CONSTELLATIONS AUDITION SIDE 1

Roland If you had some feedback –

Marianne Feedback?

Roland 'Feedback''s not right, but –

Marianne Okay, look, I just. I'm just going through some things. At the moment. My, my mother. She's been ill for a really long time. And. I can't tell whether I want you to stay because I want you to stay or whether I just don't want to go to sleep on my own.

Beat.

Roland I'm really sorry.

Marianne Why don't we just speak in a week or so?

Marianne and Roland are a little drunk.

Roland Friend of mine said to me when I told him that I was going on a date, he said, 'What does she do?' –

Marianne And what did you say?

Roland I said I don't really know but I think it's something to do with space. And when we were talking about your job earlier on I was nodding along pretty much the entire time but when we stepped through your front door I realised I hadn't really understood a single thing you'd said.

Marianne Most of my time is spent sitting in front of a computer.

Roland Right.

Marianne Inputting data.

Roland Right.

Marianne Cosmic microwave background readings.

Roland Okay.

Marianne Radiation left over from the big bang.

Roland Right.

Marianne Cosmology. Theoretical early universe cosmology.

Marianne and Roland are a little more drunk.

Roland I said I don't really know but I think it's something to do with space. And when we were talking about your job earlier on I was nodding along pretty much the entire time but when we stepped through your front door I realised I hadn't really understood a single thing you'd said.

Marianne Most of my time is spent sitting in front of a computer.

Roland Right.

Marianne Inputting data.

Roland Right.

Marianne Quantum cosmology.

Roland Right.

Marianne Do you know much about theoretical physics?

Roland Pass.

Marianne Quantum mechanics?

Roland Pass.

Marianne Quantum mechanics focuses on the quantum realm. Atoms, molecules.

Roland Right.

Marianne On nuclear and atomic scales, gravity is pretty much insignificant. But in terms of General Relativity, it's vital.

Roland Okay.

Marianne So you've these two theories that are completely at odds with one another. Relativity covers the sun, the moon, the stars, while quantum mechanics takes care of molecules, quarks, atoms – that sort of thing. We've effectively asked the same question twice and come up with two completely different answers.

Roland This is really sexy by the way.

Marianne The point being –

Roland I had a really amazing time tonight and I'd really like to spend the night.

Marianne But –

Roland With you. I'd really like to spend the night –

Marianne But now we've got string theory. Or, to be a bit more specific, we've got lots of different string theories –

Roland If you'd rather I didn't stay you just have to say.

Marianne And the exciting thing about string theory is that it potentially bridges the gap between relativity and –

Roland You haven't answered either of my questions.

Marianne kisses Roland.

Marianne A by-product of every single one of these theories – almost entirely by accident – is the possibility that we're part of a multiverse.

Roland kisses Marianne.

Despite our best efforts, there are certain microscopic observations that just cannot be predicted absolutely.

Now, potentially, one way of explaining this is to draw the conclusion that, at any given moment, several outcomes can co-exist simultaneously.

Roland This is genuinely turning me on, you do realise that?

Marianne In the quantum multiverse, every choice, every decision you've ever and never made exists in an unimaginably vast ensemble of parallel universes.

Roland Everything?

Marianne Everything.

Roland Everything I've ever done?

Marianne Everything you've ever and never done. We should try and keep our voices down, my housemate –

Roland But if everything I'm ever gonna do already exists, then what's the point in me –

Marianne Well –

Roland What's the point in me even –

Marianne Well –

Roland D'you see what I'm saying?

Marianne No, totally, but – Let's say that ours really is the only universe that exists. There's only one unique me and one unique you. If that were true, then there could only ever really be one choice. But if every possible future exists, then the decisions we do and don't make will determine which of these futures we actually end up experiencing. Imagine rolling a dice six thousand times.

Still drunk.

Roland Everything?