms off.)

HARRY

Good thing it was water.

SCENE 4

(HARRY and SAM are crammed up together as if in a cupboard, with the giant sized bottle of water at their feet.)

HARRY

This is not how I imagined spending my 21st Birthday...

SAM

I would never have imagined you could sweat so much!

HARRY

We've been in this cupboard... three hours, it's not surprising!

SAM

Your friends are crazy!

HARRY

When they said they were going to lock us in here until we 'kiss and make up' I didn't think they meant it...

SAM

I thought we were pretty convincing we'd made up the last time they checked on us.

HARRY

I think when they said 'kiss' and you said 'fuck off', you probably gave it away...

SAM

Sorry, instinct.

HARRY

Have the rest of the water.

SAM

I don't get it, I'm a complete bitch to you and you're still so nice to me?

HARRY

It's because... I love you.

(SAM looks at him, drinks the water and puts the bottle back down.)

SAM

Fuck it Harry, I love you too.

SCENE 5

(HARRY and SAM are sitting, HARRY with the McDonalds cup.)

HARRY

(Clearly tired. Gives SAM the cup)

It's water.

SAM

Thank you. I don't feel very well.

HARRY

(stroking her head)

Of course you don't.

SAM

Am I too old to be doing this?

HARRY

This?

SAM

This!

(Referring to sitting in the gutter)

Thirty's... old.

HARRY

Let's go home.

(HARRY attempts to help her up.)

SAM

Oo

(Looks at HARRY, then holds her head. Stays seated.)

HARRY

Are you alright?

SAM

Yes. Yes I've never been better. Really. And I have something to say.

HARRY

Yes?

SAM

Harry, will you marry me?

HARRY

Yes, I will.

(SAM gets up, they embrace.)

SAM

Harry?

HARRY

Yes?

SAM

You'll remember this for me tomorrow, won't you?

(HARRY hugs her again.)

SCENE 6

(SAM is covered in water. She is holding the gumboot.)

SAM

Harry?

HARRY

Uh huh?

SAM

Did you leave my gumboots in the rain again?

HARRY

Maybe?

(SAM empties turns the gumboot upside down and water goes everywhere.)

HARRY

Sorry...

SAM

The washing is still on the line.

HARRY

And strike two, I didn't quite... sorry.

SAM

But you did pick up Zac from Kindy didn't you?

HARRY

Oh my... I'm going now...

SAM

You're an hour late!

HARRY

I'll drive fast...

SAM

I proposed- I can take it back you know!

(HARRY stops in his tracks)

HARRY

What did you say?

SAM

Nothing... I didn't mean anything.

HARRY

Don't *ever* say that again.

(He turns and leaves. SAM watches him go.)

SCENE 7

(SAM is watching the saucepan of water. We hear the noise of dripping water. HARRY enters.)

HARRY

Can't sleep?

SAM

I can hear it.

HARRY

There's two rooms between us and it- you can't hear it. Are you worried about tomorrow?

SAM

No... It's just a funeral, it's all over now- Dad's gone, that's it. Nothing to be worried about now.

(PAUSE)

HARRY

You've got to let me in here sometime Sam. I only want to help.

SAM

There's nothing in me at the moment.

HARRY

Well say that.

SAM

I just did.

HARRY

You know what I mean. Don't shut me out.

SAM

You're not out!

HARRY

Yes I am, you stare into space and you never talk to me!

SAM

I'm doing my best here Harry- my father just died!

(PAUSE)

HARRY

I just, want to know what you're feeling.

SAM

I'm sorry. I can't sleep.

(HARRY moves the saucepan. The dripping stops.)

SAM

The carpet...

HARRY

Will get wet. But, it'll dry out tomorrow.

SAM

Thank you.

SCENE 8

(HARRY is lying down. SAM enters with the vase.)

SAM

Happy 40th Anniversary!

(SAM sits next to HARRY and places vase next to him)

HARRY

Is it really our 40th Anniversary?

SAM

Sure is, the big four oh!

HARRY

I'm pretty sure last year was 38.

SAM

Well I wanted to bring it forward- 40th anniversary this year, we can do our 39th next year.

HARRY

Where are the flowers you brought?

SAM

I filled the vase with water, and forgot the flowers.

HARRY

You should get the flowers.

SAM

No, the nurses don't like me, they keep telling me to leave.

HARRY

They drop hints about visiting hours to me too.

SAM

Well I'm not a visitor.

(She lies next to HARRY).

HARRY

No?

SAM

No. I'm *your* other half.

SCENE 9

(HARRY is lying in the same position as at the end of Scene 8. SAM stands behind him, she picks up the watering can. She takes a moment, before watering the ground immediately behind HARRY. HARRY starts to grow into a tree, as they both did in the first scene. HARRY grows into a full tree and outstretches his arm over SAM. She stops watering and looks out. Blackout.)