

SECRET IDENTITY

A Ten-Minute Play
by
Wayne Peter Liebman

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by Wayne Peter Liebman
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Cast of Characters

Ashley	Twelve and a half. A free spirit on the verge of an adolescent nervous breakdown, like Madonna.
Nicole	Twelve and three quarters. Very much her own person whose waters run deep, like Elizabeth Taylor.

Scene

Ashley's room.

Time

The present.

Note

The characters are played by adults who think and act as twelve-year-olds.

Scene 1

SETTING: ASHLEY'S bedroom. A child's bedroom, attempting to become a teenager's bedroom.

AT RISE: NICOLE alone on ASHLEY'S bed. SHE is thinking. SHE wears a sensible twelve-year-old dress. SOUND of a car starting and pulling away. ASHLEY enters, dressed as a tempestuous twelve-year-old will dress. Door opens and shuts.

ASHLEY

God I thought she'd never jam!

NICOLE

When's she coming back?

ASHLEY

Half an hour. Aneewayz.

NICOLE

Okay. Tell me again. Details.

ASHLEY

Kyle Piccoli is going to kiss me at Courtney's party Saturday.

NICOLE

NAH-boh WAH-bay! I don't believe it!

ASHLEY

AH-boh YAH-bes! Kyle told Ryan Pascoe who is his best friend and Ryan told Kayla de Valle who he is going out with and Kayla told Courtney who is her best friend and Courtney told me.

NICOLE

Kyle's a wimp. He won't do it.

ASHLEY

He's such a hottie!

NICOLE

Ashley has a boyfriend! Ashley has a boyfriend!

ASHLEY

Nicole! We have to practice!

NICOLE

We are so practiced!

ASHLEY

With Kyle! You have to be Kyle.

NICOLE

Kyle Piccoli is a disgusting wimp!

ASHLEY

Nicole!

NICOLE

Fine.

(NICOLE kisses ASHLEY smack on the lips.)

ASHLEY

Not like that! They don't do it like that.

NICOLE

Then what's the point?

ASHLEY

Do you want to see me humiliated in front of the entire seventh grade?

NICOLE

Okay when she goes to do it.

ASHLEY

(thinking very deeply)

Courtney got the new Avril Lavigne CD. Probably when she plays it. Okay. Wait. I'll put something on.

(SHE puts on a CD. SOUND: Madonna.)

Dance with me.

NICOLE

That's Madonna! It's too 80s.

ASHLEY

80s rock!

NICOLE

Yeah but not now.

ASHLEY

Will you please!

(THEY dance. Some giggling and shrieking.
ASHLEY breaks it off and turns off the
music.)

Okay. We sit on the couch.

(THEY sit. A sigh.)

Closer. They always sit closer.

NICOLE

How close?

ASHLEY

The O.C.

(NICOLE moves closer.)

NICOLE

(as herself)

Great music. No. Wait.

(clears throat, then as KYLE)

Great music.

ASHLEY

I love Avril. She's been through so much.

(NICOLE puts her arm around ASHLEY.)

NICOLE

(as KYLE)

I like that about you, Ashley. You really care about people. Not like most of the punks I know.

ASHLEY

Oh, Kyle.

(NICOLE kisses ASHLEY, who responds.

NICOLE feels ASHLEY up; no biggie, except:)

NO! NOT MY BOOBS! HE WOULDN'T DO THAT!

NICOLE

Oh yes he would. HAH-b'l-AH-boh! *Basic Instinct*.

ASHLEY

When did you see *Basic Instinct*!

NICOLE

My dad has it.

ASHLEY

Do they do tongues?

NICOLE

Uh huh.

ASHLEY

I knew it. We have to do tongues.

NICOLE

Eeoough! ItoldyouI'mneverdoingtongues!

ASHLEY

Okay. Okay. Fingers. Give me your finger.

(SHE grabs NICOLE'S hand and sucks on a finger, then offers NICOLE her hand. Slurping sounds.)

Mmmm.

NICOLE

Mmmm. I love you, Ashley.

ASHLEY

I love you, Kyle.

(It gets more passionate. NICOLE giggles.)

Stop, you're ruining it.

NICOLE

I can't help it.

(more giggling)

ASHLEY

I hate you you're such a bitch.

(ASHLEY starts tickling NICOLE, who tries to wiggle away. Some serious tickling. NICOLE is completely at ASHLEY'S mercy.)

NICOLE

No! Don't tickle! Stop! Oh, God! I can't breathe.

(THEY stop. NICOLE recovers.)

I think I wet my pants. I have to pee.

(NICOLE dashes out. Door opens and closes.)

ASHLEY

Fine I'll practice myself.

(SHE makes a kissing sound.)

Oh, Kyle.

(SHE touches her breast as KYLE.)

Oh, Kyle!

(SHE flops on her bed. Door opens. NICOLE returns, holding her underpants.)

NICOLE

I wet my pants. It's your fault.

