

Death of a Starman (SAMPLE)

Scene Written by

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CHARACTER SHEET

SAL SOLOMON: A washed up astrologer who runs a public access talk show about astrology since the mid 80's, was a niche celebrity for a while in the late 80's, early 90's but eventually drifted out of public consciousness after a catastrophic accident on his set. Aloof and with delusions of grandeur, but he is still actually a talented astrologer, despite everything. Sal thinks he is a Pisces but is actually an **Aries**, ruled by **Mars**.

SAGE'S CLIENT: A very successful astrologer and new age healer. Leaving Sal was the best thing she ever did. That said, there was a reason Sage fell in love with him all those years ago. She is a very clever **Virgo**, ruled by **Mercury**.

SAMPLE NOTE

At just under a third of the show's run time, this scene is the start of the second act. Sal is in serious need of money after some loan sharks just broke into his house looking for him to cough up 50k that he owes them. After looking at his star chart and some passages by medieval astrologers he determines that his salvation will come from seeing his ex wife. At the beginning of the show Sal exclaimed that these next 48 will bring him the big break he has been looking for, could outsmarting his ex wife out of her cash be what the stars had foretold?

Death of a Starman is a one man play that premiered at the Montreal Fringe Festival in 2023, and then went on tour through the summer of 2024. Check out <https://linktr.ee/deathofastarman> for more information. Script is from the tech draft used by the stage manager Kay Komizara.

SCENE 2 - Sage's Studio

LX 10 - Go (SAGE's Studio.)
SND 8 - Go (SAGE's Theme.)

(SAGE DOLORES is giving a reading to a customer, she is doing a palm reading. Her office is like a modern yoga studio with a hint of Boho.)

SAGE DOLORES

(Holding CLIENT's hand) And this all goes back to what your father told you when you were twelve.

CLIENT

(Holding SAGE's hand crying) Oh god you're right...

SAGE DOLORES

The pressures family and the world put on men these days can be so toxic. On top of that it's Mercury Retrograde. Have you been doing your morning mantras?

CLIENT

Uh huh.

SAGE DOLORES

Good, good.

(To audience)

This poor fucker's wife is definitely cheating on him again. These slobbery types are good business, I even get to help them out once in a while.

(To CLIENT)

You know what? I really think you'd benefit from joining us at the Scandinavian retreat, five days and four nights of stargazing in Norway. It's very therapeutic.

SAL

(Enters, runs into hanging beads)
Fucking beads! (Enters Sage's studio,

stage left, confidently) Sage. I'm here to answer your summons.

SAGE DOLORES
Sal? I'm in the middle of a reading.
You'll have to come back later.

SAL
A reading? Child's play. *(Turns CLIENT's chair towards him)* What are you, a Virgo? Born 1991? You're gonna die at 79 and your wife is having an affair.

CLIENT
What? Judith is cheating on me again?
Oh God, I have to go. *(He runs off crying and gets caught in beads.)* Ah fucking beads!

SAGE DOLORES
(Stands up) Sal, what the hell do you think you're doing?

SAL
Was I wrong?
(To audience)
I still got it. (Sits down)

SAGE DOLORES
Well, *(takes out cigarette)* you didn't have to break it to him like that. *(Sits down and leans towards SAL)*

SAL
(Pulls out lighter and lights SAGE's cigarette) Oh what? You were gonna tell him on the Norway retreat after you bled him dry?

SAGE DOLORES
(Inhales then blows smoke in SAL's face) Oh Sal, always the idealist. Some of us live in the real world.

SAL
Whatever Sage, why did you call me?

SAGE DOLORES

(To audience)

Okay listen up, this is complicated. Three days ago I saw in my chart that Sal and his fucking petulance are going to get me killed, at least metaphorically speaking. (Snaps in an audience member's direction) Are you listening? I need him gone as soon as possible. But, if he knows what's going on he'll use that information against me. (Points around the audience and waits for a reply) Got it?

