

WINE ABOUT IT
A Play By
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CAST OF CHARACTERS

HENLEY REED- A 25-year old wedding planner in her prime. She is the type of girl that has always known what she wants out of life, which includes a successful career, a happy family, and a long life. Very intelligent, but naïve.

BROOKE REED- Henley's older sister. Brooke is a 27-year old writer who is very intelligent, outspoken, and driven. She is the complete opposite from her sister, but the two are still close.

JANICE REED- The mother of these two girls. She is a 55-year old woman who is put together, and loves her girls more than anything in the world.

Time: Late January

Place: Henley's Apartment in Seattle, Washington.

The Set: The Apartment of Henley Reed.

Wine About It

Scene 1: The Only One

(Lights rise on an empty apartment in Seattle, Washington. It is clean, chic, and well-organized.)

(HENLEY enters from her bedroom offstage. She goes to the kitchen, and begins to start taking appetizers out from the refrigerator, and puts them on the bar. She then starts to take out wine glasses from the cupboards and sets them down in a line on the bar as well. She looks at the display for a moment and decides to flip where the appetizers and wine glasses are. She looks at it once more. HENLEY then moves one of the wine glasses a centimeter to the right.)

(We hear a knock at the door, but before HENLEY is able to answer it BROOKE lets herself in.)

BROOKE

I brought moscato for your weak ass!

HENLEY

And I have the hard stuff for yours.

BROOKE

You know me so well.

(BROOKE gives the bottle of wine to HENLEY, and goes to hug her.)

How was your day?

(BROOKE starts to dig into the appetizers.)

HENLEY

Long.

(HENLEY starts making BROOKE'S usual, rum and coke.)

BROOKE

You sure you're ready for tonight then?

HENLEY
(laughing)

I think I'll be able to manage. Besides, I'm more worried about you.

BROOKE

Why?

HENLEY

(Imitating their mother)
“Brooke, do you have any nice young men in your life yet?”

BROOKE
As a matter-of-fact mom, I do. Except it’s a woman.

HENLEY
(This is news to her)
Seriously?

BROOKE
No!

HENLEY
Just checking.

BROOKE
Hen!

HENLEY
What? It doesn’t hurt to ask.

BROOKE
It was a joke.

HENLEY
I thought jokes were supposed to be funny.

BROOKE
You’re an asshole

HENLEY
I am related to you.

(HENLEY crosses over to the couch with a glass of moscato, and a
rum and coke for BROOKE)

I’m surprised you got here before mom.

BROOKE
I know. Did you text her?

HENLEY
Yeah, she hasn’t responded yet.

BROOKE

I'm sure she's just running behind.

HENLEY

Yeah.

BROOKE

So why was your day long?

HENLEY

Well, this one bride I'm working with is probably the worst human being I think I've ever met. She called me at 2 am to yell at me about how I didn't compliment the way she looked when we met the other day. Apparently she was wearing white, and it was like a trial run for the color of her wedding dress.

BROOKE

But it's just white.

HENLEY

There are actually a shit ton of different shades of white. Ghost white, white smoke, baby powder, old lace, floral white, seashell...the list goes on.

BROOKE

Who comes up with that? It's fucking white.

HENLEY

I mean it has to do with color perception, and the ways neurons are configured in different formations in our eyes.

(Beat.)

BROOKE

It's fucking white. (Beat) So, have you been able to focus on your wedding at all?

HENLEY

Yeah.

BROOKE

How many times has Archer pushed back the wedding?

HENLEY

We've pushed it back. Both of our jobs are a lot at the moment, and we want to wait so we can give the wedding our full attention.

BROOKE

Is your dress gonna be seashell or floral lace?

HENLEY

It's gonna be fucking white.

BROOKE

Wanna do something stupid?

HENLEY

No, but I'm sure you'll talk me into it.

(BROOKE crosses to her purse.)

BROOKE

Drum roll, please.

(HENLEY pats her lap in a non-enthusiastic way.)

That's really all you're going to give me? This is a momentous occasion, and I'm truly hurt by the way you are acting right now.

