

DECLARATION OF LOVE: GAME ON

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Characters:

SHEREE & RITA: Women, 30s. Longtime friends.

Setting: Living room of Rita's house. 8pm on a Saturday. Rita and Sheree are playing a children's board game that involves pulling cards, rolling dice, moving pieces. They are drinking tea with a little booze and eating cookies.

**Note: SFX for David are in bold below. SFX consist of alternating game play sounds like pulling cards, rolling dice, spinning a spinner, moving pieces. Designer's choice.**

Come on, come on, come on!

SHEREE

What?

RITA

It's your turn.

SHEREE

I'm too old to play this, Rita.  
It's a kid game.

RITA

That's all I got now cuz all I got  
is kids, ok? Now go.

SHEREE

OK

**SFX: Sheree: Game play.**

RITA

I like easy games cuz we can play  
and talk. I don't have any brain  
cells left for strategizing after  
this long-as-hell day with the  
baby. Jordan gave up and went to  
bed with the kids.

SHEREE

OK

RITA  
 Stop with the OK, Sheree. Why you  
 gotta be this way when we almost  
 never get to see each other?

**SFX: Rita: Game play**

SHEREE  
 I am happy to see you.

RITA  
 Hoo-hoo! I got Cookie Crown Way,  
 baby! Ooo! Your turn, Sher-bear.

**SFX: Sheree: Game play.**

SHEREE  
 So...Veronica -

RITA  
 Yeahhh? Veronica?

SHEREE  
 Last night Veronica told me... she  
 loves me.

RITA  
 Oh my WHAT! (she sings a little  
 made up tune)

SHEREE  
 Shhh- you're gonna wake everyone  
 up.

RITA  
 Oh my GOD, I'm so happy for you!  
 Oh, honey, come here.

**SFX: Hugging. (Actors made SFX)**

SHEREE  
 Ok, no, let go of me. We broke up.  
 I broke up with her.

RITA  
 Hold up, what? You have been  
 talking about this chick non-stop  
 for months - all the time you spend  
 together and how easy she is to  
 talk to and she finally tells you  
 that she loves you and you dump  
 her?

SHEREE  
I mean...yeah.

RITA  
Gahh, why?

SHEREE  
Cuz I don't LOVE her love her - not  
like I wanna love her, or like she  
loves me, or like I wanna love my  
person.

RITA  
What?

SHEREE  
What what?! It's your turn.

RITA  
Fine.

**SFX: Rita: Game play. Beat.**

SHEREE  
Rita, like, Veronica and me are  
really good friends, we're  
compatible. You know, it's nice but  
there's never any...excitement. I  
never feel 'Marvin Gaye' with her.

RITA  
What does that mean, Sheree?

SHEREE  
(sings, continues under  
RITA)  
"Let's get it on..."etc.

RITA  
You are so silly.

**SFX: RITA and SHEREE do a little singing and laughing (this  
is a song they both know and they are old friends). Actor  
made SFX.**

RITA (CONT'D)  
Shh!

SHEREE  
Sorry, you think we woke the kids?

RITA  
 (listens)  
 Lord, I hope not. Ok, we're good.  
 Go ahead.

**SFX: Sheree: Game play.**

SHEREE  
 It's just too easy with her or  
 something. Dang, why do I keep  
 getting Cinnamon Bombs? I hate this  
 game. Go.

**SFX: Rita: Game play.**

RITA  
 Alright, I'ma tell you this cuz I'm  
 your oldest friend and I want you  
 and your Cinnamon Bombs to listen  
 up, Sheree. Easy is good.  
 Friendship and compatibility are  
 really good. Excitement and sexy-  
 sexy Marvin Gaye are optional.

SHEREE  
 (interrupting)  
 Come on-

RITA  
 (interrupting)  
 Nice, but not necessary.

SHEREE  
 No -

RITA  
 Yes. I am telling you that five  
 years from now, when you and  
 Veronica have young kids and  
 fifteen years from now when you  
 have teenagers and thirty years  
 from now when you are getting ready  
 to retire and you're both old as  
 hell -- you're gonna look back and  
 say, "My God, that was hard. My  
 good good life was hard. Thank God,  
 I picked someone easy like  
 Veronica."

SHEREE  
 No.

RITA  
 Yes.

SHEREE

No, no, no. Listen, I made a list - I wrote down everything I could think of that made me feel the way I'm talking about, the kinda tingly feeling I wanna feel everyday. And Veronica wasn't on it. She just wasn't there.

RITA

Wow, what was on your list?

**SFX: Sheree: Game play.**

SHEREE

Adventures, travel, challenges, things I've never done, just excitement! I wanna go to Greece, I wanna eat a tiny piece of that poison fish that makes your lips tingle, I wanna go spelunking, I wanna swim with the dolphins, I wanna raise alpaca as a hobby farmer and skydive on the weekends! I wanna have an exciting life with a person who makes me excited. That is what I yearn for and that's not her.

RITA

Ok, we'll, you're losing-

SHEREE

I know!

RITA

No, I mean I'm kicking your butt at this game, loser.

SHEREE

Cuz you play it all the time.

RITA

It's for four year olds. It's luck of the draw, roll of the dice...

**SFX: Rita: Game play.**

RITA (CONT'D)

Whoo-hoo, Bon Bon Babies!

SHEREE

So? I know you have something else to say --

RITA

I'm processing. I'm thinking of future me who's gonna be comforting your weepy behind when you're lonely and bungee jumping's not enough.

SHEREE

I know.

**SFX: Sheree: Game play.**

RITA

(gently)

But that doesn't mean you're wrong. You're right, Sher-bear. If Veronica didn't make the cut cuz she's boring, she didn't. She's out. I'm rooting for you, honey. I'm Team Sheree. Live your life on your own terms, and find the love you wanna have. It doesn't have to be the kinda love I want. Or the kinda love I want for you.

SHEREE

Thanks for saying that. I love you, friend.

RITA

I love you, friend too, and I always will as long as you come over to play Candy Corner with me from time to time when you aren't hot air ballooning.

SHEREE

How could I miss a blood-thirsty game of Candy Corner at 8pm on a Saturday? We got some sleepy time tea -

RITA

I added Vanilla Crown!

SHEREE

Uh huh and we got these - what are these?

RITA

Cookies? I don't know I found them at the back of the pantry.

SHEREE

Ok, mystery cookies! What could be more exciting than all that? We are living on the edge right now, Rita.

RITA

Alright, hush. I'm about to win. Then you can go home and get your rest. Tomorrow you'll probably be taking photos from the edge of a volcano. Send me a postcard.

SHEREE

Oh my God, yes! I gotta put that on my list.

RITA

Volcanos aren't on your list? The floor is lava was always your favorite game!

RITA & SHEREE

The floor is lava! The floor is lava!

SFX: They laugh. Actor made.

**### END OF PLAY ###**