



**Sample Pages from
We Open Tomorrow Night?! (One Act Version)**

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WE OPEN TOMORROW NIGHT?!

ONE ACT VERSION

A SCRIPTED TALENT SHOW BY
Michael Wehrli



We Open Tomorrow Night?! (One Act Version)
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Printed in the USA

Running Time

Approximately 30-35 minutes, depending on the number and length of the talent acts.

Casting

6W 4M + 4 Either

- Emily** (*Female or Male. Stage Manager.*) – Very practical and focused; keeps cast and crew on task with the show; doesn't waste any time. Tends to stress about everything. If male, change the name to Alex.
- Clara** (*Female or Male. Perky Crew Chief.*) – Has lots of energy, wants to do a good job, very excited and happy to be working on the show. Extremely efficient and keeps a positive attitude. If male, change the name to Carl.
- Parker** (*Male. Co-M.C.*) – Tons of energy, lots of talent. Likes to joke around and loves to perform. He gets sidetracked sometimes. Brother to Tayler. Loves to riff on ideas with his best friend Ian.
- Tayler** (*Female. Co-M.C.*) – Very responsible; wants to make sure the show is a success; sometimes bothered by all the confusion going on. Sister to Parker.
- Lucile Whistlestop** (*Female. Pushy PTA Mom.*) – Likes to brag about everything, especially her daughter Katherine. She is head of the new student center fundraising committee. Not a good listener, especially to her daughter, but ultimately wants her daughter to thrive.
- Katherine Whistlestop** (*Female. Lucille's daughter.*) – A fabulous singer, but very uncomfortable with her mother's ideas about all the "amazing" things she can do. She just wants to sing and not be doted upon. In the end, she finally stands up to her mother.
- Ian** (*Male. Crazy Ideas Person.*) – Has a great imagination; very enthusiastic. He comes up with unusual and mostly impossible ideas for the show; excited and positive attitude. Best friend to Parker.
- Lexi** (*Female. Commercial Girl.*) – Very friendly person. She's loved her time at this school and wants to share special and unusual memories of being a student there. As the shared memories progress, they become stranger and stranger. Did these things really happen?
- Nick** (*Male. Commercial Guy.*) – A very nice guy. Good sense of humor. Has had a great time being a student at this school and wants to share special and unusual memories. As the shared memories progress, they become stranger and stranger. Did these things really happen?
- Ms. Wiggin – Theodosia Wiggin** (*Female. Grandmother to Parker & Tayler, the M.C.s.*) – Former English teacher who organized and ran the Talent show for fifty years. Retired five years ago. She's come to the dress rehearsal to be supportive, but finds herself unsure of how to help. At times, she is slightly confused. Still, her bright and shining positive spirit comes through with everyone she encounters.

Bethan (*Female or Male.*) – Loves everything British since discovering the TV show *Professor What*. For a couple years she has spoken with a British accent and uses British slang. She is working on a *Professor What* skit for the show with her friend Kelly. She is frustrated Kelly can't seem to get the accent.

Kelly (*Female or Male.*) – Friend to Bethan. She is Bethan's scene partner for a *Professor What* skit, but has never acted before. She is having immense troubles with the British accent but continues to keep a very positive attitude. She is very excited about doing the skit and believes everything will work out.

Timothy (*Male. Adult that wants to be in the show.*) – An adult pretending to be a student. He and his wife Paulina desperately want to be in the talent show. They have dreams of making it big as hip hop dancers and rappers. He is very devoted to his wife and to their dream.

Paulina (*Female. Adult that wants to be in the show.*) – An adult pretending to be a student. She and her husband Timothy desperately want to be in the talent show. They have dreams of making it big as hip hop dancers and rappers. Very enthusiastic in her pursuit of their dream.

Scene

A contemporary middle school or high school auditorium or theater.

Time

The present.

Set / Technical Requirements

Bare stage: the show takes place in a contemporary middle school or high school auditorium or theater. No set pieces are required.

Production Notes

General lighting, though the show works better with various areas defined or with the use of a spotlight. Costuming is contemporary and should highlight each character's personality quirks. All performance acts should have appropriately flashy costumes that enhance their particular talent.

The play needs to have fast-paced transitions and clip along briskly. There should be no pauses or lags in the action, except where scripted.

