(Name of Project)

by (Name of First Writer)

(Based on, If Any)

Revisions by (Names of Subsequent Writers, in Order of Work Performed)

Current Revisions by (Current Writer, date)

Name (of company, if applicable) Address Phone Number

HEY. THANK YOU FOR MEETING WITH ME. I'M ISAAC.

**FIONA** 

I'M FIONA

**ISAAC** 

HAVE YOU HAD LUNCH? I KNOW A GREAT PLACE JUST AROUND THE CORNER.

FIONA

WHY DON'T WE TRY SOMEWHERE NEITHER ONE OF US HAS BEEN BEFORE.

**ISAAC** 

OKAY

(THEY TRAVEL ON TO A CHINESE RESTAURANT. THEY SETTLE IN)

ISAAC (CONT'D)

MIND IF I RECORD?

(SERVER APPROACHES THE TABLE)

FIONA

"NEE- HO- MA". EE, NO SUNG -SEEK DEM SUM?"

**ASIAN SERVER** 

"DEM SUM?"

**FIONA** 

"DEE OH JAY"

ISAAC

THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU'D NEVER BEEN HERE?

FIONA

I HAVEN'T. I JUST, I LOVE THE CULTURE. I SPENT JULYS IN CHINA STUDYING CHINESE ART, AND CHINESE ICECREAM. OH MAN, I RECOMMEND GINGER. IT'S VERY GOOD

**ISAAC** 

NOW LAST NIGHT, THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT SOMEONE NAMED "GINGER JAKE". IS SHE CHINESE?

**FIONA** 

UH, JAMACIAN, I THINK.

**ISAAC** 

WHAT'S THE DEAL? PEOPLE GO TO HER TO GET PARALYZED

**FIONA** 

**AS I UNDERSTAND IT, YES.** 

**ISAAC** 

WHAT DOES SHE DO TO THEM? I MEAN...

FIONA

YOU KNOW WHAT PAL?

(GESTURES TO THE RECORDING EQUIPMENT)

FIONA (CONT'D)

I'M NO T THE CASE STUDY HERE, OKAY? YOU TALK FIRST

ISAAC

WHAT DO YOU WANNA KNOW?

FIONA

TELL ME HOW YOU BECOME PARALYZED

ISAAC

I WAS 8. MY PARENTS WHERE DRIVING,. THEY DIED. I LIVED. UH, THE OTHER DRIVER WAS UNDER AGED, SO THE RECORDS WERE SEALED. I CALLED HER THE "POM- POM GIRL", BECAUSE I REMEMBERED SEEING THESE, POM POMS

FIONA

PARALYZED BY A CHEERLEADER?

ISAAC

YOUR TURN... SO TALK TO ME ABOUT YOUR FRIEND. WHAT MAKES THEM WANT BE TO BE LIKE ME?

**FIONA** 

YOU KNOW, I'VE NEVER TALKED ABOUT THIS TO ANYONE.

SO WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD WANT TO BE PARALYZED, WHO ISN'T ALREADY? GIVE ME A WORKING THEORY.

#### FIONA

(LAUGHS A LITTLE) I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M TALKING TO YOU.

## **ISAAC**

**ABOUT THIS?** 

### **FIONA**

YES..., NO. YES, NO, NO, NO. I MEAN IT'S YOU. YOU KNOW. I MEAN, YOU'RE LIKE THE RADIO GUY.

#### ISAAC

OH, SAY WHATEVER YOU WANT. WHOEVER YOU FRIEND IS, THEY'LL NEVER KNOW I'M QUOTING YOU.

#### **FIONA**

OKAY, OKAY. UH, (BEAT) IT'S JUST, IT'S HARDER THAN I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE.

## **ISAAC**

WHY?

