

# WHAT THE WELL DRESSED GIRL IS WEARING

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A ten-minute comedy by  
Arthur M. Jolly

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## CAST OF CHARACTERS

JENNIFER, teenage, attractive, trusting – somewhat clueless.

SANDRA, teenage, a little on the shy side, a dreamer and a schemer.

## SETTING

A bedroom.

## TIME

The Present.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*What the Well Dressed Girl is Wearing* premiered in April 2012 at The Randall Theatre (Medford, OR), with Rebeccalynn Pettey as Jennifer and Tessa Anderson as Sandra, directed by Maka.

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*(A bedroom. The fourth wall is apparently a full-length mirror – because JENNIFER checks her profile in it, straightens her top. She squeezes a blackhead. SANDRA enters with a double armful of clothing.)*

**SANDRA:** I just grabbed everything.

**JENNIFER:** Hoop skirt?

**SANDRA:** It wouldn't fit.

**JENNIFER:** Stovepipe hat.

**SANDRA:** No stovepipe hat.

**JENNIFER:** EVA suit.

**SANDRA:** What's an EVA suit?

**JENNIFER:** Extra Vehicular Activity... Astronauts wear them. It's a simple – you know – big, white, kind of puffy sleeves...a fishbowl helmet with the gold shielding...?

**SANDRA:** Astronauts...

**JENNIFER:** Neil Armstrong – the moon landing – boing boing...

**SANDRA:** Oh – a space suit!

**JENNIFER:** Yeah!

**SANDRA:** Don't have one.

**JENNIFER:** Well you didn't exactly bring me everything, did you?

**SANDRA:** Do you want my help or not?

**JENNIFER:** Sorry. I appreciate this.

**SANDRA:** I've got a pirate jacket.

*(Sandra holds up an ornate pirate jacket.)*

**JENNIFER:** Too fancy. I want something more space suit-y.

**SANDRA:** I got my dad's flight suit.

*(Sandra holds up a green jumpsuit.)*

Not a space suit – but still pretty macho. He was wearing this on the day he shot down that airplane over North Dakota.

**JENNIFER:** D'you mean North Korea?

**SANDRA:** I mean North Dakota.

**JENNIFER:** That was your dad?

**SANDRA:** Yup. He could've been a war hero... If we were at war. You know.

**JENNIFER:** Weren't there like two hundred tourists on that plane?

**SANDRA:** He pushed the wrong button.

**JENNIFER:** I totally did that on that math test Friday! I filled in B – and I knew the answer was C.

**SANDRA:** I know! So...macho flight suit?

**JENNIFER:** I do like the green...

**SANDRA:** Or – French maid outfit.

*(Sandra holds up a frilly black maid outfit.)*

**JENNIFER:** Your mom's a maid?

**SANDRA:** No – it was in the box on the shelf at the back of their closet that they think I don't know about.

**JENNIFER:** Ew.

**SANDRA:** And it's my dad's.

**JENNIFER:** Ew. *(Beat.)* I don't want to come on too strong... I mean, the flight suit might frighten him off. Too much, you know? It's our first real date. You know, like a date date.

**SANDRA:** Maybe not the maid's outfit. What message does that send?

**JENNIFER:** It would show off my legs.

**SANDRA:** You don't want him to see your legs.

**JENNIFER:** What's wrong with my legs?

**SANDRA:** Maybe go with something more fashion-forward – like a poncho or a suit of armor.

**JENNIFER:** I want something that says – desirable.

**SANDRA:** Nun's habit?

*(Jennifer looks at her quizzically.)*

It was in the same box as the maid outfit.

**JENNIFER:** I want something that says – me.

**SANDRA:** *(Instantly sure:)* A pope's hat and my grandpa's fishing waders.

**JENNIFER:** What are you wearing?

**SANDRA:** A black dress – short, but not too short – dangly earrings...and I was thinking a pair of matching shoes.

**JENNIFER:** Weird.

**SANDRA:** Matching shoes are weird?

**JENNIFER:** With each other?

**SANDRA:** Yup – two of the same shoe.

**JENNIFER:** You could do one shoe and one boot.

**SANDRA:** I thought of that, but...symmetrical shoes. A left one and a right one.

**JENNIFER:** Weird.

**SANDRA:** I know it's not you – but it's me.

**JENNIFER:** You have no verve, no flair. What color are the waders?

**SANDRA:** You remember when you ate that candy apple with the weird red dye that made you sick, so you threw up bright scarlet all over Rachel Newman's party dress?

**JENNIFER:** Yeah...

**SANDRA:** Imagine you'd been eating green olives instead.

**JENNIFER:** Perfect! Upchuck-olive waders it is... I'll need a top.

*(Sandra holds up something very small and covered in sequins.)*

**SANDRA:** Mom's.

**JENNIFER:** Too... Over the top.

**SANDRA:** Sometimes she is, yes.

**JENNIFER:** No, the top.

**SANDRA:** The top is over the top?

**JENNIFER:** Yeah.

**SANDRA:** *(Perplexed:)* The top is *over* the top. Over the top...is the top. Topping top. The top is—on top of the top, top over, it is. Toppity toppity top. Top. Top. Top.

**JENNIFER:** Stop!

**SANDRA:** Stop top?

**JENNIFER:** Stop topping—talking!

*(A beat.)*

**SANDRA:** What about this?

*(She holds up a garbage bag.)*

**JENNIFER:** A trash bag?



**SANDRA:** It's got a drawstring.

**JENNIFER:** How would I see out? Can I cut some holes in—

**SANDRA:** No! You can't cut any—no! You can borrow an outfit for your date with Jimmy. You cannot cut holes in anything. That's over the line.

**JENNIFER:** I just asked!

**SANDRA:** Okay—you can cut holes in Dad's flight suit.

**JENNIFER:** Interesting...maybe if I cropped it right here...kind of a bare midriff—

**SANDRA:** Fierce! You could show off your belly ring.

**JENNIFER:** I don't have a belly ring.

**SANDRA:** Safety pin and a barrette. Pppt! No sweat.

**JENNIFER:** You're amazing.

**SANDRA:** I know how important this is for you.

**JENNIFER:** You're not mad?

**SANDRA:** Why would I be mad? Just 'cause it's a double date and my guy isn't going to be there 'cause I made him up, so it's just me and you and your date...Jimmy. Perfect, perfect Jimmy. And his dimples. (*Beat.*) I mean—it's Jimmy. He doesn't want to go out with me, he wants to go out with you.

**JENNIFER:** He likes me.

**SANDRA:** Exactly! And he doesn't like me, even though—you know. I've been completely and utterly in love with him since second grade...and I left all those little presents on his desk, and hung around by his locker every—

**JENNIFER:** Remember the time you put a tent in his backyard and slept there with that Valentine's Day sign you made?

**SANDRA:** I kept thinking he'd come out and read it and we'd be...

**JENNIFER:** Weren't you there like a week?

**SANDRA:** He was at his uncle's.

**JENNIFER:** You must've felt like such a dork.

**SANDRA:** Well, between the hypothermia and the high fever from the pneumonia, I wasn't feeling much of—

**JENNIFER:** What was with that billboard?

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