

# Tossing Fries

A Short Comedy  
By  
Brian Price

Approx: 10 Minutes

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Description

10 minutes

The idea of predicting the future by reading fast food French Fries just seems to resonate. In one form or another *Tossing Fries* has been a scene in a novel, produced as a stage play and a video and shown up in a Mark Time Radio show. See how it fits into your world.

Cast

- Lori: She doesn't lack as much confidence as she thinks she does. And she's willing to go find some answers. 20-30, any race.
- Josh: Has always been the boy-next door and actually he wouldn't mind being something more. 20-30, any race.
- Louise: Gypsy Louise can have any number of accents from Southern American to East European to Jamaican. She's mysterious but not at all menacing.
- Cashier: bored
- Sophia: If you have two good actresses who are dying to play the Gypsy, do not fret. Just add the CODA on page 9 and the equally silly and mysterious, Sister Sophia shows up with a few extra jokes.

# TOSSING FRIES

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**MUSIC:**            **A little light Mall Musak in the background**

**SFX:**            Echoey mall sounds and ambience

**LORI:**            I've got troubles, Josh. Ok? All kinds of troubles.

**JOSH:**            You don't have any troubles.

**LORI:**            I do, too. I've got troubles and I need advice.

**JOSH:**            You do not.

**LORI:**            I do too. I've got all kinds of troubles and now we're late.

**JOSH:**            Ok Lori. You've got troubles. Then what are we doing at the Mall?

**LORI:**            Where do you go for advice these days, Josh? Horoscopes? TV? Your mother?

**JOSH:**            Not my mother.

**LORI:**            Definitely not MY mother.  
The Internet's no good, it's too personal or too impersonal—I forget which. And Dear Abby and Ann Landers—they're both dead. There's nothing. There's no help. I'm from the suburbs. All I have is a car. And I found this flyer on my windshield.

**JOSH:**            What's that? (READS) Gypsy Louise. All-seeing. All-knowing. Love, jobs, children, lucky numbers. Ah, come on. Private consultations? You called this number?

1 LORI: Yes, I did. I called. We set up a date.  
2 McDonalds. 3rd level Atrium. The Lost Mall.  
3 And I'm late. Come on.  
4 (pause) Oh, here we are. And there she is.  
5 What do I say? Do I look all right?  
6  
7 SFX: Loud comic footsteps going off  
8 Then coming on  
9  
10 LORI: (BREATHLESS, UNSURE) Hi. Gypsy Louise?  
11 I'm Lori. This is the Lost Mall?  
12  
13 LOUISE: Of course, it is the Lost Mall. Where else  
14 would it be? It is my territory, where the  
15 future is known and all is revealed. You look  
16 troubled, my dear. Sit sit sit sit. Let the all-  
17 knowing and all-seeing Gypsy Louise give you  
18 a psychic reading. The first four minutes,  
19 they are absolutely free and yours to keep--  
20 no obligation. Sit down.  
21 Sit down. Put your hand in mine.  
22  
23 JOSH: Hey how about--what do you want me to do?  
24  
25 LORI: (UNDER BREATH) Ssssh. There's an empty table over  
26 there. Go sit down.  
27  
28 JOSH: Ah, come on.  
29  
30 LORI: Shoooo. (TO LOUISE) Hi.  
31  
32 LOUISE: You're shaking, darling. There's nothing to  
33 fear. You just let Gypsy Louise see. Let her  
34 see—let her sift through your fries and all will  
35 become clear.  
36  
37 LORI: My fries? What fries, like, French fries?  
38

1 LOUISE: I don't throw bones--you don't know where  
2 those things have been. I don't do star  
3 charts, because frankly, it's just too much  
4 paper work. And I don't cast the I-Ching or  
5 the e-ching or the ching-ching, because to tell  
6 you the truth, I have no idea what these ching  
7 things are about. I read fries.  
8

9 LORI: Fries? Oh I'm sorry, I didn't know. I didn't  
10 see that on your flyer. I didn't bring any.  
11

12 LOUISE: Then you must go on up to the counter and  
13 get yourself some fries, my darling. Get a  
14 large fries, get me a diet coke—lots of ice,  
15 and get something for yourself. That's how  
16 this works.  
17

18 LORI: But, what can a bunch of French fries possibly  
19 say?  
20

21 LOUISE: What can they not say? What can they not  
22 see? They know all. They see all. But, I don't  
23 see nothing until I see them. Now, get up  
24 there. You go and get your fries. And my  
25 diet coke. You can't expect to face the  
26 future; nobody can, without a coke and fries.  
27

28 LORI: Ok, ok. Thanks. Ah, I'll be back in a minute.  
29 (SOTTO) Josh, Josh, you've got to help me.  
30

31 JOSH: I've got to help you? You told me you didn't  
32 need me.  
33

34 LORI: I didn't tell you I didn't need you. I just told  
35 you to go away. There's a difference, now,  
36 go up and buy a large fries and a large diet  
37 coke, plenty of ice. Got that?  
38

39 JOSH: Yeah, I guess.  
40