

# Y.O.U. 2014

Sofia Montenegro

Elijah Punzal

Reggie Stewart

Duy Truong

T.A.'S

Maurice André San-Chez

James Arthur M

**SHOW ORDER**

Hey...

Happiness

*(Elijah Interlude)*

Burst Forth! The Realization That You Love Someone

Struggles of the Heart, Not Mind

*(James Interlude)*

In Favor of Silence

Three Little Words

*(Andre Interlude)*

My Idol is Lesbian? (Lorraine Hansberry)

*(Reggie Interlude)*

JJ: 10 Years Later

*(James Interlude)*

Cure to Queer: Act Now!

Conversion Reflection

I Don't Want to... ~~I Need to Escape~~ ....

Hey There... (M)

*(Sophia Interlude)*

The "AIDS" Quilt

Call My Name

*(Andre Interlude)*

I Have Something to Say: A Graduation Confession

The Aerobics Class

Group Chat

Yes I Am! (M)

Closing: Hey Y.O.U.!

**SCENE 1: Hey...**

By Entire Cast

*(Full Cast enters exploring the space)*

16

16- Oh my god! I'm getting a car for my Sweet 16?! Yay!

16- Hey Todd! *(make out session)*

16- Hi, welcome to McDonald's! What can I get for you?

16- Hey

Queer

Queer- Pshhh. I'm not gay. I'm not queer. What are you talking about? Haha...haha...ha...

Queer- Ugh. How can I tell anyone? Crap.

Queer- I am a human and you have no right to treat me otherwise.

Queer- Haaaaaaay

Black

Black- Eh you, whasup my nigga! Eh- just got out of da pen, you know where I can score some rock?

Black – Ummmm you wanna touch my hair? Like pet it? Like I'm a pet? Ok... Oh yeah... that joke you made about all Black people like watermelon and eating fried chicken... yeah- totally funny, and it's ok for you to say that... you voted for Obama...

Black- I don't think it's safe for me wear a hoodie at night.

Black- ... hey...

Male

Male! Ugh ugh come on man my grandma punches harder than you! You gonna let a girl beat you?!  
MAN UP!!

Male! Hey girl what you doing tonight? Let's kick it! Alright cool let me wash up first. \*takes out phone and text\* "Hey babe, I'm gonna be home late."

Male. Hi! I would like to have 15 mins of your time to introduce to you this new product that is revolutionizing the neighborhood! It's a product that is very unique, something that you don't really need or might already have!

Male. Hi.

Liberal

Liberal- I'm just a crazy anarchist, socialist, commie that doesn't believe in Laws, wants to take away your guns and give away everything for free!

Liberal- Hi my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I'm with Green Peace and I was wondering if you'd..... oh .... okay well have a good day....

Liberal- Have you checked out the new movie trailer that is set to come out it looks really awesome!

Liberal- Hey.

Atheist

Atheist- Lets burn all the bibles, burn all the churches, and anything else that religion stands for! Yay Fun!

Atheist- That book...the bible was the best fantasy I've ever read.

Atheist- You live how you live, just don't get me involved.

Atheist - Christmas is good idea and did someone really have to born for it?

Atheist- Hey.

*(Everyone gathers in a semi circle looking at each other)*

EVERYONE: Hey... *(they all then look at the audience)* ... hey...

**SCENE 2: Happiness**

*(Dance Piece with Elijah, Sophia, Duy, Reggie, and Andre)*

*\*\*\* Elijah Interlude: Sets up the next two pieces 'Burst Forth!' and 'Struggles of the Heart' \*\*\**

### SCENE 3: Burst Forth! The Realization That You Love Someone- 2.2

By Elijah Punzal

Characters:

- Carter (New recruit on the cheer squad. Shy, but wants to get out there. Awkward. Trusting)
- Percy (Sporty football player. "Bro". Bi, but not totally out. Good Listener.)
- Sandrine (Popular cheer girl. Kindhearted. Tries maybe a bit too much.)
- Ethan (Marching band geek who is good friends with Percy. Super fan of things)

*[The scene starts off with Percy by himself, sitting on some kind of step on a staircase or something. From around the corner, Carter has a pep talk with himself about going up to Percy. Finally, after a few brief "arguments", Carter sneaks up behind Percy.]*

CARTER: *[Shyly]* Hey there Percy!

PERCY: *[Startled, but not phased]* Hey Carter, what's up! *[One-arm guy hug]*

CARTER: *[Flushed by this kind of contact]* How're you doing?!

PERCY: Good, man. You?

CARTER: Y-yeah. I'm good.

PERCY: You were great tonight.

CARTER: Oh...uh...thanks. I guess.

PERCY: Nah bro! You were great. You guys got the crowd cheering and everything.

CARTER: Right, but it wasn't necessarily me, you know? I mean, I -uh- I'm not that useful...and I--

PERCY: No way bro! You're useful!

CARTER: *[Flushed by the compliment]* Not as useful as you, though. You're a football star, and I'm...I'm just strong and...stuff.

*[Sandrine enters subtly before hiding into the shadows. She is watching the scene from stage left, carefully monitoring the situation.]*

PERCY: *[Inching closer to Carter]* I'm not the best though. *[Nudging Carter]* And you see? You're not bad at all. *[Looks up and down Carter]*

CARTER: *[Flustered]* Oh thank you...

PERCY: *[With a beaming smile. Playfully nuggie-ing Carter]* Aww! Bro, you're so cute! *[Stops nuggie-ing]* Anyhow, I heard that the squad was getting froyo. Are you going?

CARTER: *[Mind is a whirl of thoughts: "He called me cute." "Shit". Etc.]* I...I mean...uh...fuck...I...I'd like...I'm...I'm...I mean I'd like to go...

*[Percy places his arm on Carter's shoulder and smiles; Carter melts in return. Sandrine enters and interrupts the bonding moment subtly]*

SANDRINE: Hey Carter! *[The two jump apart]* Hey Percy!

PERCY: *[Recovering]* Hey Sandrine. *[The two embrace in a hug. Carter looks on them with confusion and a tinge of envy]*

SANDRINE: So, uh, Percy. Can Carter and I have, like, a cheerleader-to-cheerleader moment? Sorry to bother your conversation and everything. It's kinda important.

PERCY: Course. Just call me over when you need me. *[Percy waves off Sandrine and Carter, exiting stage left]*

CARTER: *[Innocently]* Is there a problem, Sandrine?

SANDRINE: *[Gestures to Percy offstage]* Yes there is a problem! *[sigh]* Here. Let me tell you in the quickest way possible. *[Leads Carter to the steps and they sit down]* You shouldn't...you shouldn't go for Percy.

CARTER: What?! Why not?

SANDRINE: He's only dated girls before *[Listing]* Sally, Gale, Jennifer, Britney, and...whomever hooked up with him before.

CARTER: But...he's nice and...

SANDRINE: I'm not saying that he isn't! But that's the reason why—he's just nice. He acts the same around anyone; just because he hangs out with you—the gay kid—doesn't make him gay. Or Bi. Or whatever. And I'm just saying that...well, he wasn't the best at holding relationships. And I care so much about you Carter--you're practically my little brother.

CARTER: Sandrine...

SANDRINE: And it would kill me to see you get hurt. *[sigh]* We're honor roll students, Carter. We're both at the top. We take the hardest classes at school and, well, we pass them with flying colors. You...you've failed three classes. Two of which aren't even *hard* classes.

