

# Forgetting April

*A Play in One Act*

By  
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## **DEDICATION**

*Let Inspiration Create Your Reality*

## **STORY OF THE PLAY**

Stanley, an aspiring American writer vacationing in Paris, creates a wonderful assortment of characters to escape the recent downturn in his relationship with April. On the sidewalk of a busy café Stanley encounters several intriguing women, foreign spies, and an angry gendarme, but none can help him forget April. Even his buddy Art is of no use, running off with the April character Stanley has created. Can the real April bring Stanley back to reality? Your audiences will delight in the explosion of colorful characters and the imaginary efforts of Stanley to forget his April.

## **ORIGINAL PRODUCTION**

*The show was originally performed under the title "April in Paris." It was directed by the playwright with the following cast and crew:*

WALKING GIRL: Reilly Pierson; PARISIAN LADY: Lena Kees; NUN: Sarah Mullins; SCHOOLGIRL: Lindsey Hartner; STREET MIME: Mark Espinoza; DOG WALKER: Elizabeth Romero; STANLEY: Christopher Rhodes; ART: Robert Gunn; JANINE: Jenny Morales; MAI: Bailey Green; GUSTAV: Gabriel Maldonado; GREGOR and SAMSA: Chris Logan, Isaac Ramos-Zayas; GENDARME: Joseph Warren; AMERICAN LADY TOURISTS IN BLUE: Isabella Piparo, Lindsey Lauricella, Shantal Mendoza, Anne Revlett, Ana Marrero; JOGGER GIRL: Sierra Schuler; MOTHER WITH A MOUSTACHE: Taylor Schuler; JUNI: Jillian Goldman; JULI: Raven Morlen; OCTAVIUS: Rod Miller; APRIL: Milena Canete; APRIL the Girlfriend: Laura Degrenia. Crew: Stage Manager: Madison Marion; Set Boss: Emily Putnam; Set Crew: Jocelyn Silvey, Jenny Morales; Technician: Jeannie Tilley.

**CAST OF CHARACTERS**

*(Approx. 7 m, 12 w, extras)*

STANLEY: The writer.

ART: The buddy.

JANINE: The waitress.

MAI: The female spy.

GUSTAV: The male spy.

GREGOR and SAMSA: Two goons.

GENDARME: An officer.

AMERICAN LADY TOURISTS 1-4

JOGGER GIRL

MOTHER WITH A MOUSTACHE

JUNI: Swedish love-at-first-sight.

JULI: Another Swedish love-at-first-sight.

OCTAVIUS: The protective Swedish brother.

APRIL: The character.

APRIL: The girlfriend.

EXTRAS:

WALKING GIRL

PARISIAN LADY

SCHOOLGIRL

NUN

DOG WALKER

MIME

and STAGE CREW

## **COSTUMES**

STANLEY and ART wear young adult American male street clothes. Art also has a stylish hat which covers his head as he sleeps at the table.

MAI wears European-style fashions with a red scarf.

JANINE wears a white shirt and black slacks and apron.

GUSTAV wears an overcoat.

JOGGER GIRL wears shorts, tank top, running shoes and red scarf.

MOTHER, with a moustache, wears a jogging suit.

JUNI and JULI wear skirts, sweater tops, and red scarves.

APRIL, THE CHARACTER, wears classy apparel and a red scarf.

APRIL, THE GIRLFRIEND, wears everyday clothing and a red scarf.

STAGE CREW wear culinary attire.

AMERICAN LADY TOURISTS IN BLUE wear elderly-lady style clothing, very touristy looking, with blue as the major color scheme.

ALL OTHER ACTORS wear clothes appropriate to their character.

## **APRIL IN PARIS**

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*(AT RISE: MUSIC up. As the following street scene unfolds, the STAGE CREW, wearing culinary attire, set up arbor and trellises, three tables and six chairs at mid-stage. WALKING GIRL is first across the DS area, bouncing as she goes, quickly moving from wing to wing in step with the music. PARISIAN LADY crosses from opposite, stops and adjusts her stocking. SCHOOLGIRL, trailing the NUN, stops to watch Parisian Lady. Nun turns, sees the spectacle, crosses back and hurries schoolgirl off, while chastising her. AMERICAN LADIES enter and stop to take a group photo. DOG WALKER enters and quickly crosses the stage trying to control invisible dogs. A MIME appears, stops at edge of stage and begins miming. APRIL, THE CHARACTER, enters and observes the mime, then sees her friend, Parisian Lady. They wave, cross to each other, and exit. The GENDARME enters, as do GUSTAV, MAI, GREGOR, and SAMSA from opposite. They all share a distrustful moment.*

*MAI sits at table SL. ART enters and sits at CS table. STANLEY enters opposite and sits next to ART, as ALL OTHERS exit stage. Art has bought himself a stylish hat which covers his head as he sleeps at the table. Stanley takes out laptop and places on table. He begins to type. Mai reads a French magazine. Table at SR is unoccupied.*

*MUSIC fades. STANLEY, after a few moments, jumps up. He moves down and crosses back and forth in deep contemplation. Suddenly he yells and crosses back to the table to begin typing again. ART lifts his head.)*

**ART:** Stanley! Please!

**STANLEY:** Sorry, Art. The great American novel can't wait for your recovery.

**ART:** Do you have to be so damn eager about it?

**STANLEY:** In the flow, bro. In the flow.

**ART:** Well, can I at least go back to the room and sleep this one off?

**STANLEY:** Are you kidding? Here we are in Paris. Paris, of all places, Art. You can't seriously want to spend your day

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cooped up in a tiny hotel room when all of these sights and sounds out here are ready to bombard your senses!

**ART:** My senses were bombarded plenty enough last night, thank you very much. *(Drops head onto table.)*

**STANLEY:** *(Continues typing, then.)* What time did you crawl in last night?

**ART:** This morning.

**STANLEY:** Okay. What time did you come crawling in this morning?

**ART:** *(Head back up, squinting at morning light.)* I don't know. The lights on the street were going out and the light in the sky was coming up when - Fifi - rolled me out of the cab.

**STANLEY:** *(Clucking his tongue.)* You should put your energies to something constructive while you're here.

**ART:** You're the writer. You write. I'll be constructive in my own way. *(Gives a lecherous look.)*

**STANLEY:** And when we return to the States, what'll you have to show for it?

**ART:** Some sweet, sweet memories, my friend.

**STANLEY:** Well, sweet memories don't sell, my friend.

**ART:** I could tell you all about them and you could write them down. Kind of a modern Casanova memoir, if you will.

**STANLEY:** Well, I won't. I am aiming for something higher than that.

**ART:** Bet my story would sell more than what you're writing there.

**STANLEY:** Hah! That just goes to show how little you know of great literature.

**ART:** Whatever you say. Still trying to impress April, are we? *(Head back down on table.)*

*(STANLEY types for a few more seconds then stops abruptly. He sighs angrily and glares at ART. Staring at the laptop screen Stanley sits for a moment, then jumps up and moves to Art's side.)*

**STANLEY:** *(Abruptly.)* You did that on purpose! You did that on purpose, didn't you? *(No reaction.)* Art!

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