The Love Game A Spoken Word

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THE LOVE GAME
A SPOKEN WORD
Kelly Anne Triece

Dramatis Personae
Pawn/ Queen I
Pawn/ Queen II
Chorus

Pawn I
When I was nine, my mother told me,
"games are for children,"
as she smeared bright red lipstick across her
mouth just the way he liked it.

Pawn II
I can’t remember when I started playing the
game with stacked dices.
They said the rules are easy, but I don’t like
rules that’s why I became a poet.

Pawn I
But I played the game despite myself
as many others do,
and these rules became infused into my DNA.

Chorus
Dating necessity’s to abide by:

Pawn I
Don’t text him first you’ll seem desperate.

Pawn II
And put on make up to hide imperfections.

Pawn I
Don’t dress like a prude but don’t dress like a slut.

Pawn II
Drink only two drinks cause no one likes a drunk.

Pawn I
Laugh at his jokes even when they’re not funny.

Pawn II
Don’t sleep with him on the first date honey.

Pawn I
Reach for the check but don’t ever pay.

Pawn II
An injection a day keeps the infidelity away.

 Pawn I
Don’t speak your mind because he doesn’t
mind what you speak.

Pawn II
When mad give him the silent treatment
for a week.

Pawn I
And when he comes home always
have dinner ready.

Pawn II
But go on a diet because he won’t like you heavy.

Pawn I
The bigger the ring the better the marriage.

Pawn II
When he messes up hold his faults as leverage.

Pawn I
Don’t tell him the truth because
he doesn’t want to know.
Pawn II
And when you cry don’t ever let it show.

Chorus
And we wonder why

Pawn I
After ten years, we don’t recognize
the person sitting across the table
as we are drafting out the divorce.

Chorus
Check.

Pawn II
Because the rules have become so
engrained in our brain
that they became social norms.

Pawn I
People brush them off as harmless necessities

Chorus
with no need for reform
but,

Pawn I
What about the girl more concerned
over her relationship status
than what she thinks.

Pawn II
What about the guy who spends his tuition
on a date with a girl
only in it for the drinks.

Pawn I
How about my friend dating the guy
with his bases loaded
his wife at the home plate.

Chorus
Check.
Pawn II
And the girl starving herself at dinner time because she’s worried about her weight.

Pawn I
Or the girl too afraid to leave a man that hits her because she’s afraid to lose something.

Pawn II
Don’t forget the man that cries at night because he feels he’s worth nothing.

Chorus
These are just misconceptions of the definitions that we know nothing about.
The meaning of love can’t be defined by rules written by people who haven’t lived them out.
Check.

Pawn I
But we continue to play until we are used, bruised and fused to hate.

Chorus
And people like us are just muses of the love game.
We’re done.
Check.

Queen I
Do not pass go.

Queen II
Do not collect 200 dollars.

Queen I
Because my mother once told me games are for children.

Chorus
And we’re not kids anymore.
Check mate.