CARTER: *[Sigh]* I know...

SANDRINE: *[Saddened]* Right, and that's why you wouldn't work out. You two are so different--academically and socially...it just...breaks my heart to even think about you getting hurt.

CARTER: Thanks...

SANDRINE: Don't be mad; I'm only looking out for you.

CARTER: *[Rising voice. Told in a somewhat revelation]* Well...maybe I do need to have my heart broken. Maybe I do need to feel sad. Maybe I do need to get out there a bit and--

PERCY: [*Entering stage left in a hurry*] Hey, I heard some yelling. Is everything okay?

SANDRINE: [*Standing up*] Yeah. We're cool. We were just talking about our extended essays and stuff.

[*Sandrine gestures to Carter: "Watch me"*] So, Percy. [*She begins to finger at his clothes*] You know it's a tradition that the squad gets froyo after a game. You coming as usual?

PERCY: Definitely. Can't miss froyo with the squad. [*Sandrine and Percy chuckle a bit*] Is Nicole going to be there?

SANDRINE: Everyone's going to be there. And since you're going, they're going. [*With a wink*] A lot of people do that [*Beat*] Well, I need to drive Becky and Felicia. See you there Percy! Bye Carter! [*Sandrine and Percy exchange a wave and Sandrine exits while Carter waves weakly*]

[*Carter and Percy turn to each other, then Carter leaves up in a hurry, back turned to Percy*]

PERCY: [*Concerned, he stops Carter*] Hey. What's wrong?

CARTER: [*Avoiding him*] Nothing...

PERCY: [*Worried*] Hey. You can tell me.

CARTER: I'm just...I'm don't...I'm sorry.

PERCY: What? You're sorry?

CARTER: [*Sad angry*] I'm sorry that you're so perfect and I'm can't even compare! You're probably only here because you feel bad for me.

PERCY: [*Seriously*] Carter. Shut up. [*Carter shuts up*] Listen, if Sandrine told you that, she's lying. I'm not perfect by any means. [*Stating the obvious*] And of course I want to hang out with you! You're my bro! And bros don't leave bros behind. [*Percy gives Carter a hug. Softly*] Plus, I like talking to you. You're quirky, yes. But you're also honest; that's all that we want from you. [*Beat*] That's all I want from you. [*Carter and Percy stand silent in an awkward embrace*]

CARTER: [*Breaking*] Thank you Percy. See you later. [*He leaves stage right as Percy waves him off. Carter attempts to wave back, but trips in the process. Percy attempts to help him, but Carter is too embarrassed to let him. He leaves shaking his head with his head in his hands.*]

ETHAN: [*Comes in stage right, looking at Carter. To Percy.*] Someone looks really happy right now.

PERCY: Yeah...[*He smiles too*]

ETHAN: Dude, you two are like my Brangelina, Emdrew, and Killiam.

PERCY: [*Laughing*] What?!

ETHAN: Not to mention y'all remind me of Taystee and Poussey from OITNB, Andy and April from Parks and Rec, and as well as Luna and Neville from HP.

PERCY: [*Laughing*] Dude, you need to chill before you start a fanbase or something.

ETHAN: [*Slyly and jokingly*] Whoops! Oh well. I've already trended your ship on Twitter. #Carcey!

PERCY: [*Playfully punches Ethan on the arm*] Shut up!

ETHAN: Whatever. But, just so you know, I ship you two so hard. SO hard.

PERCY: How hard, exactly?

ETHAN: As much as I ship Johnlock, Destiel, and Sterek. OTP for life, bro.

PERCY: Wow. Then you're really rooting for us. [*Moment of looking up at the open air*] And I'm really rooting for us too. [*The two exit the stage talking about froyo and life*]

## SCENE 4: Struggles of the Heart, Not Mind

By Elijah Punzal

Props:

- Bed/bed-like object (somewhere to lie down)
- A door leading into the bedroom

That was so embarrassing! *(beat)* He probably hates me now. *(beat)* He obviously doesn't think I'm funny. And, to top it all off, he's catholic! Of all the damn religions, he's catholic! How ridiculous is it that I'm Satanist! *(beat)* It'll never work out. Ever. \*sigh\* *(sit on bed)* Why did I fall for him? *(in remark)* He's cute, I'll give him that. *(in contemplation)* But...what is it? His smile? His eyes? His roasted pumpkin hair? The way he looks at me and I just...melt. Oh how love can be so cruel. *(smile. beat. lie down on bed)*. *(point towards ceiling in anger/frustration)* Is this what you wanted?! Is this the punishment I deserve?! *(beat)* Why did it have to be this way? Why couldn't it be...some regular old ratty teenage boy. *(epiphany)* Like me! \*sigh\* Not the most successful and honorable and kind and sweet and smart and humble and...potentially dangerous boy at school? Why?! *(hands on heart)* Is this what...true love is? *(gets up in frustration)* No! I'm not some Disney princess! I'm not some damsel in distress! I'm strong! I'm independant! I'm a normal and rather average teenage deviant who spends his day looking at... *(halts)* ew never mind. But I can live, right? I don't need him. I don't need to play this stupid game. I-  
- *(beat)* Oh who am I kidding? *(beat)* When will you come back to me? I'm just gonna count down the days till you come back. You watch me. You'll see. \*sigh\* *(in a mocking and narrative tone)* And so began the fated destiny of which a male wretched demon fell in love with a male heavenly angel. *(in regular and mildly sarcastic tone)* The smuttiest romantic fan fiction of the century...

\*\*\* James Interlude: setting up "In Favor of Silence" and "Three Little Words" \*\*\*

## SCENE 5: "In Favor of Silence" - 1.2

By Elijah Punzal

Characters:

- Janine (Friend 1) ]
- Jose (Friend 2) ] Live together as roommates. Love each other, but have a hard time expressing it..
- Danny (Friend 3) ]

NOTE: This scene is intended to show the power of silence and the words found in actions. Because of that, the actors will need to express the character's inner desires while keeping in mind that verbal communication is not really an option for them. They are silent a majority of the time, and it would be best to utilize these silences with proper displays of actions.

*[The scene starts out with Danny and Jose sitting down at a table across from each other. Danny is reading a book as Jose is working on some form of paperwork. They don't seem to acknowledge each other; they are caught up in their own minds.]*

*[Jose breaks the tableau; he looks up every once in a while to Danny before returning to his paperwork. The same goes for Danny; he looks up from his book to glance at Jose every once in a while. The two are in some dance of looking at each other while the other is not noticing.]*

*[Jose breaks the repetition again by shoving away his paperwork aside and puts his head in his hands. Danny responds by putting down his book and stares at Jose with an amused look. Jose responds by giving him the "Really?" gesture: arms out in a shrug but "Duh!" facial expression complemented by an open fist. Danny sighs and folds his arms across his chest before clutching his stomach in pain. Jose is now worried about Danny though is reluctant to get out of his seat. Danny flicks his hand at Jose, signalling: "It's okay."]*

*[Jose becomes more calm, though it is short lived as he clutches his stomach as well. Danny looks upon him with saddened eyes, then their gazes meet. From there, they look to a pile of dishware--rather unused--and lean back into their chairs while looking at the ceiling.]*