(To SAL)

I was looking at YOUR chart Sal. I think it's time for a change in your life. I mean have you seen the transiting stellium?

SAL

Pfft... have I seen that stellium.

(To audience)

What game are you playing, Sage... Sage is a Cancer, nostalgic, self-preserving, they're also unforgiving. I know! I never apologized for making a drunken scene at her book launch. Well, I'm not going to start now.

(To SAGE)

Quit trying to change me, toots. I'm glad I know how to have a good time.

SAGE DOLORES

Hmmm...yes. I see by that black eye you're still having a "good time". Let me guess, are you still in debt? Still depending on that Jupiter transit? Maybe your father was right, maybe you'll never amount to anything?

SAL

Foul witch. What are you trying? You embarrass yourself if you think you can curse me so easily, sorceress. (Crosses arms and turns)

SAGE DOLORES

I wouldn't waste an eye of newt, or toe
of frog on you. (Crosses arms and turns)

SAL

(To audience)

Idiot Sal! You can't let her get to you like that. She's obviously lying about looking at my chart and this isn't about the book launch. What are you hiding, Sage? To test her, I'll have to say something so extreme, so out of character she would never see it coming.

(To SAGE)

You know what Sage, I'm sorry.

SAGE DOLORES

(Turns back over shoulder) Huh?

SAL

I'm glad you called me, because I've been thinking about it and I'm sorry (Gets on knees) I should have been proud of you. No one else could have predicted the economic crisis of '08. I was just jealous.

SAGE DOLORES

Wow Sal Thank you.

(To audience)

Hahahaha Fool! (Puts out cigarette) Sal has never been truly sorry for anything in his life. Does he really think I would fall for that?

SAL

(To audience)

She's falling for it. Sal you genius, you mad man. Nows my chance to-

SAGE DOLORES

(To audience)

Now's my chance to get what I want and get rid of him-

SAL

(To audience)

(Now standing stage left) And get her
money and finally never-

SAGE DOLORES
(To audience)
(Only takes a shift from left to right
to swap characters) Ever-

SAL
(To audience)
Ever-

SND 9 - Standby

BOTH
(To audience)
(Stands in between their two spots on
stage) See herm again!

SAGE DOLORES
That means a lot. And it's exactly what
I wanted to hear. The reason I called
you is because the retreats have been
going so well that we planned a retreat
on the sunny beaches of Brazil that
starts next week.

SND 9 - Go (Brazil Bossa Nova.)

SAL
Brazil? (Stands up)

SAGE DOLORES
Yes! But being the silly woman that I
am, I double booked. Now I need someone
to run the retreat in Brazil but the
only astrologer I know who can do it is
you.

SAL
You want me to run your retreat in
Brazil?

SAGE DOLORES
And not only that, but my good friend
Werner Herzog has been asking about
you. He wants to film a documentary
about your life and practice.

SAL

Sage! The retreat in Brazil would be the perfect backdrop for the documentary!

SAGE DOLORES

Wow Sal you're right! Are you saying you'd be interested? You'd have to leave tomorrow night. I can walk the tickets over to your studio. *(Stands up)*

SAL

It's a deal! *(Shakes SAGE's hand)*

LX 11 - Standby

SAGE DOLORES

(Walks SAL forward, and then they embrace) Didn't I say we had such synastry? Now you run home and pack your bags okay? Destiny calls!

(To audience)

Oh Sal if only you knew, there is no retreat, once you get to Brazil, I'll finally be rid of you.

SAL

See ya tomorrow Sage, and thank you!

(To audience)

Women are so easily played, ha! (High five someone nearest to you in the audience) Tomorrow Sal, the stars align at last. I'm the boss, I'm the boss, I'm the boss.

LX 11 - Go (Dimmed.)

(Place chairs back, move and turn curtain behind table, move mannequin.)

END OF SCENE 2