

Act One
Without Fear

(SCENE SET: The set looks like a cabin. There are three flats used as walls. There is a wall at SR which connects to an US wall. There is another flat about four feet in front of the US flat wall with light switches. At SR there is a table with a chair at its right and a chair US. On the wall hangs a picture of the ocean and a family portrait. There is a pitcher of water with a couple of glasses on the table. A shovel is set at the corner of the US walls.)

(SCEN OPENS: We slowly see the lights come on and see DRAKE standing at the window staring into the cabin. He slowly smiles then slowly goes behind the wall. MOLLY enters and is on a cellular phone.)

MOLLY

This is always a little strange, but it's what I need to do for myself. *(Sits)* Yeah. I know. It's still hard to believe. I guess, well, I-*(looks up at the window. Then, stands and walks to look out the window as she says.)* I just feel I still need to do this. Yeah. This is the last time I'll come up here. Then, I'll sell it. I know. I agree. Thank you. Thank you for all you've done for me. You're a good friend. I'll be back in a day or two. *(hangs up.)* Is somebody out there?

(We hear knocking. MOLLY walks US to the open area and opens a door just behind it. In comes DRAKE who looks exhausted as he staggers into the cabin.)

MOLLY

What happened? Are you alright?

DRAKE

Yeah. Just tired. I think a bear was chasing me. Thanks for letting me in. *(Takes deep breaths.)*

MOLLY

Sure. This is pretty far away from civilization. What brought you out here?

DRAKE

(X and sits in the US chair) I was camping out here. You know, to get away from it all. All the horrible things that you have to deal with on a day to day basis.

MOLLY

I know what you mean. You want some water?

DRAKE

Sure. Thanks.

MOLLY

(Pours him some water. Then, looks out to see if there's a bear outside.) I don't see it.

DRAKE

It's probably gone.

MOLLY

Hum. *(Becomes weary of DRAKE)* Yeah.

DRAKE

(Drinks) Like I said, it must be gone.

MOLLY

Did you try to make noise? Or-

DRAKE

Yeah. I tried everything. But, it didn't work.

MOLLY

Where are you camping?

DRAKE

Just up the hill. On the other side of the lake.

MOLLY

It's nice over there. *(Starts to look around and wants to find something to defend herself. She backs away.)* I'm surprised. The bears usually keep to themselves.

DRAKE

Well, this one didn't. *(Sets glass down and sits up.)*

MOLLY

I see. *(Remembers the shovel and reaches back to grab it.)* I guess you found a vicious one.

DRAKE

Yeah. *(Stays still, but we can tell he knows what MOLLY is doing.)* It was pretty mean. Thanks for letting me in, and thanks for the water.

MOLLY

Sure. *(Grabs the shovel and lifts it. Then, she quickly starts to swing it down at DRAKE.)*

(DRAKE quickly turns to see the shovel, then ducks and moves away. He quickly moves towards MOLLY who looks as if she realizes something as she stares at DRAKE. DRAKE pulls out a gun and points it at MOLLY as he smiles.)

DRAKE

Set it down lady. Set it down.

(MOLLY sets down the shovel, but is suddenly at ease and smiles.)

DRAKE

What? Are you insane. Don't you realize what's happening lady?

MOLLY

I'm not the one who's insane. Who are you and what do you want from me?

DRAKE

I want you. Now, sit down.

(MOLLY X to the US chair.)

DRAKE

Not there. The other chair!

(She sits in the SR chair.)

MOLLY

Now, what do you want from-

DRAKE

I want you lady. I want you.

MOLLY

What are you going to do to me?

DRAKE

(Smiles.) I don't know. It's different every time.

MOLLY

You've done this before.

DRAKE

Yeah, lady. Now, what's your name. You're real name.

MOLLY

Jessica.

DRAKE

(Smiles.) Liar! No, your real name. Did you not hear me?

MOLLY

How do you know-?

