

Mock Sides: Original Scripts for Workshop Actors

Monday - 1

INT. STUDENT TEST CAR - DAY

MR. MORRIS enters the passenger side of the car and Julie enters the driver side. They both buckle their seat belts.

MR. MORRIS

Okay Julie. What's first?

JULIE

Start the car.

She reaches for the keys in the ignition. Mr. Morris reaches out and stops her hand from turning the key.

MR. MORRIS

No no. We can't just fire the rockets and launch. We have to do a ...

JULIE

...system check. Right.

She adjusts the side mirror, then the rearview mirror. She notices her face and begins to wipe the excess lip gloss from her lips.

MR. MORRIS

Julie, focus. Seat adjustment?

She moves her seat.

JULIE

Check.

MR. MORRIS

Side mirror?

JULIE

Check.

MR. MORRIS

Rearview mirror?

JULIE

Check.

MR. MORRIS

Seat belt?

JULIE

Fastened.

MR. MORRIS

Okay. What's next?

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She reaches for the keys. He stops her hand one more time.

MR. MORRIS

Don't start, yet. Just turn it halfway
until the system lights go on.

She does.

MR. MORRIS

What do you see?

JULIE

The dashboard lights?

MR. MORRIS

Right. You have to make sure you take
notice of every light before you launch.

(beat)

What's this one for?

JULIE

That's the oil level.

MR. MORRIS

And this one?

JULIE

That's the temperature gauge ...and
that's the fuel gauge, and that's the
engine service light...

MR. MORRIS

Good. When you see that light on, what
does that mean?

JULIE

The engine needs servicing?

(beat)

Mr. Morris. This is my 5th day of driving
lessons and all we've done is go over
these darn lights. When am I going to
actually start driving the car?

MR. MORRIS

Julie, Julie, Julie. You must have
patience. You have to get to *know* the
car, *respect* the car, before you can
handle the car.

JULIE

Do you have any other students? I mean, I
never see anyone else at your office.

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MR. MORRIS

Of course I have other students. Lots of them.

JULIE

Tell you what. You drive. I'll watch. At least I can tell my dad we did something different.

MR. MORRIS

Okay, I'll let you drive to the end of the block. Just enough to get the feel of the propulsion and thrust of the vehicle.

JULIE

Propulsion and thrust? This is not a rocket ship. Do you even know anything about cars?

MR. MORRIS

(forced laughter)

What? Don't be ridiculous. I'm an expert.

JULIE

What does the letter "D" mean?

MR. MORRIS

Drive, silly.

JULIE

And what about "R"?

MR. MORRIS

Reverse. Now please, Julie. Can we get on with your lesson?

JULIE

What does the letter "P" mean?

Julie continues to stare waiting for an answer.

MR. MORRIS

What do *you* think it means?

JULIE

Really? How about the letter "N"?

MR. MORRIS

You want to play this game. Okay. You flunk! That's it! Get out of my car!

Julie starts the car.

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MR. MORRIS

What are you doing! Stop that!

She floors it and he goes into a panic.

MR. MORRIS

You flunk! You flunk! Stop!

JULIE

I'm going to my house and you can explain to my dad what we have been doing for the last five lessons.

MR. MORRIS

Oh, God! Reverse thrusters! Reverse thrusters!

JULIE

Oh, a red light! Wonder what that means...

She turns sharply sending him to the side.

MR. MORRIS

Okay. You pass! You pass!

She slams on the brakes and to a dead stop. She gets out of the car and turns to Mr. Morris...

JULIE

My dad will be calling you for his money back.

The car begins to roll and Morris begins to panic again.

JULIE (O.C.)

"P" is for PARK you, you jack ass!