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incurable romantics

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by Michael Cheikin

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Production Information

Synopsis: Incurable Romantics is a two character piece where a young disabled girl ventures into the world of men with unexpected results.

Actors: Two actors:
1 Male, late 20's
1 Female, late 20's- early 30's

Set: None needed.

Running Time: Approximately 18 minutes.

Props: Two manual wheelchairs, one without leg rests (for SALLY), and one with (for PETER)

Towel

TIME: Present.

PLACE: A lounge in a nursing home for the young disabled.

DRAMATIS PERSONAE (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

SALLY A woman in her late 20's, with cerebral palsy. Attractive and very feisty. She is confined to a wheelchair. She wears a flowery dress. She has a "drool towel" on her shoulder, which intentionally blends in with her dress. She is spastic in speech and movement, with tongue protrusions, so she tries to keep her utterances minimal. It might take her many long seconds to get out one word or phrase. She's had cerebral palsy her whole life.

In general, there is a delay between Sally's thoughts and her speech. We should sense her thinking, through her gestures, facial expressions, and laughter.

Sally has a great sense of humor. We should be both laughing with her, and at her funny sounds and movements when she laughs (like that cartoon dog who had a funny laugh).

PETER A man in his late 20's-early 30's, with recent Spinal Cord Injury (SCI), and Quadriplegia at level C56. Not only has he lost his ability to move, he now have to live in an institution. He can only move his head, shrug his shoulders, lift his upper arms and flex his elbows. His elbows un-flex with gravity.

He has a bracelet on his right wrist.

Regarding their sitting postures, they should not be sitting straight. Because of their inability to move (in reality, they would have power chairs, since they do not have the strength or coordination to push a manual chair any long distance), they are essentially "plopped" in their chairs in the morning by their aides, and stay in that position until put back to bed or they manage to get a kind soul to reposition them. Their postures should also reflect their medical conditions--with CP more spastic, with SCI more floppy.

NOTES

[Lines in square brackets are optional or alternative lines.]

(CAPITALIZED lines in parentheses are for actors' clarification.)

Cutoffs begin-- --and end with dashes

Overlaps / begin and / end with slashes

(TO THE ACTORS--Sally has a major speech impediments, so slow speech is the only way to be clear. You can't go too slow.)

Sally is spastic, so it is very hard to get out each word or phrase. Her rhythm is staccato. Her tongue protrudes with each attempt to talk. She tries to use as few words as possible. Sometimes, the sentence does come out whole (when relaxed).

Peter's voice is somewhat affected by his impairment. Because his stomach and lower chest muscles don't work, his breath, and voice, are weakened. He is trapped in his body, and is newly injured, so he's quite depressed.

Peter is very impatient at first with Sally. He steps over and finishes her lines.

You should review SIZING HIM UP for background information, such as the origin of Peter's nickname and other history of Sally.

1 (MUSIC STARTS.)
2
3 (THE LIGHTS RISE
4 HALFWAY, WE SEE STAGE CREW BRING OUT
5 THE WHEELCHAIRS; PETER'S DOWN CENTER
6 LEFT AND SALLY'S UP RIGHT. THEY SET
7 UP THE REST OF THE SET. THE ACTORS
8 PLAYING PETER AND SALLY WALK OUT,
9 STAND IN FRONT OF THEIR WHEELCHAIRS,
10 AND SIT DOWN (TO ANSWER THE QUESTION
11 TO THE AUDIENCE OF WHETHER THEY ARE
12 REALLY DISABLED OR NOT). LIGHTS
13 RISE TO THREE-QUARTERS; A MEMBER OF
14 THE STAGE CREW ADJUSTS PETER, AS IF
15 THE CREW MEMBER IS AN ATTENDANT.)
16
17 AS THE LIGHTS SLOWLY RISE TO FULL,
18 PETER IS WORKING ON A COMPUTER,
19 USING A "MOUTH STICK". WHEN HE
20 NEEDS TO TALK, HE PUTS THE MOUTH
21 STICK IN A "DOCKING STATION", A CUP
22 MOUNTED ON THE COMPUTER DESK.)
23
24 (SALLY COMES FORWARD FROM UP RIGHT,
25 PROPELLING HERSELF WITH HER FEET.
26 SALLY'S LEGS KICK SPASTICALLY.)
27
28 (SHE LOOKS AT PETER AND WAITS,
29 HOPING HE WILL NOTICE HER. LONG
30 PAUSE.)
31
32 SALLY:
33 (PAUSE, SHE THINKS.) Nice... bracelet.
34
35 PETER:
36 (NO REPLY.)
37
38 SALLY:
39 Where, where'd you get it?
40
41 PETER:
42 (WITH STICK IN HIS MOUTH) Please, I'm trying to get this stupid
43 computer to work.
44
45 SALLY:
46 Want help?
47
48 PETER:
49 (THROUGH MOUTH STICK) No thank you.
50
51 (HE STRUGGLES.)
52

