

GROUP SCENE – MONICA ET AL

Play	<i>Oddball</i> by Lindsay Price
Stats	Comedy, Simple Set, 35 minutes
Casting	3M+5W, Expandable to 18W+8M
Description	Monica's friends confront her over something very, very, very serious.
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The GIRLS gather together, laughing.

MONICA: That was fun.

BRYNN: That was great.

TISHA: My stomach hurts.

ZOE: No wonder.

HAILEY: You're the one who ordered the large nachos.

ZOE: And ate them all.

TISHA: I couldn't help it! They were so good.

They all laugh.

MONICA: Anyone want to go to the mall? I don't have to be home till 10.

The other GIRLS stop, and look at each other.

BRYNN: Sure!

ZOE: (*elbowing BRYNN*) Actually....

BRYNN: Oh. Right.

MONICA: Right what?

HAILEY: We're doing this now?

ZOE: Now.

MONICA: Now what?

ZOE: We have to talk to you Monica. Hailey?

HAILEY: Monica, (*she takes a deep and tragic breath*) we need to talk to you.

MONICA: (*wary*) Ok.

ZOE: About Dennis.

TISHA: We're not mad.

HAILEY: No, we're not mad at you.

BRYNN: That's very important.

MONICA: What does Dennis have to do with being mad at me? Did something happen?

GIRLS: No!

BRYNN: Nothing's happened.

ZOE: Well, yes.

HAILEY: Yes.

TISHA: Something very serious.

MONICA: Ok...

BRYNN: It feels so wrong to do this in a parking lot.

HAILEY: Shhh!

ZOE: Ok. How long have we been friends?

TISHA: Forever.

Continued Over...

ZOE: (*linking her fingers together*) Together forever.

HAILEY: (*linking her fingers together*) Forever together.

AUTUMN: (*linking fingers*) Since the third grade.

ZOE: There are no closer friends than us.

MONICA: (*confused.*) Am I dying?

ZOE: No!

BRYNN: Nothing like that.

HAILEY: Not serious like that. We'd never do something like that in a parking lot.

BRYNN: We shouldn't be doing this in a parking lot.

HAILEY: Shh!

ZOE: This is different serious.

TISHA: Way serious in a completely different way.

ZOE: You have to dump your boyfriend.

MONICA: What?

BRYNN: It's ok, don't freak out! Zoe, that was harsh!

ZOE: I thought we decided harsh was good.

HAILEY: Soft start, soft start.

TISHA: Soft start, end harsh.

BRYNN: We didn't get to the end.

TISHA: We're in the middle.

BRYNN: You jumped.

ZOE: So what's the middle?

MONICA: What's going on?

HAILEY: It won't hurt too much.

ZOE: Just rip him out of your life like a band aid.

BRYNN: One swift motion.

TISHA: It's all for the best.

MONICA: I – I'm not dumping Dennis.

THE GIRLS draw back.

MONICA: I'm not dumping him. Why would I?

THE GIRLS look at each other and then at MONICA.

ZOE: But, but, but,

GIRLS: You have to!

MONICA: Why?

GIRLS: Because!

ZOE: It's obvious.

MONICA: How so?

ZOE: We girls, we fit. (*she links her fingers together*) We are a group.

TISHA: And we go out with guys who fit with us. (*she links her fingers together*)

MONICA: Ah.

BRYNN: I think she gets it.

MONICA: Oh I get it.

HAILEY: Dennis doesn't fit.

MONICA: He fits with me.

ZOE: Ah ha! That's our point!

TISHA: You're spending time with him and not with us.

MONICA: He's pretty sure he's not welcome.

HAILEY: What do you mean?

MONICA: You know what I mean.

BRYNN: We're not snobs.

TISHA: We just don't like him.

HAILEY: And don't want him dating our friend.

ZOE: And you should dump him.

MONICA: (*she shrugs and shakes her head*) Sorry.

GIRLS: But, but, but,

HAILEY: Monica you have to see him how we do.

Continued Next...

TISHA: *(drawing a picture frame in the air)* See him.

BRYNN: The hair.

TISHA: And the glasses.

ZOE: And laugh.

HAILEY: And the computers.

GIRLS: And the lizard.

MONICA: One time. One time he talked about the lizard!

ZOE: The lizard is bad!

MONICA: You asked about his hobbies!

ZOE: I meant scrapbooking!

MONICA: He doesn't scrapbook!

ZOE: He should have lied!

TISHA: You shouldn't know about lizards.

ZOE: You have to dump him.

HAILEY: You're ruining our lives!

GIRLS: Dump him, dump him, dump him!

MONICA: No!

THE GIRLS scream and fall all over each other, and land in a heap on the ground, breathing heavily. MONICA is the only one left standing. She looks at them and shakes her head. She pauses before she speaks.

MONICA: I could dump him. I could change him, I could make him into someone more acceptable to you. But I don't want to. He's kind. And he's funny. And he loves me. He loves me. Bubble-headed Monica. Mall loving Monica. Silly, stupid Monica. He tells me I'm beautiful. He loves to go on dates. He brings me romantic snacks. Why would I want that to change?

The GIRLS get up slowly.

BRYNN: What kind of romantic snacks?

MONICA: Heart shaped jujubees.

BRYNN: Awwwwwww.

ZOE: Brynn!

MONICA: *(she walks away a couple of steps)* So. Are we done? Can we leave the parking lot and go to the mall?

BRYNN: Yes.

ZOE: Brynn!

BRYNN: *(moving to stand beside MONICA)* I hate the stupid parking lot.

TISHA: *(moving to stand beside MONICA)* Brent never brings me romantic snacks.

ZOE: Tisha!

HAILEY: *(moving to stand beside MONICA)* I love jujubees.

MONICA: Zoe?

BRYNN: Come on Zoey.

ZOE stands alone. She looks like she's really struggling with her decision and pauses before she speaks.

ZOE: Do I have to..... touch the lizard?

MONICA: I most solemnly swear that your hand will never come within a hundred feet of any lizard. Together forever?

ZOE: *(with a smile)* Forever.