

GREY'S ANATOMY

**Role Play**

by  
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(FIRST ACT ONLY)

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"Role Play"

TEASER

FADE IN:

INT. MEREDITH'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

Pancake batter is poured onto a sizzling hot griddle.

INT. MEREDITH'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

MEREDITH lies in bed, eyes closed.

MEREDITH (V.O.)

Being a person is a funny thing.  
Each of us feels we're unique  
individuals and we are, really. But  
we respond in the same way to some  
things.

She smells something yummy. Her eyes open in response to the tantalizing smell.

INT. GEORGE'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

GEORGE lies in bed, eyes closed. He smells something yummy. His eyes open.

INT. MEREDITH'S KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

IZZY flips the pancakes, pulls three plates out of the cabinet and serves George and Meredith, who stand by with anticipation.

MEREDITH (V.O.)

Take heartbreak, for example.

INT. TRAUMA WING - DAY

DEREK reads a chart outside a patient's room. BAILEY stops to talk with him.

Meredith watches Derek with longing. George watches Meredith with longing as she watches Derek.

DEREK

Let me know if anything changes.

BAILEY

Will do.

Bailey spins around to the interns. Meredith shifts her gaze away from Derek. George looks at the floor.

BAILEY (CONT'D)

Come on, people. I don't have all day.

As the group hurries by, Derek and Meredith exchange a brief, wistful glance.

MEREDITH (V.O.)

Heartbreak makes decisions for you, if you let it.

INT. TRAUMA ROOM ONE - DAY

The interns stand at the bed side of WALLY REXROAT, 65.

MEREDITH (V.O.)

You overcompensate.

BAILEY

Anyone?

CRISTINA raises her hand emphatically. Bailey nods.

CRISTINA

Subdural hematoma. In most cases laparoscopic surgery would be used to place a stent in the carotid artery, but this case is sub-acute so an immediate craniotomy will be necessary.

BAILEY

Exactly.

GEORGE

Show-off.

Cristina gloats.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Meredith sits on a bench, sulking.

MEREDITH (V.O.)

You shut down.

George sits down next to Meredith, tries and fails to think of something to say.

MEREDITH (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
Or you try to make something happen  
that's never gonna happen.

Oblivious, Meredith gets up and goes to her locker, leaving George alone.

MEREDITH (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
Sure, we're all unique. But there  
are times when each of us plays a  
role. It doesn't matter who you  
are. In every town in every city in  
the world you'll see people doing  
it. The weird thing is, you might  
not even know it...but everybody  
plays a role. For some it's  
caregiver.

INT. CORRIDOR - DAY

Derek and ADDISON walk by. Izzy gives Meredith a supportive shoulder squeeze.

MEREDITH (V.O.)  
There's always a Don Juan -

The group moves down the hallway, passing a BRUNETTE NURSE, wearing a scarf around her neck. ALEX makes lust-filled eye contact with her. She pulls the scarf down, revealing a giant hickey. They grin stupidly at each other.

MEREDITH (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
For others it's wielding a tough  
exterior that hides a tender heart.

BURKE passes the group. He glances at Cristina, who acts indifferent and looks away.

MEREDITH (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
The thing is, we choose our role  
for a reason. It works for us,  
serves us in some meaningful way.  
Or at least, that's what we tell  
ourselves.

FADE OUT:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. CORRIDOR - MORNING

Bailey storms through. Meredith, George, Izzy, Alex and Cristina follow behind her like lemmings.

BAILEY  
(talking to herself)  
I got a bad feeling.

ON CRISTINA:

CRISTINA  
(under her breath)  
What else is new.

BAILEY  
Yang?

CRISTINA  
Nothing.

BAILEY  
I am not stupid, Yang. You're a foot away from me. I heard you the first time.

CRISTINA  
Sorry.

BAILEY  
Stop talking.

ON BAILEY AND THE INTERNS ---they turn the corner

INT. NURSES' STATION - LATER

Bailey stops and hands off a chart.

JIM,30, a very sexy guy in a leather jacket, walks past them. Izzy, Cristina and Meredith all give him an appreciative once-over.

CRISTINA  
Hottie.

IZZY  
I saw him first.

CRISTINA  
You did not!

IZZY  
Did too. And you have a boyfriend.

Cristina reacts as though slapped in the face by the word  
'boyfriend'.

MEREDITH  
I don't.

IZZY  
Mine.

MEREDITH  
Not if I get him first.

IZZY  
Seriously?

MEREDITH  
Seriously.

