

Me, I

(This is a play about Ody and Rain who have agreed rather reluctantly to see Dr. Pist, an unusual therapist to listen to and advise them on their rather unusual woe.

Prior to this Rain thought they were in control of the whole relationship. Yet, oddly Ody, has proven otherwise. Tired of their pretentious life and weighted down under control, Ody has decided to unchain and distance from Rain, causing utter dissonance in their once envious and desirable connection. Rain thinks Ody is feigning a strange disorder and they can fix it, to get their life back to normal!

Will Rain be able to reign in Ody with a little coercion by Dr. Pist?

Will Ody revel in their new self-expression and rebel...

Ody, played by actor 1 whose whole head is covered by a see-through scarf.

Rain is actor 2 whose body is hidden by a long gown that starts from the neck and flows down hiding the actor's feet.

Actor 1 – Ody's most visible part is the Body and,

Actor 2 – Rain's most visible part is the Head,

Actor 3 – Dr. Pist, The Therapist, can be male or female

Actor 4 – The Reader, who narrates the prelude.

The stage is Dr. Pist's lounge/office. A cozy couch with Pillows and 2 comfy chairs or 3-4 chairs.

Dr. Pist's office hours are after dark. The lounge is brightly lit or barely lit depending on Dr. Pist's whims!)

The Reader: *(reading from stage right or center)*

Long ago the Body and Brain lived in perfect unison. The Brain led and the Body followed. Between the two together, they were active, agile and accomplished!

Perfect harmony began to disintegrate as doubts were cast on roles. Brain began to boast about their leadership skills and without which of course the Body would collapse into a mess. Body was aghast at this stupid show of superiority, and immediately began planning to disengage and be free of boasting Brain. Unaware of the trouble brewing within their dichotomy, Brain began to be more demanding and suffocating poor Body. Then one-day Body just snapped...taking to dance - lonesome, free!

This break was so immediate; it left Brain breathless and speechless.

As soon as Brain was able to breathe the story pivoted. Brain spoke tirelessly, finding ways to fix this unfortunate falling out of Body.

Body who was reveling in their new found freedom of division, reluctantly agreed to Brain's suggestion, mainly in hopes to shut Brain's constant chatter up.

Yes, and another thing. Body agreed to this meeting on condition they use these snappy names:

Ody and Rain...

(Reader leaves, play begins.)

(Action):

(Ody and Rain, walk into the lounge, Ody is on all fours walking like a cat and Rain even more sure that Ody needs fixing, elegantly sits on the chair. As they await Dr. Pist's knock, Ody gets comfortable noisily on the couch. Rain tries to reign in Ody with little success.)

Rain: Ody, do stop making a scene with your deplorable movements... What exactly are you? An animal walking on all fours, or are you a stiff unbendable metal, or, have you turned into a tree swaying your body so vigorously? You freak me out! You look so unba...

Ody: (*Ody interrupts*) Only if you promise to shut up!

Rain: (*continues to talk over Ody*) ...nced...

(*And, suddenly realizing what Ody just said*)

Rain: Shut up? Shut up? Shut up?

Ody: You had it right the first time!

Rain: You are a piece of work! We are here to fix you. And, how do you propose we do that if I shut up? You, you, you can't speak!

Ody: Spit it out Rain! Spit it out...I can move and act and dance and impress, improvise...

Rain: (*to herself, loudly*) We all see how well that goes...

Ody: And, I can leap, pose, crawl...

(*Rain cringes at the thought...*)

Ody: Oh, you dislike my freestyle moves? How do you think you arrived here?

Rain: (*sarcastically*) Eyes closed and praying!

Ody: Ha, ha, ha...very funny!

(*Dr. Pist enters dramatically swishing their coat.*)

Ody quickly crosses legs and sits upright and Rain goes quiet.

Ody jumps into a one-legged stance,

to walking with legs bent at the knees,

to one foot in front of the other

walking with arms and legs swinging wide and wild...and flops on the couch

Rain lets out a very fatigued sigh....

They all look at each other uncomfortably.)

Dr. Pist: I'll go first. When I was briefed about you, I did not know what to expect. So, I suggest, let's begin with how this came about, shall we?

Rain: Yes, yes, yes of course. We were pretty normal really, until Ody here decided the need to experiment with freedom and detachment. Freedom from elegance and grace...

(Ody suddenly jumps off the couch and stands on one leg, then flops on the couch with a thud.)

Rain now continues undeterred...)

Rain: and detachment from the command center, Me!

(Ody jumps down on all fours and moves like a big cat and sits cross legged next to Dr. Pist's chair.)

