

Throwing Tomato Cans at the Jerks in the Farmers Market

A ten-minute play

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“Throwing Tomato Cans at the Jerks in the Farmers Market”

Characters

Synthia..... Eleise’s sister. In her teens. Ready to rain cold tin upon those who sell organic produce.

Eleise..... Synthia’s sister. In her teens. The lookout.

Setting

The play takes place before the opening of an outdoor farmer’s market.

Synopsis

Arrogant assholes with their fresh organic grain fed locally produced no cage consciously farmed animal trap free tree hugged weeds asking five dollars for a fucking tomato.

Why are we aiming at Dave's stand?

Because fuck Dave.

“THROWING TOMATO CANS AT THE JERKS IN THE FARMER’S MARKET”

SYNTHIA and ELEISE walk in. ELEISE has a full messenger bag.

SYNTHIA

And then Dave’s like. I’m not picking you up from school. You’re going to have to walk home. That’ll make you think about-

ELEISE

It’s clear.

SYNTHIA runs behind an overturned table, and ELEISE stands where she is: the watch, and starts to go through her bag.

SYNTHIA

Toss me the can.

ELEISE

(giddy)

We are going to get in so much trouble.

SYNTHIA

Fucken-a, right?

ELEISE

What do you want first? Diced, whole, or tomato paste?

SYNTHIA

Paste.

ELEISE

This is what bonding is all about, sister.

SYNTHIA

Arrogant assholes with their fresh organic grain fed locally produced no cage consciously farmed animal trap free tree hugged weeds asking five dollars for a fucking tomato.

ELEISE

Yeah!

SYNTHIA

(to ELEISE) We'll only need one can. Put the others away. Now how should I bomb it? Should it be like a bullet, just knock the basket off? Or launch it up, so it exploded every single one? What do you think, sis?

ELEISE

I thought we were bombing the whole stand.

SYNTHIA

The tomatoes are part of the stand.

ELEISE

But afterwards, you'll take a can of diced, aim for the banner?

SYNTHIA

Throw me the can.

Pause.

ELEISE

Sister?

SYNTHIA

Quick, toss me the can.

ELEISE

Whose tomatoes are these?

SYNTHIA

No ones. I don't know.

ELEISE

You being open with me?

SYNTHIA

You pushing out on me? I said throw me the can.

ELEISE throws SYNTHIA the can.

ELEISE

Just- It's starting to get lighter. I don't know if we're going to be able to get home before mom and dad-

SYNTHIA

Dave.

ELEISE

What?

SYNTHIA

Not dad, sis. Dave.

ELEISE

That's what I meant. Hey, maybe we should go. To get back in time. We can go out next Saturday. Break the shit out of the potato blossom festival.

SYNTHIA

What are you saying?

ELEISE

Your sister wants you to think this through first.

SYNTHIA

Your sister has thought it through.

ELEISE

Whose stand is that? (no response) You hate Breeny?

SYNTHIA

This isn't going to hurt (SYNTHIA looks) Breeny and Son, alright? Don't worry.

ELEISE

You're shooting their produce!

SYNTHIA

It's not there's, alright? Dave is paying Breeny to sell his shitty tomatoes. And if he sells them, he's going to make money, alright?

ELEISE

Sister-

SYNTHIA

If they sell, that means that he's going to be taking care of our mother. Dave is not our father, or a provider, Eleise. If anyone buys those tomatoes, and we let it happen, he becomes our father.

ELEISE

Dave isn't replacing him-

SYNTHIA

He already has! He has a job, he's moved in, he has a garden, he's paying electric, water, and cable. And if he sells those tomatoes. That mean he's going to pay for heat. Then rent. I don't know why you can't see that!

ELEISE

Sister-

SYNTHIA

Don't come over here.

ELEISE runs-over to SYNTHIA.

ELEISE

Sister.

ELEISE holds the other end of SYNTHIA's can.

SYNTHIA

I don't want to be alone. Dave is a cancer, Eleice. He absorbs and he eats to absorb more. He's taken mom, he's taking our house. He's trying to be our father. We are the last two people in our family. I can't be alone, sister.

ELEISE

You'll never be alone.

SYNTHIA

You have to make a choice, Eleise. Do you support me? Are you my sister, or are you Dave's daughter? You have to choose.

ELEISE

I think-

SYNTHIA

There is only one father. That's all there ever is. Once chance and we lost him. We can't go to the store, or some fucken mix-n-match speed date mixed and replace him.

ELEISE

Dave isn't replacing-

SYNTHIA

Are you my sister, or are you Dave's daughter? You have to choose.

ELEISE

I'm your sister.

SYNTHIA

If you're my sister, then let go of the can.

ELEISE still holds it.

ELEISE

Dad is never coming back.

SYNTHIA

I know.

ELEISE

No you don't. He's not going to pick us up from school.

SYNTHIA

I know.

ELEISE

No- He's not going to come up the driveway at 4:30 every weekday.

SYNTHIA

I know.

ELEISE

He's not going to hold us, he's not going to dance with us at our wedding, he's not going to intimidate our boyfriends.

SYNTHIA

I know! I know I know I know!

ELEISE

We can't change anything!

SYNTHIA

I can change what happens right now. I'm not going to let Dave just creep his way in without us being able to do anything about it! I am going to fight him for every step until he takes-away the control he has-

ELEISE

We don't have to do this.

SYNTHIA

You don't, daughter. I do. And what I do, right now, is in Dad's name. This is what he would have wanted. This is something that he would approve of. Let go-

ELEISE

He'd be happy that mom found another-

SYNTHIA

I said, let go-

ELEISE

He asked her to! We were both there! He was on the bed, and that's what he told mom, that mom would need-

SYNTHIA

I don't care what dad said, and I don't care what mom needs! I just want to destroy-

ELEISE

Let go of-

ELEISE tries to pull the can back, SYNTHIA pushes her, she falls over.

SYNTHIA

Are you okay?

ELEISE

Sister.

SYNTHIA

I'm sorry-

ELEISE

Dave isn't absorbing us. You're pushing us away.

ELEISE leaves. SYNTHIA stares at her can.

END OF SCENE

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