

“WALK THE DOG” by Alexander Lee-Rekers

CARLO speaks to a friend about his pointless hobby.

CARLO: It’s hard to find a hobby in hustle culture. I feel like there’s a lot of pressure put on you to monetise the thing you love. For instance, I started getting into baking when I was working from home a lot. I started making these insane cupcakes, posting pictures online, following other bakers. I catered a friend’s baby shower, which was fun... But then I realised I’d lost my hobby, and the thing I was doing to chill out was causing me this whole other heap of stress. So I ditched the cupcakes and bought a yo-yo. Spent a fortune on it—for a yo-yo, anyway. And I’m absolutely fucking terrible at it ... but that’s kinda the point. Want to see a trick? I can walk the dog. Almost. Stand back.

Performance Notes:

- *Who is Carlo speaking to in this scene? Who might this speech be intended for? As an extension to this idea, what might his objective be? What does he want to gain from this person by telling them this?*
- *Do some character study on Carlo. This scene is radically different based on who he is: is this a high-flying litigation lawyer speaking, or a burnout who’s never worked a day in his life?*
- *Explore imagery in this piece: how does Carlo speak about the various ideas/adventures in this monologue? Is there regret in his voice when he speaks about the cupcakes becoming a business? Is there stress when he talks about stress? How does he change when he begins to talk about his new, useless hobby?*