

Fear Itself

By A.C. Williams

Cast:
Darren
Melissa
Hailey

Props/Set:
None

(DARREN stands center stage, facing the audience and looking very nervous. HAILEY is sitting on the other end of stage, not paying any attention, just existing in her own world.)

DARREN: There is nothing to fear but fear itself.

(He takes a deep breath.)

DARREN: There is nothing to fear but fear itself.

(He takes another deep breath.)

DARREN: Fear itself is nothing to fear.

(Melissa enters from the side.)

DARREN: Fear itself.

MELISSA: Hey, Darren.

(Darren screams and ducks under a chair, trembling.)

MELISSA: Whoa. Darren? Hey, Darren! Are you all right?

DARREN, *realizing it's her*: Oh. Melissa.

MELISSA: Yeah. Me.

DARREN: You scared me.

MELISSA: Yeah, I couldn't tell. Why are you always so scared of everything?

DARREN, *climbing out from under the chair*: Why aren't you scared of anything?

MELISSA: There's nothing to fear but fear itself, Darren. You were just saying that.

DARREN: I'm trying to make myself believe it.