

SMOKE SCENES

by NICK ZAGONE

CHARACTERS

JOHN
MARSHA

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SMOKE SCENES

[Lights up on JOHN and MARSHA. They're actors. On stage with John and Marsha there might be some chairs.]

JOHN

51 short plays about smoke in ten minutes. Go.

MARSHA

Do you smell smoke?

JOHN

What? *(sniffs)* No.

MARSHA

Oh.

JOHN and MARSHA

[wiping hands over face and bowing head]

Aaaaaand scene.

MARSHA

Do you smell smoke?

JOHN

No, not at all! Why?!

MARSHA

Hmmm.

JOHN and MARSHA

Aaaand scene.

MARSHA

Do you smell smoke?

JOHN

No.

MARSHA

I could swear I smell something burning...

JOHN

[points at something]

Agghhhaaaa!

Aaaand scene. JOHN and MARSHA

Do you smell smoke? MARSHA

No. JOHN

I could swear I smell something burning... MARSHA

You're crazy. There's something wrong with you. You got problems! Forget this--I want a divorce. JOHN

Aaaand scene. JOHN and MARSHA

Do you smell smoke? MARSHA

No! For the last time! No! NO!! JOHN

Aaaand scene. JOHN and MARSHA

Do you smell smoke? MARSHA

I love you. JOHN

Aaaand scene. JOHN and MARSHA

Do you smell smoke? JOHN

Oh go to hell. MARSHA

Aaaand scene. JOHN and MARSHA

JOHN
Mind if I smoke?

MARSHA
No go right ahead.

JOHN
Thanks.

MARSHA
I used to be a smoker. I like the smell.

JOHN
I really appreciate it.

MARSHA
No problem. So I was wondering maybe I could...

JOHN
Taxi!

JOHN and MARSHA
Aaaand scene.

JOHN
Mind if I smoke?

MARSHA
No, go right ahead.

JOHN
Sorry, I know, nasty habit, but I love it. If I could smoke all day I would. I could be on a desert island with just me and my smokes. I just need a break. Get away from it all. By myself for a while, just me alone and my smokes. Nobody ya know. Desert Island, seriously, me myself and I, and my smokes. Wouldn't that be great.

MARSHA
Yea. So would you like some company?

JOHN and MARSHA
Aaand scene.

JOHN
Mind if I smoke?

MARSHA
Not at all, I'm a smoker too.

JOHN
You smoke? Fantastic.

MARSHA
Let's smoke!

JOHN
Yes! Let us smoke!

MARSHA
Let's smoke and smoke and smoke!

JOHN
Let's smoke until we cannot smoke anymore!

MARSHA
Let's smoke until we die!

JOHN
Do you have a light?

MARSHA
Ah, shit.

JOHN
Taxi!

JOHN and MARSHA
Aaaand scene.

JOHN
Mind if I smoke?

MARSHA
No. Yes. Well, maybe. Well, I don't know. Ummm. I don't want to tell you what to do, but I do care about my health, but I'm sure one little smoke isn't going to kill me. I'm conflicted. I guess it depends if you're coming on to me.

JOHN and MARSHA
Aaaand scene.

JOHN
Mind if I smoke?

MARSHA
Mind if I die you selfish prick?

JOHN
Mind if I smoke?

MARSHA
No. Mind if I blow ping pong balls out of my vagina?

JOHN
Mind if I smoke?

MARSHA
[grabs him and kisses him]
Take me now or lose me forever.

JOHN
Taxi!

JOHN and MARSHA
Aaaand scene.

JOHN
Care for a smokie?

MARSHA
An Oscar Mayer pork sausage you mean?

JOHN
Yeah, a little smokie, an hors devours for one... or two!

MARSHA
Mmmm-Mmm. Love those smokies!

JOHN
It's a party in a can!

MARSHA
Now in turkey!

JOHN and MARSHA
Aaaand scene.

JOHN
Care for a smokie?

MARSHA

An Oscar Mayer pork sausage you mean?

JOHN

Yeah, a little smokie, an hors devours for one... or two!

MARSHA

I wouldn't eat one of those if you paid me.

JOHN

Now in turkey!
Care for a smokie?

MARSHA

An Oscar Mayer pork sausage you mean?

JOHN

Yeah, a little smokie, an hors devours for one... or two!

MARSHA

I'd rather eat my own feces!

JOHN

Now in turkey!
Care for a smokie?

MARSHA

An Oscar Mayer pork sausage you mean?

JOHN

No, I mean a smoking pile of your own feces! Of course I mean an Oscar Mayer pork sausage!

MARSHA

Taxi!

JOHN

Care for a smokie?

MARSHA

No. No thank you.

JOHN

They're good.

MARSHA

Sorry, I'm a vegan.

