

comedic contemporary monologues for women

Comedic Contemporary Monologues for Women: A Guide to Finding the Perfect Piece

Comedic contemporary monologues for women are an essential resource for actresses seeking to showcase their versatility, personality, and timing. Whether you're auditioning for a play, preparing for a class, or simply looking to hone your performance skills, finding the right monologue can make all the difference. Comedy, especially in a modern context, offers a refreshing way to connect with audiences by blending humor with relatable themes, witty dialogue, and genuine emotion.

In this article, we'll dive into what makes comedic contemporary monologues for women particularly engaging, explore where to find them, and offer tips on how to select and perform them effectively. From character-driven pieces to sharp observational humor, you'll discover a wealth of material designed to highlight your unique comedic voice.

Why Choose Comedic Contemporary Monologues for Women?

Comedy is a powerful tool for actors, and contemporary monologues provide a snapshot of today's culture, relationships, and challenges. For women, these monologues often explore themes like identity, empowerment, friendship, and the quirks of modern life—all while delivering laughs.

Contemporary scripts tend to use natural, conversational language that feels authentic to audiences. This makes comedic monologues not only entertaining but also deeply relatable. When performed well, they reveal layers of character and emotional depth beneath the humor.

The Appeal of Modern Humor

Contemporary comedic monologues often incorporate sarcasm, irony, and self-awareness, reflecting today's fast-paced and media-savvy world. They might touch on topics such as social media mishaps, dating disasters, or workplace dynamics, making them resonate strongly with both performers and viewers.

This style contrasts with classic comedic monologues, which may rely more on slapstick or exaggerated humor. Modern pieces allow actresses to showcase subtlety, timing, and character nuance—skills that casting directors and acting coaches highly value.

Where to Find Great Comedic Contemporary Monologues for Women

Locating the perfect piece can sometimes be a challenge, but numerous resources cater specifically to women seeking contemporary comedic material.

Online Monologue Libraries

Several websites offer curated collections of monologues sorted by gender, genre, and style. Some popular platforms include:

- **Monologues 4 Women** – This site specializes in monologues for female performers, featuring a wide range of comedic contemporary options.
- **StageAgent** – Provides scripts and monologues from current plays, often including contemporary comedic scenes.
- **Backstage** – Offers audition monologues and tips, with frequent updates of fresh, modern material.

These libraries often include performance notes and context, which can be invaluable for understanding the character's motivations and the tone of the piece.

Contemporary Plays and Screenplays

Exploring recent plays and film scripts can uncover hidden gems perfect for auditions. Playwrights such as Annie Baker, Phoebe Waller-Bridge, and Tina Fey have written strong, comedic roles for women that reflect current themes and sensibilities.

Visiting your local library, purchasing anthologies, or accessing digital script databases can give you access to authentic scripts that haven't been overused in audition rooms.

Writing Your Own Monologue

If you're feeling creative, writing a comedic contemporary monologue tailored to your strengths can be a fantastic approach. This allows you to craft a piece that highlights your comedic timing, personality, and unique perspective.

Consider drawing inspiration from your own experiences or observations about modern life. Keep the language natural and conversational, and don't be afraid to infuse humor that feels true to your style.

Tips for Selecting and Performing Comedic Contemporary Monologues for Women

Choosing the right monologue and nailing the performance require thoughtful preparation and practice.

Choose a Monologue That Fits Your Voice

Look for material that aligns with your comedic sensibility. Are you more into dry wit, physical comedy, or sharp sarcasm? Selecting a piece that feels authentic will help you connect with the material and deliver a convincing performance.

Consider the Character's Age and Background

Make sure the monologue suits your age range and acting type. Casting directors often look for authenticity, so it's best to avoid pieces where you'd have to stretch credibility too far.

Focus on Storytelling and Timing

Even in comedy, storytelling is key. Understand your character's journey within the monologue and how the humor serves that story. Practice your timing—pauses, emphasis, and pacing can turn a good monologue into a memorable one.

