From The Brightest Thing – Or, The Squonk Play

By Don Zolidis

EMELIA, a young girl with a very sick mother

BIG FAIRY, a large fairy – (probably male-presenting or non-binary)

WHUMP.*

*If you're able to have a window, it would be great to see BIG FAIRY fly smack into it. Otherwise this can be an off-stage noise.

EMELIA

What was that?

BIG FAIRY (in pain)

Ohhhhh...

Big Fairy stumbles in, or climbs in, rubbing his face. He wears tiny wings and an Amazon delivery outfit. He carries a package.

Oh man I thought that window as open. I'm like flying all gracefully or whatever, and WHAM. Aw jeez my face. I need to sit down.

He sits.

EMELIA

What are you?

BIG FAIRY

What does it look like? I'm a fairy.

EMELIA

You're very large for a fairy.

BIG FAIRY

WHOAH. That is a STEREOTYPE. Not all fairies are little, okay? Some of us... are more generously proportioned. And I work for Amazon. Are you Emelia?

EMELIA

Yes?

He tosses the package at her feet.

BIG FAIRY

Package for you.

EMELIA

You're a delivery fairy?

BIG FAIRY

Amazon wanted to create a fleet of flying drones, but apparently that was "expensive" or whatever, so now they just hire a bunch of fairies to deliver everything. Most of the time we're invisible.

EMELIA

Wow.

Emelia opens the package.

Look at this!

There's a backpack inside. Powerpuff girls or My Little Pony.

It's a backpack! It's a sign!

BIG FAIRY

No it's a backpack.

EMELIA

A sign of what to do! What goes in backpacks? Things.

BIG FAIRY

Among other things.

EMELIA

Things for journeys. This is a sign I need to go on a heroic journey! To save my Mommy. YES. *She begins digging in it.*

BIG FAIRY

Good times.

Emelia starts putting the puzzle pieces of states into the backpack.

EMELIA

I'm gonna need this – and this – and this – maybe some food, maybe some weapons. You don't happen to have a grappling hook, do you?

BIG FAIRY

Not on me. All right kid I gotta bail. Lots of packages to deliver. They got like a homing beacon implanted inside in my skull. If I don't get my deliveries done, *p-choo!*

Makes a sign of his skull exploding.

EMELIA

Your skull explodes?

BIG FAIRY

No it's just bad.

EMELIA

Wait a minute! I need a guide! I can't go on a heroic journey all by myself! I'm going to need a supernatural advisor. Like a fairy god...

Big Fairy belches.

God-uncle! The one who still lives with his parents.

BIG FAIRY

I still live with my parents.

EMELIA

You're perfect! Come on! I have recently received a communication from a group of skiing pirates located in Colorado. They think that just because they're thousands of miles away they're safe but oh ho do they have another thing coming! This is gonna be EPIC!

She paces, plotting.

With this map, I will be able to figure out how to get to Colorado!

BIG FAIRY

All right look kid, if I'm gonna be your supernatural helper or whatever, you need to understand a few things.

EMELIA

Shoot.

BIG FAIRY

One, I'm super lazy. So you're gonna have to do it largely yourself.

EMELIA

Sweet, what's the next one?

BIG FAIRY

That's it. I don't have the energy to make a longer list.

EMELIA

I can work with that. Hold on one second.

She runs in to her Father's office.

Hey Dad I'm going to Colorado with a big fairy to rescue Mom who's been kidnapped by ski pirates. Kay bye.

She exits. He doesn't notice.

EMELIA

All right I'm ready! LET'S DO THIS.

BIG FAIRY

Sure thing.

He waits.

She waits.

EMELIA

Are you planning on doing anything?

BIG FAIRY

Are you?

EMELIA

You're the fairy! Don't you have magic?!

BIG FAIRY

Again, STEREOTYPES hurt. The magic is inside of you. You just have to believe in here. *Points to her head.*

Also, I'll chant a super awesome magic spell while you believe.

EMELIA

How do you believe?

BIG FAIRY

Well, believing and magic are basically the same thing. You have to imagine that things are better than they are.

EMELIA

Things are pretty bad.

BIG FAIRY

But maybe they can get better. If you imagine it.

EMELIA

All right. I'll try.

She grits her teeth.

BIG FAIRY

No no no you gotta close your eyes. You gotta see things differently. Can't do that with your eyes open. Scrunch 'em up tight. Then... let go.

She closes her eyes and stands very still.

Sound of wind chimes.

Big Fairy begins chanting and a super awesome magic spell and dancing around.

BIG FAIRY

CHONGA CHONGA CHONGA WHOOP-WHOOP WHOOP-WHOOP SU-EEEE! SU-EEEE!

Big Fairy dances around and makes more and more weird noises* The actor can ad lib as much as they want. This should be funny and weird.

As BIG FAIRY is dancing and chanting, a Chorus of MAGIC enters.

MAGIC begins picking up furniture, starting to rearrange things – dancing and playing while it does it.

EMELIA opens her eyes and MAGIC FREEZES.

BIG FAIRY

HEY! What did I say about the eyes?!

EMELIA

Oh. Sorry.

She closes her eyes – MAGIC starts moving again –