

RESIDUE

by william hinz

CHARACTER LIST

ELISE - 15

she and/or they. reserved, claustrophobic, enamoured by power.

SOPHIE - 15

she and/or they. restless, claustrophobic, enamoured by sex.

XAN - 15

they and/or she and/or he. relentless, claustrophobic, enamoured by love.

REX - 9

he/they. inquisitive, impressionable, enamoured by the future.

GAIL - 35-5

she/her. concerned, agoraphobic, empathetic, denialistic [doubles as Mrs. Teacher]

OI

Xan and Sophie sit on a broken red car surrounded by rising floodwaters. A long, tender silence.

Oi. XAN

- SOPHIE

Oi. XAN

- SOPHIE

Oi. XAN

- SOPHIE

Oi cunt. XAN

What cunt? SOPHIE

You cunt. XAN

Yeah. What cunt? SOPHIE

Watcha thinking about? XAN

Dunno. SOPHIE

Oh. XAN

- SOPHIE

Cool. XAN

You? SOPHIE

Same. XAN

Cool. SOPHIE

- XAN

- SOPHIE

Oi. XAN

Yeah? SOPHIE

What are we? XAN

Gross. SOPHIE

Nah. No expectation or whatever. XAN

Leading question. SOPHIE

You're reading into it. XAN

Pretty fuckin readable. SOPHIE

Nah. XAN

- SOPHIE

Honest. XAN

Fine. SOPHIE

Honest. XAN

- SOPHIE

XAN

-

SOPHIE

The fuck is honest anyway?

XAN

Just honest.

SOPHIE

We're two meatsacks flying round a sun, who happen to bang body parts together every now and again.

XAN

-

SOPHIE

-

XAN

Sick.

SOPHIE

-

XAN

-

SOPHIE

If I went missing, would you look for me?

XAN

-

SOPHIE

-

XAN

Yeah. I reckon. I reckon I would. Probably.

SOPHIE

Cool.

XAN

Would you look for me?

SOPHIE

You always find your way home.

XAN

Legit though.

SOPHIE

Probably. Just depends you know? Like what if it's fifty years from now and we haven't talked in two decades and we aren't really all that close anymore? You know, that'd be a bit fuckin weird wouldn't it? Like I'd probably leave it to your partner or whatever, or your kid. Or like the cops? But also you could just be dead and then we'd be wasting everyone's time.

XAN

I'd want to be cremated.

SOPHIE

-

XAN

Would you tell them I said that?

SOPHIE

Yeah. I reckon I would.

XAN

Cheers cunt.

SOPHIE

Fuck up.

XAN

What about you?

SOPHIE?

What?

XAN

How'd you wanna die?

SOPHIE

I wouldn't.

XAN

Yea but-

SOPHIE

-I don't like talking about death.

XAN

Triggered?

SOPHIE
Fuck up.

XAN
Triggered.

SOPHIE
There are lines Xan.

XAN
Pretty fuckin weird place to draw a
line.

SOPHIE
Well it's drawn.

XAN
-

SOPHIE
-

XAN
Aight.

SOPHIE
You gonna apologise?

XAN
No.

SOPHIE
Fuckin rude.

XAN
You never apologise to me.

SOPHIE
For what?

XAN
I don't know, you're pretty fuckin
mean sometimes.

SOPHIE
Fair.

XAN
Yeah.

SOPHIE
-

XAN

-

SOPHIE

-

XAN

We cool?

SOPHIE

Yeah, course.

XAN

Legit?

SOPHIE

-

XAN

-

SOPHIE

Yeah. Always.

FAMILY

Gail and Elise sit across from one another at the dinner table. They hold hands as if saying grace. The gun lies just in front of Elise. A long silence. The flood continues to rise.

GAIL

I love you.

Another long silence, shorter than before.

ELISE

I love you too.

Elise takes the gun, cocks it, then pushes it towards Gail. Elise exits.

BONDING

Elise and Rex sit in Rex's bedroom. It is raining outside. They bounce a ball between them.

ELISE

How's school?

REX

You sound like mum.

ELISE
That good?

REX
It's fine.

ELISE
You been eavesdropping again?

REX
-

ELISE
-

REX
Do you miss Dad?

ELISE
No.

REX
Same.

ELISE
-

REX
Should we?

ELISE
Dunno.

REX
-

ELISE
What do you think?

REX
Dunno.

ELISE
Is Stacey Nell in your class?

REX
Yeah. Why?

ELISE
Her brother is a fuckwit.

REX
She's nice.

ELISE
Do you like her?

REX
Yea.

ELISE
Cute.

REX
Do you like her brother?

ELISE
What do you wanna be when you grow
up?

REX
Dunno.

ELISE
Boring.

REX
Why do you only talk to me when
they're bored?

The rain starts becoming more intense.

ELISE
I don't know. I'm sorry.

REX
It's ok.

ELISE
I'll do better buddy.

REX
Thanks.

ELISE
-

REX
-

ELISE
That's a lot of rain.

REX
Yeah.

ELISE
Oh! Lightning! Cover your ears.

Elise covers Rex's ears. The sound of a gunshot.