

Ian Fraser

# THE EXCERPT IS BELOW THIS RESUME

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## Theater Plays Staged.

### In USA

*'CAT AND GOD'*

(published by One Act Play Depot, Canada)

*'Yours Till the Cows Come Home'*

staged reading, Fusion Theatre, NM

### ***Dogs of the Blue Gods***

To be staged by the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Theatre, WI, **2008**).

Staged by the First Banana Theater Company, Madison, WI, 1998.

Staged by the Village Playhouse of Wauwatosa, WI, 1999. (Won First place at the Wisconsin State AACTFest).

*Blitzbrecker and the Chicken From Hell*

Staged by the First Banana Theater Company, Madison, WI, 1998.

### In South Africa

#### ***The Accidental Antichrist***

(Special FNB-Vita Award for 'Most Outstanding New Production.'

Nominated for FNB-Vita Award for 'Playwright of the Year.' South Africa, 1994).

#### ***The Sugar Plum Fairy***

(Pick of the Fringe Award Grahamstown Arts Festival. South Africa, 1993).

***Sleeping Chickens*** (South Africa, 1993).

#### ***Heart Like a Stomach***

(Winner of the Amstel Playwright of the Year Award. South Africa, 1992).

#### ***Butterfly Jam***

(Amstel Playwright of the Year nomination. South Africa, 1991).

#### ***Like the Pyramid on the Camel Packet***

(Officially staged by the Performing Arts Council Transvaal. South Africa, 1991).

#### ***The Gospel According to the Mafia***

(Pick of the Fringe Award Grahamstown Arts Festival. South Africa, 1991).

***Blitzbreker and the Chicken from Hell***

(Officially staged by the Cape Performing Arts Council. Amstel Playwright of the Year nomination. Pick of the Fringe Award Grahamstown Arts Festival, South Africa, 1990).

***Dogs of the Blue Gods***

(Tonight AA Life Vita Award for Comedy. South Africa, 1990).

(Staged by the First Banana Theater Company, Madison, WI, 1998.  
The Village Playhouse of Wauwatosa, WI, 1999. (Won first place at the Wisconsin State AACTFest).  
To be staged by the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Theatre, WI, 2008).

***Charles Manson***

(Amstel Playwright of the Year nomination. South Africa, 1989).

***Lenny Bruce Live***

(Best Cabaret 1988, The Argus newspaper. South Africa, 1988).

***Bring Me Gandhi*** (South Africa, 1987).

**Publications**

***My Own Private Orchestra***, Penguin Books 1993.

(Nominated for 'CNA Literary Awards,' Debut section, 1994)

**Journalism**

***The Star***, Johannesburg, South Africa. 1994 –2002  
Internet technology columnist.

***Mail & Guardian***, Johannesburg, South Africa 2002-2006  
Columnist, "Fraser's Razor."

**Voice Work**

South African Broadcasting Corporation/TV 2 2004 – 2006  
Johannesburg, South Africa.  
Contracted voice talent for on-air announcements and movie promos.

**Voice Work**

Products & Campaigns Worked On: KFC, Microsoft, Hewlett Packard, Visa, Pizza Hut, Schick Razors, Red Bull, Agfa, Pringles, Kellogg's, EMI, Sealy Posteurpedic, South African Airways, Greyhound Bus, Nu Metro Film Distributors, Ster Kinekor Film Distributors, FinWeek Magazine, UIP-Warner, MNET TV, Tusk Music, Southern Sun Hotels, DSTV Multichoice, Pedigree Dog Food, Nedbank, Engen, CAN, Yokohama, assorted Ads-Up TV, Tiger Wheel and Tyre, Independent Newspaper Company, MNET Sound Check, Bruma Flea Market, Volkskas Bank, 'Green Machine,' Pampers, Castle Lager, PG Glass, MNET Multichoice, Standard Bank, Sun International, Financial Mail, Zappa Sambucca, Berocca Calcium, First Bowring Insurance, , Out There Magazine, Ithuba

## "HEART LIKE A STOMACH"

by Ian Fraser

*"Two women decide to each pick up a man for the night. This being South Africa, their choices have lethal consequences. What starts as a mixture of recipe book and sexual comedy of manners, becomes something far darker."*

### CHARACTERS

LINDA.....A young woman.

SONYA.....A young woman.

PETE.....A man in his late twenties.

DONALD.....An African-American man, mid thirties.

### SETTING

One set.

A living room in a fairly well-to-do apartment.

Couches and chairs mid stage.

Various doors upstage lead off to bedrooms, bathroom and kitchen respectively.

### AWARDS

WINNER OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN 1992 AMSTEL PLAYWRIGHT OF THE YEAR AWARD.

Staged at the Grahamstown Arts Festival, South Africa.

Staged at the Windybrow Theater, Johannesburg.

Darkness.

We hear the opening of Cole Porter's Let's Misbehave.

Lights up.

We see a living room within a fairly gentrified apartment.

(Kitchen door at left, two bedroom doors at the back. Toilet door. And then the front door, which is offstage right. Two women stand facing the audience, applying makeup.

They are Linda and Sonya.

Their lips move, as they talk to each other, but we do not hear them. Instead, what we hear is a Voice on tape.

It becomes apparent during the course of this that the two women are looking into a large mirror, and the audience sits on the other side.

