Don Zolidis

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The Monologue Show

By Don Zolidis

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Full-length comedy
1-31 actors

It took Mr. Banks' drama class three long months to prepare for their monologue show... but barely a minute to throw all their plans out the window. Everything that can go wrong will in this flexible collection of hilarious tall tales!

The Monologue Show (From Hell)

The Title: Feel free to remove (From Hell) from the title if it would offend your community or cause massive riots, or otherwise endanger safety.

How to perform this play: There are multiple ways to do this.

Option 1: Perform only the monologues. Stage the show however you wish. You can simply use only the monologues and remove all the interstitial material. If you do it this way, you can use a cast of as few as one. Simply change characters for each different monologue. It's just as easy to do the show with a cast of three or four and have them become new characters each time they begin a monologue.

If you use Option 1, feel free to ignore all stage directions and substitute your own staging.

Option 2: Perform all of the play as written, including the interstitial material. Feel free to cut as many monologues as you need in order to fit your cast requirements. Actors can still perform multiple monologues as different characters, but this probably works best with one monologue per actor.

Option 3: Perform the play – cast the role of Mr. Banks as your director/teacher. Feel free to change the character name to match the teacher/director.

Perform all stage directions as indicated.

Also, feel free to select as many or as few monologues as you wish to perform.

Characters

Most of the roles may be played by an actor of any gender.

All roles may be played by an actor of any race or ethnicity.

MR. BANKS
BAILEY
BRADLEY
LONDON
JAE
CALEB
MARLA
BRANDON
BRENDA
BRIANNA
ANGEL
JESSI
TOM
ALYSSA
MONICA
BARNEY
MORGAN
TODD
JERAMY
TARA
LOLA
CALLIE
MIA
MATT
KATE
KARL
JOE
ANGELICA
OLIVIA
BURMA

The world premiere of *The Monologue Show (From Hell)* was performed on May 26, 2016 by Kildonan-East Collegiate in Winnipeg, Manitoba. It was directed by Tannis Francis and the original cast was as follows:

MR. BANKS	Devon Hemmett
BAILEY	Ron Zacharias
BRADLEY	Ben Greskiw
LONDON	Isabella Consiglio
JAE	Jordann Relph
CALEB	Hayden Maines
MARLO (MARLA)	Nick Minenko
BRANDON	Mikael Cassidy
ANGEL	Megan Domolewski
JESSI	Taeya Sinclair
TOM	Avery Hunter
ALYSSA	Sara Juer
BARNEY	Gina Zeiss
MORGAN	Victoria Rocha-Spraggs
TODD	Shane English
JERAMY	Hunter Letkeman
TARA	Xyza Singcay
LOLA	Keiran Donaldson
MIA	Kierra Thompson
MATT	Erik Stewart
KATE	Kelsey Devine
JOE	Kieren Fleury
ANGELICA	Kiara Vandall
OLIVIA	Ella Galijas
BURMA	Alaya Davidson

DIRECTOR: Tannis Francis

1. Mr. Banks

MR. BANKS *(to the audience)*

Hi there. Thanks for coming. Thank you. Um… This has been just a glorious three months of rehearsal. Three months for what you are about to see. Where did the time go? I don't know. I have no idea. Things happen, and then you wake up and you're like, aaaah, we gotta get something on stage. So this is our monologue show.

Um… before we start, please don't videotape them with your phones in order to humiliate them later. It's not cool. If you're really interested in videos you can post to social media in order to mock these people, I have some rehearsal footage for sale later. Really some good stuff. Five bucks for thirty seconds. I gotta pay bills too.

Which reminds me, I will be taking personal donations for my time. Ha ha ha just kidding. Just kidding I'm learning to live without. Money, you know. And food. My car is fourteen years old. I love being a teacher. Really love it. I would do this for free. Which I almost do.

Ha ha ha ha. Okay I wasn't supposed to be bitter tonight. Tonight is for celebrating these beautiful, beautiful children. Some of them have worked really hard on this. Some of the rest of them… they have not. See if you can figure out which ones! Ha ha ha ha.

If you hear weeping, please ignore it. Thank you.

(he gestures for the lights.)

