

THE LOCKER NEXT TO MINE

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A full-length dramedy by  
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## CAST OF CHARACTERS

TV REPORTER, Cyndi Jackson, an adult, could also be male.  
BRADY, former high school TV news reporter and a junior.  
ALISA, same age, new student.  
HEADLINE, a sophomore boy who speaks in news headlines.  
BUY BOY (aka Tanner), the school's resident wheeler-dealer.  
LUNA, female, not a real-time character and revealed in the end to be Beth.  
MARNE, female, high school senior and leader of the M squad.  
MIRANDA, female, and perhaps the most cutthroat member of the M squad.  
MELISSA, female, third member of the M squad.  
DALTON, male, varsity lacrosse player.  
CHUCK, male, barely a JV lacrosse player.  
QE, female, Beth's younger sister.  
SABRINA, female, friend of Jeremy.  
HABIT, female, friend of Jeremy.  
LEGOLAS, male whose real name is Aloysius, friend of Jeremy.  
SUBSTITUTE TEACHER, either gender.  
MARIO, male.  
WENDY, aspiring actress.  
PAM, female.  
GIGGLING GIRL  
ROXANNA, female, student council president.  
FIRST NEEDY STUDENT, either gender.  
SECOND NEEDY STUDENT, either gender.  
THIRD NEEDY STUDENT, either gender.  
FOURTH NEEDY STUDENT, either gender.  
SECRETARY  
DR. COPPERFIELD, male but could be female.  
HYACINTH KROY, female, student TV reporter.  
CAR KID, male but could be female.  
VANESSA, female, Beth's best friend and a lacrosse player.  
CHORUS OF STUDENTS, could be a separate group of students or double cast with students in featured roles.  
CHORUS OF MASKED TEACHERS, can be played by students.  
LOU, female, a shortened version of Louise.  
DANIELLE, producer for the student TV station (this character could also be Daniel, male).

To keep cast size down, many roles may be doubled. While Miranda's last name is mentioned as Conway, it could be updated to reflect the actress' ethnicity (Martinez, Chang, etc). Ditto the last names of Marne and Melissa.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

***The Locker Next to Mine*** was commissioned by Wantagh High School Theatre Department (Wantagh, NY) in the sincere hope that no school will ever again have a Pluto problem. First produced by The Randolph School (Huntsville, AL).

SCENE 1

A dark stage. Out of the darkness comes a CHORUS OF STUDENTS, with no one voice speaking two lines in a row. At some point the lights could come up to reveal the performers, or the entire scene could play in darkness.

CHORUS OF STUDENTS

We miss you, Elizabeth.  
We'll never forget you.

TV REPORTER

The scene is grim here on this poorly lit back road-

CHORUS OF STUDENTS

We love you, Beth.

TEEN REPORTER

Beth Turner, lacrosse co-captain-

CHORUS OF STUDENTS

First in our hearts.

TV REPORTER

Police tape and flowers and teddy bears mark the spot-

CHORUS OF STUDENTS

We dedicate this season-  
This year-  
This forever...

TV REPORTER

The irony of a lacrosse star-

TEEN REPORTER

I don't think I can do this.

CHORUS OF STUDENTS

You'll always be-  
Always-  
First in our hearts-

TEEN REPORTER

I report on dances and mystery meat-

TV REPORTER

The car coming to a stop a mere 1000 feet from a field-

TEEN REPORTER

This is too real.

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## CHORUS OF STUDENTS

Always-  
First-  
Always be with us.

## TEEN REPORTER

I'm sorry.

## TV REPORTER

Just like the one that was home to some of her greatest triumphs.

## TEEN REPORTER

(Exiting:)

Somebody else has to do this.

## CHORUS OF STUDENTS

Now-  
Always-  
Forever-

(Becoming softer:)

Always...  
Always...  
Always...

The lights slowly come up on a school hallway. ALISA, high school junior, tries to open a locker. It's not easy, because she is squeezed on one side by a sprawling shrine of teddy bears, flowers, sports trophies, handwritten notes and cards, including a prominent written pronouncement that "We Love Beth." It's all centered in front of the locker directly next to hers. Beat. HEADLINE, male and a year younger, observes her struggles, gradually moving closer.

## HEADLINE

New Student Arrives at Washington High School.

(Beat.)

New Student Battles the Shrine.

## ALISA

(Losing hold of her books:)

What?

## HEADLINE

Shrine Wins! Shrine Wins!

Who are you?  
ALISA

Enter BUY BOY, Alisa's age, and  
the guy you go to when you need  
to buy or sell pretty much  
anything.

That's how he talks.  
BUY BOY

HEADLINE  
(Helping pick up Alisa's  
books:)  
Knight in Shining Armor Saves the Day!

I got it.  
BUY BOY

Buy Boy competes with Headline  
for Alisa's books.

HEADLINE  
Superhero Rescues Fair Maiden in School Hallway!

I said I got it.  
BUY BOY

ALISA  
(Pulling the books away from  
them:)  
I've got them.

BUY BOY  
Just trying to help.

ALISA  
Thanks. I'm OK. It's just this...

She gestures toward the shrine.

HEADLINE  
Shrine Claims Next Victim.

ALISA  
(To Headline:)  
Can you stop that?

BUY BOY  
(Making a move toward  
Headline:)  
Headline, stop being a freak.

Headline retreats.

Hero Vows to Return!

HEADLINE

Headline exits.

BUY BOY

Sorry 'bout that.

ALISA

What's wrong with him?

BUY BOY

Last year, there was this...thing, and he just started talking like that.

ALISA  
(Indicates the shrine:)

This, uh...thing?

BUY BOY

No.  
(Holds out his hand:)

Tanner. But you can call me Buy Boy.

ALISA

Why?

BUY BOY

You want to buy, I'm sellin'.

ALISA

Buy what?

BUY BOY

Anything.

ALISA

Are you a narc?

BUY BOY

I'm not a dealer. Not that kind.

ALISA

Good to know.

BUY BOY

You need anything, I take cash or credit. Gimme your name and I'll even give you the friends and family discount.

ALISA

That's OK.

BUY BOY

Negotiation - I like it.

(Beat.)

How about I give you the friends and family discount, and you think about giving me your name?

ALISA

(Beat.)

Alisa.

A BELL RINGS.

BUY BOY

I'll see you later, Alisa.

The hallway floods with STUDENTS.

ALISA

(Gesturing toward the shrine:)

What about this...?

