



Gorgeous Gallivanting Goddesses

Act 1 Scene 1

Their 20's

All 4 women down stage solo lit.

Nina: "Ahh finally!...Did I forget to lock the back door....no I'm sure I did...Ya it was on the list; I remember ticking it off...so ya...I did. If not, Shirley will notice when she waters the plants on Tuesday...at 8:30...am...3 days from now..."

Daphne: "Do these Kakis make my butt too big? Na...I'm rock'n it!"

Arty: carrying an inflatable mattress "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step" blows into the mattress, "Frigg'n Loutzou. I bet he never portaged."

Grace: slightly anxious "There ain't no flies on us. There ain't no flies on us. There might be flies on some of you guys, but there ain't no flies on us."

Black out. It's a warm summer's day. Soft sounds of birds, crickets etc. heard. Open area down stage Lt has a small fire pit with a large log for sitting (the kitchen area). Stage lights up. Daphne is grooming, Arty is sprawled out on her mattress feet resting on the food barrel (she is wearing a camera case around her waist and has a tripod sticking out of large pack) and Grace is sitting on a log with hood drawn up tight around her face. Nina comes on stage fully loaded with packs.

Nina: "Jeez Daphne...lost without your mirror?"

Daphne: "Always pays to look good; you never know who might show up."

Arty: "Hopefully a medic with a defibrillator!" Nina prods her with her boot. "Go away."

Nina: "Oh my God Arty! You're kidding right? It was just 30ft from the canoes!"

Arty: "Ya, but it was up hill and I have the food pack. Did you think we'd be binge eating here? The sheer weight of this food is enough to make me spew."

Nina: "Leaving the tripod behind would've lightened your load."

Arty: "Not on your life."

Nina: "Right...Gracie, why don't you help camper-Jane here. I'll look for a flat place for the tent. Teasing, "Daphne....ah, you have some dirt on your shorts," teasingly.

"And Arty, when you are finished with your Oscar worthy performance, why don't you go looking for wood, make sure it's dry.....it's for your Viking death scene"

Arty: "Good; paddling in a head wind for 3 hours, smashing carnivorous bugs, portaging up hill, then paddling solo for another 2K because Daphne was evening her tan lines, sure makes me feel like having a Viking burial. Although Thor and Sven would have thrown in a bit of rape and pillaging before they actually kicked it. So far I've just managed Thor's sweat."

Daphne: "Whoa Arty...Whiney! You would've been sacrificed to the Nordic Gods, voyage day one. But you've got their Viking stink down pat. Nina, I can't believe you had me empty out all my toiletries; I had the perfect "summer's day" blend that I was planning on using."

Nina: "Too much to carry. For stench control we can all swim when camp is finished". Groan heard from others. "There's lots to do before nightfall. Canoes need to be unloaded and stored, tent to put up, wood..."

Arty: "I know where we can wedge that extra paddle for safe keeping."

Nina: "One weak link out here and we sink. Everyone needs to pitch in with the duties, as you would have known had you made it to any of my pre trip meetings.

Pass me that blue pack Gracie. Daphne, you can sling up the hammock; there a good view over there." Both Daphne and Arty glare at Nina. "OK, OK. I'll try to bite it back a bit. I'm just excited about being here...with you guys."

Daphne: Taking in the view "Well you were right Nina. The view is...it's enormous."

Arty: "I'll bet you say that to all those wilderness types"

Nina: "Ha ha. Yah *she* is enormous; and *she's* grand and exhilarating. That's why I wanted to get you out here."

Arty: "She? 'She's' grand and exhilarating?...You sound like a pirate."

Nina: "It just feels like a 'she' out here...strong, you know; mother nature. And there's nothing like leaving cars, microwaves, and automatic coffee makers behind to make you see things differently."

Arty: "I miss my pillow already."

Nina: beginning to get frustrated "Aarg" pause. I didn't think it would be like pulling teeth. Come on, find your inner Moxie!"

Grace: eager to please and diffuse tension "Well, I want to help. What can I do" Arty sneers.

Nina: "You-oh-sister-of-mine can make water." The others look puzzled.

Daphne: "Make water..." Regarding the lake that surrounds them. "I think that's been already done for us."

Nina: pulls water filter out of bag while talking; Grace is hanging on her every word. "The water needs to be filtered so we don't wind up with Giardia....you know, Beaver Fever."