53 SALLY:
54 One key at a time? (SHE LAUGHS AT HIM)
55
56 (VERY ANNOYED, HE PUTS THE STICK IN
57 THE DOCKING STATION. HE TALKS TO
58 HER LIKE SHE IS DEAF AND DUMB).
59
60 PETER:
61 YES, ONE KEY AT A TIME!
62
63 SALLY:
64 I'm not deaf!
65
66 PETER:
67 Then you can hear this: Go away!
68
69 (HE PICKS UP THE STICK AND RESUMES
70 PECKING AT THE KEYBOARD. SHE
71 CONTINUES TO OBSERVE.)
72
73 SALLY:
74 (LAUGHS) That's slow.
75
76 PETER:
77 (THROUGH MOUTH STICK) Oh, and I bet you can do it faster.
78
79 SALLY:
80 Much.
81
82 PETER:
83 (MOUTH STICK) Look, I'm trying to concentrate.
84
85 SALLY:
86 What're you doin'?
87
88 PETER:
89 (MOUTH STICK) I'm trying to email someone.
90
91 SALLY:
92 Oh, that's easy.
93
94 (PETER AGAIN PUTS THE STICK DOWN)
95
96 PETER:
97 You know something about this?
98
99 SALLY:
100 Watch.
101
102 (SALLY WHEELS AROUND. SHE PRESSES
103 SOME KEYS).
104

105 PETER:
106 Wow.
107
108 SALLY:
109 Macros.
110
111 PETER:
112 Macros?
113
114 SALLY:
115 One key--does a lot.
116
117 PETER:
118 Is there a list, or something?
119
120 SALLY:
121 Here. You need sticky keys.
122
123 (SHE PRESSES ANOTHER KEY
124 COMBINATION)
125
126 PETER:
127 Great. (FORGETS THAT SHE'S THERE)
128
129 SALLY:
130 (ANNOYED) You're welcome.
131
132 PETER:
133 Yeah, thanks.
134
135 (PETER AGAIN TRIES TO GET HIS MOUTH
136 STICK, BUT DROPS IT.)
137
138 PETER:
139 Shit!
140
141 SALLY:
142 I'll get it.
143
144 PETER:
145 Never mind--I can't put it back in my mouth now.
146
147 SALLY:
148 I'll help.
149
150 PETER:
151 No--it has cooties. (TO HIMSELF) Probably get what you have.
152
153 (LONG AWKWARD PAUSE)
154
155 SALLY:
156 When, when'd ya get your bracelet?
157

158 PETER:
159 Huh? Just before my accident.
160
161 SALLY:
162 Wha, wha happened?
163
164 PETER:
165 I only fell 10 feet and I broke my damn neck.
166
167 SALLY:
168 Oh. (PAUSE) My name's Sally. (PAUSE) "Spazzy Sally".
169
170 PETER:
171 Spazzy?
172
173 SALLY:
174 My, my nickname.
175
176 PETER:
177 What kind of nickname is that?
178
179 SALLY:
180 You have one too. (LAUGHS)
181
182 PETER:
183 What?
184
185 SALLY:
186 I'm not telling!
187
188 PETER:
189 Jeez, I'm not here two weeks, and I got a nickname. I HATE this
190 place.
191
192 SALLY:
193 Me too!
194
195 PETER:
196 How long you've been here?
197
198 SALLY:
199 Ten.
200
201 PETER:
202 Ten months! Jeez, that's a long time.
203
204 SALLY:
205 Years.
206
207 PETER:
208 Years!?
209

