

# BOWLARAMA

by Scott Mullen

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# BOWLARAMA

*A Comedic Drama Duet*

by **Scott Mullen**

**SYNOPSIS:** When Eileen and Stanley are abandoned by their friends while bowling, they find themselves bowling against each other to try and win a bet.

**TIME:** Present day.

**SETTING:** A bowling alley.

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

*(1 female, 1 male)*

EILEEN (f)..... Teen. Competitive. *(80 lines)*

STANLEY (m)..... Teen. Also competitive. *(78 lines)*

**SET:** An empty stage, aside from a row of 2-4 chairs.

## PRODUCTION NOTES

Though much of the action here revolves around bowling, no bowling balls are actually used. Though the imaginary balls should absolutely be rolled right toward the audience.

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The dialogue and action should be fairly brisk. The cast should always make it seem like they are bowling with something at stake, even as they have fun with their movements as they bowl, and their reactions to how many pins fall. At its heart, this is a tale of two characters discovering chemistry with each other.

**AT START:** *STANLEY sits in a chair and watches EILEEN, who focuses straight ahead, holding her "ball". EILEEN takes a few steps, releases it toward the audience, then moves her body to track it.*

**EILEEN:** Come on, come on, hook.... Yes! Strike!

**STANLEY:** Nice!

**EILEEN:** Score?

**STANLEY:** After seven frames, we each have 115 and an open strike. Molly has thirty-two. George has twenty-one.

**EILEEN:** Ouch. Who's up?

**STANLEY:** Molly.

**EILEEN:** *(Looks around.)* Where did they go?

**STANLEY:** Maybe we should just skip their turns. Is there a way to tell the computer to do that?

**EILEEN:** We can't just skip their turns. Where are they?

**STANLEY:** I think... they went to kiss.

**EILEEN:** What?

**STANLEY:** Somewhere else.

**EILEEN:** They can't have left! We're in the middle of a game!

**STANLEY:** I'm going to just delete them.

**EILEEN:** This was supposed to be a fun double-date. Molly told me that George's cousin was in town staying with them, and we were all going to go out and have fun.

**STANLEY:** We're having fun. *(Gets up to bowl.)*

**EILEEN:** Wait, was it a trick? Are we pretending to have a group date, so Molly's mom would let her out of the house, and you're here to what—distract me? While they go on a real date?

**STANLEY:** That's possible.

**EILEEN:** Why wouldn't they just tell me? They could have fixed us up on a blind date. I would have gone out with you. Maybe.

**STANLEY:** Maybe?

**EILEEN:** But it would have been different, because I would have been worried about the expectations. One-on-one date, who pays for dinner, what does that mean, what your intentions are, do you want a kiss, do you want something more? So much to think about. It gives me a headache. While a double-date, there's no pressure, just friends having fun. Bowling!

**STANLEY:** We're still bowling.

**EILEEN:** It's different.

**STANLEY:** (*Holds his ball.*) If it makes you feel any better, I have no interest in you like that.

**EILEEN:** What? Why not?

**STANLEY:** I don't know. I just thought it might set your mind at ease.

**EILEEN:** Why would that set my mind at ease?

**STANLEY:** Fine. I am interested in you.

**EILEEN:** Ew!

**STANLEY:** I don't know what you want me to say! Can't we just bowl?

**EILEEN:** Fine. But I'm a better bowler than you.

**STANLEY:** I guess we'll see.

**EILEEN:** Wanna bet?

**STANLEY:** Not money. Money just makes for hurt feelings.

**EILEEN:** Winner gets to make the loser do whatever they want.

**STANLEY:** Wow.

**EILEEN:** Yeah.

**STANLEY:** That could be dangerous.

**EILEEN:** For you.

**STANLEY:** There's a lot of responsibility there. I mean, deciding what that would be—that's the kind of thing that defines a person.

