

Sombrellu

By

Written by Kristen Rea

Collaborative brainstorming between CITYstage students at
Pathways Community School and Art Share L.A..

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Cast of Characters

<u>NARRATOR A:</u>	A stoggy theatrical purist
<u>NARRATOR B:</u>	A young dynamic woman.
<u>STEVE:</u>	The kid who didn't get a part. The comedic relief.
<u>JAKE:</u>	A Junior at ALHS. The popular girl, and closeted geek.
<u>BRAD:</u>	A Junior at ALHS. The jock.
<u>ANNIE:</u>	A Sophomore at ALHS. The teacher's pet.
<u>HAROLD:</u>	A Freshman at ALHS. The geek.
<u>MADAME GERTRUDE:</u>	The Oracle.
<u>BOB:</u>	A citizen of Manita, Sombrellu
<u>FROIDA:</u>	A Female Townsperson and Psychologist in Analizi, Sombrellu
<u>PAVLOVA:</u>	A Female Townsperson and Psychologist in Analizi, Sombrellu
<u>OTHER SIDE CHARACTERS:</u>	Uber Driver A & B
:	Citizens of Manita
:	Lana & Sarah in Analizi
:	Family / Friends in Los Angeles

Scene

South Los Angeles, CA & The Magical Land of Sombrellu

Time

Present Day.

ACT I

P 10TH GRADE

Scene 1

The play opens with a blank stage. NARRATOR A comes out and begins the monologue. Midway through, STEVE enters, eating popcorn, and stands uncomfortably close to NARRATOR A.

NARRATOR A

(dramatically)

To be, or not to be! That is question: Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune, or to take arms against a sea of troubles, and by opposing en--

(to STEVE)

I'm sorry who are you?

STEVE quickly wipes off his hand on his pants and reaches out to shake NARRATOR A's hand.

STEVE

Hey, I'm Steve.

NARRATOR A

Steve... and you're interrupting my monologue because...?

STEVE

Oh sorry am I interrupting?

NARRATOR A

Uh... yeah...

STEVE

Sorry man. I didn't get a part in the show so I just thought I'd watch.

NARRATOR A

And you didn't think to watch from the audience?

STEVE

Oh, no I'm good standing. Thanks for offering though.

NARRATOR A

(sarcastically)

My pleasure...

STEVE

Hey when do we get to the part with the dancing monkeys?

(CONTINUED)

NARRATOR A
Steven!

STEVE
It's Steve.

NARRATOR A
Look, Fine! You can stand here but you can't give away
the whole story!

STEVE
Whoa... chill old man. Just get to the good stuff
brotha! Nobody wants to hear Shakespeare right now.
We're here to see the show we all created! When do we
meet Jake and Harold an--

NARRATOR A
Steve!

STEVE
Oh, I get it. You didn't get cast either... that's why
you got stuck as the narrator...

NARRATOR A
Don't be ridiculous! The narrator is a critical role!

STEVE
Buddy, if you ever want to talk about it... we can talk
feelings. I'm here for you bro. Did it hurt when you
didn't see your name on the list?

NARRATOR A
(starts sobbing)
I just worked so hard to learn it you know... I mean
it's Shakespeare for God's sake! Nobody else memorized
Shakespeare! Woe is me! Wherefore art thou Justice!

Steve goes in for a hug.

STEVE
Bring it here Buddy.
They hug.
Need me to get this show started for you?

NARRATOR A
(still sobbing)
Maybe...

STEVE
(Reading from the script. Resumes eating
popcorn)
I got you. Ok. Once upon a time, on a day not unlike
today. In a place not unlike this place. The fates
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

STEVE (cont'd)

bring together four unlikely souls in the way only the fates can bring unlikely souls together. Segue Production Number.

(to NARRATOR A)

What does that even mean?

NARRATOR A

You're not supposed read the stage directions! Give that back.

Pulls Steve off stage.

P 9TH GRADE LEADS & 10TH GRADE ENSEMBLE

Scene 2

*(School has just let out at Abraham Lincoln High School. 1. **The Longest Minute**)*

CONT P 9TH GRADE

Scene 3

School has just gotten out. Annie enters the park to read a book.

NARRATOR A

School lets out and Anni--

NARRATOR B

Ahem.

NARRATOR A

and Annie walks to her fav--

NARRATOR B

AHEM.

NARRATOR A

I'm sorry can I help you?

NARRATOR B

Yeah, those are my lines.

NARRATOR A

I'm sorry?

NARRATOR B

Those are my lines. I'm the narrator.

(CONTINUED)

STEVE

Oh no she didn't!

NARRATOR A

I'm sorry, there must be some confusion. I'm the narrator.

NARRATOR B

Yes, you're Narrator A. I'm Narrator B, see
Points to script.

NARRATOR A

Two narrators? That doesn't make any sens--

Looks at script.
Huh.

STEVE

Oh yeah well, good luck out Narrator-ing my man
Narrator A. That's right you heard me!

NARRATOR B

It's ok Steve.

STEVE

No! I will not stand for this! I'm team Narrator A all
the way. You and me, Nar. Who's with me!

Tries to get the audience cheering.

NARRATOR A

Well if you won't stand for it, then will you sit for
it?

*Pulls him to the side of the stage and makes him
sit in one of the two chairs down stage left.*
It's in the script. Narrator B, my apologies.

NARRATOR B

Thank you.

Back to audience.
School lets out and Annie walks across the street to
her favorite park to read.

ANNIE

Finally some peace and quiet. No drama. No people. Just
me and by book, the Odyssey...

NARRATOR B

For Annie, the park was her happy place. A place where
the words on the page could come to life without being

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

NARRATOR B (cont'd)

drowned out by her siblings fighting, or her parents asking her to help around the house. Annie was a special girl. Smart and passionate, she had big goals and big dreams. Dreams to not only be the first in her family to attend college, but to attend Harvard and go on to make the world a better place.

