

AUDITION NOTICE

TABLE MANNERS by Alan Ayckbourn

Director - Nigel Kemp

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PA - Steve Bishop

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Play Reading: Tuesday 11 January 2022 at 8pm in the Studio
Audition: Sunday 23 January at 2pm in the Theatre
Rehearsals commence: Monday 21 March 2022
Rehearsal nights - Monday, Wednesday & Thursday
(with some Sunday afternoons in the Theatre)
Performances: 19-28 May 2022 at 8pm - Matinee 28 May at 2.30pm

Synopsis

Her two elder siblings having married and left home, Annie is left to care for their cantankerous bed ridden mother in the old family home.

As a respite, Annie has booked a weekend away and asked her brother Reg and his wife Sarah to come down and look after mother in her absence. However, Annie's planned break doesn't happen when it is discovered that, rather than going away as expected with her neighbour and frequent visitor Tom, she was planning to go with her sister Ruth's husband Norman.

Over the course of the weekend, and four meals, the couple's feelings and relationships are challenged.

All characters' acting ages: 30-45

Annie: The youngest of the 3 siblings is not unattractive but spends little time on her appearance. Pleasant and unassuming, feeling trapped as her mother's carer she is concerned that her life is slipping away.

Reg: Annie's elder brother. He is an estate agent, jovial but unambitious. He has trouble relating to his wife and children. An outsider in his own home.

- Sarah:** Reg's wife. She believes that she deserves a life better than the one that her husband is providing. Highly strung, she needs to be in control but rarely is.
- Ruth:** Annie's elder sister. Very much the career woman. She is short sighted but refuses to wear glasses. She loves her husband, but under her terms. Her career comes first.
- Norman:** Ruth's husband and the main protagonist. Somewhat unkempt, he is a librarian with a tendency to be over dramatic. He is driven by an overwhelming need to love and to be loved. He loves his wife but not getting the affection he craves he seeks it elsewhere.
- Tom:** Annie's neighbour and local vet. He is somewhat awkward and not very good at expressing himself, particularly his feelings for Annie. He finds it easier to relate to animals rather than people.

AUDITION PIECES:

- Annie: Top Page 29 "Oh don't do that." to bottom Page 30 "I warn you I'll...".
- Reg: Page 10 "Annie, Annie, Annie!" to Page 11 "Oh well, what do you expect."
- Sarah: Top Page 1 "Hallo! Hallo, we're here!" to Bottom Page 2 "...and then off you go."
- Ruth: Top Page 24 'What?' to Top Page 2 'Yes I love you too Norman....'
- Tom: Top Page 8 'Ah.' to Bottom Page 9 '....Simmer down.'
- Norman: Page 20 'How's old Reg this morning?' to Page 21 'Dead presumably. Like my relations.'

If you would like a copy of the script, then please email either Nigel or Steve