

Erica J. Myers
Theatre 3300
Dramatic Writing
May 18, 2009
Assignment 5 Scenario

FAMILY AFFAIR

CHARACTERS

- CARMEN Accountant. Black female. Medium length dark brown hair in large soft curls. Plus sized, but on the thin side of the plus-sized garments. Business makeup. Thin wire frame glasses. Carmen is the oldest sister, at the age of 41. Despite being the oldest, Carmen is also the shortest and most immature. What used to be a strong female in the family has been dwindled down to a mentally insecure, but financially secure sister. Carmen wears older clothes, almost vintage and thrift store-like. Sneakers.
- IRENE Cosmetologist. Black female. Left handed. Long, coal black, tightly curled hair in a ponytail. Overly Plus sized. Fabulous makeup, often retouching the lips. Gold jewelry and big gold hoops in her ears. Irene is the middle child, 37, but the father's favorite daughter. Irene is used to getting her way through her brute strength. She can be very dominant and often butt heads with Carmen. Irene has particulars with life, often going against the grain. At the shop, Irene wears a plain t-shirt and black slacks with a custom embroidered apron that Erica made. In public, Irene dresses like she is going to a club.
- ERICA Jack of All Trades. Black female. Short, dark auburn hair. Medium plus-sized. Freckles. Brown plastic frame glasses. Erica is the youngest, at the age of 35. She looks different from her other sisters, fair skinned, despite having the same mother and father. Erica is a constant student, always learning new things to do because she can't make up her mind about what to do. She's the mediator of the sisters. She also the most independent. At all times, Erica dresses comfortable, t-shirt and jeans, sandals.

SCOOBY

Irene's coworker. Barber. Black male, tall, overweight. Short, black afro. Moles and freckles splattered on his face. Wear a short sleeve button down shirt, black slacks and a barber's jacket.

SETTING

Afrodisiac Beauty Salon: The front of the store has one giant glass window and a glass door. The salon has a waiting area with hair magazines spread out, four styling stations along one wall, four dryers along another and two sinks along another. There are little signs everywhere on shop hours, controlling your children, fees and charges and religion sayings. The walls are soft blue with wallpaper borders on top. There is a big rug in the waiting area and large mats at the styling stations and sinks.

SCENARIO

The Myers girls, Carmen, Irene and Erica are spending a week together in their hometown of Brunswick, Georgia. The first afternoon of their arrival, Carmen and Erica visits Irene in her beauty salon, Afrodisiac. In the course of getting their hair done and through conversation, each sister finds out it will be a long week and just how vital their sisterhood clique is to them.

Carmen, the eldest of the sisters at 41, continues the hand-me-down tradition imposed by family members. Driven on tradition, Carmen pursues with determination to be more than what their adoptive, although related, family members expected. Carmen sells herself short in hand me down clothes. She is shorter than her sisters, but thinner. Her hair is always down, never past her nape of her neck and in a business look. Carmen does not realize that she continues a hand-me-down life, even wearing clothing handed down from her own children. Being worn down by a husband who thinks only of

himself and children following in his footsteps, she discovers through her sisters that she can still be a strong woman.

Irene, the middle child at 37, is the brute force of the sibling team. Her nonchalant personality, flair and style, makes the other members of the family turn their noses up at her. Irene knows she is the favorite child of their father; him obsessing with her long, curly, coal black hair. With impeccable makeup, clothing and jewelry, Irene rivals fashion divas at nightclubs, despite being obese. Her forceful nature and readiness to fight with her left-handed strength, makes Irene often butts heads with the hierarchy of the Myers family. Only her sisters can make her realize that you can catch a lot of flies with honey instead of vinegar.

Erica, the youngest at 35, really doesn't care. Although in distance, Carmen is the furthest away from Brunswick, it is really Erica who is the most distant from her older siblings. Erica is different from her sisters in looks and behavior. Her fair skin, freckles and dark auburn hair makes people around town think she has a different father from her sisters. She is considered the rebel for not following family traditions: wearing her hair short like a man; constantly in jeans, t-shirt and sandals; dropping out of college and running away from home to California. Erica loves her family, but easily tires of them from the bickering between members and the social standards. As a constant student, Erica knows how to do a lot of things and has a knack for learning. However, she hasn't found her true calling, just yet. She knows she can count on her sisters to be there when she needs help, if only she would ask for it.

Within six scenes, the interactions between the sisters and Scooby, a barber and partner with Irene in Afrodisiac Beauty Salon, prove theories and set off arguments, while bringing the sisters closer together.