But he's gone. Lights dim on the pack of students in the hallway, and up on LUNA. She is alone and in her own light, but she should be lit in such a way that her face is somewhat hidden. It's an out of time moment.

LUNA

Pluto was officially discovered in 1930. It became the ninth planet, and the farthest from the sun. What a lot of people don't know - no, what pretty much everybody doesn't know, is that its orbit crosses Neptune's, the eighth planet, but the two planets don't ever come close to each other.

(Beat.)

So Pluto's always been this lonely little planet, and it's cold. Really, really cold. Like negative 230 degrees Celsius cold. People couldn't live there.

(Beat.)

I'm pretty sure most people don't spend a lot of time thinking about Pluto. Why would you? Pluto doesn't get you an A in English or pay your car insurance or keep your mom from aiming a half full coffee mug at your dad's head on the last night you pretended you had a functional family.

(Beat.)

But then it happened. In 2006. Pluto got demoted. One day it's a planet, and the next day it's not. They come up with this new category: a dwarf planet. Sure, Pluto, you're separate but equal. Right. And finally people take notice.

## LUNA (CONT'D)

Harvard students stage a sit-in at University Hall, in Berkeley they burn a revised map of the solar system and protestors take to the streets of Manhattan to stand up for Pluto.

(Beat.)

I made that last part up. Outside of a few astronomers, nobody really cared, and after a few weeks, people stopped talking about it. Nobody ever stands up for the Plutos of the universe. At least not in my universe.

(Beat.)

Our school has a Pluto problem.

Luna disappears back into the crowd of passing students as the stage begins to transition into the cafeteria. WENDY, the class drama geek in a non-geeky way, slips in just ahead of MARNE [pronounced Mar-nee], MELISSA and MIRANDA, a trio of popular girls nicknamed "The M Squad," who know just how popular they are. They wear black T-shirts emblazoned with "Elizabeth Turner - Always in Our Hearts." They have Beth's picture on the front. Marne carries a bag of T-shirts. They accost students heading into the cafeteria, passing out flyers.

WENDY

Get your Shake on this Saturday and Sunday! That's right - fall hard for the Bard as girls play boys and boys play girls in our revolutionary new version of Richard II.

MARNE

Friday night vigil.

(Shoving a flyer into a student's hand:)

Be there. There's gonna be food trucks.

MELISSA

One-year anniversary. Better be there.

Miranda shoves a flyer into the hands of DALTON, wearing a lacrosse jersey over his otherwise preppy attire.

CHUCK, not nearly cool enough to be Dalton's friend and going through an array of protein shakes and bars in a vain attempt to keep up, looks like he wants to worship the ground Marne walks on.

MIRANDA  
You *will* be there.

CHUCK  
Hey, Marne.

Marne doesn't appear to be aware of his existence.

DALTON  
You know I never miss.

MELISSA  
Except for last month.

MIRANDA  
Show love, Dalton.

DALTON  
Can I show *you* love?

MIRANDA  
(Nuzzling up to him to tease:)  
I would love you more *stylin'* the new all-black.

CHUCK  
All-black would mean black letters too.

MIRANDA  
Chuck!

MELISSA  
Don't be stupid.

MIRANDA  
Don't be an ass.

MELISSA  
Stupid ass.

CHUCK  
Uh...it was a joke. Marne, you know it was a joke, right?

MARNE  
How many T-shirts you own, Chuck?

I've got one. CHUCK

Never seen it. MARNE  
 (To Miranda:)  
 You seen it?

Nopesters. MELISSA  
 (Jumping in:)

Never seen it. MIRANDA

I think I got it in like September. Or October. CHUCK

You think? MIRANDA

Better be sure. MELISSA

When I *think* about it, don't remember seeing you at a vigil. MARNE

I've been. CHUCK  
 (Pause.)  
 Dalton, tell 'em I've been.

How much for the all-black? DALTON

Fifteen. MARNE

Dalton forks over the cash. They hand him a T-shirt. As they do, lights up on QE (pronounced Q.E.), Beth's younger sister, standing across the cafeteria.

Go tell QE you don't want to buy a shirt. MARNE (CONT'D)  
 (To Chuck:)

No, it's not that- CHUCK

What is it? MIRANDA

MARNE  
Dalton, put that shirt on.

CHUCK  
Things are just a little tight right now.

MARNE  
Beth is dead.

CHUCK  
I know.

Dalton takes his jersey off and  
puts the shirt on.

MARNE  
And if you cared about her-

MELISSA  
Like Dalton.

MIRANDA  
You'd be puttin' on that all-black.

CHUCK  
I care. I'm just tapped.

MARNE  
Sacrifice a freakin' protein shake.

MELISSA  
Not like it's helping.

CHUCK  
What about those buttons? I have enough for a button.

MARNE  
Sold out months ago.

MIRANDA  
You look hot, Dalton.

MELISSA  
Red hot.

MARNE  
(To Chuck:)  
Go tell QE you hate her sister.

CHUCK  
But I don't-

MELISSA  
Or we will.

CHUCK  
I get paid next Friday.

MIRANDA  
Next Friday's really far from this Friday.

MELISSA  
Like another country.

MARNE  
And the vigil's *this* Friday.

MIRANDA  
Everyone, can I have your attention?

MELISSA  
Listen up, people, Chuckie's got something to say.

The cafeteria starts to go quiet.

CHUCK  
Why are you doing this?

MARNE  
Because we can.

MELISSA  
QE, you'll want to hear this.

CHUCK  
OK!

QE  
(From across the cafeteria:)  
Hear what?

MIRANDA  
Nah - it's all good, QE. We love you, girl.

Marne gestures for people to go  
back to what they were doing.  
The noise level returns.

MARNE  
(To Chuck:)  
Let me see that AJ.

CHUCK  
It's 15, right?

MARNE  
AJ.

But-  
CHUCK

Did she stutter?  
MELISSA

CHUCK  
(Beat - indicating the  
cafeteria:)  
That's all I got for the week.

MIRANDA  
Tell that to QE.

Chuck digs for money and pays off  
Marne. Beat.

CHUCK  
Hope you're happy.

MARNE  
It's not about me.

Miranda or Melissa gives Chuck a  
T-shirt, or rather tosses it at  
him. The lights shift to focus  
on QE.

QE  
I'm used to being on the other end of those looks. Those  
poor QE looks. Those "insert name here" Beth's sister looks.  
I run from memorial to vigil to dedication to fundraiser.  
It's like all Beth, all the time. Nobody even knows me.  
Well, everybody knows me. I'm Beth's sister.

