

GR 10 AND 11 FEMALE MONOLOGUES

Option A:

Hello and Goodbye by Athol Fugard

[The play is set in 1965. It is about a woman who returns home to Port Elizabeth after being away for 25 years. She had been working as a prostitute in Johannesburg.]

Hester: Once you got money you can do anything you like. Change my name! Stay at a posh hotel! I could. And then let them try and refuse to serve me just because I'm sitting by myself in the lounge. Some of those big-shot places don't serve you if you're a woman by yourself. I wasn't trying for a pick-up. I just wanted a few beers and a little peace and quiet somewhere nice for a change. They're supposed to be open to the public! But when I walked in they all started staring and then this coolie waiter comes to me and says they don't serve 'ladies' by themselves. Well this time they will. Because, I'll be a boarder. I'll pay in advance. And then let one of those bitches smile as though she's not also selling what she's got between her legs. Give them a chance to say Yes and I DO—because who the hell ever says no- put a ring on their finger and they think they're better! That being married gives them a license to do it! I'm sick of that lot with their husbands and fashions and happy families. They don't fool me. And I'll tell them. Happy families are fat men crawling on to frightened women. And when you've had enough he doesn't stop, 'lady'. I've washed more of your husbands out of me than ever gave you babies.