

Baby in the Ocean

A Short Play

by

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CAST: ILEANA, 30, airline customer service representative.
BOB, 39, fire-fighter
JEAN, 50's, painter, Bob's mother
CHARLES, 50's, Jean's longtime companion

TIME: Evening, Super Bowl Sunday, 2000

PLACE: The Casa del Sol hotel, Puerto Vallarta

NOTE: The characters are based on real passengers aboard Alaska Flight 261 which crashed off the California coast January, 2000. The play takes place the night before that flight.

SCENE 1 - JEAN AND CHARLES' ROOM.

Jean is in the bathroom, drying her hair. Charles paces the room, on the phone.

CHARLES

I want to speak to the manager. The manager, por favor. Wait, don't put me on hold...shit. I am never staying here again.

JEAN

Are you getting ready? Charles? Charles?

Hair dryer shuts off.

JEAN (CONT'D)

Did you hear me? Why don't you just wait until dinner?

CHARLES

The room service here is absolutely horrendous.

JEAN

You should get ready.

CHARLES

I could've distilled the bottle of gin in the bathtub already.

JEAN
We're leaving when I'm finished.

CHARLES
I am ready.

JEAN
You're wearing that?

CHARLES
Don't worry, I'll make sure I'm appropriately attired for little Emily. Don't want to embarrass little Emily.

JEAN
Will you give it a rest, already. We're on vacation.

CHARLES
With a 4-month old baby? More like day care.

JEAN
Change your shirt.

Sound of hairdryer.

CHARLES
Her sister should have...(into phone) Hello? Si. Si. What do you mean, you're out? Why didn't you tell me that a half hour ago? Well, that might have been a good piece of information to know. I see. I see. What's your name? How do you spell that?

SCENE 2 - BOB AND ILEANA'S ROOM.

*BOB is watching the Super Bowl on TV.
ILEANA is burping her baby, Emily.*

ILEANA
There you go, Em. La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la.
Honey, could you turn that down? I can't hear if she burps.

BOB gets up and turns set down.

ILEANA (CONT'D)
Good, girl. That's a good girl, Em. You're such a good girl. Honey, get me a towel will you?

BOB gets up, gets towel from bathroom.

ILEANA (CONT'D)
Thanks. You should get ready.

BOB
It's almost over.

ILEANA
Can you get the pack ready?

BOB
I'm watching the game.

ILEANA
I can't do everything.

BOB
Three minutes.

ILEANA
You can get the pack ready while you're watching.

BOB
They just tied the score.

ILEANA
Will you just do it. I need to change her. God forbid, Charles has to change a diaper tonight.

BOB
Well, what do you expect from Charles. He's gay.

ILEANA
What does that mean?

BOB
Gays don't like kids. Don't fit into their lifestyle.

ILEANA
Hey! I don't want to hear that kind of s.h.i.t. Especially in front of Emily.

BOB
She doesn't know what I'm saying.

ILEANA
I don't care. I don't want her hearing that kind of c.r.a.p. Knock it off.

BOB
Hey, if you don't believe me ask him. He'll tell ya.

ILEANA
Being gay has nothing to do with his attitude toward Emily. I just wish he wasn't so, p.i.s.s.y. about her coming along.

BOB
Well, gays are p.i.s.s.y.

ILEANA

BOB!

BOB

Well, he's the one...hold on. Hold it. He got it!
Touchdown, touchdown! Man! Honey, you gotta see this catch.
Seventy yards for a touchdown. One play and that's the game,
man. That's it. They're done. Honey, you gotta see this!

ILEANA

Honey, get the pack ready, will you?

SCENE 3 - A RESTAURANT

*The couples are seated at a table.
Ileana feeds Emily in a high chair.*

JEAN

And the color was absolutely gorgeous. This brilliant
yellow, a sunflower yellow. Gorgeous.

ILEANA

Yeah?

JEAN

I'm thinking of re-doing the living room in that color.

CHARLES

What?

JEAN

Wouldn't it look great? It would make the room so alive.

CHARLES

You're not serious.

JEAN

Absolutely.

BOB

You're going to paint your living room bright yellow?

JEAN

Why not?

ILEANA

I think it's kinda neat.

CHARLES

Are you pulling some kind of Vincent Van Gogh here?

Wonder what happens next?

For a copy of the full script, email me at:

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Thanks!