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Empowered
How one Girl Scout nearly destroyed the world's economy

A comedy in two acts

By Don Zolidis

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Full-Length Comedy

10F, 3M, plus ensemble

Amaryllis is determined to win her Girl Scout troop's cookie-selling contest, but she'll need more than charm to win first prize (a unicorn!) and avoid last place (which means getting kicked out of the troop!). So when sales droop, she naturally turns to the financial sector for advice. Soon she's faking a terminal illness, franchising her methods, and contracting with a payday lender to offer 30-year loans for cookies. An hysterical homage to Glengarry Glen Ross and send-up of the wild excesses of the financial crisis.

Cast of Characters:

AMARYLLIS, a new girl scout
BEENIE, her friend, kind of a dork
POTZ, her other dorky friend, a boy –

ELLEN, Beenie's mother – a stockbroker
PATRICK, Beenie's father – a house-husband

MACKENZIE, the best girl scout there is
CHEYENNE, second-best girl scout
KENNEDY, a girl who's more than a little bit crazy

BEATRICE, troop Mom

CUSTOMERS
SPARKLES, a unicorn
POLICE OFFICER
VINNY, the regional manager of the girl scouts.
KAYLIE, a girl scout
Other GIRL SCOUTS
JO, a customer

Doubling: (If necessary, this play may be performed with a cast of 10. The following are suggestions for doubling, but not requirements)

The actor playing PATRICK may also play VINNY, CUSTOMER 2, and SPARKLES.
The actor playing BEATRICE may also play JO and GIRL SCOUT 3 and ELDERLY WOMAN.
The actors playing MACKENZIE, CHEYENNE, and KENNEDY may also play other GIRL SCOUTS and KAYLIE.
The actor playing POTZ may also play POLICE OFFICER and CUSTOMER 3.
The actor playing ELLEN may also play CUSTOMER 1.

Ethnicity: Any of the characters may be played by actors of any ethnicity.

Note: In my mind, I think this play works best with older actors portraying the girl scouts. I realize that girl scouts are typically 8-10 years old, but I imagine high-school age actors having a great time with this play and acting a bit young.

Empowered: How One Girl Scout Nearly Destroyed The World's Economy was first produced by the New Horizons Community Theatre on December 5, 2014 in Quispamsis, New Brunswick. It was directed by Debra and Blair Surette and the original cast was as follows:

AMARYLLIS: Jadyn Danells

MACKENZIE: Sacorra McMullin

CHEYENNE: Natasha Cormier

KENNEDY: Rachel Francis

BEENIE: Owen Hines

POTZ: Kaos Splude

BEATRICE: Tara Sooley

BERNIE: Kole Wilson

ELLEN: Lauren Belyea

PATRICK: Tyler Patterson

SPARKLES: Jarod Patterson

(Lights up on MACKENZIE, ringing a doorbell, dressed in her girl scout uniform. She has a lot of badges.)

(She is amazing at selling girl scout cookies.)

MACKENIZE

Hello. Can I interest you in some girl scout cookies? Our newest brand, Okie-dokies, was chosen from recipes submitted to us on the internet. I think you'll agree that they are delicious. And, for the first-time ever, low fat, which means that you won't encounter any unfortunate problems from them.

(she receives a response.)

One box. Thank you so much! That means so much to me! It's so refreshing to find people with open hearts who will contribute to my education. Don't you think that means a lot in this modern world? I think so. Okay – one box. Are you sure you only want one box? We have a variety of flavors. I happen to think the Samoas are delicious as well. They're made by real Samoans. One box of them too? Thank you! Oh gosh you are a wonderful person. Let's see – okay, two boxes. And… have you tried our peanut butter cookies? Heaven on earth.

(Lights shift to CHEYENNE, also selling cookies, with quite a few badges.)

CHEYENNE

You have a lovely home. I love the décor. Do you hire someone professionally or are you just naturally brilliant?

(she laughs.)

And a sense of humor too. Can I tell you something? I've been looking around for a role model for a few years now. I find most adult women disappointing, but you, you… gosh… I think I could learn a lot from you. I know it might seem like I have things pretty together, but really, I'm just a boat in a storm. Did you ever see the movie Life of Pi? I'm like that boat with the tiger on it. And the orphan boy. Well I guess I'm not the boat I'm probably the orphan. Oh no I have parents they're just not as inspiring as you are.

(She takes the girl scout cookie boxes from behind her back.)

I know you're busy being awesome and everything, but… if it's not too much trouble, do you think you would like some girl scout cookies? I know it's laughably absurd that I'm selling them, but it would mean a lot to me if you could purchase a few boxes.

(She hands two boxes out)

Two boxes? Thank you so much! Someday… when I'm older… I want to be just like you.

(Lights shift to KENNEDY, also selling cookies, with fewer badges.)

KENNEDY

Hello? Hi. Please. Please sir. Please buy these. Don't close the door. Please! I don't have a lot of options here. Please! Come on please! Please! Please Pleeeeeeeeeese. Pleeeeeeeese. Pleeeeeeese. Pleeeeeeeese.

(KENNEDY starts hyperventilating.)

Ah-ah-ah-ah-ah-ah-ah-ah-ah-ah – PLEASE! PLEASE! PLEASE! BUY THE COOKIES BUY The COOKIES BUY THE COOKIE BUY THE COOKIES! AAAAH! AAAAH! I WILL HIT

MYSELF IN THE FACE IF YOU DON'T BUY SOME AND IT WILL BE ALL YOUR FAULT! I WILL DO IT! I WILL DO IT!

**(ham this up – finally she stops.)*

(She hands over one box.)

That'll be four dollars.

(Lights shift to AMARYLLIS, also selling cookies, with only two badges.)

AMARYLLIS

Um… hi… um… so my name is Amaryllis and… um… so we're selling these cookies. You might have heard of them. You ever see the Addams Family? When the girl scout comes by and the girl, I think her name is Friday, she says, "are they made with real girl scouts?" Which is really funny. But our cookies don't contain human flesh. So if that's a rumor out there or whatever, you're totally cool eating the cookies and you're not a cannibal.

(she laughs dorkily)

Some of them don't taste good. I don't really like them actually. Uh… so – you don't have to buy them. Okay. Okay.

(The person closes the door.)

Well I'll try the next house then.

(She slinks off.)

(Lights up on Girl Scout headquarters – A brightly colored room with plastic chairs. A large white board, perhaps with the letters ABC (Always Be Closing) is upstage. Another chart, with the word "SALES" on it, is nearby. It reads – Mackenzie: 94 boxes, Cheyenne: 81 boxes, Kennedy: 42 boxes, and Amaryllis: 6 boxes.)

(MACKENZIE and CHEYENNE are happily tallying their newest sales with each other.)

MACKENZIE

Did you try the Park Glen estates?

CHEYENNE

Nobody's home except the nannies during the day. They don't buy anything.

MACKENZIE

There's a PTO meeting at Dawes Elementary next week. I'm going to set up there.

CHEYENNE

You don't even go there.

MACKENZIE

I go there when I feel like it. Those meetings are like two and half hours and they're too cheap to provide refreshments. I'm going to clean up.

CHEYENNE

You're such an awesome seller, Mackenzie.

MACKENZIE

You are too.

CHEYENNE

I'm not half as awesome as you are.

MACKENZIE

Well that's true.

CHEYENNE

I mean, I'm pretty great at this, but you are like, the best girl scout in the entire world.

MACKENZIE

You are too nice! I just try to follow the ideals of girl scouting you know, and besides, old people are really easy to manipulate. A little smile and they just fall apart.

CHEYENNE

Yeah.

(KENNEDY enters, she's in a bit of a bad mood.)

MACKENZIE

Kennedy! Hugs!

(KENNEDY hugs MACKENZIE.)

CHEYENNE

Hugs for me too!

KENNEDY

I'm having a very bad day!

CHEYENNE

Awww!

MACKENZIE

You want a cookie?

KENNEDY

Are you offering me a cookie or are you selling me a cookie?

MACKENZIE

The first one is free. The rest you'll have to pay for.

KENNEDY

I have my own cookies! Why would I buy yours?

MACKENZIE

Mine are better quality than yours.

KENNEDY

What?

MACKENIZE

Oh yeah. I get them from the Kansas City warehouse. They're the best there. They have a secret Samoa recipe there that's like, a million times better than the Denver warehouse.

KENNEDY

Is that true?

MACKENZIE

Would I lie to you?

KENNEDY

Can I try one?

MACKENZIE

I'll give you part of one. But then I really need you to pay for the others.

KENNEDY

Okay.

(MACKENIZE gives part of her cookie to KENNEDY, who gobbles it up.)

Oh my gosh!

MACKENIZE

Right?

KENNEDY

Four dollars, right?

MACKENZIE

I charge five actually. I would charge four, but there are shipping costs involved.

KENNEDY

Oh. Okay. Um… I got money in my backpack I'll go get it.

(KENNEDY exits to get her money.)

CHEYENNE

Wow.

MACKENZIE

Watch and learn.

CHEYENNE

Do you really get your cookies from Kansas City?

MACKENZIE

What do you think?

CHEYENNE

But she thought they tasted better.

MACKENZIE

Key word: She *thought* they tasted better. It's all in her mind. Okay? If you're gonna sell, I mean really *sell*, you need to be inside the mind of your customer. She needed those cookies to be better than her cookies, so I planted that suggestion for her.

CHEYENNE

Wow.

MACKENZIE

Yeah wow. This is why I'm awesome, Cheyenne. Because you get up in the morning and you think, "what clothes am I going to wear? Will I talk to that cute boy?" And you know what I'm thinking, "sell. Sell. Sell. Sell." I sell cookies to my older brother before he's conscious that he's awake.

CHEYENNE

You're like a goddess.

MACKENZIE

Yes.

(AMARYLLIS enters, sadly.)

Amaryllis! Hi-eee!

AMARYLLIS

Hey.

CHEYENNE

Hi!

AMARYLLIS

Hi Cheyenne.

(She sits and drops her bag on the table.)

MACKENZIE

Did you sell anything today?

AMARYLLIS

No.

MACKENZIE

What?

AMARYLLIS

I said no.

MACKENZIE

I can't hear you.

AMARYLLIS

I didn't sell any cookies today.

MACKENZIE

Oh.

(MACKENZIE comes over, full of compassion.)

