

**Just Ordinary**

By Erin Spake

ALLY	Female, 17. Primary Narrator.
SARAH	Female, 16. Naive
CADEN	Male, 17.
LILITH	Female, 17. Resistant
NOAH	Male, 18.
GUARD	Male or Female, adult.

AUTHOR'S NOTE: The characters in this show are never intended to speak *to* one another. This play should flow with each line jumping on the next. Many lines overlap.

(Complete blackout. ALLY stands center stage.)

ALLY

It wasn't supposed to end like this.

(Lights up.)

ALLY

It *wasn't* supposed to end like this.

(CADEN and LILITH enter from stage right.

SARAH and NOAH enter from stage left.

From right to left characters stand: LILITH, CADEN, ALLY, SARAH NOAH)

NOAH

Please don't call my parents, please.

LILITH

You can't make me talk. I have rights.

NOAH

Please, please, *please*.

LILITH

I want a lawyer.

ALLY

It was supposed to be an ordinary night.

CADEN

I guess it started with a text.

SARAH

Yeah it was a text in a group chat.  
CADEN

No, I don't remember who sent it.  
NOAH

I didn't send it. I just wanted to hang out.  
SARAH

I don't think the text itself was the issue  
ALLY

I invited everyone over.  
SARAH

Ally invited the five of us over.  
ALLY

It was an ordinary night.  
SARAH

Ordinary.  
CADEN

Sure, it was ordinary  
LILITH

You can't make me talk.  
NOAH

Just ordinary.  
SARAH

We were just playing cards  
NOAH

Watching a movie?  
ALLY

Just being kids  
SARAH

Does it really matter?  
LILITH

You can't make me talk.  
ALLY

It was a usual night, but then...  
LILITH

You *can't* make me talk.  
NOAH

There was this party.  
ALLY

Noah kept talking about some party  
CADEN

It was just a couple of the football guys  
SARAH

For the record, I didn't want to go

It wasn't a big deal. NOAH

So we went to the party CADEN

So we went to the party ALLY

Don't waste your breath. I'm still not talking LILITH

There were so many people there SARAH

Sarah had never been to a party CADEN

And it was so loud. SARAH

She's the baby of our little group ALLY

I'm sixteen and don't waste my time drinking. Sue me SARAH

She's kinda defensive about it. CADEN

I have a future I care about SARAH

Really defensive about it NOAH

Surely I'm not the first teenager to care SARAH

It's really cute CADEN

The entire time she kept asking if we could leave NOAH

We were just standing against the wall talking over the unjustifiably loud music SARAH

We were hanging out CADEN

We could have stood by a wall anywhere. Why here? SARAH

Why here? ALLY

Lilith looked incredibly bored CADEN

After a while she just disappeared into the crowd NOAH

SARAH

We didn't see her till maybe an hour later  
CADEN  
When she came back she was acting...strangely  
ALLY  
Umm, I mean...yeah. It looked like she was...  
LILITH  
I wasn't...  
CADEN  
I wouldn't know.  
SARAH  
She slurred her words. She was stumbling around....  
ALLY  
She was definitely...  
LILITH  
I *wasn't*...  
SARAH  
She was drunk  
LILITH  
I *wasn't* drunk!  
NOAH  
That's my friend. Stop accusing her...  
ALLY  
We didn't know she drank.  
LILITH  
So I had a sip. Just a sip.  
SARAH  
I knew I should have left then  
ALLY  
We all should have left.  
CADEN  
I could have just gone home  
SARAH  
But I hate being treated like a child  
CADEN  
I *should* have just gone home  
ALLY  
But we all stayed  
NOAH  
Lilith is my best friend, and I saw the way they were judging her  
LILITH  
No, I don't know why he started drinking  
ALLY  
It could have been the football guys



