**INK – Audition excerpt from ‘Jitters’**

***Characters***

*JUDY – a technically challenged, cold caller type trying to reach her targets*

Yorkshire accent stipulated but can be general northern or even other regional accent is fine. Slightly useless bit likeable character who we should feel sympathy for.

*KATRINA – a bride to be kidnapped on her wedding day*

***Play Synopsis***

*Judy works for the Think Twice and Move on Centre for Second Thoughts, a bridal service with a difference. Unfortunately, backlogs and the ever-increasing pressure to meet her quotas have led her to kidnap bride Katrina on the very day of her wedding. Things don’t go entirely to plan.*

***Extract Context***

*Judy has been questioning Katrina for a while now and is having trouble finding any cracks in her impending nuptials, which she needs to hit her targets.*

*Katrina has realised the quickest way to get out of this is to answer the questions, however none of this has even begun to feel normal yet.*

**JUDY**: Next. Any history of Male Pattern Baldness on his mother’s side?

**KATRINA**: Not that I know of.  Oh wait, I think his maternal grandfather was possibly... Oh. Shit, yeah and both of his uncles actually…

**JUDY**: Oh no.  Because once they start thinning on top they lose all sense of perspective. And you don’t want that, love. Take it from me.

**KATRINA**: Noted. Thanks.

**JUDY**: Lovely.  How many sexual partners have you had?

**KATRINA**: Is that really necessary?

**JUDY**: All questions are compulsory, yes.

**KATRINA**: Fine. Eight.

**JUDY** Just to let you know that we will multiply any answer our brides-to-be give us by three , to get a more accurate reading. So you’d be wise to just be honest here.

**KATRINA**: Fine. Seventeen.

**JUDY**: Thank you. *(gets her calculator out)* Right,  Seventeen times…/

**KATRINA**: What? No ! You just said… Wait no no no! Don’t times *that* by three! Err hang on …Ahh! Seventeen divided by three seventeen divided by three…..Five point Six! Five point six.  Start from there.

**JUDY**: Final answer?

**KATRINA**: Yes.

**JUDY**: *(entering into ipad)* Five..point…Six. Point Six, eh? *(raising an eyebrow at her)* I won’t pry…

**KATRINA**: What?! This is unbelievable. Are the men being asked these kinds of questions? Hm? Are they?

**JUDY**: No, don’t be daft.

**KATRINA**: No. Course not.

**JUDY**: No. Bless’em. The men aren’t really the right fit for the Think Twice scheme. They‘re just statistically very, very unlikely to. Ever. In any situation really.

**KATRINA**: Yeah. Fair.

**JUDY**: They haven’t bothered targeting grooms for a long time now. No it’s brides you’re after.  More buzzing around up here. *(indicates brain)* More likely to wobble.

**KATRINA**: Hmm.

**JUDY**: Mind you, you’re not making my life easy today are you? Holding fast.

**KATRINA**: Um thanks?

**JUDY**: Not to worry. Plenty of time. Where were we?

**KATRINA**: Sexual partners.

**JUDY**: Oh yes. Right. On we go.  Does he collect anything?

**KATRINA**: No.

**JUDY**: Is he in the Freemasons?

**KATRINA**: No.

**JUDY**: Is he into magic? Or improvised comedy?

**KATRINA**: No and no.

*JUDY sighs in frustration. Worried for her quotas, she decides to go off script.*

**JUDY**: *(Upping the ante)* Do you, Katrina Jenkins. Truly believe. In your heart of hearts.

That *that* dress has the wow factor?

*Beat*

**KATRINA**: *(softly but oh so bravely)* Yes.

**JUDY**: *(ashamed of herself)* Good to know.