Don't worry – it'll happen for you. You're *so* talented. Really? I don't just say things like that. I mean them. When I think of girl scouts that embody our principles, I think of you. I do. You want some cookies?

AMARYLLIS

No thanks.

MACKENZIE

I've got the new secret Samoas – they have sugar that has to be smuggled in from Canada because it's too powerful for American consumers.

AMARYLLIS

I don't want any of your cookies Mackenzie.

MACKENZIE

Oh. Well. I'm sure you're content with your own failures then.

(She walks away. KENNEDY returns with twenty dollars.)

KENNEDY

Can I get four of those boxes of the special Samoas?

MACKENZIE

Ohmygosh Cheyenne was just going to buy them!

CHEYENNE

I was?

(A look from Mackenzie.)

Oh I was. Yes. Yes I was planning on purchasing them because they are extra awesome.

MACKENZIE

And she was going to pay me six dollars a box for them.

CHEYENNE

Yeah. They're *totally* worth it.

KENNEDY

I'll give you seven dollars a box!

MACKENZIE

Okay. Sorry Cheyenne. I think Kennedy deserves them more. She's got that right mix of desperation and sadness that I love.

CHEYENNE

Well okay.

MACKNEZIE

That'll be twenty-eight dollars.

KENNEDY

All right.

AMARYLLIS

Man you just got suckered Kennedy.

KENNEDY

I did not!

AMARYLLIS

Cheyenne wasn't going to buy those boxes.

KENNEDY

Hey – Hey if I want advice on how to make my My Little Ponies look like ugly dogs I'll ask you, okay?! Nobody in here likes you.

MACKENZIE

All right Kennedy that's enough.

KENNEDY

No I'm so sick of her of her `I'm smart so I know things' attitude. Nobody cares that you're smart and socially awkward. I'm socially awkward too but I make it up for it by being super aggressive! See! Aaaaaah! Aaaaaah!

(BEATRICE, the Troop Mom, enters, with a notebook.)

BEATRICE

Girls. Have a seat.

(The girl scouts sit.)

I want to thank you for sharing the gift of yourselves with us today. Let's all close our eyes and center ourselves. Who would like to begin the mantra? Kennedy?

KENNEDY

I forgot the mantra.

CHEYENNE

That's why they call it a mantra, loser. You're supposed to know it!

BEATRICE

Cheyenne. Part of the mantra is banishing cruelty.

CHEYENNE

Oh right. Sorry.

BEATRICE

I will begin. Ommmm… let me be the best girl scout I can be.

ALL

Ommmm… LET ME BE THE BEST GIRL SCOUT I CAN BE

BEATRICE

Let me behave compassionately.

ALL

LET ME BEHAVE COMPASSIONATELY

BEATRICE

Let me sell cookies.

ALL

LET ME SELL COOKIES

BEATRICE

So that I can be an empowered girl.

ALL

SO THAT I CAN BE AN EMPOWERED GIRL.
(they all raise their fists in the air)
GIRL POWER!

BEATRICE

Gosh ladies, that just warms my heart. I look at you and I think of the future of womanhood. And if you are any indication, women are going to be just fine in the future. We're going to be better than fine. We're going to kick butt all over the place and keep kicking butt until the butt kicking is done. Right?

Skipping Forward

KENNEDY
What if you have mental problems? Can you get bonus boxes?

AMARYLLIS
You can't just kick somebody out!

VINNY
Whoah, hold on. One at a time.

AMARYLLIS
We have a code! We have badges! You can't do this!

VINNY
Hey there's no need to get upset. Just make sure you aren't on the bottom.

AMARYLLIS
I spend a lot of time here at girl scouts. Who do you think you are?

VINNY
Who do I think I am? Who do I think I am? Did you just ask me that question, little girl? Let me tell you who I think I am. I think I'm the regional manager of the girl scouts. How'd you get here today? Did your Mommy drop you off? Did you ride your Schwinn? Or does someone here have a scooter?

AMARYLLIS
That's me.

VINNY
I got here in a Lambourghini Diablo. That's right. I drive one of those around town. It goes 130 miles an hour as soon as I touch the gas pedal. I don't even have to press down hard. Okay? That car is worth money than your parents' house. And why do I drive that car? Because the girl scouts compensate me very well. You think we're all about flowers and sunshine and badges? No. We are about selling cookies. I don't want to hear about knitting, I don't want to hear about wildlife preservation projects, I don't want to see you at the park picking up recycling, all I want to hear about from you girls is numbers. Numbers of boxes sold. You know what I did when I was your age? I was the champion seller three consecutive years. I got so many free trips to Disneyworld Mickey and Minnie knew me by name.

KENNEDY
But you're not even a girl.

VINNY
You think that would stop me? That's what I like to call an excuse. You know who has excuses? Losers. Did I not sell girl scout cookies just because I didn't happen to be a girl? No. You know what I did?! I got up two hours early – I put on a wig and some control-top panty house and I starched the heck out of that uniform and I killed it. All right? I killed it. And did that cause me

some deep-seated identity issues later on in life? Your bet your sweet boppies it did. But I don't care. I would sacrifice everything, *everything*, for the girl scouts. My health, my sanity, my friends, my wife, my second wife, everything. So you ask yourselves: Are you giving one hundred percent? If so – double it. And then double it again.

AMARYLLIS

It's actually technically impossible to give more than one hundred percent.

VINNY

Oh sure there are "laws of physics" – but "laws of physics" said you couldn't make a unicorn, and yet, that is the first prize. I'll be back in two weeks, girls. I expect to be amazed. And also disappointed in one of you. But also amazed. Remember, this is about empowering girls. I want you so darn empowered that you will charge into the halls of power in this country, chop off the heads of everyone inside, and institute your own girl-centered nation.

BEATRICE

I'm not sure we're teaching the girls to start a violent revolution and kill everyone.

VINNY

Are you afraid of that? I'm not afraid. Let's see where this goes.

KENNEDY

THAT SOUNDS AWESOME!

VINNY

Thank you girl with mental problems. I will see the rest of you in a week to check on your progress. Four hundred and ten percent. All of you.

(He exits.)

BEATRICE

O-kay, so there's some motivation for you girls. He was fun. Wasn't he fun?

AMARYLLIS

Was he really being true to the girl scout ideals?

MACKENZIE

You're just jealous because you're going to get kicked out.

BEATRICE

Oh honey – honey – no one's going to get kicked out unless they're last in sales.

AMARYLLIS

That's not fair!

BEATRICE

I guess not. Well – I've got a massage to get to, so you girls are on your own. See you next week!

(BEATRICE exits.)

MACKENZIE

Well – it's been super great being friends with all of you, but that unicorn is going to look so awesome in my bedroom, so…

CHEYENNE

I don't think you can fit it in a bedroom.

MACKENZIE

It's a *miniature* horse – I'm sure it will manage.

CHEYENNE

Whatever, Mackenzie. I think that I'm going to get that unicorn.

KENNEDY

I WILL EAT THAT UNICORN FOR BREAKFAST.

MACKENZIE

Kennedy?

KENNEDY

I said that out loud, didn't I? I don't want to eat it. I meant - I don't know – I just have urges sometimes.

MACKENZIE

You're not invited to any more of my slumber parties.

KENNEDY

I know.

AMARYLLIS

Maybe I'll win.

(The girls look at her.)

MACKENZIE

Oh sure. *That's* gonna happen.

(They all laugh.)

CHEYENNE

Some people are just so rude, you know?

KENNEDY

I AM ANGRY AT THE SUGGESTION. Did I do it again?

(They walk off. AMARYLLIS is left alone.)

(She walks in the other direction to a bus stop bench.)

AMARYLLIS

Man, I wish I could win that unicorn. If only there was some way I could empower myself… oh well, that will never happen.

(she yawns)

Wouldn't hurt if I took a little rest here. Probably help me stop talking to myself.

(She leans over and falls asleep.)

(Spooky music. We are inside AMARYLLIS' dream.)

(VINNY and BEATRICE stand side-by-side. A host of GIRL SCOUTS look on.)

BEATRICE

And the winner of the sales contest is…

VINNY

I never thought this would happen –

BEATRICE

Oh my gosh her sales were so beautiful –

VINNY

So beautiful. Like little golden rays of sunshine.

BEATRICE and VINNY

AMARYLLIS!

(AMARYLLIS leaps up from the bench.)

BEATRICE

Me?! I won?

(The GIRL SCOUTS bow down before her.)

GIRL SCOUTS

ALL HAIL AMARYLLIS.

(BEATRICE and VINNY part to reveal SPARKLES, a unicorn.)

AMARYLLIS

Sparkles!?

SPARKLES

Hello Amaryllis. I am Sparkles the Unicorn. And I'm your new best friend.

AMARYLLIS

I love you!

SPARKLES

Even though I am a miniature horse, you may ride me.

AMARYLLIS

Yes! Heck yes! This is everything I've ever wanted!

SPARKLES

I should also mention that I can fly, I have laser heat vision, and my best super-power of all: listening. Now we shall fly over the sleeping city at night as I sing to you.

(Something like "A Whole New World" begins.)

I CAN SHOW YOU THE WORLD
SWEET AND SIMPLE LIKE CANDY
WE WILL RIDE TOGETHER
ON A MAGIC UNICORN RIDE
YOU AND ME
FLYING HIGH ABOVE THE WORLD
WE WILL FLY FOREVER TOGETHER

AMARYLLIS

Look at all the people below us! They're so small!

SPARKLES

That's because they're insignificant worms.

AMARYLLIS

Yes!

SPARKLES

Shall I destroy them for you?

(MACKENZIE and CHEYENNE are standing next to each other.)

MACKENZIE

What a dork she's riding a flying unicorn!

CHEYENNE

This isn't even a cool dream!

AMARYLLIS

Let's get `em!

SPARKLES

Also, I forgot to tell you I can breathe fire.

AMARYLLIS

Burn them!

(SPARKLES swoops down and breathes fire on MACKENZIE and CHEYENNE. Perhaps it is rainbow fire.)

MACKENZIE and CHEYENNE

Aaaaaaaaah! We're melting!

AMARYLLIS

Woo hoo! That was awesome!

SPARKLES

Now let's talk about our feelings while we have a tea party.

AMARYLLIS

Oh yay!

(They settle down for a tea party. SPARKLES claps his hooves and GIRL SCOUTS bring over plates, cups, and tablecloths.)

Oh thank you for inviting me to this tea party, Mr. Sparkles. You do have the most tantalizing imaginary tea.