210 SALLY:
211 Nowhere to go. Yet.
212
213 PETER:
214 Don't you have parents?
215
216 SALLY:
217 18 years. Worse. Much worse.
218
219 PETER:
220 That's why you came here?
221
222 SALLY:
223 Wanted my, my own life.
224
225 PETER:
226 Yeah. Well, I'm not spending my life here. I'm getting out as soon
227 as I can.
228
229 SALLY:
230 Good.
231
232 PETER:
233 Real soon. As soon as I'm able to walk.
234
235 SALLY:
236 (LAUGHS, IMPLYING HIS PECKER, EVEN IF ONLY TO HERSELF) With what?
237
238 PETER:
239 My legs! The doctors say I'll never walk again. But I'll show
240 them.
241
242 SALLY:
243 I HATE doctors.
244
245 PETER:
246 Me too!—They told me I would never be able to move my arms. Look
247 at this. (HE DEMONSTRATES). Next my hands, then my legs.
248
249 SALLY:
250 Soon you can push a wheelchair!
251
252 PETER:
253 (ANGRY) I'm not pushing no wheelchair, get it. I'm walking the
254 hell out of here.
255
256 SALLY:
257 OK.
258
259 PETER:
260 Who sent you over here, anyway, one of the therapists?
261

262 SALLY:
263 No.
264
265 PETER:
266 So why are you talking to me?
267
268 SALLY:
269 You, you want me to go away?
270
271 (PAUSE. PETER CALMS)
272
273 PETER:
274 ~~I have nothing else to do.~~ I really don't care.
275
276 SALLY:
277 What about Jennie?
278
279 PETER:
280 Who?
281
282 SALLY:
283 (INDICATES) Her. Talking to you before.
284
285 PETER:
286 (YECH) Oh her.
287
288 SALLY:
289 Like her makeup?
290
291 PETER:
292 Nasty.
293
294 SALLY:
295 (SALLY LAUGHS) And the perfume?
296
297 PETER:
298 Eeh. I like girls natural. And wild.
299
300 SALLY:
301 (PAUSE) I'm, I'm-- (GETTING UP THE COURAGE TO CALL HERSELF WILD)
302
303 PETER:
304 --and she said Michelle would dump me.
305
306 SALLY:
307 Who?
308
309 PETER:
310 What does she know?
311
312 SALLY:
313 How, how long have you/ been going--
314

315 PETER:
316 /Michelle loves me. This won't make a difference to her.
317
318 SALLY:
319 Does-she she visit?
320
321 PETER:
322 Well, not yet. Car trouble. But she calls every day. Almost. I
323 was trying to send her an email.
324
325 SALLY:
326 Want me to help you/ send--
327
328 PETER:
329 / Plus we made a pact in our senior year at Penn.
330
331 SALLY:
332 Pact?
333
334 PETER:
335 It has to do with love. You wouldn't understand.
336
337 SALLY:
338 Yes I would.
339
340 PETER:
341 (MOCKINGLY) How's that?
342
343 SALLY:
344 I'm not tellin!
345
346 PETER:
347 Who cares anyway? You're just one of them.
348
349 SALLY:
350 No, no I'm not.
351
352 PETER:
353 (MIMICKING HER) Ye, ye, yes you are. You're gonna be, be be here
354 your whole life.
355
356 SALLY:
357 So are you!
358
359 PETER:
360 I'm getting the hell out of here, you hear me!
361
362 (LONG PAUSE)
363
364 SALLY:
365 (BEGINS MAKING CIRCLE WITH WHEELCHAIR) Me too--I'm going to school.
366

