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Dramatic Publishing

THE BULLY PLAYS

24 Short Plays by

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(THE BULLY PLAYS)

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The Shirt

By R.N. Sandberg

CHARACTERS

HARDY a teenager, male or female

BEAMS a teenager, male or female

FLOW a teenager, male or female

SILK a teenager, male or female

NOTE: Be aware that different dynamics will be created by various gender casting.

SETTING AND TIME: Bare stage with props. The present.

(BEAMS wears an unbuttoned shirt over a top. HARDY enters.)

HARDY. Hey.

BEAMS. Oh no.

HARDY. That is the ugliest shirt I've ever seen.

BEAMS. Here we go again.

HARDY. You find it in the trash?

BEAMS. My mother gave it to me, actually.

HARDY. What, is she blind? Color blind, anyway!

BEAMS. Ha. Ha.

HARDY. Where ya goin'? Runnin' home to mommy? Oh poor baby. Please buy me another pretty shirt, mommy. Please, please, please.

BEAMS. You know, you're an idiot.

HARDY. And you're a stupid freak.

BEAMS. Ooh, that hurts. Especially coming from you. I've always looked up to you as someone with great intelligence and sensitivity. (*HARDY grabs BEAMS.*) Ow. Lemme go.

HARDY. Why? You don't like me?

BEAMS. Yeah, like I like tsunamis. Ow.

HARDY. Maybe I oughta tsunami you.

BEAMS. Stop.

HARDY. Make your mascara run. Mess up your pretty face.

BEAMS. You're gonna rip the shirt.

HARDY. Oh, your beautiful shirt.

BEAMS. C'mon, it's gonna tear.

HARDY. What? You afraid mama'll be mad? Afraid someone'll get to see your beautiful body?

BEAMS. Yeah, someone like you. Someone fixated on bodies.

HARDY (*pushes BEAMS away*). Take it off.

BEAMS. What is wrong with you?

HARDY. Take off the stupid shirt.

BEAMS. No.

HARDY. What?

BEAMS. I won't.

HARDY. You take it off or I'll rip it off you.

BEAMS. Fine. It's yours. (*Throws the shirt at HARDY.*) It'll probably look even more beautiful on you.

HARDY. I'm—I'm gonna burn it.

BEAMS. Watch out you don't set yourself on fire. Matches are dangerous for kids, you know.

HARDY. Get down. Down on the ground.

BEAMS. Okay. What are we gonna do now?

HARDY. Take off—take off your shoes.

BEAMS. I don't think they'll fit you. And I believe they'll be rather difficult to burn.

HARDY. Take 'em off.