SPARKLES

Thank you, Amaryllis. I brewed it inside my special tea place.

(Two POLICE OFFICERS run in.)

POLICE OFFICER

STOP RIGHT THERE!

POLICE OFFICER 2

DROP THE TEACUP SCUMBAG!

SPARKLES

Dang it! It's the fuzz!

POLICE OFFICER

PUT YOUR HOOVES UP RIGHT NOW OR YOU'RE GONNA BE ONE DEAD IMAGINARY ANIMAL.

SPARKLES

YOU'LL NEVER TAKE ME ALIVE, COPPERS! Heat vision activate!

(SPARKLES shoots lasers out of his eyes.)

POLICE OFFICER 2

Aaaah! I'm hit! Kill that thing!

POLICE OFFICER

Call in the SWAT team!

SPARKLES

NOOO! Listen Amaryllis! Sparkles has to go away for a while. Possibly to Canada. It's going to be dangerous. You need to be strong and remember me. Remember – always…

(SPARKLES is hit from behind with a stun gun.)

Aaaaaaaaaaah!

AMARYLLIS

Nooooo!

SPARKLES

Remember me….

(SPARKLES dies.)

AMARYLLIS

You killed my unicorn!

POLICE OFFICER 2

He was too beautiful to live.

AMARYLLIS

No! Nooo! Nooo!

(AMARYLLIS is thrashing around on the bench.)

Sparkles! Noo! It should've been me instead of you! Sparkles!

(In the real world, BEENIE, her nerdy best friend, runs over.)

BEENIE

Amaryllis!

(AMARYLLIS wakes up.)

Are you okay?

AMARYLLIS

Oh! Sorry. I was having a nightmare.

BEENIE

That's okay best friend.

AMARYLLIS

What are you doing here, Beenie?

BEENIE

Sometimes I follow you around without you noticing. How was your girl scout meeting!? Was it super awesome?! Was it was it was it? I wish they would let me in, but they have standards.

AMARYLLIS

It's not all that fun.

BEENIE

Are you kidding, my whole life is about girl scouts. Even though I'm not legally allowed to be within a hundred feet of GSHQ. That's what I call Girl Scout Headquarters. I have an abbreviation for it. Most people tell me I'm strange.

AMARYLLIS

I don't think I'm cut out for girl scouts, Beenie.

BEENIE

What?

AMARYLLIS

Well, it's gone all capitalist lately.

BEENIE

So? That's part of the awesomeness!

AMARYLLIS

No – I mean there's all this pressure to sell cookies, and I'm just… I'm the worst cookie seller ever.

BEENIE

No you're not! I'm sure there are crazy people who are worse.

AMARYLLIS

I can't sell anything.

BEENIE

No! Don't say that. You know what? Maybe I could be your life coach.

AMARYLLIS

A life coach? Are you even qualified to be a life coach?

BEENIE

No one is! That's what makes it special. I'll coach you, and then we can ride a wave of success together.

AMARYLLIS

I don't know. I think this might be beyond your abilities.

BEENIE

That's what they said about dancing, and you know what I did?

AMARYLLIS

You danced?

BEENIE

You wanna see?

AMARYLLIS

No.

BEENIE

Please.

AMARYLLIS

No I don't want to see.

BEENIE

Cause I'll do it. I'll dance up in this house.

AMARYLLIS

We're not in a house.

BEENIE

It's a street expression. I learned them on my quest to become a dancer.

AMARYLLIS

Well I still don't want to see –

BEENIE

Too late! I got the fever!

(BEENIE dances a little. It's not good.)

AMARYLLIS

All right now –

BEENIE

Can I borrow your inhaler?

AMARYLLIS

I don't have an inhaler.

BEENIE

Oh. Do you mind if we go to the Hospital then?

AMARYLLIS

Do you need to go to the Hospital?

BEENIE

I've got at least a thirty percent chance of being okay.

AMARYLLIS

I'll take it.

BEENIE

Okay – so what we need is a test subject. I'll observe you try to sell cookies to a human.

AMARYLLIS

Why a human?

BEENIE

Because you can't sell them to cats.
(She laughs outrageously at her own joke.)
Okay seriously – what about him?
(POTZ, a dorky boy, enters.)

AMARYLLIS

Okay. Hello random stranger.

POTZ

Hello Amaryllis.

AMARYLLIS

You know who I am?

POTZ

You give me the feelings.

AMARYLLIS

Oh.

POTZ

I watch you sometimes in Math class.

AMARYLLIS

Uh…
(She turns to BEENIE)

BEENIE

No this is great he's a creeper! They buy lots of stuff.

AMARYLLIS

So um… what's your name?

POTZ

Potz.

AMARYLLIS

Potz?

POTZ

It's a nickname.

AMARYLISS

Okay.

POTZ

My real name would terrify you.

AMARYLLIS

Well uh –

POTZ

It's Genghis. It's Genghis Khan. Hahahahahahahahaha! No seriously it's not that.

AMARYLLIS

Anyway, I was wondering if you had any money.

POTZ

For you? Not much.

AMARYLLIS

Well I'm actually selling girl scout cookies. So… would you want to buy one?

POTZ

Do they have gluten?

AMARYLLIS

Uh… maybe I'm not sure.

POTZ

Or fish oil? If there's fish oil in the cookies I can't have them. I'm allergic. My throat swells up to the size of a pineapple.

AMARYLLIS

I don't think there's fish oil. So do you want to buy some?

POTZ

Does this mean you're my girlfriend now?

AMARYLLIS

NO!

BEENIE

Just say yes! What can it hurt?

AMARYLLIS

Are you kidding?

BEENIE

So you lead him on a bit – who cares?

AMARYLLIS

Fine – weird creeper boy – I will be your girlfriend if you buy…
(she looks to BEENIE – BEENIE holds up five fingers.)
Five boxes of cookies.

POTZ

Sorry I don't have those kind of funds.

AMARYLLIS

Okay then deal's off.

POTZ

Deal's off. One box.

AMARYLLIS

What?

POTZ

I will buy one box.

AMARYLLIS

Four dollars.

POTZ

Very well.
(He produces four dollars.)
A pleasure doing business with you.

AMARYLLIS

A pleasure doing business with you.
(They shake hands. POTZ starts walking off.)

POTZ

And I'll pick you up at eight.

AMARYLLIS

Skipping Forward

(BEENIE escorts AMARYLLIS away from PATRICK, who begins singing an uplifting Katy Perry song. He probably has props that he uses for just such an occasion.)*
**Feel free to substitute other contemporary pop songs that are uplifting here.*

AMARYLLIS

Your Dad is so nice.

BEENIE

He's a broken man.

AMARYLLIS

No no he's so positive.

BEENIE

It's a tortured mask he puts on to hide the fact that he's failed at everything he's tried in his entire life. The person you need to talk to is my Mom.

AMARYLLIS

No I think I'm going to follow your Dad's advice –

BEENIE

Seriously – I love you – don't listen to him, he's a terrible shipwreck of a human soul.

(PATRICK pops his head into the room.)

PATRICK

Who's up for some lemon cakes as an amuse bouche?

BEENIE

No one wants an amuse bouche Dad!

PATRICK

Okay sweetheart. Remember: Always believe in yourself and I think you're amazing. I'm so glad you're my daughter.

(He exits again.)

BEENIE

See what I mean? It's pathetic. I try to do everything the opposite of what he says.

AMARYLLIS

But –

BEENIE

Listen – my Mom can help you. She works in finance.

(ELLEN enters, dressed in a power suit with a briefcase. She is on a headset.)

ELLEN *(into headphone)*

Thanks Todd. I know that your daughter's first soccer game is important to you, but I'm glad you made the right choice of leaving there and getting to work. You'll be able to see her when you retire.

BEENIE

Hi Mom.

ELLEN

What.

BEENIE

Hello.

ELLEN

Oh man. What did I forget?

BEENIE

Nothing I just –

ELLEN

You don't want to do any mother-daughter bonding do you? Because we both know that's not going to end up well.

BEENIE

This is my friend Amaryllis.

ELLEN

Great. Whatever. Make sure you're quiet and you leave by ten. I've got work to do.

AMARYLLIS

Excuse me – I was wondering if you could help me.

(ELLEN looks at her.)

ELLEN

Lose ten pounds. Wear better shoes. Some earrings wouldn't hurt. Grow a spine.

AMARYLLIS

No I mean – I'm selling girl scout cookies.

(ELLEN is changed.)

ELLEN

Girl scout cookies?

AMARYLLIS

Yeah and I need to become a better salesman. Salesgirl. Salesperson.

ELLEN

I was a girl scout once. Long ago. Beenie leave the room I need to talk to this girl.

BEENIE

Actually she's my best friend so I think that –

ELLEN

Go help your father in the kitchen.

(PATRICK pops back in.)

PATRICK

Do I have a helper? Oh boy oh boy oh boy! We're going to do some cooking and… some contemporary dance moves.

BEENIE

Oh man.

AMARYLLIS

I'll see you later Beenie.

BEENIE

Fine.

(BEENIE exits.)

ELLEN *(into headset)*

Taylor? Hold my calls. I'm in an important meeting. I said hold my calls you twit. Come with me.

AMARYLLIS

Are you still talking into your headset?

ELLEN

No. Talk to me. Explain your situation.

AMARYLLIS

Um… okay uh –

ELLEN

You've already failed.

AMARYLLIS

What?

ELLEN

I don't like to repeat myself. You've already failed. As soon as you stutter or say um… it's over. I've made a judgment about you. Like that. I've decided that you are useless and not a force to be reckoned with.

AMARYLLIS

I'm only a girl scout.

ELLEN

Only a girl scout? Did those words just come out of your mouth? *Only* a girl scout? The girl scouts are the closest thing we have in this country to pure, unfiltered, naked aggression. You think you're selling cookies? You're not selling cookies. You're selling empowerment. You're selling the glorious struggle to overcome your simple origins and empower yourself to conquer the world. You think this isn't training for global domination? Think again. So when you say only a girl scout that's like saying you're only an M1A1 Abrams tank. You are the future. Embrace it.

AMARYLLIS

Okay, well my situation is that I'm the worst salesgirl in my troop.

ELLEN

I believe that.

AMARYLLIS

And we're having a sales contest. The winner gets a mutant unicorn and the loser gets kicked out.

ELLEN

Sounds about right.