Enter Jake and Brad.

JAKE

Oh Brad, this is so romantic! A walk in the park just the two of us...

Annie looks up from her book, still trying to read.

ANNIE

Well there goes peace and quiet.

NARRATOR B

Jake and Brad, the Abraham Lincoln High School homecoming king and queen stroll into the park. Jake has the twinkle of love in her eye. Brad has, well, Brad in his eye.

BRAD

I know. I'm a pretty awesome romantic guy. I felt like this would be the right place to tell you something really important.

JAKE

Oh Brad! I know what you're going to say and I love you too!

ANNIE

Ugh. Gag me.

BRAD

Oh ok, cool, well so you know how I love football?

JAKE

Of course I do you little vroom vroom varsity victory boy!

ANNIE

Annd, this is why I'm single.

BRAD

(in a koochie-koo voice)

Yeah so, since you're so supportive of my dreams to get a football scholarship to UCLA then I know you'll understand why it's time for us to break up so I can dedicate all my time to football!

(CONTINUED)

JAKE

Of course my little cutie quarter ba-- wait WHAT??
You're breaking up with me??

ANNIE

I did not see that coming.

NARRATOR B

Annie, who did not see that coming, looks up from her book.

ANNIE

Yeah, I just said that.

NARRATOR B

Ahem.. looks up from her book.

Annie dramatically looks up from her book to please Narrator B.

BRAD

Yeah schnookums, I'll never go pro if I don't start now. I just can't have anything holding me back--

Harold enters the scene walking backwards and accidentally bumps into Brad

HAROLD

Whoops sorry!

BRAD

Get lost, twerp!

Harold reaches out to shake Brad's hand.

HAROLD

Hi, I'm Harold.

JAKE

I can't believe you're breaking up with me.

NARRATOR B

Suddenly, Harold, lover of comic books, oldies music, and all things star wars, realizes he's entered a world completely foreign to him: the world of girls... and like feelings and stuff. And Jake, the head cheerleader and envy of all boys at school, is suddenly back on the market.

HAROLD

Oh, hey, uh... don't mind me I'm just, ya know... scouting out locations for my next Dungeon's and Dragons sesh. I'm the Dungeon Master. It's kind of a

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

HAROLD (cont'd)

big deal. I'll just be right here if you need to talk...

JAKE & BRAD

Go away!

HAROLD

Ok.

ANNIE

Wow, and I thought I was socially awkward.

NARRATOR B

Just then, gun shots ring out. Annie, Harold, Brad, and Jake, instinctively duck and crawl towards each other for safety. While they might be strangers to each other, they are no strangers to gang violence.

STEVE

Wait what? This got dark real quick.

NARRATOR A

No kidding.

JAKE

What do we do?!

BRAD

I'll protect you.

JAKE

Get off me

ANNIE

It sounds like it's coming from that way, let's go.

NARRATOR B

Annie, Harold, Brad, and Jake start to flea. Just then a car tears down the street and pulls over to help.

UBER DRIVER A

Get in the car!

Jake, Harold, and Brad start to get in the car.

ANNIE

Wait! If I learned anything from my mother it was not to get in the car with strangers. Why should we trust you?

BRAD

Yeah, how do we know you're not fleeing the scene or something.

JAKE/HAROLD

Yeah!

UBER DRIVER A

Oh, no, it's ok. I'm an Uber driver!

ANNIE/BRAD/JAKE/HAROLD

Oh, ok!

UBER DRIVER A

Hey Siri?

SIRI APP

(doink sound)

Yes?

UBER DRIVER A

Directions to...

Another round of gunshots ring out.

.... Ahhh! Somewhere! Get us out of here!

(Everyone in the car starts yelling different improvised things over the driver causing Siri to mishear the voice command.)

SIRI APP

Ok. Transporting to Sombrellu.

UBER DRIVER A

What the?

NARRATOR B

Suddenly the car begins to lift into the air. The Uber driver loses all control over the car as it speeds and spins. Everyone screams.

Everyone in the car screams.

JAKE

Ahhh! What's happening?

UBER DRIVER A

I don't know! I can't stop it!

TRANS TO MULTIMEDIA VIDEO

UBER DRIVER, JAKE, BRAD, ANNIE, AND HAROLD exit the stage.

(CONTINUED)

NARRATOR B

(Speaking over the video)

A worm hole opens in the sky and the car spins towards it, magically transporting them away from the park and the streets of Los Angeles.

VIDEO ENDS. TRANS TO P 10TH GRADE

Scene 4

NARRATOR B

(to Narrator A)

Tag, you're it.

NARRATOR A

Shocked and confused, Annie, Brad, Jake and Harold step out of the car and into the beautiful, lush landscape of the land of Sombrellu.

Annie, Brad, Jake and Harold get out of the car.

STEVE

Wait so they just magically got transported to another land?

NARRATOR A

Yes. Steve. Yes. They just magically got transported to another land.

STEVE

Cool.

JAKE

Where are we?

HAROLD

These ferns are huge! I've never seen vegetation like this. They look prehistoric!

NARRATOR A

Harold is captivated by the mystique of the land of Sombrellu. In all the Dungeons and Dragons adventures he'd lead back home -- he'd never seen anything so beautiful.

HAROLD

I've never seen anything so beautiful.

BRAD

Is this... like... Nor Cal?

(CONTINUED)

ANNIE

No, you idiot. I did not just defy the laws of physics to end up in Nor Cal. Harold, what do you think just happened.

HAROLD

(Standing in awe of this new land)

I think. I think we've traveled to a third dimension!

The Uber driver gets a ride request

UBER DRIVER A

Hey guys, sorry but I just got a ride request. Gotta go!

