

To The Wolves

by

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Cast of Characters

KIM: 20's

SALLY: 20's

Place
Kim's apartment

Time
Morning

2.

Setting: The play takes place inside a small studio apartment. The place is a dump. Empty bottles of beer and wine add to the disarray. There are piles of dirty clothes covering the floor, empty fast food cartons on tables, cabinets and other furniture pieces. It's not a livable environment.

At Rise: The play opens up with Kim sitting on a messy chest of clothes with Sally looking on at her.

SALLY: It's five-hundred, only five-hundred.

KIM: Five?

SALLY: In total, yeah.

KIM: Shit...

SALLY: If you don't have it, that's fine. I just hate asking my brother for the money.

KIM: You've borrowed money from him before?

SALLY: You know I have.

KIM: You ever pay him back?

SALLY: No.

KIM: How you gonna pay me back?

SALLY: When I land my new job, I will.

KIM: (sighs)

SALLY: So, forget it. I don't wanna put you out.

KIM: It's not that...

SALLY: ...What?

KIM: I've been worried about you.

SALLY: Why?

KIM: The way you sound when you leave me messages at two in the morning...

SALLY: You've stopped getting back to me.

KIM: Because you sound...I don't like how you sound and I'm trying to work hard on my own life...I don't mean to...(looking around apartment) I can't believe how you're living.

SALLY: The place is messy but I've always been messy.

KIM: It smells.

SALLY opens a window.

SALLY: Better? Let the air circulate.

KIM: Who was that guy Frank that was here?

SALLY: (laughs) Frank is some local guy that I hook up with every now and again. Nothing serious.

KIM: He looked like a real dirtbag.

SALLY: He gets the job done for now.

KIM: Sally, I'm being serious.

SALLY: What is your problem? If you got shit on your mind just say it already, I hate all this nitpicking bullshit you're doing. Reminds me of my mother and she's the biggest pain in the ass.

KIM: I'm worried about you.

SALLY: Worried about what?!

KIM: You've changed.

SALLY: I've changed? Me? Look at you!

KIM: Yeah, I've changed but it's changing along my chosen path, I'm growing up, you, you're becoming less than who you are, I can't explain it.

SALLY: No, you can't.

KIM: What I mean is, that it's like you're going in the wrong direction.

SALLY: What the fuck are you talking about Kimmie? I've been busting my ass, trying to get a job and it's absolute torture. I have student debt falling out of my ass and no way to pay it off because they won't hire me. I've sent out thousands, you hear me, thousands, thousands of resumes for every job that doesn't even come close enough to my skill-set and at best I get those cheesy phone interviews with no follow up. When I try to follow up I get the cold shoulder and a million and one excuses like, 'We've decided to put our hiring on hold' or 'We're going to revisit this in six months' or 'We've decided to go with someone else but we will keep you in our database'. On and on and it's so lame, so draining. And yeah, you wanna judge me, which is what you're doing, judging me for living my life and loosening up a bit! I've been too exhausted to clean up this apartment, which I can barely pay each month and I'm falling, falling into this dark feeling that nothing is gonna get better and so I drink a bit of wine, so I can breathe! Will you lend me the lousy five-hundred dollars or do I have to beg and feel like more of a failure than I already am?

KIM: I know things are tough right now for you but you aren't helping the situation get any better...

SALLY: You want me to show you the submissions? I've a file of them all, it's insane. It's not me.

KIM: You look like shit.

SALLY: Nobody gives a shit about me.

KIM: That's not true. You can't play the self-pity game. We've both gone through the gutter, so don't even try.

SALLY: Well I never judged you the way your doing to me. Just because you have your great job, living your delusional life in the city, romping the high end men doesn't make you above me. That ain't reality Kim! You got your break but it ain't reality! There's only a few who make it through, so what you gonna do? Leave em all behind? Continue doing you, tell us all to go fuck ourselves. You think I'm going nowhere but you coulda easily been in my shoes right now!

KIM: I think you're making excuses.

SALLY: Go to hell!

KIM: You said so yourself, you've been borrowing money from your brother for how long now?

SALLY: Too long.

