

John Kuntz
from *Necessary Monsters*

(When the lights come back on DRAKE is alone. The restaurant is deserted. STEPHEN re-enters. Pulls the tablecloth off DRAKE)

STEPHEN:
Can I get you anything else?

DRAKE:
No. Thank you. Hey.

STEPHEN:
Yes?

DRAKE:
Do I know you?

STEPHEN:
Excuse me?

DRAKE:
You look familiar. Have we met before?

STEPHEN:
You already asked me that.

DRAKE:
Oh. I did? What did you say?

STEPHEN:
You don't remember?

DRAKE:
No.

STEPHEN:

(After a slight pause) We met a long time ago, on a beach in Barcelona. *(Lights and music shift. The cast perform a cheerful line dance behind them)* It was a bright summer day, and the waves were very high. You were swimming out, too far out, and a wave washed over you and pulled you down and you almost drowned. I pulled you out of the water and gave you mouth to mouth resuscitation. When you woke up you couldn't remember anything. Who you were. Where you had been. Anything. I brought you back to your hotel, but your hotel room was completely empty. Just a bottle of prescription pills lying on the bedside table. The name on the label had been blacked out. You took a pill and sat on the bed. I sat next to you. You thanked me for saving your life. I said it was nothing. *(The music and dancing stop abruptly)* You leaned over and kissed me. It was the first time in my life anyone had kissed me where I actually felt something. I had never realized just how lonely and empty and absurd my life had been until that very moment.

DRAKE:

Oh. Wow. I ..don't...really...remember all that.

STEPHEN:

That's OK. Just the check?

DRAKE:

Yes. Thank you.

STEPHEN:

You're welcome.