JAKE

Wait, you can't leave us here!

The Uber driver drives off through a worm hole

NARRATOR A

The Uber driver speeds away and disappears into a wormhole. Annie, Brad, and Jake rush towards the bright light only for it to disappear before their very eyes. The reality of their situation begins to set in.

ANNIE

(Sarcastically)

Fantastic.

HAROLD

(Genuinely mesmerized)

I know! This is amazing!

ANNIE

Amazing? This is terrible!

Jake is trying to get her phone to work.

JAKE

OMG why can't I get a signal! We're never going to get out of here!

NARRATOR A

Brad senses Jake's vulnerability and puts his arm around Jake

BRAD

It's ok, babe.

JAKE

Are you kidding me! You just broke up with me!

BRAD

So?

NARRATOR A

Brad stands there like an arrogant fool, reinforcing a classic male stereotype.

BRAD

Your face is a stereotype!

STEVE

Awe, burn!

ANNIE

Wow. What a winner.

NARRATOR A

Bradly. This show is not going to work if you talk back to the narrator.

BRAD

Sorry, Sir.

STEVE

Don't let him get to you Bro. I interrupt him all the time.

BRAD

Jake, I'm sorry. Let's not make this any harder than it needs to be.

JAKE

Look, just help us get us out of here.

NARRATOR A

Just then Harold spots a person in the distance.

HAROLD

A Person! I found a person!

NARRATOR A

Annie, Brad and Jake join Harold and to a shrouded woman in the distance. With the joy of a child on Christmas morning, the excited shock of a newly announced Oscar winner, the blinding--

STEVE

Ok they get it.

NARRATOR A

They run to the shrouded lady.

JAKE

Oh my God, thank God we found you. Please tell us where we can get a signal!

ANNIE

What? No! Who cares about your followers, we need to get home.

(to the woman)

Ma'am. My name is Annie, and these are my... Well these people and I need to get home. Where are we?

MADAM GERTRUDE

You are in the sacred forests of the land of Sombrellu, not to far from the city of Manita. These forests will provide you safety from --

HAROLD

Wow. Do they have a wizard?

BRAD

Shut up, Harry Potter. Look lady, I have to get to practice in like, 30 minutes. Can you just help us get back home?

MADAM GERTRUDE

You already know how to get home.

ANNIE

We were transported here by an Uber through some sort of magic port-

HAROLD

Wormhole. It was a worm hole.

ANNIE

Ok, magic Wormhole. But the car left and the wormhole vanished.

HAROLD

It closed. Wormholes close, they don't vanish.

ANNIE

Harold who cares! Either way the car left and we need to get home. Can you help us?

MADAM GERTRUDE

You already know how to get home.

(CONTINUED)

ANNIE

No, we don't.

MADAM GERTRUDE

I'm serious. You already know how to get home.

JAKE

Look lady. I realize you don't know who I am but--

MADAM GERTRUDE

It's time to go. It's time to go. Remember stay in the forest.

Madam Gertrude runs away. The four stand in stunned confusion.

ANNIE

Great. Now what do we do.

HAROLD

Stay in the forest. She said to stay in the forest.

JAKE

Absolutely not. I don't do dirt. And my parents will kill me if I get eaten to death by some sort of jungle cyclops. We have to find the city.

ANNIE

Your parents will kill you if you die?

HAROLD

Jake, I don't know. In Dungeons and Dragons when an Oracle says--

BRAD

Shut up Hank.

HAROLD

It's Harold.

BRAD

Same thing. Look, I just need to get home. I figure we came from a city, we need to find a city. I don't think you want to arm wrestle me over it. We're going to the city.

BOB enters the scene walking distinctly

ANNIE

I see a person! Sir! Sir!

BOB

Hi! I'm Bob. Are you lost?

JAKE

Yes! Oh thank God! We can't get a signal!

ANNIE

Can you really not go ten minutes without your phone?

JAKE

I haven't exactly had a chance to change my relationship status.

BRAD

Don't worry, I already changed it.

JAKE

When did you change your relationship status? We've been getting shot at, flying through the galaxy--

HAROLD

Traveling through a wormhole.

JAKE

Whatever.

BRAD

Well I did it right after school.

JAKE

Before you broke up with me?? AAAHHHHH! Screw you Brad!

BOB

Is now a bad time?

ANNIE

No, now is the perfect time. Sir, we somehow ended up in this land and need to get back home to L.A.. Can you help us get home?

BOB

Of course. I live in the city of Manita. We always love new visitors. Follow me!

NARRATOR A

Annie, Jake, Brad, and a reluctant Harold follow Bob through the forest to the city of Manita. Through ferns and branches and mud they trudge on until they began to see glistening glass buildings in the distance. As they make their way out of the jungle and into the city streets they are struck by the modern wonder of the place. They stare in amazement at the skyscrapers reaching towards the clouds.

(CONTINUED)

Townspeople start to enter the stage.
As they get deeper and deeper into the heart of the city they become surrounded by more and more people. The people of Manita have some strange mannerisms. Like Bob, they shuffle from place to place with their heads down...

STEVE

Dude. You know they can hear you right?

Tries to copy the style of walking.

NARRATOR A

No, Steve. Stay off the the stage. Let's just let them show us.

STEVE

When in Roam... get it? R-O-A-M... see what I did there?

Steve starts to wander around with the citizens of Manita on the stage.

NARRATOR A

Yeah, I get it.

NARRATOR B

Hey, uh. It's the scene 5 transition.

NARRATOR A

My apologies.

Narrator A goes to sit down. Steve is still wandering around the stage.

NARRATOR B

Sorry, can you take him with you?

NARRATOR A

Ugh fine.