Use Subtext and Emotion

Great comedic performances often have layers beneath the laughs. Try to find the emotional truth behind the humor. Whether it's vulnerability, frustration, or joy, these elements make your performance richer and more engaging.

Record Yourself and Seek Feedback

Filming your rehearsals lets you observe your delivery from an audience perspective. Additionally, sharing your performance with trusted friends, coaches, or peers can provide constructive criticism to help refine your approach.

Examples of Popular Comedic Contemporary

Monologues for Women

To illustrate the variety and tone of these monologues, here are a few examples of themes and scenarios commonly found in contemporary comedic pieces:

- **The Overwhelmed Working Mom:** A humorous rant about juggling career, kids, and personal time with witty observations on modern motherhood.
- **The Social Media Addict:** A monologue poking fun at the obsession with likes, followers, and online personas.
- **The Dating Disaster:** A character hilariously recounting a disastrous date or navigating the complexities of modern romance.
- **The Reluctant Gym-Goer:** A self-deprecating take on fitness trends and the struggle to keep up with health fads.
- **The Quirky Friend:** A lighthearted and eccentric personality sharing odd yet funny life philosophies.

These scenarios not only entertain but also allow actresses to experiment with different comedic styles, from slapstick to deadpan humor.

Using Comedic Contemporary Monologues to Boost Your Acting Career

Incorporating comedic contemporary monologues into your repertoire can open many doors. Comedy is a sought-after skill in auditions for theater, television, and film. Showcasing your ability to handle modern humor with nuance demonstrates versatility and confidence.

Moreover, contemporary monologues often resonate more with casting directors because they reflect the world and experiences of today's audiences. This connection can make your audition stand out, helping you leave a lasting impression.

Building Confidence Through Comedy

Comedy requires vulnerability—stepping into awkward, funny, or exaggerated situations while maintaining believability. Regularly practicing comedic monologues builds your confidence not only in humor but also in your overall acting craft.

Networking and Workshops

Engaging in workshops focused on contemporary comedic acting can expose you to new monologues and performance techniques. These environments also offer opportunities to collaborate and receive feedback, accelerating your growth.

Embracing comedic contemporary monologues for women is an exciting way to enrich your acting journey. The blend of humor, relatability, and modern themes makes these pieces invaluable tools for connecting with audiences and casting professionals alike. So, whether you're browsing online libraries, exploring new plays, or penning your own script, there's a perfect comedic monologue waiting to bring out your best performance.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are some popular themes in comedic contemporary monologues for women?

Popular themes often include everyday life struggles, relationships, workplace humor, self-empowerment, and social commentary, all delivered with wit and relatable humor.

Where can I find high-quality comedic contemporary monologues for women?

High-quality monologues can be found in acting books specializing in monologues, online theater resources, contemporary play anthologies, and websites dedicated to acting scripts such as Monologue Archive, StageAgent, or SimplyScripts.

How can a woman choose the right comedic monologue for an audition?

She should consider her age, personality, and strengths, select a piece that feels authentic, showcases her comedic timing, and suits the style of the production or role she is auditioning for.

What techniques help make a comedic monologue for women more effective on stage?

Techniques include strong character development, clear pacing, use of pauses for comedic effect, expressive facial and body language, and connecting emotionally with the audience while maintaining humor.

Are there any contemporary female playwrights known for writing comedic monologues?

Yes, playwrights like Tina Fey, Sarah Ruhl, Annie Baker, and Linda Sue Park are known for their sharp, witty, and contemporary comedic monologues that resonate well with female performers.

Additional Resources

Comedic Contemporary Monologues for Women: A Closer Look at Humor and Expression

comedic contemporary monologues for women have emerged as a vital resource in the theatrical and performance arts landscape, offering female actors a platform to showcase wit, emotional range, and distinct contemporary voices. These monologues not only entertain but provide insights into modern societal themes, ranging from personal identity and relationships to career challenges and everyday absurdities, all through a humorous lens. As the demand for diverse and relatable material grows, the significance of these monologues in auditions, workshops, and performances continues to expand.

