

PRANK PHONE CALL

by Herbert M. Midgley
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TIME: Present

PLACE: A house in the South

CHARACTERS:

WENDY – A pretty girl in her late 20's. She was raised in a small Texas town and has good morals. She has on a nice purple dress, that isn't too flashy for her old town ethics.
BERT – A regular looking guy in his early 30's. He was raised in a small Texas town and has good morals. He is dressed all in black.

Playwright's note. Some pranks aren't funny, they teach lessons.

WENDY is sitting on a chair next to a table in a dark room. BERT walks in holding a cell phone that is hidden from WENDY'S view.

WENDY

(Yelling) No! Don't! Don't you come near me you....you... scum!

BERT

(Walks slowly around her) Don't yell. Didn't your momma teach you manners young lady? It's rude to (scream in her face) yell! (Softly) So don't do it. I don't like it when people yell at me. I really don't like it all. (Beat) Don't call me scum either. My name is Bert.

WENDY

(Yelling) I don't care...

BERT

(He puts a finger to his mouth and softly says) No.

WENDY

(Normal voice) I don't care what you're name is. All I know is that at one minute I was out with my girlfriends at the mall and the next I am....well....here.

BERT

I know that.

WENDY

So, can I go?

BERT

Just where would you go to....(snaps his fingers) What's your name? And before you lie to me, just remember that I can go through your purse and find your driver's license.

WENDY

Does it matter? Why does it matter?

BERT

It does to me. (Beat) So what's your name girlie?

WENDY

Wendy.

BERT

Wendy! Man I hate that name! Did you know that J.M. Barrie made up that name? The name 'Wendy' never appeared anywhere before *Peter Pan* was written.

WENDY

I like my name. (Beat) And besides, what about your name. Bert! Bert is a Muppet I used to watch on *Sesame Street*! And he wasn't even the cool one either!

BERT

Watch your mouth girlie!

WENDY

Go ahead. Do what you brought me here for! (Screams) I'm not afraid of dying!

BERT

(Shh look on his face) Quiet! My neighbors might hear you! So quiet down!

WENDY

(Cocky) Well, who has the upper hand now?

BERT

(Cockier) Me. (Gives her a death look)

WENDY

Do what you're going to do or let me leave.

BERT

You can leave at anytime girlie. However, before you get up, realize why you're here. Why did I pick *you* over your girlfriends? Did any of them put up a fight to protect you? Do any of them even care? Would any of them trade places with you?

WENDY

See yah! (She gets up to leave. Looks at his face and sits back down.)

BERT

Good. Now let's finish this. (He takes out his cell phone and gives it to her.)

WENDY

What do you want me to do with this?

BERT

Call someone who cares about you.

WENDY

So they can hear me scream, as you do any of those unspeakable things to me, no way!

BERT

I won't ask you again girlie. (Beat) Call someone who cares about you.

WENDY

(Nervously) Ok. (She fumbles with the cell phone and finally puts in the seven digits.)

BERT

Give the phone to me.

WENDY

Ok. (She hands him the phone)

BERT

(Upbeat voice) Hello ma'am. Do you have a refrigerator? (Beat) Is it running? (Beat) Then you had better go catch it! (Slams the phone down on a table.)

WENDY

What the....!

BERT

(Pulls a digital camera out of his pocket and snaps a photo) Ha ha ha! That look on your face is going to keep me in stitches for years! Ha ha ha! (continues to laugh and looks at the photo on the digital camera.)

WENDY

What in the world! Are you *sick* or *something*?

BERT

I'm sick and something too! Ha ha ha! (continues to laugh)

WENDY

Did someone put you up to this you creep! (Pause) Scum!

BERT

(Stops laughing and puts the camera in his pocket.) Don't call me scum. (Pause) Did someone put me up to this? (Beat) Yes. You did girlie.

WENDY

I don't even know you sc...Bert.

BERT

Yes. (Beat) However I know you. I know your type. Always cutting on people. Dissing them! And for what? To make yourself feel better. Well congratulations, you now know how that feels. (Full of hate) Wendy.

WENDY

(Slowly) Ok. (Normal voice) I think that I'll be on my way. Unless you would like to make some more prank calls before I leave.

BERT

No. One's enough. One's all I need. (Beat) Go. (She stands up then he sits in the chair.)

WENDY

(She looks back at him) Hey, before I go, who would you call?

BERT

(Beat) My soulmate.

WENDY

Do you have her number?

BERT

No, but I have her heart even though someone else has her body.

WENDY

At least you have a soulmate. I never found mine.

BERT

Perhaps you did, but you were just too stuck-up to realize it.

WENDY

Maybe.

BERT

(BERT walks to WENDY and kiss her on her cheek.) You'll find him. (Smiles) Go to the second star to the right, straight on 'til morning. (Beat) Wendy. (He gives her a big smile then points the way out and she exits. Spotlight on BERT then FADE OUT.)

THE END