

WYOMING
a short play

by Tyler Whidden

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CAST

MALE

FEMALE

MALE and FEMALE stand over a
dead animal in the road.

FEMALE

So what do we do now?

MALE

I dunno.

FEMALE

What do you think it was doing?

MALE

Oh, probably just waiting around to go dancing with Kevin Costner.

FEMALE

We should call someone.

MALE

Like who?

FEMALE

Isn't there a number? I mean, this happens a lot out here, right?

MALE

I saw a sign back there. Star-3-11, I think.

FEMALE

So do we wait with it, or ...

MALE

We leave it, I guess ...

FEMALE

We can't just leave it here.

MALE

Then *you* move it. That seems to be your thing.

FEMALE

And what is that supposed to mean?

MALE

Nothing.

Beat.

FEMALE

I bet it was beautiful once. Majestic. Admirable.
I've never seen one in real life before.

Beat.

MALE

You've never been to a zoo? Every zoo in the world has like seven of them.

FEMALE

I mean in person. Like up close.

MALE

Well, we got real fucking close didn't we?

Beat.

FEMALE

"We"?

MALE

We were together, weren't we?

FEMALE

Well ... you were driving, and going pretty fast.

MALE

Seriously?

FEMALE

Well ...

MALE

Well what?

FEMALE

If you weren't going so fast, we would have missed it.

MALE

If I was going faster, we would have passed it.

FEMALE

Now's not the time to be argumentative.

MALE

I'm not being argumentative. *You're* being argumentative. I'm just stating facts.

Beat. MALE nudges it with his foot.

FEMALE

Don't kick it!

MALE

I'm not "kicking" it, I'm just nudging it. To make sure.

FEMALE

Oh, I think you've done plenty to "make sure."

Beat.

FEMALE

Aren't these endangered?

MALE

No.

FEMALE

I think there's only like 70 of them left.

MALE (*that's ridiculous*)

70? There's only 70 left. In the whole world – 70.

Beat.

FEMALE

You killed a rare animal.

MALE

Every zoo *in the world* has like a dozen of em!

FEMALE

Don't yell.

MALE

I'm not yelling. I'm just trying to stress the fact that you've been on my ass about *everything* since we left home and now, 2000 miles later, you haven't given up.

Beat.

FEMALE

It's not our home anymore.

MALE

Says you.

Beat.

FEMALE

If you didn't kill it, who did?

MALE

I'm not saying I didn't kill it. What I'm saying is, it *made* me kill it.

FEMALE

You could have swerved.

MALE

Oh yeah? Just like that?

Do you know how much weight we're carrying? So much. Trust me, if it wasn't this little guy, we woulda hit something else.

Beat.

FEMALE

If you didn't wanna move, you should have said so.

MALE

I did. I did say so. In fact, every time you brought it up, I would say, "I don't want to move to Washington. Everything's going great here." But, you have some romantic idea that mountains are grand and "rejuvenating" and "just what we need." Well, we've been surrounded by mountains for two states now, and you know what I've seen? Nothing but dirt, trucks, and stupid animals who don't know how to get out of the way of a speeding U-Haul!

Beat.

FEMALE

So, you admit you were speeding?

MALE

Holy Fuck! How fucking fast do you think I can go in a 40 foot truck filled with your crap? I could have been going 12, and this guy still would have gotten crushed by the shear weight of your nagging. Maybe it heard you coming from a mile away and just said, "Fuck it, I can't take it anymore."

Frankly, I'm surprised it held out for as long as it did.

Beat.

FEMALE

Do you think it knew? Do you think it knew that when it went out today, that it would die?

Beat.

MALE

I do. I think it's known for a long time.

Beat. She looks at him.

FEMALE

I'll pay for you to return the empty truck to Philly.

She waits. She exits. He waits.
He takes his cell out of his pocket.

MALE

Hi.
We killed something on the road out here ... it was beautiful once ...

FADE OUT.

END.