

The following is excerpted from

“1983”

A Two Character Comedy

By Ken Levine

Two young women in 1983 imagine what the future holds for their love lives and careers.

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1983

A Cafe Play by
Ken Levine

1983

INT. CAFE -- DAY

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WENDY is having coffee. HEATHER
ENTERS excited and joins her.

HEATHER
1983 is going to be my year!

WENDY
Wow! What happened?

HEATHER
I landed my first role as a series regular!

Wendy squeals in delight, then:

WENDY
That's amazing, Heather. What show?

HEATHER
Well, it's premiering this Fall. On CBS!

WENDY
What's it called?

HEATHER
(bursting with pride) AfterMASH.

WENDY
Ohmygod! The spinoff of MASH? You have hit the jackpot,
girl!

HEATHER
For sure! Did you know that 125 million people watched the
final episode of MASH?

WENDY
AfterMASH is a guaranteed HIT.

HEATHER
And the writers will all be from MASH.

WENDY
Then there's no way anything could possibly go wrong!

HEATHER
I know. So I bought a house.

WENDY
Really?

HEATHER

Yeah. Mortgage rates are thirteen and a half percent, so I got in at a great time.

WENDY

And you'll be making big money for the next seven years.

HEATHER

I bet I get Emmy nominations too.

WENDY

Sure. If AfterMASH is anything like MASH it'll be a critical darling.

HEATHER

And get this. I have a friend who's a psychic. She says in like 35 years networks are going to start bringing back series from the past.

WENDY

Why would they do something stupid like that?

HEATHER

I guess in 35 years they will have run out of ideas.

WENDY

Okay. That I believe.

HEATHER

Anyway, AfterMASH will be one of the series they do again. That and "Manimal."

WENDY

Well, if your show is even half as good as "Manimal" ...

HEATHER

Come on, no show is as good as Manimal. MASH wasn't as good as Manimal.

WENDY

So where is your new house?

HEATHER

It's on a cliff right above Pacific Coast Highway.

WENDY

Perfect! You get a view and when they have those horrific rainstorms you don't have to fill sandbags and worry the ocean will destroy your house.

HEATHER

That's right. Let the storms do their worst. Being on a cliff above P.C.H nothing can touch my place.