

WATER BAR
a short play by Tracie E. Morrison
Honorable Mention Playwriting-Adults

1.

LIGHT reveals a couple on a first date
sitting in a restaurant.

THEY review the menu.

MALE

(to Female)

I hope you like this place.

ENTER WAITRESS

WAITRESS

Welcome to H2O. What can I start you with this evening?

FEMALE

I'll just take a water with lemon for now.

WAITRESS

Which kind of water would you prefer?

FEMALE

Reg...ular water?

MALE

We'll just take tap for now.

WAITRESS

Sir, we don't serve tap.

MALE

What do you mean---

FEMALE

---So you don't have water that comes out of a faucet?

WAITRESS

It is filtered water.

MALE and FEMALE look at each other.

MALE

Ooo...kay then may we have two filtered waters with lemon to start?

WAITRESS

Would you like ice?

MALE/FEMALE

Yes.

WAITRESS

Would you like your ice shaved, crushed, cubed or infused?

MALE

Infused---

FEMALE

---Infused with what?

WAITRESS

Fruit, fresh herbs, vegetables...We also have cubes made of natural fruit juice, energy boosters and pureed vegetables.

FEMALE

Oh my...

MALE

I just want a regular water with regular cubes.

WAITRESS

Sir, we don't serve reg---

FEMALE

---We'll have two filtered waters with filtered cubes and lemon.

WAITRESS

Great. I'll put that order in for you right away.

Exit WAITRESS.

MALE

Let's take a look at the menu.

THEY review menu.

WAITRESS returns and places the drinks on table.

WAITRESS

Do you need another second to look over the menu? I'm happy to answer any questions you may have.

MALE

So how does this work...Is the cost per glass, bottle or pitcher?

WAITRESS

Depends...Our imported waters are sold by the bottle.

FEMALE
\$25 for water?

MALE
 Imported? From where?

WAITRESS
 Chile, Turkey, Australia, Romania to name a few.

MALE and FEMALE look at each other.

FEMALE
 Do you bring the bottle to the table and pour it?

WAITRESS
 Yes, for a fee.

FEMALE
 A fee...to open and pour water?

MALE
 How does the customer know that they are getting what they ordered?

FEMALE
 Yeah...How does the customer know that they are not just getting filtered water in a recycled bottle with an imported label slapped on it?

WAITRESS
 All staff are trained in imported water and are required to adhere to a strict code of ethics.

MALE
 What happens if you don't finish the bottle and need to carry it out?

WAITRESS
 We are happy to cork your bottle and package it for a small fee.

FEMALE
 It's water for God's sake.

MALE
 (to Female)
 I bet it all tastes the same.

WAITRESS
 May I recommend our water flight, which includes seven of our domestic waters?

MALE
 ...like a flight of beer?

WAITRESS

Yes, except we don't serve beer.

MALE

This I've got to see for myself.

FEMALE

(chuckles)

You mean taste...

MALE

Yes...taste...experience. Bring it on...

(to Waitress)

How much?

WAITRESS

Unfortunately you just missed Happy Hour---

FEMALE

(sarcastic)

Of course we did...

WAITRESS

Regular price is \$25.

MALE

Do I get to select which waters I'd like to try?

WAITRESS

No.

FEMALE

A typical bar offers you the opportunity to choose from a variety of options.

WAITRESS

We are not a typical bar.

MALE

Well, which waters are available to try?

WAITRESS

Hydrate, Total Fit, Mineral Spring, Drink Life, Pure Source, Diamond, Eternal and Virginia Artesian.

MALE and FEMALE review the menu.

MALE

Those are the cheapest waters on the menu.

MALE and FEMALE stare at WAITRESS.

WAITRESS

Would you like the flight?

MALE

No thank you.

WAITRESS

Okay. I'll give you a few more minutes to look over the menu.

MALE

Thank you.

WAITRESS exits.

MALE appears uncomfortable.

FEMALE

Are you ok?

MALE

No... I'm sorry. This just isn't going the way I envisioned it.

FEMALE

Why...What's wrong?

MALE

I wanted to impress you. When you said you weren't much of a drinker, I looked on Yelp...thought this place would be perfect.

FEMALE

(reassuring)

Stop worrying. Let's make the best of it.

(places hand
on his)

It means a lot to me that you did some research. Honestly, I wouldn't even know this place existed until you brought me here.

(takes a sip of
the water)

It's actually pretty tasty.

MALE

(takes a
sip)

Hmmm...Yeah. It's not bad.

FEMALE

Let's just find something reasonable on the menu.

MALE

(pointing on menu)

Oh look...There's a make your own water combination for \$10.

