

GOOD ENOUGH

By Laney Roberts

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CAST:

SARAH-Tall, thin, attractive young girl; Fashionable.

KAREN-An attractive, older woman; Professional, well dressed.

****This skit was written primarily for teens. An actress of any age with costume, can easily play the older female.****

Off-stage voice. Either, male or female

SCENE: The waiting room of a doctor's office.

TIME: The present.

PROPS

Magazines

Sound of voice over intercom

Business card for KAREN.

(SARAH sits in the waiting room thumbing through a fashion magazine. KAREN walks in and takes a seat.)

KAREN: ***(Looking around)*** Where is the receptionist?

SARAH: ***(Looking up from her magazine)*** She stepped out, but she said that she'd be right back.

KAREN: Oh. Thanks.

SARAH: You're welcome.

(The two look curiously at one another. Both are uncomfortable for their own reasons. After a pause, KAREN speaks...)

KAREN: What are you reading there?

SARAH: Excuse me?

KAREN: The magazine.

SARAH: Oh, it's Elle. Actually, I've already read this issue. I have it at home.

KAREN: So you like Elle?

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SARAH: Yeah. Do you read it?

KAREN: **(Laughing)** Sometimes. Actually, I write for it.

SARAH: You're kidding. **(KAREN shakes her head.)** Oh, my gosh! You're one of the writers? **(Begins to flip to the front of the magazine)** Which one?

KAREN: Actually, I'm not a staff writer. I free lance. I write for other magazines as well.

SARAH: What did you write for Elle? Maybe I read that article?

KAREN: Well, it was in last November's issue. I wrote a piece about women in politics. You know, "Who are the most powerful women in Washington?..." That sort of thing.

SARAH: I don't think I read that one.

KAREN: No, probably not. You and most of Elle's readership probably skipped that one. The only reason Elle picked it up was because I managed to include insider information on "Who's designing the clothes for the most powerful women in Washington..."

SARAH: I love the clothes in Elle. I wish I could wear them, but I would never look as good as those models.

KAREN: You look better than those models. **(Looks at her watch)** Where is that receptionist; I can't afford to be running late today....

SARAH: My name is Sarah.

KAREN: I'm sorry. How rude of me. I'm Karen.

SARAH: Nice to meet you.

KAREN: You too, Sarah.

SARAH: What other magazines do you write for? If I'm bothering you, just tell me. My Mom says I'm too nosey.

KAREN: You're not bothering me...I have written for Time and Glamour and once for Newsweek. And, oh yes, People Magazine. I don't admit that to everyone.....

SARAH: What do you write about?

KAREN: Mainly women in politics....Sometimes about women's fashions and health issues.

SARAH: I wish I could do something like that. It sounds so exciting.

KAREN: Do you write?

SARAH: I keep a journal and write about things that happen to me and my family. I'm not any good, though.

KAREN: You know, being 'too nosey' is a very important trait for a journalist. You're probably better than you think. **(Looking at her watch again)** Oh, how I hate waiting!

SARAH: I've been here for half an hour. Karen, are you here to interview Dr. Thompson?

KAREN: **(Suddenly uncomfortable again)** No. I'm here for a consultation.

SARAH: I don't understand.

KAREN: I've been considering cosmetic surgery lately and I need a few questions answered.

SARAH: Why would someone like you need cosmetic surgery?

KAREN: Precisely because I *am* someone like me is why I need it.

SARAH: I'm confused. I think you're beautiful.

KAREN: ***(Surprised, touched)*** I think you meant that. Thank you.

Sarah, you may think that my job is wonderful and exciting, and I suppose it is. It is also very competitive, especially for women. Everyday there are more talented writers out there who are younger and prettier than me. And they all want my job. You may not think that "pretty" should matter in journalism. I never thought it did. I just took it for granted that I was attractive. I thought I was successful because I was talented. Now that I'm getting older, I think a lot differently. Let me tell you, bodyguards and press agents will agree to let you interview their clients a lot faster if you're young and pretty.... I may not look as old as I am, but I can never look young enough again. I look in the mirror and find a gray hair and I run as fast as I can to the salon for coloring. I feel my pants getting a little tight in the waist and I add an extra hour to my workout. I get bags under my eyes from some late night deadline and I buy the most expensive face creams to erase the evidence of my hard work. Now I see wrinkles where my skin was once smooth and tight. What else could I do but come here? I am good at what I do, Sarah, and I will do anything to keep competing. ***(Realizing all that SHE has revealed to this young girl)***

I am so sorry! Oh dear, I can't believe I just told you all of this.

SARAH: I did mean it before when I said that you were beautiful.

KAREN: I am so embarrassed.

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