

1 ACT

EVERYTHING MATTERS

It is New York City in Autumn, and amber leaves are falling from trees everywhere, indicating that frigid winter is approaching. Tourists are mesmerized by the tall buildings, theaters, and billboards surrounding Times Square. A couple lives in a low-income apartment in an area that is not safe, but Tanya, a 29-year-old beautician and housewife to Jim, refuses to settle. Tanya is outgoing and artistic, having attended beauty school after high school because she wanted to style hair to encourage people to feel good about themselves. From a young age, Tanya wanted to live well and not follow the script of her parents. She is gregarious and loves to be around intellectual and successful people. It is her dream to travel and learn about different cultures. Tanya aims to live a sophisticated lifestyle and buy her own home. Tanya's husband Jim is 35 and a freelance writer. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, he was a playwright with huge aspirations to become a published writer. He often fantasized about his work performed on Broadway. Stores and schools in his neighborhood were closed. The lack of human contact disoriented Jim. To elevate his malaise, he started to drink alcohol. It was easy for him to get liquor as his neighborhood wine shop delivered. The alcohol dulled his nerves, which gave him the impetus to get a job as a food delivery person. This would allow him to earn somewhat of a living and get him out of the house. Jim and Tanya have known each other since childhood as they come from the same area in New York City. They love each other very much and are inseparable.

2 ENT. -DAY DREAM BOOKSTORE

In a Dream bookstore Jim sits with his notes on the table full of books. The books consist of plays and novels. The authors include David Mamet, Chekov and Kafka, which are all writers dealing with the human condition.

Tanya enters the bookstore and sees Jim sitting at his favorite table on the far end of the left side near the drama section.

Jim points to the play Uncle Vanya by Chekov.

JIM

Tanya, what do think about this book?

TAYNA

I think it is interesting. I read it in my high school drama class.

JIM

it's a fascinating a story of how all the characters relate to each other.

TANYA

It piques my imagination that you chose a story that is similar to what you write.

JIM

Sure, it comes naturally. It shows me that I am going in the right direction.

TANYA

Go for it!

JIM

You bet!

TANYA

You have talent Jim. I have faith in you.

Jims puts his pen on the table and takes a sip of coffee then he looks at Tanya and gives her a kiss on her forehead as he holds her hand.

JIMS

You are the lighting that erupts the creative spirit of my being.

TANYA

You are the only one I long for.

JIMS

Honey, I promise this is going to be our time.

TANYA

Let us drink to it.

JIM.

Give me a minute to wrap up my writing  
then we go out for a drink and  
something to eat.

TANYA

Fair enough take your time honey.

Jims starts to pack up his books and notes, and Tanya gets up from the table too and starts browsing in the section of acting methods. She comes across a teaching manual written by Konstatin Stanislavski entitled "An Actor Prepares."

TANYA

Take a look at this book. I like to study it.

JIM

Why do you want to study this particular book? Do you want to act in my future play?

TANYA

Why not, isn't life art, and art life? Besides we need to get out of this hole, and move into a big, beautiful home.

Jim finishes his writing and puts back the rest of the books in the bookshelves.

JIM

I don't worry soon we will wear smiles in our faces and walk in the sun.

3 INT. DAY - RESTAURNAT

TANYA

Do you mean when you sell your stories, we will be going around the world and meeting interesting people!

JIMS

Yeah, that is right!

TANYA

I can't wait for that day!

JIM

Me too baby. What do you want to eat

now?

TANYA

Boy, I am so excited I don't know what to eat after all this excitement. I will figure it out when I get there.

4 INT. DAD-RESRAUNT

Entering Norma Hell's Kitchin authentic Italian restaurant with fine soft lighting and ambience, great music and delicious food. Decor with pots and pans against a brick wall. It has a warm ambience.

HOST

Welcome, where do you prefer to sit?

JIM

We would like to have a table by the window. *Final mente arrivati* what would like to eat?

TANYA

Great ambience! I can see we are going to make it big honey.

JIM

Let us think about food now and let us not worry about a bout unknow.

TANYA

I cannot wait to see our life changing and move to a better neighborhood.

JIM

We shouldn't put our neighborhood down. We can take ourselves out of it, but we cannot take it out of ourselves.

TANYA

I don't mean to put it down; I am just saying we should move to a better situation.

JIM

What would like to order, I see the menu has a lot of options.

Tanya browses in the Menu and looking confused, not able to make a choice. She looks back at Jim and waiting for him to

make a suggestion to her.

TANYA

I am not sure, what should I eat, do you have any suggestion for me?

JIM

Of course, I believe you prefer pasta alle Vongole or alla Carbonara?

TANYA

Ya, I will take pasta alla Carbonara that sounds good! Thanks, love.

WAITER

What can i get for you?

