

TEDDY FERRARA

BY CHRISTOPHER SHINN



DRAMATISTS
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TEDDY FERRARA
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TEDDY FERRARA recieved its world premiere at
the Goodman Theatre, Chicago, Illinois on February 11, 2013
(Robert Falls, Artistic Director; Roche Schulfer, Executive Director).

Programs for each production of the Play shall also contain a brief description of the Goodman Theatre, available from www.dramatists.com.

TEDDY FERRARA received its world premiere at the Goodman Theatre (Robert Falls, Artistic Director; Roche Schulfer, Executive Director) in Chicago, Illinois, on February 11, 2013. It was directed by Evan Cabnet; the set design was by Lee Savage; the costume design was by Jenny Mannis; the lighting design was by Keith Parham; the sound design was by Richard Woodbury; and the fight choreographer was David Wooley. The cast was as follows:

GABE	Liam Benzvi
PROVOST	Janet Brooks
PRESIDENT	Patrick Clear
NICKY	Rashaad Hall
TEDDY	Ryan Heindl
JAY	Christopher Imbrosciano
JAQ	Jax Jackson
CAMPUS POLICE	Dev Kennedy, Fawzia Mirza
JENNY	Paloma Nozicka
DREW	Adam Poss
TIM	Josh Salt
ELLEN	Kelli Simpkins

CHARACTERS

GABE, 21

DREW, 21

NICKY, 20

TEDDY, 18

TIM, 21

JENNY, 21

PRESIDENT, 60s

PROVOST, 50s

ELLEN, 40s

JAQ, 24

JAY, 21

CAMPUS POLICE, 30s

PLACE

The place is on and nearby the campus of a large state university in the Northeast.

TIME

The time is now.

NOTES

Interval between 3 and 4. The design should be simple in order to maximize speed of storytelling.

Love: what the heart aches for.

—*J.M. Coetzee, Diary of a Bad Year*

TEDDY FERRARA

1.1.

Drew enters.

DREW. Need help?

GABE. Hey!

DREW. Jesus. Sure this wasn't the meeting of the Dessert Club?

GABE. I said refreshments in the flyers. I thought more people might come if we had cupcakes.

DREW. So either no one came, or you got a lot of cupcakes.

GABE. No one had any! Maybe gay guys don't want to be fat?

DREW. But dykes don't care about that.

GABE. Drew!

DREW. Um, it's true — lesbians are not as body-obsessed as gay dudes.

GABE. Well, we're still not really attracting lesbians. I opened the box and everyone just stared!

DREW. If I'd been here, I would have had one.

GABE. But you weren't.

DREW. That is true, I was not! Mm, this is good. Too sweet — which is good.

GABE. Some people had Diet Coke. It's so hard to get people interested in this group!

DREW. Queer students want to spend their time being queer, not in a Queer Students group.

GABE. Why is it so hard to build a community? It's so frustrating to me —

DREW. I'm telling you — Friday's the deadline to declare — if you really want to make an impact —

GABE. Drew, I am not going to be Student Assembly President!

DREW. You would win.

GABE. I'm not that kind of — big personality.

DREW. Yes you are! — Are you not doing it because you think Tim would be mad at you?

GABE. Why would Tim be mad? He's not running for re-election.

DREW. I don't understand, you want to make a difference so badly — why won't you do it?

GABE. God! A week of dating and you're already telling me what to do!

DREW. Hey, that's mean!

GABE. Kidding! Kidding ... (*They kiss.*)

DREW. And it's a week and a half — *jerk* — (*Teddy enters.*)

TEDDY. Is this the Queer Students meeting?

DREW. — It's over.

GABE. It was three to four — but I can fill you in — what's your name?

TEDDY. Ted Ferrara — Teddy — Ted —

GABE. Ted Ferrara. I'll add you on Facebook — all we did today was talk about who we are, brainstorm ideas — I'll message you about it later. We're sponsoring a dance party Thursday, if you can come to that — and we meet here every Tuesday, three to four.

TEDDY. I thought it was four.

GABE. Nothing much happens at the first meeting. Hopefully you can come to the dance party. It's just off-campus, at The Lair, 18 to get in — all the info's on our website.

TEDDY. Okay. (*Teddy exits.*)

DREW. What a weirdo.

GABE. He was a little awkward ...

DREW. Um: weirdo.

GABE. He looks like a freshman. I was a *mess* my first year — until I met Tim.

DREW. — Are you in love with Tim?

GABE. Am I in love with Tim? What's that supposed to mean?

DREW. He's hot, you're always talking about him —

GABE. He's my best friend. And he's straight.

DREW. You can't be in love with a straight guy? You're attracted to men — he's a man.

GABE. Well. No, I'm not in love with Tim. — I should have offered him a cupcake.

TEDDY FERRARA

by Christopher Shinn

8M, 4W

It's Gabe's senior year of college and his future looks bright: He runs the Queer Students Group, he finally has a single room and he recently started dating a great guy. But when a campus tragedy occurs that makes national headlines it ignites a firestorm and throws Gabe's world into disorder. When new evidence surfaces, Gabe discovers that the events surrounding the tragedy aren't as straightforward as they seem, and he is forced to question popular assumptions — and his own life's contradictions.

"In previous plays like Four and Where Do We Live Mr. Shinn has written with exemplary sensitivity about young men and women first encountering the turbulent, destabilizing force of desire. It's clear that he's trying to explore similar themes here, in the context of a new century in which 'hookup' culture and the ready availability of Internet pornography have only made the landscape of sex and romance harder to negotiate."

—**The New York Times**

"Brimms with sharply observed ideas about modern life for queer students, the role technology plays in defining our identities, campus politics, journalistic ethics, public sex, the use and abuse of victimhood."

—**Time Out (Chicago)**

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