

# A NEED FOR SPEED...DATING

a monologue  
by Kris Thompson

Kris Thompson  
1710 S. Main St.  
Georgetown, TX 78626  
281-253-3488  
kriskt@outlook.com

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(awkward, nervous, sweet) Hi. Um...My name is Amanda. But my Mom calls me Man for short. And sometimes, like, Man-oh-Man. You know. Or not. My friends call me Mandy. You can call me Mandy...not that I'm saying we're gonna be friends. But maybe, right? You never know how you're gonna meet (make air quotes) the one. Not that I think you're the one. Listen, if you prefer to call me Amanda I-

DING (Looks up.)

(to herself) Well that sucked. (pause) (less nervous, less sweet) Hi. I'm Amanda. Wow. So, what do we have, like 30 seconds? What? (in answer to a question) Cats for sure. Although I don't dislike dogs. (pause) Well...cats are smarter, groom themselves, and you can leave them alone for a weekend. (pause) Dogs are more expensive to feed and, um, their shit's harder to clean up? Sorry. Wait...what are you writing down? You're writing down the shit comment? For real?

DING (Looks up.)

(to herself) This is ridiculous. (pause) (annoyed) Hi, I'm Amanda, and just to be upfront, I prefer cats over dogs. Wait? You do? That's awesome! I totally agree. So smart. I have two. 16? You live with 16 cats? (pause) One died this morning? Crushed by a stack of newspapers? That's terrible. They're your Mother's? No I totally get it. It's cool. I moved back in with my parents for a month when I was in my 20s. (pause) Really? Never left home? And you're...(pause) 36. Well. That's something alright.

DING (Looks up.)

(to herself) I can't believe I paid thirty bucks for this torture. (pause) (angry) Hi! I see you're taking notes as well. Well wright this down mister! I have two cats. That's right two. That doesn't make me the crazy cat lady because if it did I would have already met my dream man. Do you have cats or dogs? No. Good! I would write that down but I forgot to bring a pen! No I don't want to borrow yours! Do you know why? Because I also forgot to bring paper! Listen. Do you live with your parents? (pause) No? Great. Are you a serial killer? (pause) No? Fantastic.

DING (Looks up.)

Want to get out of here and grab a drink? Halleluiah! Let's go. Call me Mandy.