AMARYLLIS

So I want to learn how to sell.

ELLEN

Do you?

AMARYLLIS

Yeah I just said that.

ELLEN

Do you really want to learn how to sell?

AMARYLLIS

Yes.

ELLEN

Consider what you're asking. At this point you're a child – you're innocent, you walk down the street and you think big puffy dreams about the future and princesses and kissing frogs. But if we open this door together, that universe is forever dead to you. Childhood is over. Adulthood is over. Godhood has begun.

AMARYLLIS

I just want to sell some cookies.

ELLEN

No – if I teach you, you will be more than just one girl selling a few cookies here and there. You will be queen. You understand me? This isn't about a little sales competition. This is about your fate. Will you become the greatest girl scout in the history of the world? Or will you die trying?

AMARYLLIS

Yes.

ELLEN

What did you say?

AMARYLLIS

Yes!

ELLEN

You want this?

AMARYLLIS

Yes!

ELLEN

Say goodbye to your former life and say hello to awesome.

AMARYLLIS

Okay. Goodbye former life. Hello awesome.

ELLEN

You will be the daughter I never had.

AMARYLLIS

What about Beenie?

ELLEN

I'm so over her. First – I want you to give me a demonstration of your technique.

AMARYLLIS

What technique?

ELLEN

Try to sell me some cookies.

AMARYLLIS

Okay… um…

ELLEN

Don't say um! You say um one more time I'll pull out your tongue.

AMARYLLIS

Okay. Well then… uh… would you like to buy a box of girl scout cookies?

ELLEN

Why would I want to do that? They're fattening.

AMARYLLIS

Some of them are, but they're not that fattening.

ELLEN

Get out of here before I call the police. I enjoy watching them hunt down little girls.

AMARYLLIS

Okay. Well bye then.

ELLEN

That's it? That's your pitch?

AMARYLLIS

You said no.

ELLEN

So what? I say no to everything.

AMARYLLIS

It just didn't seem like you were going to buy anything.

ELLEN

How much money do you think I make in a year?

AMARYLLIS

I don't know. A lot.

ELLEN

How many girl scout cookies do you think I could buy?

AMARYLLIS

A lot of girl scout cookies.

ELLEN

And yet I bought nothing from you because I said they were fattening. And you agreed with me.

AMARYLLIS

They are fattening. It says here on the box.

ELLEN

Who cares what it says!

AMARYLLIS

I don't want to lie.

ELLEN

You don't want to lie? Is that what you just said? How do you imagine you're going to sell anything if you're not lying about it?

AMARYLLIS

I don't know, with good products and –

ELLEN

Shut up. Rule number 1: Lie. Lie about the product. Lie about yourself. Lie about everything. Rule number 2: There is no rule number 2.

AMARYLLIS

I don't know if I can do that.

ELLEN

You can and you will. Lie.

AMARYLLIS

Well I guess I could stretch the truth –

ELLEN

No no no – truth stretching is for politicians. We're trying to sell something. I want a giant, enormous gigantic lie. Make it up. Make them buy it. Force them to buy it. Let's say I'm a consumer – there are eight hundred different kinds of cookies out there. How am I going to possibly pick just one? It's paralyzing, I walk down the aisle – there are too many choices. I'm frozen in place, my life is about to end, I'm about to have a heart attack because I don't know which cookies to buy. You… you – could save my life. Decide for me. Put the cookies in my hands. Make me eat them.

AMARYLLIS

All of that?

ELLEN
Yes. Go big or go home. And I want you to go huge.

AMARYLLIS
All right. Hey I've got some cookies for you.

ELLEN
For me? I don't know – they're so fattening.

AMARYLLIS
Not these cookies.

ELLEN
These cookies aren't fattening? How do you know that?

AMARYLLIS
There have been like thirty scientific studies on these cookies, and people who eat them actually lose weight.

ELLEN
There have been scientific studies?

AMARYLLIS
By the best scientists. But the government doesn't want you to know the results of those studies because they want to keep these cookies for themselves.

ELLEN
That darn government.

AMARYLLIS
But you can strike back. You can raise your voice for freedom. If you purchase just one box –

ELLEN
Time out. One box? One box – why are you trying to only sell me one box? Go big or –

AMARYLLIS
Go bigger. Right.

ELLEN
Time in.

AMARYLLIS
Although the effects of the cookies are cumulative. Which means that you have to keep eating them to maintain your weight loss.

ELLEN

Oh.

AMARYLLIS

You'll need to go through two boxes per week to maintain weight – otherwise you'll just put it back on again.

ELLEN

Two boxes a week? That sounds like a lot.

AMARYLLIS

Is your health worth a lot? I mean, I guess I could sell these cookies to other people and they would look more beautiful, but it would be a shame for you to lose out on this opportunity.

ELLEN

Okay. I'll do it.

AMARYLLIS

I'll draw up a contract.

(ELLEN gets out of character.)

ELLEN

Now that is how you win that unicorn.

AMARYLLIS

Oh my gosh that felt great! I was lying and there were absolutely no consequences to my actions!

ELLEN

Welcome to the world of finance.

(Lights change. The street. AMARYLLIS is unloading girl scout cookie boxes on a table. BEENIE is by her side.)

AMARYLLIS

Your role is going to be to steer the clients over to the table.

BEENIE

How do I do that?

AMARYLLIS

Imagine you're a sheepdog and start freaking people out. Naturally, they'll try to escape you and head in my direction.

BEENIE

Okay I can do that I'm so excited.

(AMARYLLIS' phone rings)

AMARYLLIS

Hold on.

(She answers it.)

Thanks Ellen. Your support means so much to me.

BEENIE

Is that my Mom? Can you ask her if she can –

AMARYLLIS

Sorry she hung up.

BEENIE

It's so cool that she loves you so much more than me.

AMARYLLIS

I get the feeling her love is pretty conditional on me being awesome. Which I'm planning on being.

BEENIE

I love the new Amaryllis.

AMARYLLIS

That's right, Beenie. The old me is dead. The new me is going to dominate the –

(MACKENZIE and CHEYENNE enter.)

MACKENZIE

Well well well – what have we here?

AMARYLLIS

Hello Mackenzie.

CHEYENNE

Looks like a cookie stand. But that's impossible because this happens to be our turf.

BEENIE

Hey buzz off freak monkeys! We got here first!

MACKENZIE

What's your name? Loser?

BEENIE

It's Beenie.

MACKENZIE

Is that short for loser?

BEENIE

Skipping Forward

I like a challenge. Trust me. My fingers can solve a Rubik's Cube in twenty-nine seconds, I think I can unlock this gem.

MACKENZIE

I have pepper spray.

POTZ

Spicy, I like it.

(She pepper sprays him.)

Aaaaaaaaaaaah! My eyes! My sweet eyes! Aaaaaah!

(He continues moaning and wailing in the background.)

MACKENIZE

All right let's get out of here.

CHEYENNE

You better not be here after I get back from swim practice. I'm in a lot of activities.

(CHEYENNE picks up one of the boxes of cookies and drops some out on the table. She eats one provocatively.)

What? What?

AMARYLLIS

I'm glad you picked the poisoned ones.

MACKENZIE

This isn't over!

(POTZ is still rolling around on the ground clutching his face.)

AMARYLLIS

Potz? Are you okay?

POTZ

It feels like evil is nesting on my face.

AMARYLLIS

You saved me.

POTZ

I did?

AMARYLLIS

You got in the way at least.

POTZ

I did. I did get in the way.

AMARYLLIS

That was very brave.

POTZ

So we're boyfriend-girlfriend now?

AMARYLLIS

Nope.

POTZ

Oh. Maybe if I buy a box of cookies?

AMARYLLIS

No – a customer is coming – get under the table or something. I can't have you rolling around the ground in agony if I'm trying to sell some cookies.

(JO enters. BEENIE circles her.)

BEENIE

Hey there hey there hey there –

JO

What's wrong with you? What is wrong with you?

BEENIE

You know something? I have a puppy! Do you want to see him? I keep him in a bag. He's mostly alive.

JO

No thanks! No thanks!

(BEENIE chases JO towards AMARYLLIS.)

AMARYLLIS

Hello there! I'm selling girl scout cookies.

JO

I'm not interested, thanks.

AMARYLLIS

They're delicious.

JO

Sorry I'm not interested in cookies. Good luck!

AMARYLLIS

I'll probably need it.

JO

Probably.

AMARYLLIS

Proceeds go to charity.

JO

Thanks I really need to get going.

AMARYLLIS

Too busy to worry about orphans starving on the streets, I guess. No I'm sure you're really busy. You've probably got a Starbucks you need to go to get some coffee or something.

JO

You know what? You're a nice kid –

AMARYLLIS

I'm a nice kid? Is that your way of placating me?

JO

I'm not trying to placate you –

AMARYLLIS

It sounds like you're trying to placate me – probably because you feel a little guilt that you aren't trying to help people.

JO

I help people plenty.

AMARYLLIS

Oh sure. I'm sure you do. How much did those shoes cost?

JO

What do you want?

AMARYLLIS

I'm just selling cookies here.

JO

I don't need cookies.

AMARYLLIS

You know who needs cookies? Starving orphans. How bout you buy a box and I donate the money to the starving orphans so they won't be quite so starving?

JO

Fine. I'll get one box.

AMARYLLIS

One box?

JO

Yeah. One box.

AMARYLLIS

So you care about starving orphans one box worth? Is that it? You're a one-box kind of person. That's how much you love.

JO

You know what? I'll get three boxes.

AMARYLLIS

Five.

JO

I said three.

AMARYLLIS

What a coincidence, I said five.

(Stare down)

JO

Fine. Five.

AMARYLLIS

Twenty dollars.

(JO hands over twenty dollars.)

Thank you.

JO

Bye.

(JO leaves with her boxes.)

(POTZ gets up from behind the table.)

POTZ

Wow. That just made me love you a little bit more.

(Music as lights change to Girl Scout Headquarters. AMARYLLIS joins MACKENZIE, KENNEDY, and CHEYENNE.)

BEATRICE

Okay, Girl Scouts, gather round in a circle of inclusion. Let's hold hands.

KENNEDY
Um… is it okay that I've been handling poisonous shrubs?

BEATRICE
Why have you been handling poisonous shrubs?

KENNEDY
No reason.

BEATRICE
Let's all hold hands except for Kennedy. I want you to close your eyes and breathe in each other's auras.