(Beat.)  
After they had Beth - Elizabeth - they had *Queen* Elizabeth.  
Seriously? It's what you name your toy poodle. But nobody  
says a thing anymore. It took my sister dying to make my  
lifetime humiliation of a name cool. And how am I supposed  
to change it now? How am I supposed to change any of this?

QE melts into the crowds of the  
cafeteria. Alisa looks for a  
table. Headline comes up to her.

HEADLINE  
Beautiful Princess Sits with Charming, Handsome Prince.

He pulls out a chair for her,  
offering the seat, brushing off  
the table at the last minute when  
he realizes it's dirty. Buy Boy  
intercepts Alisa.

BUY BOY

You don't want to sit there.

ALISA

And you know this because...?

Alisa turns away from both of them. Lights up on the outcast table, populated by SABRINA, perhaps a goth; LEGOLAS, whose real name is Aloysius, and HABIT, short for nothing and often quiet. In between them sits a burger with ketchup and relish, alone on a plate. They each raise a glass.

SABRINA

To Jeremy.

Sabrina's words arrest Headline's attention. He looks like he wants to come over, but lingers where he is, watching their exchange from a distance. Habit tips her glass in the direction of the burger.

LEGOLAS

To J-Bird.

SABRINA

He hated that name.

LEGOLAS

No he didn't.

SABRINA

Yes he did.

LEGOLAS

(To Habit:)

Tiebreaker?

Habit nods and gestures to Sabrina, tipping the vote to her.

LEGOLAS (CONT'D)

(Beat.)

He never said anything.

SABRINA

Kinda had other stuff.

LEGOLAS  
(Quietly:)

Yeah.

(Beat - to the burger:)

Sorry, Jeremy.

SABRINA  
Not like he spent days on end saying, "Oh my God, will Legolas stop calling me J-Bird?"

LEGOLAS  
(Beat.)  
He didn't say that, did he?

SABRINA  
I just said, "It's not like he did."

LEGOLAS  
So that's a no?

SABRINA  
Doesn't matter now.

LEGOLAS  
Can't you just give me one straight answer?!

SABRINA  
No! He said it once and that was it.

LEGOLAS  
What did he say?

SABRINA  
I didn't write it down.

LEGOLAS  
Was he like really angry?

SABRINA  
He said, "I'm only killing myself because I can't kill Legolas."

LEGOLAS  
That's not funny.

SABRINA  
Sorry. Just tryin to be a moodlifter. Memorial Cheeseburger Wednesday.

LEGOLAS  
Yeah, they do get kind of downer.

SABRINA

(Beat.)

You get your paper done?

LEGOLAS

Almost. Worked on it all last night.

SABRINA

Isn't it due tomorrow?

LEGOLAS

Almost. One more all-nighter should do it.

(Beat.)

So what did he say?

SABRINA

You're still on that?

LEGOLAS

I just need to know.

SABRINA

(Beat.)

I don't know. It was something like, "Why does Legolas call me that stupid nickname?"

LEGOLAS

He said it was stupid?

(Beat.)

I would have stopped. I would have stopped in a second.

SABRINA

I know.

LEGOLAS

Why didn't you say something?

SABRINA

(Mostly to herself:)

Why didn't I say something about a lot of things?

Habit steps out of real time.

HABIT

Dalton beats the crap out of his liver every Friday and Saturday night. I know this. The M Squad likes shopping, gossip and guys in that order. Every study hall, perfect little Marne's got one tab open to some fashion page and the other to DidYouHearAboutHim.com. Tanner, Buy Boy, whatever his name is - he's always makin' a deal and scratchin' out an extra buck, and his mom and dad have his and hers Porsches. He just can't help it. It's a habit.

(Beat.)

## HABIT (CONT'D)

You notice habits are mostly bad? Like silence. That's mine. And it's mostly bad.

Habit steps back into the scene just as Marne's posse arrives at her table, but for once, Marne doesn't seem to be steering them there.

MIRANDA  
Listen up, freakazoids.

MARNE  
Leave it.

MELISSA  
Why?

MARNE  
You know why.

MIRANDA  
Not really.

MELISSA  
The three little freaklets ought to get with the program.

MARNE  
They will.

MIRANDA  
When?

MELISSA  
(Beat.)  
She wears all black anyway.

MARNE  
Let's just go. I want a latte.

MIRANDA  
You hate lattes.

MARNE  
Whatever. A cappuccino.

Beat. Melissa and Miranda exchange a look between them, while Marne has just a moment of connection with Habit, Legolas and Sabrina. The M Squad moves on.

LEGOLAS  
You ever wonder about the cheeseburger?

SABRINA  
I wonder if it's dog.

LEGOLAS  
Aside from that.

SABRINA  
What am I supposed to wonder about? You shouldn't think about things too much.

LEGOLAS  
Well, like we never eat it.

HABIT  
I'm a vegetarian.

LEGOLAS  
Yeah, but if you weren't.

HABIT  
But I am.

SABRINA  
What are you wondering about?

LEGOLAS  
If we eat the cheeseburger, is that like at communion when they eat the body of Christ?

SABRINA  
You mean like Jeremy is the cheeseburger and if we eat it, we're eating his body?

LEGOLAS  
Symbolically.

HABIT  
I'm only eating him if he's tofu.  
(Beat.)  
I shouldn't speak.

SABRINA  
This conversation is so messed up.

HABIT  
Dumb things come out when I speak.

SABRINA  
No - this is *all* so messed up.

LEGOLAS

Just like every single day.

They do not eat the burger. Headline looks like every ounce of his being wants to go over to them, but instead he exits as the lights dim on them and come up on Alisa, trying to find a seat at last. She finds an open seat by Brady, the Teen Reporter from the first scene.

ALISA

Is anyone sitting here?

He shakes his head. She sits.

ALISA (CONT'D)

Hi. I'm Alisa.

BRADY

Brady.

ALISA

Nice to meet you.

BRADY

You too.

ALISA

I brought my lunch. Didn't know if the food was good or...  
(Beat.)  
Seems like everybody at this school...either you can't shut them up or they hardly talk at all.

BRADY

Sorry.

(Looking up from his lunch:)

How are you? How's that?

ALISA

Good.

BRADY

You're good, or I'm doing good?

(Corrects himself:)

Well.

ALISA

Don't worry about it.

BRADY

What am I not worrying about?

(Beat.)

Too much now?

