

Scene Audition

When the Rain Stops Falling by Andrew Bovell

GABRIEL And do you have a room?

GABRIELLE How long are you staying?

GABRIEL Not sure. A day or two.

GABRIELLE I'll have to make one up. We don't get people down here this time of year.

GABRIELL Why not?

GABRIELLE The weather.

GABRIEL But it's beautiful here.

GABRIELLE Do you think?

GABRIEL I've never seen anything like it.

GABRIELLE I think it's the ugliest place in the world.

GABRIEL Did you grow up here?

GABRIELLE Yes.

GABRIEL Then that's why. But if you look at it through the eyes of a stranger you'll see what I see.

GABRIELLE It's still just sandhills and water and bird shit on your car.

GABRIEL I come from London. I think that's the ugliest place in the world. Or if not the ugliest it's certainly the loneliest.

GABRIELLE You can walk along the beach here for five days and not see anyone.

GABRIEL I know. It's brilliant.

GABRIELLE It's killing me.

GABRIEL Leave.

GABRIELLE I'm going to.

GABRIEL As soon as you do you'll want to come back.

GABRIELLE I want to meet people.

GABRIEL You've met me.

GABRIELLE What's your name?

GABRIEL Gabriel.

GABRIELLE It's not.

GABRIEL It is. What's yours?
GABRIELLE Gabrielle.
GABRIEL What are the chances of that?
GABRIELLE Funny name for a bloke.
GABRIEL Do you think so?
GABRIELLE It is down here.
GABRIEL It means strong man of God.
GABRIELLE I thought it was French.
GABRIEL No, it's biblical. Gabriel was the archangel.
GABRIELLE Are you an angel, Gabriel?
GABRIEL No. Flesh and blood.
GABRIELLE Were your parents religious?
GABRIEL My mother's an atheist. A communist once, I think, judging by her library.
No, she just like the name.
GABRIELLE So did mine. But she thought it was French. Exotic, She wanted me to be
different.
GABRIEL Are you different?
GABRIELLE No. Not really . . . Maybe.
GABRIEL How?
GABRIELLE You'll have to find out. I'll get your sandwich.

She turns to go. He doesn't want her to leave. Ever.

GABRIEL Are yours religious? Your parents?
GABRIELLE They were. Catholic.
GABRIEL Lapsed?
GABRIELLE Dead.
GABRIEL Oh, right.
GABRIELLE Mum drowned herself in the ocean when I was seven and Dad put a bullet
through his head three years ago. {Beat} It's the place. Things like that happen
here. That's why I have to get away. Take a seat. I'll get your sandwich.

GABRIELLE exits as GABRIEL takes his place at the table.