MACKENZIE
Somebody's aura stinks.

BEATRICE
Mackenzie. We're in a judgment-free zone now. That's right. Close your eyes. Feel the presence of your fellow girls. You're a journey together you know. A journey called… womanhood. Where would we be without our sisters? I want you to picture yourselves as seeds in the soil. Feel your roots stretching out, and then, what's that… oh it's leaves, you're growing leaves!
(KENNEDY suddenly moves her arms as if she's growing leaves)
And now you're reaching for the sunlight -
(KENNEDY reaches for the sunlight.)
Reach! Reach! Yes! Grab that sunlight! Eat it!
(KENNEDY devours the sunlight.)
It's good, isn't it?

KENNEDY
Sunlight good!

BEATRICE
Now I want you to imagine all the other girl scouts in the world –
(other GIRL SCOUTS begin to appear on the edges of the stage, with cookie boxes.)
An unbroken chain of sisterhood all over this nation – linking arms together, empowering each other… selling cookies.
(GIRL SCOUTS make an angelic humming sound.)
It feels good, doesn't it? Empowering each other? What are we going to do with that empowerment?
(VINNY enters abruptly.)

VINNY
WE'RE GOING TO SELL SOME DANG COOKIES, THAT'S WHAT!
(All the other GIRL SCOUTS disappear.)
I'm looking at these sales numbers and I'm dying over here!

MACKENZIE

I thought you weren't coming until Tuesday -

(VINNY takes the marker and begins updating the board.)

VINNY

Shut it! Ten days left to go in the contest – in first place, Mackenzie with 304 sales.

MACKENZIE

That's not so bad –

VINNY

In second place Cheyenne with 177 boxes. In third place Amaryllis with 89 boxes. And last – LAST – Kennedy with 75 boxes.

KENNEDY

Does it count if I buy them myself?

VINNY

No!

AMARYLLIS

You mean I'm not in last place anymore?

KENNEDY

I'm getting kicked out?!

VINNY

No you got ten days to –

KENNEDY

Never! You'll never get me out of here!

(She grabs hold of something.)

You'll have to throw this chair out with me! I'm never letting go!

VINNY

It's ten days, Kennedy.

KENNEDY

Oh. Okay.

MACKENZIE

I can't believe it. Amaryllis actually sold a few boxes. It's a Christmas miracle.

AMARYLLIS

It's April.

CHEYENNE

Christmas is year-round in my family. Because we're that good.

MACKENZIE

Come on, Cheyenne. Let's go win me that unicorn.

CHEYENNE

I might win too, though.

(MACKENZIE laughs as they exit.)

(KENNEDY approaches AMARYLLIS.)

KENNEDY

If you beat me and I'm kicked out of scouts, I will have my revenge.

AMARYLLIS

Hey it's just a simple sales competition.

KENNEDY

You think I'm joking? Do I look like a joking person? Do I look like someone you joke around with? I can't even be tried as an adult, do you understand me? Now if you'll excuse me, I have some Barbies to arrange in disturbing poses.

(She exits.)

(Lights change. MACKENZIE is selling.)

MACKENZIE

Oh thank you so much for you patronage! And remember – my parents are very important people and if you want donations to your political campaigns I have quite a few cookie boxes that need to be sold!

(Lights switch to CHEYENNE.)

CHEYENNE

And this is my badge for Independence, because I am an independent girl and I like to think I'm an example to all the lazy people out there. Buy my cookies and you can be inspired.

(Lights switch to KENNEDY.)

KENNEDY

Barbie wants you to buy my cookies!

(She holds up a Barbie that has its head shaved. She makes a Barbie voice and shakes it at an imaginary customer.)

Buy them! Buy them! Buy them or I'll kill again!

(Lights up on AMARYLLIS and BEENIE.)

AMARYLLIS

The saving third-world orphans thing isn't working. Nobody cares that much about third-world orphans. We've got to think of something else.

BEENIE

Ooh! Here comes somebody!

AMARYLLIS

Go get `em.

(BEENIE spots CUSTOMER and rushes over.)

BEENIE

Hi there! You know what my favorite Sesame Street character is? Elmo. You know why? I don't know. Do you think it's a problem that I don't know why I like Elmo. I just do. But then I was like – what about Abby Cadabby. She's pretty awesome. You know, cause she's got magic and everything.

CUSTOMER

Um… you know – I gotta go –

BEENIE

If you had magic powers what would you do? I know what I would do. I would make tornados everywhere. Just so cows could fly. Wouldn't that be awesome? Cows flying everywhere? That would be so cool.

(CUSTOMER tries to escape and stumbles right into AMARYLLIS' table. BEENIE back off.)

AMARYLLIS

Hi! Welcome to my Girl Scout cookie booth!

CUSTOMER

Sorry I'm not buying anything, I'm just trying to get away from the crazy girl.

BEENIE

Call me.

AMARYLLIS

I understand. Let's just act as if we're talking. That will scare her away.

CUSTOMER

Thank you.

AMARYLLIS

Of course it would be super nice of you to buy some cookies.

CUSTOMER

I'm afraid I can't buy any cookies right now. I'm all out of cash.

AMARYLLIS

I take checks.

CUSTOMER

I'm not hungry.

AMARYLLIS

Fine. By the way, I just wanted to let you know that proceeds from these sales go to help homeless children.

CUSTOMER

Great.

AMARYLLIS

Actually, me.

CUSTOMER

Oh –

AMARYLLIS

I'm homeless. I've been homeless for the past two years. It's uh… it's very difficult to live like this. I'm selling these cookies to help provide food for myself and… my little dog… who is also homeless – He was about to be sent to the pound and I rescued him only… I didn't have a home to give him, so now we look out for each other.

CUSTOMER

Oh.

AMARYLLIS

It's okay. We're survivors. Except… when it gets cold we have to huddle together for warmth, I try to keep him as warm as I can, but the wind is so cold and I think my chattering teeth keep him up at night. If we're lucky, we can find a rich person's house to sleep outside of – they usually have some good vents that blow warm air.

CUSTOMER

Well maybe I can buy a few boxes.

AMARYLLIS

You're so kind! You have a great big heart! I actually need a new heart too because… I've been diagnosed with a terminal illness.

CUSTOMER

What?

(another CUSTOMER enters.)

CUSTOMER 2

What's that?

(a third CUSTOMER enters.)

CUSTOMER 3

You're dying? A little girl as cute as you?

AMARYLLIS

I don't think of it as dying. I think of it as "going to a better place."

CUSTOMER 2

Is there no justice in the world?!

AMARYLLIS

Don't worry about me. I've lived a full life.

(she coughs weakly)

At the orphanage we don't have very good healthcare and my doctors told me my operation is going to cost twenty thousand dollars, so…

(she coughs weakly again.)

CUSTOMER

Twenty thousand dollars?!

CUSTOMER 2

This is terrible!

CUSTOMER 3

And to think I was just living my life, not even caring about anything!

AMARYLLIS

I'm just happy for the time I have left. Just to be out here in the sunshine… you have to savor life…

(she coughs weakly again)

I think I'll miss the flowers the most.

CUSTOMER

You're so wise.

AMARYLLIS

Illness makes me wise. But… I thought… maybe I won't give up just yet – maybe there's a chance… so I asked the girl scouts if I could sell some cookies –

CUSTOMER 2

I'll buy some cookies certainly!

CUSTOMER 3

Me too!

AMARYLLIS

Would you like one box or two?

(she coughs weakly again.)

CUSTOMER

No no no no – how many boxes do you have there?

AMARYLLIS

I have forty here – the girl scouts are letting me put one dollar of every sale toward my medical expenses. They're so nice.

CUSTOMER

Forty boxes. I think I can take forty boxes.

CUSTOMER 2

I'll order a hundred boxes!

CUSTOMER 3

I'll order a hundred and five boxes!

AMARYLLIS

Of course – if you look at this form here, you can order more… they can be delivered to your home… or your office…

(she coughs again)

CUSTOMER

I don't have that much cash on me, actually.

AMARYLLIS

I take checks.

CUSTOMER 2

Oh. Okay. Uh… how about… um…

(AMARYLLIS hams it up. She acts like she's in horrible, horrible pain.)

Are you all right?

AMARYLLIS

Just a terrible piercing pain in my side. Nothing to worry about. Feels like red-hot scissors are being stabbed into me. It'll pass in two or three hours.

(All three Customers take out checkbooks and begin writing checks.)

CUSTOMER 2

I'm going to send all my work friends down here to buy some too. You sweet, adorable angel.

AMARYLLIS

Thank you. You're the angel.

CUSTOMER 2

No you're the angel.

CUSTOMER 3

You're the littlest angel.

AMARYLLIS

I think we're all angels together. Let's hug.

CUSTOMER 3

There's nothing I'd like more in the world.

(AMARYLLIS hugs the CUSTOMERS in turn.)

(The CUSTOMERS tearfully regard AMARYLLIS, perhaps kissing her on the forehead, and then walk off, overcome with emotion.)

AMARYLLIS

Boo ya!

(Lights change to the troop headquarters. BEATRICE is holding hands with MACKENZIE and CHEYENNE – KENNEDY hover nearby.)

BEATRICE

And that's why we're special flowers. Release your breath.

MACKENIZE

Can we hear the updated scores? I'm sure that Amaryllis is too embarrassed to be here today.

BEATRICE

Actually she's been entering her sales digitally so –

(AMARYLLIS runs in.)

AMARYLLIS

Sorry I'm late! I spent some time at the Old Folks home.

CHEYENNE

That's pathetic. Old people never buy cookies.

AMARYLLIS

I think I sold a few.

(She takes out a stack of order forms and hands them to BEATRICE.)

I've got them tallied up there on the front in case you can't count that high.

BEATRICE

Skipping Forward

That's what they call total domination. You know what I'm gonna do? I'm gonna give that unicorn to charity at the petting zoo right next to your house. So everyone can touch it. And then it will have cooties.

BEATRICE

There's actually a week left in the contest, so –

AMARYLLIS

Unless Mackenzie can sell three thousand boxes in seven days, I think it's over. See ya.

(AMARYLLIS walks out.)

BEATRICE

I want you girls to remember your special flower-ness

MACKENIZE

Take your special flowerness and stuff it! Come on Cheyenne!

CHEYENNE

We're doomed!

MACKENZIE

Snap out of it!