### **FIONA**

OKAY, ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT. HERE'S THE DEAL. ALL RIGHT? I WANNA KNOW WHY MY FRIEND WANTS TO BE A PARAPLEGIC. SO THIS FOR ME, IS ALL ABOUT UNDERSTANDING YOU. AND, YOU KNOW, THAN I'LL TELL YOU WHAT EVER YOU WANT TO KNOW. SO, QUID PRO QUO. I WANT YOUR LIFE PAL. AS A. IN DETAIL PARAPLEGIC

## **ISAAC**

YOU WANT MY LIFE? ALL RIGHT. AT MY WORK, I HAVE THIS GUY WHO HATES ME.

### FIONA

BECAUSE YOU'RE A PARAPLEGIC?

#### ISAAC

No, BECAUSE HE'S A DICK.

**FIONA** 

I HAVE ONE OF THOSE...I MEAN AT MY JOB.

**ISAAC** 

AND WHERE DO YOU WORK?

FIONA

UH, I'M A CONSERVATOR. I FREE LANCE. RIGHT NOW I'M DOING THE COLLECTION FOR THE VAN PLATT MUSEUM.

**ISAAC** 

THERE YA GO. I MEAN SURE AL QAEDE HAS SOMEONE THAT WALKS INTO THE CAVE EVERY MORNING AND SOMEBODY WHISPERS "THAT GUY HAS NO SELF AWARENESS WHAT SO EVER."

FIONA

WELL, MAYBE HE THINKS YOU'RE A DICK?

**ISAAC** 

No, he thinks I'M A GIMP.

FIONA

WHAT IS THAT? IS THAT LIKE A REPORTER THING WHERE LATER YOU'LL SAY ... "MENTIONED THE WORD GIMP AND SHE LAUGHS"?

**ISAAC** 

YES

**FIONA** 

YES? (BEAT) I'M PAINFULLY AWARE. OKAY? I'M TOO AWARE.

**ISAAC** 

WELL, THEN YOU KNOW I LIKE YOU?

FIONA

WELL THAT MEANS YOU ARE WEIRD.

**ISAAC** 

I'M JUST EASY IS ALL. I LIKE ANYONE WHO LIKES ME.

(SHE LAUGHS)

**FIONA** 

OKAY? WHAT IF, ...I INTRODUCED YOU TO MY FRIEND?

**ISAAC** 

I'D LIKE THAT.

FIONA

THEN THE QUESTION IS, WHAT WILL YOU DO FOR ME?

**ISAAC** 

OH RIGHT, IT'S ALWAYS QUID PRO QOU WITH THIS GIRL.

FADE OUT.

**FADE IN:** 

(THEY ENTER INTO AN APARTMENT. SHE GETS HIM SETTLEED AND EXITS INTO ANOTHER ROOM. HE EXPLORES. SHE RE ENTERS AFTER SOME TIME WEARING LINGERIE, A CANE AND LACE UP ORTHOPEDIC LEG BRACES)

**FIONA** 

DON'T TOUCH THAT VASE. IT'S WORTH MORE THAN THIS BUILDING. (BEAT) OFFENDED?

ISAAC

I WANNA KNOW MORE.

**FIONA** 

YOU KNOW HOW YOU HAVE AN APARTMENT FANTASY WHEN YOU'RE A TEENAGER? MINE WAS TO GET A PLACE SO I COULD SHUT THE CURTAINS ALL DAY AND WALK AROUND IN MY MILWAUKEE BRACE. AND YOU KNOW WHAT? IT'S BETTER THAN I EVER IMAGINED.

ISAAC

SO THIS A A SEXUAL THING YOU MAINLY?

**FIONA** 

PEOPLE WHO GET OFF ON BRACES AND WHEELCHIARS ARE CALLED "DEVOTEES" THEIR A JOKE. THEY'RE THE BOTTOM OF THE RUNG. ABOVE THEM ARE THE "PRETENDERS".

(MORE)

### FIONA (CONT'D)

THEY WEAR THE BRACES, THEY PUSH THE WHEELS, BUT THEY DON'T BELONG TO THEIR CHAIR. STILL IF THEY WISH TO FANTASIZE, THAT'S THEIR CHOICE. THEN THERE ARE THE "WANNA BEES". YOU SAW HOW CRAZY HEY ARE.

