

“ONE DAY”

A One Act Play

by:

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Cast of Characters

<u>Jane Sterling:</u>	A woman in her late 30's; Casting Director
<u>Kenneth Connors:</u>	A Man in his mid to late 30's; Film & TV Director
<u>Eric Powers:</u>	A Man in his early 20's; A Powerful Theatrical Agent
<u>David Otis:</u>	A Man in his late 20's; Writer
<u>Robert Wallace:</u>	A Man in his early 20's; Advertising Executive
<u>Tamera:</u>	An African American Woman in her late 50's to early 60's
<u>Candy:</u>	A Caucasian Woman in her late 60's
<u>Jennifer:</u>	A Hispanic Woman in her late 50's to early 60's
<u>Carolyn:</u>	An African American Woman in her late 60's to early 70's

Props

5 Chairs

5 Large brown paper bags, with a slit in the middle for breathing.

4 Rifles

Cell Phone

L'Oréal Shampoo (large bottle)

Briefcase (with legal pad and pen inside)

4 Duffle Bags (various sizes)

Headshots & Resumes of Tamera, Candy, Jennifer and Carolyn

Time

The Present

SETTING: The stage is bare except for 5 chairs that are neatly lined up horizontally center stage.

AT RISE: The stage is barely lit. There's a lot of commotion being heard offstage left. In the dark we hear a Latin female voice screaming out orders.

JENNIFER

(off)

Shut up and hold onto his ass, or I'll give you something to really yell about!

(The sounds of many door locks begin to unlock, then the opening of a door can be heard.)

Just keep moving! `ANDALE...`ANDALE!

KENNETH

But I can't see!

(Five very disheveled people enter. They are all walking one behind each other, each one holding onto the tail end of the person in front of them. Each of their heads are covered with a brown paper bag. Trailing behind them are three middle-aged women, dressed as terrorists, with rifles.)

JENNIFER

Tamera, lock the door! Carolyn, turn up the lights.

DAVID

Where are we?

(The lights suddenly come up.)

JANE

Please!!! I have a casting session I need to get to, and if...

TAMERA

SHUT UP!

(She nudges her with her rifle.)

I got your casting session...right here Missy!!

(TAMERA forcefully guides each hostage
to their perspective chairs, center stage.)

Now sit!

ERIC

Can I at least make a phone call? I was in the middle of some very important contract negotiations and if I...

TAMERA

(She puts the rifle to his head.)

Sit your ass down!!

ERIC

OK...I guess I can make that call later.

ROBERT

Can we PLEASE take these bags off our heads? I'm claustrophobic...

(He struggles to breathe.)

...and I also have asthma. PLEASE I CAN'T BREATHE!

JENNIFER

Alright, take the bags off.

(They all take the bags off their heads,
and begin to look around at their surroundings.)

CAROLYN

Where's Candy?

(CANDY, also dressed as a terrorist and carrying a rifle
over her shoulder; suddenly runs in, carrying all of the
belongings of their hostages.)

CANDY

(Out of breath.)

I had to get everything out of the van. I parked it in the alley behind the "Olive Garden".
Did you know that today was "All you can eat SENIOR DAY"?

TAMERA

I wonder if they have those spicy ribs...I love that sauce!

CAROLYN

Just put their things down someplace. We can worry about food later.

CANDY

(CANDY drops all their belongings at the hostages feet.)

Not too much later, the buffet is only from twelve to two...

(She looks at her watch; it has a rather large face
with huge numbers.)

and it's almost 1:30.

JENNIFER

Ah Ladies! We're kind of in the middle of something here!

CANDY

(She admires her watch.)

I got this baby from an AARP Special Promotion. ...I think it was... "Life Insurance".

YEAH, it was the Affordable Term Life Insurance with no medical exam...

DAVID

WHO the hell are you people?

CAROLYN

We are your worst nightmare.

ROBERT

(He laughs hysterically.)

Well, you're certainly not ISIS!

(The other hostages burst out laughing as well.)

JENNIFER

No, mi amigo...

(She points her rifle at him.)

...we belong to a more powerful group!

TAMERA

That's right Boo. We belong to U-A-O-F.

KENNETH

(Laughing.)

U-A-O-F?

(TAMERA, CANDY, JENNIFER and CAROLYN,
all stop what they're doing, and stand at attention.)

TAMERA, CANDY, JENNIFER, CAROLYN

(The women all salute as they say...)

Unemployed- Actresses- Over-fifty!

DAVID

AH OH!

JANE

(JANE looks around the room.)

Is there some kind of hidden camera around here?

TAMERA

(TAMERA points her rifle at JANE.)

Yeah, and it's at the tip of this gun.

DAVID

OK. OK. It's obvious that you "ladies" mean business. Just tell us what you want, and why in God's name did you kidnap us?

TAMERA

To get your attention obviously and NOW we've got it.

KENNETH

Our attention? Please, you're going to have to be a little more specific.

JANE

(JANE is still looking for the camera.)

Is this for the new Howie Mandell show... "I'm more than just a Senior"?

