

KADIJA & SWANN

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## Cast of Characters

SWANN, an extremely sheltered fourteen year old suburban girl.

KADIJA, a fourteen year old, sheltered, Muslim girl. Swann's best and only friend.

A middle class adolescent girl's  
bedroom. Onstage at lights up is  
SWANN. Enter KADIJA.

What? KADIJA

Oh my God. SWANN

I'm here. KADIJA

Kadija. SWANN

What? KADIJA

Oh my God. SWANN

Swann? KADIJA

Kadija! SWANN

You're getting me worried. KADIJA

Oh my God. SWANN

Are you hurt? KADIJA

Ohhhhhh!! SWANN

I'm calling your dad. KADIJA

Noooo! SWANN

You're scaring me. KADIJA

Ohhhh! SWANN

KADIJA

Did somebody die?  
 Allah akbar. Who?  
 I don't.  
 Over there...on the floor?  
 Not your dad?  
 I don't wanna look.  
 You mean to tell me all of this is over her?

(Swann nods, "Yes.")  
 (Swann points.)  
 (Swann motions for her to cross the room.)  
 (Swann nods, "Yes.")  
 (Swann points.)  
 (Swann drags Kadija to the edge of the bed. Points. Pause.)

SWANN

What am I going to do?

KADIJA

Dig a hole in the back yard and forget about it.

SWANN

You don't understand.

KADIJA

(Picking up a dead rabbit)

You're right.

SWANN

The rabbit died.

KADIJA

You've only had it for two weeks tops; you probably can get your money back.

SWANN

I don't want my money back.

KADIJA

So what's the...

SWANN

It's not about the money.

KADIJA

It's not about anything as far as...

SWANN

(Grabbing her)

It died! The rabbit died!

Yeah, the rabbit died. KADIJA

The rabbit died! SWANN

I heard you, I saw, the rabbit died... KADIJA

Right. SWANN

You don't mean, the rabbit died? KADIJA  
(Pause)  
(Swann nods, "Yes.")  
But that just means the rabbit died.

No it doesn't. SWANN

It doesn't? KADIJA

It bit me. SWANN

It's probably nothing. KADIJA

It's something. SWANN

Naw. KADIJA

Yeah. SWANN

They have shots. KADIJA

Not for this. SWANN

What? KADIJA

I used the boys' room. SWANN

KADIJA  
You used the boys' room?  
(Swann nods, "Yes.")  
Why?

SWANN  
I had to go.

KADIJA  
And?

SWANN  
Mr. Hudson was in the girls' room.

KADIJA  
Why didn't you ask him to leave?

SWANN  
He was putting ammonia in the toilets. The smell made me  
nauseous.

KADIJA  
But there are boys in the boys' room?

SWANN  
No duh.  
(Pause)  
It was empty.

KADIJA  
You were lucky.

SWANN  
I knew it was empty... The door was open. Mr. Hudson had  
propped it open with his mop. He was about to clean it.

KADIJA  
But he hadn't?

SWANN  
No.

KADIJA  
And you went in?

SWANN  
I was going to puke.

KADIJA  
From the smell.

SWANN  
From the ammonia.

KADIJA

But he hadn't cleaned in there yet.

SWANN

From the girls' room. The ammonia makes me want to hurl. I ran into the boys' room, shut the door and did my business.

KADIJA

But he hadn't cleaned yet.

SWANN

I had to go.

KADIJA

And now your rabbit's dead.

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