ANATOMY OF A FUNNY BONE

A COLLECTION OF TEN MONOLOGUES

by

Christian Kiley

1. Sandwich
2. Big Time
3. Slight Addiction
4. Malled
5. Life in Fast Forward
6. Burger Clown Understudy
7. Lost
8. Curtain Call
9. Chasing Perfect
10. Cussing Moratorium

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CHARACTER: A disgruntled worker confronts fellow employees when she/he suspects that one of them has been eating her/his lunch.

EMPLOYEE

People, listen up. Hey. I am aware that what I am about to say is going to seem ridiculous, elementary, and not even worth mentioning. But here goes. Starting last week, someone has been taking a bite out of my sandwich. Just taking a bite and putting it back, all wrapped up like nothing has happened. And it has. Something has happened. So whoever it is, don't do that. Eat the whole thing. But don't just take one bite and put it back. Maybe you don't like turkey or roast beef. What are you expecting to find? I realize I am not making my sandwich to your specifications. Mainly because it is for me, not you. So don't eat my sandwich, please. Thank you.

(Turns to go) There's no need for that kind of remark. I heard that. Maybe it's you? You seem to have put on some weight. Perhaps it is from eating two lunches. What kind of person does that? Having an affair with my lunch. Oh, the thought of your teeth on my tomatoes makes me irate. You better watch it. Brown paper bag, left side of the second shelf. I know where your lunch is. Don't think for a second that I won't retaliate. Because I will. And I'll do more than take a bite. I hear your snickers. I realize I will become the laughing stock of the break room. But I will not be a victim of hypoglycemia. I must eat to perform at work. See, I'm shaking due to lack of nourishment. Look at the tremors. I do stupid things when I don't eat. Crazy things. Trust me you don't want me to get crazy. You really don't. Watch this.

(Does the Hokey Pokey at increasingly high speed) You put your left leg in, left leg out, left leg in, shake it all about. Do the Hokey Pokey and you turn yourself around, that's what it's all about. You put your head in, head out, head in, shake it all about. Hokey Pokey, turn around, that's what it's all about. Stomach in, stomach out, stomach in, shake it all about. Hokey Pokey, turn around, that's what it's all about.

(Stops) That's what it's all about. What it's all about. It's all about my sandwich.

(Putting on war paint) This has become personal. It is me versus you. I don't know who you are but you know who I am. Or you will find out soon enough. Soon enough.