SÃO PAOLO

MADELYN KENT

/ubu editions
São Paulo
Madelyn Kent

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This play was conceived in the process of a 6 months working on the
Guggenheim Pavilion show.

It was written in collaboration with Mishiko Kusaki, Yuko Takamori, Yukiko
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SCENE ONE

Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Morning. Street. A boy, JACKO, 12 stands behind a makeshift table, with wooden dolls.

A Girl, CAROLA, walks up.

CAROLA  Hi.

JACKO  Hi.

CAROLA  Did you make it?

JACKO  Yes I made all of This doll.

CAROLA  Can I show me You show it?

JACKO  Sure.

SHE picks it up.

JACKO  But
Don’t
Don’t
Break it

CAROLA  Yes

JACKO  It is
My
My
Items

CAROLA  Yes I don’t want it

JACKO  I know
Because you are not tourist

CAROLA  How many did you
Sell today?

JACKO  Just three dolls

CAROLA  Really
JACKO You know
Today is cool
Tourists doesn’t come
Here

CAROLA I can’t believe
They want it

JACKO Me too
But they’re
Satisfied
Just buy
Brazil thing
As souvenir

CAROLA Don’t you
Made another
Craft?

JACKO I used
To made
But I
Don’t
Make
Another
Thing

CAROLA How did you learn
To make
The doll?

JACKO Just my way
I like to make something
When I was
Child

CAROLA So you
You sold
Three items today
You have a little money

JACKO Yes but why do
You
Ask
About that?

CAROLA I don’t eat for two days
I’m really hungry now
Please give me change
JACKO
You know
I can’t

CAROLA
Why?

JACKO
It’s a rule to live here
If you want
To eat
You have to make money
Yourself

CAROLA
But I don’t have
Any
Skill
To get money

JACKO
I know a lot
Of
People who
Doesn’t have skills
But they
If they don’t have skills
They
They made money
They can make money
To do
Something
So
How bout
How

Pause.

You look so beautiful
How bout sell
Yourself

Pause.

Have to ever
Sold
Yourselves?

CAROLA
No I never sell

JACKO
It’s strange
I know a lot
Of girl
Who
Sold
Herselves

CAROLA
Yes
I’m
I’m different from her
I have pride
To myself

JACKO
But you
Instead of
Sell yourselves
You ask for money
You don’t have pride
Why do you
Ask me
A lot
Another
Person
In here

CAROLA
So...
I
I want to see your dolls.

JACKO
Do you like?

CAROLA
No I don’t like these
But I can sell these

JACKO
Do you want
To sell these?

CAROLA
Yes
You will make
Many dolls and I will
Sell them
How bout my plan?

JACKO
That made good plan
Because
You can beautiful
You can sell
Sell
More
Than
Me
CAROLA  

Yes I 
Maybe I 
Sell 
More than 
You 
So we will 
Give more money 
Than now 

I will sell 
One doll 
I keep two dollars. 

JACKO  

Two dollars! These dolls 
Are each 
Five dollars 
I sell but you 
Just sell 
Doll 
I 
It takes about 
Three hours to 
Make a 
Doll 
So 
If you 
Sell 
A 
Doll 
So 
If you 
Sell 
A 
Doll 
You can keep 
One dollar. 
How bout it? 

CAROLA  

One dollar? 
I don’t 
I’m not satisfied 
With one dollar. 

JACKO  

Oh. 
Have you ever 
Sold something? 

CAROLA  

No 
I have never sold
Something

JACKO

That’s difficult.
Tourist.
If you want to
Sell something you have to
Communicate with tourist
Can you
Will you do?

CAROLA

I will do.
Okay if I will sell
Ten dolls
I’ll keep
It two dollars.

JACKO

Two dollars!

CAROLA

I will sell
Ten dolls and then
I will keep
It.

JACKO

Each two dollars

CAROLA

Yes.

JACKO

I can’t agree
Your offer

Please offer
Another person.

CAROLA

So you want
To see more?

JACKO

Of course.

CAROLA

If we will succeed
We will get a lot of money

JACKO

Why
Do you
Have confidence?

CAROLA

Because I’m
Young and
Beautiful.
Many tourist
Want to buy
From me.
Don’t you think so?

JACKO
No.
You don’t
You don’t know
Selling
You are
You don’t have skill
To sell.

CAROLA
I want to try
One day
So if I
Will
I will
Be able
I will sell
Only
One doll
I give up.

JACKO
Okay
I’ll give you
One chance

CAROLA
Really

JACKO
Yes
But
If
You will not
Sell
Them
You
Never
Come to
Here
Right?

CAROLA
Okay
I understand

A TOURIST is passing.

CAROLA
Is she tourist?
Hi Miss.
How are you?

TOURIST I’m fine.

CAROLA How bout this doll?

TOURIST Did you make This doll?

CAROLA No my owner did.

TOURIST Is this animals? I can’t understand.

CAROLA It’s original Brazil Art It’s not animal And not person.

TOURIST That’s interesting.

CAROLA It’s a good idea For souvenir

TOURIST Do you think Is this Is this Concern with Religion or Something?

CAROLA Mmm... yes- ah- mmmmm... I’m sorry I don’t Know well But I...

TOURIST Is this Protect me If I I am in trouble

CAROLA Sure I have I have it I always have it
TOURIST    Really

CAROLA    Yes
           It will help
           You
           Now it's just
           Six dollar

TOURIST    Six dollar

CAROLA    Very cheap

TOURIST    I don't think so
           Y'know it's so
           Small and light
           It's not
           Valuable.
           Six dollars.

CAROLA    But it's
           Ummm... like a god

TOURIST    God
           mmm...

CAROLA    I don't
           I can't sell
           So cheap

Pause.

Okay
How bout
Five dollar?

Do you have
Family?

TOURIST    Yes I have
           A husband
           And
           Only husband

The GIRL picks up another doll.

GIRL    This is for your husband
        If you get two
        I can sell
        Nine dollar.
TOURIST: That means
Each
Four fifty

CAROLA: Yes

TOURIST: I don’t think
My husband
Like dolls
Maybe he don’t
Believe in
Dolls

CAROLA: Do you have parents?

TOURIST: They are still alive

The GIRL picks up another doll.

CAROLA: They’re for them
You will get three

TOURIST: If I get three
How much?

CAROLA: I will sell
Thirteen dollar

TOURIST: Thirteen dollar

That is
About
Four

CAROLA: Yes

TOURIST: How bout
Six dollar

CAROLA: Only six?

No
I can’t-

TOURIST: I think
It’s enough
For you

São Paolo
Madelyn Kent
CAROLA: It's
They're not mine.

TOURIST: Whose are they?

CAROLA: My
Friend made
Them.

So
I can’t sell
Under thirteen.

TOURIST: Under thirteen
I can’t sell them.

The TOURIST puts them back, and
walks away.

CAROLA: Wait wait
You look so
Rich than me
I don’t have
Family and house
So p[lease help
Us

TOURIST: But I
I saw
Another store
Like
Another doll store
He sold dolls
Like these
Each
Three dollars
I wonder
He
It's enough for him

CAROLA: I don’t
Believe
Maybe he
Made by
Machine
But my owner
Made by his hand
And he has high
Skill to make
Dolls.

The TOURIST comes back and picks up a doll.

