

From the Superhero Ultraferno

By Don Zolidis

DR. DOOM
MRS. DOOM

DR. DOOM
I, Victor Von Doom, have embarked upon my most ambitious plan yet. The atom Destabilizer and Matter Reformulator! Ah ha ha ha!

MRS. DOOM (*calling, off-stage*)
Sweetheart?

DR. DOOM
Aw dang it.
(*He starts hiding the Atom Destablizer.*)
What is it, Snookums?
(*MRS. DOOM enters.*)

MRS. DOOM
I thought I heard gloating laughter in here.

DR. DOOM
No, I um... I was just making a joke to myself.

MRS. DOOM
Uh-huh.

DR. DOOM
About bunnies.

MRS. DOOM
Did you look into private schools for junior?

DR. DOOM
Um... I was gonna get to that.

MRS. DOOM
Did you take the garbage out?

DR. DOOM
I've actually built several robots of myself to do the housework.

MRS. DOOM
Yeah, well they don't work. Just like you.

DR. DOOM

I have a job!

MRS. DOOM

Evil madman isn't a job, honey! When I was married you I thought here was a go-getter! And my Mom was like, "Oh he's a doctor."

DR. DOOM

I am a Doctor!

MRS. DOOM

Your honorary doctorate from Southern Indiana University doesn't count!

DR. DOOM

Yes it does!

MRS. DOOM

Get a job! Okay? That's what you should be doing instead of sitting here wearing an iron mask and building –

(She finds the Atom Destabilizer.)

What is this?

DR. DOOM

Nothing. Please don't touch that.

MRS. DOOM

Is this what you've been doing today? I thought you were working on your resume.

DR. DOOM

Doom needs no resume!

MRS. DOOM

Doom needs a job!

DR. DOOM

Don't you understand? Once I rule the universe, I will spare nothing on you –

MRS. DOOM

Oh here we go with the once I rule the universe talk. You know what, I thought you were just being poetic when we started dating.

DR. DOOM

I was serious. Deadly serious. You see – the Atom Destabilizer –

MRS. DOOM

Is that was this is? I thought this was the Molecule Rearranger.

DR. DOOM

No that project was flawed from the beginning. But this one – this will be my crowning achievement! With this device I will triumph over my enemies at last! Doom will reign supreme! Aha ha ha ha ha!

(MRS. DOOM is staring at him, unimpressed.)

What?

MRS. DOOM

What do you think?

DR. DOOM

I don't know.

MRS. DOOM

In your *genius* mad scientist brain you can't figure out what I'm thinking?

DR. DOOM

No, that's why I asked you a question.

MRS. DOOM

You have no idea what I'm thinking right now?

DR. DOOM

Well I could build a telepathy device but that's going to take at least a month.

MRS. DOOM

I DON'T WANT YOU TO BUILD A TELEPATHY DEVICE!

DR. DOOM

YOU ALWAYS DO THIS! I'M NOT A MIND READER, WOMAN!

MRS. DOOM

GET A JOB!

DR. DOOM

YOU'RE NOT BEING SUPPORTIVE OF MY DREAMS!

MRS DOOM

GET YOUR BUTT OUT OF YOUR SECRET LAB AND TAKE OUT THE GARBAGE!

DR. DOOM

FINE! IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT I'LL TAKE OUT THE GARBAGE! I'LL TAKE OUT ALL THE GARBAGE!

MRS. DOOM

Is that a threat?!

DR. DOOM

DOOM WILL NOT BE CONTROLLED!

MRS. DOOM

YES DOOM WILL!

(They stare at each other.)

DR. DOOM

All right I'll take out the garbage but then I need to work on my Atom Destabilizer.

MRS. DOOM

First you take out the garbage, then you call my cousin Morty and ask for a job at the Department Store.

DR. DOOM

Then I can work on my Atom Destabilizer.

MRS. DOOM

Fine.

DR. DOOM

Thank you. And let it be known that the world will cower before Doom!

MRS. DOOM

Yeah, yeah. How about the garbage cowers before Doom?

(She pushes him off.)

This play is available at www.youthplays.com