KIM: Get any job until you get the work you want Sally. That's what I did. That's all we gotta do to survive. I worked at that sneaker shop, until I was lucky enough to land my job. I did whatever I had to do to pay my bills. I don't even have a brother like you do. I didn't have NO ONE to borrow money from. What is it with you? Did you forget? I had no choice but to work! I didn't make excuses, I fought against them and so should you. Instead of loafing around, drinking wine and spending time with washouts, why don't you look at some part-time work, so you don't have to waste so much time on all this that's bringing you down? Listen...I'll give you the five-hundred, I know you need it, I don't want it back but I want you to get your shit together before you fall into the abyss with no way out.

SALLY (sarcastic): Thanks for the speech.

KIM: Don't be an asshole.

SALLY (sincerely): ...I appreciate you helping me out.

KIM: And what's gonna happen next month when you can't make the rent?

SALLY: (shrugs her shoulders)

KIM: You can't continue this way.

SALLY: I don't want to.

KIM: We're gonna clean this place.

SALLY: What??

KIM: Today. Come on, where's your cleaning stuff?

SALLY: Why would you wanna clean my apartment?

KIM: Smells like something died in here. It's gross. I can't even walk more than two feet without tripping. Shit all over the floor, I don't even know how you can handle living like this. We will make this place spotless, today, we'll get some proper groceries in your fridge, we'll head over to my bank and I'll give you the cash and we will spend the rest of the day doing send outs for a good paying job. We will also find you a local part time job whether you like it or not and I'm not leaving until we do all this.

SALLY cries.

SALLY: It's been so hard for me Kim...you've no idea how I've struggled. I'm thrown to the wolves. Like my family doesn't give a shit, like I'm some burden to them and just want to get rid of me. My whole life, it's always been this way. And I don't know what I'm doing wrong, I don't know how to pick up the pieces and make a life for myself. I feel completely inadequate, you know? Like I was never shown the way or something.

KIM: If I can get ahead, so can you.

SALLY: I don't know if the things I do are the right things. When I do those interviews I always feel like I'm not good enough or smart enough to have them.

KIM: We'll do mock interviews.

SALLY: What the fuck is a mock interview?

KIM: I'll interview you, for practice.

SALLY: Get the fuck outta here.

KIM: What?

SALLY: I won't stop laughing.

KIM: You have to take this seriously Sally.

SALLY: How can I take that seriously?

KIM gives SALLY a look.

SALLY: Alright, alright, I'll try.

KIM: You have to.

SALLY: Okay.

KIM: You have no choice.

SALLY: I have a choice but I have to make the right choice, I get it.

KIM: Cause now I'm helping you.

SALLY: Fine.

KIM: You're taking up my time now.

SALLY: Don't make me feel like a charity.

KIM: I'm not but don't take me for granted, either.

SALLY: I hear you.

KIM: Do you have bags, like trash bags so we can put these clothes in?

SALLY: No. I haven't had the money to get new trash bags.

KIM: Get your shit together, let's go to the supermarket and pick up some cleaning products.

SALLY: Really?

KIM nods.

SALLY: I appreciate...thanks, Kim.

KIM: You're going to be fine. Trust me. It's gonna take some work, Sally. I'm telling you now, it's not gonna be easy. We're not like them other people, the ones that always have something to fall back on, some kind of safety barrier, no, we don't have that, Sal. We're the outcasts, you see, if we don't make it, you know what happens? We fall into drugs, depression, poverty, and all that does is add more to the population for our own kind, doesn't help anyone. I know it ain't fair, but what is fair in this world? I know you and even more now because I was once where you are right now and it doesn't mean I can't go back there but on one of my darkest days, I overheard a man in the bar I was in, talking about how he had to work harder than all the other guys because he never had the high end education or money to back him up.

KIM (cont'd): You see, things are harder for those like us but once we make it through, it's almost like nothing can take that away from you, no feeling can compare to that because you knew just how much harder it was for you, than the others. You hear me?

SALLY: Yeah, I do. It's not gonna be easy, is it?

KIM: No, it'll never be but it'll get easier...

END OF PLAY