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SYNOPSIS: Sue and Julie have discovered a mystical book that reveals all of the secrets women know about men. From how to turn them down on a date to getting them to notice you, *The Boy Book* is a miraculous find for these two friends. An insightful comedy.

CAST OF CHARACTERS
(2 WOMEN)

SUE (f)
JULIE (f)
AT RISE:
SUE and JULIE stand center stage looking intently at a book. They are staring at it with great amazement and curiosity. In competition, the book can be mimed.

SUE: I can't believe this is real.
JULIE: Me either. My sister gave it to me and told me to only share it with my best friend. But we can’t tell anyone about it, you understand?
SUE: I promise.

They continue staring for a moment, pretending to flip pages.

JULIE: Who would have thought that there was actually a secret book that told women everything they need to know about men?
JULIE: This is so cool. Now I know why they say girls mature faster than boys.
SUE: It’s because of this book.
JULIE: Cool. Well, let’s read it. (SHE takes the book from SUE.) Oh, here’s a good chapter. “Phrases you have to use when turning down a guy for a date.” (SHE ‘flips’ pages.) “Wow, insert name, you’re so nice. You’re just like a brother to me” That’s a good one.
SUE: Yeah. Let him down easy. Here, let me see it. (Takes book.) “I’d love to go on a date with you, insert name, but I’m hoping to get a phone call from this guy I like.”
JULIE: Oooh, not too subtle, but effective.
SUE: Yeah. (Points to this one.) Hey, look at this one. It’s bolded and underlined.
JULIE: It says something, too. “Only use in extreme circumstances.”

They read together

BOTH: “I like you….as a friend.”
JULIE: It says, “For maximum benefit, pause in-between ‘I like you’ and ‘as a friend’ to lead the boy on.
BOTH: Ooooh.
SUE: This book rocks!

JULIE: Totally. Look, the book recommends doing some exercises for practice.

SUE: Like a workbook?

JULIE: I guess so, yeah. Here's the first exercise. “Playing hard to get.” Okay, do you want to be the boy or the girl?

SUE: I’ll be the boy.

JULIE: Okay. You like me and I like you, Okay? But I pretend I don’t like you to get you to like me more.

SUE: Is that what the book says?

JULIE: Yup.

SUE: That doesn’t make sense.

JULIE: It's in the book.

SUE: Okay. All right, I’m gonna be the boy now. (SHE turns in place and pretends to be a boy; SHE raised her shoulders and talks in a deep voice, pretends to be a dumb jock type.) What’s up, Julie?

JULIE: (Reading from book.) “As if!”

SUE: (As jock.) Well, I thought you liked me. Valerie Van Putten said you liked me during gym class.

JULIE: (Reading from book again.) “In your dreams.”

SUE: But…

JULIE: (Reading from the book and putting her hand in the air.) “Talk to the hand, not to the face.”

SUE: (Back to SUE.) Wow, that was great! I felt like a total idiot!

JULIE: That’s what the book said would happen! Do you want to try one?

SUE: Yeah, I’m the girl now. Okay, this next exercise is called, (Reading from the book.) “You know he’s trying to ask you out, but you let him stammer on and on and suffer just for the fun of it.”

JULIE: Gotcha. Okay, I’ll be the geeky type. (SHE spins around in place, becomes “nerdy”.) Hi, Sue. (Sniffs, puts hands in pockets, looks around, etc.) I was wondering if uh, you know, if you wanted to maybe…

SUE: (Reading from book.) “Are you talking to me?”

JULIE: (As geek.) Uh, yeah. Like I said, I was thinking we could maybe…
SUE: I can’t hear you.

JULIE: (Geek, a little louder.) I said I was hoping we could spend some time...

SUE: What’s your point?

JULIE: (Geek.) Well, I was getting to that. I really like you, and I thought I saw you looking at me in Chemistry class yesterday, so I thought we could...

SUE: (Reading book.) “After you’ve made him sweat as long as possible, try to embarrass him as well.” Okay. (Talking loudly.) Oh my gosh! ARE YOU ASKING ME OUT?

JULIE: (Geek.) Um, well, yeah.

SUE: (Flipping through book again.) Let’s see, it says refer back to...oh yes, (Talking to geek.) Sorry, geek guy. I like you as a friend, but...

JULIE: (As the geek guy, SHE screams.) AAAAAAHHHHHH!

SUE: That really works.

SUE: And it felt kind of good in a sort of cruel way.

JULIE: Well, girls have it tougher than boys. We have to wait until they ask us and if we don’t like the guy we have to feel guilty for saying no.

SUE: (Reading from book.) Wait, no you don’t. (They read together.)

BOTH: “Don’t feel guilty for saying no.”

JULIE: I LOVE this book!

SUE: Me too! Let’s keep going!

JULIE: Okay.

SUE: (Reads.) “Body language is essential with a guy. Let him know how you feel with a touch or a look.”

