

Far Enough

by

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Cast of Characters

MATT:

14

GINGER:

40's

Place

Ginger's home

Time

Afternoon

2.

Setting: The play takes place inside the living room of an old home. The inside of this home is cozy and cared for but the larger aspects, like the leaky roof, or the leaky pipes need to be addressed. This is a home filled with a mother and son just trying to get by decently.

At Rise: The play opens up with Ginger walking into the living room to see her son Matt on the couch watching television.

GINGER: You getting' off that couch today?

MATT: I'm comfortable.

GINGER: Why don't you get comfortable with moving your ass?

MATT: Where'm I supposed to move it?

GINGER: Tired of lookin' at ya.

MATT: Why you always given me a hard time?

GINGER: Cause I want my house back.

MATT: It's the summer.

GINGER: Go out and play!

MATT: I'm not four years old, Ma.

GINGER: You sure act like it.

MATT: Why you you yellin'?

GINGER: (sighs) (to herself in a low voice)...I'm yellin'.

MATT: Yeah, why you yellin'?

GINGER: There's ain't nothin' else to do!

MATT: Your voice goes straight through my brain!

GINGER: Maybe it'll wake it up some! Laying dormant all these years. When I was your age I was out and about. I didn't lay all over the couch, stinking it up day and night.

MATT: I don't smell.

GINGER: Then what's that odor when I walk in here?

MATT: I don't know!

GINGER: When's the last time you even showered?

MATT: Ma, leave me alone.

GINGER: When's the last time you showered?

MATT: ...Few days ago or something.

GINGER: You stink!

MATT: I don't stink.

GINGER: I smell you.

MATT: Fine! I'll take a shower today. Make you happy?

GINGER: Happy? I don't think there's anything you can do that can make me happy. Oh, maybe if you got yourself a job, found yourself a woman and finally moved on out.

MATT: You'd miss me to bits.

GINGER: I wouldn't miss nothing!

MATT: Yeah, yeah. Always talkin' the tough stuff, when all you are is a big ole softy.

GINGER: I might be a softy on the inside but I'm also a tough broad.

MATT: You are.

GINGER: Damn right I am. (holds up her arms and flexes her biceps) I didn't get these guns from laying on the couch.

MATT: (laughs) You got some serious guns woman.

GINGER: Beat your ass if you push me to it.

MATT: I'm not pushin' you to it.

GINGER: What's wrong with you?

MATT: What...

GINGER: Why aren't you out in life? You suffering from somethin'?

MATT: There's nowhere to go, no one to see. You think I wanna get yelled at all day by you?

GINGER: You don't like it, leave.

MATT: I wanna leave but I got no where to go, is what I'm sayin' if you listen.

GINGER: Where's that dipshit crew you used to hang out with?

MATT: I don't hang with them as much anymore really.

GINGER: Why not?

MATT: I don't know.

GINGER: Always gotta chase out the truth from your mouth. Can't you just tell me the reason?

MATT: Not everything is always so simple Ma.

GINGER: What's more simple than a bunch of dipshits running around the neighborhood? Don't get more simple than that.

MATT: I guess not.

GINGER: So?

MATT: What?

GINGER: What's the reason I don't see you going anywhere anymore?

MATT: People change.

GINGER: And?

MATT: That's it. Why does there have to be a story?

GINGER: People change. That's your reason.

MATT: Yep.

GINGER: Who changed? YOU? OR THEM?

MATT: I think it's a combination of me AND them.

GINGER: Something happen?

MATT: Goddamn, can't you lay off?

GINGER: Nope.

MATT: Yeah Ma, they fuckin'...they're all a bunch of assholes and I like being alone cause I don't enjoy doing the things they all do for fun.

GINGER: So that's it. Hmm. Now I know I raised you to be a good guy and all, certainly no angel that's for sure but wise enough to know when to back away form a situation you don't wanna take a step forward in...I see it...that's why I'm stuck with ya. You don't gotta tell me anymore than you--

MATT: Felix did something that can put him in jail, Ma...something bad and...the other fellas went along with it, but I didn't, but, I'm not proud of myself for runnin'...I could have done something to help or to prevent the situation from gettin' outta hand...I got as far as Maxine's Pizzeria before I turned back...but by the time I got back there...it was too late...

MATT (cont'd): I should have stood up to Felix and I hate myself for not...not doing the right thing when I could have. I could've taken him down with one shot...When I saw her face, I, I tried to make her feel better, but she thought I was one of them and screamed at the top of her lungs at me and ran, she ran away and the other guys didn't even turn around. They just laughed and kept walking further away. I was left there alone, wonderin' what the hell just happened and I've decided to stay alone ever since.

GINGER: Which girl was it?

MATT: Kimberly Johnson.

GINGER: What them boys do to her exactly?

MATT: I think they put their hands where they shouldn't have.

GINGER: How long ago this happen?

MATT: Like a month ago.

GINGER: A month?!

MATT: Yeah!

GINGER: Why didn't you tell me sooner?!

MATT: I didn't know what to say about it?

GINGER: You think them boys raped Kimberly?

MATT: NO! No, there wasn't no time for that.

GINGER: How you know for sure?

MATT: Mom, it was five minutes.

GINGER: A lot of shit can happen in five minutes!

MATT: I don't think anything like that happened. I think they had bad intentions like that and did some bad things but I don't think they got that far.

GINGER: That was far enough. We know the Johnsons.

MATT: I know.

GINGER: Went to school with her mother and father.

MATT: I know, Ma.

GINGER: We're gonna take a drive to their house.

MATT: No, please Mom. This is why I can't tell you anythin'!

GINGER: Now you listen here! We're going straight to the Johnsons and we are gonna talk to Kimberly's parents about what happened and we're gonna get to the bottom of this whole thing because that girl isn't going to be scarred any further than she already has been and God pray I hope nothing as bad as my imagination happened to that sweet girl cause I'll kill them sons of bitches myself before the law gets a handle on them.

MATT: Ma, please calm down.

GINGER: Don't you tell me to calm down. Get your ass off that couch and meet me in the car or I'm going at it alone.

MATT: What am I gonna say?

GINGER: The truth as you told it to me.

MATT: I'm ashamed.

GINGER: Yeah. I know you are.

MATT: I should have done something.

GINGER: You should have son.

MATT: I'm sorry.

GINGER: Don't be sorry to me, not to me. It's Kimberly we gotta worry and care about now. I want to hear everything from the horses mouth.

MATT: Ma--

GINGER: Hush it! There are two kinds of people in this world, Matthew. Those who do the right thing and those who don't. You missed your opportunity to defend that girl when she needed defending and I know my son, that's not what was in your heart to do, that's why it's been weighin' you down all this time but you still have a chance to do what's right. This might not be a situation you want to face, but in the end son you would have done something extremely important and that is everything. You hear me?

MATT: Yes.

GINGER: Alright, get yourself together, I'll be outside.

END OF PLAY