

*Extract from Act One Scene One of
'How to Remember Everything You Thought You Had Forgotten! by David Weedall*

**The action of the play takes place one evening next November in Vince's house
in a remote village somewhere in Sussex.**

(Alex (F) is wearing pyjamas and she has been playing snakes and ladders 'against herself.' The phone rings)

ALEX. *(Answers the phone)* Hello! Hello? *(She replaces the receiver)* Strange... no one there! *(After a short pause, there is a ring of the doorbell. She moves to the door. Another ring of the doorbell and Alex calls out).* Whose there? Who is it? *(There is no response but after a pause, another ring of the doorbell.)* Who's there? *(No response. ALEX shakes the dice)* Four! Who are you? *(Another long ring of the doorbell.)* Look, I'm not answering this door... not answering 'til I know exactly who you are! *(Another long ring of the doorbell.)* If you can hear me.... answer me! *(There is some muffled speech from beyond the door)* One... two... three... four! Ah... a ladder and up to.... Sixty one! I'm on a roll! *(To the 'muffled speaker')* What was that? You'll have to speak louder so I can hear you! *(More muffled ineligible speech. Alex rises)* Look... I'm going to open the door... just so that we can speak. *(She opens the door ajar)* Who's there? Who are you?

BUZZ (M). *(Off)* Look... it's my bloody vehicle... I've been in an accident... down the hill.... at the bottom of the lane... Please... I need your help... Can I come in, I'm freezing cold and soaking wet?

ALEX. Who are you? I've no idea who you are...

BUZZ. *(Off)* No... well, never mind about that, eh?

ALEX. But I do mind! You must go... go away!

BUZZ. *(Off)* Young lady... please!

ALEX. I'm not in the habit of letting complete strangers into the house! Especially if they're wearing balaclavas! Now go! Go away... I don't know you!

BUZZ. *(Off)* Then consider me a friend... that we most certainly know one another! *(Alex, against her better judgement, opens the door wider.)*

ALEX. We know one another? But I don't know you!

BUZZ. I'm me *(He enters and stands in the doorway. He wears a long raincoat and balaclava.)*

ALEX. You're... *me*?

BUZZ. No... *I'm* me! That's all I can tell you... just at this moment... which is not very much, I agree!

ALEX. No...? Well I'm sorry but I haven't the foggiest idea who you are either, so bugger off!

BUZZ. But you can't be like this... I've been involved in a terrible accident... a highly unpleasant occurrence that gave me a partial blackout and now a head that aches! At least.... let me use your phone!

*Extract from Act One Scene One of
'How to Remember Everything You Thought You Had Forgotten! by David Weedall*

ALEX. Look I'm sorry about your head... but headaches pass.... life goes on! Now, if you wouldn't mind leaving... I'm expecting company...

BUZZ. But I really do need some dressing...

ALEX. Dressing?

BUZZ. Something to stop the head swelling!

ALEX. Pardon? Oh yes.... I see! No... that really is not possible. Now, if you don't mind, you need to leave, before I call the police!

BUZZ. But my bloody vehicle skidded in the snow at the end of the lane, rolled over on it's top and I must have been... been knocked unconscious ... I need your help... I'm freezing cold! Just think.... think of... of kindness... and consideration!

ALEX. Yer what?

BUZZ. There's not much of it about and little need what with the NHS, Social Security... oh and the AA! But here's a chance to make a real difference to the life of a very bruised, cold and wet individual!

ALEX. No... I'm sorry... I'm really not that kind of girl...

BUZZ. What kind of girl?

ALEX. The kind of girl to have the time or inclination to get involved in other people's problems ... I don't do help... it's just not me!

BUZZ. Oh come on... you can't really mean that!

ALEX. Oh can't I? Besides, my boyfriend will be home shortly and if he finds you here, you'll regret the moment you ever set foot in this house! Now for the last time get out!
(She grabs hold of BUZZ and whisks him through the door and locks it on the inside.)