TOURIST  
I can’t understand  
How he is creative  
Can you  
Discount  
Cheaper?

CAROLA  
Okay  
How bout twelve these  
Three items

TOURIST  
Okay.  
No thanks.

SHE leaves.

CAROLA  
Come back  
Please come back  
Hi Miss  
How ten dollar?

TOURIST  
Ten dollar?

CAROLA  
Yes

TOURIST  
Nine dollar?

CAROLA  
Okay.  
Please come back.  
I’ll sell you for nine dollar.

The GIRL starts packing them up.

TOURIST  
Okay.  
Let me see them  
It's  
It's  
There is  
A chip  
And this is  
Bad smell.  
And this is  
I don’t like this face  
I’m sorry
CAROLA  You interested in them

TOURIST  But I changed my mind.

The TOURST leaves.

JACKO comes back.

JACKO  See.

CAROLA  Hi.

JACKO  It's
Really hard

CAROLA  No.

JACKO  But you couldn't sell
Even one doll.

CAROLA  So that woman
That woman
mmm...
doesn't understand well
Maybe
Man or boy
Will come
(whispering) I can sell

JACKO  I said I have
Only
One chance
But you failed
So
It's
Over.
Go home.

CAROLA  Please give
Me one more
Chance.

JACKO  I don't think so

You
Don't
Sell anything
Get out of here
I have to
Continue
My work.

The GIRL is leaving.

JACKO
Here is
Here is
My gift

HE hands her a doll.

CAROLA
Why do
You give me

JACKO
You practice
Your selling.

CAROLA
Thank you.

SHE leaves.

LIGHTS DOWN.
SCENE TWO

A Kitchen.

A woman, DIANA, 32, stands at a kitchen table.

Her HUSBAND, wearing a police uniform enters.

DIANA
Hi.

HUSBAND
Morning

DIANA
You’re home.

HUSBAND
Yeah

DIANA
You looked tired.

HUSBAND
Yes I’m really tired

DIANA
You want breakfast?

I made
Spicy chicken
Last night
And I
Had
I ate it
Alone
It’s left over.

SHE puts a plate in front of him.

HUSBAND
You know
I don’t like
Meat

HE pushes it away.

DIANA
What did
You say?

HUSBAND
I don’t like meat.

DIANA
You don’t like meat.

HUSBAND
You remember?

DIANA
Yes. I’m sorry.
HUSBAND  Do you have
    Some fruit?

DIANA  Yes

    SHE gives him a plate of cut fruit. HE eats it.

HUSBAND  I have to arrest
    My friend
    So I’m really nervous

DIANA  What did he do?

HUSBAND  He did
    He did

    Long Pause.

HUSBAND  He kidnapped
    One children

DIANA  Oh.

HUSBAND  Do you remember
    Do you remember

    Long Pause.

Do you remember Pedro?

DIANA  Yes
    I remember him

HUSBAND  Yeah
    He kidnap

DIANA  Did he?

HUSBAND  Yes he did

DIANA  Oh I don’t believe that.

    Maybe you should eat something

HUSBAND  No
    No I smoke
HE lights up a cigarette.

DIANA Please eat something
For me

HUSBAND I just want water

DIANA Did you eat something
Last night

HUSBAND I just drink

DIANA You seem to have lost weight

HUSBAND A little bit

DIANA Recently I
Couldn’t sleep
Very well
I haven’t
Seen your face
In the daylight

HUSBAND Are you bored?

DIANA No I’m not
I’m just worrying about you

HUSBAND I have a lot
I have
Hard work
So
I don’t
I don’t have time
So we can’t
We can’t talk

SHE looks down at her palms.

HUSBAND I think you should
You should
Work
Don’t you think so?

DIANA Yes I’ve been
Thinking about

HUSBAND What about it?
DIANA: Do you mind
    If I go out
    At midnight?

HUSBAND: It's all right
    What kind of job?

DIANA: You know
    It's a job
    Where I used to work
    Before we met

             Pause.

Do you know that bar
    In downtown?

HUSBAND: My friend
    Called me yesterday
    Asked me to work
    With her

HUSBAND: Is it safe?

DIANA: Of course
    It is

HUSBAND: Why do
    You think so?

DIANA: Because it was
    Safe before.

HUSBAND: Downtown is
    Too dangerous
    I think

DIANA: But nothing has changed
    In downtown
    It was safe
    Before and it is
    Safe now too

HUSBAND: All right

How long
    Would you work?
DIANA  I would be there
        At eleven.
        
        From eleven to three.
        
        Pause.
        
        It is nightshift.

HUSBAND  Three times or four?

DIANA  Three times a week.

        Maybe you
        You have a
        Nightshift three times a week
        So I think it all right
        With us

HUSBAND  How much would
        You make?

DIANA  Fifty dollars a day

HUSBAND  That’s nice.
        Okay
        I agree with you
        You can work

DIANA  Are you worrying
        About me?

HUSBAND  No I’m not

DIANA  Okay
        I will call her
        If you don’t eat
        I have to wash up

        SHE clears the table.

HUSBAND  Could you change
        An ashtray?

DIANA  You have been
        Smoking
        You’ve been smoking
        Three packs
It is too much
Whole pack since
You came home

HUSBAND But
I can’t
I can’t quit
Smoke
I have
A stress
I
And I drunk
Everyday too much
But I’m healthy
Don’t worry about it

DIANA Okay
If you say so
Do you wanna
Sleep?

HUSBAND Yes.
I wanna sleep One hour
Because I have to
Because I have to
Go out

DIANA Okay
Do you have
Anything
That I have to wash?

HUSBAND All right
HE gets undressed. Hands her his dirty clothes.

HUSBAND Here you are

DIANA Okay
This is what
I wash
Yesterday

HUSBAND Do you mind changing the sheet?

SHE changes the sheet.

HE sits down on the bed.
HUSBAND  And
Could you
Polish my
Leather shoes
Boots

DIANA  Sure

HUSBAND  Thank you.

HE lies down.

I feel sleepy.

LIGHTS DOWN.
SCENE THREE

The street. The BOY with his dolls.

The GIRL runs past him with a loaf of bread under her arms.
SHE trips and falls.

The BOY hides his dolls and runs to her.

JACKO

Hey you

CAROLA

What?

JACKO

Are you okay?

CAROLA

Yes

JACKO

You need help?

SHE is on the ground.

CAROLA

I just
I’m not pain
In my
Ankle
But it’s okay
Don’t worry

JACKO

But you
Can’t stand
Let me see
Your ankle

HE touches her ankle.

JACKO

Do you feel hurt here?

CAROLA

Yes I feel
A little
Hurt
But I have to
Go
Have to go.

JACKO

Wait.

SHE drops the doll he had given her.

HE picks it up.
JACKO  Oh this is
      Mine
      My doll.
      What happened
      You
      You
      Did you do
      Something bad

CAROLA  No I just
        Fall down
        On the street

JACKO  Where is
         Your home?

CAROLA  I live

Pause.

I don’t
Decide to live
I change everyday.

JACKO  Where are
       You going?

CAROLA  I’m going to
         Meet my friend
         Good-bye

JACKO  Maybe you
       Will be caught
       By them

SHE tries to hide the stolen loaf of
bread.

JACKO  If you will
       Be caught
       You
       If you are
       Caught by them
       You will
       Punish
       By them
       I can
Carry your
Bread
If you
Want
I think it is better
Don’t you think so?