367 PETER:
368 School! (LAUGHS, MOCKINGLY) For what!?

369 SALLY:
370 (DEFENSIVE) Computers! I'm, I'm getting A's.

371 PETER:
372 What are you going to do with that?

373 SALLY:
374 Internet. Already got, got a job.

375 PETER:
376 Really? You're making money?

377 SALLY:
378 Yeah.

379 PETER:
380 What are you selling?

381 SALLY:
382 I'm not telling!

383 PETER:
384 (GENERALLY ANNOYED) You're making me seasick. Could you please
385 stop moving so much.

386 SALLY:
387 Can't.

388 PETER:
389 Why not?

390 SALLY:
391 No control. Just like you.

392 PETER:
393 I'm not like you.

394 SALLY:
395 If you say so.

396 PETER:
397 What's wrong with you, anyway?

398 SALLY:
399 Cerebral Palsy.

400 PETER:
401 Oh. Brain damaged, right.

402
403
404
405
406
407
408
409
410
411
412
413
414
415
416
417
418

419 SALLY:
420 (LAUGHS) Not my thinking. Just moving.
421
422 PETER:
423 What, did your mother drop you on your head or something?
424
425 SALLY:
426 (LAUGHS) Yeah. Made me smarter. My IQ is one-hundred-forty-eight.
427
428 PETER:
429 Are your parents this way?
430
431 SALLY:
432 (LAUGHS) Yeah, brain damaged!
433
434 PETER:
435 (LONG PAUSE, HE THINKS) Do you let yours visit?
436
437 SALLY:
438 Yeah.
439
440 PETER:
441 I won't let mine.
442
443 SALLY:
444 Think they're helping. Makes them/ feel better.
445
446 PETER:
447 /feel less guilty. Mine just upset me.
448
449 SALLY:
450 They'll feel guilty the rest/ of their life.
451
452 PETER:
453 /rest of their lives. I don't care.
454
455 SALLY:
456 But they'll never ge-get it.
457
458 PETER:
459 Get what?
460
461 SALLY:
462 They only see the outside. We change.
463
464 (PAUSE)
465
466 SALLY:
467 What're you gonna do? Now that/ you're here?
468
469 PETER:
470 /What is this? Now I have to have a "plan"? "Goals"?
471

472 SALLY:
473 It /helps...
474
475 PETER:
476 /My only plan is to walk the hell out of here, get it, Sally the
477 Spaz? Sally the Lifer?
478
479 SALLY:
480 (FIGHTING BACK) So start walking.
481
482 PETER:
483 (PROGRESSIVELY FRENETIC, GETTING DESPERATE) I don't need you. I
484 don't need anyone...
485
486 SALLY:
487 Great!
488
489 PETER:
490 Michelle's gonna help me get out of here. ~~We have a pact.~~ She
491 won't let this get in our way. It's gonna make her love me more...
492
493 SALLY:
494 Sure it will.
495
496 PETER:
497 ...I'm going to move in with her. Once I get to walk. This is easy
498 for us. We ~~like~~ love challenge. We Scaled Half Dome. She once
499 fell 20 feet; broke her arm. I took good care of her. Made her
500 feel real good. Ya know? I gave her just what she needed. Now
501 she'll help me.
502
503 SALLY:
504 You're lucky.
505
506 PETER:
507 She's the lucky one. She...
508
509 (PETER BREAKS DOWN, CRYING.)
510
511 SALLY:
512 Hey... I'm, I'm sorry.
513
514 PETER:
515 (RECOVERING) She hasn't called in a week!
516
517 SALLY:
518 Maybe she's busy.
519
520 PETER:
521 (SNIFFS) Like hell. You should have seen the look on her face.
522 Like I'm contagious or something. (SNIFFS)
523

