

RELATIVELY

CONFUSED

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THIS IS A ONE ACT PLAY

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Characters:

Stanley – A Rock Star Dad in his sixties. A man who is an aging, dissolute, self-absorbed and thoroughly unprincipled individual.

Mooney - The Daughter A girl in her late twenties or early thirties. She is a stoic, resolute, cynical and forthright individual, but shows a family loyalty to her Rock Star Dad.

Kevin Sinclair - The Detective. He is about thirty five. He is a Detective Sargent in rank. He is firm but fair. He is unmarried and very conservative by nature.

Opens with the song, 'Eagle Rock, being sung with gusto by Rock Star Dad.

Stan: (Singing) - " Hey Hey Hey, good old Eagle Rock's here to stay,
I'm just crazy 'bout the way we move,
Doin' the Eagle Rock.
Oh Oh Oh come on fast, you can come on slow
I'm just crazy 'bout the way we move,
Doin' the Eagle Rock".

Mooney: All right, all right, that's enough Dad! You'll have a stroke if you keep that up.

Stan: Gotta keep me voice up love.

Mooney: No you Don't!

Stan: We might have to get out and tour again love.

Mooney: God! I hope not

Stan: It was a bit too much for ya last time wasn't it?

Mooney: (Rolls her eyes) Look, don't worry about me. You just take your pills and relax.

Stan: Yeah! No worries love. Can you get me a tank of oxygen for the next tour?OK, what's happening today?

Mooney: We've got that nice Policeman coming around. Detective Sargent Kevin Sinclair.

Stan: What's he want?

Mooney: I told you. They've been investigating Mum's death. Remember, he got DNA samples from us when he was here last time. He said he'd come back to give us the results. I thought he was coming last week. I've been looking forward to it

Stan: Christ! Mooney, he's a bloody copper. Back in the days

Mooney: Back in the days... Dad, how the hell would you know what happened "back in the days".

Stan: (Reflectively) – Ha Ha!! Yeah!!

Mooney: (Irritated)God, How you ever remember anything I'll never know. You and your bloody drugs! (Playfully) – Why didn't you just join the Army, like Normie Rowe or Elvis.

Stan: I was gonna but they wouldn't lower their standards.

Mooney: Yeah funny.

Stan: They told me to try the Hells Angles, ha ha.

Mooney: Stop it! Look, Kevin'll be here soon and I like the look of him. I want to impress him.

Stan: KEVIN? – don't you start getting too close to that bloody walloper.

Mooney: Oh for God's sake Dad, get dressed and don't be stupid.
(Teasingly) - And anyway, I think he's gorgeous.

Loud knock on the Door followed by a stunned silence.

Stan: Je-sus!! Who's that? The bailiffs?

Mooney: No, I'd say that's my lovely Detective, Daddy. Quick, tidy yourself up and I'll go and let him in. And please!! Don't disgrace us. OK?

Stan: - (Sarcastically) - Of course love. Don't worry.

Mooney exits and re-enters moments later with Detective Sargent Kevin Sinclair. He follows her into the room, slightly awed, looking like a subject being shown into the court of his King. She is aware of his awkwardness and cunningly plays on it, giving herself room power.

Kevin: Ah.... Good morning Sir!

Stan: It is mate. Wadda ya want?

Mooney: - (Protectively of Kevin) – Dad! Behave yourself please.

(Awkward Silence)...

Stan: Yeah. Sorry love... (Relaxes) Carry on mate.

Kevin: (Awkwardly) Ahhh!! Yeah, well, we got the results of the DNA test.

Stan: Good. Did I pass?

Kevin: Ha ha, yeah...but ah! (Glances at Mooney) ... Bit awkward though.

Mooney: Awkward? Why?

Kevin: Ah!! Maybe I should just have a private chat with your Father.

Mooney: Oh, for God's sake, just spit it out.

Stan: Might as well son.

