

# **A Gay Thing**

A ten-minute play

By

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**CHARACTERS**

**CARL** – an attractive and buff gay man.

**RYAN** – an attractive and buff straight man.

**TIME**

Present

**SETTING**

A Bar.

**NOTES**

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**Ryan and Carl, two very attractive men, are sitting at a table in a bar, having drinks.**

Ryan  
Speaking of sex . . .

Carl  
Who was talking about sex?

Ryan  
We were talking about sex.

Carl  
No, YOU were talking about sex, not me.

Ryan  
No wait, this is serious, I gotta ask you something, we've been friends for like, what?

Carl  
Years.

Ryan  
Friends for years and you've been gay that whole time, right?

Carl  
Oh God, here we go.

Ryan  
No really, you've been gay the whole time I've known you, right?

Carl  
Not another one of THESE talks.

Ryan  
What talks, another one of what kind of talks are you talking about?

Carl  
We're at that talk, this is the inevitable talk every gay man eventually has with every straight boy he calls friend, the point where you sit me down for a serious talk to find out how I could ever avoid being straight, how in the world could I not possibly be excited by a woman's vagina, aren't women beautiful, did I ever even give it a shot there might still be hope for me, blah blah blah and excuse me, but no

thank you, all right? Let's just nip this in the bud right here and now. NO!

Ryan  
That really happens?

Carl  
Absolutely, you straight boys cannot seem to fathom why we gay boys don't stand up and cheer at the thought of a naked vagina, it's such a mystery to you. Usually you think we just haven't examined it closely enough, that if we take a really good look and eyeball that twat and we'll go "oh my God, it's beautiful! I can't believe I thought I was gay and missed all this beautiful pussy!" and then we'll dive face-first right into your scary straight world.

**Short pause.**

Ryan  
Wow. So the vagina is not beautiful to you, really?

Carl  
Eek, that's all I have to say about the vagina. Eek eek, ick ick. So if that's the talk you wanted to have with me  
. . .

Ryan  
That's not the talk I was gonna have with you.

Carl  
It's not?

Ryan  
No, but that was very informative, thank you.

Carl  
What kind of talk were you talking about?

Ryan  
I just wanted to ask you, you are gay, right? I mean, as long as I've known you, you've been gay, but that is indeed what you are, right? A gay man?

Carl  
I am a gay man, yes.

Ryan  
And that's been good for you, being gay, right?

Carl  
Being gay has been extremely good for me.

Ryan  
And you've known you were gay, since how long?

Carl  
Since forever.

Ryan  
Really?

Carl  
Really. What the . . .

Ryan  
Was there ever a point where the gay thing just kicked in,  
you know, or . . .

Carl  
Ryan, what the hell are you talking about?

Ryan  
I'm just wondering, you know, about . . .

Carl  
Wondering about . . .

Ryan  
Wondering about myself. Lately.

**Short pause, then Carl starts to laugh.**

Carl  
No. No way. No fucking way.

Ryan  
What?

Carl  
No fucking way. You are the straightest man I know.

Ryan  
But what if . . .

Carl  
No way. No WAY you are gay.

Ryan  
Hey. I could be gay.

Carl  
No way. No fucking way are you gay.

Ryan  
Why couldn't I be gay?

Carl  
Trust me on this Ryan, I know things gay, and gay you are not.

Ryan  
But what if I am gay and just don't know it, what about that?

Carl  
You dumb fuck. You would know it!

Ryan  
How would I know? If I've never done a gay thing, how would I know?

Carl  
I don't believe this.

Ryan  
What about that guy, that guy in that book I read last month for that reading circle thing you hooked me up with, what about him?

Carl  
What guy, what book, what the hell are you babbling about?

Ryan  
You know, that guy I told you I read about, married, three kids, great job, loved his wife and all of a sudden he finds out he's gay, boom, just like that, never knew he was gay until the plumber kissed him, it was a revelation and he found out he was gay. He found out he was living a lie until he did a gay thing and discovered, hey, I'm gay!

Carl  
Okay, I remember you going on about this stupid fucking story, and do you remember what I said about it at the

time, I said what a fucking joke. He didn't know he was gay, YET he let the plumber kiss him? Bullshit.

Ryan

But you hear about lots of guys, go out with girls, get married, have kids and then the next thing you know, they're gay.

Carl

So they're confused!

Ryan

Well maybe I'm confused!