BUZZ. *(Off)* It's not fair! It's freezing cold.... freezing bloody cold!!

ALEX. Then go back to your car and sit in it!

BUZZ *(Off)* But that's not going to be too comfortable.... sitting inside a Jeep that's upside down! I need dry clothing or I'll be ill by morning! Please let me in... or at least let me use your phone to call the nearest garage... Then I'll go...and you'll never have to see me... ever again! Not ever... I promise!!

ALEX. *(To herself)* Why? Why me? Of all the places to break down... he had to bloody do it here... outside my front door... on a night like this!

BUZZ. *(Ringing the doorbell)* Please... please let me in! I'm shivering all over... Please....

ALEX. Well... I suppose... Oh... what the hell... just a short while...! *(She goes to the door and pulls it open)* You can come in to use the phone, but only if you remove that balaclava!

*Extract from Act One Scene One of
'How to Remember Everything You Thought You Had Forgotten! by David Weedall*

BUZZ. I'd rather not... or you'll see all of my face! *(He enters)* Thanks....

ALEX. Is that a problem then?

BUZZ. What?

ALEX. Me seeing your face?

BUZZ. Probably not, but whose to say? The phone?

ALEX. Over there... then you must be on your way!

BUZZ. That's good... very good of you.... thanks. *(He picks up the phone and attempts to use it.)* Hello... seems to be a problem!

ALEX. Problem?

BUZZ. Problem with the line... it's dead! Probably due to the weather. Yes, it must be the weather!

ALEX. I made a call less than an hour ago... It was fine then...*(She tries the phone herself but with no success)* Oh, great... this is all we need! Look, you'll have to go and sit in your vehicle 'til morning... I'm expecting company... my boyfriend back at any moment.

BUZZ. So you say. Is he any good with vehicles?

ALEX. Who?

BUZZ. This boyfriend? Getting them stated... and that?

ALEX. Not if they're upside down! He works in the city...? Big business? Not really a car fixing sort of bloke...

BUZZ. Big business eh... ?

ALEX. Yeah... and he'll soon be here and doesn't stand for any messing! He's...he's very assertive...

BUZZ. Is that so? Look, I'm dying for a drink... a vodka would be rather good. *(There is no response)* Well, how about a cup of tea... anything... I'm feeling rather dizzy? *(Pause)* The accident...? The bang on the head thing?

ALEX. Oh, yes... of course... *(She exits in the direction of the kitchen)*

BUZZ. And dressing...

ALEX. *(Off)* What?

BUZZ. I could do with dressing for this head... throbbing like hell!

*Extract from Act One Scene One of
'How to Remember Everything You Thought You Had Forgotten! by David Weedall*

ALEX. *(Off)* Right... you can have a cup of tea, and I'll get you a dressing...but then you must go back to your vehicle...

ALEX. *(Off)* Right... you can have a cup of tea, and I'll get you a dressing...but then you must go back to your vehicle...

BUZZ. Nice place you have here! *(He attempts to use the phone again but it is still dead.)* Ah... damned phone's still dead though! *(He looks at the snakes and ladders board)* So, what colour counter are you?

ALEX. *(Off)* White...I'm white!

BUZZ. Then you're losing! I'll be blue and my turn, I think! *(He shakes the dice and throws it)* One!!! I got a one! There... one bloody space and nothing to gain from it. But I'm still beating you!

ALEX. *(Off)* Really? Look, if you'd like to sit down, you should start to feel better again.

BUZZ. Thanks, very much. You know, I really don't like putting you to this trouble, but there again, if the Jeep hadn't skidded on the ice and rolled over... we might never have met!

ALEX. *(Off)* Well, there's a thought!

BUZZ. You might still be home alone...

ALEX. *(Enters with a mug of tea)* Yeah... quite so! Here, drink this! So... tell me Mr... er....

BUZZ. Um?

ALEX. Your name...

BUZZ. What?

ALEX. What is your name?