TAMERA

(TAMERA continues to point her rifle at JANE.)

Please Jennifer, let me shoot her. I'll even clean up the mess.

CANDY

Howie Mandell is doing a show using seniors? I wonder what kind of food they'll serve on set? Ummmmm, something yummy I'll bet.

ERIC

Why us?

JENNIFER

Well let's see... Jane Sterling, Casting Director. You cast almost every TV commercial, film and TV series that comes to this town

(JANE smiles as though she still believes that there's a hidden camera someplace in the room.

JENNIFER walks behind KENNETH.)

Kenneth Connors, "BIG" time Hollywood film and TV Director.

(KENNETH adjusts himself with pride, also believing that there's a hidden camera.

JENNIFER gently strokes ERIC'S hair, as she stands behind him. She speaks to him in a very "sexy" Latin voice.)

Mr. Eric Powers, one of the most POWERFUL Agents in the WORLD.

(ERIC is numb and motionless.

JENNIFER now moves over to DAVID.)

And...Mr. David Otis, one of the youngest and also one of the highest paid writers in the entertainment business.

DAVID

Well what can I say?

JENNIFER

Shut up! This is my script.

DAVID

Sorry.

JENNIFER

Ahhh...and our very distinguished hostage...

(JENNIFER moves over to ROBERT and bows to him.)

MR. ROBERT WALLACE, the Advertising GIANT of Wall Street. All hail to thee oh "GREAT ONE".

ROBERT

Really?

TAMERA

Hell no! Ain't nobody bowing to your ass.

ERIC

ALRIGHT! Now that we know who we ALL are...WHAT DO YOU WANT?

TAMERA, CANDY, JENNIFER, CAROLYN

WORK!

ERIC

But what can I do? I'm just an Agent.

(There's complete Silence.

TAMERA, CANDY, JENNIFER and

CAROLYN, all look at ERIC in amazement.)

TAMERA

What can you do? I came into this world over 55 years ago, Black and female, and now, I'm over 50! I've got THREE strikes against me in this business.

(TAMERA is almost in tears as she speaks.)

YOU can DEMAND that I be seen for roles that always end up going to some WHITE actress... sorry Candy. I refuse to keep playing the token neighbor with 3 lines, one scene!

JENNIFER

My parents came here to the United States, because they were told it was the land of freedom and opportunity. What freedom? What opportunity? I lost my freedom the moment you asked me to lose my accent...for WHAT...so that I can play a MAID?

CANDY

Why can't you fight for me to get paid for what I'm worth? You do it for the MEN!

(This is the first time the other women have ever seen CANDY this assertive.)

You make me work for Scale Plus Ten and you get THEM anything they ask for and more. Now I'm struggling just to survive; because I can't make enough to qualify for the Union's Health Insurance.

(CANDY boldly speaks to ROBERT.)

Why can't I be the voice that sells a car? Do you really think anybody's going to run out and buy a Lincoln just because Matthew McConahay's driving while digging in his nose, and talking to himself?!!

CAROLYN

I deserve to STAR on a TV series, and not as somebody's dying Grandmother. Every woman over 50 isn't dying of cancer!

JENNIFER

You want to know what you can do? Start fighting for us! Earn your ten percent and get us WORK!

JANE

(JANE finally gives up looking for the camera.)

Well you certainly can't keep us locked up in here forever.

(The Women all stare at JANE.)

OK...I guess you can.

CAROLYN

In order for things to change you have to start somewhere...

(CAROLYN takes a folder with all their headshots and resumes from her duffle bag; then tosses them all in JANE'S lap.)

Here, do YOUR job! Get to know us...READ our resumes for a change!

TAMERA

(TAMERA reaches in her back pocket and tosses ERIC her cell phone.)

Make some calls. Open up some doors!

JENNIFER

(JENNIFER reaches into her duffle bag and pulls out a large bottle of L'Oréal Shampoo, and hands it to ROBERT.)

I have hair too mi amigo...give ME a campaign!

TAMERA

(TAMERA hands DAVID his briefcase.)

Look at us...

(DAVID seriously looks at all four of the Women.)

NOW START WRITING!

(The lights begin to fade down except for the Center Spotlight on the hostages, as they perform their given assignments. The chorus of the song “GLORY” begins to play in the background. CANDY, JENNIFER, TAMERA and CAROLYN, stand at attention while holding their rifles in front of them. As each woman speaks, they all remain at attention. They speak under the softness of the music.)

SONG

One day when the glory comes
It will be ours...it will be ours

JENNIFER

America, it's time for you to speak up.

TAMERA

Turn off your TV's. Unplug your DVR's

SONG

One day when the war is won
We will be sure...we will be sure

CANDY

Stop buying their products.

CAROLYN

Netflix, Hulu, Amazon and Apple...it's time to...

TAMERA, CANDY, JENNIFER, CAROLYN

THINK ABOUT US!

(CANDY, TAMERA, JENNIFER
and CAROLYN, all raise their
fisted arms in the air.)

SONG

Ooooooooo...Glory...Glory

(BLACKOUT END OF PLAY)