

TRAIN STOP

A play by
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Characters:

A MAN, 30s

A WOMAN, 30s

Setting:

A city train stop.

Time:

Now.

A city train stop platform. Evening. The sound of a train roars past. A MAN and a WOMAN enter center stage. They are going home after work. They see each other. There is an immediate attraction. They split and move across the stage, to opposite sides. They stand, backs to each other, and wait for different trains going in opposite directions. They turn and smile at each other. A second train blows by. Afterwards, the MAN and WOMAN smile at each other again. Something is definitely happening between them. They address the audience.

MAN

I make a shit load of money.

WOMAN

I sleep naked.

MAN

I am hilarious.

WOMAN

I love the N.F.L.

MAN

I would die without poetry.

WOMAN

I keep all my opinions to myself.

MAN

I make the best eggs benedict.

WOMAN

I like to talk dirty.

MAN

"Brokeback Mountain" made me cry like a baby.

WOMAN

I go to church every Sunday.

MAN

My garden is my oasis.

WOMAN

I own a black lab named Kate Upton.

MAN

I love to do everything together.

WOMAN

A man deserves time with his buddies.

MAN

The greatest writer who ever lived is, unquestionably, Jane Austin.

WOMAN

I have a tattoo of a viper on the back of my neck.

MAN

I listen really well.

WOMAN

Video games are awesome.

MAN

I never screen calls.

WOMAN

I like to be pounded.

MAN

Cuddling rocks.

WOMAN

I love talking about technology.

MAN

I enjoy spending half an hour perusing the restaurant menu.

WOMAN

A night at home means pay-per-view mixed martial arts.

MAN

Having a kitten has changed my life.

WOMAN

His laundry is my laundry.

MAN

Intimacy is my middle name.

WOMAN

I would never dream of being bossy.

MAN

Talking in bed about our relationship is wonderful.

WOMAN

I want to wait to have children.

MAN

I believe in love.

WOMAN

I believe in him.

Beat.

MAN

Sometimes I get restless.

WOMAN

Sometimes I'm down in the dumps.

MAN

I have issues with confidence.

WOMAN

I won't shut up during movies.

MAN

I am addicted to my iPhone.

WOMAN

I get emotional when he least expects it.

MAN

I snore like a lawnmower.

WOMAN

I like to make jokes about premature ejaculation.

MAN

I fart a lot when I wake up in the morning.

WOMAN

Sometimes I drink a teeny weeny bit too much.

MAN

I never clean my toe nails.

WOMAN

I listen to Justin Bieber.

MAN

I can eat a whole pie in one sitting.

WOMAN

When I laugh too hard, I pee myself.

MAN

I park in handicapped spaces.

WOMAN

My lips move when I read.

MAN
I am easily bored.

WOMAN
I am petty.

MAN
Nobody touches my car.

WOMAN
Not a day goes by that I don't think my ass is getting bigger.

MAN
Vegans bug me.

WOMAN
I find myself increasingly attracted to women.

MAN
I am embarrassingly cheap.

WOMAN
I worry about getting old.

MAN
I know I'm not as smart as I pretend to be.

WOMAN
I whine like a steel guitar.

MAN
If anything is bothering me, good luck getting it out of me.

WOMAN
I tell little white lies.

MAN
I am aloof.

WOMAN
I am controlling.

MAN
I am creepy close with my mother.

WOMAN
I obsess over old girlfriends.

MAN
I masturbate like there's no tomorrow.

WOMAN
My mood swings are epic.

Beat.

MAN

I start golfing.

WOMAN

I start seeing a psychiatrist.

MAN

I start picking fights.

WOMAN

I start resenting every good thing that happens to him.

MAN

I stop saying "I love you."

WOMAN

I play mind games.

MAN

I deliberately forget Valentine's Day.

WOMAN

I cringe when he touches me.

MAN

I won't take responsibility for my actions.

WOMAN

I blame him for my unhappiness.

MAN

I read her diary.

WOMAN

I key his BMW.

MAN

One night, I don't come home and I don't tell her where I've been.

WOMAN

One of my friends sends him an email detailing my history of instability.

MAN

At a party, I fondle her best friend.

WOMAN

I pout at his father's funeral.

MAN

I admit to her that I've always felt she was beneath me.

WOMAN

I go through all his text messages on his phone.

MAN

On our anniversary, in a crowded restaurant, I call her a "cunt."

WOMAN

I burn all his beloved Beatles albums.

MAN

I laugh at her dreams.

WOMAN

He insults my new hair cut and I threaten him with a kitchen knife.

MAN

I get a restraining order.

WOMAN

I abort his baby.

MAN

I have her arrested for stalking me.

WOMAN

His misery is my reason for existence.

MAN

I move to another state.

WOMAN

I Google him every night.

MAN

I pretend like she and I never happened.

WOMAN

I regret everything.

MAN

I find someone else.

WOMAN

I cry and cry and cry and cry and cry because my heart is broken into a million tiny pieces.

Beat.

They turn and look at each other again.
Smile. Their attraction is intense and undeniable.

Hi. MAN

Hello. WOMAN

The sound of a train arriving on her side. It stops.

ANNOUNCER
This is the South-bound A Train at Crossroads Station.

This is me. WOMAN

The sound of another train arriving, this one on his side. It stops.

ANNOUNCER
This is the North-bound B Train at Crossroads Station.

This one's mine. MAN

The look at each other.

ANNOUNCER
(her side)
Step into the train. Stand clear of the closing doors, please.

(his side)
Step into the train. Stand clear of the closing doors, please.

They both start to get on their trains, but they both stop. They turn and look at each other, yearning.

Blackout