HENLEY
(laughing)

Fine.

BROOKE

Drum roll, please.

(HENLEY tries the drum roll again. This time it pleases
BROOKE. BROOKE. pulls out a tupperware bowl with brownies.
She opens the tupperware.)

Ta dah!

(Beat.)

HENLEY
(dispassionately)

Cool.

BROOKE

This is exciting, Hen!

HENLEY

They're just brownies.

BROOKE

Oh, no, no, no, no! Not just brownies. They're special.

HENLEY

Did you make them?

BROOKE

As a matter of fact, I did!

HENLEY

Wow, this is a momentous occasion indeed!

BROOKE

Not the point, Hen!

HENLEY

Then what's the point Brooke?

BROOKE

They're edibles!

HENLEY

Well I'd hope so, but it is your baking so I wouldn't be surprised!

BROOKE

Oh my god, no, Hen! They're from my good friend Mary Jane.

HENLEY

Who's that?

BROOKE

It's weed Henley. They are weed brownies.

HENLEY

Oh.

BROOKE

Just eat one.

HENLEY

What's it like?

BROOKE

It's a brownie.

HENLEY

But can you taste the weed?

BROOKE

Have you not had an edible before?

HENLEY

No.

BROOKE

Well, today's your lucky day.

(HENLEY grabs a brownie, and so does BROOKE. BROOKE begins to eat while HENLEY is hesitant.)

What?

HENLEY

What?

BROOKE

You haven't had a bit, and you already look sick.

HENLEY

Just give me a second! I'm nervous.

BROOKE

My brownies are not that bad.

HENLEY

I've just never gotten high before. I hear it does weird things to people.

BROOKE

Like what?

HENLEY

Wasn't there a news story about this one guy who tried weed and like ate people.

BROOKE

Pretty sure that was bath salts.

HENLEY

Oh.

BROOKE

All weed does is mellow you out. Just try it once. Check it off your bucket list.

HENLEY

Okay, but don't be surprised if I try to eat you.

(HENLEY eats the brownie. There is a knock at the door.)

Fuck!

BROOKE

What?

HENLEY

She's here!

BROOKE

I heard the knock.

HENLEY

This isn't good Brooke!

BROOKE

Why? You invited her.

HENLEY

She's gonna know I'm high.

BROOKE

It doesn't really work that way, Hen. It's gonna take a while for it to hit your system.

HENLEY

How long?

BROOKE

Depends on the person. Thirty minutes, probably longer.

HENLEY

This is gonna be a short girls night.

BROOKE

Stop. You'll be fine.

(HENLEY goes to open the door, while BROOKE crosses to the kitchen to make herself another drink.)

HENLEY

Hey, Mo-

(JANICE bursts into the apartment. She seems a little shaken.)

JANICE

I had the absolute worst time coming here!

BROOKE

We're off to a good start.

HENLEY

What happened?

JANICE

I will never drive through a neighborhood again!

HENLEY

Why?

JANICE

They saw me!

HENLEY

Woah slow down, you're not making sense.

JANICE

I'm going straight to hell.

BROOKE

Hey! I'll see you there!

(HENLEY gives a "you're not helping the situation" look to BROOKE.)

(giving into HENLEY) What happened?

JANICE

The puppy...I ran over it.

BROOKE

Oh, shit!

JANICE

They saw me...the family saw me!

HENLEY
(trying not to laugh)

Oh, god!

So, I ran.

JANICE

You didn't stay?

BROOKE

Well, I'm sure it was an accident.

HENLEY
(trying to console)

You're going to hell.

BROOKE

Brooke!

HENLEY

You could've at least stopped and said you were sorry.

BROOKE

Well, I was going to, but I recognized the owner.

JANICE

Who was it?

HENLEY

Mr. Morton.

JANICE

From church?

HENLEY

Yes, sweet old Mr. Morton who sneaks me lifesavers during the sermon.

JANICE

And you don't think he's gonna bring it up to you at the next service?

BROOKE

I have tinted windows!

JANICE

Oh my god, you're going to hell.