JOHN and MARSHA

Aaaand scene.

And now our scene "Care for a Smokie" by Anton Chekhov

JOHN

So. That's the end of life here. Care... for a... smokie?

MARSHA

That's funny, I can't seem to find... No... No thank you.

JOHN

It's cold out. Thirty degrees. They're good. The smokies.

MARSHA

Where did it go? Yes, it's cold. It's the end of life here. Sorry, I'm a vegan.

JOHN and MARSHA

Aaaand scene. "Care for a Smokie" by Sophocles!

JOHN

Citizens! I will find this smokie and end the plague!

MARSHA

You are the one you seek!

JOHN

Yes! I am! I could eat, but I could not taste!

MARSHA

Oh curs-ed man. The gods will punish you. Cannot you see we are Vegans!

JOHN and MARSHA

Aaaand scene. "Care for a Smokie" by Shakespeare

JOHN

Do you careth for smokie bode bodkin?

MARSHA

Rogue! I would lift my dress to a catfish!

JOHN

Come then, you lady are a fishmonger!

MARSHA

Words, words, words! Vegan am I, get thee gone!

JOHN

By Edward Albee!

MARSHA

What a dumpy can of smokies! Who said that? What a dumpy can of smokies!

JOHN

I don't know!

MARSHA

Yes you do, you milquetoast good for nothing!

JOHN

I killed him! Our son was a Vegan! And I killed him!

MARSHA

Sam Shepard!

You! You couldn't even steal a can of smokies!

JOHN

You don't think I can steal a smokie? I can steal a smokie I can fill this kitchen with smokies!

Eugene Ionesco!

MARSHA

Did you just see that herd of smokies running through town?

JOHN

I will not capitulate to the nazis! I mean the smokies!

MARSHA

Arthur Miller!

JOHN

For god's sake dad your smokies are a dime a dozen and so are you!

MARSHA

Tennessee Williams!

JOHN

Blow out your smokies Laura, and so, goodbye.

MARSHA

David Mamet!

JOHN

Fuck you and your fuckin' smokies you stupid fuck!

MARSHA

Martin Scorsese!

JOHN

Fuck you and your fuckin' smokies you stupid fuck!

MARSHA

Andrew Lloyd Webber!

JOHN

[sings]

"Midnight and the smokies are burning"

MARSHA

Marcel Marceau!

[They pantomime the scene, John ends it by giving Marsha a big red plastic flower.]

MARSHA

Tony Kushner!

JOHN

Please. Smokies are so Steven Spielberg.
Absurdism! "Care for a smokie?"

MARSHA

We should really go get some smokies.

JOHN

Yes we should.

MARSHA

Maybe tomorrow.

JOHN

Yes.
Realism! "Care for a smokie?"

MARSHA
Why wouldn't I want a smokie?

JOHN
Existentialism! "Care for a smokie?"

MARSHA
If I am nothing else, I am a smokie.

JOHN
Surrealism! "Care for a smokie?"

MARSHA
Fishy. Fishy. Fish. Fish. Melted clock.

JOHN
Expressionism "Care for a smokie?"
[Puts his hands on his cheeks, mouth open a la Evard Munch]
Philosophical! "Care for a smokie?"

MARSHA
What do mean by smokie?

JOHN
Intellectual! "Care for a smokie?"

MARSHA
That depends on what you mean by smokie.

JOHN
Actual! "Care for a smokie?"

MARSHA
Actually? No.

JOHN
Aaand scene. How many is that?

MARSHA
40! Ten more! One minute! What are we going to do?

JOHN
Got it! One-person historical figure plays! Nixon! Go!

MARSHA
I am not a smokie!

JOHN
Martin Luther King!

MARSHA
I have a smokie!

JOHN
Clinton!

MARSHA
Smoke ‘em if ya got ‘em!

JOHN
What?

MARSHA
Sorry I mean... give me an easy one...

JOHN
Ruth Bader Ginsberg!

MARSHA
Easier.

JOHN
Lincoln!

MARSHA
Let my smokies go!

JOHN
That’s Moses.

MARSHA
Is it?

JOHN
Yes. “Four score and seven smokies!” This isn’t working. Here, give me three at a time.

MARSHA
Orson Wells. Paris Hilton. And... that guy over there (*points to someone in audience*).

JOHN
“Smokie.” “Smokie. That’s hot.” “Smokie.” How’s that?

Sucked. Here I got one, God. MARSHA

God? Let's start at the beginning. JOHN

In the beginning there was the smokie. MARSHA

No I mean, *(sits)* "Do you smell smoke?" JOHN

Okay. "Do smell smoke?" MARSHA

Why yes, yes I do. *[sniffs]* JOHN

Aaand Scene. JOHN and MARSHA

BLACKOUT