

# EXTRACT

## Lee Lewis won't answer my emails

a ten minute comedy

by

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**Characters**

GEOFF      a part-time writer

TINA        his wife

**Time**

A week night

**Setting**

Geoff and Tina's study

Study, night. **GEOFF** is staring at his computer. **TINA** enters.

**TINA:** (SEARCHING THROUGH BOOKS) Do you know where that Aztec book is? (BEAT) Geoff?

**GEOFF:** What?

**TINA:** The one about burial rites. I showed you last week. Moni needs it for her sociology project.

**GEOFF:** No.

**TINA:** (CONTINUING TO SEARCH) Thanks for the help.

**GEOFF:** (DEPRESSED) Sorry.

**TINA:** That's got to be the most morose sorry I've ever heard. Even for you.

**GEOFF:** (BRIGHTER) Sorry.

BEAT. **TINA** NOTICES **GEOFF** IS JUST STARING AT THE SCREEN.

**TINA:** You have to push the buttons.

**GEOFF:** What?

**TINA:** If you want it to do stuff – you have to push the buttons. That's how it works.

**GEOFF:** Oh. Right.

BEAT.

**TINA:** Are you okay?

**GEOFF:** She still hasn't replied.

**TINA:** Who?

**GEOFF:** Lee.

**TINA:** Lee who?

**GEOFF:** Lee Lewis.

**TINA:** Well whoever Lee is I'm sure she or he will reply when she gets a chance.

GEOFF: She's a she. You know that.

TINA: (LOOKING AGAIN) Do I? Well I'm sure she will reply when she gets a chance.

BEAT.

GEOFF: No, she won't.

TINA: Really? And how do you know that?

GEOFF: Because over the last two years I have sent her five emails to four different email addresses and she hasn't replied – once.

BEAT. **TINA** STOPS LOOKING FOR THE BOOK.

TINA: Is there something you want to tell me?

GEOFF: You know her.

TINA: Do I?

GEOFF: She directed my play at the Kenshurst. Two years ago.

TINA: (RELIEVED) Oh *that* Lee. You were starting to worry me.

GEOFF: Why?

TINA: I was starting to think you were talking about another Lee. One I hadn't met. And you needed to tell me because ...

GEOFF: No. (BEAT) No!

TINA: You just seem really upset.

GEOFF: I am.

TINA: And?

GEOFF: That's it.

TINA: She directed your play and now you're emailing her?

GEOFF: Yes.

TINA: And she won't answer?

GEOFF: That's it.

TINA: Nothing more?

GEOFF: No.

TINA: Really?

GEOFF: No. (BEAT) I mean yes. I mean ... There is nothing happening between me and Lee Lewis.

TINA: Then why are you so upset?

GEOFF: Because she won't answer my emails! (BEAT) Sorry.

BEAT.

TINA: Quick re-cap. You were sitting at your computer and ...

GEOFF: I was checking my emails.

TINA: And?

GEOFF: The Phoenix just announced their season. The Theatre Lee runs.

TINA: And?

GEOFF: I looked at the plays – I know some of them – and they're not very good

TINA: And?

GEOFF: I got angry.

TINA: Because they aren't very good?

GEOFF: Because they aren't doing one of my plays.

TINA: Now I get it. And they should be doing one because?

GEOFF: Because the one she directed at the Kenshurst was really successful and I've sent her two new plays – and they are better than that play – so she should be doing them. Or at least she should reply to my email to tell me why she isn't.

TINA: She's busy.

GEOFF: For two years?

TINA: She probably didn't get them.

GEOFF: Four different email addresses. She got them.

TINA: She gets lots of emails.

GEOFF: I gave her the friggin' baseball I caught at the Mets game on opening day two years ago for a first night present. She can reply to my friggin' email.

TINA: And you gave her a baseball because –

GEOFF: The friggin' play was about friggin' baseball players – you know that!

BEAT.

TINA: Okay. Calm down. Deep breath. What did the emails actually say?

GEOFF: The usual stuff.

TINA: You weren't ...?

GEOFF: What?

TINA: Sometimes you can get a little ...

GEOFF: What?

TINA: Acidic.

GEOFF: They were friendly, chatty.

TINA: Not pushy?

GEOFF: No.

TINA: Demanding?

GEOFF: No.

TINA: Acidic?

GEOFF: Definitely not.

TINA: Sometimes in an email tone can be really hard to read.

**GEOFF OPENS SOMETHING ON THE COMPUTER.**

GEOFF: There.

TINA: What?