

CHUBBY BUNNY

A short comedy by
Jonathan Josephson and Katy Muzikar

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www.youthplays.com
info@youthplays.com
424-703-5315

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CAST OF CHARACTERS

BUDDY, male, a sweet, gentle marshmallow.

PIPER, female, a kind, tender marshmallow.

JET, female or male, a jaded, survivalist marshmallow.

DAD, MOM, YOUNG GIRL, YOUNG BOY, offstage voices.

(Lights rise on two marshmallows.)

(PIPER, a female marshmallow, smiles gleefully. BUDDY, a male marshmallow, beams merrily.)

PIPER: This is so exciting!

BUDDY: I know!

PIPER: I'm so happy to be alive!

BUDDY: Me too!

PIPER: What's that smell?

BUDDY: I don't know –

(Piper sniffs herself.)

PIPER: It's me. I smell amazing.

BUDDY: You do smell amazing.

(Piper licks herself.)

PIPER: I taste amazing too!

BUDDY: I bet you do taste amazing –

(Buddy goes to lick Piper.)

PIPER: Excuse me! We just got out of the package and already you're, you're –

BUDDY: I'm Buddy. What's your name?

PIPER: Piper.

BUDDY: I know we just met, but, do you believe in love at first sight?

PIPER: Kismet? Soulmates? I do.

BUDDY: I do too. I like you a lot. Will you – be my girlfriend?

PIPER: You're still not licking me. Not when we only just met.

BUDDY: That's fair.

PIPER: Then yes. Yes I will!

BUDDY: That makes me happy.

(Buddy's glance drifts to something offstage.)

BUDDY: *(Salacious:)* Hell-o—

PIPER: *(Annoyed:)* She's nice to look at.

BUDDY: She is nice to look at.

PIPER: — If you go for that puffy sort of thing.

BUDDY: I think she looks nice.

PIPER: I opened myself up to you, Buddy. Am I not puffy enough for you? I gave you my heart and my innocence and you... you—

BUDDY: I treasure you! I am a better self because of you!

(Piper's gaze gets distracted.)

PIPER: Hell-o—

BUDDY: And who are you looking at? *(Turning his head:)* That's Steve.

PIPER: Hell-o- Steve.

BUDDY: He's my brother.

PIPER: Hell-o—brotha Steve.

BUDDY: Unbelievable.

PIPER: Me unbelievable? I don't know if I can ever trust you again!

BUDDY: I can be the marshmallow that you deserve. Just give me the chance.

PIPER: This was a mistake. We rushed things— too fast.

BUDDY: It wasn't. Hey... hey Pepper –

PIPER: Piper –

BUDDY: Hey Piper. These last... 200 seconds have been the best 200 seconds of my life. And I want my next 200 seconds to be just as incredible. And the next 200 seconds, and then the next 200.

PIPER: Stop it –

BUDDY: Finding you has allowed me to find myself. I was aimless – lost. You've saved me Penny –

PIPER: Piper!

BUDDY: – Piper. I love you. Will you – be mine?

PIPER: Will you... be mine?

BUDDY: I will be yours.

PIPER: I will be yours!

BUDDY: We're – each others-es?

PIPER: We are!

(Suddenly, the grizzled voice of JET cuts through the scene.)

JET: (Off:) Shut your blathering pie-holes!

(JET emerges, or appears – perhaps he's been there the whole time.)

You ignorant excuses for confectionery, we're all going to die.

(We hear the sounds of a FAMILY around the campfire – they seem happy and sweet.)

(Whenever the Family speaks, Buddy and Piper freeze, making themselves look delicious and appetizing.)

LITTLE GIRL: (Off:) Daddy – I burned mine!

DAD: (Off:) That's fine, we've got plenty more.

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JET: This is my ninth campout recruits, ninth, and I've made it this long for exactly one reason: I know how to survive.

PIPER: We didn't even see you there!

JET: I know. I'm really good.

BUDDY: Oh yeah—he's really good.

JET: These people, they come at you hard and come at you quick and in the blink of an eye you go from alive and happy to dead and gone. You need to be able to take a hard look at yourself and ask yourself—self, do I need to be here? Do I need to be alive? And if your answer to that question is "Yes!"—well then maybe—you just might have a chance.

(A beat.)

PIPER: I'm Piper.

BUDDY: I'm Buddy.

JET: Um—I'm Jet.

PIPER: We're—each otherses.

BUDDY: We just became that.

JET: You know we're all going to die.

PIPER: Why do you keep saying that?

JET: You have no idea what's going on.

BUDDY: I know what's going on.

PIPER: What's going on?

BUDDY: This crusty old soul... is jealous of our love. Jealous like a bug in a rug.

PIPER: *(To Buddy:)* That doesn't make any sense.

JET: Do you know what they do to our kind around here?

(Piper and Buddy look at each other.)

PIPER: Nope.

BUDDY: Who's they?

JET: The people. Look.

(Buddy, Piper and Jet look off in the direction of the campfire.)

They collect us together, then distribute us one by one, with the littlest one getting first pick.

MOM: *(Off:)* Who wants seconds?

LITTLE BOY: *(Off:)* I do, I do!

LITTLE GIRL: *(Off:)* Me too Mommy!

PIPER: Well that doesn't seem so bad.

BUDDY: They're so sweet!

JET: Then they take a coat-hanger...

PIPER: I like coat-hangers.

BUDDY: What a sweet family!

JET: Then they straighten the coat-hanger...

PIPER: I like straightened coat-hangers.

BUDDY: Hey look, it's Steve – Hi Steve! – with the little boy!
Hi Steve!

(Buddy waves to Steve.)

PIPER: Hi Steve!

(Buddy and Piper wave to Steve.)

JET: And then...they –

BUDDY: OH MY G-D!!

PIPER: STEEEVE!

BUDDY: WHAT ARE THEY DOING!? WHAT ARE THEY DOING!??

PIPER: WHY WOULD THEY DO THAT! WHY WOULD ANYONE DO THAT!!

JET: And then. If that weren't enough...

(Jet gestures off towards the campfire. The fire smokes and crackles.)

BUDDY: THEY'RE SETTING HIM ON FIRE?!

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