524 SALLY:
525 It's, it's hard.
526
527 PETER:
528 Well, nothing's gonna stop me. (SNIFFS) If I can't do it with her,
529 I'll do it without her! (PAUSE. SNIFF) I need to blow my nose.
530 How do I get an aide?
531
532 SALLY:
533 Once each shift.
534
535 PETER:
536 (That's hours!) Shit!
537
538 SALLY:
539 I can help.
540
541 PETER:
542 You can blow my nose?
543
544 SALLY:
545 My arms work.
546
547 PETER:
548 (SNIFFS) Probably poke my eyes out.
549
550 SALLY:
551 Then I won't.
552
553 PETER:
554 (SNIFFS) So how would you?...
555
556 SALLY:
557 My towel.
558
559 PETER:
560 Yech. That has your drool!
561
562 SALLY:
563 Your snot!
564
565 PETER:
566 Geez! I HATE this place.
567
568 SALLY:
569 (JOKING) It could be...wild.
570
571 PETER:
572 (SNIFF) I'm so uncomfortable.
573
574 SALLY:
575 I can use your shirt.
576

577 PETER:
578 No. (SNIFFS. RESIGNED:) OK, use the damn towel.
579
580 (SALLY UNLOCKS HER BRAKE, WHEELS
581 OVER, LABORIOUSLY UNLOCKS HIS BRAKE,
582 MOVES PETER AWAY FROM THE COMPUTER
583 STATION, FACING DOWNSTAGE, AND RE-
584 LOCKS HIS BREAK. SHE THEN
585 REPOSITIONS HERSELF NEXT TO HIM,
586 LOCKS HER BRAKES, AND SEARCHES FOR A
587 DRY CORNER OF HER TOWEL.)
588
589 PETER:
590 Please, try to find a dry spot.
591
592 (SHE PUTS THE TOWEL TO HIS NOSE.)
593
594 SALLY:
595 Blow!
596
597 (HE DOES. THE SOUND COULD/SHOULD BE
598 FUNNY.)
599
600 SALLY:
601 Again.
602
603 (HE DOES.)
604
605 SALLY:
606 (MATERNAL, LOOKS AT TOWEL) Good job. You, you have some tears.
607 Want me to wipe them?
608
609 PETER:
610 Yeah.
611
612 (SHE DOES. SHE ADJUSTS HIS WATER
613 BOTTLE TUBE, WHICH SHE HAS MOVED IN
614 DOING THE ABOVE TASK. HE TESTS IT'S
615 LOCATION BY TAKING A QUICK SIP.)
616
617 PETER:
618 I feel better. Thanks. (HE REALLY DOES.)
619
620 SALLY:
621 Welcome.
622
623 (SHE FOLDS THE TOWEL, CONTAINING THE
624 SNOTTY PART, AND PUTS IT BACK ON HER
625 SHOULDER. SHE WHEELS BACK TO HER
626 PLACE AND LOCKS ONE BRAKE.)
627
628 PETER:
629 You can do a lot. I bet you will get out of here one day.

630
631 SALLY:
632 Maybe...(SLIGHT PAUSE) Takes a long/ time.
633
634 PETER:
635 /Well, I'm not taking 10 years.
636
637 SALLY:
638 Time is different when you/ are living here--
639
640 PETER:
641 /I'm not even staying here 10 months.
642
643 SALLY:
644 Let me talk!
645
646 PETER:
647 I don't have forever, you know.
648
649 SALLY:
650 Listen.
651
652 PETER:
653 What?
654
655 SALLY:
656 (WITHOUT A STUTTER) Here time goes slow.
657
658 PETER:
659 I don't care.
660
661 SALLY:
662 It's not safe--to go too fast.
663
664 PETER:
665 I don't care.
666
667 SALLY:
668 If you leave too fast, you'll have to come back.
669
670 PETER:
671 Why?
672
673 SALLY:
674 Need back up. Something goes wrong, you can die. Like climbing
675 with no rope.
676
677 PETER:
678 (PAUSE) Why-why does-did this happen... to...?
679
680 SALLY:
681 (NO STUTTER) I know nothing else.
682

