

SUGAR HUNT

By Kelly Meadows

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SUGAR HUNT

A Ten Minute Comedy Duet

By Kelly Meadows

SYNOPSIS: Sometimes you have a craving for something and you have to have it! But why is sugar so hard to find? Our two girls have a nightmarish experience trying to find pure sugar in a world of high fructose corn syrup! Can the natural food store help them? What about the coffee house? Heroines Chloe and Amber also play an assortment of crass clerks and crabby customers as they frantically search for sweetness. Accept no substitute – this play is the real thing!

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(2 female)

AMBER (f).....(47 lines)

CHLOE (f).....(48 lines)

CAST NOTE: Two young women spending the day shopping. They can be played as teenagers or older. Both play other characters as indicated in the script. As the play opens, both of them appear hot and tired from a long day shopping.

AUTHOR'S NOTE

This play has some fast transitions between characters, and it's important to practice them so that it doesn't disrupt the flow of the play yet lets your audience see that you are now playing a different character. Try to bring out a specific "over the top" personality trait in these characters for contrast and humor... for example they are very cheerful, angry, etc.

- CHLOE:** Well we did it. We shopped, we dropped. (*Determined!*)
But we can't be stopped! What next?
- AMBER:** Chloe I am so tired. I need to perk up before I wilt like a pansy in July.
- CHLOE:** Me too. I'm as dry as a chemistry lecture after Spring Break. Time for a bright blue fountain drink!
- AMBER:** I can't drink fountain anymore. I need the real thing. High fructose corn syrup does not assuage my craving for sugar. (*Desperate.*) Which I really need. Now.
- CHLOE:** (*Changing the subject which annoys AMBER.*) You said assuage.
- AMBER:** So?
- CHLOE:** It's such an old man word. (*Making fun of it.*) Assuage.
- AMBER:** (*Doesn't care!*) I need sugar.
- CHLOE:** How about "satisfy?" It's hip. It's "our generation." Or "kill." Like "I really need to kill this thirst before it kills me?"
- AMBER:** Are you my friend or my thesaurus?
- CHLOE:** (*Very educational.*) Assuage! Doesn't interest. Doesn't entice. *Satisfy!* Now that's a marketing scheme America can't get enough of!
- AMBER:** America is obese. So assuage that.
- CHLOE:** (*Scandalized.*) Now you said obese!
- AMBER:** We're a fat country.
- CHLOE:** You're on a sugar hunt, so you shouldn't make fun of fat people.
- AMBER:** I'm not making fun. It's just like saying you're irritating me. It's a fact. I just want enough sugar to put me in a diabetic coma.
- CHLOE:** First fat people, then diabetics, and furthermore, people in comas who can't even defend themselves. Your mouth is a factory of disrespect! (*Self-righteous.*) I'm afraid to turn my back on you.
- AMBER:** (*A little sarcastic.*) What can I do to *assuage* your anger?
- CHLOE:** Stop making fun of sick fat people in comas.
- AMBER:** Sorry. I'd feel a lot less judgmental if (*Loud.*) I had some sugar! (*Pause, then peacefully, to audience.*) My name is Amber, and I need help. (*Short pause.*) And you will too if I can't – Oh! (*Sees a store.*) Let's stop in here, though judging by its name, I don't have much hope.

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CHLOE: I'm sure it'll be fine... and perky!

She becomes the store clerk. They assume a position of AMBER as customer and CHLOE welcoming her to the store. CHLOE is very happy and upbeat.

Welcome to Everything Fructose! Sweet day, ya think?

AMBER: I think I'm in the wrong place.

CHLOE: *(Accusing.)* You aren't on a sugar hunt, aren't you? *(AMBER nods.)* Sugar is our enemy! It's a slave crop from the 1700s. Lives, nations, and civilizations were ruined over sugar just like they're ruined over heroin today. *(Happy again.)* High fructose corn syrup is the new dawn of youthful expression!

AMBER: It makes me sick.

CHLOE: *(Over-reacting.)* Did you just come in here to hate on Generation HFCS? Did you know that it almost lasts forever? This generation's leftovers is the next generation's post-Armageddon treasure. All our product was packaged fifteen years ago and it's still sweet. *(Mean.)* Unlike you.

AMBER: *(Angry and aggressive.)* What have you done with the sugar?

CHLOE: *(Angry and spiteful in return.)* There is no sugar... *(Spooky.)* not anymore... *(Starts to laugh and won't stop.)*

AMBER: *(Desperate and afraid of the clerk.)* I've got to get out of here! *(Looks around for CHLOE as if in a bad dream.)* Chloe? Let's go, Chloe!

CHLOE: *(Back as herself, giving a scared glance to the clerk, then running away with AMBER.)* Wow, Amber, that clerk was scary! I need to be cleansed.

AMBER: *(Proud.)* You need to be... assuaged.

CHLOE: Let's go this way. *(THEY see another place to shop.)* Here's a natural food store. Sugar's natural, isn't it?

AMBER: *(Sad.)* I just don't know anymore.

CHLOE: We've got to try it. If you don't get your sugar fix *I'll* go crazy. *(To audience.)* Yesterday, in the library? Oh my gosh! *(To AMBER.)* This time I'll do the talking.

AMBER: *(Now as a clerk.)* Welcome to No Fructose Allowed. *(Joking.)* If it's high, that is. Get it? *(CHLOE doesn't really and shakes her head confused.)* High fructose. Like it's high on drugs.

CHLOE is still shaking her head until AMBER holds it still.

CHLOE: *(Frees her head.)* Your store has a silly name. "No Fructose Allowed."

AMBER smiles with satisfaction and smacks her hands together close to CHLOE, who backs away.

Smacks of discrimination.

AMBER: It sets us apart.

CHLOE: My soccer coach said "no fructose allowed" and she was fired.

AMBER: You're in the wrong place. Sugar's not natural.

CHLOE: *(Threatening, and pointing to where AMBER would be standing.)* Amber needs sugar. Now!

AMBER: You're enabling her! A whole generation of young people is addicted to processed sugar. *(Pause; spiteful and uncomfortably close to CHLOE.)* Thanks to you.

CHLOE: So? Your generation was addicted to Hannah Montana. Now look at her. Tattoos, skimpy outfits and shady boyfriends. *(Thinks it over.)* You dumped her just when she got cool.

AMBER: *(Condescending.)* Poor Amber... she'll move to the hard stuff. First it's sugar. Then Splenda, Equal, *(With horror.)* Sweet n Low...and finally... high fructose corn syrup! So no, we don't have any sugar. Or gluten. Or meat. Or lactose. Soy's kind of a no-go too.

CHLOE: What do you sell?

AMBER: Nothing, really. It's very hard to make a living. We'll sell you water out of a faucet, like they used to drink in the 60's. It's retro!

CHLOE: Fluoride in the drinking water? It isn't natural.

AMBER: *(Over the top.)* We're ruined!

SUGAR HUNT

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