Note about the Acts

Schools or theater companies will insert acts into the show. Acts should be no longer than one minute and the opening song should be 30-45 seconds.

Another option on the inserted acts is to have the cast make up joke acts and perform them in the show. If the latter is chosen, remember that all the characters are really trying to do their best! At no time should the “acts” look as if they are trying to be bad or un-talented. The comedy will play much stronger if the acts are really struggling to be “wonderful”. Come up with various ways as to why the acts don’t come off as well as they should.

Should you wish to have less “acts” in the show, you have permission to cut some introductions and just skip to the next scene. However, the acts performed by the characters Ian, Katherine, and Timothy & Paulina must stay in the show.

Note about Personalizing the Show

Groups are encouraged to personalize the show by inserting the name of their school or theater company, whenever it is mentioned. You may also substitute the character names in the script with the actual names of the actors playing the roles. Also, if you wish to change references of “talent show” to “variety show” that is all right.

Production History:

Full Production (All Youth Cast)

Dates: May 12, 13, 2011

Venue: Bolton School Auditorium

Producer: New Moon Productions

Full Production (All Youth Cast)

Dates: August 1, 2, 2013

Venue: D. A. Grout School Theater

Producers: New Moon Productions, SUN Community Schools

Full Production (All Youth Cast)

Dates: April 18, 19, 2014

Venue: Meriwether Lewis School

Producer: New Moon Productions

AT RISE: LIGHTS come up to reveal the entire cast singing an opening song. The song should be celebratory and energetic.

OPENING SONG – Whole Cast

After the applause when song is over, STAGE MANAGER steps forward.

EMILY: All right, nice job everyone. Take five and hang out in the break room.

Various ad-libs as ALL exit during the below except PARKER, TAYLER, CLARA.

EMILY: *(to the Audience)* Hey everyone, I'm Emily, the Stage Manager.

CLARA: And don't forget me! Your totally on top of things Crew Chief!

EMILY: Right. *(introducing her)* Audience, Clara, Clara, audience. Now Clara, we need to go over the light cues on... Oh. Parker, Tayler, go and do your thing. *(they exit, talking)*

TAYLER: You got it, Emily!

TAYLER starts to come downstage then notices PARKER is focused on something else. She goes back to him and takes him downstage. PARKER continues to be distracted with something - like a yo-yo, juggling balls, hacky sack, etc.

TAYLER: Good evening ladies and gentlemen! My name is Tayler Wiggin and my brother Parker and I are the co-M.C.'s for Belvedere's talent show! We appreciate everyone coming to our dress rehearsal tonight. *(pause)* Parker? Parker? Parker?!

PARKER: Hmm? Oh! *(to Audience)* Hey people! Parker Wiggin here, and it's been a wild couple of weeks getting our talent show together, but I think we are ready.

TAYLER: Our performers need an audience response to help them get ready for the big night.

PARKER: So get ready to whoop it up people! C'mon, give me a whoop whoop! *(Audience response)*

TAYLER: Yeah... *(to Audience)* Please know that since it's a dress rehearsal, we may have to stop the show to fix something.

PARKER: Soooooo! As you know, our talent show extravaganza is a fundraiser for our school's amazing new student center, and—

LUCILE and KATHERINE enter. KATHERINE is pushing on a Decorative Cart that is filled with odd performance items: Baton, Juggling Clubs, Unicycle, Flag Corp Flag, Martial Arts Items, Musical Instrument, etc. - whatever the school or theater company has on hand. If a cart is not available, the actress can carry these items or have them draped around her on a sash or belt. Be creative!

LUCILE: Don't you think it's time you introduced me?

KATHERINE: Aw, Mom...

PARKER: Ladies and gentlemen, please give a warm welcome to the PTA President, Lucile Whistlestop! She and her—

LUCILE: Thank you, thank you. I'm sure everyone knows that I am the driving force behind the student center fundraising committee. Of course you all know my incredibly talented daughter, Katherine.— *(lines overlap)*

KATHERINE: —Mom, you're embarrassing m—

LUCILE: —She is simply wonderful! A singer, dancer, actress, model, acrobat—

KATHERINE: —Okay, Mom. I think they get it.

TAYLER: Uh, Mrs. Whistlestop, we've got to move on with the show.