CAROLA
But I’m really hungry
If I can’t eat it
I’m
I can’t live anymore

JACKO
But
It’s hard to
Run away
For you
Because of your leg
My place is near here
You can
Hide
Protect you
You need
Rest
To rest

CAROLA
Why are you kind to me?

JACKO
Because
This doll
Told me
Do you remember
This is
I made this
Anyway we
Have
No
Time
Please give me
The bread

CAROLA
So
Is your
Place
Do you
Have any
Food
In your place?

JACKO
Yes
I have
Some
Bananas
In my hut

CAROLA
Can I eat banana?

JACKO
Sure
If you want

SHE reluctantly gives him the bread.
Pointing to the doll.

CAROLA
And it’s
Mine

HE gives her the doll.

JACKO
You can have it

CAROLA
Thank you

JACKO
I’ll take you
To my place
So
Wait.

CAROLA
Where are you going?

HE starts to pack up dolls.

JACKO
I have to make errand.
I just
There is my
Important items
My living

Now I will
Bring this bread
First and then I’ll
Take you

CAROLA
So
I keep
Your dolls
And I’m waiting
That you
Back soon
JACKO

I swear
I don’t
Cheat you

But
If you
But I can
Understand your
Feelings
Because we didn’t
Know
Each other

CAROLA

Yes so
When you will come back here
I might sell your dolls

SHE limps to him.

Please
Give me
The dolls

JACKO

Okay
You
Give me
This bread
I trust you
Here
You are.

HE hands her the dolls.

JACKO

Stay
Here.

CAROLA

They’re
Chasing to you
You have
To hurry

HE runs off with the bread.

SHE sets up the dolls and waits.

MUSIC. People pass, some are dancing.

The sudden sound of RAIN. People flee.
SHE packs up.

A MOMENT LATER, HE comes back.

SHE’s not there.
SCENE FOUR

CAROLA sits in a shack. The bag of dolls.
Waiting.
The sound of HEAVY RAIN.

JACKO comes in.

CAROLA  Someone there?
JACKO    What are you doing here?

Why are you here
This is
My
Place

CAROLA  I didn’t know
I’m just running away
From the bar
And
Found the shack
And I
Hid here

JACKO    I can’t believe
That
I said
You have to
I said
Stay there
And waiting for me

CAROLA  I waited
There
But
You
Didn’t come.
Long time
And I thought

It started to
Rain
And I thought
mmm...
I change
Place for
My work

JACKO
So where is
My dolls
Did you
Already
Sell the,
How much did you get

So maybe
You
You
Looking for another dolls
Don’t you?
To steal

CAROLA
No I never
Steal
So...
How bout the
How bout bread

JACKO
Here

HE takes it, hidden away, and gives it to her.

CAROLA
This is my bread!

JACKO
I know its your
I know
How much you
You
Need
The bread

SHE starts to eat.

JACKO
Instead I bought
I bought the bread
I apologize to the owner
He punched
My face
But I
Saved the bread
And I stole
Some strawberry jam.

HE gives it to her.
CAROLA  You didn’t
       Pay money

JACKO  Yes, you know
       I didn’t sell
       Only dolls today
       I don’t
       Have
       I have no money

CAROLA  These are
       Your dolls
       I’m sorry I couldn’t sell
       Them

       SHE gives him back the dolls. HE holds
       them.

JACKO  These are
       No mean
       These don’t
       Have any meaning
       It takes
       About three hours to
       Make a doll
       But
       I can’t
       I sell it
       About
       Around

       Pause.

       Five
       I sell it
       Less than
       Five dollars
       They couldn’t
       They couldn’t make big money
       So I
       Don’t need them
       Anymore

       HE throws them down.

       SHE picks them up.

CAROLA  I love these dolls
JACKO
What?

CAROLA
I love
You made dolls

JACKO
Why?
I think almost all people
Don’t like
Don’t like
Dolls
They thought
These just
A souvenir or
Childish thing

CAROLA
But I don’t think
So
My grandfather made
My grandfather was
A wood craftsman
He made
Dolls
His skill was so
High and his
Made
His doll
Has

(Japanese)

Soul.
It
They didn’t
Just a doll
I felt ahh...
I felt what
I saw your dolls
At first
Your dolls
Reminded me
Grandfather

SHE is holding her bread like a baby.

We can hear
Music

JACKO
Really

34
I can’t hear

CAROLA  I can hear

JACKO  What kind
Of music
Do you hear?

CAROLA  I hear

Pause.

Dance music

JACKO  Really

CAROLA  I can hear
Something
Approaching

JACKO  Yes.
Maybe somebody
Has a stereo
And they will
They are approaching
Here. Bicycle.

MUSIC gets LOUDER. CAROLA starts
to dance.

CAROLA  I am a dancer.

SHE continues to dance until it fades.

CAROLA  Who is he?

JACKO  I don’t know
But maybe it’s some
Stupid guys

SHE walks around the shack.

JACKO  So
How was your
Ankle?

CAROLA  It’s okay
But I
Run
Run away
When I ran away
The pain disappeared

Pause.

HE watches her. SHE sits near him.

JACKO
Where did
You run from?

CAROLA
So I was
In bar
Until I came here
Because I
I thought
I have to sell these
Dolls and then
I went to the bar
I talked
Many people
And I
I explained
The dolls
But I couldn’t
Sell.

So in the bar
I met a
Strange person
He
He wanted
Talk
Wanted to talk with me
But I didn’t want
To do.
He

Pause.

He wanted
To drink
To buy me a drink
But I
I said I don’t need
It
He was angry
And he
He
He
Wanted to hit me
So I run away
From him.
And then I found
The shack (happy)
And I hide
Here
From him.

JACKO
Are you okay?

CAROLA
Yes but I’m
Afraid
Scared
When he will
Come here

JACKO
Don’t worry
You know
This is
Here under the bridge
People
Can’t find
This place
Easily
But why
Did you
Go the bar
You know
There is
Dangerous place
Dangerous place
As a young girl

CAROLA
Yes but
I thought
The drunken person
Would buy
Them

JACKO
Oh,
You are
Smart.
But
I think
I told
Not
Valuable.
You
Don’t have to
Sell them.
Such a
Dangerous place.

CAROLA
So I want to
When you
Come back
I want to sell
All of
These dolls.
And you will admire me
But I
Couldn’t.

Pause.

JACKO
You look
So tired

You should
Sleep

CAROLA
Yes
I
Actually I want
To sleep
But here is your house
I have to go out
To my place

JACKO
You can
Sleep
Here
If you want

CAROLA
Thank you
For
Kindness

So where
Can I sleep?

JACKO
Oh, this is
Very
Dirty
So how bout
There
CAROLA Is this
Your bed?

JACKO Yes
But it's okay
It's
Cleaner

CAROLA Thank you I'll sleep
On the bed

SHE lies down with the bread.

Pause.

Do you want to
Eat?

JACKO Yes
Actually
I forgot
That I didn't
Eat
Anything
Today

HE sits next to her.

SHE gives him a piece.

CAROLA It's your's

THEY eat.

JACKO This is really
Nice

CAROLA Yes I love
This
Bread
So do you
Do you
Live here
Alone?

JACKO Yes I've been here
For long time.
CAROLA: How bout your family?

