

HONEYSUCKLE EPIDEMIC

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A Play in One Act

By

Jake Kevrick

## Cast Of Characters

JENNA:

A female in her 20's. Identifies as gay. Telling a story about the life of another. A story that needs to be told. A story that has been told many times but... nobody seems to be listening.

### Scene

Wherever she can tell her story.

### Time

Very much, the present.

ACT I

SCENE I

SETTING:

A small stool center stage. A microphone stand with a microphone and maybe a glass water at the foot of the stool. Maybe just a stool... Perhaps it's better that way.

AT RISE:

JENNA sitting on the stool center stage. She is dressed in fairly nice attire. I'm seeing a blazer. Nicer pants. Maybe some sort of heel that's not incredibly high. She commands the attention of the audience before the play even begins. Her hands are in her lap as she speaks.

JENNA

So I'm going to tell you my story. I wrote down my thoughts because my brain is annoyingly fast and I'll probably talk too much. (Pause) Anyway! I was really, *really* young when I came out. And yes I'm gay so we can get that off the table right now. I'll be talking about vaginas and boobs... and everything else I love about women. K? Lotta personal shit. But I'm going to start by saying...

JENNA (CONT'D)

I came out pretty fuckin early early! I was in (Remembering) 6th grade? I remember falling madly in love with my teacher with the big, bouncy, breasts and I told *everyone*. Including my parents! I had no shame! None! It

was as if, I was the *one... young-in...* I guess you could say... in the early 2000's that didn't have fear... inside me... for being who I was, it was great! My family accepted me! Most kids at school accepted me. I dated girls!

JENNA (CONT'D)

(Pause) I remember the first girl I dated. Well -- went on a date *with...* (Chuckling out the line) K so I have a thing for big boobs. I don't know why. Like the sort of big, if you cup your hands... around the center of the... the... *bosom...* you get these perfectly smooth crests... rolling hills between your knuckles, you know what I'm talking about? Anyway, this girl had *those* kind of tits and this was the first time I'd touched some. (Smirking) Other than my own... of course. And I don't think I'd touched anything more electric in my life. I mean it sent a shock starting at my wrists and buzzing *straight* into my pants! Lo and behold, she was the first of many. (Pause) And then I took my thumb and -- Just kidding. We can move on...

JENNA (CONT'D)

So back to when I came out. My mom *died...* of happiness, seriously. It was weird. She literally started introducing me as her lesbian daughter as if... you know when you're young and you get a trophy just for participating? Sort of like that, like I was born with a badge of honor and she was just... proud! What can I say, God blessed me! And yes, I believe in God. I met her once, she was sexy as fuck and it was fuckin' crazy. Anyway!

JENNA (CONT'D)

I'm going to skip ahead for... sake, of, time... but... college! What a blast, huh? The time *just* before the heaviness of the planet began to weigh on our head and shoulders. *Best* time of our lives, right? (Laughing) So anyway, college is where I met... her. I don't want to use real names for the sake of identity. I'm going to call her... Star. The reason I call her that is because... she had what looked like stars, all over her face! She was this

lean Italian goddess. Ran track, art major, she was astounding! Bewitching... really. And what I liked, she wasn't afraid to get dirty. She wasn't afraid to sweat, or look sweaty or... cover herself in paint and not wash it off because... fuck it! She'd say. Thus! She had acne. Though, not the kind of acne that people are so quick to wash away it was the acne... how can I put this...it dotted her skin like stars. I was mad, you guys. A regular frog in a fairytale that couldn't look away. A fool in love! Glorious, healthy, love that struck the deepest parts of me... Now, I know this might be... somewhat of a shock but Star was the first girl I'd ever gone down on. (Gasp) I know, I know! Earlier you had me braggin' about how early I came out and how many girls I'd been with and yada yada. There are probably people in here silently bragging like (Imitation voice) "*Oh, I was only ten years old when I licked MY first --*" Okay whatever! You live and learn, right? (Takes a moment) Sorry... You ever get that? Where something you say, like, strikes a memory or something and you... just kind of... I don't know. Anyway. First time I went down on her was like... (Heavenly) Softly plucking the most tender honeysuckle... Slowly pulling out the golden center of those petals. Feeling the tiny, innermost bud of the flower glide up through the breathing stem until... You harvest the sweet, warm, silvery drop of nature's honey onto your tongue. (Pause. Deep breath) It was like that... my first time. With Star. So! Um. Long story short we fucked around. All through college we were something or other... Whatever we were, it was great. *I* loved her, my family loved her and she spun my world upside down and twisted it like a top!

JENNA (CONT'D)

Okay so, moving on! (Chuckles) If you can believe it... I was pregnant once. (Pause) Get it out now. Based on the way I talk and what you've heard, I'm sure there's someone out there that's like (Imitation voice) "*You're unfit to be a mother!*" And, you know what? I'm sure you're right. K? But... It was Star... who wanted this baby. I know it may seem odd but guys... but she had love in her heart and she

used that love fiercely! Furiously! And she wanted nothing more than to give that love to a child! (Pause) A baby. You know, some people... are just born to be care-givers. Me? Sure... Maybe. Maybe not! I'm not sure yet, but Star? She was... I promise you, she was. But she couldn't... Have one... Of her own at least. She never really explained why. Said it was related to her running or something -- regardless... I could. Oh, I could! Aunt Flo came to visit every month, right on time and she stayyyyyyed. She made herself *known*. So... what other option did she have? Star came up to me... seriously and asked me if I would carry her baby. Now this was like... what... three, four years after college? I... I was reluctant but... I loved her. So I said... yes! (Laugh) I'd carry the baby, turn into a whale with limbs, get uncomfortable, get sick, completely change my habits... While she just got to sit back and watch. And wait. But it was us... you know? It was Star! Why not, I mean I could do it. So we did the thing. Found a donor. I was... artificially inseminated. (Sarcastic and half assed) Yaaay!

JENNA (CONT'D)

Around the time I was two months pregnant, Star had to go out of town for something or other. Some wedding or art show. So I decided to take some time off for myself and go with my mom and dad on vacation. I'm an only child, by the way, did I mention that?

JENNA (CONT'D)

So we were driving in my dad's old-ass jalopy and I'm in the back, frustrated as usual when some fucker side swipes my dad. (Pause) It's literally like what they show in the movies. The magazines and the drinks, they all sort of... washing machine around your line of vision. (Pause) I just remember (With her hands) the car turning and turning and me... watching. Then all of the sudden the turning stops. Almost as if... I was lifted... from the car. It went from shattered glass and broken seats to... blue. A pale blue sky. Almost like God herself lifted me up through the walls of the accident. I remember feeling like I was floating to