THE SPIDER MEN
Ursula Rani Sarma


Time and Place: The present. A campsite in the woods of rural Ireland.

The Scene: At the beginning of the play, a nose-ringed Sarah (fifteen), dressed in a school uniform and carrying a satchel, indicts her parents for their hum-drum ways.

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SARAH: I got my nose pierced the day it happened. I'd wanted to have it done for ages but my mum said my dad would go insane, although to be honest I don't think he'd notice if I pierced both my eyebrows, my lip, my nose, my ears and got a tattoo that said slut across my forehead. Because he's not that kind of dad. He's the kind of dad that works all day and then comes home and sits in front of the telly and doesn't talk to anyone for the night kind of dad. It's like my mum threatens us with him just so we'll think he gives a shit but we know he doesn't. (Beat.) I read in a magazine about this girl who really wanted to get to know her parents, she turned fifteen and she wanted to form an 'adult relationship' with them but as far as I could see all that meant is that she wanted to talk about sex with them. I can't think of anything worse than having to talk about sex with my parents. It's disgusting. I mean when you talk about something, part of you is making little pictures in your head to go along with it even if you don't want it to. You know, like if I say to you, whatever you do... don't think of a pink elephant. (Beat.) What are you thinking of? (Beat.) See? So match that with talking about sex with your parents. (Makes a face.) It's just... disgusting.