CHEYENNE

Sorry I have to go to water polo class. I have it on Sunday evenings from 7:45 to 8:30.

MACKENZIE

All right Kennedy you can –

KENNEDY

Rainbows pretty.

MACKENIZE

Fine I'll do it myself.

(She stomps off.)

(AMARYLLIS is lounging, feet up. She's sipping a juice box.)

(POTZ enters with flowers.)

POTZ

Ah ha! I caught you!

AMARYLLIS

What do you want?

POTZ

You've been avoiding our date for three days! Now there are no more excuses! Prepare to be romanticized! I've been working on some slam poetry.

(He takes out a piece of paper.)

Amaryllis.
She's the illest.
She's a flower.

(He stops.)

That's all I got so far.

AMARYLLIS

Um… you know I would go with you it's just uh…

(she coughs weakly.)

I'm dying of a terrible disease.

POTZ

What?

AMARYLLIS

Yeah. I don't have much time left. So I'm going to spend my remaining minutes with people that I like. And also selling cookies.

POTZ

Don't worry. I will be at your side every step of the way. Providing emotional support and also physical support and also cuddling support. What is the name of the disease that's killing you?

AMARYLLIS

Um… it's meta-carsis-bia-furkishness. I need like three new hearts.

POTZ

You may have mine. And as I die I will be comforted with the knowledge that in some small way, I'm close to you.

AMARYLLIS

Well anyway…

(she recoils in fake pain again.)

Oh the pain is coming.

POTZ

Hold my hand.

AMARYLLIS

No. The pain is making me want to be alone. Oh it's going dark. Oh….

(She closes her eyes.)

POTZ

Good night sweet princess. I'll stroke your hair while you sleep.

AMARYLLIS

I'm better. Actually, you know what –
(BEENIE enters)

BEENIE

Are you kidding me?!

AMARYLLIS

What?

BEENIE

They've got your picture up on posters all over the old folks home!

AMARYLLIS

So?

BEENIE

It says – help save a dying angel! You're not dying!

AMARYLLIS

Actually, all of us are dying – I'm just fudging the timeframe.

POTZ

You're not dying of a terrible disease?

AMARYLLIS

I lied to get out of talking to you. And also to get money out of people.

BEENIE

I was cool with you pretending to help fake orphans in Africa, but this is crossing a line!

AMARYLLIS

Why?

BEENIE

Just… um… just cause.

AMARYLLIS

Well too bad.

BEENIE

I'm not comfortable with this.

AMARYLLIS

I'm comfortable with it for both of us.

BEENIE

Don't you think it's evil?

POTZ

It's a little evil. But some people find that hot. I could be one of those people.

AMARYLLIS

You know what's actually evil? Not getting a unicorn. That's what's evil.

BEENIE

No it's not!

AMARYLLIS

Tough. This is how the operation is working now.

BEENIE

I'm not going to be funneling customers to you then!

AMARYLLIS

Hey! Hey! Remember who's weird and awkward and not cool here! You follow me.

BEENIE

You're weird and awkward and not very cool too!

AMARYLLIS

That was before I pretended to start dying! Now everyone loves me!

BEENIE

Get one of those people to help you then!

(BEENIE storms out.)

(POTZ clears his throat.)

(POTZ clears his throat again.)

POTZ

It looks like I might be in the right place at the right time. And that's good enough for me.

AMARYLLIS

I'm not going out with you. But I may have an opening for best friend.

POTZ

I can work with that.

(Lights change to the Girl Scout troop center. BEATRICE and the other GIRL SCOUTS rush in.)

BEATRICE

Okay okay okay okay! We need to do this quickly! Everyone center yourselves!

KENNEDY

I'm not centered yet.

BEATRICE

Breathe in. Breathe out. Done. All right then. I have called this emergency meeting of the girl scout troop to let you know of a shocking development.

KENNEDY

What?!

MACKENZIE

It doesn't involve you, relax.

AMARYLLIS

What's this all about?

BEATRICE

There is a scandal.

CHEYENNE

WHAT!

BEATRICE

It doesn't involve you.

CHEYENNE

Whew.

BEATRICE

Unfortunately, some of the payments for girl scout cookies…
(she holds up a check)
Like this one for four thousand dollars… were written with bad checks.

AMARYLLIS

What's a bad check?

BEATRICE

When someone writes a check and they don't have enough money in their account. It bounces.

CHEYENNE

I know that because I have my banking badge!

AMARYLLIS

So – wait –

BEATRICE

So – since –

AMARYLLIS

What are you telling me?

BEATRICE

I'm trying to tell you what I'm telling you if you can hold on. What I am saying to you is – your sales don't count if the check bounces.

AMARYLLIS

Are you kidding me?

BEATRICE

That is what I just said to you.

AMARYLLIS

Did you just say that to me?

BEATRICE

I think I made it clear that's what I was saying.

KENNEDY

Aaaaah!

MACKENZIE

So what's her new total?

BEATRICE

Well – you got a lot of bad checks –

AMARYLLIS

Did anyone else get bad checks?

BEATRICE

No.

AMARYLLIS

Oh man –

BEATRICE

That knocks you down to three hundred and ninety-five boxes.

MACKENZIE

Woo! Woo! Yes! Yes! I mean I'm so sorry for you.

CHEYENNE

Ha ha ha ha!

AMARYLLIS

I still beat you.

CHEYENNE

Yeah but I mostly live through other people's accomplishments.

KENNEDY

So I get to stay, right?

BEATRICE

You're still in last place.

MACKENZIE

Don't worry, Amaryllis, you were already used to being a loser, so this won't be much of a change for you. Hey – maybe your strategy of tricking poor people into giving you money wasn't such a good one. I guess I could help you could always go to your rich contacts – oh wait – you don't have any. Loser.

CHEYENNE

Loser.

KENNEDY

LOSER!

(BEATRICE puts her hand on AMARYLLIS' shoulder sadly.)

BEATRICE

Loser.

(She leaves.)

(AMARYLLIS is left there alone.)

(POTZ drops in.)

POTZ

Need some cheering up?

(Lights down.)

(End of act one.)

Act Two

(Dream music.)

(AMARYLLIS is asleep again, lying on the bench.)

DISEMBODIED VOICE

And the winner is… Mackenzie!

(MACKENZIE enters, wearing her girl scout uniform, sash, and tiara.)

MACKENZIE

Me? It's me? I'm the winner?

(Other GIRL SCOUTS appear.)

CHEYENNE

You're the best winner there ever was.

KENNEDY

And ever will be.

GIRL SCOUTS

YOU'RE PRETTY AND POPULAR AND RICH

CHEYNNE

And rich!

MACKENZIE

Thank you so much my wonderful friends! And now, thanks to eliminating inherited wealth taxes, I'm going to be rich forever!

GIRL SCOUTS

YAY!

CHEYENNE

You're going to win at everything!

MACKENZIE

I know. Bring me Sparkles. I will ride him.

(AMARYLLIS runs out.)

AMARYLLIS

Nooooo!

(SPARKLES enters.)

You didn't win! I won!

MACKENZIE

Oh no. You had fake checks.

GIRL SCOUTS

CHEATER CHEATER CHEATER

MACKENIZE

Quiet my minions.

GIRL SCOUT

She talked to us!

GIRL SCOUT 2

She's so pretty!

GIRL SCOUT 3

I'm naming all my children Mackenzie!

MACKENZIE

I'm fair, and I work within the rules. Therefore, let's let Sparkles choose. Sparkles will only go with someone with a pure heart.

AMARYLLIS

Fine! Pick me Sparkles! Pick me!

MACKENZIE

Pick me! Pick me!

SPARKLES

Sparkles chooses… Mackenzie!

(SPARKLES runs and hugs MACKENZIE.)

AMARYLLIS

Nooo!

SPARKLES

Let us dance through moonbeams and fly through rainbows!

MACKENZIE

Heck yes!

SPARKLES *(singing)*

A WHOLE NEW WORLD
A WHOLE NEW IMPOSSIBLE –

(AMARYLLIS leaps on SPARKLES back from behind.)

(SPARKLES tries to get AMARYLLIS off his back, but can't.)

(AMARYLLIS grabs hold of his horn and – Rips it off! It would be super awesome if blood could spurt from where she tore the horn out.)*

SPARKLES *(screaming in pain)*

Aaaaaaaaaaah! My horn!

AMARYLLIS

Now who's pure of heart you fake horse!?

(AMARYLLIS stabs SPARKLES in the back with his own horn.)

SPARKLES

My magic… is dead.

(SPARKLES collapses and dies.)

(MACKENZIE drops to her knees and hugs his body.)

MACKENZIE

Sparkles! You were too beautiful to live! Sparkles!

(She looks at up AMARYLLIS.)

Why? WHY?!

(We hear POTZ's voice in the darkness.)

POTZ

Amaryllis? Amaryllis?

(Lights change. AMARYLLIS is on the bench thrashing from the nightmare.)

Are you okay?

AMARYLLIS

Are you watching me sleep again?

POTZ

Yes.

AMARYLLIS

I'm fine. Just a bad dream.

POTZ

You know something? While you were sleeping and I was gently stroking your hair, I thought of a story from my life that might give you solace.

AMARYLLIS

I don't need solace.

POTZ

Okay, so one time I tried to be good at basketball.

AMARYLLIS

Great story, thank you.

POTZ

You know what happened?

AMARYLLIS

No.

POTZ

You really wanna know what happened?

AMARYLLIS

You got really good at basketball only to learn that you had been using performance enhancing drugs and were banned from the sport?

POTZ

No. I tried really hard for like a week and a half. And then I challenged this guy on a playground to a game of one-on-one. Like I stood there and I was like, "You – Me – Now." And then I took a bottle of water and dumped it on his head. Actually I had to throw it on his head because he was a lot taller than me, but I got most of it on top of his head. So then we started playing, and you know what happened? I lost like eighty-five to nothing. And then he picked me up and stuffed me in a trash bin. You know one of those dumpsters?

AMARYLLIS

Yeah I know what that is.

POTZ

And the funny thing was he put something heavy on top of it, so it was like impossible for me to get out. But you know what? I didn't give up. That was the important thing. Well, I mean, I gave up basketball afterwards, but I didn't give up during the actual game. I kept trying and I kept failing and getting pushed down and everything.

AMARYLLIS

Does this story have a point?

POTZ

I'm just saying I learned something.

AMARYLLIS

And that is what, exactly?