BAILEY  
Grow up, people. This hospital is  
not a dating service.

They stop at:

INT. SURGICAL CORRIDOR - THE BIG BOARD - LATER

Derek and Burke study the surgical schedule for the day.

DEREK  
I've got the subdural hematoma.

BURKE  
I've got Jones in two. I'll need an  
assist.

Cristina looks hopefully at Burke, who gives her the cold  
shoulder.

BURKE (CONT'D)  
O'Malley. When you're done with  
rounds, meet me in the OR.

GEORGE  
Thank you.

Burke walks away.

BAILEY  
Follow Dr. Burke, people.

The interns fall in line behind Burke as he heads down the hall.

INT. DEMRI JONES' ROOM - DAY

Bailey and the interns gather around the bed of DEMRI, 23, a beautiful, bitchy waif.

BAILEY  
Good morning, Demri.

DEMRI  
Really? (wheezes) What's good about it?

BAILEY  
Okay. What do we know about Miss Jones?

MEREDITH  
Demri Jones, twenty three, admitted today after fainting. Symptoms include dizziness, low blood pressure and exertional dyspnea.

BAILEY  
Causes?

MEREDITH  
An undiagnosed congenital malformity exacerbated by the recent ingestion of the party drug 'X'.

BAILEY  
Who can tell Demri about treatment?

GEORGE  
We'll need to perform open heart surgery to replace your aortic valve which has closed up significantly.

DEMRI  
(pissed)  
Great.

BAILEY  
Not bad, people.

Jim the hot rocker guy walks past the open door.

ON MEREDITH, IZZY, AND CRISTINA ---lusting as he walks past.

GEORGE

You gotta be kidding me. *I* got a leather jacket. Big deal.

INT. CORRIDOR - LATER

Bailey looks at her chart and assigns tasks.

BAILEY

Grey - you're in surgery with Dr. Shepherd.

Meredith perks up. George watches her and wilts.

BAILEY (CONT'D)

O'Malley - go find Doctor Burke. Stevens, I've got some labs I need you to handle. You can join Doctor Burke later.

Cristina is crushed.

Izzy turns to go, sees Hottie. She gives Meredith and Cristina a *he's mine* look and hurries to catch up with him.

MEREDITH & CRISTINA

(under their breath)

Bitch.

Bailey hands charts to Alex and Cristina.

BAILEY

Karev, you've got the woman with insomnia in one.

ALEX

Why do I always get the drug seekers? Is there a sign on my -

Bailey shoots him a look, prompting him to leave.

CRISTINA

Burke will need more than one assist in the OR right? I mean -

BAILEY

(ignoring him)

Yang, Diarrhea Man in two.

CRISTINA

But -



BAILEY  
Go away. Now.

INT. CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Izzy fluffs her hair before catching up to Jim.

IZZY  
Hi. You look lost.

JIM  
You look... like my sister Amy's  
best friend from high school.

She's confused for a moment, then recognition floods her face.

IZZY  
Oh my god - Jim?!

JIM  
Cricket!

They hug.

IZZY  
I can't believe it!

JIM  
You look great.

IZZY  
You too! What are you doing here?

JIM  
I'm looking for the Methadone  
clinic.

Izzy brushes away the awkward moment.

IZZY  
Um. You're on the wrong floor.  
Follow me.

JIM  
(dripping with flirt)  
How can I pass up an invitation  
like that?

Izzy grins, counting the sexual innuendo as a score.

They arrive at the elevator. It opens.

INT. ELEVATOR - CONTINUOUS

They stand side by side, awkward and attracted to each other.

IZZY  
Man, when you guys moved I was  
wrecked.

JIM  
My sister was too.

IZZY  
So when did you move back to  
Seattle?

JIM  
Today.

IZZY  
You're kidding.

JIM  
Nope. Got out of rehab this  
morning. Don't want to go back to  
New York. Too slippery for me  
there. Thought I'd try spending  
time in the town where I never did  
heroin.

IZZY  
So, how are you doing?

JIM  
Okay, I think. There's still the  
rest of the day to get through, but  
so far so good.

They stop in front of the Methadone clinic.

IZZY  
This is you.

JIM  
Not forever, I hope.

IZZY  
Take care, okay?

He grins at her, they hug. He watches as Izzy walks away.

INT. MR. THOMPSON'S ROOM - DAY

Cristina enters the room and sees MR. THOMPSON, 40, a thin, balding man talking a mile a minute on his cell phone.