ALISA

You're doing fine. Mid-year transfers suck, but other than this crazy shrine next to my locker that I'm going to trip over really, really soon and the two guys hitting on me in front of it, in the caff and everywhere else they see me, I'm great.

BRADY

Don't worry. I won't hit on you.

ALISA

Gay, or just not your type?

BRADY

No confidence.

ALISA

Oh.

(Beat.)

Well, maybe you could borrow some from one of them. They have way too much.

(Beat.)

Not that I'm telling you to hit on me. That came out wrong.

BRADY

It's cool. I think I know what you meant.

(Beat.)

I used to have it.

ALISA

What happened?

BRADY

Bell's about to ring. Better beat the herd.

He gets up abruptly and exits as the BELL RINGS. Alisa finds herself thrown into a three-ring circus. Each of these lines should be delivered by a different speaker, so that no one delivers two lines in a row.

CHORUS OF STUDENTS

Welcome to Washington High School, where we offer a wide variety of sports and clubs.

Activities.

There's marching band, newspaper, animals rights and recycling, P.E. leadership, Varsity Key Club-

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Of course, if you arrive in the middle of the year, your options are limited.  
 You've missed fall sports.  
 Winters's going, going gone.  
 You'll probably be such a mess academically that you won't have time to participate.  
 Or have a social life.  
 But if you do, things are kinda set already.  
 Debate partners are picked.  
 The fall play is over.  
 The spring play is practically cast.

A student posts a cast list.

CHORUS OF STUDENTS (CONT'D)

Model UN, done.  
 Math club, done.  
 Science Olympiad, check;  
 Geekdom organizes way early.  
 Technically, those are nerds.  
 And if you find a club that you can get into, everybody's known each other for a thousand years.  
 You're on the outside looking in.  
 You wish you were that close.  
 Let's face it - your life is a total cluster-  
 Beep!

The throng of students disperses, and we're left with Alisa trying to get at her locker. She measures her path, but doesn't quite have the coordination for success. Beat. She gives the closest parts of the shrine a nudge, trying to buy herself some breathing room. Enter Marne, Miranda and Melissa. Alisa stops her efforts, but too late.

MARNE

What's up?

ALISA

Not much.

MELISSA

Pretty amazing, isn't it.

ALISA

What?

MIRANDA

(Indicates the shrine:)

This.

ALISA  
Yeah.

MARNE  
So what are you doing?

ALISA  
What do you mean?

MELISSA  
We're not blind.

ALISA  
I almost fell.

MIRANDA  
Do you know what this is?

ALISA  
I barely touched it.

MIRANDA  
I said do you know what this is.

ALISA  
I can't get to my locker. What am I supposed to do?

MARNE  
You're new here, right?

ALISA  
Yeah. I'm A-

MARNE  
You should figure out what's what before you start messing with things.

ALISA  
I'm not trying to mess with things. I'm just trying to get to my locker.

MELISSA  
Who gave you the right to touch things?

ALISA  
If they moved it six inches...  
(Trying to lighten the mood:)  
I'm just not that coordinated.

MARNE  
Maybe it's you that needs to move.

MIRANDA  
Hate to see something bad happen...

What? ALISA

Did she stutter? MELISSA

Are you threa- ALISA

Leaving. MARNE  
(As they sweep off:)

They exit, leaving Alisa shaken.

## SCENE 2

A classroom. A SUBSTITUTE TEACHER passes back aptitude tests. Half of them are already in students' hands. Dalton leans over to Chuck.

DALTON  
Sub. We should blow this off.

CHUCK  
Thanks for screwing me.

DALTON  
Come on. It's a sub.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER  
Aloysius-

LEGOLAS  
(Cutting her off, but not before a snicker or two escapes from the peanut gallery:)  
Legolas.

He goes and gets his results. As the scene continues, the Substitute Teacher passes out the rest of the tests, her lips moving as if she's calling out names.

DALTON  
(Beat.)  
You're not seriously still mad about the shirt.

Chuck holds up his hand, as in "talk to the hand," and ignores him. Across the room, MARIO holds up his results in disbelief.

MARIO  
I'm going to be a non-union plumber.

WENDY  
You're what?

Wendy grabs them out of his hand.

MARIO  
It says I'm best suited to be a non-union plumber.

WENDY  
An aptitude test can tell you that?

MARIO  
Why am I not good enough to be in the union?

WENDY  
Maybe you're not a joiner.

MARIO  
But non-union plumbers don't make near as much money.

PAM chimes in.

PAM  
It says I should be a veterinarian.

WENDY  
You're gonna make a lot more money than Mario.

MARIO  
Shut up.

PAM  
But I'm allergic to cats. And dogs.

MARIO  
(To Wendy:)  
What'd yours say?

WENDY  
Actress.

MARIO  
No way.

WENDY  
Well, basically.

PAM  
What'd it say?

WENDY  
Waitress. But that's such an obvious stepping stone to actress... I'm thinking of inviting the entire test advisory board to see me play Henry this weekend.

ALISA  
(To Brady:)  
Should I ask-

BRADY  
Don't.

WENDY  
Just so they can see it for themselves-

ALISA  
(Beat.)  
These things mean nothing.

BRADY  
Tell that to my parents.

WENDY  
And recalibrate those tests.

BRADY  
You're lucky you don't have one.

ALISA  
So far, the only good thing about being new.

BRADY  
Hey!

ALISA  
Almost only thing.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER  
(Pronounced rhine-er)  
Jeremy Reiner.

The class goes silent.

MARIO  
(Uncomfortably:)  
Oh man...

CHUCK  
How's he still on the roster?

DALTON  
You talking to me now?

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER  
Is Jeremy absent?

BRADY  
(Beat.)  
He's not in this class.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER  
I'm sure Ms. DeSoto-

DALTON  
It's Mrs.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER

I'm sure *Mrs.* DeSoto will get the results to Jeremy when she's back.

There's a long and terribly awkward silence. A barely stifled GIGGLE comes from somewhere in the back.

SABRINA

Not cool.

GIGGLING GIRL

Sorry...I'm not like laughing at him.

Mario's lines for the rest of the scene are to himself, and the others should continue their conversation almost as if he's not there.

MARIO

Don't say something stupid.

SABRINA

Then why are you laughing?

GIGGLING GIRL

I'm not. This is just like super freaky.

CHUCK

Your laugh is super freaky.

MARIO

Don't say anything.

GIGGLING GIRL

I get nervous.

CHUCK

That laugh makes me nervous.

DALTON

I know, right?

MARIO

Don't talk.