JACKO: When I was
Eight. I had
Father mother and sister
Younger sister
But my father
Was arrested
By police
And he
Was in jail
He went to the jail
He was
Died
In the jail.

Pause.

My mother
and sister
Go away
With
Another
Man.
When I was
A little boy
So after then
I live by
Myself.

CAROLA: Why didn’t you
Run away with them?

JACKO: My mother
Left
Me because I
Don’t need
She don’t need me
To make a new family
So my sister
Was a baby
When
She
Couldn’t
Maybe she couldn’t
Be left.

CAROLA: Why you father
Arrest?
JACKO
He was
A sailor
Sailor
And he carried

Pause.

Coffee
Beans
To
Neighbor country
By
Boat
But-

Pause.

The pay
Was not enough
For us
So he
He
So he
He
Imported
Illegal
Thing
Like
Drug or something
To make
Money

THEY eat.

So would you
Like strawberry
Jam?

HE opens the jar.

CAROLA
Yes
Thank you
I haven’t such a
Jam for a long
Time.

THEY eat.

LIGHTS DOWN.
SCENE FIVE

HEAVY RAIN.

A garden. The HUSBAND is gardening on his knees.

DIANA comes out of the house with an umbrella.

DIANA  Hi. You’re head.
HUSBAND  Yeah.
          Morning.
DIANA  Morning.
          HE stands up and stretches.
DIANA  Very beautiful.
HUSBAND  Hmmm?
DIANA  They are beautiful.
HUSBAND  Do you like roses?
DIANA  Yes. I love it.
You haven’t
Eaten before
I made fruit juice
For you
But you haven’t drunk it

HUSBAND  I’m sorry I don’t
Have appetite today
Can you help me?
I’m putting support rod
In

DIANA  Do you know
It’s raining

HUSBAND  Yes it’s heavy rain
But I have to
Do it
SHE holds the umbrella over him.

DIANA       But you should
            Take off
            Your uniform
            It will get dirt
            Dirty

HUSBAND     Yes I know
            Will you get me
            The shovel please?

DIANA       Which one?

HUSBAND     The large one
            SHE gives it to him.

HUSBAND     Could you give me
            Your jacket?
            I need a few minutes.

DIANA       Okay.
            SHE holds the umbrella over him.

DIANA       Look there are
            A lot of insects

HUSBAND     Yeah I know
            Could you
            Bring the insecticide?

DIANA       What?

HUSBAND     Insecticide.

DIANA       Insecticide
            Insecticide
            This one?

HUSBAND     No

DIANA       Oh this one
There is label
Do you kill
The insect?

HUSBAND Where is the
Mask?
The mask?

DIANA Okay

SHE gives him a mask.

HUSBAND Oh it’s too dirty
Could you change it?

DIANA Yes.

HUSBAND Thank you

DIANA It’s poison

HUSBAND Yes
Could you leave
For a moment

Oh excuse me
Could I take umbrella?

SHE gives it to him and goes away.

HE sprays. SHE returns.

DIANA Could I go close to
You?

SHE stands under the umbrella.

DIANA Why those insects
Coming?
You use insecticide
Every
Day
But why those insects
Are coming
Back?
HUSBAND  Because

Pause.

It’s natural
Do you like gardening?

DIANA  I don’t know
But I like
Flowers
Which is the best flower
Today?

HE kneels.

HUSBAND  I think this
One but my
Favorite one is
Lily.

DIANA  Which one?

THEY bend forward, towards it.

DIANA  It’s really beautiful.
Could you pick it for me?

HUSBAND  No I can’t
Do that.

DIANA  I have to bring the
Best flower to Church

HUSBAND  Why do you have
To go to Church?

DIANA  It’s the day to
Go to Church

HUSBAND  Why?

DIANA  I told you
So you should take
Special drink before
We go to
Church and we have to
Bring this lily.

HUSBAND  I can’t cut them.
DIANA

How bout
This rose?

Pause.

HUSBAND

Ummm...

Kneeling.
Which color do you want?

DIANA

I love red.

HUSBAND

How many
Do you need?

DIANA

Ummm...
Maybe mmm...
Just one

HUSBAND

One

DIANA

Just one

HUSBAND

Okay

DIANA

Thank you
That's beautiful

HUSBAND

Really big, yeah?

DIANA

Yes
But could you
Take off
This insect?

HUSBAND

Yes

HE takes it off.

I feel like
Sleeping

DIANA

But we are
Going to Church

HUSBAND

Me?
Pause.

But I feel
Like sleeping
Could you go there
Alone?

DIANA  But today is
        Special day

HUSBAND  What celebration?

DIANA  It’s not
        Celebration day
        But you have
        To go
        With me

Pause. (Japanese)

HUSBAND  Why
        Are we going to
        Have to go
        Church?

DIANA  You have
        A lot of
        Things
        To tell
        God.

HUSBAND  I’m afraid
        I can’t believe
        In God

DIANA  But
        You have
        To have
        Something to
        Believe in.
        Why
        How can you
        Live
        Without
        Those things?

HUSBAND  To tell the truth
        I can’t believe
        In religion
DIANA What’s the matter
With you?
Today
Is
We have to
Go to Church
To meet my mother

HUSBAND Your mother

DIANA You haven’t
Grieved for
My mother
For a long time.

HUSBAND I can’t go
There
Sorry

DIANA But she is waiting
For us

HUSBAND Because I’m really tired
Besides
I have to work
The day.

DIANA How bout after
You work?

HUSBAND I couldn’t sleep
Few days

DIANA So you mean
If you had
Some rest
You could go
With me

HUSBAND If I had
Some time
I will
I want to sleep.

DIANA You
You
Are you tired?
HUSBAND I'm really tired. Could you talk To your mother About me?

DIANA I've been talking About you

HUSBAND What did She say?

DIANA She wants To hear About your About your About you.

SHE follows him around with umbrella as HE gardens.

DIANA She wants to Meet you

HUSBAND Some day.

DIANA Maybe One day She is glad If you give Her your flower.

HUSBAND Oh I see.

(Music.)

Does she like Lily?

DIANA Yes She loves flowers.

HUSBAND Okay I will Cut them

HE cuts the lilies.

HUSBAND Here you are
DIANA I can make
Bouquet

How long does
How long do
Those flowers
Last?

HUSBAND I think about
One week

DIANA One week?
It's enough

I'm going
To Church
So if you
Feel
Better
You can come.

HUSBAND All right.

DIANA Your breakfast is
On the table
You must
You must
Drink fruit juice
At least

HUSBAND Thank you

Could you
Bring me cigarettes
Please?

SHE goes into house.

DIANA But it's only one left.

Here.

SHE gives him the opened pack.

HUSBAND And matches
Please.

DIANA Sorry
SHE goes in the house, comes back with matches.

SHE holds the umbrella while HE lights up.

HUSBAND  Do you mind
          Getting carton
          Of cigarettes?

DIANA    Okay
          I will get it
          On the way
          From Church

HUSBAND  Thank you

          HE works.

DIANA    All right.

SHE enters house with umbrella.  HE follows, soaking.

HUSBAND  I will have
          A glass of juice
          Inside

          HE dries himself off.

HUSBAND  What time are you going to Church?

DIANA    I'm leaving.

HUSBAND  Maybe
          I will rest
          On couch.

DIANA    I'm waiting
          For you
          At the Church.