LUCILE: Of course! Of course! *(to Audience)* We will come back later to tell you all about our plans for the new student center! Ta ta for now! *(they start to exit)* I think you should open with the baton juggling, my dear. Then... *(exit)*

IAN enters.

IAN: Yo, Parker!

PARKER: Yo, Ian!

They do some sort of hand greeting. Below lines overlap.

TAYLER: —Uh, Ian, now is not a—

IAN: —At what point in the show are we doing our Galaxy Wars act?—

TAYLER: —What?—

IAN: —You know! The big laser sword fight... *(starts pantomiming a laser sword and making sounds)*. “I’ve got you now, red-eye knight!”

PARKER: *(getting into it)* “Your evil ways will never triumph! The power of the source will—”

TAYLER: Hang on a minute! We never agreed to put that in the show.

IAN: We didn’t? Oh, okay. Ooo! Then how about we do air guitar while bouncing on pogo sticks! *(demonstrates)*

PARKER: Awesome! *(joins in)*

TAYLER: Right. Uh, Parker. Parker? BOYS!

PARKER & IAN: Huh?

TAYLER: Thanks. We got it, We have to move on with the show now!

IAN: Super! Check back with ya’ later then! *(exits)*

TAYLER: You really shouldn’t encourage him, you know.

EMILY: *(entering)* So what’s the hold up? Why haven’t you moved on to the commercial?

TAYLER: We keep getting interrupted.

EMILY: I’ll put a stop to that. Hey Clara!

CLARA instantly appears.

CLARA: Yeah boss?

EMILY: Get Lexi & Nick.

CLARA: I’ll be back in a flash! *(exits)*

PARKER: She has more spunk than the Energizer Bunny!

EMILY: No doubt about that. *(exits)*

CLARA enters pushing on LEXI and NICK.

CLARA: Here they are! Bright and cheery and ready to do the commercial! *(exits)*

LIGHTS instantly switch to an area or spot on another part of the stage. NICK and LEXI run to get into it,

then compose themselves. PARKER and TAYLER are in the dark.

PARKER: Whoa, dude. A little early on the light change there.

OFFSTAGE VOICE: Sorry.

The below “commercial” should be played overly friendly – like a sappy infomercial.

NICK: My friends, we would like to thank you again for your attendance here this evening.

LEXI: Tonight’s performance is being sponsored by the PTA of Belvedere school! (*this can be changed to your school’s name*)

NICK: Yes, Belvedere School – the finest education establishment in the entire Pacific Northwest! (*Can be changed to your specific area. Both smile.*)

LEXI: Over the summer, construction will commence on our new student center!

NICK: Once it’s been completed, you will see improvements our students never dreamed possible!

LEXI: Yes indeed! Katherine and Mrs. Whistlestop will tell you more, shortly.

NICK: For now, we invite you to sit back and enjoy the dress rehearsal.

LIGHTS snap off then come back up on TAYLER and PARKER. LEXI & NICK exit. CURTAINS should be closed at this point. If no CURTAINS, then LIGHTS should be Downstage Only. During the below, if necessary, EMILY and CLARA help to set up for the Performers.

TAYLER: Kind of abrupt there with the lights!

OFFSTAGE VOICE: Sorry.

PARKER: Onward we go! Ladies and gentlemen, we are pleased to introduce our first super-rific performance this evening!

TAYLER: Please give a warm round of applause for _____
_____.

PERFORMANCE

After the Performance and applause, MS. WIGGIN enters. She walks towards the Performers, who are quite surprised.

MS. WIGGIN: Oh my goodness! You are just the cutest entertainers I have ever seen. Adorable! Simply adorable!

Performers ad-lib something back. MS. WIGGIN continues to pantomime a conversation with them. PARKER and TAYLER enter and see MS. WIGGIN. They are confused for a second, then go over to her and bring her downstage as the CURTAINS are closing. If no CURTAINS, then LIGHTS shift to downstage. Upstage, we see EMILY and CLARA helping the Performers exit and Striking the set up, if necessary.

PARKER: Uh... Grandma, why don't you come with us?

MS. WIGGIN: Certainly, young man! Why, my boy, you remind me of my own dear grandson.

PARKER: I am your grandson.

MS. WIGGIN: Well, no wonder you look so much like him! (*hugs him*) Hello Tayler. (*hugs her*)

TAYLER: Hello. Have you lost your glasses again, Grandma?