(The lights go down. The ACTORS enter and spread out on the stage, frozen. When one actor begins a monologue, they come to the front. For the most part, the other actors remain frozen upstage, changing positions with each monologue.)

(Lights come up on them.)

(BAILEY takes center-stage first. She is full of energy and enthusiasm.)

2. Bailey

BAILEY

When I was young I had a serious self-esteem problem. Seriously, y'all. It was serious.

And then my teacher told me something, "Bailey, you are amazing." And it was like ding! The light bulb went off, you know? Like, OMG, I *am* amazing. I never realized it before because I had like second-hand clothes or whatever and couldn't spell or jump rope or run very fast or whatever. Like, I had no skills at all, right? I couldn't do anything.

But then, after she told me that, boom, my self-esteem went through the roof. And I was like, I *am* amazing, and all the rest of you people are lame. And then it was like, whenever anyone told me to do anything, I'm like, that hurts my soul. I'm not going to cater to people like you telling me what to do. Who do you think you are, telling me it's bedtime, Dad? You aren't amazing like I am. I'm amazing. You are mediocre at best. Seriously. Like, I'm only ten years old or whatever, you're like fifty, you should have all kinds of stuff, instead, we've only got like two cars. Jay Leno has like eighteen thousand cars. Why aren't you like him?

So that was pretty cool. The most important thing is to believe in yourself. Because you are better than everyone else. So much better. Everyone else is pathetic.

I'm not going to college because I don't need to go to college. I am that awesome. But here's the thing, I don't need to prove how awesome I am to you people. I know I'm awesome. I believe in myself. Other people believe in like philosophy or science or religion or whatever – who cares? I believe in the church of me. Do you know how lucky people are right now? If you're remembering this later, you can be like, that was the time I saw Bailey on stage and she was amazing. My parents are videotaping this right now. I know they're not supposed to, but they've got their phones really low and you can't see them. They pretty much videotape everything I do, ever. I'm sure later on they're gonna have like a binge session where they're like, "Hey let's put in the three hundred and ninety hours of Bailey footage we've taken over the years." They are honored to be my parents. They are so lucky.

This one time there was this guy who asked me out, and I was like, who do you think you are? You know, like, do you think you are great enough to go out with me? Remember, I am amazing. What are you? Not amazing. Then keep walking, buddy. I ain't dealing with you.

Thank you. You can clap now. But you know what, I don't care if you clap or not. I'm clapping for myself. On the inside. All the time. And it's so much better than anything you're ever gonna do.

(The actors change positions.)

3. Bradley

(BRADLEY crosses to center-stage.)

BRADLEY
So um… nobody told me we were supposed to memorize this.

MR. BANKS *(off-stage)*
Yes I did!

BRADLEY
Well I didn't hear that.

MR. BANKS *(off-stage)*
We've been working on this for three months!

BRADLEY
You can't expect me to pay attention when you're saying things, all right? That's not fair to me. So, ANYWAY, it's time for my monologue.

Um…
(snickering from behind)
SHUT UP! I'M DOING MY MONOLOGUE!
(the people behind him are quiet)
Um… So this one time me and my friends decided to steal lawn gnomes, right?
(more snickering from behind)
SHUT UP! That's it. I'm not doing it. My lawn gnome monologue will remain a mystery to you.

MR. BANKS *(off-stage)*
I'm sorry, Bradley. Please continue with your monologue.

BRADLEY
Is this a required grade?

MR. BANKS
We've been working on this for three months.

BRADLEY
You didn't answer my question.

MR. BANKS
Yes. It is a required grade.

BRADLEY
Wow. That's intense. Like – I took theatre class because this was supposed to be fun, and now it's like we gotta do stuff. You should have mentioned that on the course description.

(Someone else on stage raises their hand)

MR. BANKS

Keep going Bradley.

BRADLEY

Anyway, ANYWAY, my monologue is about lawn gnomes. Anybody gonna laugh about that? This is a very serious monologue. People will be crying at the end of it. All right? It's beautiful.