TRANS TO P 9TH GRADE

Scene 5

Bob enters escorting the four through the city streets.

NARRATOR B

As the four feel the familiar pavement beneath their feet they start to feel their worries disappear. The city is beautiful. The streets are clean and safe. The people, odd, but friendly. As Bob acquaints them with

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

NARRATOR B (cont'd)
the city and points out landmarks, everyone's fear of
this new land starts to disappear.

BOB
Welcome to the city of Manita! To your left you will
find the University, and to the left is city hall.

HAROLD
Wow! It's beautiful!

CITIZEN
Hi! Welcome! See you at dinner later!

BOB
Dee-dee-no-ni

CITIZEN
Blerrr!

JAKE
Come on Harold, take a selfie with me!

HAROLD
Who? What? Me?

JAKE
Of course you! Come here!

*Grabs Harold around the shoulder and takes a
selfie with him.*

HAROLD
(Yoda voice)
Pretty you are!

BRAD
Gross. Dude, she's just trying to make me jealous.

CITIZEN
Hi! Welcome! See you at dinner!

BOB
Dee-dee-no-ni

CITIZEN
Blerrr!

BOB
And this architectural masterpiece is the library.

(CONTINUED)

ANNIE

Oh... My... God...

CITIZEN

Hi, welcome! See you at dinner!

BOB

Dee-dee-no-ni

CITIZEN

Blerrr!

HAROLD

What language is that?

BOB

It's Manitan. You might be wondering about dinner... um... well... Whenever we have um.. visitors in Manita we always have a special welcome dinner sort of a... ceremony... to um... welcome our um...visitors.

ANNIE

That's nice but we can't stay. We need to get back home. Our parents are probably worried right now.

BRAD

Yeah, I have practice in like... 30 minutes.

JAKE

Nobody cares, Brad.

BOB

Well, um... nobody has ever not stayed for dinner. Let me show you where you'd get to stay. It may change your mind.

NARRATOR B

Bob shows them to a beautiful building down the street. They take the elevator to the 61st floor and find themselves in a hallway lined with doors. Bob opens one of the doors for Brad.

BOB

Brad, It sounds like you like football. Well if you decide to stay in Manita, this is the heaven you will get to live in every day.

NARRATOR B

Brad steps into his room and suddenly looks down to see the Super Bowl trophy in his hands. He looks around and sees perfect green turf below his feet and a stadium of fans all around.

BRAD

Is is heaven...

BOB

Almost. It's your heaven. Built just for you. Stay and enjoy it as long as you like.

HAROLD

Oooh! Do me next! What's in my room?

NARRATOR B

Bob opens the next door for Harold. He steps in to find himself in a beautiful castle floating on a cloud.

HAROLD

(Gasps!)

It's beautiful! What is it?

BOB

It's everything you've ever wanted. A school for young Hobbit space wizards!

HAROLD

The one I wrote about on my blog?!

BOB

That's right Harold.

HAROLD

Wow!

NARRATOR B

Bob opens the next door for Jake, she steps in to see a social media control center with huge dedicated screens for Instagram, Snapchat, you name it. The room is filled with staff members busily working and a view overlooking the city and nearby mall.

BOB

Jake, I know you've had a rough day, but now all of this is yours. See that tall man over there? That's Mateo, your personal photographer. And Angela your personal assistant will take care of all your needs.

JAKE

(mesmerized)

Personal... photographer...

NARRATOR B

Bob leaves a drooling Jake and opens the final door for a very skeptical Annie.

(CONTINUED)

ANNIE

Look Sir, I appreciate the hospitality but we really have to get back.

BOB

Behold... the world at your fingertips.

NARRATOR B

Annie enters the room and sees an endless row of library shelves with a warm glowing light in the distance.

ANNIE

It's... it's...

BOB

It's every book that's ever been written and ever will be written... all at your fingertips. When you're here time stops. You can read all day with nobody to ask you to watch your siblings, or take out the trash. If you stay, you can read everything and know everything.

ANNIE

Everything...

BOB

So will you guys be staying for dinner?

ANNIE/BRAD/JAKE/HAROLD

We want to stay... forever.

BOB

Great! I'll leave you for now and return to escort you to dinner later.

Bob exits

NARRATOR B

Brad, Harold, Jake, and Annie had each found their utopia. All worries of returning home vanished. They found the place where dreams were real and could stay for as long as they wanted without worrying about time passing them by. But things aren't always what they seem.

TRANS TO P 10TH GRADE

Scene 6

Bob escorts Annie, Harold, Brad and Jake to their Circle of Life celebration.

BOB

I see you have all enjoyed your rooms.

ANNIE

We never want to leave this place.

BOB

And you don't think you're going to miss your parents.

JAKE

Who cares! We want to stay.

BOB

Great! Follow me right this way to your Circle of Life Cele - er well your Welcome celebration.

HAROLD

Circle of Life celebration? Is that like a Lion King party?

BOB

Lion King?

HAROLD

Yeah, you know like...

(sings opening of Circle of Life)

African plains, Drums, Animals, puppets... Disney?

BOB

Ahhh... yes precisely. The Lion King. Of course Sometimes we um, just like to throw a little theme party to make our guests feel welcome. Have a seat.

NARRATOR A

Bob welcomes the four to the Circle of Life celebration. They look around to see a feast fit for kings.

BRAD

I feel like such a rock star today.

JAKE

Well I am a rock star today. I got 13,000 more followers since we got here. I don't even care that you broke up with me anymore.

Bob speaks with one of the townspeople to tell them to teleport in some Drummers

(CONTINUED)

BOB

Tee-tee-tee-boo-beep

CITIZEN

Lessy wanaru?

BOB

Pudu pudu biru, a "Lion King" drumu. Hanapia.

CITIZEN

Ga-di!