JIM

We would like a bottle of Grigio, and for the lady would like to have Pasta Carbonara and for me Cacio pepe please.

WAITER

A bottle of Pinot Grigio and one pasta Carbonara for the lady and for you Cacio Pepe.

JIM

Correct, thank you

5 INT. LIVING ROOM-DAY

Jim reads the newspaper, and Tanya sits beside him flipping the Women's magazine pages. All of the sudden Jim calls Tanya's name.

What is going on, is something wrong?

JIM

It looks we get hit by covid 19 and everything is shutting down for us.

TANYA

Oh, damn it, bad luck?

JIM

I agree, it doesn't sound good. This is serious. Let us listen to the news.

TANYA

How are we going to survive without work.

JIM

I don't know, but it is going to be close except food stores, hospitals, pharmacies and liquor stores.

TANYA

Tanya gets up early in the morning and walks to the window to check the street, and she says the streets are empty.

TANYA

Oh no, that's a tragedy, I see a somber looking people walking in the street.

JIM

This is very scary as if coming from the grave chasing us.

TANYA

I see and I feel everyone is in agony.

JIM

The news says there will be no theaters, playhouses, TV Show or filming from tomorrow.

TANYA

I wonder if they're going to tell us for how long we are going to be in this unpredictable situation.

JIM

It looks like even the experts do not know for how long we are going to be locked down.

TANYA

This is misery that means we are going to be locked down for a long time.

Jim goes back to the window to look outside to see how many people are walking in the street.

JIM.

You are right, they are not telling us for how long the lockdown will be, all what they are doing is rebuking us.

TANYA

Let us go to the Pharmacy to get some masks to protect ourselves from this disaster?

JIM

Yes, we should into that also, check for food or alcohol delivery job before they all taken.

6 INT. DAY-PHARMECY

TANYA

Look at that line in front of the pharmacy...

JIM

We can stand behind them and wait for our turn.

TANA

Do you see how everyone is reacted Strang if is someone is going to hurt them

JIM

Ha, they look worry and wired of unknown.

TANYA

I thank this is serious Jim, the news mentioned this pandemic is spreading all over the world.

JIM

Definitely it's dilemma, it took us by surprise.

TANYA

I am scared our dream is shatter Jim, aren't you?

JIM

What is fear is going to give us, but anxiety.

Tayna secures her musk on and stand far from the group of people in front of the pharmacy.

TAYNA

I am confused; I don't know about you.

JIM

We have to think about something useful to sustains outlives in this mess.

TANYA

Who Jim, are you out of your mind.

JIM

No, I am not, but I have an idea.

TANYA

Like what? you are fantasizer, people are in shock, and you have a figment of your dream?

JIM

Do you want to know what it is? Let us go to the liquore store and put my application for delivery work.

TANYA

I see, is that it, do you make people drank, so they don't feel anything like you?

JIM

No, dear, I am a creative and proactive man. I think ahead of everyone.

TANYA

I do not know about that, I hope you are not going to stumble in your delivery and be like the ones in our neighborhood.

JIM

Whatever you think will be will at this time of pandemic.

TANA

Is that all what you are going to say.

JIM

What else we can do at this time of lockdown.

TANYA

I do not like this idea of delivering alcohol.

JIM

Do you have and suggestions beside of your fears, does it pay bills?

TANYA

No, let us take our time and think about something useful.

JIM

We must figure it soon before all the jobs are taken.

TANYA

If you are worried about that go and fill you application for the liquore store.

JIM

Great! now you are taking.

TANYA

Whatever you think it's right, you will have my support for it.

Jim took a deep breath and close his eyes for moments and faces Tanya.

JIM

You got the idea that is my girl.

TANYA

Remember with every action there's a reaction.

JIM

I know that but I am not going to let myself go with drinking.

TANYA

Only time will my dear.

JIM

You will see, what I mean.

TANYA

Let us hope so, don't forget about your dream of being a good playwrighter.

Jim takes pictures of the people who are waking in park and Tanya looking at the falling leave of fall.

JIM

I am not going to get drank, just watch and see.

TANYA

I heard a similar story like yours; may people deny the conciseness of their action of taking a job in liquor store.

JIM

Do not think about me, like what you think about others.

TANYA

Right every year I wideness many people filling down on it and able to get up from it.

JIM

I know what i am doing and how to take care about myself.

Tanya looks stops to look at cheery flowers and membered to herself and looked back to Jim.

TANYA

Go ahead, you are the driver of your destiny. Who i am to tell you what to do with your life?

JIM

I am glad you understand what a man needs to do with his life.

TANYA

I got it and i hope you will make it make it safe.

JIM

I feel your concern love.

TANYA

I am glad you do, but do not disappoint me or yourself.

JIM

I can see, I think this what we are