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LAST DRINKS BEFORE THE APOCALYPSE

**SYNOPSIS**

It’s the night before Eve and Victor’s wedding and also – rather inconveniently –

the night before the end of the world, at least according to their two best friends Lilith and Ivan. Together with a couple dozen of their favourite people, they are about to indulge in a night of revelry that only the end of the world can initiate. Secrets will be body slammed onto dinner tables, confessions will swing from chandeliers, love and lust will be smeared all over the place like blood at a violent crime scene. The morning will eventually arrive in much the manner it usually does, but between then and now the whole world’s about to change – just in time for it to end.

**OVERVIEW**

 LAST DRINKS BEFORE THE APOCALYPSE will be a performance that directly incorporates the audience, enrolling them as the wedding party guests and assigning challenges and roles ranging from the hilarious to the heartbreaking. The story will progress according to a randomised process of prompt questions being selected by the audience occurring as a party game within the reality of the story. This will be an intensely interactive, partially improvised show that will offer a multitude of different experiences within the house in which it is performed. The main part of the story will occur in the first two hours, with the audience then invited to spend the night and participate in various smaller experiences throughout the evening. The final part of the show will take place at breakfast the following morning, and one of two endings will be chosen based on the audience’s guiding of the piece.

**PROJECT DETAILS**

Last Drinks will be performed at the 2015 Anywhere theatre festival. It will be written by Josh Donellan (author of Killing Adonis and We Are All Ghosts), Directed by Nathan Sibthorpe (The Voyeurs) and Lucas Stibbard (The Escapists) and produced by Jessica McGaw (He Died With A Falafel in His Hand). Actors will be paid on a profit share basis, after costs are recouped 80% of net profits divvied equally and the remaining 20% shared between the production team.

Rehearsals will most likely be one night per week one day per weekend with this schedule intensifying closer to the proposed performance dates (May 8, 9, 15, 16 with possible extra shows on the 22nd and/or 23rd.)

**AUDITIONS**

Please choose one of the character samples for a reading and be ready to do some improv exercises. If you would like a copy of the draft script for extra background please contact Jess and she’ll provide you with a copy. Auditions will be held at 62 Gordon St, Paddington on January 25th between 4-6pm.

**CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS**

EVE is a moderately successful actress and model who is charming and arrogant. She’s impulsive, coquettish and loves being the centre of attention, but there is a pervasive insecurity that underpins all this. She has a definite narcissistic streak but cares deeply about those closest to her. In recent years her acting/modeling work has become infrequent and she’s taken a part-time job as a secretary at her fiancé’s business. She rarely asks questions but is always eager to offer her opinions. Ten years ago she slept with Nick Cave and never shuts up about it. She loves Victor but they fight quarrel constantly.

LILITH has been working in a aged care home for almost ten years and this has endowed her with a hedonistic philosophy of ‘eat, drink and be merry for tomorrow you die, and before that you become senile and incontinent.’ She is reckless but not thoughtless and illogical yet philosophical. She has been friends with Eve since kindergarten and though they are very different in terms of philosophy and personality their bond is very strong. Lilith dabbles in pseudo-spirituality (tarot, palm reading etc). She is partnered with Ivan, but they have an open relationship that she exploits a lot more than he’d like.

*Musical skills (singing/guitar/piano) would be ideal but not essential for this role.*

VICTOR has ended up (much to his surprise) as a very successful financial advisor and alpha male. He treats most things as a game, and expects to win almost every time. He carries with him the loss of his former ambitions to be a wandering vagabond with vague literary ambitions coupled with a couple of long buried secrets. Victor has claims to have ‘nomophobia’ (a pathological fear of losing phone contact). He is always on the phone, texting, tweeting, taking photos of food, selfies etc.

IVAN is Victor’s younger brother and lives in the shadow of his success. He is shit at life, good at music but oddly proud of this. He shares some – but not all – of Lilith’s new age beliefs. Something of a larrikin, irreverent and capricious. Ivan spends a lot of his time trying to lighten the mood of the interactions of his sometimes snarky friends and avoids conflict at any cost (not an easy thing to do with the company he keeps).