

I'm Sorry You're So Beautiful

by

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Cast of Characters

AMANDA:

20's

JAKE:

20's

Place
Hotel

Time
1PM

2.

Setting: The play takes place inside a hotel room. What was once a high end hotel room has been reduced to destruction. The place looks as though a tornado passed through it.

At Rise: The play opens to Amanda sitting on one side of the bed putting on her shirt, while Jake sits up against the bed post looking at her.

Amanda sits on the side of the bed, buttoning up her shirt.

Jake is sitting up in bed, observing her.

Amanda stands up.

AMANDA: Where are my pants?

JAKE: Going somewhere?

Amanda finds her pants on the floor in the corner of the room.

AMANDA: I'm going to the theatre.

JAKE: The theatre? Our theatre?

AMANDA: Uh-huh.

JAKE: It's only 1PM.

AMANDA: I know.

JAKE: We don't need to be at the theatre till six.

AMANDA: I wanted to go early today.

JAKE: What for?

AMANDA: Why all the sudden questions?

JAKE (*Flirtatiously.*): Don't you want to hang out a little longer?

AMANDA (*Smiling.*): We can't.

JAKE: We are.

AMANDA: I know, but...we can't continue anyway.

JAKE: What, us?

AMANDA: You can't be serious.

JAKE: We're having a good time, aren't we?

AMANDA: Yes but, I think it's starting to get in the way.

JAKE: Of what?

AMANDA: Everything.

JAKE: ...Okay.

AMANDA: What's the point?

JAKE: Why does there need to be a point?

AMANDA: Exactly.

JAKE: We don't have to.

AMANDA: I know we don't.

JAKE: We could dial it back, if you prefer.

AMANDA: This isn't what I want to be dealing with right now. We both finally make it to Broadway, after years of putting everything into this play. All I want to be thinking about is my character, our production and have my focus be entirely on that and now things with you have gotten completely out of hand. You can't ignore it Jake, it's affecting our work! Last night, on stage, it was different, I had a hard time connecting in some scenes and just being present and then, well, after the show I wanted to speak to you about it all but of course you were dodging the bullet, as you always do...acting like the world will figure it out for us. Then we all went out for drinks and I felt good, really good, I felt like maybe I was just overthinking everything and that we were over it already and all we needed was some time but then, we're here! We're back here Jake, back in your hotel room, which is the last place I wanted to be! What matters most, not just to me but to us...what matters most? Why can't we just put an end to it? Why are you so damn stubborn, avoidant and just outright scrappy! We've got to stop, before we destroy everything we've worked hard for.

JAKE: Amanda?

AMANDA: Yes?

JAKE: Are you...do you have feelings for me?

AMANDA: Of course I have feelings for you but they are within reason.

JAKE: Within reason?

AMANDA: Realistically, it's not gonna work.

JAKE: What's not?

AMANDA: US!

JAKE: Why's that?

AMANDA: Because you are you and I am me. We're two totally different people. Just thinking about us being anything more than what we are seems absurd. We're about as foolish as each other and I don't know who's worse. Besides, I can't be distracted with all this right now. I just can't.

JAKE: I wasn't trying to pressure you into anything.

AMANDA: I know you're not. I wasn't trying to say you were.

JAKE: I like you..I care about you.

AMANDA: What are you saying?

JAKE: I'm saying that I've been happy.

AMANDA: Happy?

JAKE: Yeah.

AMANDA: What do you mean by happy?

JAKE (*Teasing.*): Happy, you know, when a person feels good. (*Sincerely.*) You make me feel good.

AMANDA: I do?

JAKE: You do.

AMANDA: You make me feel good, too..but.

JAKE: But..

AMANDA: This is a bad idea.

JAKE: Does it really have to be?

AMANDA: A terrible idea. Even if we rode this wave until the show is over, what then? We'll both be off somewhere else doing who knows what and that's not the foundation for anything substantial or even remotely stable.

Jake kisses Amanda passionately. They kiss deeply for a moment.

JAKE: What were you saying?

AMANDA: I was saying how this can only end badly!