Kevin: OK! Well as you know, it's about the discovery of the female deceased in the Blue Mountains. Thanks to the DNA results, we can now be certain that she is your former wife Sir... But ah... Not your Mother it seems Madam.

Mooney: What? Okay, look, you call me Mooney ... I'll call you Kevin...and I'm sorry Kevin but the **deceased** was my Mother. She lived here with us for years until she finally took off with one of her loser boyfriends about fifteen years ago. I remember when she left. I sharpened my tongue on the back of her head as it was leaving!

Stan: (Guiltily) I think she'd had enough of both of us love and anyway, our Detective is leavin' now, he has to hand out parking tickets...

Mooney: - (Sharply) - Shut up Dad. – (Smilingly and calm) - Carry on please Kevin.

Kevin: Well...Ah, Mooney you say... yeah...The DNA... The deceased... Ah...She's definitely not your Mother.

Mooney: What?... What's he talking about Dad?

Stan: Aww Shit! I knew this day was coming...sorry pet but ah...Yeah, I'm afraid he's right.

Mooney: - (Shocked) –WHAT... What in the hell have you done?

Stan: (Looking at Kevin and looking guilty) – He's the bloody copper, ask him?

Mooney: LOOK AT ME!!! What's he saying?

Stan: I'm sorry love...Aw SHIT...look I was gonna tell ya! I just never found the right moment.

Mooney: Oh Yeah... Well... we've found it now!! Haven't we?

Kevin: Look, I think I'd better go now I seem to have...

Mooney: (To Stan) – You start talkin' Mr, (To Kevin) and I'd like you to stay...I want to hear what my Father's got to say about this and I want you to witness what's said. (Looks squarely at Stan) Okay Dad? What's going on?

Stan: - (Petulantly) - Well he's right. She wasn't ya Mother.

Mooney: - You bloody bastard.

Stan: Aw, Christ.

Mooney: You've been lying to me all these years.

Stan: Look, this all happened... This all come about...aw shit...Look, at the time I didn't know what to do. It was a bad period in me life...I was being abandoned everywhere. Your Mother had just died - the wife had walked out on me at the same time...and then, within a few months she'd committed suicide... All me Fans turned against me.

Mooney: You pathetic, miserable bastard. Your bloody fans. Is that all you could think about.

Kevin: (Becoming emboldened) – Excuse me Sir but what did you mean the fans turned against you? My Mum thinks you were the greatest Rock Singer that Australia has ever produced. She still has pictures and posters of you and all your C D's and stuff. She used to talk about you all the time.....Dad hates ya though.

Stan: (Brightening) – Yeah I know!! Most blokes are jealous of me.

Mooney: - (Indicating Stan) – Shut up.

(To Kevin)- You pay ya homage later! I want my Father to ...

(Turns to Stan) ...OH Jesus!! Wait a minute. You are my Father aren't you?

Stan: Yeah love. No blanks that night... I'm afraid.

Mooney: God! Look, you said Mum died and your Wife walked out and committed suicide. So who **is** my Mother?

Stan: Yeah, well that's where it gets a little awkward Darl.

Mooney: - (Through gritted teeth) – Dad! I'll start slapping you. Now, from the beginning and I want the truth.

Stan: Well remember I used to talk about the love of me life?

Mooney: (Sarcastically) –Yeah!! Moon, your old hippy chick.

Stan: Well that's who you're named after.

Mooney: What! But you said Mooney was an Irish name...

Stan: Yeah well...

Mooney: So the Hippy chick was my Mother and she walked out and suicided. What caused that?

Stan: I told ya love. She was the love of me life. I was gutted when that happened.

Kevin: Sir... you said her **Mother** had just died and your **Wife** had just walked out.... So, which one was which?

Stan: Oh, they was both fuckin witches mate.....

Mooney: DAD!!

Stan: Yeah, well...I was abandoned! All I had left was you and me Fans... Jeez it was a hard slog. You got no idea love. It's about all I can do remember anything from that time.

