

REVOLUTIONS OF EVERYDAY LIFE

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A Short Play in One Act

by

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Cast of Characters

<u>A man:</u>	A young professional male;
<u>A woman:</u>	Partner of MAN, same age;
<u>The Representative:</u>	A talking head;

Scene

The modern apartment of a middle class couple

Time

Present

Scene I

SETTING: In the apartment of the couple.  
 MAN sits on a sofa while WOMAN  
 sits at a desk. THE REPRESENTATIVE  
 stands behind a framed window with  
 closed black curtains.

(When speaking, THE REPRESENTATIVE pulls the curtains  
 open quickly, says the lines, and then draws them shut.  
 This sequence occurs every time THE REPRESENTATIVE speaks.)

WOMAN  
 So what if what they said is true?

MAN  
 So what if it is?

WOMAN  
 It changes everything.

MAN  
 It doesn't change anything.

WOMAN  
 But just the other day they said--

THE REPRESENTATIVE  
 Home prices are up again, and so is unemployment.  
 10,000 troops scheduled to leave Afghanistan by next March.  
 Mother of eight admits to disliking kids.

WOMAN  
 Do you think it's true?

MAN  
 I don't know. . . That's a lot of kids.

WOMAN  
 I mean about the troops?

MAN  
 Of course it is. Why else would they say so?

WOMAN  
 Maybe William will come home.

## THE REPRESENTATIVE

Parents can now selectively choose genes for their unborn children. But it comes at a price. Want to feel Happier? Scientists have discovered the cure. You were tagged in Lynn Oliver's photo album. Also pictured are Andy Kramer and Peter Jenkins.

MAN

(getting up from the sofa)

Peter Jenkins? Isn't that the guy you used to date?

WOMAN

That was a long time ago.

MAN

(peering over her shoulder)

And is that picture from a long time ago?

WOMAN

It's from down at Jessica's. My girl's weekend while you went to Vegas to play golf.

MAN

Looks like there were more than girls there.

WOMAN

We went to a bar. Peter just happens to live there now. They can't keep men from getting into bars you know.

MAN

The bar's not what I'm afraid of them getting into.

## THE REPRESENTATIVE

Get into the Zone! The sports zone clearance sale. Women in northeastern Africa let their weakest children die as the worst famine in 60 years leaves 10 million people on the brink of starvation.

WOMAN

10 million people. That's awful. Is anything being done?

MAN

What is there to do? I'm sure there's a website accepting donations.

WOMAN

Do you know how much food we throw out in a week?

## THE REPRESENTATIVE

Do you know your credit score? Everyone else does.  
7,000 more troops deployed to Afghanistan.  
Which band do you like more: Fish-eyed Shaman or Merle  
Haggard's Wet Dream?

MAN

Merle Haggard's Wet Dream?

WOMAN

Wait. What did he say?

MAN

He said, "Merle Haggard's Wet Dream."

WOMAN

What did he say about more troops being deployed to  
Afghanistan?

MAN

He said, "More troops are being deployed to Afghanistan."

WOMAN

But he said earlier they were withdrawing troops.

MAN

Well, now we're sending more.

## THE REPRESENTATIVE

Are they cheating on you? Reverse search their email.  
U.S. meat and poultry are widely contaminated with  
superbacteria.  
We noticed you've been shopping for flights to Cancun and  
we've found a better deal than your previous search.

MAN

Flights to Cancun? Who's been looking for flights to  
Cancun?

WOMAN

What's that?

MAN

Have you been looking for flights to Cancun?

WOMAN

Don't be silly. I'm not going to Cancun.

MAN

Well, somebody has been looking for flights to Cancun. If they said they've found a better deal than a previous search, then there was a previous search.

WOMAN

(moving away from the desk)

That's your perspective.

MAN

Well, a simple look at the history will tell us.

(MAN sits down at the desk  
and types for a moment.)

The history's been deleted.

WOMAN

See, it never happened.

MAN

Oh, it happened.

WOMAN

Whoever controls history controls the present.

MAN

Who said that?

WOMAN

I did.

MAN

I mean before you. . . No bother, has no one told you? History is dead.

WOMAN

Can't we get it back?

MAN

Why would you want to?

WOMAN

I don't.

THE REPRESENTATIVE

With the death of history, contemporary events retreat into a fabulous realm of unverifiable stories and unaccountable lies.

One of our Safety Management Cameras documented your

THE REPRESENTATIVE (Cont'd)  
vehicle running a red light. Failure to pay on time will result in damage to your credit rating.

MAN

God damn it. Not again.

WOMAN

Ever since you got that convertible, you've gotten more tickets.

MAN

Ever since I've been married to you, my credit score has plummeted. It's no wonder I can't find a job.

WOMAN

Well, what's there to do?

MAN

I'm going to appeal it. I'm going to contact my representative.

WOMAN

Good luck with that.

MAN

(MAN opens the curtains).  
I'd like to speak with a representative.

THE REPRESENTATIVE

All our representatives are currently busy. Please stay on the line and your call will be answered in the order it was received.

(THE REPRESENTATIVE begins singing in wordless vocables.)

