



Sample Pages from Heirlooms

Welcome! This is copyrighted material for promotional purposes. It's intended to give you a taste of the script to see whether or not you want to use it in your classroom or perform it. You can't print this document or use this document for production purposes.

Royalty fees apply to all performances **whether or not admission is charged**. Any performance in front of an audience (e.g. an invited dress rehearsal) is considered a performance for royalty purposes.

Visit <https://folk.me/p320> to order a printable copy or for rights/royalty information and pricing.

**DO NOT POST THIS SAMPLE ONLINE.
IT MAY BE DOWNLOADED ANY TIME FROM THE LINK ABOVE.**

HORROR MOVIE 101: FAILING CAN BE DEADLY

A Collection of Five Hauntingly Bizarre Tales

A COMEDY IN ONE ACT BY
Steven Stack



Cast of Characters

Heirlooms (2W, 1M)

Tara: Female. 16, very rough, lives in squalor.

Dane: Male. 16, is trying to build a life with Tara.

Nicole: Female. Current “Hook Hand.”

The Girl on the Side of the Road (3W, 1M)

Cal: Male. 18, very caring, has family issues.

Jane: Female. 18, comes off as cold and unfeeling but really isn't. For the most part.

Hazel: Female. A girl that needs to get home to Mother.

Mother: Female. Rather scary, out for vengeance.

The One (4W, 2M)

Spencer: Female. Sarah's girlfriend. 17, smart, self-assured, and willing to make tough choices.

Sarah: Female. 16, Spencer's girlfriend, the nice one of the group.

Mark: Male. 18, the logical one, Liam's best friend.

Liam: Male. 15, the goofy one, dating Ava.

Sophie: Female. 16, obsessed with horror movies.

Ava: Female. 17, very smart but believes there is more out there than can be proven by science or logic.

Isolation (5W)

Karen: Female. 18, Cassie's older sister and protector.

Cassie: Female. 16, Karen's younger sister, the favorite of the family.

Marcy: Female. 17, Karen's best friend, hiding something.

Taylor: Female. 17, attacked by Jenny, currently tied up.

Jenny: Female. 17, has been attacked, currently running through the woods like some type of crazed animal.

David and Delaney's Guide to the Perfectly Nifty Prom (2W, 1M)

Kate: Female. 18, Delaney's best friend and possessor of a well-manicured ancient burial ground.

David: Male. 17, Delaney's dedicated boyfriend who doesn't like dirt or gross things.

Delaney: Female. 17, David's girlfriend since they were 6, dead.

Horror Movie 101: Failing Can Be Deadly was first performed in October of 2016 at Forte Studios in Mt. Horeb, Wisconsin. Here is the original cast.

Heirlooms

Tara: Gracie Hamburg

Dane: Carter Coon

Nicole: Evelyn Santoirre

The Girl on the Side of the Road

Cal: Kobi Johnson

Jane: Grace Haroldson

Hazel: Chloe Stack

Mother: Evelyn Santoirre

The One

Spencer: Evelyn Santoirre

Sarah: Sara Thompson

Mark: Carter Coon

Liam: Kobi Johnson

Sophie: Gracie Hamburg

Ava: Camille Ginther

Isolation

Karen: Evelyn Santoirre

Cassie: Gracie Hamburg

Marcy: Grace Haroldson

Taylor: Camille Ginther

Jenny: Justine Mattson

David and Delaney's Guide to the Perfectly Nifty Prom

Kate: Sara Thompson

David: Carter Coon

Delaney: Justine Mattson

Dedication

Dedicated to Prentiss Alexander Bledsoe

Heirlooms

Setting: A living room. Quite messy.

At Rise: TARA and DANE are looking at a hook that's lying in the center of the living room, which is covered in clothes and other debris.

DANE: What do you want to do with it, Tara?

TARA: Sell it.

DANE: I'm not sure how many people would want a hook.

TARA: It's not a hook, Dane. It's a hook hand.

DANE: And that drives up the value?

TARA: You bet it does.

DANE: But it's not *your* hook hand.

TARA: It was once it got stuck in my car.

DANE: Ah, a little finders keepers thing. (*stares at the hook hand*) So what kind of person—

TARA: Lots of people. Because it's a hook hand.

DANE: And?

TARA: What aren't you getting?

DANE: All of it, apparently.

TARA: God, you are so dense sometimes.

DANE: Must you resort to insults so quickly, Tara? It weakens the foundation of what you and I are trying to build together. (*TARA looks at him, confused. He touches her shoulder.*) A life.