So this one time me and my friends were gonna steal garden gnomes. I got this friend named Jamison, anyone know him? He's insane. He's a deviant, right? But he's got this truck and he's like, "dude, yes!" he doesn't like to use a lot of words, you know? Cause he's like poetic and stuff? So I'm like, "what?" And he's like "gnomes." And I'm like "Yes." Cause we're like symbiotic? We got like brain waves going back and forth between us? If he was a chick we would be so much in love.

But I don't think about that. I'm just like, "let's do it!" So there's this other kid with us, Burma – he's like got mental problems or whatever, he's real open to suggestion right – like you tell him "Burma, run into that wall." And he just does it, right? Like aaaaaah! Wham! Right into the wall. He's got so much brain damage. It's awesome.

So we go out in Jamison's truck real stealthy – like, lights off, we're coasting down residential streets looking for gnomes – we almost hit this jogger it was crazy he was like jogging in the road or whatever, and we're like, move! And he doesn't move – so we almost hit him.

Anyway, there it is. Jackpot. Seven garden gnomes. Just sitting there with their little gnome hats and their little gnome faces. Like who are these people who put all those gnomes out there? Are they gnome enthusiasts? What is wrong with them? So I'm like, "Burma, get all of them." And he's like aaaaaah! I'm like no don't scream but it's too late cause he's like, insane, right? My friends are awesome. Aaaaah! Lights come on. Little old lady at the door. Burma just runs away. Like, not even back to the truck, right? Just tears off in the opposite direction, totally spooked by Grandma Garden-Gnome lover – he's running like he's in a cartoon or whatever. We don't see him again for three days.

So Jamison just floors it, we're going a hundred miles an hour cause his truck is awesome, right? Engine sounds like we've got like a giant bear under the hood and we've got him chained up and he's like RARRR LET ME OUT OF HERE I'M A BEAR! It's crazy, right?

This time I see the gnome. Just one. Jamison is like, you've got to steal it cause I'm on probation for stealing garden gnomes. And I'm like on probation too, for something totally unrelated – so glad my probation officer isn't here today. Not here, right? Officer Dooley. Are you here? Not here? Okay cool. So I sprint to the gnome. And I'm like, "YOLO – I say that a lot – and I grab the gnome, and I fall right over." The gnome is chained to the ground. I'm serious. There's like a leg manacle thing, and the gnome is chained down.

These people have no trust. That's a shame, right? Like, this is our society. People are chaining their garden gnomes down cause they're paranoid. It's sad. So I'm like, abort! Abort! Lights come on. Motion lights. There's like a hundred cops waiting for us. All right maybe not a hundred. Maybe like one, whatever. But there was a cop. And he's like, "I got you now!" And I'm like "Aaaaaah!" And Jamison is like, "I've got a giant bear under my hood you just try it!" So I'm like, run! Run – And he wants to get out of the car so then I'm like "Drive! Drive!" I jump in the truck like I'm in action movie – I hit my head on the ceiling, I'm blacking out, the door is hanging open, Jamison floors it – the cops are like, "we just want to talk!" and we're like "Aaaaah! We don't communicate with language!"

Boom. Over the curb. Over like thirty hedges or whatever – people got hedges everywhere, like are these supposed to stop trucks from running over their lawns – they don't work – we're over the hedges, truck is going over curbs, it's running over yard ornaments, people are screaming at us, dogs are running for their lives – we're like, bam, over the curb, bam over another curb, tires are like on fire and smoking, women are throwing babies out of our way.

We look back. The cop didn't even chase us. Hi-five.

It was awesome. Thank you.
(He goes back to his position.)

4. London

(LONDON comes to the front.)

LONDON

Hey.

All right so first of all, when I started going out with Caleb, I thought he was awesome.
(CALEB, onstage, reacts to this.)
I did. I was totally fooled. Cause like he'll talk to you and he'll be like, "girl, you're so beautiful, have some of my nachos" he's always got nachos, right? Like this is his thing? He's the nacho guy. So he's like, he does that thing with his hair and he's offering you his nachos, and he goes, "girl, I'm gonna be on you like melted cheese."*
*(*this line can be changed to "I'm gonna love you like I love these nachos. Slowly."*

EW.

But it works because you're young and you're stupid and you don't recognize THAT CALEB IS THE WORST HUMAN EVER.

