

## MOVING THEATER BY READYWRITER COMPANY

### JESSIE

Mark  
Sarah  
Beatrice  
Molly  
Jessie  
Shepherd (Host)

*Shepherd presents him/herself in front of the audience, outside of the restaurant/café*

SHEPHERD: Greetings, ladies and gentlemen, I am your MC or as we call it in Moving Theatre, your shepherd and you the audience are the sheep. What is moving theatre? Moving theatre is where the action moves from place to place, location to location, so you the audience has to move with the actors in order to keep up with the action. I am your MC or shepherd. As you may know sheep follow their shepherd wherever he or she goes. So, you the sheep will follow me the shepherd where ever I go so you can continue to see the action of this play. Today's play is entitled Jessie. And should take about 30-45 minutes of your time. Photo taken and videos are allowed we just ask you do not annoy your fellow sheep with your photo or video taken. If you should post on social media, be sure to hashtag #csbtelevision, #movingtheatre, and #readywriterco. Before we get started, we like to remind you, you can download the digital program for today's performance at csbtv.co and/or readywritercsb.com. We'd like to thank our Shepherd and Sheep sponsors: (Mention sponsors). Without further ado ReadyWriter Company presents a Moving Theatre production of Jessie.

*Shepherd stands with audience.*

*Mark walks cautiously to the entrance of the restaurant/café.*

*Sarah walks cautiously to the entrance of the restaurant/café.*

*Mark and Sarah meet and then kiss.*

SARAH: Did you tell her?

MARK: I know I said I was going to tell Jessie, but now is not the time.

SARAH: Mark, you promised. How much longer do you think I can stand to be the other woman?

MARK: You don't understand. Jessie is very sensitive.

SARAH: The two of you are already separated. A break up is bound to happen. She should be expecting it.

MARK: Not all separations end in a break up. I promise, give me another month and I-

SARAH: Another month?! We've already been together for five months, Mark. I'm giving you a week and that is it.

MARK: Sarah, please. It's you I want. I cannot lose you.

SARAH: You're about to lose me.

*Mark kisses Sarah. Sarah receives the kiss*

SARAH: I forgot why I staid this long. Your kisses are magical.

MARK: Let's not argue. We came to be together. Let's go inside.

*Sarah and Mark enter restaurant/café*

SHEPHERD: Let's go find out what happens next. Follow me.

INSIDE RESTAURANT/CAFÉ

*Sarah and Mark are sitting at the bar/counter.*

*Beatrice is making them drinks.*

SARAH: I am sorry if I came off as pushy earlier.

MARK: No, it's okay. I understand. You have the right to be angry. I love you. I really do. I just don't want to hurt Jessie. I need to make sure Jessie is in a safe place, so when I break up, Jessie won't feel broken. I know it won't be long before Jessie sees we shouldn't be together anymore.

SARAH: I just don't want to be the other woman. I know I should have waited before dating you. I know I should have waited until you broke up with her.

MARK: One day I will break up with Jessie and then you and me can be together.

*Beatrice hands Sarah and Mark their drinks*

BEATRICE: Girl, you need to leave this sorry excuse of a human.

*Molly enters from kitchen*

BEATRICE: If he really loved you, he would have broken up with Jessie before dating you. Do not be deceived by this joke of a man. And you, you ain't no man, you cheating, no good, son of a-

MOLLY: BEATRICE! What are you doing?

BEATRICE: This man is using her.

MOLLY: Beatrice, that is not our business. Our business is serving our customers food and beverage. I am so sorry, please excuse her. We haven't finished training her yet. Beatrice, I need to see you in the kitchen.

*Molly and Beatrice exit to kitchen*

SARAH: Can you believe that?

MARK: No! What kind of service is this?

SARAH: She is right though.

MARK: I'm sorry. I promise when I get home, me and Jessie are over. That is a promise.

SARAH: Do you mean it this time?

MARK: Yes. And do you know why I mean it this time?

SARAH: Why?

MARK: Because I love you.