*[From the door, Janine appears. She opens the door slowly, but forces it closed once she is less apprehensive. She moves quickly across the stage, looking fervently for a stack of paperwork that is piled besides the dishware. Jose and Danny follow her with their eyes wherever she goes until she finds the paperwork and claims it with triumph. She looks back at Jose and Danny, then remembers something (one finger pointed up, mouth slightly agape, and eyes looking up) while making her way out the door with her paperwork.]*

*[She returns quickly with the papers now replaced by a small bag of food. She dumps the miniscule amount of food out onto the table with pride and joy. She smiles at Jose and Danny one at a time before realizing that they're not going for the food. Jose and Danny look at the food first, then look at Janine.]*

*They're very still. Afterwards, Janine slams her palm down onto the table with a "What're you doing?" expression: shoulders up with a quizzical look and a hand cupping the air]*

*[Jose and Danny shake their heads, still not reaching for the food. Janine looks desperate, she wants to get them to eat. She places the food right in front of their faces and waits for an answer. They don't give her one; they are perfectly still. She clutches herself and crumples to the floor, as if crying. Jose and Danny rush to her aid; they practically leap out of their chairs to help Janine up. Once she's on her feet, Jose and Danny hug her softly. She smiles, then breaks the hug apart. She makes her way towards the door, but turns around. She bites her lips, eager to say something. Finally, she says:]*

JANINE: Goodbye. Love you!

*[Janine leaves and closes the door behind her, still smiling. Jose and Danny are stunned by the voice; it is music to their ears, yet they do not get the true meaning of her words. They make their way back to their positions at the beginning and stare at the food laid out for them. Stillness. Danny's mind starts to whirl. After much mental effort, Danny says:]*

DANNY: I—uh—I...love you.

JOSE: *[Interrupting]* I know. I love you too. *[Jose smiles. Though Danny has a confused face, he smiles back after getting the message. The two characters continue to sit in silence until they resume their previous works: Jose to his paperwork and Danny to his book. End scene]*

**NOTE:** This is their life; a world of solitude and silent emotions brought forth by words not needed to be spoken; only shown. The message that they try to get across is: "I love you," which is something they need to hear. They crave that voice, but they are too afraid to say it. Rather, they are comfortable with the silence; the silence, for them, speaks "I love you" on a spiritual level that cannot be expressed through words.

## **SCENE 6: Three Little Words**

By Sofia Montenegro

Three little words.

Three little words.

These three little words have so much meaning. They can make or break a relationship. And you're lucky if you hear 'em. So why am I so lucky? I have two parents who say them to everyday, and there are others who don't even hear them at all. These three words, although minuscule on paper, can change a life. So if you know someone, whom you haven't said these three little words to, say them. Because those little words can mean the world to someone. Like me. Because this girl, standing here in front of you right now, would not be here without those three words. So thank you; thank you for telling me you loved me, because even though we fought, and yelled at each other, I knew that at the end of the day, you guys always loved me. And I hope that when you lay down and close your eyes, you know deep in your heart, that I will always love you, too. Until my heart stops.

*\*\*\* Andre Interlude: Sets up 'My Idol is Lesbian?' \*\*\**

## SCENE 7: "My Idol is Lesbian?"

By Elijah Punzal

Characters:

- Aliah Washington
- Lorraine Hansberry

*[The scene starts off with ALIAH sitting in the middle of a hula-hoop with a lit candle by her side. A open book rests on the other side]*

ALIAH: *[chanting]*...bring her soul back, bring her soul near, bring her fingers close to my rear. Let her breath wash upon my brow, I call upon her soul now! I mark my name, Aliah Washington, in promise to the stars. So it said and so it shall be!

LORRAINE: *[in a "poof" noise]* Lordy lord! *[She looks around in bewilderment.]*

ALIAH: Oh Mah Gosh! *[moves away from the circle and LORRAINE]* Ohmagosh! She's here! It worked! Thank you Chinese fortuneteller lady!

LORRAINE: Care to...explain?

ALIAH: Ahhhhh! *[Tone in complete awe]* You're really here. REALLY here!

LORRAINE: I know child! If you could be so kind, will you explain why I am here?

ALIAH: *[Fangirling]* Lorraine Hansberry is in my bedroom! She is in my bedroom!

LORRAINE: *[Looking around]* It's a pretty nice bedroom.

ALIAH: Eeeep! *[She is about to faint from fangirling too much]* You're such an inspiration!

LORRAINE: *[Smiles]* I've heard that before.

ALIAH: I know right!

LORRAINE: Uh-

ALIAH: You're such a pioneer for your time!

LORRAINE: Thank you dear-

ALIAH: The first ever Black playwright to win the New York Critics' Award.

LORRAINE: Yes, and-

ALIAH: And the youngest American to do so ever! In history!

LORRAINE: Yes, thank you, but-

ALIAH: A woman of color advocating for colored rights...

LORRAINE: You bet. But-

ALIAH: Oh! And I absolutely love *A Raisin in the Sun*! It's so good. Like, SO good!

LORRAINE: I know. I've received a lot of praise from that, but-

ALIAH: And I'm here, right now, talking to the one and only Lorraine Hansberry! Lorraine Hansberry!

LORRAINE: Shut up, child! [*ALIAH covers her mouth with her hands.*] Thank you...\*sigh\*

Now, is there a reason that you summoned me here?

ALIAH: Well, I didn't expect the ritual to work. But I was lonely, and it was a pretty rough time on Tumblr, and-

LORRAINE: Hold up, hold up. You called upon my spirit, from the world next over, because you were bored?!

ALIAH: Sorry...?

LORRAINE: [*Looks around as if in impatience*] Now is there anything else you want to do? Other than rant about me?

ALIAH: Well, I don't know...I know a lot about you, and-

LORRAINE: Did you know I was lesbian?

ALIAH: [*shocked and in disbelief*] Wat.

LORRAINE: You didn't know I was lesbian?! Wow...

ALIAH: It never came up in my research...

LORRAINE: Did you look on Wikipedia?

ALIAH: ...

LORRAINE: You didn't even look on Wikipedia?!

ALIAH: My teachers said it was a forbidden site!

LORRAINE: Well, whatever.

ALIAH: How come your...lesbianism...isn't prevalent in your writing?

LORRAINE: Did you know what time I was born in? Being a super minority in my time was dangerous, child. Discrimination faced me from all sides; being black, a woman, AND homosexual was a label that equaled death. I was very fortunate to live the way I did. Or so help me...

ALIAH: Wow...

LORRAINE: Do you have something against lesbians or something?

ALIAH: No! No. No...I mean, I just never knew.

LORRAINE: Sometimes, the closet is the safest place to hide amongst a battlefield. (*beat*) There are many of us—human beings—forced to hide themselves because of situations like this. It's still happening now.

ALIAH: Yeah...I'm sorry.

LORRAINE: For what? You didn't do anything.

ALIAH: But that's the point! You, my favorite author and person in all of history, were discriminated against for being who you are! I feel so...awful.

LORRAINE: At least you're not hunting us down. And trust me, it's good that you at least acknowledge us. Some people just simply don't have enough room in their cold, stone hearts.

ALIAH: To think that your people were acknowledged for such achievements...

LORRAINE: And equally ignored, sweetie. People like me aren't as represented in society.

ALIAH: Oh, I'm sorry...

LORRAINE: Don't be sorry! You've learned a life lesson! You've become more open-minded! You've realized how ridiculous our societal norms are! You feel the empathy! And that's progress!

