

Audition Monologues FESTEN  
From: No Exit, Jean-Paul Sartre

*Estelle, Garcin and Inez have died and gone to hell. But hell is different than what they expected: a room from which they can't escape. Just like they can't escape each others presence.*

*Please search the internet for a synopsis of No Exit, so you will know what the play is about. And what Inez, Estelle and Garcin are like.*

Learn the monologue by heart (men: Garcin, women: Inez).

**INEZ:**

*She's talking to Garcin, who's asked by Estelle to kiss her. He obviously doesn't feel like doing it.*

Well, what are you waiting for? Do as you're told. What a lovely scene: coward Garcin holding baby-killer Estelle in his manly arms! Make your stakes, everyone. Will coward Garcin kiss the lady, or won't he dare? What's the betting? I'm watching you, everybody's watching, I'm a crowd all by myself. Don't you hear the crowd? Do you hear them muttering, Garcin? Mumbling and muttering. 'Coward! Coward! Coward! Coward!' – that's what they're saying... it's no use trying to escape, I'll never let you go. What do you hope to get from her silly lips? Forgetfulness? But I shan't forget you, not I! 'It's I you must convince'. So come to me. I'm waiting. Come along, now... Look how obedient he is, like a well-trained dog who comes when his mistress calls. *(to Estelle:)* You can't hold him, and you never will.

**GARCIN:**

Day and night I paced my cell, from the window to the door, from the door to the window. I peeked into my heart, I examined myself like a detective. By the end of it I felt as if I'd given my whole life to introspection. But I always harked back to the one thing certain – that I acted as I did, I'd taken that train to the frontier. But why? Why? Finally I thought: My death will settle it. If I face death courageously, I'll prove I am no coward. *(to Estelle:)* Come here, Estelle. Look at me. I want to feel someone looking at me while they're talking about me on earth. *(Looks down to earth:)* There they are, slumped in their chairs. They're thinking: 'Garcin's a coward, but only vaguely, dreamily. One's got to think of something. In six months they'll be saying "Cowardly as that skunk Garcin". You're lucky, you two; no one on earth is giving you another thought.