*Sarah blushes. They kiss.*

*Jessie Enters*

JESSIE: MARK! What the hell is this? And who is this girl you kissing on.

MARK: I can explain.

SARAH: Mark, who is this?

JESSIE: Yeah, Mark, tell her who I am.

MARK: Sarah, I wanted to tell you, but I wasn't sure how to do so.

SARAH: Do what?

MARK: You see, I can explain. You see-

JESSIE: Come on out with it, Mark. Tell her who I am!

*Molly and Beatrice enter from kitchen*

MOLLY: Uh, can we keep the volume of our voices down, please.

JESSIE: Sorry. Mark, who is she and why are you kissing her. I thought it was me you loved.

SARAH: Excuse me. Sir, what are you talking about? Mark, what is this man talking about? Are you cheating on him and Jessie?

JESSIE: Oh my gosh! You told her about me?

SARAH: Wait a minute...Who are you sir?

JESSIE: Hello, homewrecker, my name is Jessie.

SARAH: I thought Jessie was a girl. Mark, what is going on. How could you lie to me like this?

MARK: I never said Jessie was a girl.

SARAH: And you never corrected me when I said she or her, did you?

MARK: I can explain.

*Sarah and Jessie adlib an argument with Mark.*

*Mark stands there quietly.*

MOLLY: That is enough. This is not a realty show. Ya'll gonna have to take that outside.

MARK: Sorry.

*Mark, Jessie, and Sarah exit to the outside.*

*Beatrice grabs a bag of popcorn and follows*

MOLLY: Excuse me, where are you going?

BEATRICE: I want to see the fight.

MOLLY: Beatrice, you are at work.

BEATRICE: Ain't customers in here anymore.

*Beatrice exits outside.*

MOLLY: Beatrice! Goodness, good help is hard to find.

SHEPHERD: Don't just stand there. Let's go be nose. Follow me.

*Shepherd exits to the outside*

OUTSIDE RESTAURANT/CAFÉ

JESSIE: I don't believe this. I knew something was up. Always going out and coming in, looking suspicious. When were you going to tell me you swing both ways?

MARK: I can explain.

JESSIE: I'm listening.

MARK: Can we talk in private?

*Molly enters*

MOLLY: Beatrice, you need to come in side and get to work. There is cleaning to do.

BEATRICE: Oh, come one, let me just watch. I'll tell you all about it once it's over.

MOLLY: Beatrice, I do not pay to gossip.

BEATRICE: Well, you could.

MOLLY: Two options, Beatrice. Come inside and clean or get in the unemployment line.

BEATRICE: Fine. I'm coming to clean.

*Beatrice walks towards Sarah.*

*Beatrice takes out paper and pen of pocket and writes.*

BEATRICE: Look, Sarah, here's my phone number. Call me at 530pm. I'll be home. Tell me everything that happened.

*Beatrice and Molly exit to restaurant/café*

JESSIE: You know what, I don't even care. It's over, Mark. You have two days to move out.

*Jessie exits to restaurant.*

MARK: Sarah-

SARAH: You need to go talk to Jessie, first. I will be out here waiting for you. You can explain to me then what this is all about.

MARK: I'm sorry. I never intended to hurt anyone.

SARAH: Well, you did. Go talk to him.

*Mark exits to restaurant*

## INSIDE RESTAURANT/CAFÉ

*Jessie is sitting at the bar/counter with a drink*

*Beatrice is mopping behind the counter*

*Mark enters and approaches Jessie*

MARK: I want to talk to you.

JESSIE: I don't know that I want to listen

MARK: Please.

JESSIE: What? What could you possibly say?

*Beatrice sets aside the mop and then gets from behind the counter yarn and quilting needles and begins to quilt while watching Mark and Jessie talk.*

MARK: I am sorry. I wanted to tell you. I really did. I just didn't want to hurt you.

JESSIE: So, what are you, bisexual?

MARK: Not exactly.

JESSIE: Mark, what is your deal?

MARK: I want to tell you, but I know I am going to hurt you, so I'd rather not.

JESSIE: I thought you wanted to talk.