The Rise of Comedic Contemporary Monologues for Women

In recent years, the theatrical community has seen a notable shift toward more inclusive and representative works. This trend is particularly evident in the proliferation of comedic contemporary monologues tailored for women. Unlike classical monologues that often reflect historical or stylized language, these contemporary pieces employ everyday vernacular and scenarios, making them more accessible and relatable to modern audiences.

The appeal lies in their ability to blend humor with authenticity. Comedic contemporary monologues for women frequently explore the intricacies of today's social dynamics—be it navigating digital dating, workplace politics, or familial expectations—through a comedic prism. This approach not only provides entertainment but also encourages empathy and reflection, balancing laughter with substance.

Characteristics of Effective Comedic Contemporary Monologues

When selecting or writing comedic contemporary monologues for women, certain features distinguish effective pieces from the rest:

- **Relatability:** The monologue should resonate with contemporary experiences or emotions, allowing performers and audiences to connect deeply.

- **Authentic Voice:** Natural dialogue and modern slang or idiomatic expressions enhance authenticity.
- **Clear Narrative Arc:** Even in short monologues, a beginning, conflict, and resolution—often with a humorous twist—are essential.
- **Balanced Humor:** The comedy should arise organically from the character's perspective rather than relying on forced jokes or clichés.
- **Emotional Depth:** While humor is the focus, moments of vulnerability or insight enrich the performance.

These elements combine to create pieces that not only entertain but also provide actors with ample material to showcase range and nuance during auditions or performances.

Popular Sources and Authors of Comedic Contemporary Monologues for Women

A variety of playwrights and collections have contributed significantly to the availability of quality comedic monologues for female performers. Contemporary writers often infuse their monologues with satirical takes on modern life, using humor to dissect social conventions and personal dilemmas.

Notable sources include:

- **Wendy MacLeod:** Known for sharp, character-driven humor, MacLeod's works often explore quirky, relatable women in contemporary settings.
- **Katie Forgette:** Her monologues tend to blend humor with heartfelt moments, capturing the nuances of modern womanhood.
- **Rachel Bonds:** Bonds' writing frequently features young female characters navigating the complexities of identity and ambition with wit.
- **Collections such as "The Best Women's Stage Monologues":** These anthologies curate a diverse range of comedic pieces that reflect current themes and language.

These authors and collections provide a wealth of material that caters to different age groups, ethnic backgrounds, and comedic styles—ensuring that performers can find monologues that suit their unique voices and needs.

Comparing Classical and Contemporary Comedic Monologues for Women

While classical monologues are revered for their poetic language and historical significance, contemporary comedic monologues for women serve a different purpose. They prioritize immediacy and relevance over formality, often incorporating modern cultural references and situational humor.

For example, a Shakespearean comedic monologue might rely on clever wordplay and Elizabethan social satire, whereas a contemporary piece might highlight the absurdities of social media culture or workplace dynamics. This shift allows performers to engage audiences with humor that feels current and reflective of present-day challenges, rather than distant or abstract.

Applications and Benefits in Performance and Training

Comedic contemporary monologues for women are invaluable in various performance contexts:

- **Auditions:** They enable actors to demonstrate timing, character interpretation, and an understanding of modern vernacular.
- **Workshops and Classes:** These monologues serve as excellent tools for developing comedic instincts and emotional authenticity.
- **Theater Productions:** Short comedic monologues can be featured in solo shows, festivals, or as interludes in larger works, providing entertainment while showcasing female perspectives.

The benefits of engaging with these monologues extend beyond entertainment. They encourage female performers to embrace diverse roles that break free from stereotypical narratives, allowing for a broader representation of women's experiences on stage.

Challenges and Considerations

Despite their advantages, selecting or performing comedic contemporary monologues for women is not without challenges. The humor must resonate universally while remaining specific enough to feel genuine. Additionally, performers must navigate the balance between comedy and sincerity, ensuring that their delivery honors the monologue's emotional depth without undermining it through excessive caricature.