CALEB

Hey!

LONDON

Don't interrupt my monologue, Caleb! This is my monologue! This is what he does, y'all. He talks over people. That's only one of his many, many awful qualities.
(short pause)
Here are some more. Like, okay, he thinks he's like so hot, right? Like every mirror we pass, Caleb's looking at himself – `am I still hot? Did I got hotter in the twenty-five seconds between the last time I looked in a reflective surface? Oh wow I did.' He's got a mirror app on his phone. It's his favorite thing to do. I'm hanging out with him one time, he's looking at his phone the whole time – I look over, it's the MIRROR APP.

CALEB

It was not!

LONDON

It was! You were looking at your mirror app for five minutes straight! What were you looking at?

CALEB

You're such a liar, London!

LONDON

He checks out his own butt. I have never seen a guy do this. I don't think it's normal. Seriously, y'all. It's not even all that healthy – I swear, we'll be walking along and then I look over and he's craning his neck like – "still got it." What is that?

Oh oh and one other thing he does that's totally annoying? He looks at other girls while he's talking to you. Like, you're talking, right? Face to face communication? I am telling him about my day. `Hey, Caleb, yeah, Algebra is a total disaster right now. I want to eat a jar of termites.' I watch him, his eyes slide off of me and over to some other chick. Like my face is like a slip-n-slide, right? Like whoop! Right off my girlfriend's face and over to some yoga pants-wearing chick. I'm like boom, I'm right here. Talking about termites. Look at me. He gets out his phone. Mirror App.

In conclusion, Caleb is a loser. Thank you.

(CALEB is chomping at the bit to get on stage and do his monologue, but it's not his turn.)

5. Jae

(JAE takes center-stage.)
(JAE has this memorized completely and is very, very stiff.)
*(*feel free to change the gender of this speech to reflect your theatre teacher's gender.)*

J

When I first signed up for theatre I didn't think I was going to like it. I'm not a very theatrical person, and most actor-type people are really annoying. No offense. They are. They are weird, weird people. Look at them.

But luckily, I kept an open mind and met the most inspirational teacher I've ever had. Every day he's so energetic and awesome, and you know that he really cares about you and wants to bring out the best in you. He's amazing. He should win the special teacher of the year award even though that probably doesn't have a cash prize or anything. But he should win it. He changed my life.

I look back really fondly on that theatre teacher because the one I have now is horrible. The other day he gave us a pop quiz. In theatre class. Let me let that sink in. We had a quiz in theatre class. On what? Are we supposed to be learning something? If I wanted quizzes I would've taken a different class. So I went to the Principal's office to file a report, and guess what? You can't even do that! How is this even a democracy? Do we have freedom in this country or not?

Are there any teacher evaluator type people in the audience today? Anyone? Anyone who has control of the hiring decisions in this school? Fire this teacher. Please. I sent a letter to the school board outlining my concerns and you know that? They haven't even answered! I'm so disillusioned.

I hope I got an A on this monologue assignment. If I don't, you will be hearing from my lawyer.
(JAE takes his or her position again -)

6. Caleb

(MARLA is about to come forward, but CALEB comes forward instead.)

CALEB

All right look so you heard some crazy things from my ex-girlfriend. Whatever, okay? WHAT. EVER.

LONDON

Is that your whole monologue? Is that what you've come up with?

CALEB

This is what she does.

LONDON

No I'm seriously impressed with your awesome monologue, Caleb. It's incredible. Genius at work.

CALEB

So okay I would like to tell you about my ex-girlfriend.
(short pause)
All right. So –

LONDON

Is it tough to talk without looking at yourself?

CALEB

SHUT UP.

LONDON

You probably need to look at a mirror. Your hair is totally messed up.

CALEB

YOU ARE A DEMON.
(CALEB gets out his phone and checks his hair.)
AND MY HAIR IS FINE. YOU'RE SO WRONG.

LONDON

Okay.

