

## From Empowered

By Don Zolidis

POTZ, 14, a nerdy boy  
AMARYLLIS, a girl scout faking her own death  
BEENIE, her best friend

POTZ

Ah ha! I caught you!

AMARYLLIS

What do you want?

POTZ

You've been avoiding our date for three days! Now there are no more excuses! Prepare to be romanticized! I've been working on some slam poetry.

*(He takes out a piece of paper.)*

Amaryllis.

She's the illest.

She's a flower.

*(He stops.)*

That's all I got so far.

AMARYLLIS

Um... you know I would go with you it's just uh...

*(she coughs weakly.)*

I'm dying of a terrible disease.

POTZ

What?

AMARYLLIS

Yeah. I don't have much time left. So I'm going to spend my remaining minutes with people that I like. And also selling cookies.

POTZ

Don't worry. I will be at your side every step of the way. Providing emotional support and also physical support and also cuddling support. What is the name of the disease that's killing you?

AMARYLLIS

Um... it's meta-carsis-bia-furkishness. I need like three new hearts.

POTZ

You may have mine. And as I die I will be comforted with the knowledge that in some small way, I'm close to you. Even if it's just the heart that's been pulled from my chest.

AMARYLLIS

Well anyway...

*(she recoils in fake pain again.)*

Oh the pain is coming.

POTZ

Hold my hand.

AMARYLLIS

No. The pain is making me want to be alone. Oh it's going dark. Oh....

*(She closes her eyes.)*

POTZ

Good night sweet princess. I'll stroke your hair while you sleep.

AMARYLLIS

I'm better. Actually, you know what –

*(BEENIE enters)*

BEENIE

Are you kidding me?!

AMARYLLIS

What?

BEENIE

They've got your picture up on posters all over the old folks home!

AMARYLLIS

So?

BEENIE

It says – help save a dying angel! You're not dying!

AMARYLLIS

Actually, all of us are dying – I'm just fudging the timeframe.

POTZ

You're not dying of a terrible disease?

AMARYLLIS

I lied to get out of talking to you. And also to get money out of people.

BEENIE

I was cool with you pretending to help fake orphans in Africa, but this is crossing a line!

AMARYLLIS

Why?

BEENIE

Just... um... just cause.

AMARYLLIS

Well too bad.

BEENIE

I'm not comfortable with this.

AMARYLLIS

I'm comfortable with it for both of us.

BEENIE

Don't you think it's evil?

POTZ

It's a little evil. But some people find that hot. I could be one of those people.

AMARYLLIS

You know what's actually evil? Not getting a unicorn. That's what's evil.

BEENIE

No it's not!

AMARYLLIS

Tough. This is how the operation is working now.

BEENIE

I'm not going to be funneling customers to you then!

AMARYLLIS

Hey! Hey! Remember who's weird and awkward and not cool here! You follow me.

BEENIE

You're weird and awkward and not very cool too!

AMARYLLIS

That was before I pretended to start dying! Now everyone loves me!

BEENIE

Get one of those people to help you then!  
*(BEENIE storms out.)*

*(POTZ clears his throat.)*

*(POTZ clears his throat again.)*

POTZ

It looks like I might be in the right place at the right time. And that's good enough for me.

AMARYLLIS

I'm not going out with you. But I may have an opening for best friend.

POTZ

I can work with that.

*To read the rest of this play, contact me at [donzolidis@gmail.com](mailto:donzolidis@gmail.com)*