BUZZ. My friends call me err... well they do call me ...they err call me... all sorts of things... and some unrepeatable!

ALEX. You have a problem remembering?

BUZZ. Remembering what?

ALEX. Ummm! So tell me, what brings you to this area exactly?

BUZZ. How d'you mean... 'exactly?'

ALEX. I mean... what brings you to this remote part of Sussex, in a balaclava and raincoat on a freezing night like this?

BUZZ. Well... I seem to remember... I was... I was driving... ..

*Extract from Act One Scene One of
'How to Remember Everything You Thought You Had Forgotten! by David Weedall*

ALEX. And where were you driving to?

BUZZ. I was driving.... to...err...

ALEX. You were you driving to err ...where?

BUZZ. Oh...just around and about... nowhere in particular...!

ALEX. And where had you come from?

BUZZ. Now that I don't recall... least ways... not at the moment...

ALEX. Then...whereabouts do you live?

BUZZ. Oh... I move about... I.... err... constantly move about from one place to another. A sort of moving... roving kind of job! It's roving on the move... constantly...moving around!

ALEX. Dressed like that?

BUZZ. Like what?

ALEX. The unusual attire?

BUZZ. Oh... this? I was... well I was planning to take a run!

ALEX. A run... in a Jeep... in the snow... in a balaclava ...on a night like this?

BUZZ. Yes... well I was going to get out of the Jeep of course... before I started running! But I don't just run anywhere... I like to choose my route carefully. I was hoping to drive to the top of the hill... up by the wood so that I could run down to the bottom.... and then run up again to the top... Only by the time I reached the top, the weather had changed... for the worse! So I decided to descend to again to the bottom! But by the time I reached the bottom, the road was slippery... so slippery that the Jeep turned over into a ditch and the rest as they say, is history!

ALEX. That's really quite fascinating...

BUZZ. Look.... I was wondering...

ALEX. You were wondering.... what?

BUZZ. I was wondering if I could get out of these damp clothes...maybe have a shower to warm up? If you have anything dry I could put on... temporarily?

ALEX. You really don't stop asking... do you? *(She awaits a response. There is none.)*
The shower's through there... and I'll get you a bandage...

BUZZ. Thanks, you're kind... most kind... A really most helpful sort of person!

ALEX. Oh.... really?

*Extract from Act One Scene One of
'How to Remember Everything You Thought You Had Forgotten! by David Weedall*

BUZZ. Yes, really! *(He removes his raincoat and shakes the moisture off it. He is now wearing nothing but a pair of swim shorts, some boots and the balaclava.)*

ALEX. Is there anything else I can do for you?

BUZZ. Well... I am rather hungry!

ALEX. Oh well then... I'll get you a three - course meal and a bottle of wine!

BUZZ. Thanks... but I wouldn't want you put you to any trouble! Anyway, it's your turn to shake!

ALEX. Shake?

BUZZ. The dice, of course! *(He exits in the direction of the bathroom)*

ALEX. *(Stands fixed to the spot in disbelief)* God... I must be mad! The guy's a maniac on the run! Dressing... bandage... first aid kit... kitchen! *(She exits in the direction of the kitchen. Following a short pause there is a ring of the doorbell.)*

'How to Remember Everything You Thought You Had Forgotten!' is a truly absurd comedy for five actors (3f 2m) with a running time of approx 80 mins. It was written to be easily produced with few props and minimal furniture on a low budget. The play was first performed at the Brighton Fringe Festival 2002 and then again at The Hawth Theatre, Crawley.

'Weedall's writing is touching and clever and will enliven even the most jaded theatre goer.'
Brighton Argus

PDF Copies are £5.00.

Royalties: £35/ show (150 audience or less, Enquire can also be made about larger audiences)

If you would like to read the entire script in a PDF Document then send simply go to the 'Contact Us' page of this website and make an enquiry. We will explain how to simply purchase a PDF copy that will be sent to your email address.