**EILEEN:** Good thing you won't have to worry about it.

**STANLEY:** Because...?

**EILEEN:** I'm going to win.

**STANLEY:** Okay.

**EILEEN:** We're tied, right? Three frames left. Shake on it.

*They shake.*

**EILEEN:** Bowl.

*STANLEY focuses. Bowls. Tries to influence the ball with his body language—both of them do this.*

**STANLEY:** Come on.... No!

**EILEEN:** Ha!

**STANLEY:** Someone nailed that 10 pin to the floor.

**EILEEN:** Now all you need to do is pick up the spare... not too much pressure.

**STANLEY:** No pressure at all. I mean, if you win, what would you make me do that would be all that bad?

**EILEEN:** Yardwork.

**STANLEY:** What?

**EILEEN:** My mom wants me to do it all weekend, but now I get to pass it on to you.

**STANLEY:** That's not fair! We never talked about yardwork!

**EILEEN:** You agreed that the winner gets to make the loser do whatever they want.

**STANLEY:** I guess I'll have to win.

*STANLEY bowls.*

**STANLEY:** Bang! Spare!

**EILEEN:** Not worried. I get a strike here, I'm way ahead of you. In fact, I may just throw strikes the rest of the way.

**STANLEY:** You may need to.

*EILEEN picks up her ball. Sets. Throws. Shimmies.*

**EILEEN:** No!

**STANLEY:** Ouch. What's that, seven?

**EILEEN:** You put a hex on me.

**STANLEY:** You didn't say no hexes.

**EILEEN:** I can pick up this spare.

**STANLEY:** I don't know...

**EILEEN:** Shhh. *(Gets her ball back. Rolls.)* Yes! Spare!

**STANLEY:** Nice.

**EILEEN:** Score?

**STANLEY:** Tied after eight frames. We both have 134 and an open spare.

**EILEEN:** And you haven't seen my best yet.

**STANLEY:** Here's mine.

*He picks up his ball. Throws.*

**EILEEN:** Ha! Another nine.

**STANLEY:** That ten pin again. Did you bribe it or something?

**EILEEN:** I may have slipped the ten pin some twenties.

**STANLEY:** He's going to blow it on comic books.

**EILEEN:** She.

**STANLEY:** The ten pin is a she? She's going to blow it on comic books?

**EILEEN:** Why not?

*STANLEY picks up his ball.*

**EILEEN:** Hey, batta batta batta.

**STANLEY:** Oh, is heckling allowed?

**EILEEN:** Anything is allowed.

**STANLEY:** Interesting. But it's pointless. I could make this with my eyes closed.

**EILEEN:** Close your eyes then.

*STANLEY closes his eyes. Bowls. Looks.*

**STANLEY:** Yes!

**EILEEN:** Did you seriously just close your eyes?!!

**STANLEY:** I did.

**EILEEN:** You are not allowed to try and throw this game!

**STANLEY:** I'm not trying to throw it! I made the spare!

**EILEEN:** It's no fun if you aren't trying!

**STANLEY:** That was literally the most amazing shot I ever made in my life!

**EILEEN:** Really? That was? Okay. Now watch this. I'm going to get a strike here, and then it's going to be pretty much over.

**STANLEY:** But I can say distracting things to you?

**EILEEN:** You better. You better say crazy distracting things. I want your best. (*Looks down at the lane.*)

**STANLEY:** "You call that bowling? My grandmother can bowl better than that".

**EILEEN:** Lame. Do better.

**STANLEY:** "How are you even going to swing the ball past those hips?"

**EILEEN:** Okay, that was hurtful.

**STANLEY:** I'm sorry.

**EILEEN:** No! Never apologize! You're supposed to be trying to throw me off my game!

**STANLEY:** Also you're a little pigeon-toed.

**EILEEN:** Yes. Good one!

**STANLEY:** No, you actually are.

**EILEEN:** Okay, now you're getting into my head.

**STANLEY:** Sorry.

**EILEEN:** No, that's awesome! It's a game now! Strike coming!

*EILEEN bowls. Leans. Then stands there, hands on hips.*

**EILEEN:** What the heck.

**STANLEY:** I guess I did get into your head.

**EILEEN:** I didn't even know it was possible to leave that particular arrangement of pins.

**STANLEY:** You did knock down... 3... 4... 5.

**EILEEN:** Hush.

*EILEEN picks up her ball.*

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