          SHE leaves the house with umbrella.

          He smokes.

          LIGHTS DOWN.
SCENE SIX

LIGHTS UP.

A Church.

From the ceiling hang hundreds of molds of people’s afflicted body parts that they have hung in hopes of relief. A common practice in South American Catholicism. Usually made of wood, these are made of slightly transparent wax and are referred to here as “ex-votos.”

A WOMAN, 55, well-dressed, beautiful, sits in a pew watching DIANA across the aisle. SHE is putting lilies on a statue, kneeling. And then stands and sits in a pew.

THEY sway in the same direction.

WOMAN What a beautiful lily
I like it

DIANA Of really
Thank you

WOMAN I like it

DIANA My husband raised them

WOMAN Oh

DIANA They are special
In the morning

WOMAN Today

DIANA Yes

Do you often
Come here?

WOMAN Yes of course
‘Bout two times a week

DIANA I have never seen you

WOMAN And you
Your husband and you
How many times
Come here

52
DIANA  I often come here
        But my husband
        Doesn’t know
        How to get here

WOMAN  Where do you live
        In the neighborhood?

DIANA  St. Antonio Street

WOMAN  St.. Antonio Street!

DIANA  Did you get
        Did you get
        Walk here

WOMAN  Yes

DIANA  And where do
        You live?

WOMAN  I live nearby
        I walked here
        About ten minutes

DIANA  Oh really
        Near

        Silence.

WOMAN  I have
        Many ex-votos
        In my house.
        And you?

DIANA  What did you say?

WOMAN  Do you have ex-votos?

DIANA  No never

WOMAN  I have a lot
        Of ex-votos
        In my house
        And also a lot
        Are mine

        Pointing to the wax casts of body parts.
Arms, feet, breasts.

DIANA  You are
Ex-votos person

WOMAN  No.
I had several times
I have a pain and
In my body

DIANA  I know
The story
Does it
Work well?

WOMAN  Yes
Yes

DIANA  Oh really?

WOMAN  Yes

DIANA  How many
Body parts
Have you
Had made?

WOMAN  I don’t know.
I didn’t count.

DIANA  Which is
Your’s?

THEY stands an walk underneath. The
WOMAN pointing to her’s.

WOMAN  This foot
And right foot
And left foot
And elbow
And
And
Neck
It’s mine

DIANA  What happened
To your elbow?
WOMAN    Almost I slipped
         On the street
         When I stepped down
         And then
         Several times I slipped
         On the street
         Front road
         I slipped
         I
         Always I take
         I put on
         High heels.

DIANA    Mmmm...

         Old road
         Get your
         High heel

WOMAN    I don’t like
         Low shoes
         I don’t like.

         Finished with the tour, the WOMAN
         goes back to her seat.

DIANA    Thank you

         The WOMAN sits.

WOMAN    By the way
         What’s your name?

DIANA    I’m Diana

         What’s your name?

WOMAN    I’m Señora Viera.

DIANA    What?

WOMAN    Señora Viera

DIANA    Mmmm...

WOMAN    I- I- is a Viera

DIANA    Wonderful name
WOMAN: Do you have any pain in your body?
DIANA: Yes, but I'm fine.
WOMAN: I have pain in my lung. But maybe it's because of the air.
DIANA: I think you should make an ex-voto. You must be well.
WOMAN: Oh. Thank you, but I'm just fine. Pause.
DIANA: May I ask you a question? You have lived alone for a long time, haven't you?
WOMAN: Yes, I live twenty years alone.
DIANA: You must be lonely.
WOMAN: No. But I feel well. And...
DIANA: You have some dogs?
WOMAN: No.
I haven’t

DIANA

Oh

WOMAN

And you?

DIANA

No.

WOMAN

Do you have any
Children?

DIANA

No
I mean I haven’t
Yet
And do
You?

WOMAN

No.

DIANA

Why
Are you
Do you want
To be healthy
Healthier
Like making
Those ex-votos

WOMAN

I make ex-votos
And then
Right now
I feel very well

DIANA

So you want
To live
Longer

WOMAN

Yes
But several times
Other parts pain but right
Now well and different parts
Pain

DIANA

You’re
Really busy
Body parts

WOMAN

Yes
But
I didn’t make them
I went to
Ex-voto maker

Pause.

DIANA Maybe
It must cost a lot of money

WOMAN My husband dead
Twenty years ago
But my husband left a lot of money

Pause.

Can I ask you
A question

DIANA Sure

WOMAN How long
Did you
In this city

DIANA I came
Here
When I was
Fourteen and
Almost

Hands finger

Twenty years ago

WOMAN When did you
Get married?

DIANA I got married
When I was twenty-five

WOMAN How old are you?

DIANA I’m thirty-two

WOMAN And your husband?

DIANA My husband is
Thirty-six
WOMAN  Thirty-six?
        Oh
        What does
        He do?

DIANA  He’s a policeman

WOMAN  A policeman
        And where are you
        Originally from?

DIANA  I was
        Born in countryside

WOMAN  And how
        Bout your husband?
        Same place?

DIANA  No
        We met
        Each other
        In this city?

Pause.

WOMAN  Your husband job
        Very busy

DIANA  Yes.
        He’s been
        Very busy

Pause.

WOMAN  Are you stay
        In your home
        Long time?

DIANA  No
        I have many places
        To go

WOMAN  Do you have
        A work?

DIANA  No but
        I am going to find
        A job
WOMAN: Why do you see the statue?
DIANA: I don't know but I just feel like it.
WOMAN: I think you something something Problem
DIANA: Why do you say that?
WOMAN: You look You have A problem
DIANA: I'm fine
WOMAN: You seem upset. Why Do you see The statue?
DIANA: I when I See the statue I feel (Japanese) something feel like I did it. Or (Japanese) Sense of Accomplishment
   Angel is Standing on a man Angel has little black face And he has a ring A halo on his face And a Bible in his hand And he is standing on a man Who is White man And the white man is begging Something
WOMAN: Oh.
DIANA  Maybe
        Most of people
        Don’t like it.

WOMAN  I think
        Maybe
        You have a pain
        In your mind.
        You should
        Got o
        Ex-voto maker
        Ad then you
        Feel good become well

DIANA  Thank you

WOMAN  Do you have
        Pain in your head?

DIANA  No
        I don’t
        No
        I don’t

WOMAN  I’m serious
        I’m afraid your
        Physical mind
        I think you should
        Go ex-voto maker
        Then you feel
        Very well
        And then become
        Your mind is healthy

The WOMAN moves closer.

He will
Mold if you
Head pain
And put the
Wax and then
Put off
Become you
Right now you
Feel well
And then come to Church
You come to Church
And hang this.
Don't you think so?

DIANA

It's
Very kind of you
To say
But I've never
Had had
In my mind

WOMAN

Are you sure?

DIANA

Yes I'm very sure

WOMAN

But I don't
Think so.
You're very
Deeply pain
In your mind

DIANA

Thank you
I'm just fine
I've got to go.

SHE stands quickly and starts to walk away.

WOMAN

I think you should
Make your own
Ex-votos
Of your head

The WOMAN stands.

Please
His
Address

The WOMAN shouts after DIANA, as she leaves the church.

His address
This street
One block and
Then go straight
And on your right
Yellow house.