DRAKE

I know when someone lies. Call it a gift.

MOLLY

A gift lost on a loser.

DRAKE

You are in no place to call me names lady. Now tell me your name.

MOLLY

Fine. Just so you can stop calling me lady. Name's Molly.

DRAKE

Molly. Ha. What an innocent name.

MOLLY

Yeah. I'm innocent all right.

DRAKE

What is that supposed to mean?

MOLLY

What's your name?

DRAKE

Call me Drake.

MOLLY

Is that your real name?

DRAKE

Sure. For you it is. You will not know me for anything else.

MOLLY

You going to kill me?

DRAKE

Maybe. I don't know yet. You see, I don't know what I want to do until I'm with the woman. Then, I think about it and try to figure it out. Based on her reactions and her fears.

MOLLY

I do not fear you.

DRAKE

You don't? Ha. Of course you do. I have a gun pointed at your head. (*Comes closer to her head with the gun.*)

MOLLY

No. I do not scare easily.

DRAKE

You are insane.

MOLLY

Again. I'm not the insane one. You, Drake, are. I do not fear you.

DRAKE

You. (*Starts to come closer to her then backs away and shakes his head.*)

MOLLY

What happened? Why didn't you slap me or something? Isn't that what psychos do? You are a psycho aren't you?

DRAKE

No! No. I'm not a psych-psych-psycho.

MOLLY

It sounds like you are.

DRAKE

Just shut up!

MOLLY

It seems that I'm not the one who's scared. You are.

DRAKE

No! I have the gun lady.

MOLLY

Molly, remember?

DRAKE

Shut up!

MOLLY

Okay. I'll just sit here while you ponder what you're going to do to me.

DRAKE

You've lost your mind lady.

MOLLY

Why did you ask me my name if you weren't going to use it? Huh?

DRAKE

(Hits the wall and stares at MOLLY.) You're making me want to kill you.

MOLLY

Try. Come on you wimp. I want to see you do it.

DRAKE

No!

MOLLY

Guys like you are all the same. Stupid. You are too lost to even take on a real challenge. That's why you ended up here.

DRAKE

No!

MOLLY

My guess is that you are being hunted down by the police.

DRAKE

Shut up! *(Hits the table and pushes the gun towards her.)* You don't fear this?

MOLLY

(Is a bit scared.) That, yes. I fear guns. Yes.

DRAKE

Then, what if I shoot you? Right now? Then, drag you out of here?

MOLLY

That won't happen.

DRAKE

What?

MOLLY

That won't happen.

DRAKE

(Walks behind MOLLY and goes down to whisper in her ear.) Oh, yes, it will happen. You will either walk out of here or be dragged out screaming. I will take you out of here.

MOLLY

But, why leave?

DRAKE

You're trying to stall aren't you?

MOLLY

Maybe.

DRAKE

The police. You still think their after me don't you?

MOLLY

Maybe. But-

DRAKE

(Hits the table again, but right in front of MOLLY.) No buts. You think I'm stupid? I came here for a reason lady. A reason. You see. I saw you come here. I saw you come into the house with groceries and set them on the counter in the kitchen. I watched you as you moved from room to room. Then, you called someone on the phone. *(Looks at the phone on the table.)* You weren't suspecting a thing. You see, I know why you chose this place. It's secluded. By itself, in the middle of this large forest. No one knows you're here except for the person on the phone.

MOLLY

How do you know-? *(Scared.)*

DRAKE

I am guessing that you came here to relax and get away from your problems. And, I heard you tell the person on the phone that you'll be here for a day or two then leave.

MOLLY

You heard all that?

DRAKE

Yes. I heard all that. I know you're here, by yourself. *(Notices the portrait on the wall.)* I don't know who these people are, but they ain't coming. Isn't that right?

MOLLY

No.