Rain: You see Dr. Pist, this is exactly what makes me cringe. One day we were together, doing everything in sync and then suddenly the next thing I know Ody is disoriented – moving so slow I had to stop, to keep up, dragging one foot behind the other I had to pull the socks off our feet to avoid slips, stopping in the midst of a walk, I had to pull us away from the crowds so we wouldn't be pushed over! I could go on...

(Ody jumps up off the floor and freezes. Then suddenly walks to the couch with short, fast jerky steps and jumps sitting on the couch, legs folded with their back facing Dr. Pist!)

Rain: and, that's what I mean. Freedom of movement does not really pan out when you cut off from the command center!

Dr. Pist: Is there any time since this detachment happened that you two have come together?

Rain: Yes, with fatigue and fright!

Dr. Pist: Fright?

Rain: *(sighs)* Yes, you see Ody has a fear of falling and that makes them want to come back to the command center.

Dr. Pist: Oh, I see. As I see it Ody wants to have a bit of fun but is fearful of too much. It just might put the two of you in a hospital bed for a very, very long time. Depressing is it not? The choice seems clear. Stay together and you will not fall!

Ody and Rain: *(at the same time)* What?

(They both continue to talk at the same time staring at each other.)

Ody: That's not a solution. That's going into the nonsensical past! No!

Rain: Great! Did I not tell you Ody, that's the sensible future! Yes!

(They finish the No and Yes at the same time.)

Dr. Pist: I don't have all night here. We have to bring this confounded conundrum to a halt. And, I gave you a ...

Ody: Live a detached and decadent life...

Rain: And suffer the dilemma of disgrace!

Ody: The daring audacity to call my indescribable dance that!

Rain: A disgrace? You said it yourself. Indescribable! The very definition of a dance is choreography that is practiced to perfection. You...

Dr. Pist: *(Interrupts)* As I was saying, this has to come to a halt. Rain, as poised and perfect you want Ody to be my thoughts now are...

(Ody leaps off the couch and lands on all fours in front of Dr. Pist on the floor.)

Dr. Pist: Really? Do you have to trapeze on all four and sit cross-legged in front of me just to creep me out?

(Rain looks disgusted.)

Dr. Pist: I don't care for this silly display of separation for experimentation with independence. It's stupid and abnormal. There I called it for what it is! Now, just reattach yourselves and Ody, oddly that's a solution to resolve your fear of falling!

Rain: And, that's the reason we are here. To be fixed. (Beat) Wait, what? I, oh, don't we need you to give us the pill to keep us together, always and forever!

Dr. Pist: Well, I, I cannot dole out the pill for fear of falli...

(Ody jumps on their 2 feet and does a wild uncoordinated dance and flops on the couch which leaves Rain breathless and Dr. Pist wince!)

Dr. Pist: *(loses train of thought, tries to continue, but snaps)* ...ing. This is too much...I did warn you...

(Dr. Pist strides out noisily!)

Rain and Ody are left in a disturbing silence. Then Rain who cannot take the rejection and Ody's stillness – bursts into tears!)

Ody: I have a suggestion that ...

(Rain stops the tears in awe.)

Rain: You don't say? Come together and be normal!

Ody: Yes. WHAT? NO! I like my freeform. I suggest we get the Robot pill ourselves. Make me temporarily Robotic and I could move the way you want me to.

Rain: Oh ok. *(wiping tears, seeming satisfied)* You know that's just temporary.

Ody: Yes, and you get your wish for a while and I get mine...

Rain: Hmm... Well, I never thought you would agree to the Robotic pill trial Did you say wish?

Ody: Surprise! You try the Artificial Intelligence (A.I) pill!

Rain: You mean swap my real me for, for, for chips?

Ody: I am willing to do this for you - so it's only fair!

Rain: A computerized me! Well, well, well, Ody you are something. I didn't think you could think!

Ody: And, we could have middle names like – Bot and ArtI!

Rain: Hilarious! Never thought you could be fun...think tank. Aren't we a pair? Glad Dr. Pist got pissed!

(They laugh uncontrollably as they leave separate and together discussing their – Experimental New Pill Life! They walk on stage up and down)

Rain: Let's get the pill...

Ody: Pill? I think you mean pills...

Rain: Yea...whatever...

Ody: Hey, I thought we agreed... You take the AI pill ad I take the Robot pill...

Rain: Ok...ok...ok. Geez...

Ody: *(stops, motionless)* But, you agreed to take...

Rain: Oh, alright! Don't freeze. Gracious, what a fuss.

Ody: *(starts to skip)* So, that's a YES?

Rain: Yes...of course!

The End