

Plaque Kills
By Dana Hall

A Comedic Monologue

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Bio:

Dana Hall is an accomplished playwright and a Chicago-based actor for two decades. She co-founded This Moment Productions (TMP) during the pandemic with the mission to continue to make the arts more inclusive, equitable, and diverse. She has always loved the power of storytelling and is excited to have her work in this production.

Ryan [gender based on actor identification] is late to their meeting because they were at the dentist. Ryan is often late and we have to believe it is likely due to their stubborn and anxious nature that things seem to take twice as long.

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Ryan: Have you been waiting long? I know, I know - I'm late- again.

I've a good reason this time. My dentist appointment ran long. It's never in and out there. You end up sitting and waiting past the time you thought you'd be leaving!

Oh- Fun fact!

Did you know not flossing could *kill* you? I can tell by the look on your faces you think I'm kidding. I am not. There's this sign at the office that says 'plaque kills.'- *How you ask?*

I don't know- it's complicated. Trust me I asked. Something about the bacteria traveling from your teeth into the bloodstream where it apparently swims around until it meets up with that extra side of bacon I had for breakfast, then they both hold hands and head straight to my heart.

Bam - **dead.** (*reflective*) What a way to go...

Definitely would not see that coming- Can you imagine the coroner? (*impression of the somber coroner*) - "Cause of death - 'NOT. FLOSSING.'

Cut to my mom throwing herself on the casket (*impression of mom*)- "whyyy" whyyy" if only my child used the 'Waterpik hydro-flosser we gave them last Christmas!" (*beat*)

Seems like a scare tactic to me, (*hands up/surrendering*) "Ok you got me- I lied -I don't floss after EVERY meal!" (*leans in*)

Do NOT say that your hygienist-by the way- trust me. I got a long lecture while I had that tray in my mouth- that's when they get ya- when they know you can't talk back.

(*Owww indicates tooth pain*) Damn! When she said I had acute gingivitis I thought it was a compliment - guess I was wrong- looks like I may be late *again* to our next meeting.

-END-