Carl

Anybody can be confused but not everybody can be gay, it just doesn't work that way.

Ryan

I don't know. I just don't know.

Carl

What the hell's the matter with you, anyway?

Ryan

I don't know, I just haven't been happy these days.

Carl

Oh, and you think BEING GAY will solve all your problems?

Ryan

I don't know, smart-ass! I'm just wondering about myself, would you give me a fucking break and stop busting my balls?

Carl

I'm sorry man, it's just, you're the last person I expected to hear this from.

Ryan

You know, I'm not always happy with women, you know that, right? In fact, I am quite often very miserable with the women that are in my life.

Carl

I have observed this, yes.

Ryan

And to tell the honest truth. I don't particularly find the naked vagina to be all that appealing, in fact, I will even go so far to say that to me, the vagina is oftentimes quite frightening.

Carl

Of course it is, I mean, Goddamn, I don't know how you straight boys do it, those big red lips and that bushy untrimmed hair, looks too much like my alcoholic Uncle Raymond the morning after a Memorial weekend bender. Yeeegggh.

**Short pause.**

Carl

But I've digressed.

Ryan

And to be even more brutally, brutally honest, I sometimes find men to be . . . somewhat attractive.

Carl

Really?

Ryan

Really. Some men, not all of them, not the fat hairy ones, but . . .

Carl

You want to fuck men, you think?

Ryan

I don't know, I mean, that's the thing, I have never in my life done a gay thing, so I have no idea if it's the thing for me or not. I mean, maybe I am, maybe I have all the problems with women because I was meant to be with men, I mean, I understand men. I am one. I am a man.

Carl

You are definitely a man.

Ryan

Do you think I'm attractive?

Carl

Okay, hold it, stop right there, we're not going there.

Ryan

Why not?

Carl

I am very vulnerable right now, since Chuck left, you know that, I'm not in a position to be toyed with.

Ryan

Carl, I'm not toying with you, I'm just curious, that's all, I mean, we're just talking here, right?

Carl

So far, we're just talking.

Ryan

I mean, I'm just curious, that's all, I'm just asking questions. I don't know anything about gay taste . . .

Carl

Gay taste is oftentimes a contradiction in terms, especially when it comes to that pain in the ass gay tradition of dressing up in drag. Don't try and figure out if you're in the "gay taste", you'll make yourself crazy.

Ryan

I'm just curious, I was just wondering if I was considered attractive in the gay sense of things, just in case. That's it. That's all.

Carl

You are attractive.

Ryan

Really?

Carl

Trust me.

Ryan

What in particular about me is attractive in the gay way?

Carl

What are you doing?

Ryan

I'm just talking, we're talking here, right?

Carl

How do I get into these conversations?

Ryan

This is how a person finds out about themselves, isn't it?  
Asking questions, considering new things and ideas,  
thoughts, emotions . . .

Carl

Your ass.

Ryan

My ass?

Carl

Much about you is attractive, but in particular I find that  
ass of yours to be spectacular.

Ryan

This ass?

Carl

That ass of yours, I could eat that ass of yours all day.  
Breakfast, lunch and dinner, I could eat that ass until the  
cows came home, I could.

Ryan

Really?

Carl

Really.

Ryan

Wow. No one's ever said anything like that to me before.

Carl

Hey. You asked, I answered.

Ryan

You know, a woman would never say that kind of thing to me.

Carl

Women don't appreciate the ass, they THINK they do, but  
they don't. Not like us. When I die, I want to be BURIED  
in ass, that's how much I love the ass.

Ryan

So. If I were gay, do you think you and me would . . . you  
know. Go out?

Carl  
You're not gay.

Ryan  
What if I was?

Carl  
But you're not.

Ryan  
What if I am and I just don't know it?

Carl  
What if you think you are but really aren't?

Ryan  
I guess I won't ever know for sure until . . .

Carl  
Until?

Ryan  
Until I try a gay thing, once and for all.

Carl  
One gay thing?

Ryan  
Just one gay thing, just to find out.

Carl  
Just one.

**Ryan leans in slowly and softly kisses Carl on the mouth.  
Carl kisses him back passionately.**

**They break off the kiss and sit quiet for a moment.**

**They look at each other.**

Ryan  
I'm not gay.

Carl  
You are definitely not gay.

**Short pause.**

Carl  
Goddamn you straight boys, you do it to me every time.  
Every fucking time!

**THE END**