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Vampires, Werewolves and Zombies, Oh My!

By JON JORY

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(VAMPIRES, WEREWOLVES AND ZOMBIES, OH MY!)

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Vampires, Werewolves and Zombies, Oh My!

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RUN TIME: When performed in its entirety, the full-length play runs 90 minutes with an intermission. Producers could create a 40-minute one-act play by choosing any four of the pieces.

Vampires, Werewolves and Zombies, Oh My!

ACTI

Vampires

(An empty stage. Three coffins in a line. Snoring comes from each coffin. A young woman, JOANN, suddenly sits up in the center coffin.)

JOANN. Every day this happens! Day after day after day! Alyssa! Alyssa! You're snoring.

ALYSSA (from inside her coffin). I'm not snoring.

JOANN. I can hear you, Alyssa.

ALYSSA. It must be Renee. Renee snores.

JOANN. Renee doesn't snore, she screams. She has the screaming jeebies. She screams, you snore. Between the two of you, I never get a day's sleep.

ALYSSA (sitting up in her coffin). What time is it?

JOANN. Late afternoon.

ALYSSA. Was I really snoring?

JOANN. Yes, you were really snoring.

ALYSSA. I hate that! It's so unladylike. I spit too. I don't know why I spit, but I just need to spit. It's unladylike and unsanitary. Why do I do it? I just do it. I'm uncouth. I have no manners. Nobody in school likes me because I'm such a rube.

JOANN. That's not why they don't like you.

ALYSSA. It isn't?

JOANN. No.

ALYSSA. Why don't they like me?

JOANN. You're a vampire, Alyssa. That's why.

ALYSSA. They don't know I'm a vampire.

JOANN. They sense you are weird. Your skin has a slightly gray tint. Your eyes are always a little red. You stare at people like they are a snack. You're flat-out strange, Alyssa.

ALYSSA (offended) I'm not strange! I'm blonde, and I'm perky. I'm cute as a button.

JOANN. You eat raw hamburger in the cafeteria for lunch. You cut your fingernails with a dagger.

ALYSSA (climbing out of her coffin). OK, so I'm a little goth (She is dressed in a cheerleader's uniform.) But I'm a cheerleader. Nothing is more normal than a cheerleader. I date the quarterback, for heaven's sake.

JOANN. And he's looking a little strange lately too. There's a lot of talk about him throwing that pass out of the stadium.

ALYSSA. So what?

JOANN. It traveled about a hundred and fifty yards.

ALYSSA. He's just strong. He has pecs. I could eat him up!

JOANN. As I'm sure you did.

ALYSSA (offended). Joann, are you suggesting I have bitten Bernie Haseltoe?

JOANN. Maybe.

ALYSSA. That is just creepy.

JOANN. You're a vampire, Alyssa. Biting people is what you do.

ALYSSA. I've been dry for almost a year. I want to be a real girl. I want to marry Bernie Haseltoe, and live in a little cottage with blue shutters with a little white picket fence, with roses. I am really, really tired of being a creature of the night. Plus I can't sleep because I snore.

JOANN. Bingo.

ALYSSA. I don't like to admit it. It's so unladylike.

JOANN. Alyssa, sometimes I'm not sure exactly what you understand, but you do understand a vampire is a vampire is a vampire. You can't resign, Alyssa, you can't turn in your uniform or key or whatever. You're not a real girl, Alyssa, you do get that?

(There is a blood-curdling scream from the remaining coffin. ALYSSA falls over. JOANN grabs a coffin to steady herself.)

JOANN (cont'd). Renee, stop that!

ALYSSA. OMG. OMG!

RENEE (sitting up in her coffin). I had a dream, a horrible dream.

JOANN. You always have a horrible dream, Renee.

ALYSSA. I scraped my knee.

RENEE. But this was really horrible. I dreamt I was in a coffin. (Realizes.) I am in a coffin.

JOANN. Exactly. You always sleep in a coffin when the sun's up. This is your apartment. I'm Joann, that's Alyssa. This is 1240 Elm Street in Cleveland, Ohio. We've lived here for one hundred and thirty years.

RENEE (delighted). You're Joann and that's Alyssa. (Climbing out.) I love you guys, you're my best friends! How's everything?

ALYSSA. We had a late snack about 5 a.m. and went to bed. Now we're awake.

RENEE. Because the sun's almost down.

JOANN. Exactly.

ALYSSA. Time means so little when you've lived a thousand years.

JOANN. Whatever. Now snap out of it and get with the program.

RENEE (cheerful). I'm with the program!

JOANN. Good.

RENEE. Hug?

JOANN. Absolutely.

(They have a group hug.)

RENEE. Do we have any cheese and crackers?

JOANN. Cheese and crackers?

RENEE. Or mixed nuts?

ALYSSA. Renee!

RENEE. Little pepperonis? Klondike bars?

JOANN. What is in your tiny vampire mind?

RENEE (excited). I brought a guest.

ALYSSA. You did?

RENEE, Uh-huh!

JOANN. Where is this guest?

RENEE. He's in the living room.

ALYSSA & JOANN, What?!

(BERNIE HASELTOE enters. He wears jeans and a football jersey.)

BERNIE. Hi y'all. I'm getting a little bored out there.

RENEE, JOANN & ALYSSA (hands out in the stop gesture). No! (A beat.) We mean, "hi!"

ALYSSA (flirtatious). Hiya, BERNIE.

BERNIE. Hey, Alyssa. (To the others. Pleasant.) You guys have names?

RENEE (confused). Names?

JOANN. He means "names."

RENEE. Ohhhh, names. Absolutely.

(They stand staring at him.)

