

Ava Coggin

Age: 15, Grade: 9

Home School, Prattville, AL

Educator: Lucas Jacob

Category: Dramatic Script

Match-Making

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CAST OF CHARACTERS

MARTHA – A 40-year-old woman with beady eyes and a perpetual frown. Her hair is black with streaks of grey, and is tied back in a tight bun. She wears a pale blue knee-length dress and brown fuzzy slippers.

NATHANIEL – A 25-year-old man, and MARTHA's cousin. He wears blue jeans and a flannel shirt. His hair is black, and his eyes are grey. He is taller than MARTHA.

CALLIE – A 23-year-old woman, who works at the same grocery store as NATHANIEL. She has straight, blonde hair, and wears a loose white shirt, and has a necklace with a pendant in the shape of a dog's paw print.

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(It is a Saturday afternoon. The scene starts in MARTHA'S living room. There are a couple of chairs, a fancy rug, and shelves with antique teacups on them. Upstage left is the door to the kitchen. The door to MARTHA's house is at stage right, and next to the door is a window. MARTHA and NATHANIEL are sitting in chairs, talking quietly. There are at least five cats in the room, probably more in the room, probably, ve

NATHANIEL: Ohhhhhh-kay, then.

(Another pause.)

CALLIE: Hey Martha, do you celebrate Valentine's Day?

MARTHA: I don't really 'celebrate.' I just put ribbons on my cats.

CALLIE: How cute!

MARTHA: What are *you* doing for Valentine's Day?

CALLIE: I probably won't do much. I don't have a date, so I might stay at home and read or something. What about you, Nathaniel?

NATHANIEL: Um. Nothing. *(He glances around the room, then looks back down.)*

MARTHA: You could try to get a date! *(She winks at him.)*

NATHANIEL: I... uh... who would I ask out? *(Glances briefly at CALLIE.)*

MARTHA: Oh, I don't know.... There has to be *someone* you like. *(Winks again)*

NATHANIEL: Uhhhhh. . . *(Quickly)* Oh, what did you think about that weird rainstorm yesterday?

CALLIE: It was very strange.

NATHANIEL: Yeah, that was odd. What do you think caused it?

CALLIE: Who knows.

(NATHANIEL goes back to staring at the floor.)

CALLIE: So, Martha. You're Nathaniel's cousin, right?

MARTHA: Indeed, I am.

CALLIE: Cool.

MARTHA: And you work with him?

CALLIE: Yes.

MARTHA: I see.

CALLIE: I noticed you have a few cats.

MARTHA: Yes. This one is Muffin. Over there are Snowy and Spot. That's Mr. Whiskers by the door, and Fluff is under your chair. And that isn't even all of them.

CALLIE: Wow. I don't have any cats; I just have three very big dogs.

MARTHA: Oh! You know, Nathaniel *looooves* dogs. Adores them! Don't you, Nathaniel?*(She pats his shoulder.)*

CALLIE: Really? You do?

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NATHAN

NATHANIEL: Um. Yeah.

CALLIE: Cool! What's your favorite breed?

NATHANIEL: Uhhhhh.... The fluffy ones that herd sheep.

CALLIE: (*Laughs*) That doesn't narrow it down much. I like golden retrievers!

NATHANIEL: Yeah. Those are cute.

MARTHA: I think this is going very well! You both love dogs, you work together so you can talk often.... Hey, maybe you two should go out for Valentine's Day!

(*There is a very long pause.*)

MARTHA: What's wrong?

NATHANIEL: Go out? With Callie?

MARTHA: Why not?

NATHANIEL: Uhhhhh.... I....

CALLIE: I haven't been on a date in a long time.

NATHANIEL: Yeah. It's, uh... probably not a good—

MARTHA: (*interrupting him*) Oh, come on! Ask her out!

NATHANIEL: But what if Callie—

MARTHA:

CALLIE: Where should we go?

NATHANIEL: I don't know.

CALLIE: What if we . . . get tickets for a movie?

NATHANIEL: Sounds great!

MARTHA: Alright, lovebirds! As much fun as this was, Callie needs to go out there and show Phil where her car is.

CALLIE: Oh, I just parked it on the side of the road. I can take him to it. *(She looks at Nathaniel)* See you tomorrow!

NATHANIEL: See you tomorrow. Happy Valentine's day!

CALLIE: Happy Valentine's day.

(Callie opens the door, walks out, and closes it behind her.)

(MARTHA walks up to stand beside NATHANIEL.)

MARTHA: Good job, Nathan.

NATHANIEL: Thanks. I'm not sure what I did, though.

MARTHA: *(Smiles)* You got yourself a date.