### ISAAC

WHAT MAKES YOU DIFFERENT FROM A "WANNA BEE" OR A "PRETENDER.

#### FIONA

I'M AN UNIQUE CASE. I DON'T WANT TO BE PARALYZED.

**ISAAC** 

You don't?

#### FIONA

I ALREADY AM PARALYZED. I'M JUST TRAPPED IN A WALKING PERSONS BODY.

(LONG BEAT)

# FIONA (CONT'D)

YOU MAKE ME SO NERVOUS. YOU KNOW, THE OTHER DAY I DECIDED THAT NERVOUSNESS IS SHAME SOMEONE CATCHES YOU FEELING. AND I ASK MYSELF, "WHY AM I ASHAMED"?

#### ISAAC

AND IF YOU ARE, THEN WHY DO YOU CONTINUE TO DO THIS?

(LONG BEAT. SHE SLOWLY REMOVES HER BRACES. ALMOST SEDUCTIVELY. SHE LAUNCHES AT HIM WITH A PASSIONATE KISS. THIS CONTINUES FOR A MOMENT. HE PULLS AWAY)

ISAAC (CONT'D)

I CAN'T. I CAN'T...

## FIONA

I'D GUESSED YOU WERE A T-12 OR A T 1 1. INCOMPLETE? WHAT WAS IT,...A LUMBER LESION?

NO, NO. LISTEN, THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM. I CAN HAVE SEX... I, THE PROBLEM IS THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE.

**FIONA** 

WHO?

**ISAAC** 

SHE'S PARAPLEGIC. (BEAT) I DON'T KNOW WHY I JUST SAID THAT?!?!? I, I DON'T DESCRIBE PEOPLE BY THEIR INJURIES. UH, JEEZ, HER NAME'S RAINE.

**FIONA** 

IS SHE YOUR GIRLFRIEND?

ISAAC

SORT OF. I ASKED HER TO MARRY ME. I DON'T KNOW IF THAT COUNTS. SHE SAID NO, ...SHE HAS THIS IDEA THAT ONE PERSON IN EVERY RELATIONSHIP, WELL, MARRIAGE SHOULD BE ABLE TO WALK. SO THAT, THAT DOESN'T REALLY COUNT...I GUESS.

**FIONA** 

THIS IS GOOD NEWS. ...I'M SURE SHE'LL CHANGE HER MIND.

**ISAAC** 

I HOPE SO.

**FIONA** 

AND IF SHE DOESN'T, SHE CRAZIER THAN I AM...AND HOW CRAZY IS THAT?

(SHE LAUGHS OFF THE LAST MOMENT)

ISAAC

IT'S NOT FIONA.

(LONG BEAT)

**FIONA** 

YOU PROBABLY THINK I'D JUMP ANYTHING IN A WHEELCHAIR.

No. I don't. I'm just trying to understand.

## **FIONA**

I'VE NEVER SHOWN ANY OF THIS TO ANY LIVING SOUL, EVER.

(LONG BEAT)

## FIONA (CONT'D)

AND SOMETHINGS YOUR'RE NOT SUPPOSE TO SHOW (BEAT) OH WELL! (AWKARD LAUGH)

## **ISAAC**

I DON'T HAVE TO GO. YOU CAN TALK TO ME.

# **FIONA**

I NEED TO USE MY CHAIR RIGHT NOW AND I CAN'T DO THAT IN FRONT OF YOU.

## **ISAAC**

YOU CAN TRUST ME. I'VE BEEN COMPLETELY HONEST WITH YOU.

#### FIONA

TOMORROW I'M GOING TO USE MY CHAIR IN PUBLIC FOR THE FIRST TIME....AND YOU, PAL ARE CORGELLY INVITED. NOW I WANNA THANK YOU FOR A WONDERFUL, SO WONDERFUL DAY.

(SHE EXITS.)