MS. WIGGIN: Oh, I set them down backstage somewhere, Tayler.

PARKER: (*to Audience*) Ladies and gentlemen, for over fifty years, our grandmother, Theodosia Wiggin, was the director of the yearly talent show!

TAYLER: Even though she retired five years ago, she's back with us again tonight to... to share her years of experience!

MS. WIGGIN: (*sighs*) Oh, now... I think you young people are doing a fine job without me...

Pause. PARKER looks to TAYLER.

PARKER: Um...

TAYLER: (*calling offstage*) Hey Clara!

CLARA pops out immediately.

CLARA: Right here!

MS. WIGGIN: (to CLARA) Ooo! What a quick little bunny you are.
What is your job, my dear?

CLARA: I'm the crew chief.

MS. WIGGIN: Splendid! They probably have you running in a million
different directions, don't they?

CLARA: Yup!

PARKER: Hey Clara, I bet you could use some help back there, right?

CLARA: Uh...

TAYLER: Sure you could. Will you please take our grandmother with
you?

CLARA: Uh, okay. You got it!

*CLARA escorts MS. WIGGIN offstage as MS. WIGGIN
ad-libs a story to her on the way out. PARKER &
TAYLER talk to the Audience.*

TAYLER: Sorry for the interruption.

PARKER: Take it away, Lexi and Nick!

*BLACKOUT. LIGHTS come up on an area or spot
Downstage on LEXI and NICK. Saccharine MUSIC
plays. All of the "School Memories" should be
played overly friendly, like a commercial or
infomercial.*

LEXI: We now present, a Beautiful Belvedere Memory...

NICK: Say, Lexi, do you remember a long time ago when we were just
freshmen? (Note: If not a high school, then change the reference to
something appropriate.)

LEXI: Yes, Nick, our years at Belvedere have gone by so quickly.

NICK: You said it, Lexi. Why, it seems like only yesterday when we
hosted the Toad Holler Festival.

LEXI: Ah, joy! The fly catching contest—

NICK: —The toad costume contest and the hopping races—

LEXI: —And the super-frog desk tossing competition—

NICK: —Ah! A fun time was had by all.

LEXI: Definitely!

Both laugh. Then both look at each other and smile, then at the Audience and smile.

LEXI: Belvedere School – where memories last a lifetime.

LIGHTS snap off. NICK & LEXI exit. A loud crash is heard from backstage. TAYLER enters as the LIGHTS are coming up.

TAYLER: Uh... that didn't sound good.

EMILY: *(entering)* We need to take five, Tayler. Parker ran into Katherine's cart and sent her stuff everywhere.

EMILY: *(exiting)* Five minutes everyone!

EVERYONE: Thank you, five minutes!

TAYLER: Ooookay. Please sit tight everyone, we'll resume in a few minutes! *(smiles and exits)*

LIGHTS dim slightly. As soon as TAYLER exits, several people cross the stage with what seems to be an urgent purpose. Soon, MS. WIGGIN, CLARA enter. CLARA is trying to fix something from KATHERINE's cart – a musical instrument, a baton, etc. While this is happening, MS. WIGGIN is talking to her. She now has her glasses, which are on a chain around her neck.

MS. WIGGIN: You know, Clara... you remind me of another crew chief I had, oh, about twenty-five years ago.

CLARA: Really?

MS. WIGGIN: She was a little dynamo too. The students called her Psychic, because she always seemed to know what to do before it even happened!

CLARA: *(stops)* Whoa. No way. That was my mom!

MS. WIGGIN: *(smiles)* Like mother, like daughter! *(they start to exit)* Which reminds me of a story...

They exit. BETHAN and KELLY enter talking.

BETHAN: ...And I have to tell you, Kelly, honestly... Our Professor What skit has become pear shaped! *(British slang for 'disaster')*

KELLY: Huh?

BETHAN: It's a disaster!

KELLY: Oh, don't be such a sour-puss, Bethan. Remember, it's the first time I've ever done this acting thing.

BETHAN: Ah... Well, there is that. But your accent is, uh...

KELLY: Oh, hush. I'll get it... You've certainly got that English accent down.

BETHAN: Thank you. Ever since I discovered Professor What, I've been obsessed with everything British!

KELLY: Me too! Let's go over it again, Bethan.

BETHAN: Very well.