CALEB

All right. My turn now. At first she seems cool. Before she opens her mouth. And after she opens her mouth you're like "aaaaah make it stop!" Have you ever seen someone with a jackhammer? That's what a conversation with her is like. You try to say something and she's like "badda-badda-badda-badda" – and it's like she's talking about people you don't know, right? Like, `OMG, I just talked to Amanda and she says that Austin said that Lila and somebody else were

like totally making out in Starbucks, OMG, OMG, OMG, OMG" and I'm just like, "I must make it stop. I must stop the thing from making noise. It is destroying my brain."

So yes, I look away! To preserve my sanity. Because to look upon London when she's talking is like staring into a black hole. It will suck you in and you will never escape. Your brain will be pummeled into dust – "OMG OMG OMG" Aaaaah!

And then, right, she's got this thing where she picks her teeth while she's talking? I can't even describe it, it's like she'll be in the middle of the longest sentence in the universe, and three times during it she's picking food out of her teeth. IT'S CALLED A TOOTHBRUSH. LEARN. TO USE IT.

So yes I dumped her. I am a free man. I am so happy now. Every day is a miraculous picnic. I wake up, and I think for a second, "am I going out with London? Nope." And then I leap out of bed with a song in my heart.

My life is so good right now. Boom.

LONDON

You can't say boom after your monologue, loser.

CALEB

I JUST SAID IT. BOOM.

(Caleb returns to his spot.)

Skipping Forward

I've had a traumatic experience listening to it every day for the past month. `I love my dog. My dog is so cute. He's got a little black nose.' WHATEVER. Get to the killing.

BRENDA

Get off the stage.

BRIANNA

You don't need to tell the monologue now, they know the ending.

BRENDA

I am telling my monologue.

BRIANNA

Fine. Fine. Don't mind me. I'll just be over here waiting for my turn to go seventh after the number eight person has already gone.

(BRIANNA steps back.)

(BRENDA recovers and starts over.)

BRENDA

When I was little we had a little dog named Rambo. He was so cute. He had a little black nose and his tail wagged so fast I thought it was going to break off –

(BRIANNA begins making faint sound effects upstage.)

BRIANNA *(faint, high-pitched)*

Aaaaaaah… splat.

BRENDA

Frisbee was his favorite sport.

BRIANNA *(a little louder, high-pitched)*

Vrrrooom! Aaaaaaah. Bark bark bark! He's gonna die. My baby dog.

(BRENDA tries to ignore her)

BRENDA

And even though he had short little stubby legs he was so fast –

BRIANNA

Not fast enough. Errrr! Splat.

BRENDA

All right fine! I quit! You do yours then!

BRIANNA

Thank you. Nice work. Super emotional.

(BRENDA backs up as BRIANNA steps forward.)

So it's like this. You might not know this about me, but I got a lot of talent.

BRENDA

Yup.

BRIANNA

Do you mind?

BRENDA

I'm just agreeing with you. Boatloads of talent. Boatloads of…
(she spreads her arms really wide)
Talent.

BRIANNA

What is my talent, you ask?

BRENDA

What is your talent? Just asking.
(BRIANNA ignores BRENDA and continues.)

BRIANNA

I discovered at an early age that I'm a great singer. It started in church – the preacher asked me –

BRENDA *(in the background)*

Preach it!

BRIANNA

Is there anyone out there who'd like to sing this hymn? And I raised my little hand I was like, "I'll try it." I was so nervous, y'all. I was shaking – the only time I'd ever sung before was in the shower –
(BRENDA starts singing background vocals to this part of the monologue – really getting into it)

BRENDA *(singing)*

Oooh oooh the shower y'all.

BRIANNA

So I get up there and I look out over all those people in the congregation – and I just want to make them happy, you know?

BRENDA *(singing)*

Make `em happy by not singing oooh oooh

BRIANNA

So I start out, and I just feel it –

BRENDA

Feelin' something now –

*(BRIANNA closes her eyes and sings just a bar or two of the hymn.**
*(*She can be either very good or terrible, it doesn't matter.)*

BRIANNA *(singing)*

Oooh ooooh

BRIANNA *(singing louder)*

Ooooh ooooooooh y'all!

BRENDA

And I stop.

(BRIANNA claps loudly.)

BRIANNA

Yaaaaassss! Oh I thought it was over. Sorry.

BRENDA

So I look out again –

BRIANNA

Is it almost over? Cause like we got other people to get to. And they're all just waiting. Is she done?