LIGHTS DOWN.
SCENE SEVEN

LIGHTS UP.

The sound of RAIN, still.

JACKO is sitting where DIANA was.

The HUSBAND walks into the Church, wearing a raincoat, but no umbrella. HE is soaked.

HE bumps his knee.

HUSBAND   Oops.

            Hi

JACKO    Hi

HUSBAND    Did you see the woman
            She wear wearing
            Red sweater and
            Black pants

JACKO    Well I just
            Come to here
            About
            Ten minutes

HUSBAND    Ten minutes

JACKO     Ago

            I met an old
            A woman
            Who has an
            Umbrella

HUSBAND    Ten minutes ago

            I think she’s
            My wife

            Did she look like a stranger?

JACKO    I don’t know but I remember
            But she was holding
            A lot of ex-votos
            And also
Recommended to me
To make
Ex-votos

HUSBAND: Did she?

I didn’t know
Her hobbies
I didn’t know that

JACKO: I don’t know
But if she is your wife
You should
You should
Pay
Pay attention
About her
I think she is
Kind if
Crazy woman

HUSBAND: Did she
With somebody
Woman or people

JACKO: No she was
Just alone and
Just alone
But she said she often come to this Church

HUSBAND: Yes I know
Anyway, tell me
Why your hand dirty?

JACKO: Oh
Because I

HUSBAND: What do you?

JACKO: Why
Do you
Ask
About that?

Pause.

HUSBAND: I’m interested in
You
JACKO Me?

HUSBAND Yes you looks
Like
A little
Poor

JACKO It
That doesn’t
Concern with you
Even if I’m poor
You
You
Is that something wrong?

HUSBAND Are you going to school?

JACKO School

HUSBAND I’ve never seen
A
School

Em, tell me
How often
Go to
Here?

JACKO stares straight at statue.

Tell me.

Pause.

JACKO Don’t you find
Your wife?

HUSBAND Maybe

JACKO You should
Go back home

HUSBAND I know

What do you think
About Church?

To tell the truth
I don’t like
This mood

What do you think?

JACKO  (whispering)
Church
I
Came here
I
Came here
When I was
When I have
Something
Problem with my
Heart
mmm...
but
I don’t
Depend on god
Every time.

HUSBAND  I think I’m
Feeling

Pause.

Ummm...

Touches heart.

I’m feeling
Dizzy

JACKO  Dizzy

HUSBAND  Dizzy and
I feel like
Vomiting

Pause.

JACKO  Maybe
You
You feel
You feel
Bad secret

HUSBAND  Are you Christian
JACKO

Yes
People who live in
Here
Believe
Believe in god
Because
It is
Only
It's only things
To give us
Hope
Don’t you think so?

HUSBAND

I don’t think so

Pointing to an ex-voto.

They looks like
scary

JACKO

Yes
They look like so real
But
If you believe
The god
You can
You can
Happier
Your life is
More happier.

HUSBAND

Anyway do you
Have a time
Why don’t you go to
My home
I wanna talk more
With you

JACKO

Why
Did you ask me about that
I’m only a twelve year old boy
We have no
We have no
We have nothing in common

HUSBAND

If you have
The time
I want
You to meet my wife

JACKO
Your wife?

I don’t want to
Meet your wife
You
I think you have
Another reason to
Take
Me
Your home, don’t you?

HUSBAND
Because
Shall we
Have lunch with
My wife
You looks like
Hungry

JACKO
Don’t look down
To me
I can eat by myself

He eats some bread.

HUSBAND
Where did you get it?

JACKO
This bread?

HUSBAND
Yeah
JACKO
I bought
I bought

HUSBAND
You looks like
You don’t have money

How did you get it?

JACKO
My friends
My friends gave me
This bread

HUSBAND
But it looks
Like stolen
Because it doesn’t have
A bag

JACKO
To tell you the truth
I didn’t
But this
My friend
Stole from
A store

HUSBAND    Your friend?

JACKO     She didn’t
Have anything
For
Three says
You know
It’s a
It’s usual
Things
To steal food for us

I know
You
You are
A policeman
Because
I
I recognize
Your face

HUSBAND    Yes
I’m policeman
I usually
I usually
Catch a lot of thieves

JACKO     Maybe
You know
Her
She is
A dancer
She is a
Famous dancer

Yesterday
She stayed
My home
Because I
I was
Hiding her
From the
Police
Because
She stole
A bread
But when
When I
Woke up
This morning
She
She disappeared
But
She
She
She ate this bread
Yesterday with strawberry jam
But when I
Woke up and look around
My home
This
Whole
There is
A
Whole bread
On the table
And also we
Drank
Water
There were
Two glasses
On the table
One of them
Is empty
That I was
Drinking
The other one
Was full
I
I remember
She
Was drinking
That water
But
The water
Is still
Was still full
So
I
Pinched
My cheek
And I want to
Make sure that I’m
Still
Alive
I want to make sure so
I came here

HUSBAND
I want to
Help you
So
Why don’t we
Look for her

JACKO
I can’t
Because
I don’t believe
Policemen

HUSBAND
You can believe me
I know
Almost all policemen
Play dirty
But you can believe me

JACKO
Of you’re
If you want me to
Believe you
You
You
Show me
Something
To prove
That you are not
A bad policeman

Pause.

HUSBAND
What should
I do
You can believe?

Long Pause.

JACKO leaves the Church.

LIGHTS DOWN.
SCENE EIGHT

A BAR. Sunny afternoon. Two weeks later.

Fado music plays. There are professional bar dancers on a stage off-stage.

DIANA, a waitress, is serving A MAN WITH A MOUSTACHE.

SEÑORA VIERO walks in, carry a heavy suitcase.

SEÑORA VIERO    May I have a seat
DIANA            You can sit anywhere
                What can I get for you
SEÑORA VIERO    Coffee please
DIANA            Coffee
SEÑORA VIERO    Yeah
DIANA            Sure
                Here’s your coffee
                Anything else?
SEÑORA VIERO    No thanks

JACKO comes in.

DIANA            Hi How are you
JACKO            Can I have
                A beer?
DIANA            A beer
JACKO            Yeah
DIANA            Sure

SHE brings a beer.

JACKO            What is the cheapest dish
                In your bar
DIANA            I’m sorry
JACKO I'm hungry but I don't have Enough money Do you have some food

DIANA I know There is menu

SHE shows it to him.

HE slaps some money in her hand.

SHE puts a bowl down.

DIANA Here are nuts
JACKO How much are the nuts
DIANA It's okay You can take it
JACKO Thanks

Excuse me miss

SEÑORA VIERO Yes
JACKO If you don't eat them Can I have them
SEÑORA VIERO Take them

He eats

JACKO This is good What's this?
SEÑORA VIERO Dried plum

Pause.

JACKO I haven't eaten Anything Since Yesterday
SEÑORA VIERO Excuse me?
JACKO I
This taste very good
Maybe this is
This is luxury food

You
You
Always eat
Eat
Eat
Eat like this

SENORA VIERO
Yes
Of course

Do you
Some more dried plums
Would you like more

JACKO
Yes

SENORA VIERO
Have you ever eaten that

JACKO
No!
This is first time to eat.

SENORA VIERO
Do you want
To eat
More

Excuse me

DIANA
I'll be right there

SHE comes

Yes.

