

Playing with Words

by  
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## Playing with Words

There are two men and a woman standing in a line on the stage. One of the men is white the other black. The woman who is white, stands between the two men. The words below should be spoken without inflection or intonation.

WHITE MAN:

Man.

WOMAN:

Woman.

BLACK MAN:

Man.

TOGETHER:

People.

WHITE MAN:

Superior.

WOMAN:

Superior.

BLACK MAN:

Superior.

TOGETHER:

Supreme.

WHITE MAN.

Victim.

WOMAN:

Victim.

BLACK MAN.

Victim.

TOGETHER:

Victimized.

WHITE MAN.

Privileged.

WOMAN.

Privileged.

BLACK MAN.

Privileged.

Entitled. TOGETHER:

Friendly. WHITE MAN:

Friendly. WOMAN:

Friendly. BLACK MAN:

Friendship. TOGETHER:

The actors rapid fire all of the above words with different intonation creating a multitude of meanings. This continues until the actors are only repeating the word, 'Friendly' in an aggressive way, attacking each other with the word.

They break off and in a minimalist way create a court of law. The white man is in the dock, the woman is the judge and the black man is the lawyer.

LAWYER:BM  
So, you maintain that it was a friendly rape?

DEFENDANT:WM  
Yes, after knowing Rachel for many years, she accepted my drinks and my invitation back to my room, I naturally thought she wanted me to put my penis inside her body.

JUDGE:W  
I must say it seems to fit the criteria for a friendly rape and not an actual rape.

The actors switch with each other: the woman is the lawyer, the black man is the accuser and the white man is the judge.

LAWYER:W  
At anytime did you ask the accused to stop touching you?

ACCUSER:BM  
Yes. But she refused. I wasn't able to physically stop her friendly use of my mouth and penis.

LAWYER:W

But you went willingly to her room? You accepted her drinks?  
What did you think was happening?

ACCUSER:BM

We were friends...I trusted her...

LAWYER:W

From his own mouth your honor...

JUDGE:WM

Yes, this sounds like regret...they were friends...they were  
friends!

The actors switch again: the woman is  
the accused, the black man is the judge  
and the white guy is the lawyer.

ACCUSED:W

He was my friend and he is basically a sperm producing meat-  
package with the deluxe cooling ball-system function that is  
top of the line. As friends, I knew he wouldn't mind me using  
his sexual-equipment. He had his package on full display in  
his tight shorts and he seemed to enjoy my vagina on his  
mouth. I am shocked that my friendly use of his body is being  
challenged here in court.

LAWYER:WM

Why do you think that this man is now objecting to your  
friendly rape?

ACCUSED:W

Because he has forgotten his place...

JUDGE:BM

His place...?

ACCUSED:W

Set out by the bible...

WHITE MAN

Ah! The Bible!

WOMAN

Ah! The Bible!

BLACK MAN

Ah! The Bible!

TOGETHER:

The Bible!

ACCUSED:W

Yes, he forgot that he is the sperm-carrying-vessel that must be subservient to me, the woman at all times.

The actors switch again. The woman is the lawyer, the white man is the victim and black man is the judge.

ACCUSER: WM

But she gave me herpes!

LAWYER: W

Your honor, I must object at the witness's outbursts.

JUDGE: BM

Sustained and I must remind the accuser that we have agreed to the term clean herpes.

ACCUSER: WM

But there is no such thing!

LAWYER: W

Of course there is...clean herpes...clean herpes...clean, clean, clean herrrrppppes!!!

ACCUSER: WM

Just because you say it over and over again doesn't make it true.

LAWYER: W

This is outrageous. Judge?

JUDGE: BM

Will the stenographer please read back the testimony of the medical professional who's medical opinion was bought by the accused?

The accuser steps forward and plays the part of the medical expert while the lawyer and judge listens.

MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL: WM

...so while the accused did in fact give the accuser herpes during their friendly rape time together, I can state, in my professional opinion we can define this strand of herpes as 'clean' herpes.

LAWYER: W

So, doctor will the accuser face any long term effects of having received 'clean' herpes from my client?

MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL: WM

Of course not! It is clean!

LAWYER: W

You seem so certain?

MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL: WM

What part of 'clean' is so hard to understand? If it were normal herpes there would be a problem, but it is not...the accuser was given 'clean' herpes during the friendly rape.

The medical professional becomes the accuser again.

JUDGE: BM

This medical definition has been settled by bought professionals, so no more uneducated outbursts from you.

ACCUSER: WM

But I have the same medical issues...there is no difference between regular herpes and this...this clean herpes...

LAWYER: W

Your honor, I must protest...the accuser is not a bought medical expert...

JUDGE: BM

Once more and I will have to hold you in contempt...unless you can bring forth your own bought medical expert, then the accused's bought expert's opinion will stand as the official definition.

The actors switch again. The woman is the accuser, the black man is the lawyer and the white guy is the judge. During this piece the men will jump back and forth between being the lawyer for the accuser and the accused and being the judge.

LAWYER: BM

Thank you your honor...there is one other matter...

JUDGE: WM

Yes?

LAWYER: BM

The baby...

JUDGE: WM

There's a baby...?

ACCUSER: W

There is no baby...

The men switch roles

LAWYER: WM

My client maintains the right to remove the seed of the rapist...

JUDGE: BM

Friendly rapist...

LAWYER: WM

...the seed of the friendly rapist that has conjoined illegally with her egg and have it forcefully evicted from her body...

The men switch.

ACCUSER: W

The seed has no legal right to take up residency in my uterus...

LAWYER: BM

Your honor, the accuser has no professional training and therefore her opinion is not valid here in this court of law.

JUDGE: WM

Sustained and I will not tolerate you freely giving your opinion in regards to your body much longer. You must allow the biased and bought opinions of these trained professionals to replace any and all personal held ideas. (to the lawyer) Continue.

LAWYER: BM

Thank you your honor. It is my client's view point that his seed has been obtained illegally and he is suing the accuser not only for damage done by the theft, but wishes to now claim ownership of the body-vessel that contains his seed, and the baby-crop that will grow from his superior DNA-seed.

The men switch.

LAWYER: WM

This is ridiculous!

JUDGE: BM

I will hear the argument on this matter...

LAWYER: WM

Your honor...

JUDGE: BM

I have made my ruling...

The men switch.

ACCUSER: W

But the seed is in me illegally...I didn't want the friendly rape...I said no...

JUDGE: WM

I have warned you. These outbursts of personal opinions must stop...your reward for your confidence and your inability to embrace victimhood will be the choice of the label of 'slut' or 'bitch'. Which will it be?

ACCUSER: W

I don't want either...

JUDGE: WM

You will not learn...must I have you evicted from this court? Choose...'slut' or 'bitch'?

ACCUSER: W

(softly)

Slut, bitch...slut, bitch...s.l.u.t, B.i.t.c.h...

She stands up and stands moving to the sound of the words. The two men join her as her back up singer/dancers and they all move to the sound/beat they are creating with the two words, slut/bitch. It is a joyous dance/song.

At the end of the Broadway style finish, they return to the law court. This time the woman is the judge, the white man is the accuser and the black man is the lawyer.

ACCUSER: WM

I did not sell my seed to her and at no point did she ask to purchase or borrow my seed. The friendly rape she enticed me to do was entrapment all to acquire illegally access to my seed.

LAWYER: BM

Objection...he is giving is non-professional opinion...

JUDGE: W

Overruled. Let's not hold his male whiteness against him. This court of law is blind.

LAWYER: BM

The horrific nature of his monied upbringing is not on trial here your honor...but it would be remiss of me, if I were not to convey to the jury what mental damage was inflicted upon this young man by being white in this brutal society. With his elite education and his access to every advantage society has to offer this young man never stood a chance.



JUDGE: W

I will give you some leeway here councillor, but be careful, I will not allow you to bully this unfortunate, beautiful-white, handsome, monied and privileged young man.

LAWYER: BM

Thank you your honor. I promise to be gentle. (to the accuser) During the friendly rape did you at any time think to pull out and protect your rich and precious sperm from being stolen by this slut-bitch-slut woman?

ACCUSER: WM

No.

LAWYER: BM

Why not?

