

MALE MONOLOGUE OPTION 1

DENNIS SHEPARD: My son Matthew did not look like a winner. He was rather uncoordinated and wore braces from the age of thirteen until the day he died. However, in all his all too brief life he proved that he was a winner. On October sixth, 1998 my son tried to show the world that he could win again. On October twelfth, 1998 my first born son and my hero, lost. On October twelfth, 1998 my first born son and my hero, died, fifty days before his twenty-second birthday. I keep wondering the same thing that I did when I first saw him in the hospital. What would he have become? How could he have changed his piece of the world to make it better? Every time you celebrate Christmas, a birthday, the Fourth of July remember that Matthew isn't. Every time you wake up in your prison cell remember that you had the opportunity and the ability to stop your actions that night. You robbed me of something very precious and I will never forgive you for that. Mr. McKinney, I give you life in the memory of one who no longer lives. May you have a long life and may you thank Matthew every day for it.

MALE MONOLOGUE OPTION 2

MATT GALLOWAY: So what can I tell you about Matt? If you had a hundred customers like him it'd be the – the most perfect bar I've ever been in. Okay? And nothing to do with sexual orientation. Um, absolute mannerisms. Manners. Politeness, intelligence. Taking care of me, as in tips. Everything – conversation, uh, dressed nice, clean cut. Some people you just know, sits down, "Please," "Thank you," – offers intellect, you know within– within– within their vocabulary. Um, so he kicks it there. Didn't seem to have any worries or, like he was looking for anyone. Just enjoy his drink and the company around. Now, approximately eleven forty-five, eleven-thirty –eleven forty-five, Aaron McKinney and Russell Henderson come in – I didn't know their names then, but they're the accused. They're the perps, they're the accused. They walked in, just very stone-faced, you know. Dirty. Grungy. Rude. "Gimme". That type of thing. They walked up to the bar, uh, and as you know, paid for a pitcher with dimes and quarters, uh, which is something that I mean you don't forget. You don't forget that. Five-fifty in dimes and quarters. That's a freakin' nightmare. Now Henderson and McKinney – they didn't seem intoxicated at all. They came in – they just ordered a beer, took the pitcher with them back into back into the poolroom, and kept to themselves. Next thing I knew, probably a half hour later, they were kind of walking around – no beer. And I remember thinking to myself that I'm not gonna ask them if they want another one, because obviously they just paid for a pitcher with dimes and quarters. I have a real good feeling they don't have any more money.

MALE MONOLOGUE OPTION 3

DOC O'CONNOR: Let me tell you something else here There's more gay people in Wyoming than meets the eye. I know, I know for a fact. They're not particularly, ah, the whatta you call them, the queens, the gay people, queens, you know, run around faggot type people. No they're the ones that throw bail, hay, jump on horses, brand 'em and kick ass, you see what I'm saying? As I always say, don't fuck with a Wyoming queer, 'cause they will kick you in your fucking ass. But that's not the point of what I'm trying to say. Cause I know a lot of gay people in Wyoming. I know a lot of people period. I've been lived up here some forty-odd years, you see what I'm saying? And I don't think Wyoming people give a damn one way or another if you're gay or straight, that's just what I said, doesn't matter. If there's eight men and one woman in a Wyoming bar, which is often the case, now you stop and think– who's getting what? You see what I'm saying? Now jeez, it don't take a big intelligent mind to figure that one out.

FEMALE MONOLOGUE OPTION 1

ZUBAIDA ULA: We went to the candle vigil. And it was so good to be with people who felt like shit. I kept feeling like I don't deserve to feel this bad, you know? And someone got up there and said uh -- he said um, blah blah blah blah blah and then he said, I'm saying it wrong, but basically he said, c'mon guys, let's show the world that Laramie is not this kind of town. But it is that kind of town. If it wasn't this kind of a town, why did this happen here? I mean, you know what I mean, like - that's a lie. Because it happened here. So how could it not be a town where this kind of thing happens? Like that's just totally -- like, looking at an Escher painting and getting all confused like, it's just totally circular logic, like how can you even say that? And we have to mourn this and we have to be sad that we live in a town, a state, a country where shit like this happens. I mean, these are people trying to distance themselves from this crime. And we need to own this crime. I feel. Everyone needs to own it. We are like this. We ARE like this. WE are LIKE this.

FEMALE MONOLOGUE OPTION 2

SHERRY JOHNSON: I really haven't been all that involved, per se. My husband's a highway patrolman, so that's really the only way I've known about it. Now when I first found out, I just thought it was horrible. I just, I can't...Nobody deserves that! I don't care who ya are. But, the other thing that was not brought out—at the same time that happened, that patrolman was killed. And there was nothing. Nothing. They didn't say anything about the old man that killed him. He was driving down the road and he shouldn't have been driving and killed him. It was just a little piece in the paper. And we lost one of our guys. You know, my husband worked with him. This man was brand new on the force. But I mean, here's one of ours, and it was just a little piece in the paper. And a lot of it is my feeling that the media is portraying Matthew Shepard as a saint. And making him as a martyr. And I don't think he was. I don't think he was that pure. Now, I didn't know him, but...there's just so many things about him that I found out that I just, it's scary. You know about his character and spreading AIDS and a few other things. You know, being the kind of person that he was, he was just a barfly, you know. And I think he pushed himself around. I think he flaunted it. Everybody's got problems. But why they exemplified him I don't know. What's the difference if you're gay? A hate crime is a hate crime. If you murder somebody you hate 'em. It has nothing to do with if you're gay or a prostitute or whatever. I don't understand. I don't understand.

FEMALE MONOLOGUE OPTION 3

ROMAINE PATTERSON: We never called him Matthew actually. Most of the time we called him Choo Choo. You know, because we used to call him Mattchew, and then we just called him Choo Choo. And whenever I think of Matthew, I always think of his incredible beaming smile. I mean, he'd walk in and he'd be like, (demonstrates). You know, and he'd smile at everyone... he just made you feel great.. and he - would like stare people down in the coffee shop... 'cause he always wanted to sit on the end seat so that he could talk to me while I was working. And if someone was sitting in that seat, he would just sit there and stare at him. Until they left. And then he would claim his spot. But Matthew had a political side to him... I mean, he really wanted to get into political affairs... that's all his big interest was, was watching CNN and MSNBC, I mean that's the only TV station I ever saw his TV tuned into. He was just really smart in political affairs, but not too smart on like common sense things... So he moves to Laramie to go to school.