

***STAR ACTING* at ESPA**
MONOLOGUES FOR WOMEN
by Charles Busch

PSYCHO BEACH PARTY, CHICKLET, page 73, Samuel French. Page 100, CB anthology

Chicklet, a wholesome All-American teenage girl suffers from a multiple personality syndrome. At the big luau, Starcat, a surfer and a psychology major, hypnotizes her and she reveals the dark secret that has caused her personality to fracture.

CHICKLET

I was so angry with my mother. I wanted to hurt her. I took my brother Frankie's hand and we crossed the street to the playground. There were these awful slum children playing, pounding strange primitive instruments. A sharp breeze caused the wild flowers to have the wizened faces of starving circus clowns. The sky seemed so threatening, as if the clouds were created of demented angels warning me to flee. But I couldn't. I look down and there's a pale green snake slithering along the crack of the pavement, a coolly seductive creature on its way to a lizard ball. This viridian temptress stops to deliver me a message. A perverse billet-doux that I must disobey my mother. No, no, I can't do that. I love my mother. She's kind and beautiful. The snakes multiply, in a moment, there are reptiles covering the jungle gym making those steel bars as green as grass and terrifyingly alive. And all of them whispering "Go on, go on, go on the swings. Your mother doesn't love you. She loathes the very sight of you." I looked at my little brother, wearing his red overalls with the little fishes. I said, "Frankie, let's go on the swings. It'll be fun. I don't care what Mama said," He got on the swing and I pushed him. Harder and harder I pushed him until he was soaring into the clouds and that's when I dared him. I dared him, "I bet you can't stay on with no hands." He took me up on the bet and let go, and my wonderful little twin brother, this adorable little boy who loved and trusted me, he flew off the swing and into the outstretched arms of those ghastly angels and I never saw him again until we found his crushed, little body in the dumpster next door!