DRAKE

Did you forget, Molly, that I can tell when you're lying? You're going to be here, all alone, for the next couple days. So, maybe you're right. Maybe I'll stay here, with you for a day, then drag you out.

MOLLY

Okay.

DRAKE

Okay? Don't you realize what I'm going to do to you?

MOLLY

You never told me.

DRAKE

No. I didn't. I'll tell you soon.

MOLLY

Okay. (*Tries to not be nervous.*)

DRAKE

(*Looks at the portrait.*) Is that your husband and kid?

MOLLY

Yes, they were.

DRAKE

I see. Now it makes sense. You're not scared because you have nothing to lose. They died and now you don't care.

MOLLY

No. That's not true.

DRAKE

Yes it is.

MOLLY

No!

DRAKE

You're lying!

No, I'm not you idiot!

MOLLY

I have the gun, remember?

DRAKE

I don't give a damn if you have the gun.

MOLLY

(Picks up the shovel.) How about this?

DRAKE

I don't give a damn!

MOLLY

Admit that they were you're life and you are nothing without them.

DRAKE

No!

MOLLY

Because it's true.

DRAKE

No, it was true. It took me a long time, but I've learned to move on. I moved on. And, I do want to live. But, I will not live in fear, nor will I die in fear. Life's too short.

MOLLY

DRAKE
Sure is. So, you aren't scared of me?

MOLLY

Oh, I'm scared of things. But, not you.

DRAKE

How did they die?

MOLLY

No.

DRAKE

Tell me.

MOLLY

No!

DRAKE

Why not?

MOLLY

Because you want me to.

DRAKE

Yes. So-

MOLLY

Because you want me to I don't want to tell you. I will not give you fuel to burn me down. I will not give you what you want. Not now. Not ever. Shoot me. Shoot me!

DRAKE

(Holds the gun to her and is about to shoot. Smiles, lowers the gun.) No. I won't. I want to see you squirm more, then I want to continue what I want to do with you.

MOLLY

Figure that part out yet?

DRAKE

Still thinking. But, I'll figure it out. Don't worry. It'll be fun. Or, not fun for you.

MOLLY

Oh, really? Okay. By the way, I haven't squirmed.

DRAKE

(Shocked.) Damn, lady-

MOLLY

-Molly-

DRAKE

Lady! You've got nerve. I'm here, and I can do whatever I want to you. *(Looks over at the picture of the ocean on the wall.)*

MOLLY

No, you can't. *(Notices his look at the picture.)*

DRAKE

I have the gun.

MOLLY

And, I already told you to shoot me.

DRAKE

Yes. And, I will. Don't worry. I will do that. I have decided on that. It's just a matter of when.

MOLLY

But, you see, you have no power over me. I'm not scared of being shot.

DRAKE

No. You're not.

MOLLY

(Stands.) And-

(DRAKE points the gun at her threateningly.)

MOLLY

Don't worry. I just want some more water and to look outside.

DRAKE

No. You won't.

MOLLY

Yes. I will. *(Pours some more water. Drinks.)* You see I don't fear being shot by you.

DRAKE

How about shot, but not dying. Huh?

MOLLY

Ha. You don't understand. *(Starts towards window.)*

DRAKE

(Shoots and it hits the wall next to MOLLY who reacts.) No. Lady. You don't understand.

(MOLLY's eyes widen she starts to become fearful again.)

MOLLY

I don't understand. How-?

DRAKE

That was only a warning shot. I like to play with my prey.

MOLLY

Oh. I'm your prey, huh? *(Leans against the wall.)*

DRAKE

Well, of course. Don't you understand? I watched you like a hunter watches an elk. Then, I strike.

MOLLY

Oh, a hunter huh? You know hunting is about killing something weaker than you. Hunters are not strong, but weak.

DRAKE

You think so? No, it takes cunning and courage to challenge an animal in its own land.

MOLLY

Courage? Give the animal a gun and let's see courage.

