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A Suite of Short Plays
BY
Bradley Hayward

Sixteen
in 10 Minutes or Less

Friend Request
Double Click
Brace Yourself
Lazy Eye
Fireworks
Pay Phone
Bench Warrant
Wheels
Tumblefur
Status Update: A Symphony

A Suite of Short Plays
BY
Bradley Hayward
PIPER: I look out for you and you look out for me. That’s the deal we made when we moved in with Dad. As far as everyone else goes, mind your own business.

JAMES: Sorry, sorry, sorry. Forget I said anything.

PIPER: So what are you going to do?

JAMES: I was thinking about going to that movie with that hot girl in it.

PIPER: About your tooth, stupid.

JAMES: Oh, that. I dunno.

PIPER: Maybe you could try to suck it out with the plunger.

JAMES: Gross!


JAMES: Maybe I’ll just leave it in there. I’m kind of getting attached.

PIPER: Come here.

JAMES: Why?

PIPER: Don’t worry. I won’t hurt you. (JAMES moves hesitantly over to her) Now open your mouth. (he does) It’s really in there, all right.

JAMES: I know.

PIPER: In this light, I see that it’s definitely not a gummy bear.

JAMES: It’s not?

PIPER: And not a Cheerio.

JAMES: No?

PIPER: Nor an olive.

JAMES: What is it then?

PIPER: An eraser.

JAMES: An eraser?

PIPER: Have you been chewing on pencils again?

JAMES: It’s possib... I dunno... maybe... yes.
PIPER: Exactly why you ended up with braces in the first place. You have to stop sticking things in your mouth.

JAMES: Yes, mother.

PIPER: Open up.

JAMES: Again?

PIPER: Open up! (he opens his mouth) Wider! (he opens as far as possible) Now brace yourself.

JAMES: (his mouth still open) For what?

PIPER: This.

*She reaches into his mouth and yanks out the eraser. She screams like a girl.*

JAMES: Owwwwwwwww!

PIPER: There you go, little girl. All better.

*She smiles brightly as she puts the eraser in the palm of his hand and closes his fingers around it.*

Told you I’d look out for you.

*She sticks out her tongue at him as he holds the side of his face with his other hand, in agony. The lights fade.*
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