Furthermore, the fast-evolving nature of contemporary culture means that some monologues can quickly become dated, requiring actors and directors to critically assess the longevity and relevance of material.

Where to Find Quality Comedic Contemporary Monologues for Women

Access to well-crafted monologues is essential for performers seeking to refine their craft. Reliable sources include:

- **Published Anthologies:** Titles such as “Monologues for Women” or “Contemporary Women’s Monologues” offer curated selections with editorial guidance.
- **Online Databases:** Platforms like StageAgent, MonologueArchive, and Backstage provide searchable collections categorized by genre, age, and style.
- **Theater Company Websites:** Many contemporary playwrights and theater companies publish monologues from their plays online, often with performance rights information.
- **Workshops and Acting Schools:** These institutions frequently develop original material tailored to current trends and diverse voices.

Utilizing these resources allows actors to discover fresh, relevant comedic monologues that enhance their audition repertoire and performance portfolio.

Exploring comedic contemporary monologues for women reveals a vibrant and evolving facet of modern theater. They not only reflect the complexities and humor inherent in today’s female experiences but also empower performers to connect with audiences through laughter and authenticity. As the theatrical world continues to embrace contemporary narratives, these monologues will undoubtedly remain a cornerstone of female artistic expression.

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comedic contemporary monologues for women: LGBTQ Comedic Monologues That Are Actually Funny Alisha Gaddis, 2016-08-01 The first and only book of its kind, this cutting-edge and incredibly hysterical monologue book is specifically for actors auditioning for LGBTQ roles. *LGBTQ Comedic Monologues That Are Actually Funny* features works by LGBT writers and comics (and their allies) who have written and/or performed for Comedy Central, Backstage magazine, NBC, the Huffington Post, the Onion, Second City, E!, and many more. This collection is the go-to source for the comedic monologue needs of actors seeking LGBT material, as well as a paean to LGBT characters and artists.

comedic contemporary monologues for women: Kids' Comedic Monologues That Are Actually Funny Alisha Gaddis, 2016-04-01 (Applause Acting Series). This book is the answer to the comedic monologue needs of kid actors and their parents everywhere. *Kids' Comedic Monologues That Are Actually Funny* is specifically geared for children ages 5-12. Divided into boy, girl, and gender neutral categories, every piece is guaranteed to be clean, hilariously funny, easy to memorize, and a joy for young actors to perform. It features monologues by writers and comics who have written for or performed on Ellen , Saturday Night Live , The Tonight Show , Last Comic Standing , Comedy Central Stage, and many more.

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comedic contemporary monologues for women: Contemporary Scenes for Twentysomethings Jessica Bashline, 2024-01-11 The theater of the 21st century, in many ways, is expanding to require new muscles of its actors, and so should their scene choices. Today, amid flourishing new play resources, it can be difficult to nail down contemporary scenes for two people. These scenes, all culled from plays written between 2000 and 2016, are useful to actors between the ages of 15 and 30. They range from about two to seven minutes' running time - appropriate for different classroom explorations - and are grouped by scenes for two males, two females, and one male and one female. *Contemporary Scenes for Twentysomethings* offers the opportunity for emerging actors to explore work by playwrights, both emerging and established, that is truly contemporary. Jessica Bashline, adjunct professor of acting at New York University, has assembled a comprehensive collection, featuring work written by Samuel D. Hunter, Liz Duffy Adams, Timothy Mason, Nina Raine, and many more. Every playwright in this book is currently writing. The characters included in this compilation come from a variety of backgrounds with different stories to tell, giving you the chance to explore those who are close to you and those who may come from someplace else. When perusing this book, look for scenes that instantly draw you. There is more than enough material to find something that speaks to you, and your passion for a piece will strengthen your final performance!

