Unrepentant souls

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Unrepentant souls

a one-act play

By

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April 2015

Characters

CRAIG	a former teacher, early 30s
KATHERINE	his wife, early 30s
BRYAN	Craig's former Principal, 50s
JADE	Craig's former student, 19

Time

The present.

Setting

Various locations around a large city:

A visiting room

An apartment

A park

Hospital grounds

Unrepentant Souls

1. VISITING ROOM, DAY.

LIGHTS UP. **CRAIG** AND **KATHERINE** FACE EACH OTHER.

SILENCE, EVENTUALLY:

KATHERINE: Start again. (BEAT) Start again?

CRAIG: That's the plan.

KATHERINE: Pretty dumb plan.

CRAIG: If you think –

KATHERINE: I don't think about you Craig. I try not to.

BEAT.

CRAIG: I know this has been hard for you.

KATHERINE: You have no idea.

CRAIG: It hasn't been easy for me either.

KATHERINE: At least you've been inside, where they can't get at you.

CRAIG: But others could.

KATHERINE: Didn't they protect you.

CRAIG: A little. Not enough.

BEAT.

KATHERINE: I'm sorry for that.

CRAIG: Thanks. (BEAT) How's Elena?

KATHERINE: How do you think?

CRAIG: I don't know.

KATHERINE: She *was* better – after the third move. Then some little bitch got on the internet. Move number four.

KATHERING: (CONT) I'd like to meet the guy who invented the internet. Great plan. Put everything on line – forever. No escape. No end. Five stars.

CRAIG: Same for me.

KATHERINE: Worse, I should imagine.

BEAT.

CRAIG: I notice you're not using my name anymore.

KATHERINE: What?

CRAIG: Croft. On the visitor list it said Katherine Croft. Not Tremblay.

KATHERINE: Can you blame me?

CRAIG: It just seemed odd. To see it. At first I didn't know who you were.

KATHERINE: It hasn't been that long.

CRAIG: And Katherine. I can't remember when I've ever called you Katherine. Kate, Katie but not –

KATHERINE: (STANDING) Are we done? I think we're done.

CRAIG: Please Katie.

KATHERINE: Katherine. Katherine Croft.

CRAIG: We can't just -

KATHERINE: What?

CRAIG: There is a history. A shared history.

KATHERINE: There was. Until you tried to fuck a 12-year-old girl on your school desk.

BEAT.

CRAIG: Does that feel better?

KATHERINE: Actually – yes.

CRAIG: You've been storing that up.

KATHERINE: For years.

BEAT.

CRAIG: You do know there was no actual penetration. In the medical report.

KATHERINE: I said *tried*.

CRAIG: I was convicted of Indecency.

KATHERINE: With a child. Left that bit out. And downgraded from Sexual Assault of a Minor. That lawyer must have cost a fortune. His summary went on and on. What was he trying to do? Bore the judge into a lighter sentence. Seven and a half years. Must have worked.

BEAT.

CRIAG: We loved each other

KATHERINE: Once.

CRAIG: Got married. Had a child. A life.

KATHERINE: Until you –

CRAIG: Doesn't that mean anything?

KATHERINE: Apparently not.

CRAIG: I made a mistake. A stupid mistake.

KATHERINE: Pretty big mistake.

CRAIG: It wasn't me. Ask the psychologist. There's a term for it Involuntary Sexual Deviate –

KATHERINE: Deviate! Now you're getting it.

CRAIG: The act was deviate. It doesn't mean I am deviate.

KATHERINE: Then what exactly are you ex-husband. A teacher? A father? What you did would suggest you are not fit to for either of those roles.

CRAIG: (ANGRY) Don't say that. Don't you say that! I would never –

KATHERINE: You said a lot of things.

CRAIG: It was like a mist. A sickness. I couldn't think straight. The psychologist –

KATHERINE: The psych excuse? Cute.

CRAIG: The psychologist explained it all. It was issues to do with my mum, my own childhood.

KATHERINE: So it's your Mum's fault now?

CRAIG: Indirectly, yes.

KATHERINE: Peggy had a fiddle did she? Always knew she was a bit suss.

CRAIG: Please Katie.

KATHERINE: Katherine!

CRAIG: Don't say things like that. It makes you a different person. I know you.

KATHERINE: And I thought I knew you.

BEAT.

CRAIG: I'm sorry. (BEAT) I'm sorry. I'm sorry. I'm sorry. I'm sorry –

KATHERINE: Say it a million times. It isn't going to make any difference.

CRAIG: Unless you want it to.

KATHERINE: And I don't. (BEAT) You asked me to come. I came. Now I'm going. Please don't try to contact myself or my daughter. If you do I will be forced

KATHERINE: (CONT) to take out an AVO. See? I can play lawyers too.

KATHERINE STARTS TO EXIT.

CRAIG: Katherine.

KATHERINE: (SHE STOPS) What?

BEAT.

CRAIG: Thanks for coming.

BLACKOUT.

2. APARTMENT.

BRYAN ENTERS CARRYING A BOX.

BRYAN: It's not much but it will do till …

CRAIG ALSO ENTERS WITH A BOX.

CRAIG: Till what?

BRYAN: Till you get back on your feet.

CRAIG: I appreciate your optimism.

BRYAN: The bedroom's through there and the bathroom. The kitchen's on the right.

CRAIG EXITS, LOOKING AROUND.

BRYAN: It's pretty small.

CRAIG: (RE-ENTERING) It's great. Thanks Bryan.

BRYAN: Least I can do. (BEAT) Now I've just got those few documents to sign and then I'll let you settle in.

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