

PLAY #4 - DEUS EX OBLITERATION

by

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CHARACTERS

LEAF	Small, unimposing
PETER	Somewhere in the middle
SYDNEY	Big, imposing

DEUS EX OBLITERATION

(At Rise: LEAF, PETER, and SYDNEY are together in a lifeboat floating in the sea. The moonlight shines on them. LEAF & PETER are playing "Rock-Paper-Scissors". SYDNEY is passed out on the bow, with his head resting on a full bottle of rum.)

PETER

Ready? One... Two... THREE! Ha! Rock crushes scissors. Best out of three!

LEAF

Wait! I'll do it. One... Two... THREE! Dammit!

PETER

Scissor cuts paper. You know what that means.

LEAF

I dunno. It's the last bottle. Twenty-five days since the wreck.

PETER

We should have brought another case.

LEAF

We could have had more food, but you told me to grab the booze.

PETER

But aren't you happier this way? And when we run out of food, we won't much feel like drinking. So I say, let's enjoy it now.

(Pause.)

What are you waiting for? Go get it.

LEAF

Can't we rethink this? Sydney thinks it's his. He's liable to... You know?

PETER

Come on, Leaf old boy! It was fair and square, best out of three. You're the one. He's passed out from the last one. Now's a good time, my friend.

LEAF

Alright...

(LEAF creeps toward the bottle at SYDNEY's head. He puts his hand on the bottle. SYDNEY instantly jumps up on top of LEAF and puts a knife to his throat.)

SYDNEY

I'll kill you, you motherfucker! You steal my last bottle of rum! On three I'm gonna slit your throat! Ready? One, two...

LEAF

Please don't...!

(PETER starts laughing uncontrollably. SYDNEY joins in.)

SYDNEY

Whadya think we were gonna do? Slice you up and eat you?!

LEAF (to PETER)

You cheated, Peter! Fuck heads! Both of you!

PETER

We all just have to keep from passing out. When we're shit-faced to obliteration, it's fair game.

SYDNEY

How else could we have come up with the plan. For your own safety, blokes: Remember it takes more than a bottle of rum to knock me out.

PETER

Alright then...

LEAF

What now, then?

SYDNEY

Well... I think I need a drink after that one!

PETER

Me, too!

(LEAF grabs the bottle and moves toward the bow.)

LEAF

No, you don't! It's the last bottle!

PETER

Leaf! Don't be a fool!

LEAF

It's mine anyway.

(SYDNEY gets out his knife again.)

SYDNEY

If I have to take that from you...

LEAF

I'm the one who picked it up before we went overboard!

SYDNEY

I'll tear your limbs off... And then we *will* eat you!

LEAF

I'll jump.

SYDNEY

Then the sharks'll eat you. Us or the sharks... Which will it be? Or... You can turn over the bottle.

PETER

Turn it over, Leaf. And we'll settle this over a couple of swigs!

LEAF

No.

(A light begins approaching from behind
LEAF.)

SYDNEY

Then again, I'm getting a little tired of canned food, Leafy boy!

PETER

Holy Mother of God!!

SYDNEY

What the hell?!

LEAF

What? What are you going on about? Are you trying to trick me again?

PETER

Stay right where you are, my friend.

LEAF

I won't fall for it!

PETER

This is an unexpected turn of events.

(LEAF slowly turns around to look. The
sound of a ships bullhorn goes off.)

LEAF

Oh my god!

(The ship horn sounds again.)

BLACKOUT

END OF PLAY