From the Matchmakers

(BREE, 18 is sitting alone, dressed up for a date. KATLEIGH, 16 enters, wearing an extravagant wedding dress.)

KATLEIGH
I’m totally skeeved out right now. Your kids are going to have like three eyes.

BREE
Oh come on.

KATLEIGH
He’s your brother!

BREE
He’s my future step-brother.

KATLEIGH
This is incest, Bree. This is like a capital sin or whatever. Your children are going to be mutants.

BREE
First off, I kissed him once, I’m not actually dating him, and second off, it’s not like when he becomes my stepbrother his DNA magically changes to match mine or something. There’s absolutely no risk of mutation.

KATLEIGH
Great. I’m sure you’ll have an awesome life in Arkansas where this type of thing is normal.

BREE
There is no type of thing! I kissed him once cause I felt sorry for him.

KATLEIGH
This is the absolute worst reason to kiss a guy and you know that. You ever leave a saucer of milk out for a stray cat? You can’t get rid of the cat afterwards. This guy is going to be pawing at your door for the rest of time, which won’t be that hard to find because he lives in the next room over! Oh my God I can’t even deal with this. I can feel myself breaking out.

BREE
I’ll tell him today. Let him down easy. He is kinda nice, though.

KATLEIGH
What do you mean, nice?
BREE
He’s a little vulnerable, I guess, I like that.

KATLEIGH
You actually like this guy? You like your own brother?!

BREE
He’s not my brother!

KATLEIGH
When I told you it was a bad thing to be single, I didn’t think you would take it to this extreme! You need to find a dating partner outside your house. Now can we please focus on me? Your incest story is ruining my complexion. How do I look?

BREE
You look like you in a wedding dress. It’s frightening.

KATLEIGH
Oh I’m sorry I can’t fall in love with my brother like some people.

BREE
He’s not my brother he’s my future step-brother.

KATLEIGH
Same difference.

BREE
It is very far from the same difference!

KATLEIGH
Do I look lovely?

BREE
Is that what you’re supposed to be going for?

KATLEIGH
That’s my theme.

BREE
Your theme is your own loveliness?

KATLEIGH
Duh. Of course.

BREE
You look enchanting.
KATLEIGH
Are you just saying that?

BREE
No, Katleigh, you look magical, okay? Does that make you happy?

KATLEIGH
I think this is the one.

KATLEIGH
Don’t get all bitter on me, all right? Your role as maid of honor is to exult me.

BREE
Is to what?

KATLEIGH
Exult me.

BREE
What the heck does that mean?

KATLEIGH
You know, raise me up. Make me godlike.

BREE
Uh huh.

KATLEIGH
You just don’t understand weddings, do you? You’re too busy with your own little drama you can’t appreciate the fine love story unfolding right in front of your nose. You need to get with the program, okay?

BREE
Fine. I am with the program.

KATLEIGH
Are you?

BREE
What do you want me to say?
KATLEIGH
It’s not about saying, it’s about buying in.

BREE
Fine. I’m buying in.

KATLEIGH
So tell me how I look in this dress.

BREE
You look lovely.

KATLEIGH
You think so?

BREE
Yes. Let’s get it.

KATLEIGH
I’m not getting it. Don’t be insane.

BREE
What?

KATLEIGH
This is the first store we’ve looked in.

BREE
So? You like the dress, you look lovely in the dress –

KATLEIGH
But maybe I look lovelier in another dress.

BREE
Oh my God.

KATLEIGH
We need to hit all the stores before I can be certain I am getting the right dress. You have to understand: your wedding happens once in your life.

BREE
Unless you get divorced.

KATLEIGH
You’re awful sometimes.
BREE
If you start early enough, you can probably get in at least three or four –

KATLEIGH
Your wedding happens once and it is the most glorious day of your life, all right? So everything must be perfect or it’s no good whatsoever.

BREE
Okay, but consider this: what if, when we’re at the other stores, someone comes in here and buys this dress –

KATLEIGH
Why would they do that?

BREE
Because this is a store and they sell dresses. So somebody buys this dress, the lovely dress, and then there are no more lovely dresses at all the rest of the stores and you come back here and this dress is gone and your heart breaks and you go with the second-best dress and Chase sees you an all of a sudden he’s not in love with you any more and he dumps you on the spot. What then?

(KATLEIGH thinks about it.)

KATLEIGH
That is just – you know, sometimes, I don’t even know who you are.

(To read the rest of this play, please contact me at donzolidis@yahoo.com)