ALIAH: Yeah...yes it is!

LORRAINE: Great! Now how're you going to send me back?

*[They look at each other for answers until blackout.]*

*\*\*\* Reggie Interlude: Sets up 'JJ (10 Years Later)' \*\*\**

### **SCENE 8: JJ: What was it Like ten years ago?**

Oh lord, 10 years ago the brunt of all the abuse... well I was usually off to my own devices. But it was just okay, I had transferred back to my old school because I was just being bullied a lot; by everyone: family, teachers, other students, and so after that I just stayed to myself most of the time, but I had a way of attracting people, even if I didn't want them around) and to tell the truth back then it was just hard to even remotely like being black (for myself) I wanted to be anything but that, I remember I'd get bullied for things like being black, since the school I was in (before I transferred back to my zoned school) had a majority of white and Asian kids...so I'd go and do stupid things like try and bleach my skin and stuff. Then on top of that it was just the abuse that I was getting from certain family members, knowing no one would listen to me. I was insecure all around..back then all I had was my best friend and my art. I felt like everything else was taken away from me and it wasn't fair..but then I just told myself I'd forget it eventually...10 years ago sucked balls but I lived.

No shining strong black girl moments lmao

### **How do you feel now?**

And now I'm okay, I'm happier now that I'm away from the people who hurt me most, aside from the PTSD I would say I'm doing ok.....lmao

### SCENE 9: Cure to Queer: Act Now!

*(A father and his son are watching a show on their TV and it goes to a commercial break)*

**Announcer (male):** Has your son or daughter come out as gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender?! Well, not to worry parents! Now there's new Conversion Therapy! We'll use hypnosis to turn your child straight! Just watch! *(turns to patient in seat next to him)*

**Patient:** *(looks frightened because he's like a guinea pig)*

**Announcer:** Now, son, are you ready to be cured of your illness?

**Patient:** *(unresponsive, gulps, and looks even more scared)*

**Announcer:** *(uses hypnosis watch on kid)* You will no longer find men attractive, you will no longer find men attractive, you will no longer find men attractive!

**Patient:** *(acts hypnotized, quizzically looks at announcer who is looking at him)* Kate Upton is sexy?

**Announcer:** And there you have it folks!

*(Spokes model enters)*

**Spokes model:** *(kind of happy sounding to make the outcomes not so serious)* This method has a zero percent success rate. Side effects may include, but are not limited to: anxiety, self-hatred, loss of sexual feeling, depression, and thoughts of suicide.

**Announcer:** Call today to try conversion therapy for just 7 easy payments of \$19.99! That's right! Just 7 easy payments of \$19.99! Just call 1-800-NOHOMOS. That's 1-800-NOHOMOS. Conversion Therapy: The Cure for Homosexuality.

*(Dad turns off the TV, looks at his son who's a little down and sad)*

**Dad:** C'mon son, don't listen to them; how about we watch a little America's Next Top Model?

**Son:** *(smiles at dad)* There's a marathon going on right now!

*(They turn it on)*

*(There's a girl in a wig modeling in a crazy outfit and there's a photographer saying something like, "Smile with your eyes Annabeth")*

## SCENE 10: "Conversion Reflection" - Interview Monologue

By Elijah Punzal

Hello? Anybody? Hello? Anyone here? No? Okay...*(looks around room humming)* You see what got you in here? You and your fantasies of being girl. This is 2014 Robin! This is 33 years after you got your therapy! And you're still thinking about being a girl! You're a lunatic! *(beat)* Stop it! You're not thinking straight! You love yourself and you will not kill yourself. You love yourself and you will not kill yourself! YOU LOVE YOURSELF AND YOU WILL NOT KILL YOURSELF!!! *(beat, heavy breathing)* This is 2014 Robin. The states are all rallying for gay marriage. Those faggots are getting happier. And what are you doing? You're lying on the floor acting lonely. *(beat)* Because it is lonely. Because I'm only confused. Because I am a boy and nothing else! I am male and forever shall be! *(beat)* It's so lonely. It's...unbearable. It's horrible! It-- *(beat)* There you fucking go again! You're perfect just the way you are! You're normal! You're not some tranny! YOU ARE NOT A DAMN FUCKING TRANNY! *(beat)* God made you this way...God made you perfect...God will help you...*(beat)* WELL SHIT ON MY FUCKING ASS GOD! Being gay is wrong! Being lesbian is wrong! Being a sinner is wrong! Being anything is wrong! What do you want from me?! What do you damn want from me...*(beat)* They spat on me. Lit my books on fire. Tore up my clothes. Beat me up. *(curls into a ball as of now)* Tied me to a chair and punched me in the stomach. One after the other...one after the fucking other! And no one was there...no one was there for me at all. God wasn't there to help me...*(beat, sitting up)* I don't love myself...I don't love anybody...I don't need nobody's love...nobody will ever love me...not mommy...not daddy...not grandma...not grandpa...not nobody...NOBODY!!! *(repeats "NOBODY" until the knife is thrown against the wall in an ear piercing scream of frustration that ends with a flurry of tears. Speaker stands up to retrieve the knife, but collapses due to sheer exhaustion.)*

## SCENE 11: I Don't Want to ~~I NEED TO~~ Escape - 1.1 Voices Scene

By Elijah Punzal

Characters:

- Thomas (Teenager. Stuck in depression. Very monotone. Suicidal)
  - Anger/Grief/Depression "Kuro"
  - Hope/Love/Conscience "Kira"
- Thomas' Dad (Abusive. Likes to hurt with words. Gets drunk a lot)

*[The scene starts off with Thomas in a bathroom by himself. He is staring at his reflection with his hands gripping the rim of the sink. His arms are stained with scars that are bare and visible to the audience. He looks down into the sink, which contains an object not seen by the audience.]*

THOMAS: *[Monotonous and somewhat in a trance]* I'm not scared...I can do this...I'm not scared...I can do this...I'm not scared...I can do this. *[He grips the sink tighter]*

*[Light fades off Thomas and rises onto two very different, contrasting beings: "Kuro –Darkness and "Kira"—Light. They seem to be immediately activated. Kuro and Kira rush over to Thomas who is suspended in his still animation: hands on the sink and eyes gazing at his reflection. They surround him, speaking directly into his mind. They are battling to take control over Thomas' emotions and actions, each holding a part of Thomas' body: arms, legs, chest, head, etc..]*

KIRA: Thomas, listen to me!

KURO: No, listen to me!

KIRA: Thomas, don't do this! Your friends love you. You are going to leave your dad soon. Everything will be okay in the end.

KURO: This is the end! You will never amount to anything and nobody cares about you. Your own dad hates you and abuses you. Do you remember his whippings? His vile words? His cold stone heart?

KIRA: You know your dad doesn't matter! You're a good person; you get good grades and you have friends. You have a life and get out a lot! You're tethered to what you believe in—

KURO: Which is hate! Which is agony! Which is the fact that you're nothing. You're useless in the world!

KIRA: No! That's not true! You are loved and you are living! So what, you've hit a few bumps, but you've always gotten back up! People get through all the time!

KURO: Only to fall back down!

KIRA: But you continued to go forward; You were always strong in the long run!

KURO: Too bad it didn't ever last!

KIRA: No! It did last! Especially your love; you give the most love out of anyone.