TARA: Dane, we're 16. We're dating, not building a life together.

DANE: Your words say one thing, but your heart says another. (*silence*) Anyway, how much do you think—

TARA: A lot.

DANE: Well, we better get this red stuff off then. (*licks his fingers and picks the hook up*) That will certainly lower— (*TARA slaps his hand and takes the hook away before placing it back on the ground*) Ow. Now we've added physical abuse as well?

TARA: Look, the red stuff is what makes it worth so much.

DANE: Why?

TARA: Because it's blood. Real blood. Of many people. (*DANE's eyes grow wide*)

DANE: Why would there be real blood on a—

TARA: Because it's used to kill people that's why. (*DANE stares at it*) Dane? You all right?

DANE: Yeah, I was just way off. I thought it was red with fruit juice because it was used to carry fruit.

TARA: I suppose it still could be.

DANE: Not with the blood. That would be very unsanitary. (*pause*) Hold on. So this thing that was in your door and covered in blood... is used to kill people? (*TARA nods*) So that means—

TARA: That's right. Someone was trying to kill us.

DANE: Why? I'm likable and you... you have really nice hair.

TARA: Thanks. Anyway, it's not about who we are but about where we were. Make-out Point.

DANE: I don't see how the two relate. (*looks around the house*) Why are you living in such squalor?

TARA: Because I went out with you instead of cleaning up, like I was supposed to. Not to mention that I also gave up going to the haunted house with Sophie and her friends because you don't like haunted houses.

DANE: I don't. I don't see any reason to be scared when I don't have to be. And no worries, I can help you clean up because this house looks... appalling. Probably the dirtiest house in St. Claire and that's saying a lot. Trust me.

TARA: Can we please stop talking about how appalling the living room looks and focus on this hook hand lying on the floor?

DANE: Sure. What does our being at Make-out Point have to do with this?

TARA: It has to do with the Legend of Hook Hand, which apparently isn't a legend. (*Suddenly the lights go out. DANE screams.*) Are you okay?

DANE: Yeah, I am. I got scared when the lights went out. *(silence)* Um, this “Hook Hand Legend” doesn’t ring a bell.

TARA: Really? *(DANE nods)* All that matters is it’s real and we have the proof. I don’t suppose there’s many hook hand killers running around.

A loud knock is heard at the door. DANE and TARA do not move. Another knock is heard at the door. DANE starts to go to answer the door and TARA tackles him. He starts to speak and TARA puts her finger over his mouth.

Horror Movie 101: Never open the door if someone knocks right after the lights go out. Especially when you are in possession of a hook hand whose intended purpose was to kill you. Now don’t move. And only whisper. *(silence)*

DANE: Okay. You’re really strong. That tackle hurt. I think you crushed my pancreas.

TARA: Sorry.

DANE: No worries. *(silence)* Who do—

A loud noise is heard. The lights come back on and NICOLE (Hook Hand) is standing there.

NICOLE: Hi there. *(DANE and TARA scream. They jump up. NICOLE smiles.)* Am I interrupting something?

TARA: No. Who are you?

NICOLE: My name’s Nicole and, as you can see, I’m missing something. *(Shows them her stump. They scream again.)* You know, screaming again after seeing my stump is quite offensive.

DANE: How did you get in here?

NICOLE: I broke down the door. Because someone wouldn’t answer it. And the rain was beginning to shrink my sweater.

TARA: I have one like that. It’s red.

NICOLE: Red’s my favorite color, but the guy I... *bought* it from only had blue. But enough about my sweater, I came here to get my hand. *(laughs)* My hook hand. *(sees the hook lying on the ground)* Ah, there it is. I’ll just get it and— *(TARA grabs for the hook, gets it, and stands up)*

TARA: I don’t think so, buddy.

NICOLE: But it's mine.

TARA: Not anymore. You stuck it in my car. My car, my hook hand.

NICOLE: I didn't mean to stick it in your car. I was at Make-out Point and I walked up on you two in the car. Pretty heavy session, guys, let me tell you. I reached for the door to open it and my hook got stuck and the next thing you know, the car cranks up and you guys take off, taking my hook with you.

DANE: That must have hurt.

NICOLE: It really did. Why the rush? Did you see me?

TARA: No. I had a craving for a burger.

DANE: More like five burgers. (to NICOLE) It was like watching a lion feast on a wildebeest in the fierce land of the Serengeti.

