



NUMBER 76

*A One-Act Play*

David-Matthew Barnes

# Number 76

A One-Act Play by David-Matthew Barnes

Number 76 (1st ed. – 1.18.16)

Copyright © 2016 by David-Matthew Barnes

**ALL RIGHTS RESERVED**

All rights reserved. This one-act play is fully protected under the copyright laws of the United States of America. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any manner whatsoever without written permission from the author, except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical articles and reviews.

This is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places and incidents either are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously, and any resemblance to actual persons, living or dead, events, or locales is entirely coincidental.

This one-act play may include references to brand names and trademarks owned by third parties, and may include references to public figures. The author is not necessarily affiliated with these public figures, or with the owners of such trademarks and brand names. Such references are included solely for parody, political comment, or other permitted purposes.

Editor: Monica Augustine

Cover Design: [VamosWrite.com](http://VamosWrite.com)

Publisher: Blue Dasher Press

## Table of Contents

[The Story](#)

[Cast of Characters](#)

[Place](#)

[Time](#)

[Acknowledgements](#)

[The Play](#)

[More Available Titles from Blue Dasher Press](#)

## Number 76

by David-Matthew Barnes

### The Story

At a bus stop on a street in Chicago, a young couple in high school emotionally confront his ties to an urban street life and her impending thoughts of suicide.

### Cast of Characters

MARIO, 15. He struggles with his street-smart persona versus the compassion Ana evokes in him.

ANA, 15. Ana struggles with an unshakable depression that has brought her to the brink of suicide.

### Place

A bus stop at the corner of Diversey and Sacramento Streets on the west side of Chicago. A gas station and convenience mart is nearby. We are in a primarily Latin neighborhood.

### Time

It is a Sunday night in the middle of October. The temperature has just recently dropped down to the low forties.

### Acknowledgements

*Number 76* received a world premiere at The Wing & Groove Theatre in Chicago. The play opened on January 7, 2000. This production was presented by The Dorothy Nickle Performing Arts Company. The Stage Manager was Deborah Caruso. The role of Ana was performed by Jennifer Faletto. The role of Mario was performed by Alberto Laurenzana

*Number 76* was featured in *The Best Stage Scenes of 2000* (Smith & Kraus, Publishers; Jocelyn Beard, Editor) and in the Fall 2000 issue of *The Confusion Review* (Stephen Wiley, Editor).

*Number 76* was selected by Love Creek Productions to be featured in their 2001 Summer One Act Series at the John Houseman Studio Theatre in New York.

In 2006, *Number 76* was nationally selected to be performed at the Kingsborough Community College Festival in Brooklyn.

*Number 76* was nationally selected for the Mid-America Dramatists Lab and was performed at the 2009 Mid-America Theatre Conference in Chicago on March 6, 2009. This production was directed by Marissa Guillen. The dramaturg was Brett Janecek. The role of Ana was performed by Stacy Parker Joyce. The role of Mario was performed by Marcelo Carrascossa.

*for Maria Canela*

*(When the play begins, MARIO and ANA are sitting together on a bench at a bus stop. Ana is curled up next to Mario, with her cheek resting against his chest. Mario has part of his letterman's jacket around her back, trying to protect her from the cold air. Ana shivers, lost in her own thoughts.)*

ANA. I'm cold.

MARIO. It's okay, babe. I'm here.

ANA. Maybe the bus broke down.

MARIO. It'll be here soon.

ANA. It's okay. I don't mind waiting.

MARIO. As long as we're together, right?

ANA. I don't wanna go home.

MARIO. Where else are we gonna go?

ANA. I got seven dollars. My Tia Olivia gave it to me when I watched her bratty kids. I saved it.

MARIO. Seven dollars ain't much, babe.

ANA. Not enough to live on, I guess.

MARIO. Not even close.

ANA. *(Cautiously:)* Do you know Natasha Muñoz? She's in my science class.

MARIO. Does she go out with Ernesto?

ANA. No - she goes out with this black guy.

MARIO. I don't know her.

ANA. She wants to kick my ass.

MARIO. How come?

ANA. Because she likes you.

MARIO. I don't even know her, babe.

ANA. Well, she knows you. She said she'd fight me next week.

MARIO. I don't want you fightin' no more.

ANA. Because of the baby?

MARIO. We don't know for sure yet.

ANA. I know. I can feel it inside of me.

MARIO. Let's wait 'til we go to the doctor tomorrow.

ANA. Okay - but if I'm not pregnant - then I'm kickin' her ass. She's been messin' with me for three weeks now.

MARIO. She's just trippin'.

ANA. Are you sure you don't know her?

MARIO. I never heard of her.

ANA. She said she kissed you two weeks ago at Junior's party. Remember - I couldn't go because I felt sick - so you went without me. Did you meet her there, Mario?

MARIO. No, babe. I've never met her.

ANA. She's kinda pretty, but she's got a big nose.

MARIO. Nobody's as pretty as you.

ANA. You're just sayin' that.

MARIO. I mean it -

ANA. You're just sayin' that because I might be pregnant with your baby.

MARIO. We'll find out tomorrow.

ANA. And then what?

MARIO. And then we'll figure out what to do.

ANA. You know what, I'll probably have the baby a month before my birthday. Wouldn't that be cool?

MARIO. Sure, babe.

ANA. I'm still cold.

MARIO. Move closer to me.

ANA. (*Laughs a little:*) I can't get any closer.

MARIO. If we were naked --

ANA. I would freeze to death.

MARIO. I'd keep you warm.

ANA. You always do.

MARIO. Ana, my angel.

ANA. Mario, my man.

MARIO. You wanna get married - if you're pregnant, I mean?

ANA. Of course.

MARIO. Cool.

ANA. And if I'm not pregnant?

MARIO. Well, then we'll wait - until we finish school and stuff.

ANA. I hope I'm pregnant.

MARIO. Me, too.

ANA. If it's a girl, Mario, I want to name her after your mother.

MARIO. Let's not talk about that.

ANA. But your Mom - she was the only person who was ever nice to me - besides you, I mean. Remember when she made me that dress? It was so pretty, Mario. She was always doing stuff like that for me.

MARIO. My mother was a good person.

ANA. Wow - I can't believe we're saying *was*. It's only been a month.

MARIO. (*He suddenly gets up.*) That bus is late.

ANA. Like I said - maybe it broke down.

MARIO. No, it'll be here.

ANA. Things break down all the time, Mario.

MARIO. I need to get home, Ana.

ANA. I can go with you. I can cook dinner for you and your brothers. And if your Dad is there --

MARIO. He won't be there.

ANA. Maybe he'll come home this time.

MARIO. He's never there.

ANA. I didn't see him, Mario. At the funeral. He should've been there to say good bye.

MARIO. I don't wanna talk about it.

ANA. Come sit down with me.

MARIO. I'm looking for the bus.

ANA. I don't wanna go home.

MARIO. I know that.

ANA. If I had the money --

MARIO. (*Frustrated:*) Well, we don't.

END OF PREVIEW