JULIE: That makes sense. Want to try it out?

SUE: I’ll look at you or touch you and you pretend you’re a guy. Tell me what signal you think I’m sending.

JULIE: Okay. (SUE leers at JULIE.)

JULIE: You want to have my baby?

SUE: Too much?

JULIE: Unless you’re on the Jerry Springer show.

SUE: Okay, I’ll tone it down. How’s this? (SUE gives JULIE a coy look.)
JULIE: Very nice. Coy, flirtatious, but subtle.
SUE: Great. Now you try one and I'll be the guy.
JULIE: Okay, I'll try the touch thing. Tell a joke and I'll pretend I like you.
SUE: Okay. *(In a guy's voice.)* What'd the snail say while he was riding the turtle's back?
JULIE: *(Very flirtatious.)* I don't know, what?
SUE: Whoopee!
JULIE: *(JULIE puts her arm around SUE and laughs a little too hard.)* That is SO funny. You are SO funny!
SUE: *(As SUE.)* Calm down there, Chuckles.
JULIE: Too much?
SUE: Unless you're trying to steal his wallet. Try again.
JULIE: Okay.
SUE: *(As a guy again.)* So the snail says, “Whoopee!”

*JULIE takes a quick look at “The Boy Book” and then turns to Sue. SHE gives her a big smile and chuckles huskily. Then SHE tilts her head back and sexily pulls a strand of hair out of her eyes.*

SUE: *(As SUE.)* That was great! Did you come up with that hair thing?
JULIE: No, it was in the book. *(Reading.)* “Guys love it when girls play with their hair.”
SUE: Is that true?
JULIE: That’s what is says here in the “Flirting without words” section.
SUE: Gotta remember that one. What else does it say?
JULIE: “When walking with a boy you have a crush on, stay silent and stare at him until you’ve passed him by. Then whisper something to your friends, giggle, and look back at him.”
SUE: *(Reading.)* “This will drive boys crazy.”
JULIE: Silent, stare, whisper, giggle. Got it. What's next?
SUE: *(Reading.)* “Calling the boy you like, but pretending you didn’t.”
JULIE: That’s a good idea? Can I be the girl?
SUE: Yep. I'll be the guy. *(Pretends to be the boy again.)*
JULIE: Ring, ring. Ring, ring.
SUE: (As boy.) Yeah?
JULIE: Oh...Steve?
SUE: Yeah?
JULIE: Oh, I'm sorry, Steve, I must have the wrong number. I meant
to call my friend Stephanie and I must have gotten you. This is
Julie, I'm in your algebra class.
SUE: Yeah, hi. What's up? Did you stare at me today, then whisper
and giggle?
JULIE: Why, yes I did.
SUE: That was really cool. Do you want to go out with me?
JULIE: Sure!
SUE: Oh, here's a good reminder. (Reading.) "If one of his parents
picks up, always be extremely polite to make a good impression.
Brown nose all you can; exaggerate and lie if necessary." Let's try
that. This time I'll be the girl and you be Steve's mom.
JULIE: Okay. (JULIE pretends to be Steve's mom.)
SUE: Ring, ring. Ring, ring.
JULIE: (In high "mom" voice.) Hellooo?
SUE: Oh, hello Mrs. Steve's mom. This is Sue from Steve's algebra
class.
JULIE: Why hello dear.
SUE: Oh ma'am. I wanted to let you know that I bought some of
your chocolate macadamia nuts at the bake sale and they were
delicious.
JULIE: Why thank you, Susan, how sweet.
SUE: And you have a beautiful house. My dad used to be a
landscaper and he says your shrubberies are the best in town.
JULIE: Really? Well I must tell my husband, he'll be thrilled.
SUE: Okay, I'm gonna go now and have another one of your
delicious cookies. And oh, by the way, could you please tell your
son, Steven, that I called to say hello.
JULIE: Certainly, dear. (SHE hangs up the phone and pretends to
yell to Steve.) Steven! That lovely girl Susan from your algebra
class just called! She seems very sweet. Why don't you ask her
out? (Pretends to listen.) What was that? No, I'm sure she doesn't
think "you're like a brother to her".
SUE: Good reaction.
SUE: Whoa.
JULIE: What is it?
SUE: This is huge.
JULIE: What? Tell me!
SUE: (Reading in a tone of awe.) “Getting him to say, ‘I love you’ first”
BOTH: Ooooooh.
JULIE: That takes up two whole chapters. (They read in silence for a moment.)
SUE: Do you think a couple of guys from school are off somewhere reading from “The Girl Book?”
JULIE: You mean is there another book like this one for guys that says stuff like, “Never call a girl right after a date or you’ll look like a wuss”?
SUE: Yeah, something like that. Do you think guys might be able to get one step ahead of us girls somehow? (Pause.)
BOTH: Naahh.

THE END