POTZ

Know your limits. And stay away from mean-looking guys at playgrounds. And make sure your cell phone is charged if you get locked in a dumpster. I learned a lot of life lessons that day. Also – dumping water on strangers is a bad idea.

AMARYLLIS

Thanks, Potz. That's really helpful.

(BEENIE enters.)

Beenie?

BEENIE

I heard about what happened.

AMARYLLIS

How?

BEENIE

Mackenzie hired a skywriter.

AMARYLLIS

Oh man.

BEENIE

She spelled your name wrong though if that makes you feel any better.

AMARYLLIS

It doesn't.

BEENIE

But anyway, now that you have learned the limits of lying to the elderly, I think we can be best friends again.

AMARYLLIS

Will you do what I say all the time?

BEENIE

Almost always.

AMARYLLIS

Cool.

BEENIE

You wanna hug it out?

POTZ

Awesome.

AMARYLLIS

Not you.

POTZ

I'll air hug then.

*(POTZ air hugs them as BEENIE and AMARYLLIS hug. *Perhaps he tries to air cop a feel.)*

AMARYLLIS

Hey!

(PATRICK enters. He wears riding gloves and perhaps a scarf.)

PATRICK

Honey muffin, it's time to go!

BEENIE

Okay I gotta run.

PATRICK

Oh Amaryllis, I heard about what happened to you. I happen to have some strawberry reduction-infused tarts in the back of our SUV – that'll cheer you up.

BEENIE

Dad this isn't the time.

POTZ

Can I have several of those?

AMARYLLIS

No thanks, I'm just going to wallow in the despair of not winning a unicorn.

PATRICK

Can I give you some words of wisdom?

BEENIE

This ought to be good: My Dad knows a lot about failure. He's an expert on failure.

PATRICK

The important thing is that you believe in yourself, right? Are you happy with who you are?

AMARYLLIS

I guess.

PATRICK

Don't guess. Know. Would a unicorn living in your bedroom make you happy?

AMARYLLIS

Yes.

PATRICK

Really?

AMARYLLIS

I could ride it.

PATRICK

You couldn't ride it inside.

AMARYLLIS

It's a miniature horse, I could ride it inside.

PATRICK

It doesn't matter, material things aren't what's important. What's important is what's in your heart.

(ELLEN enters.)

ELLEN

What's in her heart is a person who didn't win a unicorn.

PATRICK

Honey, I thought you didn't want to be seen with me in public!

ELLEN

This is a special exception.

PATRICK

How long have you been listening?

ELLEN

Long enough to hear that crap about being true to yourself and believing in yourself. Look – I know you've been raised in an environment where you get a trophy for just showing up to the soccer game, but the real world is here now, and the real world hates losers.

PATRICK

Well, by some measures, I'm a loser.

ELLEN

Exhibit A. The universe despises Patrick. No – now is not the time to feel sorry for yourself and hope for a most-improved medal. If you want meaningless medals and trophies you can go play soccer like the rest of the weenies.

BEENIE

I play soccer.

ELLEN

Ask yourself this question: What will make you happy?

AMARYLLIS

I don't know.

ELLEN

Will getting a unicorn make you happy?

AMARYLLIS

A little.

ELLEN

What will make you happier than that?

AMARYLLIS

I don't know.

ELLEN

Yes you do. What do you want more than anything?

AMARYLLIS

Uh…

ELLEN

Listen to your heart. What does your heart tell you?

AMARYLLIS

My heart wants to… destroy my enemies.

ELLEN

That's what I wanted to hear. You're playing chess and you got beat in round one. You know what you do in round two? You flip the whole darn board over and punch somebody in the face. Let's go.

PATRICK

Aren't you coming with us?

ELLEN

Patrick, I'm sure you'll figure out how to get home without a map. I've got a girl's life to save.

(ELLEN takes AMARYLLIS off. The other three are left there.)

POTZ

Hey can I get a ride home?

(Lights change.)

(Heartbreaking music.)

(Note: If you have the capability, this can be a movie projected on the screen. If not, do your best to mimic this effect live.)

(Slow motion images of AMARYLLIS smiling and laughing.)

VOICE

This is Amaryllis. She's like any girl. She laughs. She runs. She has dreams of the future. But this girl isn't going to have a future.

(If you're filming, the footage should slow down and change to black and white.)

Because Amaryllis is going to die.

(The image freezes. Heartbreaking violin music continues.)

She needs your help. Don't let this light go out of the world.

AMARYLLIS

Please. I have so much to live for. So much. If you buy some of my cookies today, you can help contribute to my new heart. If you want to.

(More slow-motion footage of AMARYLLIS laughing and dancing in black and white.)

VOICE

Buy cookies now. Before it's too late for this little girl. And Remember – the heart you save may be your own.

(Lights fade on that.)

(Other GIRL SCOUTS enter with posters and banners with photos of Amaryllis that say things like "The Amaryllis Fund" or "Save Amaryllis" or "Wear Green for Amaryllis.")

GIRL SCOUT

Thank you. You can now purchase "Save Amaryllis" bracelets that reveal that you are sensitive human beings who appreciate the precious gift that is life.

CUSTOMER

Okay, I'll take one bracelet, two Save Amaryllis t-shirts, and do you have any of the Save Amaryllis coolers left?

GIRL SCOUT 2

I'll check in the back.

GIRL SCOUT

Amaryllis herself will take care of your cookie orders.

(AMARYLLIS enters at the far end of the operation. She is bundled up to appear sick.)

CUSTOMER

Oh there you are! You poor brave precious dear!

AMARYLLIS *(hamming it up)*
Please come closer. My eyesight isn't so good anymore.

CUSTOMER
I'll take ten boxes of cookies.

AMARYLLIS
Oh. That's so generous of you. Every little bit helps.

CUSTOMER
Thank you.

AMARYLLIS
But you know what would help more? More than a little bit. Oh I suppose I shouldn't be asking for too much… it's just my life versus your money… it's hard to say which is more important.
(She coughs weakly.)

CUSTOMER
Oh I'm so sorry. I live on a fixed income.

AMARYLLIS
It's okay – I know that you didn't mean to break my heart. I'll just have to learn to settle for a shorter life, that's all.

CUSTOMER
Well I'll see what I can do. Maybe I can scrounge up a little more money in a few places. There's probably some change in my couch.

AMARYLLIS
I'm afraid it won't be enough. But it was nice knowing I was alive. I'll miss the trees most of all, I think.

CUSTOMER
Can I hug you?

AMARYLLIS
Don't. I'm fragile. Well there is… there is one way you can help me… I know that it's probably too much.

CUSTOMER
I'll do anything. Anything.

AMARYLLIS
I talked to a bank... and now I'm able to offer a financing plan.

CUSTOMER

A financing plan?

AMARYLLIS

The bank will loan you the money up front to pay for the cookies, and then you just make an easy monthly payment to the bank.

(She coughs pitifully.)

CUSTOMER

Oh. Wow.

(AMARYLLIS hands over a brochure.)

AMARYLLIS

I think you'll see their plans are pretty competitively priced. Here's a plan that offers a 2.75 percent interest rate. And remember to pick up your free "Save Amaryllis" bumper sticker on your way out. Janine down there will handle the financing.

(A GIRL SCOUT waves and the CUSTOMER heads over.)

(BEENIE enters.)

BEENIE

Are you ready to go… to… the… mall?

(she looks around at the operation, bewildered.)

AMARYLLIS

Sure. I can take a break. Mandy, you're in charge until I get back.

GIRL SCOUT

Sure thing, boss.

(AMARYLLIS and BEENIE start to exit.)

BEENIE

Do you have employees?

AMARYLLIS

They're interns. That way I don't have to pay them.

BEENIE

I thought you had given up lying?

AMARYLLIS

No I was about to give up selling, I was never going to give up lying.

BEENIE

But didn't all the checks bounce?

Skipping Forward

ELDERLY LADY

I'd like to explore some financing options.

GIRL SCOUT

That's fantastic. We've got some great packages for you.

GIRL SCOUT 2

Plus, you get this commemorative "I helped Save Amaryllis" pin to let other people know that you care about human life.

GIRL SCOUT

How about no money down, six months no interest?

GIRL SCOUT 2

That deal won't last forever! I'd jump on it!

GIRL SCOUT

Now I've been looking at your financial information and it seems to me that this would be a good time to refinance your home.

GIRL SCOUT 2

Oh my gosh yes! I was just thinking that!

GIRL SCOUT

I know right!

GIRL SCOUT 2

Refinancing is totally awesome right now.

GIRL SCOUT

And then you can use the money you take out of your home to buy as many girl scout cookies as you like. See – your home is currently worth more money than when you bought it. That's like free money.

GIRL SCOUT 2

Totally free money!

GIRL SCOUT

And our payday lender will lend you that money –

GIRL SCOUT 2

They're so awesome!

ELDERLY WOMAN

Well, I just don't know –

GIRL SCOUT

If you don't do it, you're mean.

GIRL SCOUT 2

You're totally mean.

GIRL SCOUT

And we know where you live.

GIRL SCOUT 2

We totally know where you live.

GIRL SCOUT

Do it!

GIRL SCOUT 2

Do it now!

ELDERLY WOMAN

Well it says on here that I'm supposed to list my income and my assets.

GIRL SCOUT

Just lie.

GIRL SCOUT 2

Lying is good for you.

GIRL SCOUT

Put down – you make 200,000 a year.

GIRL SCOUT 2

Everyone does it. Just a formality.

ELDERLY WOMAN

Okay.

(She signs and leaves.)

GIRL SCOUT

Fantastic.

GIRL SCOUT 2

You have a nice day! The shipments will begin arriving in six to ten days!

(AMARYLLIS enters.)

AMARYLLIS

Nice sale, ladies. Make sure you get sad eyes when you talk about me dying. It really helps pull them in. Also, make sure that you're in a light pink or another pastel color. It really helps to emphasize your innocence and vulnerability. People really go for that. Let's have a look at your numbers.

(They hand over some forms.)

GIRL SCOUT

We've been really selling hard.

GIRL SCOUT 2

Can I just say that people love you much? They don't want you to die at all.

(POTZ enters. He's dressed up (for POTZ.)

AMARYLLIS

Fabulous. And let's keep on pushing those adjustable rate loans. The bank is giving us kickbacks on those.

POTZ

So are you ready?

AMARYLLIS

For what?

