**The Yes/No Game**

**By**

**Sean Morgan**

**Cast of Characters**

**Mitch:**

**Kelly:**

**Scene**

**An American diner.**

**Time**

**The present.**

**ACT I**

**Scene 1**

***Kelly hunches at the diner counter wearing a long trench coat and nervously smoking a cigarette. Mitch walks in from the rain full of mirth and confidence.***

**MITCH**

**(beaming smile)**

**Wow, what a downpour! How are you!?**

***Kelly puts out her cigarette and stands to meet him.***

**KELLY**

**(relieved smile)**

**Hey, you made it! (convincing herself) I’m great!**

***They hug and Mitch sits down next to her at the counter.***

**MITCH**

**Nervous about the big move?**

**KELLY**

**Can you tell? Haha.**

**MITCH**

**You know I can usually read you like a book.**

**KELLY**

**So how is Laurie?**

**MITCH**

**(slight smile and a sigh) Same old Laurie. How is...?**

**KELLY**

**Mike.**

**MITCH**

**Of course... Mike. How is old Mike?**

**KELLY**

**We broke up about two months ago.**

**MITCH**

**I’m sorry! Why didn’t you tell me?**

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| **CONTINUED:** | **2.** |

**KELLY**

**You know. I know how busy you are.**

**MITCH**

**I’m never too busy for you. Remember that!**

**KELLY**

**Anyway, we both know he wasn’t the right guy.**

**MITCH**

**No one is good enough for you in my book.**

**KELLY**

**(punching his knee)**

**You’re the best. I guess I wanted to rebound on my own.**

**MITCH**

**And how did that go?**

**KELLY**

**(trying to sound excited) I found a job in New York!**

**MITCH**

**Are you going there or fleeing there?**

**KELLY**

**Well, the point is, it’s a new beginning. Now, what do you want to eat?**

**MITCH**

**Oh, Laurie already made me a casserole and I had to eat it or I’d never hear the end of i. But coffee is good.**

**KELLY**

**She really takes care of you.**

**MITCH**

**She feeds me, endlessly. I guess it’s her way of showing love, but a conversation would be a nice change of pace. I haven’t heard from you in forever. I was worried about you. I messaged you on Facebook, but no reply.**

**KELLY**

**Yeah, I was going through some stuff on my own. I didn’t want to bring you down.**

**MITCH**

**How could *you* bring me down? You’ve always been there for me.**

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| **CONTINUED:** | **3.** |

**KELLY**

**Anyway! I wanted to have one last late-night dinner-talk with you like old times before I go to New York.**

**MITCH**

**Yeah, you said in your text you had something important you wanted to talk about. I’m assuming you mean the big job. So is it a glamorous Fifth Avenue type of thing?**

**KELLY**

**Yeah, I wanted to tell you about the job, but now that you’re here, it doesn’t seem important. I can tell you about the job when I’m working at the job. I just want to talk to you. Like we used to.**

**MITCH**

**Yeah, I miss that.**

**KELLY**

**(uplifted)**

**Yeah! Like remember when you drank sake for the first time and we came here and I interviewed you and recorded all your drunk answers to silly questions!**

**MITCH**

**How could I possibly forget that. You posted it publicly the next day! How long ago was that!?**

**KELLY**

**Oh not that long ago....**

**MITCH**

**Let’s see, now it’s November. That was one, two, three years ago!**

**KELLY**

**(confused)**

**Really?!**

**MITCH**

**Yeah, I was an ass that night, I think I tried to put the moves on you. I felt so guilty the next day. I thought your post was a revenge scheme.**

**KELLY**

**Really? You never told me that. No, no, you were a gentleman. You just said some things you never said to me before.**

**MITCH**

**Well, it was the sake talking, you know what I mean? Haha!**

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| **CONTINUED:** | **4.** |

**KELLY**

**(looking sad)**

**Oh, well it’s all in the past.**

**MITCH**

**So if we can’t talk about the future job and we can’t talk about the past, what will we talk about on your going-away diner-chat?**

**KELLY**

**We can talk about whatever! How about the yes or no game?**

**MITCH**

**(skeptical)**

**You mean the tame version of truth or dare that we used to play?**

**KELLY**

**Let me refresh your memory, my good sir. The yes or no game has two simple rules. You can only ask five yes or no questions and one chance to ask the question "why."**

**MITCH**

**Okay I’ll start. Is David Bowie part female alien?**

**KELLY**

**Hey! Let’s take this seriously. I could die on my way to New York. These could be your last five questions for me. Make them count!**

**MITCH**

**Um, very morbid! I would hope that we would always stay in touch, so I’m pretty sure that these are not my last five questions, but okay. Are you actually excited about New York?**