KURO: But nobody returned it! *[Thomas flinches]*

KIRA: *[Panicking]* I...uh...yes they do! Maya loves you! She's out there to protect you! She cares! She returns the love you give her!

KURO: Ha. She with her boyfriend way too much to even think about you. Plus, you haven't told her your secret yet!

KIRA: Which is fine! You know it's a step by step process. You just take as much time as you need. You've watched all those videos. You just have to keep with me right now. *[Thomas lets go of the sink and takes a step back. Kira smiles as Kuro looks furious]*

KURO: *[Faltering]* Yeah...well...nobody will accept you in the end!

KIRA: Of course they'll accept you! They're your friends! They'll go insane when you--

KURO: Bullshit! *[With a venomous tone.]* You know they won't. You're a fag and you know it! All your friends know it! No matter how hard to try and hide it, it always shows. You're gay, Thomas! Just get it over with; nobody will care anyhow!

KIRA: Hey! You're not gay! I mean, you might be. But you're still figuring it out yourself. You might not know who you are, but that's okay. You'll find your true self in your journeys and adventures through life. Baby steps, baby steps...

KURO: *[Intense glaring. Kuro whispers into Thomas' ear]* Thomas...*[Kuro's voice is now kinder, more deceitful and persuasive]* I know you love him, but he won't love you back. Ever. *[Chuckle]* He won't get the chance to. You're a junior and he's a senior. Probably straight; never payed you any mind, right? You know that. He's moving on in life and you're not fast enough to catch up. And you're never going to see him again. The only person whom you fell in love with is never going to love you back! *[Thomas returns to the sink and stands up straight—looking directly at the mirror. His eyes are glassy; hypnotized]*

KIRA: *[Panicking]* No! Don't listen! Keep fighting! There are more fish in the sea!

KURO: *[Laughing hysterically]* But he's the only one that matters! Your heart will be broken if you keep going on; the pain there will only be worse than the one right now.

*[Thomas now puts his left hand on the mirror. Afterwards, he rubs his scars with a pained expression]*

KURO: Think about the absence of the love you have! Think about how the people you trust leave you out of everything! You never belonged! You're an outcast! School never really comforted you and your home certainly did not!

KIRA: But— *[Kira is interrupted by a ravage knocking on the door. Thomas responds to this knock by turning around to face the door with hands gripping the sink.]*

KURO: *[Smiling grotesquely and profusely]* Checkmate! You've lost! *[Kira and Kuro retreat into the shadows to watch the scene]*

DAD: [*Behind the door. In a drunk and angry tone*] Thomas you fucktard! Get out of there right now!

THOMAS: [*Breaks free from the suspension. Whispering to himself*] I'm not scared. I can do this.

DAD: [*Furious*] Are you saying something, you little faggot?! Get your damn ass out of the bathroom. [*He waits briefly*] If you don't come out in the next minute, I'm breaking down this door and beating your ass with it!

THOMAS: [*Turns back to the sink and the mirror with confidence. His eyes are closed as if in meditation*] I'm not scared. I can do this.

DAD: [*Banging on the door*] GET OUT HERE YOU FUCKING PIECE OF SHIT! IT'S YOUR FAULT KATHY DIED! I'LL BEAT YOUR SORRY ASS!

THOMAS: [*Thomas breaks; he spazzes out, breaths heavily and darts his eyes all over the sink.*]

DAD: THOMAS! [*Softer, deceptively*] I'm sorry son. I just get so mad sometimes. I know you hate me for it, but just open the door and we can talk about it. M'kay? [*Pause. Thomas looks at the door with hope. However, Dad continues*] GET OUT HERE YOU SON OF A BITCH! IF I CATCH YOU WITH DRUGS, YOU'LL BE FUCKING SORRY!

THOMAS: [*He pulls himself into a sitting fetal position beneath the sink and begins to cry*] I'm not scared...I can do this...

DAD: [*Banging with fury*] Get out here now! Thomas! Thomas!

THOMAS: [*He's had enough. He gets up and faces the mirror. Screaming*] I CAN DO THIS! I'M NOT SCARED!

[*Thomas draws out a gun from the sink and shoots himself in the head. Thomas collapses to the floor, the set in complete silence. However, after a few moments, Kira collapses too, and Kuro laughs maniacally, dragging Kira's limp body out of the scene as it goes black*]

## SCENE 12: Hey There...

**Daphne:** Look at you, standing there, trying not to look at me. Even though we both know we felt a connection the first time our eyes met. I mean, I know I said I could flip you like a pancake, but I couldn't help it. I guess I get weird around people like you. Well, weirder. You, with you creativity, your pure essence exploding with vivid colors that lure me in. And when I look at you, when I really look at you, do you know what I see? Perfection. Now I know there's no such thing, but I can't help but run to that word whenever I see you, when I read your thoughts, and your beautiful words, they jump out at me. And they make me believe. They make me believe the near impossible, yet very possible indeed, if only I try hard enough. Now, I know this is kind of sudden, but I was wondering, are you free tonight?

*\*\*\* Sofia Interlude: Sets up the AIDS Quilt scenes \*\*\**

### SCENE 13: The "AIDS" Quilt

*(Friend A= Alicia, the snooty leader of the group who's the idea maker but never follows through with anything, always bickers with Danielle because she's lazy and loves eating)*

*(Friend I= Isabel, the free spirit of the friends, is always up for anything, the sporty one)*

*(Friend D= Danielle, the lazy one, always teases Alicia for never following through on her ideas, loves eating, stands up for Sheila)*

*(Friend S= Sheila, the more reserved one, Alicia always forgets she's there)*

*((Four friends are in their sleeping bags on the floor (in the shape of a semicircle so the audience can see them); three are sleeping and Alicia is the only one awake))*

**ALICIA:** ... Guys... *(a little louder)* Guys... \*really loud\* Guys!

**I, D, S:** *(Isabel, Danielle, and Sheila are groaning in their sleeping bags from the sudden and unwanted alarm clock)*

**ISABEL:** *(groggily)* Ugh, what now Alicia? I had a soccer game yesterday and I need my rest!

**DANIELLE:** *(eyes still closed)* She's gonna tell us another brilliant idea of hers.

**ALICIA:** Shutup Danielle!

**DANIELLE:** The question still remains as to if she will follow through yet.

**ALICIA:** BITE ME!

**SHEILA:** Guys just let her finish.

**ALICIA:** Thank you Shelly

**DANIELLE & ISABEL:** Sheila!

**ALICIA:** Whatever, ok, so now I'm sorry to wake you up so early-

**ISABEL:** Wait, exactly how early is it?

**ALICIA:** ... 7:15...

**ISABEL:** *(rolls around in sleeping bag)* 7:15! Lic *(pronounced Leash)* it's Saturday, we're supposed to sleep in!

**ALICIA:** I know, and I'm sorry, but SOMEONE (*looks at Danielle who looks guilty*) put a rubber cockroach in my sleeping bag last night and I couldn't go back to sleep! (*Throws the bug at Danielle*)

**DANIELLE:** (*dodges it*) Hey! What are you looking at me for, I didn't do it!

**ALICIA:** Oh, please-

**ISABEL:** (*annoyed*) Lic do you have an idea or not because if you don't I'm going back to sleep.

**ALICIA:** As a matter of fact, yes I do. (*Danielle rolls her eyes so the audience can see*) I actually got it from watching 'The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants' last night, but I had to think it over more before I told you guys-

**ISABEL:** (*has face on pillow with eyes closed*) Get to the point Lic.

**ALICIA:** So, I was thinking it'd be cool if we had something like that for us! Maybe not jeans because not all of us are so... \*looks at Danielle\* slim, \*Danielle scoffs at her\* but maybe we could make like a quilt so we can all use it!