Grace: "Beaver Fever?"

Daphne: "Cripes, that's an unfortunate name!"

Arty: Arty acts out her dialogue"..... As the rogue virus puts its hold on the weakened female, a fever consumes its host (Arty begins to swoon) ...with throbbing intensity, an unstoppable urge overtakes the victim; it becomes heat...seeking...a...missile." Arty pretends to be pulled by her pelvis into the forest, she fights vainly to stay put) "AHHHAAHH, the Beaver Fever's got me" continues to fight and acts out the dialogue. "But in the distance the victim sees a bulbous, erect...mushroom" shrugs to the others, as if to explain, "I'm in the woods". Arty Continues on seductively "Hello. Is that dew on your cap, or are you just happy to see me?!!" Arty and the others all laugh.

Nina: "Great...very funny...but believe me you don't want to get it. And it's not a virus it's a parasite".

Arty: "Ewww...sounded more romantic as a virus."

Daphne: "So how long are we going to stay at this camp site?"

Nina: takes the map out, "Four nights. I thought tomorrow, since we have a few rest days, we might want to go here and see what these waterfalls look like."

Grace: "Sounds great."

Daphne: "This distance looks small on the map, but how far is this paddle? And look at the trail."

Arty: "Geez, does that say 3000Meters? That's 3Kilometers! And falls are found high up, right? Well I just *did* a mega portage and I think I want to take my rest day literally."

Nina: Cajoling, "Come on Arty. I think it will be gorgeous, and we might even be able to play in the falls; check out the view. And we'll be traveling light. You won't need to carry the food pack, just your water bottle and snacks."

Daphne: "Nina, how persuasive you are. And speaking of snacks, I'm starving."

Grace: "I'm hungry too, a little."

Arty: "I'm famished, and that food pack felt like I was carrying a side of beef...oooh beef mmmm, roasted, braised, Barbequed...oooh give me some ribs!"

Nina: "Whoa, Nelly. The Bovine Burger is just going to have to wait. Try some Gorp. (Nina throws a bag of nuts... at Arty)

Daphne: "Gorp. What is Gorp?"

Nina: "Good Old Raisins and Peanuts...It's the fix for every hungry canoeist." They all try some.

Daphne, Arty and Grace in unison: "Needs chocolate."

Nina: "Next trip. Eat up so we can go for a swim and then start supper."

Daphne: playfully "I'm sure I saw a paddle through burger-bar over by that last island."

Nina: "Well I don't think it'll rival my own Shepherd's pie. And we have a special dessert tonight...Swedish fruit stew....everything you've ever needed to keep you regular, which is what you want out here."

Arty: "Regular...Oh Goody."

Grace: "Nina, where do we go...when we have to ah....?"

Nina: "There should be a thunder box away from camp. If there isn't then you just dig a hole, do your business, cover it and place two sticks as a cross over the top to mark the spot."

Arty: "Two sticks on the ground...geez the whole woods is full of crap."

Grace: "I'll go looking around for it" Exit stage Rt.

Arty: re entering, going to get more of her camera lenses. "Well it could be a large flesh colored pickerel or Daphne was cashing in her Nudist day pass."

Nina: "I'm with Daphne. There is nothing like swimming in the buff out here...there's no one else around Arty, think of how free you'd feel."

Arty: "Something's are just not meant for that much freedom."

Grace: "I'm game if your game."

Arty: "What is this, twozeez? I have a faded one piece Speedo and that's as close to Mother Nature I want to get today."

Nina: "Oooh you wild thing! Have fun. See you pool side for cocktails"

End Act 1 of Scene

Lights dim and we see the characters setting up camp. Arty and Grace carry a setup tent onto stage as Nina directs them to different areas of the stage looking for the perfect tent spot finally ending up downstage Rt. Arty is increasingly frustrated and Grace is placating. Daphne attempts sun bathing until Nina recruits her to set up the "kitchen". Light goes off. Fleece pants and sweaters are put on.



## Act 1 Scene 2

Evening light, 4 days later. The tent is off to the side stage Lt. Daphne and Nina are doing the dishes, Arty is looking in the packs, adjusting things; Grace is obviously bothered and is slowly pacing around, makes to sit down but gets up again.

Daphne: "Almost done. Grace hand me that mug will you?" Looking at her nails, "Rats that's the second one I've chipped."