SABRINA

It's not funny.

CHUCK

I'm still pissed at you.

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MARIO  
Don't talk.

GIGGLING GIRL  
I'm not trying to laugh.

DALTON  
Dude, what is your problem?

SABRINA  
Then try harder not to.

CHUCK  
You.

MARIO  
Don't talk.

BRADY  
Shut up! All of you - just - shut - up!

He storms out, leaving the  
classroom silent in his wake.  
Beat. Legolas steps out of the  
scene, and draws the light.  
During Legolas' monologue, Alisa  
exits.

LEGOLAS  
Six years ago, my uncle moved to a different apartment in his  
building. And so they start sending his disability checks to  
the new address, which is what you expect, right? And then  
suddenly two months ago they start going to his old one.  
Lucky it's in the same building, but what's up with that?

(Beat.)

People think I'm weird. I'm OK with that. Tiny Tim, the  
little gimpy kid from Christmas Carol, says maybe people will  
see him and feel better cause they're not him. I think I'm  
something like that kind of weird. But not crazy. Not like  
"we flew our own planes into the Towers" crazy. And I say  
that the check suddenly going to my uncle's old address, or  
Jeremy's old aptitude test coming back, that's not an  
accident.

(Beat.)

I just hope - I hope it makes things better.

The lights dim on the classroom,  
where all freeze. The lights  
come up on a hallway, where Brady  
sits on the ground by a locker in  
the hall. Alisa finds him.

ALISA  
I'm in the bathroom.

BRADY  
What's wrong with me?

ALISA  
Can I get back to you on that?

Alisa sits next to him.

BRADY  
(Beat.)  
I barely know you.

ALISA  
What - you wanna blow your stranger danger whistle?

BRADY  
No. Not that. I just shouldn't dump all this stuff on you.

ALISA  
It's OK. Dump away.

BRADY  
I can't.

ALISA  
(Beat.)  
What if I dump first?

BRADY  
And then I do?

ALISA  
A dump for a dump. If you want.  
(Beat.)  
You don't have to decide now.  
(Beat.)  
I told you I have this shrine by my locker.

BRADY  
Beth. It's a shrine to Beth.

ALISA  
Who's dead.

BRADY  
Who's dead.

ALISA  
And I told you how I can barely get my books.

Brady nods.

ALISA (CONT'D)

I try to move it one tiny bit, and it's like they can smell that something moved, these three-

BRADY

The M Squad.

ALISA

The what?

BRADY

Popular, more popular and most popular.

ALISA

Great. First week and I'm screwed.

BRADY

Buy a T-shirt.

ALISA

A T-shirt...?

BRADY

It's like an offering.

ALISA

A what? I'm so confused right now.

BRADY

Wish you could take that dump back?

ALISA

Wish I could take back the word dump.

BRADY

They're like the gods - goddesses of popularity. You buy a shirt, it's like sacrificing a goat.

ALISA

Brady, you're so weird.

BRADY

Good weird?

ALISA

Weird.

BRADY

Thanks.

ALISA

(Beat.)

What kind of T-shirt?

BRADY  
The newest one's the all-black. But they have pretty much  
all of the good colors.

ALISA  
Great.

BRADY  
Fifteen dollars is cheap not to be the goat.

ALISA  
Fifteen dollars doesn't solve the problem.

BRADY  
Just for now.  
(Beat.)  
You should probably get back.

ALISA  
I'll say there was blood involved.

BRADY  
TMI.

ALISA  
Yeah. So much worse than sacrificing a goat.

BRADY  
That was a metaphor.

ALISA  
(Beat.)  
Your turn.

BRADY  
For...?

ALISA  
To dump.

BRADY  
You're not done yet.

ALISA  
You said it was solved for now.  
(Beat.)  
I'll dump more later. Or spill. Spill's a better word.

BRADY  
You said if I wanted.

He gets up.

BRADY (CONT'D)

I don't.

He walks away, leaving her there  
as the lights dim on her.

## SCENE 3

ROXANNA, student council  
president, confronts Marne.

ROXANNA  
You can't coerce people.

MARNE  
Who's coercing?

ROXANNA  
Don't play.

MARNE  
(Beat.)  
How's the luau coming?

ROXANNA  
Fine, but we're still talk-

MARNE  
You get those tiki torches ou wanted so bad?

ROXANNA  
Yes, thank you.

(Beat.)  
We all felt...in the long run that buying them - I know it's  
more money upfront - but that way, if we do a Caribbean night  
or Polynesian-

The lights shift as Marne steps  
out of this conversation.  
Roxanna stays frozen in place.  
Enter a quartet of NEEDY  
STUDENTS, who accost Marne in  
turn.

FIRST STUDENT  
Hey Marne. Car wash came up a little short.

MARNE  
Your signs kinda sucked.  
(Beat.)  
How short?

SECOND STUDENT  
Two hundred if we want the good swing set.

FIRST STUDENT  
It's rated safer.

THIRD STUDENT  
Marne, you gotta sec?

FOURTH STUDENT

Hey Marne.

THIRD STUDENT

I know I said 250 was gonna be enough-

FOURTH STUDENT

I know you're probably sick of people asking-

THIRD STUDENT

But if we don't bump up the shipping-

FOURTH STUDENT

But is there any way to get another 300?

THIRD STUDENT

-it might not get here in time.

MARNE

(To the Third Student:)

How much?

FOURTH STUDENT

Or else they're gonna have to share books.

MARNE

How much?

Marne steps toward the First and  
Second Students.

FIRST STUDENT

It'll last way longer, it's way more solid-

SECOND STUDENT

(Holding up a brochure:)

Here - we brought it so you could see.

Additional cast members could  
enter, or the original four  
students could be the chorus.  
Feel free to overlap or repeat  
some of the lines below.

CHORUS OF STUDENTS

Marne, could you-?

Marne, can you-

Hey, Marne-

Marne, hey-

Marne?

Marne!

Marne holds up her hand,  
silencing the crowd.

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MARNE

(Walking away from them:)

Put Beth's name somewhere big.

Marne steps out of their conversation and back into the conversation with Roxanna.

ROXANNA

I'm just saying don't make it so obvious.

MARNE

I'm sorry. What are we talking about?

ROXANNA

In the caff - Chuck.

MARNE

No, we're not.

ROXANNA

I'm sorry. What?

