



High School (Grades 9-12)

I understand that THIS FORM IS FOR the Literature Arts Category (Check ONE only) *



Literature

Title of Artwork (REQUIRED) *

Anniversary of Anguish

DETAILS Include word count for literature. Describe technology/platforms used in the creation process, including any generative elements. *

876 Words

Artist Statement (REQUIRED) In 10 to 100 words, describe your work and how it relates to the theme. (Please DO NOT exceed 100 words.) *

The story, Anniversary of Anguish explores a world of tension. As the story goes on the anger builds until both characters Eve eventually explode. This story fits the theme by showing two very flawed characters. There's no filter in. It shows the real struggle of meeting everyone's expectations and failing.

Anniversary Of Anguish.

Written By Kelsey Tate.

Characters:

Nick: Starts very calm and distant. Slowly gets more and more angry until he finally blows up.

Katherine: Starts very angry and aggressive. Slowly gives up.

[Scene starts. Nick just got home and Katherine is seen wiping her shirt off/fixing her hair. Turns when Nick says his first line.]

Nick: Honey... hey.

Katherine: What?

Nick: I'm home.

Katherine: Mhm.

[Move CSL to Katherine]

Nick: So... how was your day?

Katherine: Why do you care Nick?

[Move DSL away from Nick, Start to fix your hair/clothes]

Nick: Please don't start.

Katherine: Don't start?

[Move USL to Nick]

Nick: No... I didn't ...I didn't mean it like that.

Katherine: Sure you didn't.

Nick: Please...just give me a break.

[Turn away from Katherine]

Katherine: What do you want, Nick?

Nick: What...? I don't want anything. What do you mean?

[Face Katherine]

Katherine: God, stop lying about everything.

Nick: Lying?

Katherine: Yes, lying...You would never think to talk to me if you didn't want something. So go ahead. Spit it out.

Nick: What?

Katherine: Just... just tell me.

Nick: I have nothing to say.

Katherine: Tell me.

Nick: Nothing.

Katherine: Nick!

Nick: Fine! I just wanted to ...

Katherine: Of course you “just wanted”. That’s all you do. You want everything, Nick. You know what I want? I want you to care. I want you to think. I want you to remember the one thing you should want. Me. I want you to want me.

[Move DSL, USR, then USL in his face]

Nick: I do care!

Katherine: No you don’t.

Nick: I do, Katherine.

Katherine: You don’t!

Nick: Katherine I’m sorry I got home late. I was busy and the car ran out of gas and... and I was busy.

[Move DSR, Shake head]

Katherine: Busy. Busy. You were busy. I WAS BUSY. Do you think I wait for you all day? Do you think I don’t have a life? Do you think you’re important?

Nick: Don’t you?

[Face Katherine, move to her]

Katherine: Don’t I... What are you talking about Nick?

Nick: Don't you wait for me all day? I come home and you complain. I stay out late and you complain. You're always complaining. I can't even...

Katherine: Why do you think I complain, Nick? You ignore me all day. You never show that you care. And you forgot. You forgot what today was. I don't know why I thought you would remember. You're worthless.

[Push Nick USB]

Nick: I didn't forget.

[Katherine shake head]

Nick: I didn't!

Katherine: You are disgusting.

Nick: What are you talking about Katherine?

Katherine: You are a disgusting, dirty liar. You lie, and you lie, and YOU lie. You keep me attached. You come home. You say you LOVE me. Then you leave. You're a good-for-nothing liar who dirties MY house by coming into it.

Nick: I know it's our anniversary. I *[look through pockets]* I got you something, but I can't...

Katherine: You disgust me.

Nick: Honey...

[Grab Katherine's wrist]

Katherine: Don't touch me.

[Try to escape his grasp]

Nick: I promise I had something... I just...

[Katherine push him away]

Nick: Katherine, please listen.

Katherine: I hate you. I hate you. I hate you. Why won't you leave me?

Nick: I would never leave you, honey.

Katherine: You're hurting me by staying.

Nick: I vowed to never leave you.

Katherine: That doesn't mean anything. You are no longer the man I married.

Nick: I vowed to stay through sickness and health.

Katherine: Through sickness? The only one sick here is you, Nick. You're sick in your head.

[Point finger at Nick's chest]

Nick: I said I would never leave you, we would have to be parted by death.

Katherine: So die.

Nick: Please, stop.

Katherine: You're a worthless...

[Walk towards Nick]

Nick: Stop

Katherine: Good for nothing idiot

[Continue walking]

Nick: Stop.

Katherine: Your mother raised you wrong.

[Whisper, then turns away]

Nick: STOP. Why do you think of me like this? How dumb can you possibly be, Katherine? I'm worthless? You sit on the couch I bought. You eat the food I pay for. How do you think I pay for that stuff, huh? Huh? Oh, that's right. You don't know. You wouldn't care to know because all you do with your miserable life is complain. You're pitiful.

Katherine: Oh wow, big deal. You have to work a big-boy job, and it kills you, huh?

Nick: Job...? Job? This is how little you care. I lost my job, Katherine. Do you understand? I... Have... No... Job. Read my lips. Do something to get my words through your head. You wanna know why I've been busy? I've been trying to find ways for you to stay happy. For you to have money to spend. I did get you a gift. You know how? By looking. By barely scraping by. By begging for money like I'm some homeless man on the street. And yet... You're still the most ungrateful woman I've met in my life. All of this for what...

Katherine: Nick...

Nick: You know what... Wait.

[Check pocket. Wait a moment. Laugh, very loud and wholeheartedly. Double over and laugh, clutch stomach]

Nick: *[Still laughing]* I found your gift.