They both get into character. KELLY runs offstage. BETHAN pulls out an odd looking device and starts working on it. She puts on some glasses to study it carefully, then takes out a small bag and eats a jelly bean. KELLY comes rushing in.

BETHAN: Oy! If, only I could reverse the polarity of this tackeblipilator gravity surger...

KELLY: (*sounding nothing like a British accent*) Professor, Professor! Something perfectly dreadful has happened!

BETHAN: Oh dear... Kelly, you've got to concentrate on the accent.

KELLY: I know, I know...

BETHAN: Oy... Just listen. (*she says this with an excellent British accent*) "Perfectly dreadful."

KELLY: (*nowhere near a British accent*) "Perfectly dreadful."

BETHAN: (*slower*) "Perfectly dreadful."

KELLY: (*nowhere near a British accent*) "Perfectly dreadful."

BETHAN: Blimey...

TAYLER and PARKER enter.

PARKER: Hey you two! How's it going?

BETHAN: Well...

TAYLER: You can't rehearse here. We're in the middle of the dress rehearsal.

KELLY: But all the other rooms are taken.

TAYLER: Then go out to the hallway, please.

BETHAN: Sorry to drop a clanger. (*slang for 'make a mistake'*) Come on, Kelly.

BETHAN and KELLY exit. CURTAINS should be closed at this point. If no CURTAINS, then LIGHTS should be Downstage Only. During the following, if necessary, EMILY and CLARA help to set up for the Performers.

PARKER: You know, I don't even remember what Bethan's real voice sounds like any more.

EMILY: (*entering*) Break's over, everyone! Places! (*exits*)

EVERYONE: Thank you, places!

TAYLER: On to the next act!

PARKER: You'll love 'em! They're amaz-a-tastic! Please give a big round of applause for _____.

PERFORMANCE

After the Act is over and the applause, MS. WIGGIN enters. Performers are confused.

MS. WIGGIN: You are just a bundle of bubbly talent! Your act must have taken you hours and hours of practice.

Performers smile then ad-lib something to MS. WIGGIN as EMILY enters and crosses over.

EMILY: Oh! (*to the Performers*) Uh, sorry about this. Hey Clara!

CLARA instantly appears. EMILY gestures for the Performers to exit. If there is anything to Strike, EMILY and CLARA do so during the following.

CLARA: You called?

EMILY: I thought you were keeping an eye... I thought she was helping you out backstage?

MS. WIGGIN: Oh, my. I do hope I'm not causing a problem.

CLARA: Uh, no ma'am. It's just that... there are a million things to do!

EMILY: And... uh... Ms. Wiggin, we do have an invited audience...

MS. WIGGIN: Goodness gracious, yes! I keep forgetting. (*sighs*) I don't want to be a bother... so perhaps I should head on home...

CLARA: Oh, please don't! Uh...

EMILY: Right! There's a couple students doing a British skit that need some direction.

MS. WIGGIN: Thank you... I'll get to it then! (*exits*)

CLARA: Right on! (*exits*)

EMILY: The life of a stage manager...

PARKER & TAYLER enter as EMILY exits. They hear EMILY say her last line. IAN follows on.

TAYLER: Huh...?

IAN: Yo, Parker!

PARKER: Yo, Ian!

They do an odd hand greeting. Following dialogue overlaps.

TAYLER: Ian, we're kind of busy—

IAN: —I've got another great idea! —

TAYLER: —Oh, good. Look—

IAN: —What if we had a team of kids playing basketball on stilts?
And—

PARKER: —Love it! And what if the referee was riding a tall unicycle?
Wouldn't that be—

TAYLER: (*during the above*) —Hold it...HOLD IT!

PARKER, IAN: Huh?

TAYLER: Uh, really great idea guys, but let's discuss it backstage. Okay?

IAN: Oh! Sure. Awesome! (*exits*)

TAYLER: Parker, honestly...

PARKER: What?

TAYLER: Nothing... Intro?

PARKER: Right! Time for another memory!

*BLACKOUT. LIGHTS come up on an area or spot
Downstage on LEXI and NICK. Saccharine MUSIC
plays.*

LEXI: And now, another Beautiful Belvedere Memory...

NICK: Ah, Lexi, do you remember that special choir concert a few years back?

LEXI: Of course! How bold of our choir director to create a medley of every single Beatles song.

