

Sarah and Manny

A One Act Play

by Paul Bolger

Scene: Daytime. The sun is out. Two special needs friends sit on a park bench.

Sarah. Manny?

Manny. What?

Sarah. Don't say what Manny. My father always said "Don't say what." He hated that word. He said "Say excuse me."

Manny. My apologies to your father Sarah. Excuse me.

Sarah. Manny, do you have problems with your AOL?

Manny. You're having problems with your AOL?

Sarah. Yes.

Manny. Which one?

Sarah. What do you mean?

Manny. Did you call your doctor?

Sarah. Did I call my doctor?

Manny. *(Stands. Flexes his knees.)* Mine seem to be working fine.

Sarah. Manny. I'm talking about my AOL A-O-L. On my computer.

Manny. I thought you said AOL.

Sarah. AOL Manny.

Manny. Sorry Sarah. Now that I think about it, I may have heard you say AOL but in my head I went right to AOL.

Sarah. Manny, what do you use when you're on your computer?

Manny. Uh. Uh. The hysterical one!

Sarah. The hysterical one?

Manny. Yes. You know. Uh, I mean-uh, the drink!

Sarah. The drink?

Manny. Uh, yes. You know. The guy. He uh, used to play baseball for the New York Yankees. He played catcher. Yogi Berra!

Sarah. Yogi Bear?

Manny. No. Yogi BERRA!

Sarah. I thought you said Yogi Bear?

Manny. No. Yogi BERRA! He made a commercial for a chocolate drink. YOO-HOO!

Sarah. You mean Yahoo!

Manny. No. I mean YOO-HOO!

Sarah. I know you mean YOO-HOO. I'm talking about your computer! You use Yahoo.

Manny. Right. On my computer. I use Yahoo!

Sarah. That's quite a way to remember Yahoo Manny!

Manny. Phew. You said it. I'm sorry I have Yahoo and you have AOL and it's slow and it hesitates.

Sarah. That's all right Manny. Don't worry.

Manny. I won't. Worry is the sign of the devil.

Sarah. The devil wears Prada.

Manny. How do you know?

Sarah. I know Manny. I know lots of things. I have ESP'.

Manny. Me too! I watch it every Monday night. Ever since Monday Night Football left ABC.

Sarah. Oh Manny. All these letters.. TMI. I think I prefer sayings.

Manny. C'est La Vie!

Sarah. "Que Sera Sera!"

Manny. Doris Day. 1956.

Sarah. I loved her show.

Manny. Me too.

Sarah. She was abused. By one of her husbands, I think.

Manny. What happened?

Sarah. I don't know. I wasn't in her shoes. So was Carol Channing. She played DOLLY!

Manny. HELLO! Broadway, 1964. I could never hit a woman.

Sarah. There are many ways to abuse Manny.

Manny. Did they live?

Sarah. Yes. They survived. They were strong. They had two X chromosomes.

Manny. How do you know?

Sarah. I know Manny. I know. All women have two X chromosomes. We're lucky. Men only get one.

Manny. Where are they?

Sarah. The X chromosomes?

Manny. Yes.

Sarah. Somewhere....somewhere....

Manny. "Over the Rainbow!" Judy Garland, 1939!

Sarah. ...In our bodies...I think it has something to do with the DNA.

Manny. I don't like guns.

Sarah. DNA Manny. DNA. Not NRA.

Manny. I thought you said NRA.

Sarah. I did not Manny. I said DNA.

Manny. Oh. I may have heard you say DNA but in my head I went right to NRA. All these letters. They get me all mixed up. I think everyone is using these letters all the time because I think time is running out. Time is definitely running out!

Sarah. I think we have lots of time. I think everyone is using all these letters because I think people are lazy. L-A-Z-Y!

Manny. How so?

Sarah. Nobody looks up! The whole world, the whole wide world is always looking down. It takes time to look up! Effort! Work! People are lazy. And they're

impatient. Everybody wants everything now! This instant! Nobody wants to wait. Nobody has patience. Where did it go? Patience takes time. And work!

Manny. Are you sure you don't have 3 X chromosomes Sarah?

Sarah. Manny. Do you remember the time when we first started coming here?

Manny. Yes Sarah. I remember it well.

Sarah. *Gigi*, 1953!

Manny. Sarah. What's your favorite movie?

Sarah. *Guys and Dolls*, 1955!

Manny. I think I know why!

(Together) "Sister Sarah!"

Sarah. My mother said I was named after her. What's your favorite movie Manny?

Manny. *Superman!* Kal-el. The man of steel. Able to leap tall buildings in a single bound. Look, up in the sky. It's a bird. It's a plane. It's Superman!

Sarah. What's your favorite song from a movie?

Manny. Hmmmm.. "High Hopes!" Frank Sinatra, 1959. *A Hole in the Head*. What's yours?

Sarah. "Climb Every Mountain!" Patricia Neway, 1959. *The Sound of Music*. Mother Abbess.

Manny. Another nun!

Sarah. At least I wasn't named after a bank!

Manny. Excuse me?

Sarah. Manny Hanny! Short for Manufacturers Hanover Trust! Those were the days.

Manny. ... My friend...

Sarah. ...We thought they'd never end...

Manny. ...We'd sing and dance...

Sarah. ...Forever and a day...Mary Hopkin, 1968.

Manny. ...We'd live the life we chose....

Sarah. ...We'd fight and never lose....

Manny. ...Those were the days...

Sarah. ...Oh yes those were the days...

Manny. ...Of Our Lives. Tonight is my favorite tv night!

Sarah. What's on?

Manny. SUV Criminal Intent.

(fade to black)