MR. THOMPSON  
Of-course-we're-not-going-to-  
negotiate! Either-they-get-on-board-  
with-us-or-we-sell-sell-SELL!

Cristina stands in front of him and crosses her arms, impatiently.

MR. THOMPSON (CONT'D)  
Gotta -go!

He clicks his phone off and grins stupidly at Cristina.

CRISTINA  
It looks like you've got some bad-

MR. THOMPSON  
Oh yeah, it's bad.

CRISTINA  
Right. Well, diarrhea can be caused  
by a number of things including  
intestinal diseases, functional  
bowel disorders, food intolerance,  
reactions to medicine, viral,  
bacterial, or parasitic infections.

MR. THOMPSON  
Parasite? Oh-god-don't-let-it-be-  
bugs-I-hate-bugs-they -

CRISTINA  
Stay with me, Mr. Thompson. Have  
you had any flu symptoms?

MR. THOMPSON  
No.

CRISTINA  
Well, judging by your accelerated  
speech, I'm wondering if you might  
be using some kind of stimulant.  
Speed? Cocaine?

MR. THOMPSON  
No! I-don't-do-drugs-why-would-you-  
think-I-do-drugs?  
(MORE)

MR. THOMPSON (CONT'D)

I-don't have-time-for drugs-plus-  
they're-bad-for-you-and -

CRISTINA

Right. Well, I'm going to have to  
run some tests and then we'll  
figure out how to treat you. Okay?

MR. THOMPSON

Sure! That-sounds-good-but-I-have-  
to-get-back-to-work- and -

He stops, a sudden pain in his gut.

MR. THOMPSON (CONT'D)

Oh, no! Bathroom?!!!

She points.

CRISTINA

Down the hall, second door on your -

He races out, holding his ass.

CRISTINA (CONT'D)

Right.

INT. OPERATING ROOM ONE - LATER

Meredith and the usual medical crowd scurry around Wally, who  
lies on the table with his brain open.

Derek closes Wally's brain.

DEREK

Dr. Grey, would you like to close?

Meredith stitches up the brain flap.

DEREK (CONT'D)

Excellent job.

They catch each other's eye. Awkward moment.

INT. CORRIDOR - DAY

George and Burke walk down the hall laughing jovially.  
Cristina intercepts them. The smile slides off Burke's face.

CRISTINA

Can we talk?

Nurse OLIVIA rushes over and interrupts them.

OLIVIA  
Dr. Burke, we've got an air  
transfer coming in from Mt. Baker.

She hands Burke the chart. He looks it over.

Cristina pulls Burke by the lab coat, into:

INT. STAIRWELL -CONTINUOUS

Cristina pulls Burke through the doorway.

BURKE  
Let go of my coat.

She lets go.

CRISTINA  
Come on. Talk to me.

BURKE  
Oh. Now you want to talk.

CRISTINA  
I'm just trying to be professional.  
What do you want from me?

BURKE  
I...I want you to act like you know  
me. You're my girlfriend and -

CRISTINA  
I hate that word.

BURKE  
Great.

He starts to leave.

CRISTINA  
No, wait! Wait.

He stops, turns towards her grudgingly.

BURKE  
It's not the plague. It's a  
relationship.

CRISTINA  
I know.

BURKE  
Oh, really?

CRISTINA  
What is your problem?

BURKE  
(quiet but intense)  
The fact that you don't have a damn  
clue. All I want is a little  
warmth. A word, a look. Sign a note  
with *love* once in a while. Is that  
so much to ask?

He storms out. She exhales, defeated.

INT. CORRIDOR -CONTINUOUS

Burke comes in from the stairwell and rejoins George and  
Olivia. Burke looks at the chart again.

BURKE  
Wow. It's Kurt Wolfe.

GEORGE  
*The* Kurt Wolfe? The Olympic Gold  
medal skier?

BURKE  
That's the one.

GEORGE & BURKE  
Run! Jump! Fly!

GEORGE  
Wow. That guy is amazing!

Burke looks at Cristina, then turns to George.

BURKE  
O'Malley? You up for it?

George grins.

GEORGE  
I'm your guy.

Cristina walks off disgusted.

INT. KURT WOLFE'S ROOM - DAY

George enters. KYRA, 25, wearing a sexy ski-bunny outfit, sits  
at the bedside of KURT, 27, a handsome, athletic young man.

GEORGE

Hi, uh, hello. There. I'm Dr. O'Malley and you're...you're Kurt Wolfe. Oh my god. Your final performance in last year's Olympics was, wow! That was, I mean, really. It was like you really were flying. You're an incredible skier.

