

NATALIE

LUCAS

Daniel *The Amateur Killer*

Act 1

Scene 1

(Lights up to reveal the interior of a living room. There is a sofa in the stage centre, a painted on book case back left and a small table back right with various papers, a filled wine glass and several other wine glasses on it. On the wall there are several photographs and pictures. There are three exits – one stage left, one stage right, and an exit referred to as the front of house entrance. If there is access from the stage to the front of house entrance then this should be used. If there isn't, another created exit on or by the side of the stage will suffice as it is not crucial where the third exit is situated. Natalie stands towards the front of the stage.)

(Lucas enters stage right. He looks at Natalie menacingly.

Without facing him, Natalie smiles.)

Natalie: You should be in Paris.

Lucas: I cancelled the flight.

Natalie: And why is that?

Lucas: You know why. Look at me while I'm talking to you.

Natalie: (Turns and faces him.) I knew you couldn't leave.

Lucas: Is that so?

Natalie: Yes. You're so unoriginal. Just like your brother.

Lucas: Leave my brother out of this.

Natalie: You didn't. The night you killed him.

Lucas: Have you heard yourself? You're deluded. It was an accident.

Natalie: It wasn't though and neither is this. (She takes out a gun from her pocket and points it at Lucas.) You should have run when you had the chance.

Lucas: You wouldn't kill me. You couldn't. Think about what we've been through. Think about what we've seen, what we've done together. It was exciting wasn't it?

Natalie: Tell that to your brother. Just another careless driver that's what the police thought, but you and I know different.

Lucas: What is it you want?

Natalie: Revenge. I can't believe you didn't see this inevitable end to our story. (She picks up the glass of wine.) You're right, it was fun while it lasted. (Drinks the glass.) Any last words?

Lucas: Haven't you wondered why I'm not in France?

Natalie: Why, to be with me of course.

Lucas: Not quite. I came back for another purpose.

Natalie: You're here and that's all that matters.

(Natalie pulls the trigger but nothing happens. Lucas smiles.)

Lucas: Problem with your gun? Not half as much problem as you've got with your wine.

Natalie: What have you done?

Lucas: I found the note. My suicide note, only I don't remember writing one.

Natalie: (Becoming drowsy.) The gun... it won't...

Lucas: Don't waste your time fighting it. It's too late.

Natalie: What have you done?

Lucas: Only what you deserve.

(Natalie collapses to the floor. Lucas calmly walks over to her and takes the gun. He smiles.)

Lucas: Adieu darling. Adieu.

(The curtains start to close. Daniel enters from the front of house entrance and walks to the stage.)

Daniel: What the hell was that? Open the damn curtains.

(The curtains re-open. Natalie sits up. Lucas helps her to her feet. Daniel steps onto the stage. Aiden enters stage left holding a screwdriver. Lauren enters stage left holding a script and flicking through it.)

Daniel: For God's sake, we're on in a fortnight.

Natalie: Yes we know. That wine is disgusting.

Aiden: Sorry, ran out of blackcurrant juice. I had to make do with whatever I could find.

Daniel: Forget about the bloody wine. Too many pauses. Too many searching for lines. Lucas, you're stood there like a bloody cardboard statue. Where is the passion? You find her irresistible. You don't know whether to kiss her or kill her.

(Walks over to Natalie.) Look, I'll show you.

(Daniel holds Natalie's hips. Lucas is flustered. Lauren and Aiden exchange glances.)

Lucas: (Flustered) Okay, I know what to do.