ACCUSER: WM

Because I thought we were friends. I didn't think she would steal from me. I feel violated and now she is threatening to destroy what is rightly mine, the baby crop.

JUDGE: W

Can you prove that this baby crop is yours?

The next line/answer will be repeated by each of the actors as they quickly replace each other in the dock to answer the question put forth by the lawyer.

There should be a spotlight on the person in the dock the rest of the stage will be blacked out.

The lawyer's question will come from the two other actors. The actor responding to the lawyer's question will be neutral and not add emotion to their answer.

LAWYER: WM/W

Why should we believe your word over the defendants?

BLACK MAN:

I would never lie. I am speaking the truth.

LAWYER: WM/BM

Why should we believe your word over the defendants?

WOMAN:

I would never lie. I am speaking the truth.

LAWYER: W/BM

Why should we believe your word over the defendants?

WHITE MAN:

I would never lie. I am speaking the truth.

LAWYER: W/BM

One last time. Why should we believe you?

ACCUSER: WM

Because, I'm a white male...(to the audience) oh and I'm rich.

BLACK MAN

Capitalism.

WOMAN

Capitalism.

WHITE MAN

Capitalism.

TOGETHER

Free Trade!

The courtroom becomes a boardroom with three executives.

BUSINESSSMAN

How much oxygen is left?

BUSINESSWOMAN

By our latest calculations, we anticipate another seven billion, trillion in profits, before we run out of air that functions.

BUSINESSSMAN1

That gives us a good three more years of production and that factors in a 73.6% drop in the labor force due to dysfunctional air.

BUSINESSWOMAN

The upside of that is that with less people, the dysfunctional oxygen will last at least 9 months longer. This will allow us to maximize our profits.

BUSINESSSMAN

This is essential. Our shareholders expect us to make them the richest dead people this world as ever known. Leave no tree standing, no bee flying, no water running. Use everything and leave nothing. Our shareholders expect results and when they draw their last breath from their 'God-Given' oxygen tanks they have stock piled, I want them to know it was all worth it.

BUSINESSWOMAN

Sir, we are getting some push back from our pet politician that the public is becoming restless.

BUSINESSMAN1

There have been marches...

BUSINESSWOMAN

There have been protests...

BUSINESSWOMAN

There has been violence...

BUSINESSMAN1

There have been partitions...

BUSINESSMAN

What? I'm a capitalist for christ sake! Without capitalism there would be no democracy or Jesus. Don't they read the bible?

WOMAN

The Bible!

WHITE MAN

The Bible!

BLACK MAN

The Bible!

TOGETHER

The Bible!

BUSINESSMAN

'It is easier for a Carmel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.' I sacrifice my personal salvation everyday for them. I, like god, create jobs. God made Eden, so Adam would have a job.

BUSINESSWOMAN

God, the ultimate capitalist.

BUSINESSMAN1

(an aside)

What's a Carmel?

BUSINESSWOMAN

A mythical animal like a unicorn or a fish.

BUSINESSMAN

But, they'll need me. When they leave to go to that beautiful heaven in the sky and discover there are no jobs. Then they'll call on me to build that factory beside that silver lake with angels swimming in it.

They'll need me to invent the machines that will dig big gorgeous holes in the green meadows or soaring mountains. We'll have money and jobs and heaven will be beautiful, because I will make an Earth of Heaven.

BUSINESSMAN1

But the pet politician sir?

BUSINESSSMAN

Send him another hundred oxygen tanks for him and his family and tell him to remember his faith.

BUSINESSWOMAN

Free trade, costs.

BUSINESSSMAN1

Costs because we care...

BUSINESSWOMAN

Costs because its right...

BUSINESSSMAN1

Costs because otherwise it'd be free...

BUSINESSWOMAN

Costs, because capitalism rocks, if you own it...

BUSINESSSMAN1

Costs, because how else would we know who's won!

BUSINESSWOMAN

There are also some reports in the media blaming the dysfunctional air on our industry...

BUSINESSSMAN

Who would dare wright such sacrilege? We mere humans can't effect God's plan. God is destroying this plant, not us!

BUSINESSSMAN1

These liars are saying that our enhancement of the rivers and oceans has been destroying the environment. The amount of enhancement materials we've freely poured into the waterways of this country from our factories to improve the drinking water is incalculable.