It's the body's reaction to large amounts of alcohol  
LILITH

Suddenly he just *wasn't* anymore  
CADEN

The liver can't metabolize the sudden intake of alcohol  
LILITH

He wasn't there.  
SARAH

He was somewhere else  
CADEN

The body becomes depressed  
NOAH

I don't remember  
CADEN

It can cause sleepiness  
SARAH

He was stumbling all around  
CADEN

Slurred speech  
LILITH

He just kept mumbling  
CADEN

And emotional change  
ALLY

He started crying  
NOAH

All I can remember is feeling angry  
SARAH

It changed so fast  
LILITH

He was so angry  
CADEN

Sarah tried to talk to him  
SARAH

He just grabbed me and...  
ALLY

He literally threw her into a wall  
NOAH

I would never hurt Sarah on purpose  
LILITH

He doesn't get angry often  
CADEN

I've never seen him like that

	NOAH
I wouldn't hurt anyone	
	LILITH
He looked exactly like...	
	ALLY
I couldn't stand in his way	
	LILITH
His dad	
	CADEN
He told us he had to leave	
	LILITH
I begged him not to get in that car	
	SARAH
Even Lilith couldn't stop him	
	ALLY
Then she...	
	CADEN
I couldn't believe it	
	LILITH
It was the only thing I could think to do	
	SARAH
She slapped him	
	NOAH
I can't remember what happened next	
	ALLY
He got in the car	
	NOAH
Such a bad idea...	
	CADEN
I should have left...	
	SARAH
I could have left...	
	LILITH
Why didn't I leave?	
	NOAH
I don't remember	
	ALLY
He drove off	
	CADEN
An ordinary night...	
	SARAH
It all went wrong	
	CADEN

We froze

ALLY

We watched him from the driveway

LILITH

No, I'm done. That's all you're getting out of me.

SARAH

Then all of the sudden...

ALLY

The beginning of the end

CADEN

Noah turned the corner

ALLY

Time slowed down

(ALLY's voice continues as background noise. Other characters speak over ALLY. ALLY's lines slowly get louder and faster. )

SARAH

He sped up

ALLY

Tick-tock

CADEN

I saw lights flash

ALLY

Tick-tock

SARAH

I heard the crunch of metal against metal

ALLY

Tick-tock

NOAH

I don't remember

ALLY

Tick-tock

SARAH

I ran down the street

ALLY

Tick-tock

NOAH

I don't know

ALLY

Tick-tock

LILITH

We all followed Sarah

CADEN



I heard the sirens

ALLY

The end.

SARAH

The ambulance came...

CADEN

Right after the police did.

ALLY

But the passengers in the other car

LILITH

Oh, Noah, why?

SARAH

It was too late for that poor girl

ALLY

It was like those pictures they show you in drivers ed

CADEN

The ones that are supposed to scared you out of drinking

SARAH

The really gory ones, where you can't really tell what's left of the person.

LILITH

But ten times worse

CADEN

He was put in cuffs right in front of us

SARAH

And all I could think was

LILITH

He's eighteen

ALLY

He'll be tried as an adult

ALLY

It started as an ordinary night.

SARAH

No, it wasn't.

LILITH

Not even close...

ALLY

It wasn't ordinary

CADEN

Nope.

LILITH

You heard my story.

ALLY

Not ordinary at all

Let me go home now  
LILITH

It wasn't supposed to end like this  
ALLY

(In the next section the characters should say the line together, each emphasizing their own word. Then repeat the line at different speeds)

*It* wasn't supposed to end like this.  
ALLY

It *wasn't* supposed to end like this.  
LILITH

It wasn't *supposed* to end like this.  
CADEN

It wasn't supposed to *end* like this.  
NOAH

It wasn't supposed to end like *this*.  
SARAH

(At once, all characters go silent and watch as GUARD comes on from stage left and leads NOAH stage right. NOAH looks at all four characters then out at the audience. NOAH hangs his head and exits with GUARD.)

Not like this.  
ALLY

(Blackout)

END OF PLAY