

**Scene Work: selection from**  
***Angels (A Cautionary Tale)***  
1 Act Play by Cliff Burns

**The Cast:**     Kelly, *17 years old*  
                      Sabrina, *also 17*  
                      Jill, *also 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 7:**

*In the half-light*, a row of chairs is revealed. *Sound FX* of people murmuring as SANDY and JANICE take a seat. They start by feeding each other, then begin avidly necking. SABRINA and MARK sidle past, taking the two seats next to them, facing the 'movie screen'. MARK is holding a jumbo bag of popcorn and a large drink container.

MARK:

Man, I've been *dying* to see this show. Are you  
sure you don't want anything, Sabrina? You can't  
watch a movie without popcorn, y'know.

SABRINA:  
(forced smile)

No, that's okay.

MARK:

You want some of mine?

He shoves the bag at SABRINA who recoils, looking ill.

SABRINA:  
(sharply)

*No.* I'm fine. Really.

MARK:

Drink?

SABRINA:

No.

MARK:

Sure?

SABRINA:

*Yes.*

MARK:

Wassa matter? You on a diet or something?

SABRINA:  
(tersely)

As a matter of fact, I am.

MARK:

Oh. But you're so skinny already.

SABRINA:

And that's the way I want to stay, all right?  
Do you have to have that so close to me?  
The smell of it is making me sick.

MARK:  
(grumbling)

Jeez, okay. How can a person not like popcorn?

Lights dim further, the movie about to start. MARK puts his drink on the floor and drapes an arm around her, touching her bare shoulder--

Wow, are you ever *cold*. Freezing. You want my jacket?

SABRINA:  
(bristling, shrugging off his arm)

I'm *fine*. Just watch your stupid movie.

MARK edges away from her...and then begins to stuff handfuls of popcorn into his mouth as he looks up at the "screen". SABRINA watches him with growing revulsion. Finally, she can take no more and stands, preparing to flee--

MARK:  
(whispering)

Where are you going?

SABRINA:

I have to leave--

MARK:

Leave?!! But the movie just--

SABRINA:

I'm not feeling very well.

Retches.

I think I'm gonna--

Starts edging her way out, past JANICE and SANDY.

MARK:

What's going on? Get back here--

SABRINA:

Sorry, I'm--

Gagging.

Oh, God. Excuse me. Excuse me, please. Sorry.  
I'm not feeling too good. Sorry--

MARK:

(hissing after her)

What the Hell are you doing?

SABRINA:

--sorry, excuse me--

Finally she makes it to the "aisle" and runs off-stage, leaving MARK in his seat, stunned, popcorn kernels dropping from his fingers.

Fade.