

From The Video Gamapalooza by Don Zolidis

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A blue-collar sitcom (With laugh track.)

Pac-Man and Ms. Pac-Man are having marriage troubles.

PAC-MAN, ageless, a giant yellow face

MS. PAC-MAN, ageless, a giant yellow face with a bow on her head.

PAC-MAN enters. He's tired, worn out from a long day.

MS. PAC-MAN

Oh so you finally decided to show your face around here.

PAC-MAN

I said I was working late.

He goes to look for food.

Wakka wakka wakka wakka.

MS. PAC-MAN

Don't you wakka wakka wakka me, I want to talk to you.

PAC-MAN

Sometimes I forget that you're all mouth.

Canned laughter from a laugh track.

MS. PAC-MAN

I learned it from you.

More laughter.

PAC-MAN

Leave me alone, will ya? Wakka wakka wakka –

MS. PAC-MAN

I said I needed to talk.

PAC-MAN

You can talk. I'm just not planning on listening.

Laughter.

MS. PAC-MAN

Good one, Dan. You come up with that on the way home from work?

PAC-MAN

The only time your mouth stops moving is when you die. Hey did you make dinner?

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MS. PAC-MAN

Excuse me?

PAC-MAN

I'm hungry.

MS. PAC-MAN

Did you ask me if I made dinner?

PAC-MAN

Some wives have dinner waiting for their husbands when they come home from work!

MS. PAC-MAN

Some husbands are worth it.

Canned laughter.

Besides, I'm not your wife anyway, remember? I'm Miss Pac-Man! You didn't want to make that commitment. Thought it would hurt your street cred.

PAC-MAN

I stand by that.

MS. PAC-MAN

You're a yellow sphere with a mouth that takes up ninety percent of your volume, you've got no street cred.

More laughter.

There's some kale in the fridge if you're hungry.

PAC-MAN

Kale?!

MS. PAC-MAN

We're both going on a new diet. When was the last time you could see your feet?

PAC-MAN

I don't have feet.

MS. PAC-MAN

How would you know?

PAC-MAN

I was born like this!

MS. PAC-MAN

Yeah and your Mom was so ashamed she never visits.

Canned laughter.

We're eating healthy now, Dan. Our season of pleasure is behind us.

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PAC-MAN

I must've missed that season.

MS. PAC-MAN

You were napping.

PAC-MAN

Now I remember why it was pleasurable.

Canned laughter.

Wakka wakka wakka

MS. PAC-MAN

Can you hold still for a minute so we can talk?

PAC-MAN

I can't stop moving.

MS. PAC-MAN

Just wiggle back and forth a little bit – it'll be like a junior high dance.

PAC-MAN

Fine.

He wiggles back and forth a little bit.

MS. PAC-MAN

I want to get a job.

PAC-MAN

What could you do? You don't even have hands or feet.

MS. PAC-MAN

You don't have hands or feet and you do something you call work.

PAC-MAN

It is work!

MS. PAC-MAN

You run around and eat all day. Squirrels do more work than you.

Canned laughter

PAC-MAN

Like you could do my job!

MS. PAC-MAN

I could do your job with my eyes closed.

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PAC-MAN

I'm done with this. You're staying home. Miss Pac-Man does not go out and work.

MS. PAC-MAN

It's Mizz Pac-Man now. That's my professional name.

PAC-MAN

Don't start this.

MS. PAC-MAN

What?

PAC-MAN

The feminist nonsense. This happened to the Donkey Kongs and they split up. And you should see him now. Running around, kidnapping women. It's a mess.

Canned laughter.

MS. PAC-MAN

I'm getting a job and I'm gonna be Mizz Pac-Man.

PAC-MAN

I'm not listening to this. Where are my pills?

MS. PAC-MAN

I threw `em out.

PAC-MAN

What?

MS. PAC-MAN

I THREW THEM OUT!

PAC-MAN

YOU THREW OUT MY POWER PILLS?!

MS. PAC-MAN

They're not power pills! You're dependent on them!

PAC-MAN

I NEED MY PILLS. Are you crazy?!

MS. PAC-MAN

You're a different person when you take the pills!

PAC-MAN

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You're darn right I am!

MS. PAC-MAN

Well I don't like that person! You take power pills at work and then you want to come home and take more power pills!

PAC-MAN

I TAKE THE PILLS FOR MY JOB.

MS. PAC-MAN

That job is not good for you! If you have to be a pill addict to do it –

PAC-MAN

I'm not an addict!

MS. PAC-MAN

The first step is admitting you have a problem!

PAC-MAN

My only problem is you! Wakka wakka wakka wakka –

MS. PAC-MAN

I WANT A JOB. I want to be valued for my own contributions.

PAC-MAN

Wakka wakka wakka wakka –

MS. PAC-MAN

Stop moving. Stop. Stop.

PAC-MAN stops.

Dan. Listen to me: we need to change.

To read the rest of this play, please visit www.yourstagepartners.com