HAROLD

(to Annie)

Their language is so interesting. It reminds me of a made up language from a book I read once, but I can't quite figure out the tonality. Maybe something about teleporting musicians? No that can't be right...

BRAD

What do you like speak pig Latin or something.

HAROLD

Of course, a child could do that. I speak six languages, including Elfish.

ANNIE

These things come out of your mouth and it's like you want him to beat you up or something...

Bob brings out a very confused troop of performers onto the stage.

NARRATOR A

And just like that the party begins. Bob welcomes everyone to the celebration and the people of Manita throw salt into the air to anoint the newcomers citizens of Manita. The smell of the feast is intoxicating

STEVE

Man this is making my super hungry.

NARRATOR A

Hold that thought.

BOB

I'd like to introduce our entertainment for the evening. In the spirit of this Circle of Life celebration, like from the Lion King, we welcome a traditional African dance troop fresh from their Midwestern tour!

(Applause)

(CONTINUED)

Musicians enter the stage, very confused.

MUSICIAN

Hi, um. Well actually this music is from West Africa, not Kenya... but I guess a gig's a gig.

MUSICIAN

Where are we?

African ensemble begins to perform.

NARRATOR A

As the musicians play on, Harold can't help but continue to overhear surrounding conversations. Slowly he pieces together the language he's hearing.

HAROLD

Annie, It sounds like their talking about dinner... or something about cooking...

ANNIE

Just enjoy the show Harold.

HAROLD

Holy Hogwarts! We're the dinner! Guys, they're going to eat us!

ANNIE

Harold, that's a terrible stereotype to perpetuate.

HAROLD

No, not them... THEM.

Points to Bob and the Manita citizens.

JAKE

What?

BRAD

Nobody's gonna eat me. I can take 'em.

HAROLD

Maybe individually but not the whole city.

The citizens start to pull silver wear from their pockets.

ANNIE

Harold are you positive?

HAROLD

Run!!

NARRATOR A

Annie, Harold, Jake, and Brad sneak out of the celebration. A few moments later the citizens notice and start to chase after them.

STEVE

Wow, this is getting exciting!

BOB

They're gone! Vreeeee Vreeee bi bu bi!

The confused band stops playing once everyone leaves

MUSICIAN

So... I don't know where we are, but I don't think we're in Kansas anymore.

The four run across the stage again, chased by the citizens

BRAD

RUN!!

Everyone has run by, the musicians are on a blank stage.

MUSICIAN

Are we even going to get paid for this gig?

Everyone crosses the stage again, chasing the four.

HAROLD

They're going to eat you!

MUSICIANS

Ahhhh!!!

Musicians run off stage.

STEVE

(rapidly to Narrator A)

What happens next? Do they survive? Do they get eaten? What happens to the performers? Did THEY get eaten? Come on man get up here and keep reading!

NARRATOR A

It's all you Narrator B

Steve runs over to Narrator B

STEVE

(rapidly to Narrator B)

What happens next? Do they survive? Do they get eaten?
What happens to the performers? Did THEY get eaten?

NARRATOR B

I did not request a sidekick.

NARRATOR A

Wow. Whatever happened to loyalty?

STEVE

(To Narrator A)

You're still my boo. Nothin' but love my friend.

(To Narrator B)

Go! Go! Go! Get to the story!

TRANS TO P 9TH GRADE

Scene 7

*Annie, Harold, Brad, and Jake run into the jungle
to escape Manita.*

NARRATOR B

Ok. Annie, Harold, Brad and Jake escape into the
jungle. They run and run and run on tired feet through
the city streets until finally the pavement starts to
become the soft soil of safety. With every step they
gain distance from the citizens of Manita until the
ferns and trees create a thick shield between them and
the cannibals.

BRAD

I think we lost them.

HAROLD

(breathing heavily)

Oh thank God!

ANNIE

I can't believe they abused the use of traditional
African music to trick us!

HAROLD

We almost just got eaten and you're worried about
cultural appropriation right now?

BRAD

Yeah! Who cares about cultural ap-proportions or
whatever.

(CONTINUED)

ANNIE

Hey. Somebody's got to fight the fight. We should have tried to save them too.

BRAD

Why? I say fend for yourself. Only person you can count on is yourself.

JAKE

Oh is that so Mr. "we came from the city, let's go to the city"?? You were the one that strong armed us into going there just like YOU decided we were broken up before you even told ME.

ANNIE

Oh! Suddenly Princess "No! I can't get dirty! Where's my cell signal!" thinks it's all Brad's fault we ended up there? You are just as much to blame!

HAROLD

Enough! Stop fighting! We all decided to follow Bob there and we all got lured by it's charms. Even you Annie. The important thing is we're safe now in the jungle.

JAKE

You know, Harold. You saved our lives. Thank you.

Hugs Harold

STEVE

Awe...

HAROLD

I'm um...I'm um...

ANNIE

He says "you're welcome". Ok, we're safe in the jungle, but we have to figure out how to get home. We have to keep moving.

NARRATOR B

The four keep walking through the jungle, searching for signs of life, the worm hole, food, anything that would help them find their way home. After hours of walking in darkness, they find a protected grove of trees and sleep, each taking turns staying awake to watch over and protect the others. As they dream, they start to remember all the wonderful things about home. The shelter, the food, the love from their families. Gone were the frustrations over all the things that drove them to the park that day to seek an escape from their home, the dirty streets, the traffic, the smog, the

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

NARRATOR B (cont'd)

noise, the pressure to get into college, the pressure to achieve greatness, the pressure to fit in. All of the every day struggles they faced back home --- well those struggles started to become luxuries they longed for. As the sun rose and marked a new day, and a new determination to get home. And then suddenly, a new hope.

Brad is on lookout duty as the others sleep and hear something in the distance.

