



Woman

From *Laughing Wild*

By Christopher Durang

Age Range: Young Adult

Style: Comedic, Contemporary

Monologue:

“I want to talk to you about life. It’s just too difficult to be alive, isn’t it, and try to function? There are all these people to deal with. I tried to buy a can of tuna fish in the supermarket, and there was this person standing right in front of where I wanted to reach out to get the tuna fish, and I waited a while, to see if they move, and they didn’t – they were looking at tuna fish too, but they were taking real long time on it, reading the ingredients on each can like they were a book, a pretty boring book if you ask me, but nobody has; so I waited a long while, and they didn’t move, and I couldn’t get to the tuna fish cans; and I thought about asking them to move, but then they seemed so stupid not to have sensed that I needed to get by them that I had this awful fear that it would do no good, no good at all, to ask them, they’d probably say something like, “We’ll move when we’re goddam ready you nagging bitch” and then what would I do? And so then I started to cry out of frustration, quietly, so as not to disturb anyone, and still, even though I was softly sobbing, this stupid person didn’t grasp that I needed to get by them, and so I reached over with my fist, and I brought it down real hard on his head and screamed: “Would you kindly move asshole!!!” And the person fell to the ground, and looked totally startled, and some child nearby started to cry, and I was still crying, and I couldn’t imagine making use of the tuna fish now anyway, and so I shouted at the child to stop crying – I mean it was drawing too much attention to me – and I ran out of the supermarket, and I thought, I’ll take a taxi to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, I need to be surrounded with culture right now, not tuna fish.”

Play Synopsis:

The show is written for one actor and one actress. The woman's character is emotional and unstable, and talks about hitting someone in the supermarket who wouldn't get out of her way when she was trying to select some tuna. The man's character is giving a speech about positive thinking, but keeps spiraling into negativity. He, it turns out, is the man the woman hit in the supermarket. The show consists of two 30-minute monologues and a 30 minute second act, some of it monologue, some of it scenes between the two characters. The characters do not have official names.

Read the Play Here:

<https://www.michelledanner.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/laughing-wild-christopher-durang-woman.pdf>