683 PETER:
684 Well, I know something else. And it's a hell of a lot better than
685 this.
686
687 SALLY:
688 I'm glad God made me.
689
690 PETER:
691 You are?!
692
693 SALLY:
694 Yes.
695
696 PETER:
697 But why this way?
698
699 SALLY:
700 ~~(NO REPLY)~~ I'm not telling.
701
702 PETER:
703 ~~(PAUSE) Well? Do you know?~~ Tell me. (PAUSE) Please, if you
704 really know, ...
705
706 SALLY:
707 ~~Yes.~~ You're not ready. For the truth.
708
709 PETER:
710 ~~Why?~~ Yes I am. (PAUSE) Why did God do this to--us.
711
712 SALLY:
713 (YOU ASKED FOR IT) OK. (PAUSE) To make me you stronger.
714
715 PETER:
716 What?
717
718 SALLY:
719 See-- You need to haven't listened. (BEAT) To God.
720
721 PETER:
722 ~~(HOLDING BACK TEARS)~~ I'm afraid [to].
723
724 SALLY:
725 Why?
726
727 PETER:
728 ~~(VERY SAD, NEAR TEARS) I'm afraid I'm gonna hear something I don't~~
729 ~~want to hear. Like, like, I'm never gonna feel my legs. Or my...~~
730 ~~I'm never gonna climb again. That I'm gonna be stuck here for a~~
731 ~~long time. I've screwed up big time. And now I have to pay.~~
732 Like, like, I'm never gonna walk again.
733
734 SALLY:
735 ~~(NO REPLY)~~

736
737 PETER:
738 What do you think I should do?
739
740 SALLY:
741 You're asking me?
742
743 PETER:
744 Yes. I don't know what to do. [Please--] I feel like you know.
745
746 SALLY:
747 Why?
748
749 PETER:
750 You, you, are, smart. I'm sorry I... underestimated you.
751
752 SALLY:
753 (QUICKLY CRIES AND STIFLES)
754
755 PETER:
756 What? Did I say something mean?
757
758 SALLY:
759 No.
760
761 PETER:
762 So? What should I make of this?
763
764 SALLY:
765 (PAUSE) I think, that, that...
766
767 PETER:
768 (PAUSE) I'm waiting patiently.
769
770 (THEY LAUGH)
771
772 SALLY:
773 (WITHOUT A STUTTER) ... that your life is just beginning.
774
775 (LONG PAUSE)
776
777 PETER:
778 Hey, I think I'm getting hungry.
779
780 SALLY:
781 Me too. Almost dinner time.
782
783 PETER:
784 You never told me my nickname.
785
786 SALLY:
787 I'm not telling!
788

789 PETER:
790 I know: "Stud on Wheels".
791
792 SALLY:
793 Wrong!
794
795 PETER:
796 Let's see, you're Spazzy Sally. I must be... Pimply Peter.
797
798 SALLY:
799 No pimples.
800
801 PETER:
802 So what do I have? Huh?
803
804 (HE NOTICES HER GLANCING AT HIS
805 CROTCH. HE LOOKS DOWN.)
806
807 PETER:
808 Oh no.
809
810 SALLY:
811 Guess.
812
813 ~~PETER:~~
814 ~~Peter Precipice?~~
815
816 ~~SALLY:~~
817 ~~Too hard! (PETER REACTS, SHE REALIZES) To SAY!~~
818
819 PETER:
820 Not Peter Penis?
821
822 SALLY:
823 Pecker! (SHE LAUGHS).
824
825 PETER:
826 Peter Pecker!?
827
828 SALLY:
829 It gets big! (SHE LAUGHS)
830
831 PETER:
832 (EMBARRASSED) Eh.
833
834 SALLY:
835 Could be worse. Could be, "Peter Pooper".
836
837 (SHE LAUGHS. HE LAUGHS WITH HER.)
838
839 PETER:
840 You're quick. You're funny too.
841

842
843 SALLY:
844 No I'm not.
845
846 PETER:
847 You know, you're pretty OK.
848
849 SALLY:
850 N-n-n-n-No.
851
852 PETER:
853 Even with that cute little... puddle of drool.
854
855 SALLY:
856 (LAUGHS)
857
858 PETER:
859 So what do you think of me?
860
861 SALLY:
862 I'm not telling!
863
864 PETER:
865 You think I'm good looking?
866
867 SALLY:
868 Hot dogs for dinner!
869
870 PETER:
871 What are you afraid of?
872
873 SALLY:
874 Nothin.
875
876 PETER:
877 Yes you are.
878
879 SALLY:
880 No, no, no I'm not.
881
882 PETER:
883 (MIMICKING HER FONDLY THIS TIME) Ye-ye-yes you are.
884
885 SALLY:
886 You, you're not my type.
887
888 PETER:
889 I'm not?
890
891 SALLY:
892 No. Too su, su, super...
893
894 PETER:

