

Hey Baby Baby

A Short Play by

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## Hey Baby Baby

### CHARACTERS:

Al (male) 25-35, a professional at street harassment

Danae (female) 25-35, fed up with harassment

(Characters may be any ethnicity)

SYNOPSIS: Al and Danae meet on the street and Danae confronts Al about his harassment.

Place: A street

Time: Dusk

HEY BABY BABY

AT RISE DANAЕ is on her way home from work.  
AL is the shadows. DANAЕ carries a sign “Not Your  
Baby.” She’s been through this many times.

AL

Hey Baby, Baby. Smile for me, won’t you? I bet you’re beautiful when you smile.

(DANAЕ whips out her sign.)

DANAЕ

Not your baby, little man. Do you really think you’re going to get a date on the street by  
calling out “hey baby, baby!” We’re not infants!

AL

What’s your problem? I just paid you a compliment! A Comp-li-ment!

DANAЕ

Mating calls from doorways are not compliments.

AL

What?

DANAЕ

Your catcalls? Not appreciated. Go away before I call the cops.

AL

For what? For calling you “beautiful?” You know you are. You know you got yourself all  
gussied up for compliments.

DANAЕ

You think I got myself “all gussied up” for you? Think again.

AL

You’re asking to get hollered at!

DANAЕ

I am trying to get from Point A to Point B. If you feel compelled to yell at me in the street  
because you have no self-control, “Evening” will do. (Beat.) Although silence is golden.

AL

I know how you think. You probably count how many compliments you get walking down  
the street, Women do that.

DANAE

I count how many times I am harassed!

AL

Hey! No harassment going on here! Just a man appreciating a beautiful woman.

(DANAE whips out her cellphone and starts recording.)

AL

Whoa! Want me to pose?

(And he does some improbable muscle-man poses.)

DANAE

Keep talking. Tell me why you like to yell at strange women on the street. I know I'm not going to change you – so educate me. Why do you do it?

AL

No harassment is happening here! I told you, I'm here to compliment.

DANAE

It's not taken as a compliment.

AL

Your problem not mine.

DANAE

You're my problem.

AL

It's my God-given right. Handed down to me from the Bible.

DANAE

Are you serious?

AL

What was there in the beginning? Adam. And Adam did fine for awhile. There were animals he could eat. Vegetables which were - you know - okay. He just had to stay away from the apple tree. Being that he was a meat-and-potatoes kind of guy, that wasn't a problem. But something was missing. He really wasn't one to tend the garden. Hunting was fun but a man needs more than that. A different kind of hunt. He couldn't figure out what he was missing so he finally had a talk with God about that. To fix the situation. And God understood. He surely did. Because lo and behold - God sent him Eve! To please him. You were created for pleasing men.

DANAE

You believe that?

AL

Can't argue with the Good Book. I was here first. And then you were created. For me. Don't argue with the Word of the Lord.

DANAE

Arguing with your interpretation of it.

AL

I'm just a God-fearing man who appreciates the ladies. It's my birthright handed down from the heavens.

DANAE

I have to admit – that's the most creative justification I've heard so far.

AL

Your problem is – you don't understand men. You need to find your understanding through the creator. Read the Good Book. Toss your feminist magazines. You'll see the light. You'll understand that when a man sees a beautiful woman – he naturally wants to acquire her. It's his nature.

DANAE

Acquire her? Like she was a piece of property? A city lot? A goat?

AL

Now don't go twisting my words.

DANAE

I'm just repeating what I think I heard.

AL

What's wrong with wanting a beautiful lady by your side?

DANAE

I don't think you want her by your side.

AL

Your twisting words again. That's what you feminists do.

DANAE

I'm looking for understanding! I am looking to discover why I cannot walk down the block without men like you hollering at me!

AL

I'm just appreciating. I'm the appreciative type.

DANAE

Do you know that women don't want to be appreciated by strangers?

AL

I'm just here in case some poor woman worked hard all day and nobody noticed her. Nobody complimented her. I'm here for the benefit of all women. Just following the laws of God.

DANAE

You want something.

AL

A smile! All asked for is a smile. Would it hurt you? You'd look mighty fine if you smiled.

DANAE

My smiles are my business.

AL

Don't be chintzy with them. They're for all God's creatures. Look at you! All made-up. Make-up – now that's a powerful business. You females spend billions to look good. And who're you looking good for? The lamp post! No. It's for men. And I'm a man so it's for me.

DANAE

Actually – it's for me. And when strange men yell at me on the street, I get nervous. I feel violated.

AL

Whoa! Don't you go turning my kind words against me. There's no violating going on here.

DANAE

*I'm the woman here and I'm telling you how you make me feel!*

AL

Just holding a little Bible class here. You wanted my point of view. We're cool, right?

DANAE

(Putting cell phone away)

Yeah. Cool.

AL

Hey – are you putting me on youtube? Cause that’s cool. Put it under “Al,” would you? That’s my name. Al.

DANAE

I was thinking of freeze-framing it. Taking a screen shot and then printing up hundreds of them to hang in shops. I’ll glad put your name on it. It will say “Al, Abuse of Women.”

AL

Hey, hey hey – I don’t abuse – I compliment.

DANAE

On the street it’s the same thing. Have a good evening.

(DANAE exits.)

AL

*Hey!*

(But he spies another woman.)

Hey, baby, baby – sugar. Smile for me, won’t you? You’d be so beautiful if you’d smile...

- END OF PLAY -