VOICE (ON TAPE)

THE WORD "STARTERS" ENCOMPASSES A VERY BROAD SPECTRUM OF DISHES APPROPRIATE TO THE START OF A MEAL. IT MAY MEAN ANYTHING YOU MIGHT HAVE, APART FROM SOUP - BEFORE THE MAIN MEAL. THE EASIEST WAY TO REGARD A STARTER IS TO SEE IT AS BEING SMALL BUT PACKED WITH FLAVOUR. IF YOU WANTED IT TO - IT COULD EVEN BECOME A MAIN MEAL, AND SHOULD BE GOOD ENOUGH, AND TASTY ENOUGH TO EXIST ON ITS OWN, OR WITH A SMALL ACCOMPANIMENT.

LINDA

It's not that bad-

SONYA

It's worse than bad - it's appalling-

LINDA

Oh crap - cover up that bit over there an it'll be fine-

SONYA

Maybe I should just stay in-  
Watch TV-

LINDA

It's Friday night!

SONYA

Yeah, so?

LINDA

Only married couples and blind people stay in on Fridays-

SONYA

Yeah-

LINDA

Just cover that bit there and there-

SONYA

Another one!

LINDA

Sorry-

SONYA(*stares and sighs*)

-Fudge-

LINDA

'Fudge'?

SONYA

What can I say? I'm old fashioned- (*she looks again*)  
-I'm just going to the bathroom-

LINDA

Clear thinking-  
Solve all your problems by puking-

SONYA

I wasn't-

LINDA

Okay okay-

SONYA EXITS

LINDA (CONT)

-One day you'll see, your  
teeth'll get wafer thin from all the acid, an they'll crack  
and crunch, an you'll end up wearing dentures-

SONYA (OFF)

What?

LINDA

Ah - just think of tonight as.. as an adventure-  
We've done nothing for weeks, just sat around..

TOILET FLUSHES OFF, SONYA ENTERS.

LINDA

Tonight's gonna be different, I can feel it-  
It's gonna be a party-

SONYA

I'm tired - I've been working all week then  
coming home. I just feel like sleeping-

LINDA

That's just the sensible part of you talking,  
ignore it - it goes away-

SONYA

Hmmm-

LINDA

Look you're the glutton for punishment in the  
first place - your family's rich - why go out an burn  
yourself down trying to prove your independence?

SONYA

Because.

LINDA

Oh - okay.

THERE IS A PAUSE.

LINDA

Don't worry, you look fine.

SONYA

I don't feel it.

LINDA

You know you really should've gotten over that asshole by now-

SONYA

He's not an asshole-

LINDA

Oh yeah?

SONYA

Yes!

LINDA

Look he dumped you - why're you defending him?

SONYA

He had his good points-

LINDA

Soppy, that's what it is - swanning around all lovestruck-

SONYA

Well we were-

LINDA

Yeah? Really?

SONYA

Yes-

LINDA

Hmm, you just about ready?

SONYA

I don't think-

LINDA

No no no- You've been in here for far too long. Time to get your shit together and start living again - I'll get your jacket-

SONYA

I don't feel-

LINDA

-Na na na - no excuses, we're going out-

SHE EXITS STILL TALKING

-We're gonna drink far too much booze,  
find a couple of willing guys - get them so drunk  
they think they're in charge-

SHE ENTERS STILL  
TALKING

-And then get down to some serious fucking-

SONYA

I couldn't-

LINDA

Here's your jacket-

SONYA

Really-

LINDA

No no, you've got all tarted up this far -  
just think - bright lights, crowds of people-

SONYA

I hate it already-

LINDA (*amused but refusing to give in*)

Well you're just gonna have to  
drink heavily then, aren't you?

SONYA

I haven't got any spare cash-

LINDA

So we'll stop an mug an ATM okay?  
Even if you don't wanna sponge off your  
folks, is no reason why we cant get drunk  
on what I've leached off mine-

SONYA (*thinks, then nods*)

..Fair enough-

LINDA

Oh I see, as long as I'm paying  
you're willing-

SONYA

Well that sounds fair-

LINDA

Okay come on - oh - if we  
run across a couple of likelies, we split up-

SONYA

-Hold on-

LINDA

Don't worry, I'll give you some money in case,  
all right?

SONYA(*thinks*)

-Okay-

LINDA  
Come on then-  
The night is a puppy-

THE TWO EXIT OFFSTAGE TOWARDS THE FRONT DOOR.  
THERE IS A PAUSE.  
THEN THE TELEPHONE RINGS, IT RINGS THREE TIMES, AND WE WATCH AS SONYA  
ENTERS AT  
HIGH SPEED - SHE MAKES FOR THE PHONE BUT IT STOPS JUST BEFORE  
SHE REACHES IT. SHE STANDS LOOKING DOWN AT IT. LINDA RE ENTERS.

LINDA  
..Probably just a wrong number-

SONYA(*UNCONVINCED*)  
Yeah-

LINDA  
Come on-  
Come on then-

SONYA  
Woof-

LINDA  
That's the spirit-

THEY EXIT.  
THE LIGHTS FADE TO BLACKOUT.

IN THE DARKNESS WE HEAR THE FX OF LIQUID BUBBLING AND HISSING AND  
SPLASHING - AS OF A STEW BEING COOKED.

LIGHTS UP. IT'S LATER. WE'RE IN THE APARTMENT AGAIN - THE SAME NIGHT.

WE HEAR LINDA'S DRUNKEN LAUGHTER OFF, AND THE MURMURING OF WHOEVER  
SHE'S WITH. IT TURNS OUT TO BE PETE - A WIMPISH WHITE MAN IN HIS MID THIRTIES,  
WEARING A SMART SUIT. THEY ENTER, LINDA DROPPING THE KEYS ON THE TABLE.

LINDA  
Home sweet home. Relax, I'll  
put some coffee on-