ALYSSA (elbowing them. Fake sweet). Tell Bernie your names.

JOANN (edgy). Why?

BERNIE. Ummm, introductions? Did your mother teach you about introductions?

RENEE. My mother was a Cro-Magnon living in a cave in Germany.

JOANN & ALYSSA. Shhhhh!

RENEE. Conceivably she might have introduced me to dinosaurs before we ate them.

ALYSSA. This is Renee and that's Joann.

BERNIE. I'm Bernie, glad to meetcha. (Looking at the coffins.) This is your bedroom?

ALYSSA. How did the game go? I bet you were the hero.

BERNIE. The game was kind of weird, really. People couldn't tackle me, they just kind of bounced off. I scored seventeen touchdowns. I scored a touchdown every time I got the ball. On defense this guy caught a pass and I grabbed him by the facemask and just spun him around three-sixty and threw him in the stands. He landed in the third row. I got a fifteen yard penalty.

ALYSSA. Oh no!

BERNIE. Yeah. Coach took me out and I threw him in the stands too. I think I'm suspended.

ALYSSA. That's terrible!

BERNIE. Yeah. I don't know what got into me. (*To ALYSSA*.) How come you weren't there with the cheer squad?

ALYSSA. Ummm. I was feeling a little weak. I needed a blood transfusion. When I got one, I felt, you know, just like myself.

BERNIE. Where did you get a blood transfusion on a Saturday?

ALYSSA. From the postman.

BERNIE. You got a blood transfusion from the postman?

JOANN. She means he drove her to the hospital.

ALYSSA. No, I don't mean that.

RENEE. Could we get you something to drink?

BERNIE. Diet Pepsi, Dr. Pepper?

JOANN. I'm sorry, we're out.

RENEE. We have, kind of like, tomato juice.

ALYSSA. A new kind, it's a little thicker.

JOANN. We guarantee you'll like it.

BERNIE. Well ... wow, these are like coffins.

ALYSSA (cheerful). Isn't it cool?

BERNIE. You guys sleep in coffins?

RENEE. Only during the day.

JOANN. She's kidding. See, here's the deal ... we love vampire movies ...

ALYSSA. Really love them, because ...

JOANN. So we found these at a yard sale ...

BERNIE. Some yard sale.

RENEE. Well it was a mortuary yard sale. They had all kinds of great stuff.

ALYSSA. Autopsy saws, cadaver transportation gurneys ...

RENEE & JOANN. Alyssa!

ALYSSA. Sorreeeee.

JOANN. We're just kidding around y'know. Kind of a hobby. Spook our parents. Revolt our friends.

BERNIE. I kind of love it actually.

ALYSSA. Really?

BERNIE. I was never into the horror stuff, but I kind of get this.

JOANN. That's good, Bernie.

BERNIE. You mind if I try out a coffin?

RENEE. Knock yourself out.

JOANN. So to speak.

ALYSSA. I'll get you some ... tomato juice.

(He climbs in. ALYSSA exits.)

BERNIE. I have this friend who actually thinks he's a vampire.

JOANN. Really?

BERNIE. Talk about crazy.

JOANN. Yeah, talk about crazy.

RENEE. Yeah, talk about crazy. (She hisses at him showing her teeth.)

BERNIE (laughing). That is so sick, the way you do that.

RENEE. I practice.

ALYSSA (re-enters with a glass of red liquid). Here ya go, Bernie sweetie.

BERNIE (getting back out of the coffin). I could really get into this coffin thing.

RENEE. Cozy, huh?

BERNIE. Yeah.

ALYSSA (hands him the glass). This will pep you up.

BERNIE (he drinks. A brief pause). Wow. I mean wow! That is like incredibly, unbelievably good. That is like, "Yeah baby!!!" I love this stuff, what is this stuff?

JOANN. It's organic.

BERNIE. Where can I get this stuff?

JOANN. You'll find it available pretty soon.

BERNIE. Well, I dig what you guys are into. Lotta fun.

JOANN. Yeah, lotta fun.

BERNIE. Listen I got to go. My father wants to talk to me about the game, throwing the coach into the stands and everything.

ALYSSA. I'm sure you'll be able to handle your father.

BERNIE. Don't know about that. Nice to meet you, Joann. Nice to meet you, Renee. Love the coffins.

JOANN. I thought you might.

BERNIE (to ALYSSA). So, you want to hang out later?

ALYSSA. I could hang out with you forever, Bernie.

BERNIE. Yeah? OK then. Bye.

ALYSSA. Bye.

RENEE. Bye.

JOANN. Bye, bye, bye.

(He exits.)

ALYSSA. Is he cute or what?

RENEE. Adorable.

JOANN. And pretty far gone.

ALYSSA. When do you think he'll know he's a vampire?

JOANN. I'd say right around dinner time.

ALYSSA. Dinner time.

RENEE. Dinner time! (She does the vampire hiss.)

JOANN. Hey, it's dark. I'm ravenous. Let's go out for a snack.

RENEE. Cool beans.

ALYSSA. Or we could stay in and just vampire the pizza guy.

RENEE. I'm down. We can try him with the new peanut sauce.

JOANN. OK by me. We can just cool out and eat in our coffins. There's carbonated blood in the refrigerator.

ALYSSA. Like a pajama party for cannibals.

RENEE. Just us girls.

ALYSSA. I love it.

(They climb in.)

ALYSSA *(cont'd)*. You guys will have to come to Bernie's next game. He'll literally eat the other team.

(They all hiss and high-five.)

ALYSSA (cont'd). I love being the quarterback's girl, it's so fifties.

(Blackout.)