MAN

Oh, for Christ's sake. I'm going to make a drink.  
(MAN leaves the curtains open and mixes a cocktail.)

WOMAN

Isn't it a bit too early to start drinking?

MAN

It's a bit too late somewhere.

## THE REPRESENTATIVE

Your call is important to us. To ensure you receive the highest quality service, this call may be monitored or recorded.

(Resumes singing.)

## WOMAN

I think I'm becoming addicted to painkillers.

## MAN

Addicted to painkillers? Why?

(MAN drinks.)

## WOMAN

Because I'm taking them habitually.

## MAN

(holding up his drink)

This is really good.

## THE REPRESENTATIVE

All our representatives are currently busy. Please stay on the line and your call will be answered in the order . . .

## MAN

Oh, forget it.

(MAN closes the curtains.)

## THE REPRESENTATIVE

On sale now. The fastest iphone ever. Be the first to own it.

The commodity has succeeded in colonizing all social life, waging a permanent opium war against the consumer.

Your free trial has ended, for just \$7.99 a month you can get all the Lesbian-Love you want.

## WOMAN

Have you been watching lesbian porn again?

## MAN

What? No.

## WOMAN

Well, somebody has been watching lesbian porn. If they said the free trial is over, then there was a free trial.

## MAN

Well, who can blame me when what I can get there is so much



MAN (cont'd)  
more sensational than what I get here?

WOMAN  
And with no emotional attachments.

MAN  
Right . . . with no emotional attachments.

THE REPRESENTATIVE  
Chinese prisoners are forced to mine gold in online games.  
Federal money is being used to introduce homosexual values  
in public schools.  
No cash? No credit? No problem. You can own your own car  
for as little as 100 dollars a month.

WOMAN  
I need a new pair of shoes.

MAN  
What is it with women and their shoes?

WOMAN  
The shoes make the outfit. The outfit makes the woman.

MAN  
This is what the boys are fighting for.

WOMAN  
You wouldn't understand.

MAN  
I got news for you; men could care less about shoes.

WOMAN  
What makes you think it's for the sake of men?

THE REPRESENTATIVE  
Are your breasts big enough? New survey says men want more.  
A woman allegedly kills her cat for an outfit for a Lady  
Gaga concert.  
20,000 troops to be transferred from Afghanistan to Saudi  
Arabia. Some suspect war with Syria.

WOMAN  
Do you think she really killed her cat?

MAN

Why not?

WOMAN

Why would she?

MAN

It's the commodity form and all its prescribed attitudes and exclusivity.

WOMAN

I guess there really is more than one way to skin a cat.

THE REPRESENTATIVE

Statistics show teen pregnancy drops off after the age of 20.

Aaron Taylor and Rob Osmond like the following link: The Poverty of Everything.

Your package has arrived.

(WOMAN goes to the curtains.  
THE REPRESENTATIVE hands  
her a package.)

WOMAN

Ahh, my new dress has arrived.

MAN

New dress?

WOMAN

(opening the package)

It's why I need the shoes, silly. You want me to look my best.

MAN

Obviously. Of course, we've progressed from being to having, and from having to appearing. It's all part of keeping up with the Joneses.

WOMAN

(digging through the wrapping paper)

Who are the Joneses?

MAN

It's the natural procession of things. Everything that was once lived directly has receded into representation.

WOMAN

(holding up a pair of gloves)  
This is not my dress.

MAN

Ah, my driving gloves.

WOMAN

Driving gloves?

MAN

It's the leather steering wheel. I need to protect it.  
(MAN tries to put on one glove.)  
They're too tight.

WOMAN

If the gloves don't fit, you have to send them back.

MAN

I can't. All clearance sales are non-refundable.

THE REPRESENTATIVE

Drive a Chevy. It's an American Revolution.  
Time gets obliterated by the ceaseless circulation of  
everything.  
An additional 30,000 troops are needed in Saudi Arabia,  
spawning a debate to reinstate the draft.

WOMAN

Now what are they doing with the troops?

MAN

Whatever we need them to do.

WOMAN

What needs?

MAN

Be it lipstick or national security, it's all the same.

THE REPRESENTATIVE

Global climate change confirmed a fabrication of the  
liberal media; unrelated, scientists predict the worst  
hurricane season ever.  
Republicans turned off by the size of Obama's package.  
We've got bargains on your favorite hotels at the coast.

WOMAN

Let's go to the coast.

MAN

I'm not sure we can afford it.

WOMAN

You said you wanted to get away. And you've been under considerable pressure.

MAN

I could use a vacation. I think we've still got a little credit left on the Visa.

WOMAN

It's everywhere we want to be.

MAN

The coast would be nice.

WOMAN

And can I get the new shoes?

MAN

Sure, but only if I can get a new pair of driving gloves.

THE REPRESENTATIVE

Woman pushes newlywed husband off a cliff in Malibu. Police complain victims of homicide rarely talk to investigators.

WOMAN

Will you please turn that off?

MAN

Gladly.

THE REPRESENTATIVE

(urgently)

The globalization of the false is simultaneously the falsification of the globe. The revolution will never be more difficult than the moment it appears unnecessary!

(MAN closes curtains.)

(MAN and WOMAN exit.)

(BLACKOUT)

END