Mooney: Listen Dad. I've had enough of this. I want answers. You've obviously evaded the truth all my life so today is judgement day for you. What are you hiding about our past?

Stan: Yeah sorry love. OK. Well...Where do I begin...Ok, look, ya know I liked me drugs? Sorry Son! I know you're a copper, but that's just how things were in them days... Still are..... a bit, ya know what I mean?

Kevin: No.....

Stan: Haven't you ever.....?

Kevin: Oh God no!

Stan: Jeez, you're like her, I dun know how ya put up with reality.

Mooney: OH!! FOR GOD'S SAKE!!! GET ON WITH IT DAD!

Stan: Aw come on Moony, Christ ya have to admit though. Yis are both pretty boring.

Mooney: He'll be arresting me for Patricide soon if you don't start concentrating.

Stan: Yeah, sorry love..... For what?

Mooney: Get on with it!

Stan: Where was I? Aw yeah, ya mother. Yeah well, look, I had the Wife's mother, that's Moon's Mother, ya Grandmother staying with us in them days. We had that big house up in Palm Beach remember? Ya Granny had come up one day for a visit and well, she kinda moved in and I was workin' flat out with the band all over Sydney in them days. When I'd get home I'd just wanna whack a few bongs into me...You know, to relax me... ta get me wound down, you know what I mean? (blank

stare from both) Look this is a bit uncomfortable for me love. Can you grab me pills?

Mooney: (Slowly, menacingly) – I'll grab more than that if you don't get a move on you bloody degenerate!!

Stan: Yeah, sorry love.

Mooney: JUST GET ON WITH IT!!

Kevin: I got my Gun. Would you like to use it?

Mooney: Don't tempt me.

Stan: Aw, there's no need for that!

Kevin and Mooney: (together) - **Get on with it then!!** - (They quickly looking approvingly at one another).

Stan: Yeah, sorry love, yeah the Bongs... Jeez she could pack a cone that old Shelia...Probably what caused it.....

Mooney: DAD!!

Stan: Well, anyway, Moons Mother...her name was Luna and Jeez she.....

Mooney: Lorna?

Stan: No Luna like Luna Park.

Mooney: WHAT - This is getting worse and worse.

Stan: You're dead right there love! Cause, Ya see, Luna and me started... Well she started it really.... You know; ah, easin' me tensions... If ya get me drift? She was just being a good Mother-in-Law really.

Mooney: (Incredulous) - What?

Stan: Well Yeah!! ... you know, look.... OK, we had an affair. Well I mean shit. She was still pretty good lookin' even if she was startin to blow a bit of smoke. They both were!!! Good lookin' I mean. And Moon kept goin' off to bed earlier and earlier every night and I got...Well, I got needs ya know!

Mooney Slumps apoplectic in final recognition of her Father abject moral filth.

Kevin: (Sarcastically) - Jesus! They shoulda called you a Cock Star mate

Stan: (Gratefully) Thanks Mate, yeah, well eventually Moon found out that her Mother was pregnant...Ha, she was surprised but she thought Larry, our Roadie, was the father...but it was me. Yeah...that was a bit of a shock...but it was all cool. Old Moon, when she calmed down.... she said she'd be ya Mother...you know... ta cover it up from the press and we was all gonna live up in Palm Beach together. Anyway, when you was born.... Old Luna died during your birth...Totally unexpected that...Musta been her age or something. Fuck that was hard for Moon to take...anyway, even to this day, I never got a bong packed like that ever again. Unbelievable she was. Of course the next thing, the press found out. I reckon one of the boys put `em up to it. Maybe Larry... yeah, he was keen on ya Grandmother – I mean your Mother. That gave the bloody Daily Smellygraph headlines for over a week.

"Grandmother gives birth - to Son-in-Law's baby".

"It's a Girl – Grandmother, Baby and Son-in-Law doing well. Wife wants one now".