NICK: Six glorious hours of non-stop music...

LEXI: Ah, yes. It was a “hard day’s night”...

NICK: But that was “yesterday”...

LEXI: So we should “let it be”...

NICK & LEXI: “Yeah yeah yeah!”

They both laugh.

NICK: And what about that time we all shaved our heads in honor of National Baldness Day?

LEXI: Wow, did I look strange.

NICK: You and everyone else!

*They look at each other and smile, then look at the
Audience and smile.*

LEXI: Belvedere School –

NICK: Where memories last a lifetime.

LIGHTS shift to LUCILE & KATHERINE.

LUCILE: Hello everybody! Lucile Whistlestop here with my amazing daughter Katherine... (pause) Say something, honey.

KATHERINE: Uh... Hi there.

LUCILE: Later in the talent show, you will see her performing a jaw-dropping act that will leave you speechless.

KATHERINE: Actually, Mom, I really—

LUCILE: *(to Audience)* We came out here to share with you our magnificent plans for the new student center.

KATHERINE: Yeah.

LUCILE: We took a poll and found out what the students most wanted in their student center. *(pause)* Go on, Katherine, read them the list.

KATHERINE: Okay... *(reads from a list)* Our new student center will contain:

A state of the art recording studio.

Six giant flat-screen televisions.

A swimming pool.

A rock climbing wall.

Six zip lines.

A virtual 3D gymnasium.

An incredible gamers' room complete with a dozen Playstations, Wi's, and Xboxes! *(or whatever gaming console is popular)*

A two hundred foot bungee jump.

An innovative "under-water classroom" – complete with full scuba gear!

An underground paintball arena.

An edible life-sized gingerbread house.

And lots more surprises!

LUCILE: Didn't she read that list beautifully? So remember, we only need to raise \$1,239,700 to make this dream come true. And this show is the kick-off fundraising event! *(pause)* Go ahead and say it, Katherine.

KATHERINE: And now, on with the show!

LIGHTS shift over to PARKER and TAYLER.

TAYLER: Thank you Katherine, Mrs. Whistlestop!

PARKER: Next up on our talent show—

TIMOTHY & PAULINA enter. They are adults pretending to be teens.

TIMOTHY: Hello there, kids... uh... dudes.

PAULINA: Yes! My name is Mrs... um... I'm Paulina.

TIMOTHY: And I'm... Mr... uh... Timothy. I'm Timothy...

PAULINA & TIMOTHY: Yes!

PAULINA: And since we are fellow students, we would very much like to be in the talent show.

TAYLER: Uh... Aren't you Mr. & Mrs. Trumple?

TIMOTHY, PAULINA: What?

TIMOTHY: The Trumples? Why... uh... no.

PAULINA: Right. Uh... if we were the Trumples, that'd mean we're adults.

TIMOTHY: Right dear.... uh, right we're... uh... students, just like you. Yes, students.

PAULINA: Let us prove it to you! Certainly no adults could bust a move like this. Watch...

They do some very odd hip hop dance moves.

PAULINA: There you see!

TAYLER: Uh, yeah. No adults would ever do that. I guess...

TIMOTHY: Excellent! Then I am sure you can find a place for us in the show.

PAULINA: It would mean so much to us.

TIMOTHY: It's our dream to be discovered and become professional hip hop dancers.

PARKER: That's quite a goal.

TAYLER: Uh, yeah. So, Timothy, Paulina, how about we talk about it offstage? Okay?

PAULINA & TIMOTHY: Sure!

TAYLER: Come with us.

TAYLER & PARKER escort them offstage.

PAULINA & TIMOTHY: Excellent! (ALL exit)

EMILY enters and notices the MC's are gone.

EMILY: Good grief. Where are they? (to Audience) Sorry again. Guess we'll have to take another break. Five minute break everyone! (exits)

EVERYONE: Thank you, five minutes!

Another flurry of activity as people cross the stage with some purpose. Eventually IAN, BETHAN, and KELLY enter talking.

IAN: ...so what do you think? An Androiditron-Dragonite hybrid has never been seen before!

BETHAN: Definitely something to ponder.

IAN: Cool! See ya'! (*exits*)

KELLY: Love his enthusiasm.

BETHAN: Mmm-hmm. All right, shall we give it another go?

KELLY: You bet! Ms. Wiggin gave me some awesome direction.