BRAD

Guys?.... Guys?.... Guys! I hear people, wake up! Let's go!

They exit the stage

TRANS TO P 10TH GRADE

Scene 8

Froida and Pavlova are enjoying a morning coffee in the small town of Analizi.

FROIDA

Yes Pavlova, I hear that this is causing you pain, but what I'm saying is, the reason he never puts the toilet seat down is because his mother never made his father put the toilet seat down. Since he sees you in the image of his mother, when you tell him to put the toilet seat down, all he hears is, "your mother loved you more than I do".

PAVLOVA

I don't know, Froida. That seems like a reach. I don't think his mother has anything to do with the toilet seat. I think if I just attach a bell to the seat, eventually he'll condition to it and start remembering to put it down.

FROIDA

Pavlova, what makes you feel like men can be conditioned? Did your father respond to bells when you were younger?

PAVLOVA

Well I didn't ring a bell for him.

Harold, Annie, Jake, and Brad enter the scene

(CONTINUED)

FROIDA

And how did that make you feel?

PAVLOVA

Froida, I think we have company.

FROIDA

It made you feel like you had company?

PAVOLVA

No, turn around.

FROIDA

Oh well hello dears! Welcome! What brings you here?

BRAD

Don't come any closer!

PAVLOVA

Don't worry son, this is a safe space. What's brings you here?

ANNIE

We are trying to find our way home to Los Angeles, but we can't find the space portal that we--

HAROLD

Wormhole. For the last time, it's a wormhole.

JAKE

Please don't eat us! My parents will kill me if you eat us!

ANNIE

Still going with that line are you?

FROIDA

My loves, have you just come from Manita?

HAROLD

Yes! How did you know?

PAVLOVA

We can spot PTSD quite easily. I must say, I've never seen anyone escape the allure of Manita. The city is like a bright light, and visitors who come across it are like moths. Those two don't mix well.

JAKE

That's because they eat you!

(CONTINUED)

FROIDA

Don't worry friends, this is a safe space. We've heard that the citizens of Manita have become so plugged-in that they forgot to tend to their lands and cattle and their meat source went extinct. It's a miracle you escaped!

PAVLOVA

I thought you didn't believe in miracles!

FROIDA

Don't mind her. We were just finishing up a session. Please feel free to join us.

BRAD

Oh like a practice session?

PAVLOVA

No, a counseling session. My name is Pavlova, and this is Froida, my therapist!

ANNIE

Finally, normal people!

JAKE

What do you do Pavlova?

PAVLOVA

I'm also a psychologist. I'm Froida's psychologist. We're all psychologists here!

STEVE

Is that legal?

NARRATOR A

Well what is Legal really? This is a made up world we're talking about. The laws we live by, don't apply to them.

STEVE

Well that shouldn't be legal.

NARRATOR A

Don't mind him...

(back to the audience)

Froida and Pavlova promise to help them find their way back home, but first take them through their quaint town. The quiet countryside and cobblestone streets are peaceful and Froida and Pavlova put them at ease.

FROIDA

See that's Lana, she is a master in behavioral psychology. She's Sarah's shrink.

LANA

Hello, how do you do?

STEVE

So, clearly no doctor-patient confidentiality.

NARRATOR A

It's called the willing suspension of disbelieve, Steve. You should try it.

PAVLOVA

There's Sarah, she's an expert in cognitive psychology.

SARAH

Hi ladies! Feeling motivated and ready for today?

PAVLOVA

Sarah is actually Patrica's shrink. Where is Patricia?

BRAD

Who cares about Patricia, where are all the men?

FROIDA

(laughing)

Oh good lord child, they're obviously at home where they belong.

BRAD

I'm sorry, what?

PAVLOVA

Well of course loves, somebody has to grow the garden, maintain our homes, and hunt for food.

ANNIE

So wait... the women work and the men stay at home and raise the kids and make YOUR sandwiches?

FROIDA

That's right!

STEVE

Ok, THAT has to be illegal

NARRATOR A

Annie becomes intrigued by the matriarchal society of Analizi and asks question after question about their world lead by strong women.

ANNIE

This is amazing! You've built an entire world on agrarian principals and modern psychology. You live off the earth with no harm to others or to the land and spend all day nurturing your minds and souls?

(CONTINUED)

PAVLOVA

That's right!

HAROLD

Annie, I'm not sure I'm comfortabl--

ANNIE

Harold!

FROIDA

Easy Annie, our society isn't about power, it's about unyielding maternal love.

ANNIE

Sorry. I love it here.

JAKE

Look, feminism is great and all but we've got to get home.

BRAD

Yeah, you said you know how we can get home. You have to help.

FROIDA

We do but we wouldn't be doing our jobs if we didn't get to the bottom of your troubles first. Brad, you seem to have something you're trying to prove to someone.

BRAD

Just myself, to recruiters.

PAVLOVA

I'm sure it feels that way, but aren't you also trying to prove something to your father?

BRAD

My father? No. My father left years ago. Who cares what he thinks.

FROIDA

Ah, ha! That's it!

JAKE

I thought you said he died?

BRAD

He might as well have.

FROIDA

Brad, your father's approval is clearly very important to you. But Football isn't a band-aid. You can't keep

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

FROIDA (cont'd)

abandoning others like your father abandoned you just to keep proving to him that you deserve love.

PAVLOVA

These memories are obviously causing you great pain. What do you say Froida, I'm thinking Phylaxatran would be a good fit for him. you know, just to give him that laser focus during football games?

FROIDA

I couldn't agree more. Here's a prescription. Watch out for the diarrhea. And Jake, you seem to respond to the news that Brad's father left? Is there a reason?

HAROLD

Hey, I'm going to make this real quick for you, I already know I have ADHD. Can we go home now?