**SHEILA:** And what would we put on the quilt?

**ALICIA:** Oh Sheila, I almost forgot you were there! Um, I don't know like maybe we could all pick out different designs that mean something to us, like Is (short for Isabel) could have a square that had soccer balls on it, and I could have one that had like sparkly crowns, Dani could have one with like burgers and hot dogs on it, and you could have like a... like a... like a white one.

**DANIELLE:** Really Lic, a white one?

(*Alicia shrugs, while Sheila looks hurt*)

**ALICIA:** But what's cool is we could call it the AIDS quilt because the first letters of all our names spell AIDS!

**DANIELLE:** Huh?

**ALICIA:** (*rolls her eyes because she has to explain herself*) A for Alicia, I for Isabel, D for... Dummy... and S for Sheila!

**ISABEL:** Isn't there already such thing as an AIDS quilt?

**ALICIA:** Well, ours will be like ten times better!

**ISABEL:** You do know what the AIDS quilt is for, right Lic?

**ALICIA:** Should I?

**DANIELLE:** Look who's the 'Dummy' now?

(*Alicia sticks her tongue out at Danielle*)

**SHEILA:** I know what it's for. It's to commemorate all those who have died of AIDS. All the friends, family members, and loved ones of those who passed make quilt squares in honor and remembrance of the ones they knew who died of AIDS.

**ISABEL:** Yea, now there's like more than 48,000 squares on the Quilt today.

**ALICIA:** Wait, AIDS as in the "gay man's disease?"

**DANIELLE:** Oh my god Lic, really?

**ISABEL:** *(more annoyed)* Lic, AIDS affects all people, it's not based on gender or sexual orientation.

**DANIELLE:** Plus, Sheila's brother's gay; god, you are so insensitive sometimes!

**SHEILA:** *(stands up, completely fed up and done with Lic)* Sometimes? All the fucking time, Lic! I told you about my brother weeks ago! And you couldn't give a rat's ass about anybody but yourself! *(Grabs all her things quickly and storms out)*

**ISABEL:** Really, Lic; you took it too far this time.

**DANIELLE:** WAY too far.

*(Danielle starts grabbing her things as well, although not as quickly as Sheila)*

**ALICIA:** Well, you know what? I don't need you anyway Dani! I'll make my own damn quilt, and it'll have a big 'A' on it!

**DANIELLE:** *(seriously)* 'A' for 'Asshole!'

*(She storms out of the room)*

**ALICIA:** *(calls out after them)* No! A for... *(Struggles for a good comeback)* Awesome!

*(no response)*

*(Alicia huffs on her sleeping bag for a few seconds, then notices Isabel still next to her)*

**ALICIA:** What? You're not gonna leave me, too?

**ISABEL:** Look, Lic. I love you and all, but I'm with Dani and Sheila on this one. You were kinda acting like a dick.

**ALICIA:** Then why don't you just go then?

**ISABEL:** *(honestly)* I can't, my mom's not gonna be here for another half hour.

**ALICIA:** *(defeated)* Right.

**ISABEL:** But, how about this? After my game this afternoon, we can skype and I'll help you learn more about the AIDS Quilt and why it's so important.

**ALICIA:** But-

**ISABEL:** AND, you're gonna call both Sheila and Dani and apologize for being rude to them. Deal?

**ALICIA:** *(defeated)* Fine, deal.

**ISABEL:** Okay, it's settled then. Now, if you don't mind, I'm gonna get some more sleep. Wake me up in like 20 minutes, okay? *(Settles down in sleeping bag and closes eyes)*

**ALICIA:** Okay. *(Gets ready to lie down, but then stops)* Hey Is?

**ISABEL:** *(Still in sleeping position with eyes closed)* Hmm?

**ALICIA:** *(grateful)* Thanks for stickin' around.

**ISABEL:** *(smiles in same position)* No problem, Lic.

*(Alicia lies down and stares at ceiling, contemplating the recent events and how she's going to finally take action/responsibility and fix them, even if it means getting help)*

**SCENE 14: "Call My Name" - AIDS/HIV Inspired Scene 2.0**

By Elijah Punzal

Characters:

- Hilliard Chapman

- "List" Reader

- Annabelle Grace

*[The scene starts off with HILLIARD sitting alone on a chair as names from the "List" are read out loud off stage. After a few brief moments, ANNABELLE, seemingly in wonder at everything, enters stage left. The two glance at each other, and HILLIARD turns away looking back at the audience.]*

HILLIARD: Hello Annabelle Grace. Welcome to the club.

ANNABELLE: Hey...

HILLIARD: So...what's your story?

ANNABELLE: My...story?

HILLIARD: Yes...how did you...how can I say...get to where you are?

ANNABELLE: Oh! Um...I made some bad decisions.

HILLIARD: \*sigh\* When did you...arrive?

ANNABELLE: Not too long ago. A few days ago, actually. It took me a while to get here though.

HILLIARD: Interesting...

ANNABELLE: So, what's you're-

HILLIARD: What year is it? I've lost track, honestly.

ANNABELLE: 2014, sir.

HILLIARD: It's been that long? I can't believe it. *[Pause of awkwardness.]*

ANNABELLE: So, when did you end up here?

HILLIARD: *[looks at ANNABELLE with sad eyes]* Around 30 something years ago.

ANNABELLE: Oh my! And they haven't called your name yet?

HILLIARD: No, but I'm glad they're calling it soon. I don't know how long I could have waited.

ANNABELLE: That must've been horrible.

HILLIARD: Not when you're lonely. But if you're lonely, like me, then it's horrible.

ANNABELLE: Were you...not lonely at some point?

HILLIARD: Definitely. Me and my wife--her name was Katherine--we stayed here long. 16 years, I believe. Then her ex got hold of her then her name was called a month later. She left me, and all I could do was wait.

ANNABELLE: Oh...I'm so sorry.

HILLIARD: Everyone here is. [*gestures to the audience*]

ANNABELLE: Well if it makes you feel better, I got on the "roll-call" from unprotected sex with my fiancé. [*thinking back to the past*] It was ridiculous...he was drunk and I...I should've known better. He was positive and wasn't on meds. Couldn't afford it. \*sigh\* Stupid health care.

HILLIARD: Ouch.

ANNABELLE: Yeah. He lied about being clean, and so he passed the baton to me.

HILLIARD: Did he cry when you...?

ANNABELLE: Ha! He moved on after I went off. He even had the damn nerve to bury his ring with my dead body! [*beat*] I knew him forever, but--

[*HILLIARD comes and hugs ANNABELLE*]

HILLIARD: I'm sorry darling.

ANNABELLE: It's...it's okay.

HILLIARD: Love's tough, darling.

ANNABELLE: Yeah...

[*There are now two chairs on the scene, and HILLIARD and ANNABELLE sit on them respectively*]

HILLIARD: Needles was my story.

ANNABELLE: Huh?

HILLIARD: Back in my day, I was a big druggie. Everything that could be injected, I injected it. Didn't know how needles could pass it.

ANNABELLE: Oh my...

HILLIARD: Yeah. Do you know about the statistic?