ASHLEY

Hamper.

(NICOLE tosses her underpants in a hamper.)

NICOLE

I need one of yours.

ASHLEY

Drawer.

(NICOLE opens a dresser drawer.)

NICOLE

Purple ones okay?

ASHLEY

Fine.

(NICOLE puts them on. SHE flops on the bed next to ASHLEY. Pause.)

Kayla did it with Ryan Pascoe.

NICOLE

No!

ASHLEY

No no no to you. They're all up in each other.

NICOLE

You don't know!

ASHLEY

HAH-b'l-AH-boh! Courtney told me. She's her best friend.

NICOLE

So?

ASHLEY

Don't be asleep.

NICOLE

That is so disgusting.

ASHLEY

Omigod! What if Kyle wants to do it?

NICOLE

He hasn't even kissed you! They never do it without kissing!

ASHLEY

Yeah, but what about after?

NICOLE

Your're not doing it with Kyle Piccoli!

ASHLEY

No. I'm saving myself. It's better that way.

(beat)

Aren't you curious about it?

NICOLE

Duh!

(THEY trade looks. A beat.)

ASHLEY

Spiderman?

NICOLE

No. *Superman!*

ASHLEY

See! The 80s do rock! Okay I'll be Lois.
(A flurry of excitement.)

NICOLE

Your mother's coming back.

ASHLEY

Not immediate. You're Clark.

NICOLE

I was Clark last time.

ASHLEY

Okay. I'm Clark. You're Lois. But they have to do it this time. Really, really do it.

NICOLE

She found out he's Superman!

ASHLEY

She's discovered his secret identity!

NICOLE

He knows she knows!

ASHLEY

She doesn't know he knows!

NICOLE

He's got to take her somewhere alone!

NICOLE
THE FORTRESS OF
SOLITUDE!

ASHLEY
THE FORTRESS OF
SOLITUDE!

(THEY transform into Lois and Superman.
ASHLEY "flies" NICOLE on the bed, with
sound effects.)

NICOLE

Superman, where are we going? Is something wrong?

ASHLEY

Yes, Lois. Very wrong. I'm taking you to the Fortress of Solitude.

NICOLE

What did I do? I didn't do anything.

ASHLEY

You know who I am.

NICOLE

No I don't. I don't know what you're talking about.

ASHLEY

My secret identity.

NICOLE

Superman! I'm sorry! It was an accident. I'll never tell. Please, please take me home!

ASHLEY

Here we are.

(They land. NICOLE walks around, awed.)

NICOLE

No one's ever been here except you.

ASHLEY

This is where all my secrets are kept.

NICOLE

It's...big. You're going to make me stay, aren't you? It's cold.

ASHLEY

Here. You can wear this.

(SHE puts a sweater on NICOLE.)

NICOLE

Thank you. I'm so afraid.

(SHE cries.)

Superman, I would never betray you. I...

ASHLEY

Say it.

NICOLE

Love you.

ASHLEY

I've always loved you Lois.

(THEY kiss. As herself:)

This is good.

NICOLE

(continuing the game)

You don't need to keep me here.

ASHLEY

If only I could trust you.

NICOLE

You can Superman!

ASHLEY

How can I be sure?

NICOLE

Superman. Clark. I'll do anything. Anything you want.

ASHLEY

Yes. Then I can be sure. All right. [Let's do it] Now. Here.

NICOLE

Yes! Yes! I want you! Take me Superman!

(ASHLEY lifts NICOLE onto the bed. They
kiss again, groping through clothes.)

NICOLE

Don't hurt me!

ASHLEY

Never! You're so beautiful!

(NICOLE starts giggling.)

Stop it! Not this time!

ASHLEY (cont'd)
(more giggling.)

Bitch! Bitch Lois!

NICOLE

No! He wouldn't say that!

ASHLEY

You can't resist me, Lois!

(ASHLEY pins NICOLE back with one arm, tickles with the other. Shrieks from NICOLE. They mime having sex. ASHLEY is playing. It becomes apparent NICOLE is having an actual experience of which ASHLEY is oblivious.)

NICOLE

Stop! Stop! Oh! Oh!
No! No! Yes!

ASHLEY

Yes! Yes! Yes! Yes! Yes!

(A scream from NICOLE. They stop. ASHLEY pulls away but NICOLE clings to her.)

ASHLEY

Are you okay?

(no response)

Nicole?

(NICOLE struggles to recover.)

Did you pee again?

NICOLE

Mmm. No. I'm fine.

(SOUND of a car.)

ASHLEY

What's that? Omigod! It's my mom. Straighten the bed. I have to pee.

(and as she runs out:)

That was awesome! Can you imagine how much better it'll be with an actual boy?

(Door slam. NICOLE is alone. SHE brushes the bed absently. Slowly, an awareness dawns, and:)

NICOLE

Not really.

BLACKOUT

END OF PLAY