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Darkly funny one-act *Forever Bound*

As **Forever Bound** by Steve Apostolina opens, a young girl, who we later learn is Rosalind (Emily Goss), crosses to stage right and remains sitting in partial darkness throughout the beginning of the act, the first of many intriguing aspects of this interesting play. Lights up on the apartment, stage left, of rare book dealer Edmund (the never disappointing French Stewart, “3rd Rock

From the Sun”). His décor is interesting, a collection of large cockroaches taped to the wall. The landlord claims there is no roach problem and Ed has been given a 30-day notice to vacate, and bankruptcy cannot be far behind. Fellow book dealer Shep (playwright Steve Apostolina) arrives, and solutions to Ed’s problems are discussed.

Lights up stage right, and Thomas (Rob Nagle) arrives.

Theater
Review
by
Patricia
Foster Rye



He’s Rosalind’s teacher. The current subject is Coleridge’s “The Rime of the Ancient Mariner.” Rosalind’s manner seems intimidated at best, and we’re not sure where we are. Back at the apartment, Shep and Ed concoct a scheme to rob Thomas (the teacher but also a rare book collector) of a rare tome worth thousands. What follows in this one-act is a delicious series of mysteries and revelations that leads to a fascinating, if grim, conclusion, but to say more would spoil the fun. It is always a joy to watch Mr. Stewart work, and in this darkly funny play he is pitch-perfect and supported by a terrific cast. *Through June 16, Atwater Village Theatre, 3269 Casitas Ave. 4 Stars*