POTZ

For our romantic rendez-vous. It's not really a rendez-vous because I'm coming to you, but I intend to show you the magic of Potz's world. There's a spot on the landfill where you can light the methane on fire. It's magical. And chemical. Also the fumes make you dizzy.

AMARYLLIS

We're not going out.

POTZ

You keep saying that, yet I keep following you. Oh and um… bullies have been harassing me at school and taking all of my lunch money, so uh…

AMARYLLIS

All right fine I'll hire some thugs to fight people for you. Does that make you happy?

(She calls out to some girl scouts.)

Hey Samantha! How would you like to fight some random strangers?

GIRL SCOUT

I'm on it!

AMARYLLIS

She does like Jujitsu all the time.

POTZ
Actually I was thinking if you could pay the bullies to be my friends that would be cool.

AMARYLLIS
Whatever. Now if you don't mind, I'm a little busy here managing my financial empire.

POTZ
Oh. Okay. So you don't want to spend special time with me?

AMARYLLIS
Nope.

POTZ
Not even if there was popcorn? I found it myself.

AMARYLLIS
Nope.

POTZ
I wrote you another poem.

AMARYLLIS
Great.

POTZ
Can I read it to you?

AMARYLLIS
Tell you what: Leave your poem on the floor and then lock yourself in a port-o-potty. When I'm done with it, I'll knock.

POTZ
That seems kind of pathetic.

AMARYLLIS
Yep.

POTZ
You've changed Amaryllis. You used to respect my feelings and thoughts.

AMARYLLIS
No I didn't. I thought you were an annoying crazy person with bad hygiene.

POTZ
And yet you grew to love me.

AMARYLLIS

No I still believe that. I just can't seem to get rid of you because you have mental problems and can't understand what I'm telling you.

POTZ

That's because I'm dazzled by love!

AMARYLLIS

Well un-dazzle yourself. I'm not interested. I've got an industry to dominate. Do you think it's easy to create a financial empire through manipulating old people into giving you their life savings? It's actually pretty easy, but still, I have to keep at it.

POTZ

Well you can count me out. I like the old Amaryllis with low self-esteem and bad clothes.

AMARYLLIS

She's dead.

POTZ

Then so is my love!

AMARYLLIS

Thank goodness!

POTZ

Although my creepy stalker vibe survives!

AMARYLLIS

Potz – I mean this: I don't really like you.

POTZ

You're killing our relationship!

AMARYLLIS

Good.

POTZ

Good!

AMARYLLIS

Good!

POTZ

I'm going to get my tattoo lasered off!

AMARYLLIS

You got a tattoo?

POTZ

I'm not showing it to you now! It's right here behind my ear –
(He shows her)

AMARYLLIS

You spelled my name wrong.

POTZ

I don't even care, I'm going to find a girl named –
(He tries to look behind his ear)

AMARYLLIS

Amaritis.

POTZ

Amaritis?

AMARYLLIS

Sounds like a disease.

POTZ

Well I'm going to go out there and find that girl and we are going to get married and have eight hundred babies like possums –

AMARYLLIS

Possums only have like six babies at a time.

POTZ

Don't talk me about possums! I'm leaving you!

AMARYLLIS

Get on with it! You've been trying to leave for two minutes and nobody's stopping you!

POTZ

I was kinda hoping you would make a desperate plea for my love!

AMARYLLIS

No!

POTZ

This is totally not fair then!

AMARYLLIS

Get out!

POTZ

Fine!

(He starts to leave)

So you're sure you're not going to chase after me?

(He leaves.)

AMARYLLIS

Glad that's over with.

(BEENIE enters.)

BEENIE

Potz is having convulsions down the street.

AMARYLLIS

Good.

BEENIE

Do you want to call an ambulance or something?

AMARYLLIS

He's fine. He just broke his own heart.

POTZ *(off-stage)*

We could've been just like Romeo and Juliet!

AMARYLLIS *(shouting off)*

They killed themselves!

POTS *(off-stage)*

We could've been like them before they did that!

(He is wailing off-stage.)

BEENIE

Wow that's cold.

AMARYLLIS

You hate that guy.

BEENIE

He grew on me. Like that stuff that grows on cheese that's been left in the refrigerator for a few months.

AMARYLLIS

Mold?

BEENIE
Yeah, that. At first it made me sick but now I'm kind of used to it. Besides, he helped you come up with your whole scam.

AMARYLLIS
I don't care. He's outlived his usefulness.

BEENIE
You sound like a Bond villain.

AMARYLLIS
Sometimes Bond villains get it right. Now I need you to start creating a shell company headquartered in the Cayman Islands.

BEENIE
Do you really think all this effort to destroy Mackenzie is worth it?

AMARYLLIS
No.

BEENIE
Whew –

AMARYLLIS
I'm going to destroy all the Mackenzies.

BEENIE
I'm not sure what that means. Does she have clones?

AMARYLLIS
There's a Mackenzie in every girl scout troop in the country – a perfect little popular girl whose Mommy and Daddy are helping her sell the cookies. They take her little forms to work with them, they do this, they do that, and she's so proud of herself when she gets her orders. Not me. I had to work for my sales –

BEENIE
You're lying about being terminally ill –

AMARYLLIS
That's *work*! Nobody lied about being terminally ill for me! I did it myself! I set up my own private financing through a shady payday lender! I convinced the bank to let me sell credit default swaps! I franchised my techniques in a sketchy pyramid scheme to lonely weirdo girls all over the country! Me! I did that! I *earned* the highly suspect millions of dollars I'm about to pull in! And you know what I'm going to do with it! I'm going to bring them all down! Every girl scout troop in America! Goodbye popular girls! Hello my legion of followers! We shall Rule!

BEENIE
It works better if you have an evil laugh at the end.

AMARYLLIS
Well nobody's gonna do an evil laugh for me, so I'm going to do that *myself* too!
(she laughs evilly)

BEENIE
Um… so I think this is the bus stop where I get off.

AMARYLLIS
What are you talking about?

BEENIE
I love girl scouts. I don't want them destroyed.

AMARYLLIS
You're weak!

BEENIE
You're twisted!

AMARYLLIS
I'm reaching my full potential!

BEENIE
Yeah, for evil!

AMARYLLIS
That's still potential!

BEENIE
I quit!

AMARYLLIS
I never even hired you!

BEENIE
I'm quitting being your best friend! Again!

AMARYLLIS
I don't need you! I don't need anybody! I can buy friends like rich people do! I'm buying an NBA team and hanging out with superstars!
(She turns and looks at the girl scouts behind her.)
What are you looking at?!
(She stomps off.)

GIRL SCOUT

It's the disease. It gets to her.

GIRL SCOUT 2

She's so brave.

(Lights down.)

(Lights up on CHEYENNE, selling a pathetically small amount of cookies.)

CHEYENNE

That's a really great skirt! I wish that I had that kind of fashion sense! I mean, I have a little, and my Mom helps out a bit, but if I'm being honest with you, you're so much hotter than my Mom! It's amazing! You're like the perfect role model! I wish I had better role models. My Mom mostly just puts on the television and watches the Real Housewives shows. That's all she watches. Atlanta, Los Angeles, Dallas – all of them. It's kind of terrifying. You know what? I'm actually a little embarrassed to say this, but would you do me a huge favor and buy some of my girl scout cookies? I would just die of happiness if you did. Really? Two boxes? Thank you so much!

(MACKENZIE enters.)

MACKENZIE

We have a problem.

CHEYENNE

It's so good to see you again! Hugs!

MACKENZIE

Shut up.

CHEYENNE

Well you don't need to be all rude.

MACKENZIE

I hope you don't mind, I invited Kennedy to this meeting.

CHEYENNE

We're having a meeting? And also – I saw Kennedy eating roadkill yesterday.

MACKENZIE

She only does that when her blood sugar is low.

(KENNEDY enters.)

KENNEDY

HELLO. I AM HERE FOR THE SECRET MEETING.

CHEYENNE

Shhh!

MACKENZIE

It's not a secret meeting, Kennedy.

KENNEDY

Good. Because I tweeted about it.

MACKENZIE

We need to talk, though. Amaryllis' television ads are running 24/7. She's got an army of little followers selling cookies for her. She's going to win.

CHEYENNE

I can't believe that. I have charm.

MACKENZIE

She has advertising! That beats charm any day of the week!

KENNEDY

Let's throw squirrels at her house!

CHEYENNE

How do you even do that?

KENNEDY

You catch the squirrels and you throw them. Sheesh.

MACKENZIE

Kennedy, these suggestions aren't helpful. What we need is a strategy.

KENNEDY

I gave you a strategy and you didn't want to hear about it!

MACKENZIE

Throwing squirrels isn't a strategy!

KENNEDY

I'm pretty sure it is.

MACKENZIE

Can we get back on the subject please? Cheyenne, what do you think?

CHEYENNE

I have a hard time with that question.

MACKENZIE

You have to have some kind of ideas.

CHEYENNE

I do, but all of them involve Barbies, and I don't think they're going to work.

KENNEDY

Ooh! Okay – we take a Barbie and we chop off its arms and legs and then we smear ketchup on it and then we put it Amaryllis' bed… and FRAME HER FOR MURDER.

MACKENIZE

Well I guess I'm the one to think of the ideas then. I think there are quite a few rules she's violating by selling cookie packages. If only we had somebody on the inside of her operation.

(POTZ enters, shivering and crying.)

POTZ

We could've been like Nemo and Dori. Except romantic. And not fish. And without the weird memory loss thing.

(The girls look at him.)

It's all so terrible! My life is over!

(He sobs piteously.)

(MACKENZIE nods to CHEYENNE and KENNEDY and all three of them head over.)

MACKENZIE

Hey there.

CHEYENNE

What's up?

KENNEDY

I am dying inside too.

POTZ

Leave me alone.

KENNEDY

Never!

MACKENZIE

What she means to say is that we're concerned about you.

POTZ *(sniffing)*

You are?

MACKENZIE

Oh sure. Is there trouble in paradise?

POTZ

No. I'm fine.

CHEYENNE

You don't look fine. You can talk about it with us. We're girls.

KENNEDY

YES!

CHEYENNE

I mean – we're really good listeners.

MACKENZIE

Oh sure.

CHEYENNE

Besides, you're cute.

POTZ

You… you think I'm cute?

CHEYENNE

Sure.

MACKENZIE

Of course.

End of Excerpt.
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