

AT RISE:

HEARTBEAT. BOOM. BOOM.

LARGE cross stands upstage,  
reminiscent of the sort one  
might see in a Catholic home  
or hospital.

SAM, SYLVIA and CAROL sit and  
eat. Passing the salt,  
clinking glasses. The usual  
family dinner scene.

Toilet.

THERESA eats.  
Cake. Turkey. Pasta.  
Pizza. Ice Cream. Chocolate.  
All gone.  
She burps.

THERESA  
Excuse me.  
    (beat)  
Hello.  
    (beat)  
Hello?

She looks around.  
Eats some left over crumbs.  
Licks fingers.  
Begins to eat fingers.  
Chews on arms.  
Legs.  
Opens shirt and reaches into  
stomach.  
Pulls out intestines.  
Slurps on them.  
Finally, opens chest and  
removes the piece de  
resistance - her heart.  
Devours it whole.

Long pause.

THERESA  
Anyone?

Cough.  
Gag.  
Puke.

Heart flies out.  
It lands in the toilet.

THERESA collapses and smiles broadly.  
The smile stays frozen on her slack face.  
She does not blink.

BOOM BOOM transforms into  
BEEP BEEP into FLATLINE.

SAM stands. CAROL and SYLVIA  
stare at him.

SAM exits.

BLACKOUT.

## Entrée

AT RISE:

FLATLINE.

THERESA, frozen, lies on the ground, head propped against the toilet, a set of ribs outside her body. Stomach is next to her, attached by the intestine.

POPE enters, shaking and shuffling, drool seeping out. Long Pause as POPE looks about. Turns to cross. Bows and crosses himself. Finally, sees THERESA.

POPE

Care to dance, young lady?

(spins, pause)

What was that, my little lamb?

(silence)

Ah, first a blessing. Baruch atah adonai eloheinu melech haolam hamotzi lechem min ha-a-retz.

THERESA

I don't hear you! La La La La!

(beat)

Did you just say the fucking blessing over bread?

POPE

I don't know. I don't speak Hebrew.

THERESA

You did. I ain't hungry.

POPE

Dance with me.

THERESA

I want to be alone.

POPE

You have come to me. Thank you.

THERESA  
No one comes for me.

POPE  
What am I, chopped liver?

THERESA  
My eyes are open, but I can't see a *goddamn*ed thing.

POPE  
Apologize.

THERESA  
For what?

POPE  
In vain.

THERESA  
This isn't vanity.

POPE  
The Lord's-

THERESA  
Alone.

POPE  
--name, sacred, not profane-

THERESA  
CockChrist, DickheadDeity, CuntCreator, FingerfuckFather,  
JollyJizzJesus--

She goes limp. Flatline  
echoes.

POPE  
Matka!?

Leans over her, breathes into  
her mouth.

POPE  
Mama, Karol's here.

Pushes on her chest. Breathe.  
Push. Breathe. CPR.

POPE coughs and shakes over  
to the toilet.

POPE  
A prayer to heal the sick.

THERESA  
Don't touch it!

POPE gets heart, holds it  
high.

THERESA  
I'm not hungry.

POPE grabs THERESA's face,  
opens her mouth, about to  
insert heart.

POPE  
Body of Christ.

SAM enters. Sees THERESA.

SAM  
Terri! Jesus Christ!

THERESA  
I don't hear you.

POPE  
Ocjec?

SAM  
Here, honey.

THERESA  
I don't see you.

POPE  
Papa.

SAM grabs heart from POPE.

SAM  
Open wide.

THERESA  
I don't feel you.

POPE  
Help her.

SAM tries to shove heart in  
her mouth. No luck.

SAM  
Eat, sweetheart.

THERESA  
I don't taste you.

POPE  
Save her, daddy!

SAM  
Take a bite.

POPE crosses himself and  
prays.

POPE  
The liturgy of Viaticum.  
God of Peace, offer eternal healing to those who believe in  
you. Refresh your servant with food and drink from Elysium.

SAM  
Come on!

THERESA  
I said, I'm not hungry.

SAM  
Tell you what, I'll split it with ya'.

THERESA  
Later.

SAM  
Now.

THERESA  
Later.

SAM  
You're withering away to nothing.

THERESA  
Yes.  
Yes.  
Yes.

POPE  
Lead her satisfied from the palace of saints.

SAM  
Nothing.  
          (beat)  
Nothing.

Drops heart. SPLAT.  
Starts to exit.

POPE  
She's hungry!

THERESA  
I'm hungry!

SAM  
          (right before exiting)  
You must be hungry.

SAM tapes heart back  
together.

SAM  
Here.

SAM holds it to her mouth.  
THERESA eats the whole thing.  
BEEP. BEEP.  
POPE and THERESA jolt.

POPE/SAM  
Amen.

POPE falls to the ground.

POPE  
I'm alright. I'm alright. It's nothing, really.

THERESA gags.  
Crying.

SAM  
Who is that?

THERESA  
(gags)  
That's Carol.

POPE  
Yes?

SAM  
Our baby.

Crying.

THERESA  
(gags)  
Go to her.

POPE  
I'm right here.

SAM  
Daddy's comin' Carol!

He runs off stage. THERESA  
pukes. Again and again and  
again.

POPE  
(stands)  
A Feather step spin!

He spins again.  
Slowly. BEEP faster.  
Spin faster.

POPE  
A Paso Doble delight!

BEEP faster. Spin faster.

He falls.

POPE  
Dance with me, matka.

THERESA  
My legs are weak.

POPE  
I'll carry you.

THERESA  
You're too small.

POPE with much trouble, lifts  
her.

THERESA  
Put me down.

POPE  
(still struggling)  
You're light!

THERESA  
Yes. Yes. Yes.

He turns her slowly around.

POPE  
Over this, your white grave  
the flowers of life in pale--  
so many years without you--  
how many have passed out of sight?

THERESA  
SAM!

Crack!

POPE  
Oy! My back!  
(sets her down)  
Liturgy of Oleum infermorum.

POPE anoints THERESA.

POPE  
Yahweh, healer, bless mother with your grace. Make her  
joyful in spirit. Prepare her to embrace your will. Grant  
this in the name of Christ, our Lord.

THERESA  
Sammy!

SAM enters.

SAM

Terri, I'm tired of this. I'm tired.

SAM puts head down and  
sleeps, snores. Snores.  
Snores.