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100 terrific monologues for women from contemporary plays, all by characters between the ages of 18 and 35 perfect for auditions or class. There are comic monologues (laughs) and dramatic monologues (no laughs). Most have a compelling present-tense action for actors to perform. A few are story monologues and they're great stories. Actors will find pieces by star playwrights such as Don Nigro, Itamar Moses, Adam Bock, and Jane Martin; by exciting up-and-comers such as Nicole Pandolfo, Peter Sinn Nachtrieb, Crystal Skillman, Greg Kalleres, and Frances Ya-Chu Cowhig; and information on getting the complete text of each play. This is a must-have resource in the arsenal of every aspiring actor hoping to knock 'em dead with her contemporary piece after bowling over teachers and casting directors alike with a classical excerpt.

comedic contemporary monologues for women: *Baker's Plays* , 1987

comedic contemporary monologues for women: *Women's Comedic Monologues That Are Actually Funny* Alisha Gaddis, 2014-07-01 (Applause Acting Series). Never before has a monologue book been written completely by people who are actually funny for a living. This incredibly hysterical, cutting-edge collection of monologues will give an actress the extra bang she needs to land the perfect comedic role. *Women's Comedic Monologues* features 60 monologues by writers and comics who have written for or performed on *Chelsea Lately* , *Carson Daly* , *The Tonight Show* , *Last Comic Standing* , *Comedy Central Stage*, and many more. This book is the answer to the comedic monologue needs of female actors everywhere!

comedic contemporary monologues for women: *Acting -- Make It Your Business* Paul Russell, 2010-06-02 *Acting: Make It Your Business*, written by an award-winning, veteran casting director, puts the power to land jobs and thrive in any medium - stage, film, TV, or the Internet - directly into the hands of the actor. This blunt, wise, and often hilarious guide overflows with cutting-edge audition, marketing, and networking strategies, combining traditional techniques with those best suited for the digital age. Well-known actors and powerful agents make cameos throughout, offering newcomers and working professionals alike a clear-eyed, uncensored perspective on survival and advancement within the entertainment industry. Hilarious and witty . . . Actors everywhere who are trying to succeed in the business, young or old, on stage or on camera, in New York or anywhere in the world, take note: This is your road map. - Bernard Telsey, casting director (*Rent*, *Sex & The City: The Movie*, *Wicked*) All the right questions asked and answered . . . and with a generous portion of good humor. - Suzanne Ryan, casting director (*Law & Order*) Paul's book made me proud to be a part of the acting community in this business we call 'show.' - Karen Ziemba, actress, Tony and Drama Desk Award Winner From the Trade Paperback edition.

comedic contemporary monologues for women: *New York Women of Wit in the Twentieth Century* Sabrina Fuchs Abrams, 2023-12-05 Seen as too smart, too sassy, too sexy, and too strident, female humorists have been resisted and overlooked. *New York Women of Wit in the Twentieth Century* corrects this tendency, focusing on the foremothers of women's humor in modern America, who used satire, irony, and wit as indirect forms of social protest. This book focuses on the women who stood on the periphery of predominantly male New York intellectual circles in the twentieth century. Sabrina Fuchs Abrams argues that the advent of modernism, the women's suffrage movement, the emergence of the New Woman and the New Negro Woman, and the growth of urban centers in the 1920s and '30s gave rise to a new voice of women's humor, one that was at once defiant and conflicted in defining female identity and the underlying assumptions about gender roles in American society. Her study gives special attention to the contributions of the satirists Edna St. Vincent Millay (pseudonym Nancy Boyd), Tess Slesinger, Dorothy Parker, Jessie Redmon Fauset, Dawn Powell, and Mary McCarthy. Grounded in theories of humor, feminist and critical race theory, and urban studies, this book will find an audience among scholars and students interested in women writers, feminist humor, modern American literature, and African American studies.

