

From *THE PING AND THE PONG OF IT* by Nina Mansfield

TINA (early to late 20s)

*A spat about a ping pong table leads Tina to list all of the things she hates about her new husband, Gavin.*

TINA

You're the one that is so incredibly full of himself. You think because you read Yahoo news once a day that you know everything. You go around dispensing advice like you're a freaking Ph.D. in socio-psychological whatever the hell you just said.

And I think that it is incredibly fucked up that you decided to tell me you don't want to have children after we got married.

(Tina has picked up a ping pong paddle, and is using it for emphasis.)

And you need to grow up. Who plays beer pong after the age of twenty-two. Seriously Gavin. A ping pong table? I thought I was marrying an adult!

This ping pong table is a symbol of everything that is wrong with this marriage.

(With escalating ferocity.)

And you know what else? I hate this china. I don't know how you talked me into this pattern. It looks like your mother's. Come to think of it, I hate your mother. She's tacky too. Like you. And the way you talk to her *every* day. It's so freaky and Oedipal. And I hate this apartment. It's too small and too expensive, and now that I know you don't want any children, we don't need this extra room, so why are we spending the extra money for space we don't need. And while we're on the subject I think I hate you. I don't know why the hell I married you.

This play is available at <http://oneactplays.net/threemoremarrriageplays.html>