

From the Devil in Sherman Marsh

SHERMAN, 17

AMBER, 17

Super Nerd Sherman Marsh has sold his soul to the devil to make the hottest girl in the school (Amber) fall madly in love with him. Too bad he didn't specify what "madly" meant.

(A Classroom after school.)

AMBER (*singing*)

Stand by your man, show him two arms to hold him—

SHERMAN

Um... Amber, I think perhaps we need to discuss our relationship.

AMBER

Oh. Good. Let's do it at my house. I have some wedding dress pictures I want to run by you.

SHERMAN

Maybe um... maybe we should have some space.

(AMBER gets right next to him.)

AMBER

What do you mean, space?

SHERMAN

Well, I think—

(he winces)

Did you pull out some of my hair?

(AMBER puts something in her wallet.)

AMBER

Why would I pull out some of your hair? Wait a minute-space? Space?! Are you breaking up with me?!

SHERMAN

No, no, why would I do that?

AMBER

You are! You are! You're breaking up with me! Oh no!

(AMBER sinks to the ground, crying hysterically.)

SHERMAN

We're not ending our courtship—I just want some space—

AMBER

So you can be with Nora or Mrs. Bell or any of your other girlfriends!!

SHERMAN

No—

AMBER

You think I'm blind?! I know! I KNOW WHAT THEY THINK! They're not going to get you! Do you understand me?! We are soulmates and we will always be together, in this life and the next!

SHERMAN

See, this is a little bit beyond the pale—

(AMBER takes out handcuffs.)

AMBER

They've poisoned your mind, that's what they've done. I've got to help you. I understand now. The Sherman I know and love is being taken away from me and—

(AMBER wrestles SHERMAN and slaps the handcuffs on him.)

I'm not giving up on us!

(AMBER pushes him into a chair and begins tying him up.)

SHERMAN

This isn't what I imagined in a relationship with you—

AMBER

Shhhh! Oh my baby, my sweet baby, what have they done to you? I'll save you. You see, you just need your memory restored about all the great things we've done together.

(AMBER runs and gets her backpack and opens it.)

Look at these photos. Don't you see how happy we were?

SHERMAN

These appear to be of me sleeping at night.

AMBER

You sleep so peacefully with me watching over you.

SHERMAN

How many of these have you taken?

AMBER

Shhhh! And here's a photograph of your dog Spencer.

SHERMAN

I thought he was run over by an automobile!

AMBER

No. I just staged that so I could give him to you as a present on your birthday. It would be so wonderful, just the two of us and Spencer, still alive.

SHERMAN

You're sick.

AMBER

If being in love with you is sick, I don't ever want to be well. If you think that's sick, look at this:

(she takes out a doll made out of hair.)

I call this one Sherman.

SHERMAN

Is that composed of my hair?

AMBER

I've been gathering them for months now. When we can't be together, I just squeeze Sherman here and I smell him and we're together. And now... we're going to be together forever.

(AMBER takes out a knife.)

SHERMAN

What are you doing?

AMBER

Shhhh.

SHERMAN

No, please tell me what you're doing.

AMBER

I always knew this day would come. When you rejected our love. But you won't succeed that easily. Don't you know that Romeo and Juliet are together forever? In the afterlife.

SHERMAN

You see, I have a fairly good idea of where I'm heading in the afterlife, and I'd prefer not to go there.

AMBER

I'll go there with you. Right now. This will only hurt a little bit.

SHERMAN

Help! Help!

(SHERMAN tries to hop up and down in his chair. He manages to reach his backpack.)

Where are my Yu-Gi-Oh cards? Where are my Yu-Gi-Oh cards?!

AMBER

Is there a Yu-Gi-Oh card for true love? Because that's the one I'm playing.

(AMBER snatches the cards from SHERMAN.)

SHERMAN

No, please, listen, Amber, I love you.

AMBER

How much?

SHERMAN *(trying to spread his arms)*

This much. Um... I love you as much as a beached whale loves returning to the ocean. I love you as much as middle school girls love vampire love stories. I love you madly, deeply, passionately, like chocolate pudding.

AMBER

I love you like chocolate pudding.

SHERMAN

Exactly. And I'll show you. Let me see the cards.

AMBER

Okay.

(She hands them over.)

SHERMAN

Lucifer!

(To read the rest of this play, please visit www.playscripts.com)