KURT

Was.

Kyra starts to sob.

KURT (CONT'D)

(to Kyra)

Would you...just shut up.

Burke enters.

BURKE

Hello, Mister Wolfe. I'm Doctor Burke. I'll be your surgeon.

Burke uncovers Kurt's feet, which are blue-ish white. He pokes them with a medical instrument.

BURKE (CONT'D)

Can you feel that?

KURT

Feel what?

Burke pokes him in another area.

BURKE

How about this?

KURT

No. I'm not gonna be able to compete again, am I?

BURKE

Kurt, you were in the snow for over six hours. You sustained fourth degree frostbite, which is irreversible.

KURT

But you can operate, right?

BURKE

Yes. But the operation we need to do isn't going to repair the damage. I'm sorry, but we're going to have to amputate both of your feet.

Kurt is stunned.

KURT

No.

Kyra turns around.

KYRA

No!

BURKE

There's no option. You've got full depth tissue necrosis. That's dead tissue. If we don't amputate, the frostbite will spread.

KURT

But I'm a skier, a runner, a biker. Everything I love involves my feet. I'm an athlete. It's who I am.

Kyra sobs.

GEORGE

With prosthetics and extensive physical and occupational therapy you could still ski.

KURT

But my balance - I could never compete.

BURKE

You will experience balance and gait changes. But you'll be able to walk.

KURT

(to Kyra)

Are you happy now?

Kyra runs out of the room.

BURKE

We can talk more later.



Burke leaves.

GEORGE

I know this is a difficult thing to process, but it is possible to -

KURT

Just...get out of here. Okay?

GEORGE

Okay. Um. It's important that you not try to get up or ambulate in any way. If you need something, just press that button for the nurse.

He backs out of the room.

INT. TRACY LIVINGSTON'S ROOM - DAY

Alex walks into the room. A timid woman, TRACY LIVINGSTON, 35, sits on the edge of the bed as Alex grabs her chart. He doesn't look at it. Instead, he grills her.

ALEX

So what seems to be the problem?

TRACY

I...I'm having trouble sleeping.

ALEX

Right. And you want something to help you sleep.

TRACY

Um. That would be good, I guess.

ALEX

You guess? Well I'm not gonna give you any drugs, lady. You gotta get up pretty early to pull one over on me.

TRACY

But -

ALEX

No. No way.

Cristina passes by the open door. She is not happy. Alex runs out and grabs her arm. Cristina swats him away like a fly.

CRISTINA  
Not interested.

ALEX  
You gotta switch with me.

Cristina grins, takes his chart and gives him hers.

CRISTINA  
Explosive diarrhea. Have fun.

ALEX  
What? No. Wait. I -

Cristina disappears into the room.

INT. TRACY LIVINGSTON'S ROOM -CONTINUOUS

Cristina looks at the chart.

CRISTINA  
Trouble sleeping?

TRACY  
Uh huh.

CRISTINA  
How long has this been going on?

TRACY  
About a month.

CRISTINA  
Have you tried deep breathing?

TRACY  
My husband -

CRISTINA  
No. I don't do that.

TRACY  
Do what?

CRISTINA  
I'm not a therapist. My job is to deal with your health issues.

TRACY  
But my husband -

CRISTINA

Look, lady. I don't know how else to say this. I can't solve your husband's problems unless he wants to come in himself, okay?

TRACY

Okay.

CRISTINA

Now I don't see any history of sleeping pills here at all. Have you ever used them?

TRACY

No.

CRISTINA

Okay. Then there's no problem.

Cristina writes a prescription and hands it to Tracy.

CRISTINA (CONT'D)

I can only give you enough pills for three nights. If you're still having problems, come back. We can teach you how to do some biofeedback.

TRACY

Okay.

Cristina leaves, pleased with herself.

INT. NURSES' STATION - DAY

Bailey and RICHARD are mid-conversation.

RICHARD

I'm gonna need a right hand today.

BAILEY

You got it. I'll send someone up.

Richard walks off towards the elevator.

As if out of thin air, Alex and Cristina hover around Bailey with looks of eagerness and desire.

Cristina waves her hand wildly in the air. Bailey eyes her, turns to Alex. Cristina grimaces, disappointed.

BAILEY (CONT'D)  
(gotcha)  
Yang.

Yang runs after Richard with a shit-eating grin on her face.

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END OF ACT ONE