



Sample Pages from Friend Request

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SIXTEEN

IN 10 MINUTES OR LESS

Friend Request
Double Click
Brace Yourself
Lazy Eye
Fireworks
Pay Phone
Bench Warrant
Wheels
Tumblefur
Status Update: A Symphony

A Suite of Short Plays
BY
Bradley Hayward



Sixteen in 10 Minutes or Less

The plays herein may be licensed together or separately. The piece was conceived as a full length evening of entertainment, but each short stands perfectly well on its own without any prior knowledge of the characters. When produced in its entirety, the plays should be presented in the following order:

Act One

Friend Request (3M, 4W).....5

Thanks to a series of ill-fated friend requests, a doctored photo of a student spreads like wildfire among a group of teenagers.

Double Click (1M, 1W)..... 15

Young love blossoms when two teenagers flip open their laptops and start chatting.

Brace Yourself (1M, 1W)..... 23

A teenage brother and sister squabble as they try to extract a gummy bear that has lodged itself in a set of braces.

Lazy Eye (2 Either).....31

Two eyeballs get bent out of shape while defending their half of a teenager's brain.

Fireworks (1M, 1W)..... 39

A couple of teenagers in love look up at the night sky and wait for colorful explosions to dance among the stars.

Act Two

Pay Phone (2M, 1W, 1 Either)..... 47

When a teenager loses his cell phone, he has no choice but to use a pay phone. Things quickly take a turn for the worse when a mysterious operator starts telling him what to do.

Bench Warrant (4W)..... 57

Three teenage girls have claimed a bench as their very own and routinely chase away all the "losers" who come near it.

Wheels (2M)..... 65

A teenage boy tries to repair a beat-up old truck so that he can get away from his parents and their broken down marriage.

Tumblefur (1W)..... 73

A sweet teenage girl takes her dog for a walk in the park and discovers that there is something exciting around every corner.

Status Update: A Symphony

(3M, 4W) 79

Seven teenagers express their hopes and fears online in a rousing symphony of status updates.

Settings

When the plays are presented together, the settings should be simple representations of each locale. The use of blocks is more than sufficient and will help facilitate quick scene changes between plays. When the plays are presented separately, the settings may be as simple or elaborate as you wish.

Characters

3M+4W, Expandable to 13M+17W+3 Either

James: Hyper & jumpy, male.

Piper: Outgoing & popular, female.

Cindy: Sarcastic & spontaneous,
female.

Samantha: Exuberant & talkative,
female.

Laura: Artistic & lonely, female.

Brody: Quiet & introspective, male.

Vance: Shy & thoughtful, male.

Right Eye: Eyeball, male or female.

Left Eye: Eyeball, male or female.

Operator: Voice only, male or
female.

Mom: Voice only, female.

Dad: Voice only, male.

When all of the plays are presented together, the characters may be played by the same actors throughout (for a minimum cast of 7) or the roles may be assigned separately (for a cast up to 33). All of the named characters are sixteen years old.

Right Eye, Left Eye, Operator, Mom, and Dad were written to be played by the same actors as the named characters, but could be cast separately.

If the plays are presented independently, many of the roles become gender flexible. Simply change the pronouns when appropriate.

Friend Request

by Bradley Hayward

Characters

James, Brody, Laura, Samantha, Vance, Cindy, Piper

Setting

A bare stage; cyberspace

Seven STUDENTS are scattered around a bare stage, standing with their backs to the audience. JAMES turns around.

JAMES: James Lawson. Sixteen. Sacred Heart High School. Single. Born on July 17th. Click.

BRODY: Accept.

LAURA: Accept.

SAMANTHA: Accept.

VANCE: Accept.

CINDY: Accept.

PIPER: Accept.

JAMES turns back around. CINDY turns around.

CINDY: Cindy Steckler. Sixteen. Sacred Heart High School. Single. Born on November 1st. Click.

JAMES: Accept.

LAURA: Accept.

BRODY: Accept.

PIPER: Accept.

VANCE: Accept.

SAMANTHA: Accept.

CINDY turns back around. VANCE turns around.

VANCE: Vance McCarthy. Sixteen. Sacred Heart High School. Dating. I think. Born on November 4th. Click.

BRODY: Accept.

LAURA: Accept.

SAMANTHA: Ignore.

JAMES: Accept.

CINDY: Accept.

PIPER: Ignore.

VANCE turns back around. BRODY turns around.

BRODY: Brody Anderson. Sixteen. Sacred Heart High School. It's complicated. Born on January 10th. Click.

LAURA: Accept.

SAMANTHA: Accept.

PIPER: Ignore.

CINDY: Ignore.

JAMES: Hide.

VANCE: Accept.

BRODY turns back around. SAMANTHA turns around.

SAMANTHA: Samantha Peters. Sixteen. Sacred Heart High School. Dating Brody Anderson. Born on May 30th. Click.

BRODY: Accept.

PIPER: Accept.

CINDY: Accept.

JAMES: Deny.

VANCE: Ignore.

LAURA: Accept.

SAMANTHA turns back around. PIPER turns around.

