



2-PERSON SCENES

This scene is from a Stage Partners play, free to read in full at yourstagepartners.com.

Founding Daughters by Claudia Haas

1M, 1F
Drama

(A crackling fire. Maybe the sound of men— laughing or just talking. Among them, JAMES LANGSTON.)

JAMES: Who's there? Announce yourself or I'll shoot.

DICEY: *James!*

JAMES: *Dicey! What are you/*

DICEY: You have to leave. Now! Break camp and get as far away from here as possible.

JAMES: You do realize it is the middle of the night.

DICEY: Yes, I do realize that. Haven't I travelled hours in the dark to get here?

JAMES: You look terrible.

DICEY: Gee, thank-you. You've seen better days yourself.

JAMES: Come by the fire. Dry yourself.

DICEY: That seems silly. I'll be back in the stream soon and soaked to the bone.

JAMES: You'll stay the night.

DICEY: Do you not listen when I speak? You have to break camp. **Now.** Bill Cunningham and his merry band of Blood Scouts will be here at daybreak to kill you.

JAMES: Are you sure?

DICEY: No. I always traipse around the woods at midnight and almost drown in streams on a whim. **Yes, I'm sure.** I heard two Redcoats speaking of it.

JAMES: You will come with us.

DICEY: No! I've got to be back in bed at daybreak. I can't worry Father. And if anyone comes looking for me, they will plainly see that I spent the night at home.

(As a good Southern girl:)

"Why no, Mr. Cunningham, Sir. I haven't delivered a message to anyone! I've been home all night tending to my father. I am just putting breakfast away now. There's some left. Would you like some bread and jam? Some say my bread is the best in the county."

JAMES: Let me at least give you something warm to wear.

DICEY: I have a cloak waiting for me on the other side of the stream.

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JAMES: *You left something in the woods!* What if someone finds it?

DICEY: That's why I need to turn around now and collect my belongings. *Now, tell the others—leave!*

JAMES: Dicey.... Thank you.

DICEY: Of course.

JAMES: And Dicey—

DICEY: *What?*

JAMES: Cross the stream south of here. It will make the way back longer but it's safer.

DICEY: I figured that out. No worries. I will do that.

JAMES: Dicey....

DICEY: *What?*

JAMES: Your bread is the best in the county. Love to Father. Until later. Skedaddle.

DICEY: You, too.

End of Scene.

FOUNDING DAUGHTERS by Claudia Haas

Length: 30-60 minutes (a one-act version of this play is also available)

Cast Size: 9-25 actors possible (suggested casting: 5F, 4M)

Genre: Drama

Synopsis: An episodic look at the heroic deeds of young women during the Revolutionary War that would be long forgotten if not for oral history. Had these women not been so brave and cunning, would the war have ended the same way? There is Sybil Ludington's overnight ride to gather the militia, Kate, an African Princess, forced into slavery, who saved her master from the British and more. Students and audiences alike will find inspiration from these patriotic heroines.