DRAKE

(Laughs) You make me laugh, Molly. I think I'll keep you around a little longer than I would have. Maybe just to hear you tell jokes and to keep me on my toes for my next prey. I'll keep you in my place until I get fed up with you.

MOLLY

You do not scare me with threats, Drake. *(X to table.)*

DRAKE

You are the stupidest woman I have ever seen.

MOLLY

Smart enough to stop you from shooting me.

DRAKE

I thought you said you weren't afraid of being shot.

MOLLY

I'm not.

DRAKE

You're confusing me. You're trying to confuse me.

MOLLY

What is it? Am I confusing you or almost confusing you?

(DRAKE comes close to her with the gun and uses it to force her on top of the table.)

DRAKE

You do understand what I can do to you, don't you?

MOLLY

Yes. *(Is scared.)*

DRAKE

Am I too close, Molly? I do scare you. When there's no distance between us, I can terrify you.

MOLLY

No, not terrify-

DRAKE

Wrong!

MOLLY

(Forces the gun at her chest.) No! Do it!

DRAKE

Don't make me.

MOLLY

I'll even pull the trigger for you. Now-

(DRAKE stares at her for a moment. Smiles, then grabs the water glass and tosses it on the floor making MOLLY jump. DRAKE smiles and steps back.)

MOLLY

Cheap trick.

DRAKE

Made you jump. Have you ever been shot before, Molly?

MOLLY

I will not answer that.

DRAKE

Smart. Well, if dropping that water glass shocked you. Just imagine what you'll fear when I'm done with you.

MOLLY

Oh? *(Sits on US chair.)*

DRAKE

You are fun aren't you? I wonder if you'll be this fun once I'm started with you. *(Looks at the ocean picture again.)*

MOLLY

That's the second time you looked at that picture. It must remind you of something.

DRAKE

I like the ocean, that's all.

MOLLY

Who doesn't? Nice breeze, fresh air, cool sand. It's wonderful. You want to go back there.

DRAKE

What do you mean?

MOLLY

A good memory. Something, something that started nice, but led to something bad.

DRAKE

What? How-what are you talking about?

MOLLY

You. Drake. I'm talking about you.

DRAKE

Shut up!

MOLLY

Make me.

(DRAKE, threatened, charges back at MOLLY who backs away and pushes the table at DRAKE who is pushed back. The gun falls on the ground. MOLLY kicks it aside as DRAKE picks up the shovel and whacks it at the table and goes around and hits the SR chair down. DRAKE stares, threateningly at MOLLY.)

DRAKE

Make this interesting. Go for the gun. Go for the gun!

MOLLY

No.

DRAKE

I will make you do it.

MOLLY

You cannot make me do anything. You have the shovel.

DRAKE

That's right. And, I will have the gun back in a minute.

MOLLY

Really?

(DRAKE *tosses the shovel at MOLLY who catches it as he gets the gun again. MOLLY holds the shovel and starts at DRAKE. DRAKE grabs the shovel and, for a moment, there's a struggle. MOLLY smiles, DRAKE is confused. Then, they both drop the shovel and DRAKE backs away with the gun. MOLLY and DRAKE are confused. Then, MOLLY smiles.*)

DRAKE

What was that? You have a lot of strength in those little arms or something?

MOLLY

You don't even know.

DRAKE

Know what?

MOLLY

(*Sits in the US chair again.*) Let's get back to the beach. You enjoyed the ocean. The sun on the water. Your father.

DRAKE

Shut up! Shut up!

MOLLY

He was special to you, until he died. That's when you lost it isn't it?

DRAKE

Are you a shrink? Are you? (*Picks up and sits in SR chair.*) You are.

MOLLY

No. I'm not a psychologist you psycho.

DRAKE

Stop calling me that!

MOLLY

You sure as hell aren't rational. I know the police will be here soon.

