

Scene Work: selection from

Angels (A Cautionary Tale)

1 Act Play by Cliff Burns

The Cast: Kelly, *17 years old*
Sabrina, *17*
Jill, *17*
Mark (*Sabrina's boyfriend*)/Floor Director
Sandy (*Kelly's boyfriend*)/Announcer
Janice (*teenage student*)/Nurse

- Read the scene silently, note number of characters needed and setting.
- With your group, read the scene aloud and discuss what it is about. What is the main image in this scene? What is the emotional tone?
- Block the scene, use pencil to write in your notations on the right side of the script.
- Use the left side of the script to write in your character objectives (“wants”).

Scene 1:

KELLY, dressed in a slip, stands at centre stage, facing the audience. She self-consciously poses and preens before an unseen "mirror", sucking in her cheeks, examining herself critically in profile.

KELLY:
(venomously)

You are a fat...ugly...*thing*.
Look at yourself. Those rolls...

Pinches her stomach.

Hey, look, it's Blimpo! Blimpo the Magnificent!

Staring at herself.

God. I can't believe I actually look like that. I should be floating over a football stadium.

I hate you. I hate your fat face, fat body, fat butt... You're worthless and stupid and--and *ugly*. Ugly, ugly, ugly. You belong in a freak show.

SANDY comes out of the darkness behind her, slips his arms around her middle, kissing her neck.

SANDY:

You look terrific. That's a nice outfit. Makes you look really *hot*. Are you wearing that to the dance? Did you find out from your folks how late you can stay out? Hey, my parents aren't using the cabin this weekend, you wanna come and hang out? We'll go swimming--you can wear that sexy swimsuit of yours, the one with the zipper in the front. Yeah, you look really good in that--

SANDY slips away from her, dissolving back into the surrounding shadows.

KELLY:

You're lying. I know what you're after. And you'd say anything to get it, wouldn't you? Try to build me up, make me feel like I'm--I'm--

Enraged, she thrusts her fist out, smashing through the "mirror" (*Sound FX* of glass shattering), then staring in horror at the "blood" leaking from her fingers.