MARNE

I'm sorry. Did your brains get sucked into that glossy little college portfolio you wave around like a magic wand? Because you are not getting the memo, and this is the last time we will be having this conversation. Without me and Beth Turner, your student council budget is the size of a chicken nugget; nobody's buying playground equipment for South Elementary or fixing the Adams Middle School trophy case, and they sure as hell aren't buying any torches to stick in the ground, no matter how many times you can reuse them.

ROXANNA

You know how much we appreciate-

MARNE

No. If I ever hear another word, you're cut off. We'll set up a freakin' scholarship fund for orphans in Africa, and I know nobody wants that.

Marne stalks off, leaving Roxanna standing there wondering what hit her.

## SCENE 4

Alisa is in the office, which might just be indicated by a counter and a few chairs for those who wait. A SECRETARY wearing a mask, as do all of the adults in the play, busies herself doing who knows what.

ALISA

Hi. Who do I-

SECRETARY

Be with you in a moment.

Enter Buy Boy, not looking thrilled to be there - until he sees Alisa.

BUY BOY

Hey you.

ALISA

Hi.

SECRETARY

Tanner, have a seat. You're at the top of Dr. Copperfield's list.

ALISA

Could I just ask-

BUY BOY

Is he-

SECRETARY

Oh yes.

BUY BOY

(Under his breath:)

Great.

ALISA

I just have one really quick-

SECRETARY

Almost with you. I'm all alone today.

BUY BOY

What do you need?

ALISA

I want to change lockers.

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Enter DR. COPPERFIELD, masked.

BUY BOY

Smart. I can hook you up.

DR. COPPERFIELD

Tanner, haven't you had enough hook-ups for one week?

BUY BOY

Dr. C, no - I just meant I'm helping my friend. Not that I did anything wrong before.

DR. COPPERFIELD

You can tell me all about it.

BUY BOY

(To the Secretary as he gets  
sucked toward Copperfield's  
office:)

My friend Alisa needs a new locker, and I would totally see it as a personal favor if you could help her out.

Buy Boy and Dr. Copperfield are gone. Beat.

SECRETARY

What's your current locker?

ALISA

842. It's near this, uh...

SECRETARY

The shrine?

Alisa nods.

SECRETARY (CONT'D)

Let me see what's open.

ALISA

Do I need to fill out any kind of change form, or...

Beat. The PHONE RINGS.

SECRETARY

(Into the phone:)

Washington High School...

Enter Headline.

HEADLINE

Beautiful Girl Waits in the Office. And Waits. And Waits.

ALISA

Don't you have a class?

(Beat.)

I am not beautiful.

SECRETARY

OK. Lockers.

Enter a TEACHER, also masked.

TEACHER

Lois, is there any way you can help me out?

HEADLINE

Beautiful Girl Pushed to the Back of the Line Again.

ALISA

You are just slightly creepy-

But she finds herself talking to  
the Secretary.

ALISA (CONT'D)

Sorry.

(Points at Headline:)

Him. Not you.

SECRETARY

Unfortunately, there aren't any free lockers.

HEADLINE

Beautiful Girl Assigned to Locker in the Sophomore Hallway.

SECRETARY

There aren't any anywhere.

ALISA

There's not one locker in the whole school.

SECRETARY

Everything's assigned.

ALISA

If I can find someone to switch with me-

SECRETARY

Would you like to make an appointment with Dr. Copperfield?

HEADLINE

Beautiful Girl Fights Hopeless Fight.

ALISA

(To Headline:)

Stop talking like that.

ALISA (CONT'D)

Do you have any idea how irritating that is?

(Beat. To the Secretary:)

No. I'm fine.

SECRETARY

You let us know if there's anything we can do for you.

Alisa walks out of the office,  
with Headline following her.

HEADLINE

Fearless Reporter Apologizes.

ALISA

You're not a reporter.

He continues to walk with her.

ALISA (CONT'D)

I don't know what your malfunction is, but could you please  
just leave me alone?

She continues walking, leaving  
him standing there.

HEADLINE

Fearless Reporter Apolo- Hero Vows- Knight- Prince-  
(Hitting himself in the head  
as the lights dim:)

Freak. Freak. Freak. Freak.

Blackout.

## SCENE 5

HYACINTH KROY, high school TV news reporter and the heir to Brady's spot, is live on camera. This could be done live or as a video projection.

HYACINTH

This is Hyacinth Kroy with your Washington Warrior News. I know I don't need to tell you what Friday is, and I know that the entire Washington community will be there to show that one year later, Beth is still alive in our hearts.

(Beat.)

My guest at this time is QE Turner. QE, thank you for talking with us.

QE

Anything for Beth.

HYACINTH

Can you believe it's been a year?

QE

It has been.

HYACINTH

How is life different for you now?

QE

Well, things are a little better than right after it happened.

HYACINTH

Of course. Time heals, right?

QE

I guess.

HYACINTH

What can we expect tomorrow night?

QE

I dunno. Marne's organizing the whole thing.

(Beat.)

I'm saying a few words.

HYACINTH

What's it going to be like looking out into that sea of all black?

QE

I guess it'll be pretty amazing.

HYACINTH

(Waving an all-black shirt:)

I've got mine right here.

(Beat.)

I think Beth would have been pretty stoked.

QE

Yeah. She always liked pep rallies. Guess this is kinda the same idea.

HYACINTH

I know your sister would be really proud of you.

QE

(Beat.)

For what?

HYACINTH

Well, for being here. For everything you've been doing.

QE

I show up.

HYACINTH

You're representing.

QE

Am I?

QE steps out of the scene.

QE (CONT'D)

I didn't actually say that. Instead, it was this:

QE steps back into the scene.

HYACINTH

I know your sister would be really proud of you.

QE

Thanks. Our whole family was really proud of her. We always will be.

HYACINTH

She may be gone, but definitely not forgotten.

QE

Tomorrow's going to be an amazing day.

The lights brighten around the stage to reveal other students.

## CHORUS OF STUDENTS

Is this on?  
 Friday night is about coming together.  
 I own all the shirts they ever put out.  
 Not like Beth's gonna care if I'm wearing a T-shirt with her  
 face on it or reading a poem or telling a story about her  
 life.  
 It's for a good cause.  
 I knew Beth since elementary. Least I can do is show up.  
 You show up for everybody else. You show up for QE and Mr.  
 and Mrs. Turner and all the people who were close to her.  
 What if it was me, right?  
 I made varsity this year. Beth would have been captain.  
 I didn't know Beth, but I'm in trig with QE. Hate that  
 class.  
 I'd want somebody to hug my mom.

## FIRST CHORUS KID

Anybody know if there's an after party?