FEMALE

That sounds yummy. What ingredients are you thinking about?

MALE

What if I make a combo for you and you make one for me?

FEMALE

I like that idea.

(finger on chin)

Let's see...which ingredients would I combine for you?

MALE

I'd do a mango, peach combo for you.

FEMALE

Nice...What about apple, cinnamon and vanilla for you.

MALE

Sure, I'd love a slice of apple pie.

WAITRESS returns.

WAITRESS

We don't have pie. We only serve...

MALE laughs and politely puts hand up and begins to explain.

MALE

Yes, I know...we were just...never mind.

WAITRESS

May I take your orders?

FEMALE

Yes, we're thinking about the make your own combo.

WAITRESS

Great. That comes with a two-ingredient maximum and the base water is filtered. If you want additional ingredients there is a \$3 up-charge for each. If you would like a different water, the up charge depends on the water you select.

MALE and FEMALE look at each other.

MALE

So let me get this straight...I can add two ingredients to filtered water and, if I want another ingredient or a different type of water, there is a \$3 up charge?

WAITRESS

Yes, a \$3 up charge at minimum. Premium waters are on a sliding scale.

MALE

(confused)

Sliding scale...

FEMALE

Are the actual fruits, veggies or herbs added to the glass or are they served on the side?

WAITRESS

They are added to the glass.

FEMALE

(to Male)

I am starting to get a little hungry.

MALE

Me too.

(to Waitress)

Do you have any bar snacks?

WAITRESS

They are brought to the table once drinks are ordered.

MALE

(to Female)

Let's just order the combos.

FEMALE

I'll have a peach mango.

WAITRESS

Which type of water?

FEMALE

Filtered is fine.

MALE

I'll take a strawberry kiwi. Filtered water as well.

WAITRESS

Great. I'll be right back with your order.

WAITRESS exits.

A BEAT.

WAITRESS returns with a bowl of red colored shaved ice and two spoons.

WAITRESS

Here's a complimentary bowl of our cherry shaved ice. Bon Appetite!

THEY dig in.

MALE

We better not eat too much. It will spoil our appetite.

FEMALE

Oh yes...we must save room for our combos.

MALE

We probably shouldn't mix too many flavors together either.

FEMALE

Indeed...it would totally ruin our experience.

MALE

Quick, take a sip of your filtered water to clean your palate.

THEY share a silly laugh.

WAITRESS returns with water combos. SHE places the glass in front of each.

MALE and FEMALE stare into glass as if looking in fish a tank.

MALE

Uhhhh Waitress...

WAITRESS

Yes, is there something wrong?

MALE

There are miniature pieces of diced fruit floating in our glasses.

WAITRESS

Yes, we do that so you can experience a taste of fruit with every sip.

THEY appear confused.

WAITRESS (CONT'D)

We can blend it together for an up charge of ---

MALE

No---

FEMALE

---We'll just chew our water. Thank you.

WAITRESS exits.

MALE picks up a mini menu from table.

MALE

Wow...look. They have a High-End Water Bottle Price List.

FEMALE

You've got to be kidding me.

MALE

The Beverly Hills 90H2O Diamond Edition Bottle is \$100,000.

FEMALE

I wonder...If we order it, will we be moved to the high rollers section behind the velvet rope? Will the strobe light drop from the ceiling and loud music signal the waitress to come out holding the bottle in the air with sparklers? Will the premium water cascade into the frosted diamond stemmed glasses in slow motion and rise up out of the glass to meet our lips and quench our thirst?

MALE plays along. HE pulls out his cell phone.

MALE

I will call and schedule a meeting with their Event Specialist and Water Connoisseur to discuss our options and get an estimate. When are you available?

THEY share a silly laugh.

FEMALE

On that note...I think it's time we get the check.

WAITRESS returns.

WAITRESS

Can I get you anything else?

Just the check please.

MALE

WAITRESS exits.

A BEAT.

WAITRESS returns with the check and hands it to the MALE.

\$45?

MALE

What?

FEMALE

WAITRESS

Just Water is \$5. Lemons are \$3. Ice cubes are \$3. Combo Water are \$10.

That's \$42.

MALE

WAITRESS

Oh yes, the additional \$3 is to support the local farmers that we contract for our organic fruits and vegetables.

Unbelievable.

MALE
(hands over credit card)

WAITRESS exits and quickly returns with check.

MALE signs.

FEMALE
(looks at Male)

Let's go...Happy Time Tavern is a couple blocks away. Drinks on me.

MALE
(confused)

I thought you didn't...

FEMALE

They have great appetizers and, the tap water, with or without ice, is free.

THE END.