comedic contemporary monologues for women: *George Washington Slept Here* Moss Hart, George Simon Kaufman, 2005 *THE STORY: The story* chronicles the trials and tribulations of Newton Fuller who craves--and gets--a little place in the country to call his own. Newton and his wife, Annabell, and their daughter, Madge, are hypnotized into taking over one of those

comedic contemporary monologues for women: Basic Catalogue of Plays and Musicals

Samuel French, Inc, 2001

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2009-07-01 When the French actress Sarah Bernhardt made her first American tour in 1880, the term feminism had not yet entered our national vocabulary. But over the course of the next half-century, a rising generation of daring actresses and comics brought a new kind of woman to center stage. Exploring and exploiting modern fantasies and fears about female roles and gender identity, these performers eschewed theatrical convention and traditional notions of womanly modesty. They created powerful images of themselves as ambitious, independent, and sexually expressive New Women. *Female Spectacle* reveals the theater to have been a powerful new source of cultural authority and visibility for women. Ironically, theater also provided an arena in which producers and audiences projected the uncertainties and hostilities that accompanied changing gender relations. From Bernhardt's modern methods of self-promotion to Emma Goldman's political theatrics, from the female mimics and Salome dancers to the upwardly striving chorus girl, Glenn shows us how and why theater mattered to women and argues for its pivotal role in the emergence of modern feminism.

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Flom, 2013-07-18 Many actors treat their profession as a purely artistic endeavor, rarely conceding that there is more to making a living than simply showing up on stage or in front of a camera. By refusing to seriously acknowledge that self-promotion is vital to their livelihoods, many performers can get quickly discouraged by the vicious circle of audition and rejection. However, with a little foresight and planning, actors can learn how to become their own best advocates for a career in the business of show. In *Act Like It's Your Business: Branding and Marketing Strategies for Actors*, Jonathan Flom helps actors and others in the arts understand the power of branding. This guide walks the reader through the process of creating a personal brand for a small business and then marketing that brand and broadcasting it through every step of the process—from choosing clothing, arranging headshots, and designing resumes to selecting a repertoire, building a website, obtaining business cards, and networking. Flom also offers advice on such real-world issues as goal-setting, finances, contracts, and day jobs and provides insight and guidance on how to approach agents, auditions, and casting directors. A book of empowerment meant to shift the balance of control to actors themselves, *Act Like It's Your Business* is aimed at professional performers as well as students who are getting ready to transition from college to career. Structured logically and step by step, this accessible guide will become the standard for nearly anyone hoping to build an enduring career in the performing arts.

comedic contemporary monologues for women: The cultural phenomenon of cringe

comedy and its effects on toxic masculinity in "Peep Show" Victoria Pels, 2023-01-18

Examination Thesis from the year 2022 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Culture and Applied Geography, grade: 1,5, University of Leipzig (Anglistik), language: English, abstract: This thesis looks at the ongoing phenomenon of cringe comedy in British contemporary television. Taking a cultural studies perspective, it argues that cringe comedy affects toxic masculinity and the way one perceives masculinities. A close reading of the TV series *Peep Show* provides a number of examples that give insight into how masculinities are constructed in cringe comedy television and the ideology that comes with awkward jokes. Even though the viewing numbers have always been low for *Peep Show*, it can be considered a prime example of British comedic television and its recent developments. With increasing awareness of toxic masculinities and the increasing popularity of cringe comedy television formats that undoubtedly shape Western societies and cultures, it becomes relevant to investigate how humour affects gender stereotypes. When exploring the function of comedy and awkwardness in media, Kotsko ("Awkwardness") and Middleton found that awkwardness creates a shift to self-reflecting formats, where the spectatorship is being irritated by the uncomfortableness they feel when their expectations are not met on television programs. Studying the meanings of jokes and gender is relevant to understanding how

one interacts in cultures and how they use humour as a social tool. This paper contributes to the fields of cultural studies, media studies, and gender studies since humour is used to rationalise social norms in British society, directly its culture. I will argue that the sitcom *Peep Show* uses cringe comedy as a tool to uncover, create and criticise toxic masculinity characteristics within our society by evoking laughter in the audience.