## SECOND CHORUS KID

Like a wake?

## FIRST CHORUS KID

I just wanna drink.

## SECOND CHORUS KID

Dude, you are so inappropriate.

## FIRST CHORUS KID

News is gonna be there. Maybe we'll get on TV.

## SECOND CHORUS KID

Maybe you need to think about your life.

## FIRST CHORUS KID

I think my life is awesome. Sometimes.

## SECOND CHORUS KID

Instant karma's gonna get you.

## FIRST CHORUS KID

Way to be original.

## SECOND CHORUS KID

Old but true.

## FIRST CHORUS KID

Whatever. See you at the vigil?

## SECOND CHORUS KID

Dude, I'll see you next period. But yeah.

CAR KID

My car is 16 years old. That's like 112 in dog years. I think every part in the original car is gone. Mostly the new parts get along, but it's like when you have an organ donation, sometimes the body rejects the new organ. The lock on the driver's side door is having rejection issues.

WENDY

I don't like the lacrosse players. They didn't do anything to me, nothing like that. Just sometimes they're jerks.

(Beat.)

So you're probably thinking, "Why is she going to this thing for a lacrosse player?"

CAR KID

After two weeks of beautiful, perfect operation, the kind of love my classmates with Beamers, Toyotas and other fine German and Japanese vehicles take for granted, I'm sleeping on the couch - a.k.a. going in the passenger door, crawling over the gear shift - thank god I haven't slipped on that...much. I guess it's better than not having a car at all.

WENDY

But it's way bigger than that. It's like Beth brought us all together.

CAR KID

I've tried all the easy solutions, like WD40 and getting the key recut...and of course the place that sold it to me says there's nothing wrong with the lock.

(Beat.)

I have to take the door apart. But between school and my crap job serving food I wouldn't feed a dog I was trying to kill, I have no time. That's not true. I have Friday night. But I don't. Because I have to be at the vigil wearing the all-black that means I can't afford the part I need for another week.

WENDY

Tomorrow night when we're all in black T-shirts we're gonna be one school. I didn't want somebody to die for that, but it's good that it happened. I mean, it's good that this came out of it.

End of scene.

## SCENE 6

A school conference room. Marne, Melissa and Miranda count money. A few all-blacks are scattered about the room.

MELISSA

Thirty-one, thirty-two, thirty-three, thirty-four, thirty-five, thirty-six--

MIRANDA

Do you seriously need to count out loud?

MELISSA

Do you want me to remember the count?

MARNE

Let's just get one of those Square thingies.

MIRANDA

Good call.

MELISSA

Yeah--we all have smart phones.

MIRANDA

(Under her breath:)

Smart phone, dumb user.

MELISSA

What?

MIRANDA

Nada.

MARNE

(Finishing her count:)

It's official. The all-blacks are our biggest seller.

MELISSA

We should go out to dinner and celebrate.

MARNE

It's not about us.

MELISSA

Doesn't mean we can't celebrate our success. And not some ick fast food place.

MARNE

You know I don't eat fast food. Or chains.

MELISSA  
So let the fund take us for Italian.

MARNE  
The fund?

MIRANDA  
(Sotto to Marne:)  
Somebody's been reading.

MELISSA  
(Ignoring Miranda:)  
Well, we're like a charity--right?

MARNE  
Yeah...?

MELISSA  
Just cause it's a charity doesn't mean all the charity goes  
to charity.

MIRANDA  
Cause *that* made sense.

MELISSA  
Charities have overhead.

MIRANDA  
Again with the big words.

MELISSA  
Jealous much?

MIRANDA  
Not much.

MELISSA  
How much have we raised?

MIRANDA  
Thousands.

MELISSA  
And we can't get one lousy meatball dinner?

MIRANDA  
I don't eat meatballs.

MELISSA  
It was an example.

MIRANDA  
I don't eat meat.

MELISSA

So have fish.

MIRANDA

I'm a vegan.

MELISSA

So have cheese ravioli. Who cares? The point is we've rocked Washington for a year. All-black sales are record-setting-

(To Marne:)

you said so yourself-

(To both:)

It's vigil eve. Nobody's gonna hate us for celebrating.

MIRANDA

Before we get all hallelujah, I got three no's on the all-black.

MARNE

No, as in-

MIRANDA

As in not buying - wait - four. The new girl.

MARNE

And the other three?

MIRANDA

You know which three.

MARNE

Cut them some slack.

MIRANDA

You've cut them plenty of slack.

MARNE

Maybe they deserve it.

MELISSA

(Picking up Miranda's theme:)

Yeah, you've given them lots of chances.

MIRANDA

But people could say you've given them too many.

(Beat.)

If they don't buy, how long before it's 20 people, or 100, or until Beth is just a plaque on the wall that nobody sees in a hallway nobody even walks through?

(To Marne:)

And til you're just another ex-lacrosse player who used to matter...

MARNE

Don't forget why we do this.

MIRANDA

Why do we do this? Melissa, do you know?

MELISSA

I didn't even know her that well.

MIRANDA

Did you, Marne? You tore your whatever before the season even started. You didn't play a game with-

MARNE

Do you know how much I've done-

MIRANDA

I do. But people could start to forget that. I'm over my outfit five minutes after I put it on.

MELISSA

You too?

MARNE

Shut up, Melissa.

MIRANDA

(To herself:)

Finally.

MELISSA

Uh, don't tell me to shut up.

MARNE

Then don't talk.

MIRANDA

*That's* what I'm talking about.

MELISSA

Why are you ganging up on me?

MARNE

Deal with it.

MELISSA

Hey! I'm just as in this as you.

MIRANDA

(Ignoring Melissa:)

You are a world-class bitch, which is totally what I love about you.

MELISSA

So you can't tell me to shut up.

MARNE AND MIRANDA

Shut up!

MIRANDA

I just don't get why you suddenly turn all soft for these three losers.

Long pause.

MARNE

Because we weren't the only ones who lost something.

MIRANDA

But who's got something to lose now?

(Beat.)

People want this. Look at what it's done for our school, for the whole community.

MARNE

Yeah, but isn't this why it happened in the first place?

MIRANDA

Beth got into an accident.

MARNE

I'm not talking about Beth.

MIRANDA

(Beat.)

If you don't step up, somebody will.

Long pause.

MARNE

I'm not there when it happens, and I don't know anything about it.

MELISSA

(Beat.)

So...this celebration dinner...are we on?

The lights dim on them and come up on a hallway, where QE encounters VANESSA, a senior and Beth's best friend.