JAKE: Right; this is a tough one. You did make the first move.

AMANDA: What?!

JAKE: Backstage. When you asked me to help you unzip the back of your dress.

AMANDA: Cathy was ill that night, I had no one -

JAKE: So you asked me to help you get out of your clothes. Not that I minded, but you could have went to anybody else...you asked me.

AMANDA: It just made sense. Our dressing rooms are right beside one another.

Jake laughs out loud.

JAKE: I'm sorry you're so beautiful!

AMANDA: I'm sorry YOU'RE so beautiful!

JAKE: I'm not beautiful.

AMANDA: You are, to me you are.

JAKE: But you're radiant. You glow.

AMANDA: Stop!

JAKE: You are sunshine.

AMANDA: No way!

JAKE: You light up any room you enter. Your smile melts my heart.

AMANDA: What play are you reciting from?

JAKE: I'm not, I'm not, I mean it.

AMANDA: Thank you.

JAKE: You are lovely..all of you.

AMANDA: (*Sighs.*) Jake you make this so hard for me.

JAKE: Do I? GOOD.

AMANDA: You are fun, I'll give you that.

JAKE: What's wrong with a bit of fun?

AMANDA: You're dangerous, which ignites my craziness and together that can't be good.

JAKE: Fuck it.

AMANDA: One of us has to think.

JAKE: Thinking is so boring. Isn't it better to be wild and free?

AMANDA: Eh.

JAKE: Once in a while. Not think about anything but enjoyment.

AMANDA: We have been.

JAKE: Has anything bad happened?

AMANDA: No.

JAKE: There you go.

AMANDA: But something eventually will. I just know it.

JAKE: How do you know it?

AMANDA: Look at this hotel room. It's absolutely destroyed.

JAKE: But I told you that I'll take care of it.

AMANDA: But why did we destroy it?

JAKE: Because we're rock stars.

AMANDA: No, no, we're not..we're stupid.

JAKE: I'll fix this whole place up and it will be like it never even happened.

AMANDA: And then what comes next?

JAKE: Like, what?

AMANDA: Are we going to throw the TV out the window and see if it can fly? Don't you see, I think we've reached the climax of this whole thing Jake. I don't want us to keep going down the path that we both seem to get on when we're together after a show. I really feel like something bad will happen if we keep at it. We need to pull back and not only that, we need to call it quits. Look, it's been awesome, but we've reached our limit. Don't you agree?

JAKE: I don't see it.

AMANDA: Come on Jake. You threw a vase into the wall and LOOK, (*Pointing.*) half of it is embedded into there. I don't know how no one called the cops on us last night.

JAKE: Were we that bad?

AMANDA: Worse.

JAKE: Hmm.

AMANDA: Let's get back on track. We did what we did, it's been an experience to say the least but we need to get it together and focus on our work.

JAKE: Amanda...

AMANDA: What?

JAKE: I think you're right.

AMANDA: Good.

Amanda gathers up more of her belongings.

AMANDA: Are you sure you don't want me to help you clean some of this up?

JAKE: No, I'll do it. Penance.

Amanda sticks out her hand.

AMANDA: Shake my hand.

JAKE: What for?

AMANDA: To reestablish ourselves to each other.

JAKE: I'm not gonna shake your hand.

AMANDA: Shake my hand, Jake.

Jake grabs Amanda's hand and kisses it charmingly.

JAKE: Is that alright?

AMANDA: After tonight's show, I'm going back to my apartment. You are not allowed to come. I expect you to come back to your hotel room and that's that.

JAKE: Really?

AMANDA: We have to Jake. It's the only way forward.

JAKE: Okay. Fine. So we're just -

AMANDA: Colleagues.

JAKE: Colleagues. Right, right.

AMANDA: Okay?

JAKE: Sure.

Amanda heads to the front door.

AMANDA: Get focused. See you on stage.

JAKE: (*Watching her.*)...on stage.

Amanda exits.

Jake stares at the front door. He runs over to it but stops himself. He saunters over to the bed and plops back on it. He lets out a huge sigh.

Lights slowly come down.

END OF PLAY