"Daddy Gives His Wife A Sister".

They had another one that was French or somethin'...I couldn't get me head `round it.

Kevin: It wouldn't have been something about a ménage-a trois would it?

Stan: Yeah! Yeah! That was it. Anyway, I got rid of Larry...Then Moon adopted you straight away as a favour to her dead Mother. I told her she didn't have to but she insisted. Then the bloody press found out again and they started calling us Tasmanians!!! Where do they get off with that shit!!! Anyway, in the end your Mother – Well... your Sister I suppose - she couldn't take the shame of it all and a few months later she drove herself straight into the path of an on-coming semi-trailer on the Wakehurst Parkway..... The bloody Cow!! We was back in the news again.

Mooney: You are a disgusting prick!!!

Stan: Aw, there's no need for that.

Kevin: I'm sorry Mooney. I had no idea that this DNA business would cause this sort of a problem. God, I feel so awkward

Mooney: I have looked after this one out of family loyalty for 27 years. I only got about 2 years as an infant and then I was trained to fetch and carry. – "Go get the bong off Uncle Charlie love and bring it to Daddy eh!

There's a good girl. Get Daddy a beer out of the fridge love. Thanks darlin". (Sighs) I always suspected something was wrong. .

Kevin: I know how ya feel. Mum said my Father died when I was real young. I always wondered too.

Mooney: Yeah, but it looks like I'm sorta right. Hey look, thanks for staying here just now. That was damn nice of ya.

Kevin: That's okay love. I'm sorta used to it. With my work, you know.

Mooney: Yeah, I know but I've got to admit that I was attracted to you when I first saw you. Forgive my boldness but are you married?

Kevin: Hell no. I'm still interviewing.

Mooney: Nice.

Kevin: Would you like an appointment?

Stan: You're not getting involved with a copper. I told ya.

Mooney and Stan: - (Together) - **Shut up!**

Mooney: You know why I ended up different from this degenerate? It was because I had to take responsibility for him. I didn't have a childhood.

Stan: Aw!! Come on don't blame me love. I've got needs.

Mooney: Yeah, and I've just discovered what your **NEEDS** have done to this family and to me in particular.

Stan: Aw, Come on. Jeez Son, ya know what it's like being a Man. Women have always thrown themselves at me... I've seen more arse than a Qantas Jumbo.

Kevin: Like the Lady said Sir. You are a grub. I'm sorry Mooney. I know that sounds harsh but it doesn't reflect on you.

Mooney: Yeah, I understand.

Kevin: Do ya think maybe we can meet up for a coffee or dinner sometime? I know it sounds a bit weird and I've only met you twice but I feel as if ...sorry, that sounds bloody corny doesn't it?

Mooney: Well it got my attention Mr and of course I'd like to have dinner with you. Can I bring Stan?

Kevin: WHAT?

Stan: Ya say ya names Sinclair eh?

Kevin: Yes, that's correct Sir.

(Searching reflectively) – I knew a bloody Sinclair once. She was a crazy, good-looking little thing. During sex she'd do this thing with her - (looks up at them both staring aghast at him) – Anyway, she just floated away on me, that one, disappeared. I think she went right up North somewhere. Christ! That was about thirty-five years ago now but I've always remembered her.

– (Looks away reminiscing) - She was a bloody cracker ...had a real Hippy type name too - "Juniper" ... she had this blue birth mark under her hairline on the back of her neck and during sex I used ta run me finger over it because it was all mottled like velvet wall paper...

Kevin's eyes slowly widen in horror and he slumps forward on his knees and sinks his head into his hands then covering his ears.

Suddenly Mooney, gasping in horror, realises the significance of the severe change in Kevin and turns sharply to her Father, staring at him in utter despair and disbelief. With a strangled cry of pain and utter despair at the loss of a highly desirable Suitor, she lunges forward and slaps him as hard as she can. He falls backwards still seated in the chair.

CUT TO BLACK

THE END