

Béchamel Test

By Danielle Aquilina

SCENE 1: TEGAN'S BEDROOM

4 young girls (age 14), sit around in a bedroom at a slumber party

MEG: So, tell us. How's it going with your... you know... boyfriend?

STACEY: Well...

TEGAN: Um. Fuchsia

CHARLOTTE: Fuchsia?

STACEY: It's a code word

MEG: Everyone gets 3 fuchsia's a night

STACEY: It means we have to stop talking about what we're talking about

CHARLOTTE: Oh

STACEY: It's like a veto thing

CHARLOTTE: Veto?

STACEY: Yeah.

MEG: It's a thing Americans' say

TEGAN: How would you know what Americans' say?

MEG: Like, in *Friends*. Ross and Rachel have Veto's for baby names.

CHARLOTTE: Oh

MEG: Yeah

TEGAN: And like in *Friends* their lives don't revolve around men

STACEY rolls her eyes

TEGAN: I'm serious. If you want to be an independent woman one day, you need to know how to pass the béchamel test.

MEG: Isn't that a sauce?

TEGAN: No. It's a way to have important feminist conversations that don't revolve around the opposite sex.

MEG: That's the white sauce in lasagne right?

TEGAN: Um, I think I would know what the Bechamel test is. After all. Who's the one who is most in tune with her feminine womanhood?

MEG: Eww

TEGAN: Its not gross. It's beautiful, and perfectly natural and extremely feminine. And one day you'll be able to see that for yourself. But in the meantime I will not be slut shamed for being sex positive.

CHARLOTTE: (*whispers to STACEY*) This is kind of making me uncomfortable.

STACEY: Don't worry. Once she runs out of fuchsia's she leaves the room instead of trying to fight it. She's progressive like that.

CHARLOTTE: Yeah, but. Did she just say she, you know....

STACEY: Yeah.

CHARLOTTE: How?

TEGAN: If you two are curious about my sexual liberation you can just ask me. I'm an open book. There's nothing I'm embarrassed to talk about. So, go on. Ask me anything.

CHARLOTTE: No, I just meant –

TEGAN: Seriously. Like, do I use lube? Have I tried different toys? How does it feel? Anything.

MEG: FUCHSIA! Hard Fuchsia!

TEGAN: Don't be such a prude. Sex is a beautiful thing and shouldn't be shut down. That's just adding fuel to the fire that is run daily by the patriarchy that says that women shouldn't be sexually liberated because if they were to explore and empower themselves then they wouldn't belong to men anymore.

CHARLOTTE: Does that count as part of the béchamel test?

MEG: Yeah, isn't that talking about men?

TEGAN: No, it's about empowering women so we're free to own our lives.

MEG: Yeah, but you still connected back to men...

STACEY: And you said it means we have important feminist conversations that don't revolve around the opposite sex.

TEGAN: Uh, whatever. The point is, we all have vaginas and should know how they work.

MEG: Eww.

TEGAN: Vagina's not a gross word Meg. Grow up. You've got a vagina, I've got a vagina, Stacey's got a vagina. Your mum's got a vagina. Where do you think you came from? Are you saying babies and birth are gross?

MEG: No, but can you stop saying that word please?

TEGAN: What? Vagina?

STACEY: Tegan.

TEGAN: I told you, I'm not going by Tegan anymore. It's Teg.

STACEY: Teg?

TEGAN: Yes. Teg.

MEG: I don't think that's a word.

TEGAN: It's a name I've chosen that's androgynous.

STACEY: Is it?

TEGAN: Well, does it sound like it would be a male or female name?

STACEY: It sounds like a name for something you'd take camping

MEG: Hang on. Let me get this straight. We're going to be Stacey, Meg and... Teg?

STACEY: And Charlotte.

MEG: Oh yeah. Sorry.

TEGAN: It's not a big deal. Androgyny is something that exists in this world more and more now Meg

CHARLOTTE: Yeah, but. *Are you androgynous?*

TEGAN: It's not that simple

STACEY: Isn't it?

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