comedic contemporary monologues for women: First Lady of Laughs Grace Kessler Overbeke, 2024-09-17 Before *Hacks* and *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, there was the comedienne who started it all *First Lady of Laughs* tells the story of Jean Carroll, the first Jewish woman to become a star in the field we now call stand-up comedy. Though rarely mentioned among the pantheon of early stand-up comics such as Henny Youngman and Lenny Bruce, Jean Carroll rivaled or even outshone the male counterparts of her heyday, playing more major theaters than any other comedian of her period. In addition to releasing a hit comedy album, *Girl in a Hot Steam Bath*, and briefly starring in her own sitcom on ABC, she also made twenty-nine appearances on *The Ed Sullivan Show*. Carroll made enduring changes to the genre of stand-up comedy, carving space for women and modeling a new form of Jewish femininity with her glamorous, acculturated, but still recognizably Jewish persona. She innovated a newly conversational, intimate style of stand-up, which is now recognized in comics like Joan Rivers, Sarah Silverman, and Tiffany Haddish. When Carroll was ninety-five she was honored at the Friars Club in New York City, where celebrities like Joy Behar and Lily Tomlin praised her influence on their craft. But her celebrated career began as an impoverished immigrant child, scrounging for talent show prize money to support her family. Drawing on archival footage, press clippings, and Jean Carroll's personal scrapbook, *First Lady of Laughs* restores Jean Carroll's remarkable story to its rightful place in the lineage of comedy history and Jewish American performance.

comedic contemporary monologues for women: Lyric as Comedy Calista McRae, 2020-10-15 A poet walks into a bar... In *Lyric as Comedy*, Calista McRae explores the unexpected comic opportunities within recent American poems about deeply personal, often embarrassing, experiences. Lyric poems, she finds, can be surprising sites of a shifting, unruly comedy, as seen in the work of John Berryman, Robert Lowell, A. R. Ammons, Terrance Hayes, Morgan Parker, Natalie Shapero, and Monica Youn. *Lyric as Comedy* draws out the ways in which key American poets have struggled with persistent expectations about what expressive poetry can and should do. McRae reveals how the modern lyric, rather than bestowing order on the poet's thoughts and emotions, can center on impropriety and confusion, formal breakage and linguistic unruliness, and self-observation and self-staging. The close readings in *Lyric as Comedy* also provide new insight into the theory and aesthetics of comedy, taking in the indirect, glancing comic affordances of poetry. In doing so, McRae captures varieties of humor that do not align with traditional terms, centering abjection and pleasure as facets of contemporary lyric practice.

comedic contemporary monologues for women: "Art" Yasmina Reza, 1999 *THE STORY*: How much would you pay for a white painting? Would it matter who the painter was? Would it be art? One of Marc's best friends, Serge, has just bought a very expensive painting. It's about five feet by four, all white with white diagonal

comedic contemporary monologues for women: The Professional Actor's Handbook Julio Agustin, 2023-11-13 While there are many books that attempt to teach people how to act, there are few that show aspiring actors what it takes to succeed as a working professional. *The Professional Actor's Handbook: From Casting Call to Curtain Call* provides struggling artists—stage and screen actors, dancers, singers—with strategies that will help them successfully negotiate every stage of their careers. This second edition provides vital updates to reflect the current industry: Post-pandemic shifts in the industryInclusive languageAdditional resources specific to various affinity groupsVideo auditions and self-tapes, including strategies for online auditions Julio Agustin and Kathleen Potts address a myriad of topics such as resumes, headshots, rep books, audition nerves, and marketing plans. Other strategies address how to network, how to finance your early career, and even how to organize a home studio. Featuring sample resumes, insights from industry

experts, and a new chapter by audition coach Casey Miko on how to “Generate an Extraordinary Video Submission,” this book offers invaluable industry guidance. Along with audition manuals and repertoire binders, The Professional Actor’s Handbook is a vital reference that belongs on every actor’s bookshelf, from recent college graduates to seasoned professionals.

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