QE

Hey.

VANESSA

Hey.

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Haven't seen you. QE

VANESSA  
I thought second semester senior year was supposed to be like all parties and cruisin and...

QE  
My parents asked if I'd talked to you.

VANESSA  
I should come over more.

QE  
It's cool.

VANESSA  
I'm not avoiding you.

QE  
I know.

VANESSA  
Every time I go over, I keep expecting she's gonna come through the kitchen door and sit down in her spot and then say, "Look, Elvis" and steal the pickles out of my sandwich.

QE  
Yeah, you'd do that-

QE and Vanessa make an elaborate show of looking away.

VANESSA  
-and she'd go swoop and-

QE  
It's amazing how the sandwich was like it never had pickles on it at all.

VANESSA  
Magic.

Silence.

QE  
Why didn't you say something?

VANESSA  
What?

QE  
Why didn't you tell them no? They would have listened to you.

VANESSA

They would have listened to you too.

QE

I was only a freshman.

VANESSA

You were her sister.

QE

I still am. Did you stop being her best friend just 'cause she died?

VANESSA

I don't want to get into it with you, QE.

QE

Maybe we need to.

VANESSA

I wasn't here - remember? Remember how it messed me up so bad I didn't get out of bed for three weeks? When I came back, it was done. The shrine was up, pens with her name on them were in every hand, the T-shirts were ordered, and the first vigil was already wrapped.

(Beat.)

If you hated it so much, why didn't you stop it? Why didn't your mom or your dad?

QE

The vigils are the only thing that keeps them together. If it wasn't for third Friday of every month, they wouldn't even talk to each other.

(Beat.)

The night Beth passed, my mom threw a coffee mug at my dad's head. She missed, but it was half full. We had to get the rug steam-cleaned. I was in my room with the door shut - they were making so much noise. I didn't hear Beth leave. I guess she saw the light in my window, cause I hear these horn taps outside.

VANESSA

Two taps, pause, one tap.

QE

And that was how we said goodbye forever.

They sit on a bench in the hallway.

VANESSA

Sorry.

QE

Me too.

(Beat.)

I just don't know what to do.

VANESSA

I was a way better athlete than Beth. OK - maybe not way better, but I bet if you asked her, she'd tell you I was better - stronger, faster, whatever. But she was a better player. It's like she was always in the right place, and the ball would just end up on her stick. You know. You saw us play a zillion times.

QE

A zillion and one.

VANESSA

It was just...

QE

Magic.

Vanessa nods. They share a moment.

VANESSA

She said it was all about the feel. Like somehow she'd just feel the flow and know where to go, know what to do. I think you'll feel it.

QE

You'll be there tomorrow - right?

QE takes Vanessa's hand, and together they sit in silence as the lights fade on them and come up on Melissa, talking to a member of the ensemble. Melissa eats from a bag of nachos [this could be another packaged bag of junk food].

MELISSA

Did I say lobster? No. Steak? Nope. I mean like lobster ravioli would be nice, but I would have been totally good with cheese. Actually, probably not pasta 'cause I'm counting carbs but like whatever. But no. That would actually require listening to me, and

(Sending up Marne and  
Miranda:)

"we're M&M.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

We're way too busy thinking about how awesome we are to listen to people who are really way more awesome than us and who just want one meal to celebrate that awesomeness instead of eating stupid vending machine nachos filled with preservatives and artificial flavors and yellow dye #6 and bitching to some random loser." No offense. Tell anyone and you're dead. No - you'll just wish you were.

(Holding out a nacho:)

Nacho?

The lights dim on Melissa and come up on Alisa in the office, trying to get the attention of the Secretary from before. As before, the adults wear masks.

ALISA

Hi. It's me again. You said if there was anything you could do-

SECRETARY

Yes - may I help you?

ALISA

Yes.

SECRETARY

Yes?

ALISA

You can help me.

SECRETARY

Just a moment, please.

ALISA

But-

SECRETARY

Wait for it...

Alisa is about to speak, but the Secretary holds up a finger to stop her. They wait. The PHONE RINGS.

SECRETARY (CONT'D)

Washington High School... Yes... Yes... Yes... Uh-huh... Uh-huh... Yes... [etc]

Alisa moves closer, suspicious.

SECRETARY (CONT'D)

Yes... Uh-huh... Yes... [etc]

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ALISA  
Is there anyone on the other end?

SECRETARY  
Shhh....

ALISA  
But you're not talking to anyone.

SECRETARY  
I'll be with you in a jiffy.

ALISA  
But I just-

SECRETARY  
Oh no you don't.

ALISA  
But-

SECRETARY  
(Covering her ears:)  
Na na na na... [etc]

Enter Dr. Copperfield.

ALISA  
Dr. Copperfield.

DR. COPPERFIELD  
Sorry about that. Mrs. Ignora gets a little agitated  
sometimes.

He keeps walking, heading "out"  
of the office. Alisa walks with  
him.

ALISA  
Could I just talk to-

DR. COPPERFIELD  
I'm off to a meeting, but I would love to sit down and talk  
soon about whatever's on your mind.

ALISA  
Can I walk you to your meeting?

DR. COPPERFIELD  
You mean "may I."

ALISA  
Yes.

DR. COPPERFIELD  
I'll be walking extra quickly.

ALISA  
I'll talk extra quickly.

DR. COPPERFIELD  
It's not too late to make an appointment with Mrs. Ignora and avoid an uncomfortable situation.

ALISA  
The shrine.

DR. COPPERFIELD  
I'm going to walk faster now.

ALISA  
Why can't it move just a little?

DR. COPPERFIELD  
New student, aren't you?

ALISA  
I can't get to my books.

DR. COPPERFIELD  
Welcome to Washington High School.

ALISA  
Thank you. But how am I supposed to get into my locker?

DR. COPPERFIELD  
Let's see if there's another locker-

ALISA  
There isn't any.

DR. COPPERFIELD  
Maybe we can find one.

ALISA  
Look - I know maybe I don't-

DR. COPPERFIELD  
I'm almost at my meeting.

ALISA  
Maybe I don't understand everything here, and not to sound like I don't care, but I'm pretty sure it's a fire hazard and it's not fair to give me a locker that I can't use or to switch me and make somebody else suffer instead, and this can't be the only student at Washington that's ever died.

DR. COPPERFIELD

(Beat.)

We don't talk about that.

ALISA

Where are their shrines?

Want to read the entire script? Order a perusal copy today!