HENLEY

This is partially your fault!

JANICE

I didn't run over the puppy.

HENLEY

You invited me over!

JANICE

I can't believe you killed the puppy Hen.

BROOKE

Brooke told you to go a "faster" route to my place by cutting through the neighborhoods.

HENLEY

I guess we'll keep each other company in hell then.

BROOKE

Your father's going to be really lonely.

JANICE

Do you want a drink mom?

HENLEY

Multiple.

JANICE

You gonna double fist it tonight?

BROOKE

The thought crossed my mind.

JANICE

Is moscato okay?

HENLEY

Oh, no! That's too sweet for me.

JANICE

I have merlot.

HENLEY

That's fine.

JANICE

Do you want ice?

HENLEY

BROOKE

Who puts ice in their wine?

(Simultaneously)

JANICE
Wimps.

HENLEY
I do.

JANICE
(To HENLEY) That's a trait you got from your father. I don't raise wimps.

BROOKE
Mom, you have to tell Hen about all the drama with Aunt Jackie.

JANICE
Oh my good lord your Aunt Jackie is a-

BROOKE
(Interrupting)
A bitch.

JANICE
I wasn't going to put it that way, Brooke; but she is a huge bitch. Her new favorite pastime is to passively aggressively comment on anything you post on Facebook. You know how I just updated my profile picture?

HENLEY
I haven't really been on Facebook rec-

JANICE
Well I changed my profile picture to one with the MILF's in Miami, and-

HENLEY
I'm sorry what?

JANICE
I posted a picture with the MILF's in Miami on Face-

HENLEY
Do you know what that stands for?

JANICE
What? MILF?

HENLEY
Yeah.

JANICE

Mother's in lovely friendships.

BROOKE

That's exactly what it means. Keep going.

JANICE

Well, I posted the picture of us each holding a drink and your Aunt comments that one cat emoji gasping with the champagne glass emoji next to it.

BROOKE

I can't believe she would do that!

JANICE

That was my reaction! So I commented on her profile picture.

HENLEY

Oh no.

JANICE

You know the one picture with her and your cousin Charlie? Well, I commented the nerdy emoji with the glasses.

HENLEY

So what are you trying to get across?

BROOKE

Hen, it's pretty obvious.

JANICE

I'm trying to get across how nerdy Charlie is, and that my children are more attractive than hers.

HENLEY

Mom, Charlie goes to Harvard.

JANICE

Only people with no social abilities go there. I'm just thankful to have two beautiful children who know how to pick up on social cues.

HENLEY

Pretty sure only one of us knows how to do that.

BROOKE

Excuse me?

HENLEY

Brooke, you have me order for you when we go out.

BROOKE

Why would I need to order when I have someone to do it for me?

HENLEY

Because human interaction is healthy.

BROOKE

Yeah... not a fan.

HENLEY

Of people?

BROOKE

There are only a select few that are deemed worthy enough for me to spend my time with.

HENLEY

Well I'm honored.

BROOKE

Don't be. You can't choose your family.

JANICE

So you aren't choosing to hang out with us right now?

BROOKE

Well, yeah, but-

JANICE

So, I'd say we're pretty worthy.

HENLEY

Hey, what are we feeling tonight? Dirty Dancing, Pretty in Pink, or Breakfast Club?

BROOKE

Breakfast Club.

(HENLEY gives BROOKE a look.)

What? I love that movie.

HENLEY

I do too, but I'm not really in the mood. It's kinda depressing.

BROOKE

How is it depressing?

HENLEY

Everyone in the movie is like, miserable the whole time.

BROOKE

I mean they are stuck in detention.

HENLEY

Well yeah, but it's a movie that makes me reevaluate my life.

BROOKE

I think that's the point.

HENLEY

I'm just not in the mood for thinking too hard.

BROOKE

I know that must be hard for you.

HENLEY

What?

BROOKE

Thinking.

HENLEY

Asshole.

JANICE

Language.

HENLEY

Brooke just called me dumb.

JANICE

At least she didn't use a mean word.

HENLEY

So that makes it okay?