

Predictable

A March Madness 2022 submission

By R. C.

Cast of characters

A.....Redacted; 48 lines
B..... Also redacted; 48 lines
C.....Extra redacted; 35 lines

*NOTE: Lines that are <NOISE> can be any single word or sound of the team's choosing, but must be made by the actor assigned that line. *This does not exclude the addition of other sound effects or noises at other points, it's designed to allow the team to tailor the script to their vision a little bit, and gives them the chance to insert a single word if they choose to do so.*

<The stage is set, the actors are ready. Any tech cues happen. >

1. **A:** Oh good you're here.
2. **B:** At this hour? I usually am. I lead a lonely life.
3. **A:** You're hardly alone now that we're together.
4. **B:** Hmm, but together and lonely aren't mutually exclusive. I can be in the best company, and still feel like an odd duck. Two little duckie birds, sitting in a pond. One named Paula, one named Ron. Fly away Paula! Fly away Ron! Come back Paula! Come back, come back!
5. **A:** Quit playing around and listen.
6. **B:** But the look on your face is such a treat! Besides, you're invading my space and intruding on my time.
7. **A:** Fine.
8. **B:** And I don't see why you get free reign to barge in whenever you want.
9. **A:** Barge eh? So when I do it, it's barging. And when you do it it's a nice little street for everyone.

10. **B:** A nice little treat.
11. **A:** You're impossible.
12. **B:** You're unpredictable.
13. **A:** I'm so glad you're here.
14. **B:** We've been over this. I'm always here.
15. **A:** And I'm not?
16. **B:** No, usually you're there. Now where is-
17. **A:** <NOISE>
18. **B:** Fine, fine. I'm listening. Tell me, what news have you about March?
19. **A:** Well.... I'm mad. Absolutely mad.
20. **B:** I knew it!
21. **A:** At first, I was all.... And then, I was all.... And then...
22. **B:** Oh my...
23. **A:** And then...
24. **B:** Did you....
25. **A:** What? No!
26. **B:** But you said you were mad!
27. **A:** Yes, but that doesn't mean I want to.... Not right away! I want it to be spontaneous,
but planned.
28. **B:** As opposed to just spontaneous
29. **A:** Exactly. I'll make my move when the time is right. I've got a plan, a basically
foolproof plan! And a kit full of toys to help me.

30. **B:** You're unbelievable. You know how many people love March. What makes you think that you'd pull it off, anyways?
31. **A:** I'm already halfway there. Besides, I carry this with me at all times, so I'm always prepared! The key is to stay ready, so you don't have to get ready.
32. **C:** Ready for a treat?
33. **B:** There you are! I was starting to wonder if you had gotten lost on your way back!
34. **A:** Such a nice little treat to have you join us.
35. **C:** I know. I thought it was just going to be us...
36. **B:** Yes, just us.
37. **A:** And I thought you were here alone.
38. **B:** No, just lonely.
39. **C:** I brought this, because it seemed appropriate. Shall we start?
40. **B:** Yes, before it's too late.
41. **C:** I'll prepare the space.
42. **A:** If I had known that you had company... You know how I feel about that old raven-
43. **B:** Old raven! There's a lark!
44. **C:** A lark, and I've missed it? You know that a lark is my favorite.
45. **B:** Mine's an owl!
46. **C:** You'll never guess whose favorite is a mouse.
47. **A:** Who?
48. **C:** <NOISE>
49. **B:** <NOISE>

50. **C:** It's been too long. I've just been so busy lately. I've been challenging commitments and cracking foundations, telling secrets and abetting liars, baby. February's over, and now I'm all about March. What a time we're having, and going to have! They say one is the sum of their parts, yes? Let's just say that they add up to a hefty number. We're talking tens here.
51. **B:** Delicious. I want every last piece.
52. **A:** Impressive.
53. **C:** Of course. Do you know about March?
54. **A:** By reputation.
55. **C:** Reputation can tell you a lot. Good or bad.
56. **B:** You know what's bad? My desire to get this ball rolling. The clock is ticking!
57. **C:** Of course. Would you pour some for me please, and then I'll be ready to start.
58. **A:** It'll just be a second.
59. **B:** Tick tock!
60. **C:** Now, you know that I don't trust that sloppy goose-
61. **B:** Old mother goose, when she wanted to share, would fly through the sky on a giant mad hare.
62. **C:** Focus! March has been cold and gloomy. I'm feeling hardly any warmth at all! I'm sure someone's gotten in and altered things.
63. **B:** I've always found March to be gloomy, at least at first. A little damp too, if I'm honest.
64. **C:** There's a culprit around here somewhere, and I will find them.
65. **A:** Almost there!