SENORA VIERO
Could you
Please
Some dried plums
To him

DIANA
To him
And then

SENORA VIERO
I pay

DIANA
Okay okay okay
Just one plate?

JACKO  Three plate please

SHE returns with three plates.

DIANA  Here you
       Are

SHE places them down. HE eats fast.

JACKO  Oh
       I remember
       I saw you
       At the Church

SEñORA VIERO  Really?
              I don’t know

JACKO  Maybe
       You are
       Rich because
       You
       Have
       A lot of
       Ex-votos and

SEñORA VIERO  I don’t know
              What’s ex-votos
              Maybe you
              Maybe the person
              Wasn’t me

JACKO  I don’t think so
       I remember your
       Face
       Because you
       Have
       A big
       Mole
       On the
       Forehead

SEñORA VIERO  Maybe
              The person
              Wrong

JACKO  Have you ever
       Made
Ex-voto

SENORA VIERO
I don’t know Ex-voto?

JACKO
Yes

SENORA VIERO
What is the Ex-voto?

JACKO
Ex-voto
Is
Molds
If you have something
Problems in your body
You make
You make
A molds and bring to
The Church
And put
It over
The altar
You problems will go
Away

SENORA VIERO
Really
Do you believe it?

JACKO
Yes
But I have never
Make it
Because I am
I have
I don’t have
Any problems in my body
Because I am young
I think
Your age
Your generation
Has something problem
Don’t you?

SENORA VIERO
I think so
But if I had a pain
I will go to
The hospital

JACKO
Finished.
DIANA takes the three plates away.

DIANA You want some coffee

SEÑORA VIERO Yes please

DIANA pours

Thank you

DIANA looks at SEÑORA VIERO up and down.

DIANA Excuse me

Mrs. Senora Viero

SEÑORA VIERO Yes

DIANA Oh
I don’t
I can’t
Believe
We meet here
How are you?

SEÑORA VIERO Do you know
Me?

DIANA Don’t you recognize me

SEÑORA VIERO I don’t know

DIANA We met in the Church

SEÑORA VIERO Church?

DIANA You gave me
Address of mold maker

SEÑORA VIERO Mold maker. That mold maker

DIANA Actually
I went to meet him
Two weeks ago
And I
I got
My head
Yesterday
SEÑORA VIERO
Did you make
Ex-voto

DIANA
It's kinda big
You know

I have to go to Church
To hang it
I don't know if
I can get space

SEÑORA VIERO
I remember
Did you pay
To him
The ex-voto
Fee

DIANA
Yeah I pay him

SEÑORA VIERO
That's too bad

DIANA
What?

SEÑORA VIERO
You Do you believe
The ex-voto
Do you believe
Him?

DIANA
Of course
I believe him

He's a
He's a nice man

SEÑORA VIERO
I'm sorry
I want to
Say about him

DIANA
What do you mean?

SEÑORA VIERO
I want to
I want to
Forget about him

DIANA
He said
Something
Did he say
Anything bad
To you

SEÑORA VIERO  I don’t want
                To say

DIANA       Maybe you
            Will be free

SEÑORA VIERO  You look happy

DIANA       I feel great
            I feel great
            Now I can
            Now I can
            See everything vivid
            And cheerful
            Thanks you thank you

SEÑORA VIERO  You’re welcome

DIANA       Yeah I like
            Your outfit

            DIANA leaves.

            JACKO, looks at the stage.

JACKO       I am not wrong.

            You were the woman
            Who I saw
            At the Church

            SHE nods

            But I think
            You look
            Happy
            Now

            When I saw you
            At the Church
            You were
            Scared from
            Something

SEÑORA VIERO  Now I’m free
JACKO

Free

SEÑORA VIERO

I feel very well
I rearrange my room and
Now I’m going to go trip
I’m very happy

JACKO

Trip
Oh that sounds good
I envy you
Because I have
Never gone out
Of this town

SEÑORA VIERO

Really?
Now what do you do?

JACKO

I make a
Wooden dolls
And sells them
On the street

Excuse me
Can you
Move?

DIANA crouches.

SEÑORA VIERO

How old are you?

JACKO

I’m fifteen years old

SEÑORA VIERO

Fifteen?

JACKO

Fifteen.
But
Don’t you think
I’m teenager

SEÑORA VIERO

You look like
Eighteen or nineteen
I think

JACKO

Maybe
I
I
Live
Alone
And
Make money
By myself

DIANA returns.

DIANA What a nice suitcase
Oh looks like you are going away

SEÑORA VIERO Yes
Of course
Today I am going on trip

DIANA Where are you going?

SEÑORA VIERO Around the world

DIANA Sounds great

DIANA Alone?

SEÑORA VIERO Yes

DIANA You hear that?
She’s going on trip
Around the world

JACKO Oh
What city
Are you going to
First

SEÑORA VIERO Maybe
I’m going to
Lisbon

JACKO Lisbon
Where is Lisbon?

SEÑORA VIERO There is
Portugal
And
Famous
Seaside city

DIANA Yeah
Your parents
Living there?

SEÑORA VIERO Nobody
Nobody
Live there

DIANA
You know
How wonderful
Lisbon is

JACKO
I can’t imagine

DIANA
Maybe you can’t imagine
Old castle
You can feel
You can feel
Ancient atmosphere
Where you are
Walking on the street
It’s fancy.
We never
We never
Imagine
We can never
Imagine
Let me open
The bottle
Of porto
Let’s celebrate

SENORA VIERO
Thank you

SHE opens a bottle of wine.

Pours each a glass.

JACKO
Here’s to
Senora Viero’s

SENORA VIERO
Trip

JACKO
Good trip

SENORA VIERO
(to Diana)
Here’s to
Your happiness

DIANA
And
Here is to
(To Jacko)

Pause.

82
Here is to Adolescence

THEY drink and laugh.

**SEÑORA VIERO**

I don’t know
The reason

**JACKO**

It tastes
Like adult

**DIANA**

You should put on
Moustache

THEY laugh.

**SEÑORA VIERO**

I have to go
Now
Check please

SHE brings the check.

**DIANA**

Here is your check
Need change

**SEÑORA VIERO**

No, keep the change

SHE lifts her suitcase.

Thank you

**DIANA**

Have a nice trip

**SEÑORA VIERO**

Bye now

SHE leaves

**DIANA**

She is nice

**JACKO**

Yes

**DIANA**

She is a generous person

**JACKO**

She is rich

**DIANA**

Do you have family?
JACKO  No I don’t
DIANA  You live by yourself?
JACKO  Yeah, how bout you?
DIANA  Yes me too
JACKO  Don’t you dancing
Beat
DIANA  Of course
Can you dance
JACKO  No
I like just
To see
DIANA  Oh I teach you
JACKO  No thanks
It’s okay
So how long
Have you worked
At this bar
DIANA  It’s been
Two weeks

HE motions to the stage.

JACKO  How many
Dancers
Are there?
DIANA  You mean
Those dancers
They
They’re performing
Three times a week
We have
Always ten dancers
JACKO  Ten dancers?
I’m looking for
A girl
Who
Who name is
CAROLA
Do you know-
DIANA
Carola?
JACKO
Do you know her
DIANA
There is no one
By that name
Can I ask you
Who is
CAROLA
HE unfolds a piece of paper.
JACKO
This is a picture
I
Drew it
DIANA
Really
JACKO
She is Carola
Have you ever
Seen her
DIANA
What a nice picture
JACKO
She is good
At dancing
I think might
Be
Dancing somewhere
DIANA
Do you
Want me
To hang it?
JACKO
No
Never mind
HE takes it from her.
JACKO
I knew she
I can’t find
Her
Anymore
HE crumbles it up.
DIANA What are you doing?

