

Celebrating Australian Playwriting



Australian Script Centre



An Anarchist at Dinner

by Van Badham

EXTRACT

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An Anarchist at Dinner

Characters:

Stewart: *A film editor who has just had a multi-million dollar idea*

Rodney: *Stewart's best friend, a marketing-consultant arranging the sale of Stewart's multi-million dollar idea*

Angie: *Stewart's girlfriend, a personal shopper*

Leanne: *Rodney's wife, who owns a successful chain of mobile dog grooming businesses.*

Vanessa: *an anarchist*

Scene:

Rodney's harbourside apartment in Sydney. Present day.

Stewart and Rodney. They hold cans of VB.

RODNEY: We are going to make *so much money*.

STEWART: You think so?

RODNEY: Sure we are. I'm a successful marketing consultant and you are a secretly artistic film editor who has just had a uniquely marketable idea. How could you doubt our success?

STEWART: Something doesn't feel right about me selling out an innovative new process for editing groundbreaking works of cinematic art to an American multinational with a fat wallet.

RODNEY: It sounds implausible, Stewart, but it happens. Especially in Sydney - especially if you happen to have a best friend who is a successful marketing consultant. What do you think you'll do with your share of the cut?

STEWART: Buy a harbourside apartment. What'll you do?

RODNEY: Buy another harbourside apartment. And something nice for the wife. *(sighs)* I'm too much of a stereotypical Australian male to admit it, but I really love that woman.

STEWART: When's Vanessa getting here?

RODNEY: She'll be here after our submissive female partners arrive with the beers.

Enter Angie and Leanne, bearing beers.

RODNEY: Right on cue, my darling.

LEANNE: I might be a social climber from the Western suburbs, Rodney, but I'm not a fuckin' retard. You know, Stewart, sometimes I think I should have married you. Given our quaint Australianisms and the relative disadvantage of our social backgrounds, I think we've got a lot in common.