PAVLOVA

ADHD you say? Have you tried medication?

HAROLD

My parents have put me on all of them. Yes.

PAVLOVA

Even Drobugle?

HAROLD

Drobugle?

PAVLOVA

That's right.

HAROLD

Well no I guess I haven't tried that one.

PAVLOVA

Wonderful! My patients have had great results with it. Here you go. May cause seizures, death, blah, blah, blah...

HAROLD

Death? I'm not sure that's worth it...

FROIDA

Jake, what is it about Brad's father's abandonment that is bringing up feelings for you?

JAKE

Look lady, I literally just want to get out of here.

ANNIE

I love this place, but Jake's right. It's selfish of me to keep us here when we need to get home.

FROIDA

All in good time, but first we need to get to the bottom of what's troubling Jake.

JAKE

I'm fine.

HAROLD

Jake, It's ok. We're all in this together.

JAKE

Oh please, like you even know me.

HAROLD

I know that you're beautiful. Even if you didn't wear makeup I'd still think you were beautiful.

JAKE

I know I'm beautiful. That's what I am. Pretty. You don't get 19,000 followers in high school without being flawless.

HAROLD

Look, I know I want to go home. But these ladies just want to help. I may not be cool, or popular like you, but I embraced me a long time ago. I'm a geek. But I like being a geek. I feel like maybe there's someone hiding inside Jake.

JAKE

Are you calling me fat?

HAROLD

No! No! Of course not! But if you were fat, that would be ok...

BRAD

She's probably just mad I broke her heart. Jake, like, I'm sorry.

JAKE

No Brad! Get over yourself. Fine. I guess... I guess the reason is that when my mom died, my dad basically died with her. Not physically, but we used to do fun things together. She used to love... it's embarrassing... I used to love flash mobs. We would flash mob all over Los Angeles. But the real world isn't flash mobs. And if I'm going to survive, I'd rather be at the top of the cheerleading pyramid, not at the bottom with the flash mob rejects.

(CONTINUED)

PAVLOVA

What a breakthrough!

FROIDA

Take a deep breath love, how do you feel.

JAKE

Scared. Flash mobs are so 2006. But I guess if my secret is safe with you guys...

HAROLD

It is, but it doesn't need to be a secret. You can tell people you like flash mobs and I'll still like you.

ANNIE

I actually like you more knowing you're kind of a dork.

JAKE

Really?

ANNIE

Really. Own it girl.

JAKE

Wow. I feel... relief! I feel... awesome! I have to tell everyone!

Gets phone out.

Ugh. No signal!

PAVLOVA

Froida, what do you think? Sylenol might be effective treatment for her depression and anxiety...

FROIDA

Easy with the meds Pavlova.

NARRATOR B

Pavlova and Froida wish the kids well and before they leave, they impart the key that will bring them home. Every night, Madam Gertrude, the oracle of Sombrellu, watches the sun set from atop the the mountain. If they can get to her before the sun sets - she will be able to help them get home. But they issue a word of warning.

PAVLOVA

Oh hey! I almost forgot. Watch out for the monkeys that live in the trees on the way to the summit - they're friendly, but they're quite the little entertainers!

STEVE

Monkeys! Woo!

NARRATOR A

Steve! Sit!

TRANS TO P 9TH GRADE

Scene 9

All Analizi people leave the stage. The four main characters remain and are walking up the hill.

NARRATOR B

Annie, Harold, Brad, and Jake say goodbye and begin to make their way up the mountain in search of Madam Gertrude. Exhausted by the lack of sleep and emotional few days, they rely on each other to trudge safely through streams and up rocks, through thick forests and blistering heat. In the late hours of the afternoon they hear the sound of music in the distance.

JAKE

What is that sound?

ANNIE

It sounds like music.

HAROLD

It must be the monkeys they warned us about.

BRAD

Looks like this path leads right towards the sound.
We'll find out soon.

NARRATOR B

They continue their climb and the sounds grow louder.
Suddenly a monkey jumps in their path.

Monkey bucket drummer jumps in front of them and starts to dance & drum

JAKE

Oh he's so cute!

HAROLD

We should keep going.

BRAD

She didn't say they were dangerous. We've been stuck here for over a day, what's one minute.

(CONTINUED)

ANNIE

Ok fine, but only one minute.

They watch the monkeys perform. The four grove along to the monkey's performance. A few minutes in, Jake tries to take a selfie with them.

JAKE

Ugh. This lighting is terrible! Wait, lighting! The sun! The sun's about to set, we have to keep going!

NARRATOR B

With the sun about to set, they leave the monkeys and race up the hill. It's down to the wire will they make it?

Monkey's finish off their number.

TRANS TO P 10TH GRADE

Scene 10

Annie, Harold, Brad, and Jake reach the summit.

STEVE

Now that's what I'm talkin' about!

NARRATOR A

What is it with you and the monkeys? It's like the least important plot point in the story?

STEVE

Come on, what guy doesn't want to own a pet monkey, am I right?

NARRATOR A

Narrator A ignores the crazy man and continues reading.

STEVE

Not cool man.

NARRATOR A

Annie, Harold, Brad, and Jake continue up the hill. The sun is sinking quickly, but just as the sun begins to touch the horizon in the distance, they see the shrouded woman.

ANNIE

Wait, that's the same woman we met when we got here!

HAROLD

(out of breath)

Did we just climb up a mountain to have her tell us we already know how to get home?

(CONTINUED)

JAKE

Hey lady! Are you Madam Gertrude?

They run to Madam Gertrude

MADAM GERTRUDE

I am she whom you seek

BRAD

I'm never going to go pro. This is the end. I'm going to die here.

ANNIE

Look. I'm Annie, we met before. We need to get home to Los Angeles. You said we already knew how to get home, but we don't. We don't.