895 (PLAYING) Super? You think I'm super? Aw.
896
897 SALLY:
898 ...ficial.
899
900 PETER:
901 (SLIGHT PAUSE) Hey, come over here.
902
903 SALLY:
904 Why?
905
906 PETER:
907 I'm not tellin!
908
909 SALLY:
910 No.
911
912 PETER:
913 Come on. I want to show you something.
914
915 SALLY:
916 No thank you.
917
918 PETER:
919 Come on. If you don't, I'll have to get you with my tongue. (HE
920 TRIES) [See, it's getting longer].
921
922 SALLY:
923 (LAUGHS) OK. (SHE MOVES CLOSER)
924
925 PETER:
926 (VALIDATING) You like this bracelet?
927
928 SALLY:
929 Nice.
930
931 PETER:
932 I made it. Just before my accident.
933
934 SALLY:
935 Wha, what does it mean?
936
937 PETER:
938 Chinese symbols. ~~For Love and the Universe; bound together by rope.~~
939 Entwined by string.
940
941 SALLY:
942 Cool.
943
944 PETER:
945 Take it. (PAUSE) I want you to have it.
946
947 SALLY:

948 (SCARED) Wh-Why?
949
950 PETER:
951 'Cause you're nice.
952
953 (SHE CRIES)
954
955 PETER:
956 What?
957
958 SALLY:
959 Nothin.
960
961 PETER:
962 Come on--take it.
963
964 SALLY:
965 I can't.
966
967 PETER:
968 Why not?
969
970 _____ SALLY:
971 ~~U-u-u...~~
972
973 _____ PETER:
974 ~~Me?~~
975
976 _____ SALLY:
977 ~~U-niversal love...scares me.~~
978
979 _____ PETER:
980 ~~How?~~
981
982 SALLY:
983 Rope String might break.
984
985 PETER:
986 That's honest. I guess you've had lots of... disappointments.
987 (SLIGHT PAUSE) OK. Let's go for dinner.
988
989 SALLY:
990 I, I'm not ready. (PARTLY BECAUSE SHE'S REAL SLOPPY WHEN SHE EATS)
991
992 PETER:
993 For dinner? But I thought--
994
995 SALLY:
996 --I, I have to eat alone.
997
998 PETER:
999 Oh.
1000

1001 (SHE BEGINS TO MOVE)
1002
1003 PETER:
1004 Hey, can you push me?
1005
1006 SALLY:
1007 Too hard.
1008
1009 PETER:
1010 Really?
1011
1012 SALLY:
1013 I'll go get some help.
1014
1015 (AS SHE WHEELS OFF SLOWLY)
1016
1017 PETER:
1018 Wait. I saw someone with a motorized chair. How can I get one of
1019 those?
1020
1021 SALLY:
1022 I'll tell you later...
1023
1024 PETER:
1025 Hey, I want to know now!
1026
1027 SALLY:
1028 Cool your jets! I'm goin' nowhere. And neither are you. For a
1029 while.
1030
1031 (SHE GIVES HIM A "THUMBS UP" BEFORE
1032 SHE EXITS. HE STICKS HIS TONGUE OUT
1033 AT HER. SHE LAUGHS, THEN EXITS.)
1034
1035 PETER:
1036 (CALLING TO HER) OK, I get it. I have to be patient. (PAUSE) I
1037 can do that, I guess. (LONGER PAUSE) Not as hard as climbing
1038 rocks...
1039
1040 (LONG PAUSE.)
1041
1042 (WHISTLES TO HIMSELF, LOOKING
1043 AROUND)
1044
1045 (VERY SLOW FADE TO
1046 BLACKOUT)
1047
1048 (THE END.)