

Play name: The Nerve of Her

Players: 2

Yr Level: 3/4

Length: 5 mins

Genre: drama/comedy

Yr Published: 2020

Character List

Cara

Shirley

Notes: Names, can be changed as needed.

SCENE 1

Both girls stand on opposite sides of the stage. They each mime holding a top under their chin, looking out as if staring in a mirror. They don't notice each other. They each make a face in the mirror.

BOTH: Nah.

They toss the blouse away and turn centre, now seeing each other. They both gasp and turn away.

BOTH: What!

CARA: What's she doing here?

SHIRLEY: I can't believe she's here!

BOTH: (*closing eyes and crossing fingers*) Please let her be gone, please let her be gone, please oh please oh please!
They slowly, awkwardly turn. They see each other, gasp and turn away.

BOTH: still here.

CARA: What's she doing here?

SHIRLEY: I can't believe she's here.

CARA: I can't believe she'd show her face.

SHIRLEY: If I were her, I would have died of shame.

CARA: She has some lot of nerve.

SHIRLEY: Shame!

CARA: Nerve!

SHIRLEY: Died of shame in a fiery car crash!

CARA: Nervy nerve face! They both sneak a peak and see that the other is still there. They give a small squeak and turn away.

CARA: Why isn't she leaving?

SHIRLEY: What's the matter with her?

CARA: What is wrong with her?

SHIRLEY: What's she doing?

BOTH: Hmmmmm...

BOTH: I deserve an apology.

(They both come to a decision. They slowly turn and walk toward each other.)

CARA: *(composed)* Shirley.

SHIRLEY: *(composed)* Cara.

CARA: How are you?

SHIRLEY: Well, thank you. How are you?

CARA: I can't complain. There is a pause.

SHIRLEY: Ah...

CARA: Yes?

SHIRLEY: Yes?

CARA: Did you say something?

SHIRLEY: Did you have something to say?

CARA: No, did you?

SHIRLEY: Did you?

CARA: Are you enjoying the sale?

SHIRLEY: Yes. It is an excellent sale. Don't you agree?

CARA: Yes. I am finding many marked down items.

SHIRLEY: Really. Many marked down items is a good thing.

CARA: Good things are good.

SHIRLEY: Many good things. Many things... Many things happen at a sale like this. Many, many things. Good and bad.

CARA: I must agree.

SHIRLEY: Oh do you?

CARA: Yes. Many, many things.

SHIRLEY: I must say... If I were going to say something... I'm ... somewhat... surprised to see you. At the sale.

CARA: Oh?

SHIRLEY: Considering what happened. Last year. At the sale?

CARA: Huh. Well, I must say I'm equally surprised at your presence. At the sale. Considering.

SHIRLEY: Considering what?

CARA: You know what.

SHIRLEY: (*composure is slipping*) Oh yeah? (*she takes a breath and regains her composure*) Why would that be, Cara? I can't think of one single solitary reason why YOU would be surprised to see ME at the sale. I have nothing to be embarrassed about, and NOTHING to apologize for.

CARA: Oh no?

SHIRLEY: I did nothing wrong. Like SOME people.

CARA: Who SOME people?

SHIRLEY: You know who SOME people are.

CARA: I don't know nothing about any SOME people.

SHIRLEY: Oh yes you do.

CARA: You stole my top!

SHIRLEY: I saw it first!

CARA: I called dibs!

SHIRLEY: You stomped on my foot!

CARA: You broke the pact!

SHIRLEY: You attacked me!

CARA: You deserved it!

SHIRLEY: You look horrible in fuchsia!

CARA: Shirley (pause) Shirley.

SHIRLEY Well. It's true.

CARA-: Shirley.

SHIRLEY: It makes your face... funky. Sorry.

CARA: I can't believe you think that.

SHIRLEY: I'm doing you a favour.

CARA: How?

SHIRLEY: I'm trying to spare your feelings.

CARA: You were supposed to be my friend. We were supposed to be friends for life.

SHIRLEY: Your friend? YOUR friend. You attacked me over a shirt Cara.

CARA: It's the bargain low bargain big bargain sale. The most important sale of the whole year. The only event that matters in my whole life!

SHIRLEY: A sale? A stupid sale?

CARA: Don't you belittle the bargain low bargain big bargain sale.

SHIRLEY: It was a stupid top!

CARA: That top was going to make brad ask me to the prom!

SHIRLEY: He never would have asked you! Top or no top!

CARA-: Shirley. I can't believe you said that.

SHIRLEY-ANN: It was a stupid top. It was a stupid fight. Don't you think so, Cara-Sue?

CARA: I- I- I guess so.

SHIRLEY: Do you really?

CARA: Do you?

SHIRLEY: Do you?

CARA: It was a stupid fight.

SHIRLEY: Can we agree on that?

CARA: I guess.

SHIRLEY: So if you would just apologize...

CARA: Why don't you? You go first.

SHIRLEY: You first.

CARA: We could be friends again. If you apologize.

SHIRLEY: You go first and I'll be your friend for life.

CARA: You.

SHIRLEY: You.

CARA: You.

SHIRLEY: Never!

CARA: Fine.

SHIRLEY: Right. I have to go.

CARA: Yes. You should go.

SHIRLEY: I'll go. Enjoy the sale.

CARA: Thank you. (*she turns to leave*)

SHIRLEY: Cara?

CARA: (*turning back*) Yes?

SHIRLEY: It may rain this afternoon.

CARA: It might.

SHIRLEY: It might. (*she turns to leave*)

CARA: Shirley?

SHIRLEY: (*turning back*) Uh huh?

CARA-: Make sure you cover your hair. If it rains. Your hair frizzes. A bit.

SHIRLEY: It does. Thanks. I will.

*They each turn away. They stop as if they're going to say something else.
They don't. They exit.*