ANNABELLE: For...?

HILLIARD: For us--straight people. Yeah, we take up 80 percent of those infected. Queer kids had nothing on us; they had 15 percent, I believe.

ANNABELLE: That's a pretty recent statistic--

HILLIARD: I see people come and go pretty fast. I also get to see how the disease spreads and grows from here...*[gestures towards the air]* or whatever "here" is.

*[The "List" reader reads HILLIARD CHAPMAN, and time seems to stop-for a brief moment]*

ANNABELLE: They called your name.

HILLIARD: They did, didn't they... *[he looks off into the audience]*

ANNABELLE: I'm sorry you were ignored for so long...

HILLIARD: *[looking back at ANNABELLE]* I'm sorry you died so young...

*[They hug. They break apart.]*

HILLIARD: Hopefully, you won't need to see as many people come and go as I did. *[They chuckle mildly]*

ANNABELLE: I like your quilt patch *[points "down below"]*, by the way.

HILLIARD: Thank you. It's been a long time coming. *[Looks "down below"]* My, my, was I always that handsome?

ANNABELLE: *[laughs]* Get on out of here, you...

HILLIARD: You seem nice. You didn't deserve to die from AIDS.

ANNABELLE: Ironic that it's the "gay man's disease", huh?

HILLIARD: It shouldn't have been that way. We were infected too. A lot of us. And we could of found a cure by now if they weren't shunning those poor queer people. Damn society.

ANNABELLE: Life is a is pile of poop.

HILLIARD: Oh how it does. *[HILLIARD takes one final look around, and begins to move offstage right]*

ANNABELLE: *[interrupting his action]* Well, what happens now?

HILLIARD: *[beat, turns around]* We wait for the day till they stop calling names. *[continues offstage until blackout.]*

“List” of ACTUAL names [besides Hilliard] (read names until the Hilliard’s name @ cue):

Amanda Blake	Robert Lee Campbell
Ian Charleson	Bart Mahle
Brad Davis	Andre Hebert
Denholm Elliott	Sam Pumilia
Leonard Frey	Arthur Conrad
Kevin Peter Hall	Tom Waddell
Rock Hudson	Michael Minor
Michael Jeter	Brent Borrowman
Remi Laurent	Marvin Feldman
John Megna	Jessie Leone
Dave Castro	Ric Shea
Tom Willenbecher	Paul Hubble
Roger McCoy	Joe Avella
Gregg Smith	Bob Lepley
Billy Allen	A. Sydney Gadd III
Bill Hartman	Amy Sloan
Alphonse DeLaura	Mundy Vega
Glenn Miller	Francois Millet
“Talmadge” Camden	Isabel Soria
Carl Wittman	Elena A. Ochoa
Michael Zook	Rosetta Meniefield
Robert Morana	Glenn Burke
Pastor Cal Denny	Sharon Collin
Dennis Sickler	Elle Anne Johnson
Dan Cappiello	Kim Bergalis
Dennis Yount	Cynthia Doreen
Joey Coleman	Michelle Mitchell
Luis Castresana	*** <u>Hilliard Chapman</u> ***

\*\*\* *Andre Interlude: Setting up Graduate Confessions* \*\*\*

## **SCENE 15: I Have Something To Say: A Graduate Confession - Vrs.4**

by Reggie Stewart

Whew...wow....it's been four years....I can't believe I'm up here.I won't apologize for getting emotional after surviving this long, I deserve this. I'm just in shock, I didn't actually think I'd make it through the school years. Seeing how everyone was out to get me, well almost everyone.

For instance Gena, or Mrs. Prom Queen or head cheerleader? Which without me you wouldn't even be holding a pom pom. I coached you, researched for you and helped you so that your grades wouldn't fall through the roof. So thanks for calling me a worthless faggot once you got what you wanted. But did you stop there, oh no, you had to tell people that your "gay bf" wasn't off limits any more. So I was constantly at everyone else's mercy which was a living hell. Well being a backstabber will get you into trouble it's called karma. But now that I won't have to deal with you or your little posy spreading rumors about me, I can smile.

Speaking of smiles, Jeremy, Mr. Football star or should I say Mr. Macho? . You have shoved me in so many lockers, why? You think it's manly beating me for being openly gay? Oh yeah beat the gay guy and laugh you're so manly. Well it's not manly, you were just being a jerk. Do you have any idea of how terrified I was just coming to school because of you? No and you'd probably just do it again cuz you're a ignorant bigot. You think that your some hot shot sleeping with so many girls Jenny, Cynthia, Paulina, Britney, Disney, sorry about that name girl; stay strong.

And let's thank the staff, a round of applause for the people hired to help students who didn't lift one finger to help, not once. In fact they knew about my harassment and I was the one who was punished for being late for class or always having my orientation brought up and mocked every damn minute. I'm sure my tormentors know that they loved to watch me get punished for being who I am.

Well to those who haven't done me wrong I wish the best and I want to thank you Tod for being the only one out for me, I know that as a straight guy that it was hard to break away from the school ...."norms" but it means more than you can imagine to me that you dared to help me, and even if it wasn't til the third year. The fact that you stepped up even a little bit made the days go by faster and the abuse not as bad, in theory. Thanks again Tod.

And I'll wrap this up before I get thrown off by saying that even though some of you tried to get rid of me, some of you called me names, some punched me and some beat me. I stand here before you, all of you as a human being who's still here and proud to be gay. You may not be but I AM! 2014! Peace out!

## SCENE 16: The Aerobics Class

By Sofia Montenegro

*(Setting: 80's Aerobics Class, complete with leg warmers, neon suits, colorful headbands, bright makeup, big hair, etc.)*

*(everyone in class is stretching to warm up)*

*(Instructor (Sofi) in front with Person A (male) next to her)*

**Instructor:** *(stretching, then looks over at Person A and notices their "junk," then with an accent)* Where did you get that?

**Person A:** *(looks at Instructor, confused, looks down to where she looked)* What?

**Instructor:** *(looks straight at "junk")* That!

**Person A:** *(beat)* Oh, this? My mom got it for me the other day; just down the street actually. They were on sale!

*(while they're talking, Reggie's character falls over and lands on his back from "over-stretching" his muscles, and Andre and James perform CPR while the scene goes on)*

**Instructor:** Really?! Oh, I must get one! It would look good on me, no?

**Person A:** *(looks at Instructor more thoroughly then agrees)* Mm-hmm!

**Instructor:** Ahh, I can see it! I'll be walking down the street, showing off *(looks back at Person A and does a little encouraging motion)* and I'll say, "Hey everybody! Looks at my new package! *(Makes hand gestures towards their own "junk")* Ahh, c'est magnifique! \*stares off into the distance for a while\*

**Person A:** Uhh.. *(looking with Instructor into the distance)* are we gonna work out? *(looks at Instructor, then at watch)* 'cuz I've got work in like 30 mins...

**Instructor:** *(beat)* Oui, oui! *(gets back into position)* Okay ladies! *(pause, she turns around and notices Reggie, still on the floor)* what happened to Stephen? *(James, Andre, and Duy look at each other then back at the instructor and shrug and leave him)* Those sausage McMuffins are not going to burn themselves off! Cue music!