TARA: Whatever. I was hungry.

DANE: Clearly.

TARA: (to NICOLE) So, you were trying to open my door to kill us? (NICOLE smiles)

NICOLE: Spoiler alert. And, yes, yes I was.

DANE: Why?

TARA: Because it's what she does. Like I said earlier.

NICOLE: It is what I do. I come from a long line of hook hands. But, now I guess I'm "Stump Hand." Not really as threatening.

TARA: You could club people.

NICOLE: As if they were baby seals? (TARA shrugs) No, I'm just going to take it back. (NICOLE and TARA start to battle over the hook and TARA shoves NICOLE down) Ow. Wow, you are rough.

DANE: She's very physical.

TARA: You're not getting the hook hand back! And no, it's not because you use it to kill people. I'm not concerned with that at all.

DANE: (to TARA) Shouldn't you be, though?

TARA: No. She stuck it in my car, so now it's mine.

NICOLE: (looks at TARA then turns away) So that's how it is, huh? (TARA nods) I understand. (walks away some) It's only that... that hook

hand you're holding in your non-hook hand has been passed down from generation to generation. Why if that hook hand could talk... man, the stories it would tell.

DANE: Of murders?

NICOLE: Oh, yes. Lots and lots of glorious murders. But more importantly, it would speak of memories—

DANE: Of murders?

NICOLE: No. Of special times that happened to involve murders. Through those special times, a strong family bond was created. All because of that hook hand.

DANE: Well, I'm sure that you sometimes got a new—

NICOLE: No, that was the only one we ever used. That's why it's so special. You see, everyone in my family was born without a left hand; it's why we were destined for this. So in a way, it's not just a hook hand we're passing down, but the family hand itself. An heirloom, if you will. An heirloom that's now gone because of my carelessness. I'll be on my way. (*turns to go*)

TARA: Stop!

NICOLE turns.

DANE: What are you doing—

TARA: Here. Take it.

*TARA is about to hand the hook hand to NICOLE.
DANE steps in the way to stop her.*

DANE: No. If you give it back, she's going to kill people with it.

NICOLE: (*shrugs*) I will. It's what I do.

TARA: It doesn't matter. I won't separate another heirloom from a family again.

DANE: What are you talking about?

NICOLE: You had an heirloom too?

TARA: (*still holding the hook hand, walks away and looks off*) My grandmother.

NICOLE: She had the heirloom?

TARA: No, she *was* the heirloom. Or more specifically, her corpse was.

DANE: Wait, what?

TARA: My grandmother's corpse was our family's heirloom and it's not anymore... because of me.

NICOLE: That sounds tragic. How did you lose her? Did you get her stuck in a car door too?

TARA: No. A suitcase.

DANE: Why was your—

TARA: My great, great, great, great, great grandmother Eunice's dying wish was to spend a year with each of her grandchildren, and great grandchildren, and her great, great... you get the point, after her death.

NICOLE: How would that even work?

TARA: My family specializes in body preservation. Anyway, the year after her death, Grandmother Eunice spent the year with my Cousin Bernice, whom I never knew because she was over a hundred years older than me. That first time, according to family stories, was beautiful. Full of tea times, sleepovers, long walks, knitting, and cuddling. And year after year, Grandmother Eunice was able to spend time with all of her beloved grandchildren that she didn't know because she was dead. And then, finally, it was my turn. I was so excited. Had so many things planned. And we did them all. My favorite was the time we wore matching dresses and sun hats and went to the carnival together. She won me a stuffed animal and I bought her a candy apple that we shared on the Ferris wheel.

DANE: Do you know how bizarre that sounds? (*NICOLE punches him in the arm*) Ow!

NICOLE: Show some respect, kid. (*to TARA*) I think it sounds beautiful. How did you lose her?

TARA: My friend Marilyn came to visit and she had always been scared of Grandmother Eunice. Why, I never knew. So, on the day before she left, I stuffed Grandmother Eunice in her suitcase, as she had grown more bendable over the years. I figured that when Marilyn opened her suitcase, Grandmother Eunice would pop out and scare her.

NICOLE: (*punches DANE*) Like a Grandmother in a Box.

NICOLE and TARA laugh. DANE does not.



help@theatrefolk.com www.theatrefolk.com

Want to Read More?

Order a full script through the link above. You can get a **PDF file** (it's printable, licensed for one printout, and delivered instantly) or a **traditionally bound and printed book** (sent by mail).