DRAKE

Why? Their sweep won't take them close to here for at least another couple hours. The cops. One thing they are, is efficient, dependable and never there when you need them. Only when it's something minor.

MOLLY

That's not true. Let's get back to the ocean-

DRAKE

Let's not.

MOLLY

Oh, I see. Okay.

DRAKE

It is true. Like right now.

MOLLY

They don't need to be here right now.

DRAKE

Still holding it up huh? Stupid. You must be a retard or something. Why else would you be so stupid?

MOLLY

Because I know more than you know.

DRAKE

So, you're smarter than me. I've don-

MOLLY

No.

DRAKE

What?

MOLLY

I work for the police.

DRAKE

What the hell?! No, you don't.

MOLLY

Yes.

DRAKE

(Stands) Damn. Got a two for one deal on this one huh? What do you do? Are you the desk secretary?

MOLLY

The beach. I still think you need to resolve what happened at the beach.

DRAKE

You looking to get shot aren't you?

MOLLY

I told you I was.

DRAKE

A cop. No, not a cop. Not a shrink. Wait, you, you couldn't be-

MOLLY

What? Flathead.

DRAKE

What did you just say to me?

MOLLY

Flathead. That was you're father's name for you. It was cute at first, but then it became annoying. Well, before he, you know.

DRAKE

You, you know too much. Was this a set up?

MOLLY

No. You're right. The cops won't be here for a little longer. So, you had better hurry up and do what it is you want to do.

DRAKE

You know, you're more than that. You know too much.

MOLLY

More than what?

DRAKE

Wait. What are you?

MOLLY

I'm a psychic, Drake.

DRAKE

Oh, so you can read my mind?

MOLLY

In a way.

DRAKE

Oh? Well, this can be fun after all. Then, tell me my favorite color.

MOLLY

It doesn't work like that. I can't just pull a rabbit out of my hat.

DRAKE

Funny.

MOLLY

I'm not trying to be funny. It doesn't work like that.

DRAKE

I could use you. After I break your spirit. I can use you. You can help me.

MOLLY

I will never help you. You will never break my spirit.

DRAKE

Really? I know I could. I know I can tear right into your heart and break it in half.

MOLLY

Literally?

DRAKE

What? Is that a challenge?

MOLLY

You're not that kind of guy. You like things clean.

DRAKE

Good. That will make it easier that you know what I want. So, why don't you just do it then?

MOLLY

You were somewhere before here.

DRAKE

Well, that's a stupid thing to say. You aren't very good.

MOLLY

(Turns to DRAKE) "Daddy, daddy. Don't leave me." And, the beeping slowed down. It slowed down until it was a sustained beep. One long line. You're father, dying.

DRAKE

You really want to pull on the strings, don't you?

MOLLY

I just do. I know how to do it.

DRAKE

That's why you aren't scared sometimes. Because you think I'm being too easy on you.

MOLLY

Prove me wrong, Drake. Since you came in here you haven't even touched me.

DRAKE

Yeah? That's true. Maybe I should. Maybe I should make you pay for bringing back such a horrible memory. Maybe I should-

MOLLY

Drake. The reluctant killer. You must not do this for a living.

DRAKE

That's it! *(Shoots again and it hits right passed MOLLY's head.)*

MOLLY

(Shocked, and scared, moves aside. She then, is frozen and looks back at the portrait.) You-

DRAKE

Yeah, that made you jump didn't it? You try to hold a strong front, but you're just weak, like all women. Oh, you have your emotions in check all right. But, you still know who's in charge.

MOLLY

(Looks at DRAKE as she stands, still.) No. No one's in charge. You became a criminal because of your own laziness, perverted ideas and stupidity. I let you in here because I was stupid. But, now, I realize, it wasn't as bad as I thought it was going to be. No. You are not like other criminals.

DRAKE

What the hell are you talking about?

MOLLY

You are different. I didn't realize it at first.

DRAKE

What? What didn't you realize, lady.

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