**KELLY**

**No. My turn. When you look back on your life, were your happiest times with me?**

**MITCH**

**My answer is yes, you’re very vain. But I would like to interject my solitary "why." Why aren’t you excited for New York?**

**KELLY**

**Because I applied for the job when I was just trying to get away from Mike. I don’t even like New York. I just knew it was the furthest city I could go to. Now I signed a contract and I don’t even want to go.**

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| **CONTINUED:** | **5.** |

**MITCH**

**Is the reason you haven’t been in contact with me because of something Laurie said?**

**KELLY**

**(rapidly speaking)**

**Yes. My turn. Have you always loved Laurie?**

**MITCH**

**No I haven’t. Wait a minute. I knew it! What did she say?! She is such a drama queen!**

**KELLY**

**You know the rules, you already uses your "why."**

**MITCH**

**This is ridiculous... life isn’t a game. You’re my best friend. What did Laurie say?**

**KELLY**

**(worried smile)**

**Just play along, Mitch. It would mean a lot to me.**

**MITCH**

**(calming down)**

**Okay, okay, but that really pisses me off. I don’t know what to ask... I just want to get to the bottom of this. Did Laurie threaten you>**

**KELLY**

**No. My turn. Do you remember what you actually said to me on sake night?**

**MITCH**

**No! What does that have to do with anything?**

**KELLY**

**It’s your turn Mitch.**

**MITCH**

**Why don’t you just speak your mind? This is really frustrating me. We should be able to talk about anything. We were always open about everything.**

**KELLY**

**(looking serious)**

**This is the only way I know how to do it, Mitch. I’m not that brave. Just ask your question.**

**MITCH**

**You can tell me or ask me anything. We don’t need to play a game. You mean the world to me. For two months I’ve been wondering why my best friend won’t talk to me.**

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**KELLY**

**Okay, I’ll give you one more "why."**

**MITCH**

**Oh my God! Fine! In detail, exactly, why did you stop contact with me?**

**KELLY**

**Laurie told me that I was a threat to your relationship, that she knew you could only have one woman to focus on. She said that you already chose her and I should get my own life and stay away.**

**MITCH**

**That backstabbing bitch!**

**KELLY**

**Don’t be so hard on her.**

**MITCH**

**Hard on her? She’s a liar. She kept all of this from me!**

**KELLY**

**It’s my turn Mitch. Do you love me?**

**MITCH**

**Of course I love you. You’re my best friend. Stupidest of all your questions so far.**

**KELLY**

**Okay, why do you love me?**

**MITCH**

**What? You’re using "why" on this? I always tel you. You’re the best friend a guy could ask for. Loyal, trustworthy, kind, giving, you’re amazing. This game is getting in the way. What are you getting at? Are you needing a self-esteem boost?**

**KELLY**

**Aren’t you going to ask if I love you?**

**MITCH**

**I know you love me! Hello, this is me. How many times have we said we love each other?**

**KELLY**

**Mitch, I love you.**

**MITCH**

**I know.**

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| **CONTINUED:** | **7.** |

**KELLY**

**Mitch... (she pulls out a recording device from her coat) this is a recording of you on sake night. The part I didn’t post to the public.**

***The recording plays while Kelly and Mike both listen***

**KELLY**

**What is the truth behind David Bowie’s odd performance style?**

**MITCH**

**He is part female alien from the planet Spandex.**

**KELLY**

**How do you feel about me?**

**MITCH**

**What?**

**KELLY**

**Just answer the question, Captain Sake. How do you really feel about me?**

**MITCH**

**You’re the sexiest, coolest, loveliest gal in town and I’d marry you in a second.**

**KELLY**

**(laughing)**

**Oh really? Tell me more.**

**MITCH**

**Oh you know I’ve always loved you but you always wanted the other guys, so I became the best friend. I’ve taken a vow of friend zone for life for you.**

**KELLY**

**Oh... I see.**

***Recording ends.***

**MITCH**

**Damn.**

**KELLY**

**Yeah.**

**MITCH**

**I guess I thought you always knew that.**

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| **CONTINUED:** | **8.** |

**KELLY**

**No.**

**MITCH**

**So what’s going on now?**

**KELLY**

**I don’t want to go to New York and leave you.**

**MITCH**

**What?**

**KELLY**

**I’ve always loved you.**

**MITCH**

**What?**

**KELLY**

**You may be the most oblivious man I’ve ever met. And I guess that makes me a match. Just tell me something. Would you ever leave Laurie for me?**

**MITCH**

**Is that your fifth yes or no question? How much did you plan this out?**

***Mitch and Kelly embrace. as Kelly wraps her arms around Mitch, she brandishes a conspicuous bottle of sake for only the audience to see. Kelly looks at the audience with a comical look and looks at lovestruck Mitch with innocence.***

***Curtain closes.***



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