BETHAN: Right. Let's pick it up where we left off.

KELLY: Cool.

They get into character.

BETHAN: Have a brave heart, Rosame. Proceed. (*pronounced rose-ah-mee*)

KELLY: (*sounds nowhere near a British accent*) Blimey! Professor, the Androiditrons have hijacked all of earth's mobile devices!

BETHAN: Oh, this is in shambles. (*slang for 'chaos'*)

KELLY: Huh?

BETHAN: Are you absolutely sure you wish to do this skit?

KELLY: Of course! I love the show as much as you do!

BETHAN: (*sighs*) Very well. We'll trod along. Now listen carefully: (*says this with an excellent British accent*) "Mobile devices."

KELLY: (*nowhere near a British accent*) "Mobile devices."

BETHAN: (*slower*) "Mobile devices."

KELLY: (*nowhere near a British accent*) "Mobile devices."

BETHAN: Oh dear...

EMILY enters.

EMILY: Hey! Look, you two have got to vacate the stage.

KELLY: But the hallway is too noisy.

EMILY: It doesn't matter. Go!

BETHAN: Blimey! *(as they exit, BETHAN glares at EMILY)* Androiditron.
Eradicate! Eradicate!! Eradicate!!! *(they exit)*

EMILY: *(Pause. Looks around.)* And they're still not here...

Pause. She's just about to exit when PARKER and TAYLER come running in.

PARKER: Whew! Sorry about that.

EMILY: Where have you been?

MS. WIGGIN enters.

TAYLER: Uh... the Trumplees...

EMILY: The Trumplees?! Was it you who told them they could be in the show?

TAYLER: Uh... not really...

EMILY: This is supposed to be a student only production!

TAYLER & PARKER: Oh.

EMILY: As if I don't have enough to deal with... Aaargh. I can't believe we open tomorrow night!

MS. WIGGIN: Let's not panic, my friends. I don't remember a single dress rehearsal in my entire fifty years that went smoothly. All is well.

EMILY: *(sighs)* Okay...

MS. WIGGIN: Come on, Emily. It's time for you to take a little break.

EMILY: But, Ms. Wiggin...

MS. WIGGIN: No buts, my dear. Come along.

EMILY: *(sighs)* All right... *(they exit)*

CURTAINS should be closed at this point. If no CURTAINS, then LIGHTS should be Downstage Only. During the following, if necessary, CLARA helps to set up for the Performers.

TAYLER: I hope Grandma is right.

PARKER: Yeah...Laaaaaaaaadies and geeeeeeeeeeeeentlemen, our next amaz-a-tastic entertainment comes from the superb

PERFORMANCE

After the applause, BLACKOUT, CURTAINS close. LIGHTS shift over to TAYLER and PARKER who are entering with MS. WIGGIN. They're in the middle of a conversation. Dialogue overlaps.

PARKER: Grandma, I'm sure you did your best.

MS. WIGGIN: Oh, I don't know. Emily is still quite stressed.

TAYLER: Grandma... Emily's always stressed.

MS. WIGGIN: I just can't seem to be of any help...

BETHAN enters.

BETHAN: Oh, it's blooming impossible. She will never sound British.

EMILY enters.

EMILY: Aaargh, what a day. Have either of you seen _____'s _____? (one of the Performers' musical instrument or items)

PARKER & TAYLER: Nope.

EMILY: Clara!

CLARA instantly appears.

CLARA: You rang?

EMILY: _____'s _____. Have you s— (one of the Performers' musical instrument or items)

KELLY enters.

KELLY: Bethan, I'm doing the best I can! Why can't you—

LUCILE and KATHERINE enter.

LUCILE: All right, what is this I hear about Katherine not being allowed to do her juggling, dancing and clowning act?!

KATHERINE: Mom, that's not what I said—

TIMOTHY & PAULINA enter. They are wearing odd hip hop outfits.

TIMOTHY: Yo! We've got some new moves... uh... dudes!

PAULINA: Yeah! They're really... uh... rockin'!—

TIMOTHY, PAULINA do even more outlandish hip hop dance moves. During the dance, NICK & LEXI enter.

NICK: Hey, aren't we supposed to do a Belvedere Memory now?—

IAN enters. Lines overlap.