*(80's music turns on, preferably 'Physical' by Olivia Newton John, and they all dance/stretch in a synchronized motion)*

*\*\*\* Duy Interlude: Duy sets up 'Group Chat' stage reading \*\*\**

**SCENE 17: Group Chat (A Stage Reading)**

By Duy Truong

Characters: Sarah, Jim, Paul, Ben

*(Sarah and Jim are conversing online about the upcoming party)*

Sarah: Hi Jim! 😊

Jim: Oh my gosh hi! ;)

Sarah: Are you ready for the partaaaaay? LOL

Jim: Heck yeah girl! You know it! LOL I even got the matching shoes for my outfit!

Sarah: The one from Kohl's?

Jim: Mhmmmm you know me so well ;P

*(Paul logs in and joins the chat)*

Paul: Evening Sarah! Hey Jimbo!

Sarah: Evening!

Jim: Heeey :D

Paul: So you guys heard about the party? :-D

Sarah: Yup! I'm going with Ben. Who are you guys going with?

Paul: Oh you know :p

Sarah: No I don't know! Tell me XD!

Paul: Jimbo do you know?

Jim: Mhmmmm :guilty smiley face:

*(Ben now joins the group chat)*

Ben: Sup!

Sarah: Hey Babe! <3

Paul: Sup! 😊

Jim: Hey!

Ben: Eww what is the fag doing here?

Sarah: ????

Sarah: Who?

Ben: The fag.

Sarah: Paul?

Paul: Hey! >:C

Ben: No the other one!

Sarah: You mean Jim? He's a nice fella!

Jim: Hey! What do you mean other one?!

Paul: Are you saying I'm a fag too? No offense to anyone out there.

Ben: No Paul not you sorry. I'm talking about the only fag that's in this group chat that's not me, you, or Sarah.

Sarah: So you're talking about Jim.

Ben: Yeah that fag.

Sarah: Why are you calling him that? :C

Ben: Cuz he is a fag! Simple as that ☺

Paul: Is it cuz he's gay? Cuz if it is, it's wrong and hurtful >:[

Ben: I don't see anyone crying.

Jim:...

Paul: That's cuz you're behind a screen you duncehead!

Sarah: LOL

Ben: Whatever. Babe what time should I pick you tomorrow? <3

Paul: Apologize to Jim!

Sarah: 7?

Ben: Excuse me?

Paul: I said apologize to Jim.

Ben: Why?

Paul: Because you just offended him! :>C

Ben: How?

Paul: How? Are you fucking kidding me?!!

Jim: Paul it's okay... It's only a name...

Paul: No it's not okay! Can't let him bully you like that!

Ben: Bullying? LOL I'm not bullying him, I'm simply calling him by what he is. Besides he's okay with it.

Paul: Well I'm not! Now apologize! :red furious face:

Sarah: Can you guys stop fighting? :C

Paul: Sarah, girl you know I love you but your BF is just... UGH!

Jim:...

Sarah: Ben apologize to Jim!

Ben: I don't see why I should.

Sarah: APOLOGIZE!!! >:O

Ben: K. Sorry.

Jim: ummm... it's okay... don't worry about it...

Sarah: So Paul who's your date? :o

Ben: He's going with Lucy :D

Paul: Damn it Ben -\_-

Sarah: Homeroom Lucy? Lucy with the big booty and D-Cup racks?!

Paul: Why you describing her like some sort of alien creature 0.0? But yes, her.

Sarah: OMG!!!

Paul: Why are you so quiet Jimbo?

Jim: Uh... well um...

Paul: Who are you going with?

Sarah: Yeah Jim who's your date?

Ben: This will be interesting; I wonder who the lucky guy is.

Jim: wel... IDK... :shy face:

Sarah: Come on spill!

Paul: Yeah! Not like we're gonna tell the whole world... maybe :p

Paul: Just Kidding ;)

Paul: So tell us. Who is it?

Jim: Okay , Okay! I'll tell, but you gotta keep it a secret.

Sarah: okie ☺

Paul: You got it!

Ben: :thumbs up:

Jim: He asked me today...

Sarah: Uh huh

Jim:... and I said yes

Paul: Keep going

Jim: He's a guy...

Ben: Oh would you cut to the chase you fag

Ben: uh.... I mean.... You.. you uh... man.... :mouth sealed emoji:

Paul: :evil emoji:

Sarah: :evil emoji:

Jim: I'm going with Ben's brother.

Paul: :jaws dropped emoji:

Sarah: Yaaaay! Wait what?

Jim: I'm going with Ben's brother.

Paul: I'm speechless.

Sarah: Wow that's so surprising!

Jim: yeah.... Long story

Paul: Ben did you know your brother was gay?

(no responses from anyone)

Paul: Ben? Where he go?

Sarah: IDK

Jim: Is it because of me and his brother going to the party? : depressed emoji:

Paul: Idk, maybe.

*(\*pings\* Ben has left the conversation)*

## **SCENE 18: Yes I Am**

By Duy Truong

You put me down, yes. You called me names, yes. Yes I am a nerd. Yes I am a minority. No I'm not deaf or stupid but yes I hear you clearly, I just chose to not follow what you say. Yes. Yes I'm an Aries and I'm hard headed and I rush into things. Yes I'm 20 and I'm just starting out in life, but that doesn't mean I am uninformed about life and what's really happening out there. That people like me are being pushed aside, neglected, abused, and harmed. Average people like me are being turned down, why? Because of our race? Our gender? Sexuality? Or maybe because we're different from the rest? Yes we're different. That just makes us more special. Yes we're proud of who we are and nothing will change that. Yes I am an ally and I'm proud. I'm proud of every single human being who stands up for the weak, I'm proud of all the bravery out there. Inspired and moved by those who came out of the closet. Touched by those who understand and took action by standing next to them. Yes I'm Asian, but I'm not good at math. Yes I'm a guy but I don't have to be a man about it, if you know what I mean. Yes I was at the bottom, but now I'm on top. Yes I was like you, but I opened my eyes. Yes I am now educated about the subject. Yes I am glad I made the choice to take action. Yes I am one with them, one for all and all for one. Do I regret it? Heck no I don't! Am I willing to continue? Yes I am. Am I sure? Yes I am. Am I that confident? Yes. I. Am.

## SCENE 19: Hey Y.O.U. (a song)

VERSE 1:

D C G

I didn't like who I was when I was with you  
Now I can't feel a thing without thinking of you  
Lost, alone, scared. Is this what I got?  
Love, compassion, acceptance is what I sought  
There's no hope, I just can't cope (x2)  
Wounded by hate, ignorance and bigots  
I stumble, but do not crumble (x2)

CHORUS:

D C G

I'm'ma be ME.  
Hey YOU, don't judge us.  
I'mm'a be ME.  
Hey YOU, don't phase us.  
I'm'ma be ME.  
Hey YOU don't dis us.

Am C G

And I know I'm not perfect, but that's okay  
Cuz I wouldn't live this life any other way  
I wanna make you believe in me  
Make YOU see what I want you to see  
Make YOU be my friend again  
Make YOU finally understand

VERSE 2:

D C G

Through thick and thin, ups and downs  
Circle and squares, all around  
We've been through bad, we've been through worse  
There is no way you can tell us what hurts  
Now we're taking a stand, to let our voice be heard  
So pay attention and listen to our words  
We fight for equality, we fight for love (x2)  
Together we stand, to you show our pride  
No matter what you say, this is our life (x2)

BRIDGE:

F C G

Our love is greater

Our love is blind

Our love is magical

In every state of mind