PIPER: Piper Lawson. Sixteen and fabulous. Sacred Heart High School.
Go Eagles! Single and looking. Looking good! Born on my birthday.
Presents always accepted! Click.

CINDY: Accept.

SAMANTHA: Accept.

JAMES: Hide.

VANCE: Deny.

BRODY: Deny.

LAURA: Really? Accept!

PIPER turns back around. LAURA turns around.

Laura Berg. Sixteen. Sacred Heart High School. Very much single.
Born on May 30th. Click.

PIPER: Deny.

CINDY: Deny.

SAMANTHA: Accept.

JAMES: Deny.

BRODY: Ignore.

VANCE: Deny.

LAURA turns back around.

EVERYONE: Click.

EVERYONE turns around at the same time and faces forward.

PIPER: Hey Cindy.

CINDY: Hey Laura.

PIPER/CINDY: Click.

EVERYONE turns back around, except PIPER and CINDY.

PIPER: I accidentally asked Laura to be my friend.

CINDY: You did?

PIPER: *(laughs)* Wait till you get a load of her pictures!

CINDY: Ooooh, tell me!

PIPER: There's this one... sorry, but I can't stop laughing! She's holding this cat. Only it's not a real cat. It's a stuffed cat. And she's kissing its face and the caption says: "Me and Miss Kitty forever."

CINDY: *(laughs)* For real?

PIPER: That's not even the best one!

CINDY: What else?

PIPER: You better come over right away and see for yourself! You. Are. Going. To. Die!

CINDY: I'll be right there!

PIPER: First, let me give you a hint. She spends a lot of time Photoshopping her face!

CINDY: Can't wait!

PIPER/CINDY: Click.

EVERYONE faces forward.

SAMANTHA: Hey Cindy.

CINDY: Hey Samantha.

SAMANTHA/CINDY: Click.

EVERYONE turns back around, except SAMANTHA and CINDY.

SAMANTHA: Whatcha doin'?

CINDY: Heading over to Piper's.

SAMANTHA: Can I come?

CINDY: Better ask her yourself.

SAMANTHA: Why?

CINDY: Last time I asked someone over, she flipped.

SAMANTHA: Well, who was it?

CINDY: I don't remember. I blocked the whole incident from my memory.

SAMANTHA: One sec. Hey Piper.

SAMANTHA/PIPER: Click.

PIPER turns around.

PIPER: Hey Samantha. Sup?

SAMANTHA: Can I come over with Cindy?

PIPER: Only if you bring chips.

SAMANTHA: Um... sure.

PIPER: Low fat. Low sodium. And no ripple ones because... well, I just don't like the ripple ones.

SAMANTHA/PIPER/CINDY: Click.

EVERYONE faces forward.

JAMES: Hey Vance.

VANCE: James?

JAMES/VANCE: Click.

EVERYONE turns back around, except JAMES and VANCE.

VANCE: What do you want?

JAMES: I dunno. Just sayin' hey.

VANCE: Why?

JAMES: Why not?

VANCE: I'm kinda busy.

JAMES: Doing what?

VANCE: Stuff.

JAMES: What stuff?

VANCE: "Stuff" is a nice way of saying "mind your own business."

JAMES: Sorrrrrrrry.

JAMES/VANCE: Click.

EVERYONE faces forward.

BRODY: Hey Vance.

VANCE: Hey Brody.

BRODY/VANCE: Click.

EVERYONE turns back around, except BRODY and VANCE.

BRODY: Did you get a message from James?

VANCE: Just now. It was weird.

BRODY: I know, right? It's the fifth one I've got. Today.

VANCE: Well, at least he's cutting back.

JAMES/SAMANTHA: Click.

JAMES and SAMANTHA turn around.

JAMES: Hey Samantha.

SAMANTHA: What do you want, James?

JAMES: I'm bored.

SAMANTHA: You're always bored.

JAMES/CINDY: Click.

CINDY turns around.

CINDY: Yeah, James?

JAMES: I'm bored.

CINDY: Check your inbox.

JAMES/CINDY: Click.

CINDY turns back around.

JAMES: (*laughs*) Samantha, check your inbox.

SAMANTHA: I already saw it. I'm with Cindy.

SAMANTHA/JAMES: Click.

SAMANTHA turns back around.

JAMES: Hey Vance.

VANCE: What now?

JAMES: Check your inbox.

JAMES/VANCE: Click.

JAMES turns back around.

VANCE: Brody, check your inbox.

BRODY: What for?

VANCE: Just do it!

VANCE/BRODY: Click.

VANCE turns back around.

BRODY/SAMANTHA: Click.

SAMANTHA turns around.

SAMANTHA: Hey, honey.

BRODY: Did you check your inbox?

PIPER/CINDY: Click.

PIPER and CINDY turn around, laughing hysterically.

Click.

PIPER and CINDY turn back around.

BRODY: Why did they send that picture?

SAMANTHA: They only sent it to James.

BRODY: Well, I have it now.

SAMANTHA: Cindy!

SAMANTHA/CINDY: Click.

CINDY turns around.



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