MADAM GERTRUDE

I was serious before, and I'm serious now. You already know how to get home.

JAKE

No we don't!

BRAD

I might as well just throw this away.

Starts to toss football off the mountain. Annie stops him.

NARRATOR A

Just then, Annie has a stroke of brilliance.

STEVE

Finally. For a smarty pants she really hasn't been very helpful yet.

NARRATOR A

That's about to change.

ANNIE

Wait. That's it. She keeps repeating the same thing. "I'm serious". It's a puzzle. It's Siri! Siri is what brought us here! Siri is how we will get home. I have an android. Who has an iPhone?

BRAD

Android.

HAROLD

Android.

Jake realizes she holds the power.

(CONTINUED)

JAKE

I believe this is what you're looking for... I'd just like to say that this is an interesting turn of events. All you've done is make fun of me for using my phone... but it turns out... I have the magic secret.

ANNIE

Gloat later.

Grabs Jake's phone.

Jake grabs it back.

JAKE

Uh. I'll take it from here.

ANNIE

Ok, but you only have 5% battery left so make it count!

JAKE

Hey Siri...
(doink sound)

SIRI APP

Yes?

JAKE

Take us home!

ANNIE/BRAD/HAROLD

(Hugging in celebration)

Yay!

SIRI APP

Wormhole opening.

HAROLD

See, wormhole. Told ya.

JAKE

Alright... requesting Uber...

ANNIE

I think I have a \$25 Lyft coupon code somewhere...

JAKE

Wait. The wormhole is opening at the bottom of the hill, and the Uber pin is down there. If that car leaves before we get to the bottom of the hill my phone will die and we'll never get home!

(CONTINUED)

MADAM GERTRUDE

(To Annie)

Know your strengths. Goodbye.

ANNIE

I know what we have to do. Brad, you're our only hope.

BRAD

Me?

ANNIE

No the other Brad.

BRAD

Oh, ok.

ANNIE

Obviously you, you idiot! Sorry, what I mean to say is...

Takes Brad's football away from him

This is the moment you've trained for. This is the Super Bowl. That car is the end zone. Now on the count of three I'm going to pass you the ball. And you are going to run forest run like the wind all the way to the car, I mean end zone. And someday children will ask their fathers, "Daddy, who is Brad?" and they will say that Brad was the greatest football player of all time. They will tell this story. And children all over the world will chant your name, "Brad, Brad, Brad"...

Annie gets the others to chant too.

One, Two, Three, Go!

NARRATOR A

Brad races down the hill.

STEVE

Oh my God this is so exciting!

NARRATOR A

He sprints past the monkeys, past the trees, past the rivers, and past the streams.

STEVE

Whoa, you're a poet who didn't know it!

NARRATOR A

Thanks. And just as the impatient and confused Uber driver was about to cancel the ride, Brad sprints to the car and slides in the door.

(CONTINUED)

UBER DRIVER B
Hi! Is it just you?

BRAD
No my friends are on their way. They're on their way.
We're ready to go home and they're on their way.

MULTIMEDIA TRANSITION 2 BACK TO LA. TRANS TO P 9TH GRADE

Scene 11

*Annie, Brad, Jake, and Harold are all let out in
the park.*

NARRATOR B
Jake, Brad, Annie, and Harold arrive, safe and sound,
in Los Angeles, right back in the very same park they
left just a day before.

JAKE
Thanks for the ride. Sorry it was like, super weird.

UBER DRIVER B
I've actually had stranger rides, it's fine.

ANNIE
Well friends, we're home.

HAROLD
I can't believe it.

BRAD
It's hard to believe we were just standing here.

JAKE
I hate to say it but, I'm glad it happened. Harold, we
should have listened to you more, I'm sorry. You saved
us from the cannibals of Manita.

HAROLD
Awe thanks. Well you saved us too. Who knew that phone
of yours would get us out of so many sticky situations.

ANNIE
Brad, we also couldn't have done it without you. I'm
sorry the recruiters weren't around to see that run.

BRAD
Hey you know what, players don't win games. Teams win
games. We did it because we were a team. Annie, you
were the brains of the operation, and the coach we
needed when it counted.

(CONTINUED)

JAKE

Group hug!

They have a group hug.

HAROLD

Why are all these people standing around?

NARRATOR B

They look across the park and see a gathering. As they approach the crowd, they see the candles and realize it's for them. They walk towards the crowd.

FRIEND/FAMILY

Annie, Harold, Brad, and Jake were students here at Abraham Lincoln High School. They were our friends, our family, our pupils. We dedicate this vigil to their young lives, and we hope that our worst fears right now, are nothing more than fears, and that they may be returned to their homes with no harm done to them.

ANNIE

Wow. All this time we've been fighting to get home. And they've been fighting to get us home.

JAKE

I was so worried my dad would be mad, I didn't think about what it must be like to think he'd lost me.

They walk towards the vigil and the crowd is overcome with emotion at the sight of them.

FRIEND/FAMILY

They're Here!

FRIEND/FAMILY

It's a miracle!

FRIEND/FAMILY

Annie! Oh my God I thought you were dead!

FRIEND/FAMILY

Brad, Jake? Is that you! It's you!

FRIEND/FAMILY

Harold! Harold!

FRIEND/FAMILY

What happened?

JAKE

Well, that's probably a story for another time.

(CONTINUED)

BRAD

But we're safe now. We're all safe.

FRIEND/FAMILY

Are you ok?

HAROLD

We're ok, we're ok.

ANNIE

We're really glad to be home. Come on people, let's celebrate!

NARRATOR B

The End.

STEVE

(to Narrator A)

Awe, I thought you were going to get to say The End.

NARRATOR A

How about we let them say The End?

Narrators leave the stage.

(Group celebration number in the park 2. In The End)