BUSINESSWOMAN

One despicable journalist tried to insinuate that our 'Better Views,' program was partly responsible for the dysfunctional air. The trees were in everyone's way. And we paid for their removal, nobody else would put their hand in their pocket to help us.

BUSINESSSMAN

God wants the air to be dysfunctional, not us. Capitalism will never be understood. Those children who die, because of the dysfunctional air, die for capitalism. It is God's will. If he wanted them to live, he would have made their parents rich. If their parents were rich they could buy clean air for their children. The parents killed their own children. God will punish them for their lack of wealth. Amen.

BUSINESSWOMAN

Amen.

BUSINESSSMAN1

Amen.

TOGETHER

Amen.

BUSINESSSMAN

Through our hard work, trust funds, private schools, exclusive networks, and our white privilege that was bestowed upon us by God; by these unrelated factors, do we humbly know that we are the best this world has to offer.

BUSINESSWOMAN

It is a burden that we accept, not willingly, but with the full knowledge that if not us then who? Some capitalist hating fool, who believes in the distribution of wealth? What right do you have to take what is mine? I bought the land, the water, the soil, the seeds, the sun, the sky...this planet. It is not yours, it is mine.

BUSINESSSMAN1

Mine to do with us I want...and you are useless, a leach, a parasite that wants what is mine...there will be no water for you...

TOGETHER

Die.

BUSINESSSMAN1

There will be no land for you...

TOGETHER

Die.

BUSINESSSMAN1

There will be no home for you...

TOGETHER

Die.

BUSINESSSMAN1

There will be no job for you...

TOGETHER

Die.

BUSINESSMAN1

There will be no education for you...

TOGETHER

Die.

BUSINESSMAN1

There will be no food for you...

TOGETHER

Die.

BUSINESSMAN1

Although, one out of every 10 Million of you useless people, will get to join our Godly ranks. As for the rest of you lazy fuckers, you can...

TOGETHER

Die.

The die/lazy song in the mood and rhythm of an old gospel / slave song.

BUSINESSWOMAN

The capitalist system of god states, 'The few are more important than the many'.

BUSINESSMAN

We carry the heavy burden of owning everything, so the masses can be free to die and pass straight into heaven.

BUSINESSMAN1

We do this for you, because to share, to improve your quality of life would rip the keys to the kingdom of heaven from your hands.

TOGETHER

What type of monster would do that?

BUSINESSWOMAN

Health care?

BUSINESSMAN1

A plot to keep you from God.

BUSINESSMAN

Education?

BUSINESSMAN1

A plot to challenge your faith.

BUSINESSSMAN

How do I know this? Because its in the Bible!

BUSINESSSMAN1

The Bible!

BUSINESSSMAN

The Bible!

BUSINESSWOMAN

The Bible!

TOGETHER

The Bible!

BUSINESSWOMAN

Only god knows when you should die. Who do these doctor sinners with their corrupt knowledge think they are? Fighting against the Will of God? Their books should be destroyed and they should be forced to their knees to beg forgiveness for their prideful arrogance. When I have my heart attack, no witch doctor of Satan will place their hands on me. No, I know that God is calling me home and that it is my time. My company will not place your soul in danger by offering you health insurance!

BUSINESSSMAN

The only knowledge you need is that Jesus is a businessman and he paid your debt to God. God wouldn't take you into heaven without payment. God's not a communist, he's a capitalist! Jesus paid God and know you have to pay Jesus to get into heaven.

BUSINESSSMAN1

You've got to pay. Jesus owns the lean on your soul. Like your student debt, you can't file for bankruptcy. The House of the Capitalist is the House of the Lord, because we own it. We bought your debt from Jesus. We bought it and now we own you.

TOGETHER

Amen!

But the water is worrying us.

Give me the numbers... BUSINESSMAN

BUSINESSMAN1

BLACK OUT:

A spot light on the black man. He is on the phone. The light expands to show the white man who is sitting on a chair sucking his thumb and holding his ear.

Mrs. Jones. Your son is fine. PRINCIPAL



Mrs. Jones

Principal.

PRINCIPAL

Your son was found talking to himself and we thought we should call you.