JACKO It’s okay. I decide to forget her.

DIANA How do you feel?

JACKO I have looked for her. For two weeks but two weeks. In all this city. But I can’t find any trace of her. Maybe she would leave somewhere. Don’t you think so?

DIANA Do you think you think she will never be back.

JACKO Yes. Because she has only bad memories of this city.

DIANA You are young. And you have time. How old are you?

JACKO I’m eighteen.
I’m eighteen years old

DIANA: Really

JACKO: Yes

DIANA: I thought
You were
Never mind

Her boss is looking at her, SHE stands.

DIANA: I’m off
At twelve
You wanna come
To the Church?

JACKO: Church

DIANA: Y’know the Church
On the hill

JACKO: Yes
I sometimes
Go there

DIANA: I have to
Go there
But I want
Company
I want
Someone
To go
With me

JACKO: You mean
It’s almost
Midnight
I’ll escort you
Don’t worry

DIANA puts her hands at her heart.

DIANA: You are so
Dependable

SHE leans in.

Thank you
I will see you
Behind
The bar

JACKO
Okay
See you then

LIGHTS DOWN.
SCENE NINE

Church. After midnight. DIANA climbs up a ladder holding the ex-voto of her head.

DIANA
I'm going to use
This ladder
But I think
There is no space
For my voto

JACKO
Do you need help

DIANA
Yeah
There is a space
Up

JACKO
I will make
Space for you

HE climbs up the ladder

JACKO
This leg
Is old
Maybe it
Doesn't have power

I'll move
Move it
Could you
Take-

HE removes the leg

DIANA
Okay-

JACKO
Take it

DIANA
I take it

JACKO
Okay
Here is your
Space

DIANA
Thank you

JACKO
Is it

Pause.

89
Straight

DIANA moves her hand

DIANA
Down
Move it
Down a little
Bit
And move it to the
Right a little bit

HE holds it

No I don’t think so
Move it to the left

JACKO
Here

DIANA
A little bit more

Stop

JACKO
Is that perfect

DIANA
Yes
It is

I'm gonna put
This leg
On the floor

SHE puts it down. Looks at it.

JACKO
Why did you
Make
Ex-voto?

DIANA
Don’t you
Believe
In it?

Pause.

JACKO
Yes
Of course
I believe in
Them
DIANA  But maybe
         You don’t
         Need it

JACKO  What do you mean?

DIANA  I just think so

JACKO  But if I had
         More money
         I want to make
         Mine

DIANA  What
         Part
         Do you
         Want to make

JACKO  I
         Want to
         I wanna
         More
         Mong legs

DIANA  It’s a little big
         Greedy
         You have
         Healthy legs
         You have wonderful legs

JACKO  If I
         If I’m more
         If I had longer legs
         People
         Think
         We are
         Good
         People looks we are
         Good couple

DIANA  What do you mean
         We?

JACKO  Yes
         I’m younger
         Than you
         But
         If I have
         Moustache
High
Long
Longer legs
I will fit you

DIANA You don’t have
To think so
You know
The statue
The statue

SHE sits down. HE joins her.

JACKO Yes
That is my
Favorite one

DIANA Really?

JACKO Yes

DIANA How do you like it

Pause.

JACKO Because it’s made of
Wood

DIANA Oh

JACKO I feel
I always feel
A power
From woods

DIANA It sounds interesting
I’ve never thought
It has
It has a power
From wood

JACKO You can
You should
Touch it

It’s okay
Nobody in this Church

DIANA I don’t think so
Have you ever
Touched the statue?

JACKO
Yes I have
Touched it
Any times
Because
I am
Dolls
Maker
I make them
From wood

HE stands up and touches the statue.

You can
Come here
Touch the face of angel

SHE laughs.
HE laughs.

DIANA
Do you always
Rub
His face like this

JACKO
Yes

SHE laughs

JACKO
Is there something
Wrong?
When I
Rub
His face
I feel
It always
Makes me
Calm
You should try

DIANA
No I don’t think so

Look his nose
His nose
Is worn off

JACKO
But he said
He said
He said

Long Pause.

It is
He is happy

HE rubs the statue

DIANA Did he talk
To you?

JACKO Yes when
Only I
Touch him
I can
Understand

DIANA Really

JACKO Yes

DIANA Try

SHE looks around and laughs.

HE laughs.

DIANA I can’t

The Church DOOR OPENS. Night
noise.

A MAN IN A COWBOY HAT walks in
and sits in the back.

JACKO stops touching the statue.

Silence.

DIANA How do you feel

JACKO I feel good

DIANA Yeah, me too

Silence.
DIANA
This place
It’s special
I
I don’t
I don’t believe
This is in Sao Paolo
Like
When I go out

JACKO
Uh-huh

DIANA
All things are
A mess
See
Nothing

Beat.

Nothing

Pause.

Quiet

Long Pause.

DIANA
You know
Some
Some people
Are not
Are not
Familiar with
Those
Silence

JACKO
I remember
A man
Who I met
Last time
In this Church
Didn’t
Like
A Church
He
Also said
He
He don’t like
The
Smells and
Silence

DIANA Yeah
I can imagine
But why
Did he
Come here

JACKO He was
For his
Wife

Oh
But I
Know
His face
Because he’s
A policeman

DIANA Really

SHE stands up.

DIANA I put these flowers
Last week
They wilted
This place
Reminds me of
Lisbon

JACKO Lisbon?
Why do you
Think so?

DIANA Do you
How beautiful
Lisbon is?

JACKO I don’t know
I can’t imagine
The place

DIANA You can
Imagine the place
Because this place
Is like Lisbon

My mother
Used to talk about Lisbon
She said it
It was
Made of
Gold

SHE laughs.

JACKO
Gold?

HE laughs. THEY laugh.

DIANA
Do you
Know
Where
Our ancestors
Came from?

JACKO
I don’t know
Maybe they
Are from
Africa

DIANA
Africa
I heard
That my ancestors
Lived in Lisbon

JACKO
That’s funny
That’s strange
You don’t look
European

DIANA
Oh

JACKO
I mean
You are
More beautiful
Than European

DIANA
Really

JACKO
Yeah
Because
You are
I know
You are
I know you are not only beautiful
But also
You are very
Kind

DIANA  
I've never thought
I am kind

HE stands at the statue, distracts himself.

JACKO  
I know how kind you are
Because
Tonight
You
Treat me
Of three dishes
Dried fruit
And
I
I saw
That you
Took care of
An old drunken man
And also
I saw
You feed
A leaving meals
To
Street cats
See you are
I have never
Met
Such a
Kind people

THE MAN IN A COWBOY HAT stands and leaves. The Sound of the DOOR CLOSING. THEY are alone.

DIANA walks up to the statue and kisses him on the cheek, slowly.

Silence.

JACKO  
Do you think
How long
Can we
Stay
Here

SHE looks around.
DIANA

I think
No one
Is coming until

SHE pushes her hands back.

Sunrise.

LIGHTS DOWN.