IAN: —Oh! I can't wait! Now what if we—

LUCILE: —Excuse me. What about my daughter? She—

BETHAN: —Kelly, honestly, perhaps we should—

TIMOTHY: —So, when do we go on?—

MS. WIGGIN: —Now let's not be rude—

EVERYONE starts talking at once. After this goes on for a few seconds, we hear a bang and all the LIGHTS go out. Soon EVERYONE stops talking. Pause.

KELLY: Uh-oh.

EMILY: Clara!

CLARA: I'm on it! (*exits*)

BETHAN: Has something gone wonky? (*slang for 'unstable'*)

IAN: Man, it would be great if we all had glow-in-the-dark shirts.

NICK: Well, here is another Beautiful Belvedere Memory.

IAN: Uh oh. I just noticed my pet tarantula isn't in my pocket any more...

EVERYONE starts talking again. Eventually, the LIGHTS pop back on. EVERYONE calms down for a moment.

CLARA: It's okay! All taken care of!

EVERYONE: (*various ad-libs*) Thank you, Clara! Well done. You're a life saver. Etc.

CLARA: All in a day's work!

EMILY: Clara, where would we be without you?

CLARA: In the dark!

Following dialogue overlaps.

IAN: Hey, I was just kidding about the tarantula. But maybe we could—

LUCILE: —Can we please deal with issue of my daughter—

PAULINA: —No, first we have to talk about our act—

EMILY: —One at a time, people—

MS. WIGGIN: —Goodness gracious, so much fussing—

EVERYONE starts talking again and move into a tight group. MS. WIGGIN stands apart for a moment and observes. We see a change in her as her youthful energy comes back for a brief moment. She calls out to get everyone's attention, but has to do so several times before they respond.

MS. WIGGIN: Now hold on a minute, my friends. Hold on. Hold. Hold. Hold on! HOOOOOLD OOOOOON! (*EVERYONE quiets down*) That's better. How about we close our eyes and take a couple of deep breaths. Yes? (*pause*) Yes?

EVERYONE: (*various ad-libs*) Okay. Yes, Ms. Wiggin. Sure. I guess. Etc.

EVERYONE closes their eyes and takes a couple of deep breaths. A few open their eyes and look around, but MS. WIGGIN gestures for them to close their eyes again.

MS. WIGGIN: There you go. Now let's remember that we're here to work together and put on a great show. We can all agree that we want a great show, right?

EVERYONE: (*various ad-libs*) Absolutely. Yes. Yeah, I know. Of course. Definitely. Etc.

MS. WIGGIN: So, perhaps we should get back on task and finish the dress rehearsal!

EVERYONE: (*various ad-libs*) Okay. Yes, Ms. Wiggin. Sure. Etc.

MS. WIGGIN: Excellent. I've no doubt the show is going to be fabulous.

EVERYONE: Thank you, Ms. Wiggin.

EMILY: All right people, back to your places.

EVERYONE slowly exits.

MS. WIGGIN: I hope you'll take what I said to heart, Emily.

EMILY: Yes ma'am. Sometimes I forget that I'm doing this because I love it.

CLARA: Come on, Ms. Wiggin. Let's take a look at the sound system.

MS. WIGGIN: Awesome possum!

They exit. Pause.

EMILY: She's right. Everything does tend to work out. (*starts to exit*)

TAYLER: Yeah. Hey Emily, you're a really terrific stage manager.

EMILY: (*smiles*) Wow. Thanks... (*exits*)

PARKER: Super! Time for another memory!

BLACKOUT. CURTAINS close. LIGHTS come up on LEXI, NICK, and MS. WIGGIN. Saccharine MUSIC plays.

LEXI: And now, a Beautiful Belvedere Memory...

NICK: Ms. Wiggin...How did you get here?

MS. WIGGIN: Oh, don't mind me, young man. Everyone is always somewhere.

LEXI: Right...

NICK: Ms. W., how 'bout you share a memory?

MS. WIGGIN: With pleasure! Do you remember that time when all the parents had to come to school and be a student for the day?

LEXI: Do I ever! My dad managed to get himself in detention.

NICK: And my mom was caught falling asleep in class.

LEXI: And say, Nick, do you remember the day we discovered all the teachers were part of a secret society that wants to rule the world

MS. WIGGIN: Ah yes. I was once a member of the Twiowd. (*pronounced "twee-owed"*)



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