MARK: I wasn't expecting you to ask me that question.

JESSIE: What were you expecting?

MARK: I was going to say I am sorry and hope you would forgive me.

JESSIE: You think it's that easy? What is wrong with you?

MARK: If I told you the truth, would you promise not to get upset?

JESSIE: Sure. I won't get upset. Tell me why you are dating me and that girl.

MARK: When I met you I...I...I, well, I was homeless. I realized you wanted to talk. I figured, if I played along, I could convince you to allow me to move in.

JESSIE: Wait a minute. You've been using me just so you could have a place to live?

BEATRICE: Now, that's foul.

JESSIE: I don't believe this. I thought you loved me.

MARK: I never said I loved you.

*Jessie takes his drink and throws it in Mark's face.*

JESSIE: I hate you. I poured my heart, my mind, and all my soul into you, and it was all fake. You were pretending the entire time. I hate you.

*Jessie goes to exit*

BEATRICE: Hell, naw, where are you going? You not about to make a mess in here and not clean it up.

*Beatrice hands Jessie the mop.*

BEATRICE: Clean that mess up.

*Molly enters and notices Jessie mopping.*

MOLLY: Beatrice what is going on now?

BEATRICE: He threw that drink and made a mess. He needs to clean it up.

MOLLY: Oh, okay. Yeah, boy, clean that up. And don't be tossing drinks in this establishment. This is a drama free zone.

MARK: Jessie-

JESSIE: Mark, just leave.

*Jessie continues to mop. Mark exits the restaurant.*

SHEPHERD: You know what time it is. Follow me, sheep.

OUTSIDE RESTAURANT

MARK: Hey

SARAH: What happened?

MARK: Jessie threw his drink at me.

SARAH: Oh. While you were in there I was thinking. I was a fool to sneak around with you. I have decided it's time for me to be alone and reconsider my standards. I think you need to do the same. I don't want to know why you lied to me about Jessie. I don't care about your preferences. It doesn't matter to me. I don't need an explanation. I will admit, being with you was still nice, but not nice enough to stay together. Bye, Mark.

MARK: Wait. I know this is not the time to do this, but Jessie kicked me out. I only have two days to move out. I have no where to go. Can I stay with you until I find a place?

SARAH: I don't intend to hurt you, but...there's a homeless shelter on 5<sup>th</sup> Street. Look them up on your phone. Bye, Mark.

*Sarah exits scene*

*Jessie enters from restaurant*

MARK: Jessie! I'm sorry.

*Jessie exits without responding*

*Molly and Beatrice exit restaurant*

BEATRICE: You should be ashamed of yourself.

MOLLY: Beatrice, that's rude.

BEATRICE: I clocked out. I can be rude to the customers.

*Beatrice exits scene*

MOLLY: Mark. You are a regular customer, so I feel safe to tell you seek help. There is no way you can love yourself and treat people the way you did those two. Figure out how to love yourself first, then love someone else. You understand?

*Mark nods his head yes.*

MARK: Yes, Molly. I understand.

MOLLY: Good. Will I see you tomorrow morning for breakfast?

MARK: I don't know.

MOLLY: It'll all work out just fine. Focus on your mental health first and everything else will fall in line.

MARK: Molly?

MOLLY: Yes.

MARK: Do you know anything about the shelter on 5<sup>th</sup> Street?

MOLLY: Of course. My brother runs the place.

MARK: You think you can put in a good word for me?

MOLLY: I'll do one better. Come with me, I'll introduce you to him.

MARK: Thank you.

*Molly and Mark exit.*

SHEPHERD: And that is the end of Jessie. Please give the performers a round of applause. We want to thank you for coming to our show. Just another reminder, you can download the digital program for today's performance at [csbtv.co](http://csbtv.co) and/or [readywritercsb.com](http://readywritercsb.com). We'd like to thank our Shepherd and Sheep sponsors: (Mention sponsors). And of course, we would like to thank (Name of Venue) for allowing us to entertain you here. Thank you once again and have a safe night.

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