

# Big Eddie

a short play by  
Peter M. Floyd

CAST OF CHARACTERS:

Henry, 40-55

Gloria, 40-55

SCENE: Henry and Gloria's bedroom, present day

*The scene is the bedroom of HENRY and GLORIA, a middle-aged couple. It contains the usual bedroom furniture: a double bed, two dressers, a small desk, etc. The bed is against the wall to the right, and just downstage of it is a nightstand that has several drawers. The bedroom has one door on the left leading to the hall outside.*

*When the lights come up, the room is empty, but we can hear voices coming from offstage.*

HENRY (*off*)

Well, where did you last have them?

GLORIA (*off*)

Erm... I'm not sure. Maybe I left them in the bedroom or the bathroom or something.

HENRY (*off*)

Jesus. Okay, I'll take a look in the bedroom, and you check the bathroom.

GLORIA (*off*)

Fine.

HENRY (*off*)

You know, it starts in twenty minutes. I really don't want to be late. Again.

GLORIA (*off*)

I know, I know.

*HENRY enters. He is smartly dressed in a jacket and tie, suitable for a grand night out. He is also looking harried.*

HENRY (*to himself*)

She always does this. Why does she always do this? To drive me insane, of course.

*He begins to search the room, looking at the clutter on top of the dressers, and pulling open several of the drawers.*

GLORIA (off)

What was that, Henry?

HENRY (calling out)

Nothing, dear. Find 'em?

GLORIA (off)

Not yet. You?

HENRY

No. (to himself) If I had, I wouldn't have asked you, now, would I?

*He moves over to one of the dressers (belonging to GLORIA), and looks through the various items that sit on it (these could include a book, an issue of Cosmopolitan, bottles of beauty products, a half-filled glass of water, and the like).*

HENRY

How many possible places can a pair of earrings hide? A lot! Jesus, what is all this crap?

*He moves over to the nightstand, pulls open the top drawer, and looks inside. Seeing no earrings, he closes it, and pulls open the second drawer. He then does a take, closes that drawer, and reopens the top drawer. He stares in dismayed astonishment at what he sees in there.*

GLORIA (off)

Found 'em! (She enters, inserting her earrings as she does so. Like Henry, she is dressed for an evening on the town - - in her case, this means a swanky dress.) They were behind the soap. Don't ask how they got there. (She notices HENRY'S expression.) What's the matter?

HENRY

What is this? (He reaches into the open drawer and pulls out a plastic vibrator of awe-inspiring proportions.)

GLORIA

What is--? Oh.

HENRY

Yes, "Oh".

GLORIA (*attempting to keep things calm*)

That's a vibrator, Henry.

HENRY

I *know* it's a vibrator, Gloria.

GLORIA

Then why did you ask what it was?

HENRY

Because... Well, what is a vibrator doing in your nightstand?

GLORIA

Well, I usually keep it in my top dresser drawer, underneath my socks.

HENRY

Oh.

GLORIA

I guess I left in there the last time I, uh... (*Pause as she fails to complete the sentence.*)

HENRY

You've been hiding it from me.

GLORIA

No! (*Pause.*) Well, yes.

HENRY

Why?

GLORIA

Well, because I was afraid it would make you upset.

HENRY

UPSET?

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