Panda 1

PETE
(Re: the bag)

My laptop was in there.

JULES

Oh. Sorry.

PETE

It's a piece of shit.

They kiss again.

PETE

For the record, that wasn't quite how it happened.

JULES

Hey, can you shut up for second?

They kiss again.

They go into the house.

Start

PANDA escapes onto the porch behind them and gleefully scratches at a cushion.

She settles down and speaks to the audience.

PANDA

In 1946 husband and wife team Maya Derren and Alexander Hammid produced a twenty two minute experimental silent film called *The Private Life of a Cat.* The film is shot from the perspective of the two cats the couple lived with, and never shows a single human. In one cat's opinion, it is the greatest movie ever made.

The film includes footage of the female cat giving birth in a manner so graphic that the film was banned in several cinemas. Today you can just google it and watch as gooey blind kittens slip from the mother cat's womb covered in embryonic slime to be licked clean and gently guided towards a free nipple. Even in black and white, humans find the footage raw, animal, and oddly shocking. Human birth, even when troublesome or dangerous in the plot, tends to be very clean on film. I often wonder, "Who licked that baby clean off camera? And why are they so worried about a little womb slime?"

PANDA
The advantage of being a cat is I don't really have to worry about these things. Gender. Art. Meaning. I like *The Private Life of a Cat* because I like looking at other cats, so sue me. I like that they don't wear costumes or clown around. And I like how the mother and father cat like each other. I like it when the father licks the mother's head at the beginning and again at the end and you just get this feeling like, this is good family of cats.
It's an animal thing, humans wouldn't understand.

End —

PANDA goes inside.

SCENE 7

WILLA climbs up on the porch. Hand sanitizer.
She knocks at the door. No answer. She gets out keys and unlocks the door.

WILLA
(calling inside)
Jules?

PANDA slips around her onto the porch.

WILLA
Oh no you don't. Get back in there.

WILLA tries to shoo PANDA back in the house. She goes to pick her up and PANDA scratches her wrist.

WILLA
Ow!
Fine, stay out here. This is why I'm a dog person.

PANDA
(to audience)
I just do that to keep her on her toes. I like Not Jules.

WILLA
(inspecting her scratch)
Jesus.

WILLA gets out her phone.

PANDA does some yoga and talks to the audience.