66. **C:** There's a lot resting on this.
67. **B:** Exactly how much did you-
68. **A:** All done! One for you, one for me, and a last one for you.
69. **B:** Wonderful. Now that we're all ready, let's get to work! You roll, and you cut.
70. **C:** Leaving you to supervise?
71. **B:** Don't be like that. I have the toughest job.
72. **A:** You cut such a fine figure, up there on your throne.
73. **B:** Easy for you to say! Remember that my donation is what keeps your hide intact.
Vultures, all of them.
74. **C:** Well then, oh fearless leader, show us how to do it.
75. **B:** Watch closely!
76. **C:** Very neat.
77. **A:** Bravo!
78. **B:** When you're as good as me, you'll be able to march to the beat of your own drum.
79. **A:** I'll make my own marching orders.
80. **C:** Marching orders?
81. **A:** Precisely!
82. **C:** I hate to stir the pot.
83. **A:** Then don't. I don't want any beef in here.
84. **C:** No beef, just talk. Chicken?
85. **B:** I don't think I have to remind you both that we're on a time limit here but... tick tock!
86. **C:** It's funny you should know March.
87. **A:** You're reading into it too march.

88. **C:** Too much.
89. **A:** Not enough.
90. **B:** I really don't get why you two can't see eye to eye.
91. **C:** You are the culprit. You've been messing with March.
92. **A:** You haven't got a shred of proof. The rules say: innocent until proven guilty.
93. **C:** In a sense. I wonder what kind of proof we'll find... in here!
94. **B:** <NOISE>
95. **A:** I can explain that! And that!
96. **C:** Oh you can, can you? What about this?
97. **B:** That's going to be tough to explain.
98. **A:** Maybe if you were going to....
99. **C:** What's wrong with a regular....
100. **A:** Well, if you want to really surprise them... Your best bet is to plan a spontaneous surprise.
101. **C:** Aha! Here's all the proof I need.
102. **A:** Fine, you've got your proof. What are you going to do about it?
103. **C:** I'll.... I'll... Just give me back my warm March and leave us in peace!
104. **A:** How about you nest in peace instead?
105. **B:** I think you mean rest... Oh, I'll just start without you then.
106. **A:** The sum of these parts is neither great nor impressive!
107. **C:** Let me treat you to this!
108. **A:** <NOISE>

109. **B:** Will you stop it? You're preventing me from making any headway, and it's getting late. You need to scoop yourself up off the floor, and you need to stop being so mighty and high! And you need to treat those around you with consideration and you need to be less mad. And I need some allies who understand that I don't have all the time in the world. Tick tock! It's almost time to go.

110. **C:** I hadn't realized-

111. **B:** Maybe not. I'm not sure you even care.

112. **A:** I do! I had forgotten. I got so wrapped up! I was mad, a few times over, but it doesn't seem as important now.

113. **C:** If we're airing the truth, I'd like to admit that I don't care.

114. **B:** Then we have the truth.

115. **A:** Impossible.

116. **B:** Unpredictable.

117. **C:** What I mean to say is that I don't care in the same way that you care. I care about March. I care about this. I even care about that! This might be all that you care about.

118. **A:** You can have more.

119. **B:** Birds of a feather flock together, and follow where one leads. Mice will choose to steal their food, and may pay for their deeds. Go, or stay. It doesn't matter now.

120. **C:** It does matter. And I stand by my decision.

121. **B:** Pour one for the odd one out.

122. **A:** I've made a decision too. Surprised? I might be mad, but I don't care.

123. **C:** <NOISE>

124. **B:** I thought we'd be on the same page.

125. **A:** Pages turn. We'd be predictable if we didn't roll when they did.

126. **B:** Wouldn't want to be predictable. I assume this was your plan all along.

127. **A:** Maybe. I'll never tell.

128. **B:** One day you will.

129. **A:** Do you treat all of your guests like this?

130. **B:** You're not a guest anymore though, are you?

131. **A:** I guess not. Let's move on then. See what mad little treats tomorrow has in store for us.

<End>