BRENDA

And they all applauded. And that was best experience of my life. Thank you.

(BRENDA and BRIANNA stare at each other angrily and go back to their spots.)

10. Angel

(ANGEL gets to center-stage. He is very, very nervous and is shaking. (Angel may be any gender))

ANGEL

When I think with… oh shoot I messed up. Hold on.

(ANGEL takes a moment to get it together. Does some breathing exercises.)

I'm good. Okay… so… When I think about the way… wait… no um…

(He takes a folded piece of paper out of his monologue. He reads it silently to himself, moving his lips while he does so.)

When I think about what I want to do with my life I am pleased to report that I have many dreams. Some people might have dreams of becoming…

(checks his notes)

Astronauts, or in the case of some people in this class… criminals. But – my dream – is even more spectacular than that. I am going to become a brain surgeon.

Why brain surgeon, you ask? They get… paid – a lot – of money. Ha ha ha…

(he stops – the joke has not landed – he's still twitching)

Just some humor there. You can… you can laugh. Or not. You don't have to laugh. That's okay. I will now describe to you what a brain surgeon does.

One of the most fun brain surgeries is called the lobotomy. And I'm not talking about a forbidden salsa dance. That's lambada. They kind of sound similar. Ha ha. I have researched this on Wikipedia.

So…

(he demonstrates the following with his hands shaking uncontrollably the entire time)

First an incision is made on the vertex… of the cranium… after you shave their head – shave their head first or it won't work… so… wait… sorry… incision on the vertex with a very sharp knife… then… using clamps, you gently pry the two halves… of the skull apart..

(he mimes using his shaking hands to pry two halves a skull apart. He makes the sound of a door creaking.)

eeerrr… it probably doesn't make a noise but if it did make it noise it would be more like schluup crack.

By the way, if I didn't mention this, the patient is usually unconscious during this… procedure. So you look – at the brain – there it is… ooohhhh… don't poke it even though you might be tempted ha ha ha… I won't poke it… the – lobotomy involves severing the copus… coliseum… collossum… coli-something. It's like a little bridge that goes from one half of the brain to the other…

(he mimes poking it)

There it is.

And then very carefully… so carefully – you snip it –

(He makes a scissors motion with his hands)
All done. Your personality is forever changed… Then you just –
(he mimes slamming the two halves of the skull back together)
Then you sew it up like voop voop voop and then slap a toupee on top –
(He mimes gluing a toupee on top of the imaginary skull)
And you are done with your lobotomy – everyone in the pool. Cause after the procedure you want to party probably. Okay. So… some day I may be your brain surgeon. Ha ha ha. Thank you.
(he returns to his spot)

11. Jessi

(JESSI comes down-stage center.)

JESSI
I just want to weigh in here on the whole Caleb-London thing.

MR. BANKS *(off-stage)*
Jessi!

JESSI
What.

MR. BANKS *(off-stage)*
You're supposed to be doing your monologue.

JESSI
I am doing my monologue. I worked hard on this. I'm totally off-book.

MR. BANKS *(off-stage)*
All right.

JESSI
Thank you.
(she starts over)
I just want to weigh in here on the whole Caleb-London thing.

All right, y'all. I had a front row seat to this nonsense.

First of all, maybe you don't like yoga pants because you don't look good in `em. That's all I'm saying. Nobody wants to see you in yoga pants. They're called squats. Just sayin'. So if your man needs to look somewhere else to have something nice to look at, then, honey, you need to get to the gym. Truth. It's just truth.

I don't need to go to the gym because I am naturally like this, but some people don't have the right DNA or whatever, and they got more work to do. I ain't naming names, but if your name is London, this is about you. Can I just – your parents called you London. It's a big, dirty city. Just sayin'. Food for thought.

Second of all, nobody wants to hear about your problems, all right? Like, if that's all you're talking about, you gotta switch the topic of conversation. Hey, how was your day? Well I got a new pimple in the middle of my back and it's driving me crazy. NOBODY WANTS TO HEAR THAT. What's your man gonna say? Oh that's nice to know, I'm so glad you shared your back pimple problems. I feel so close to you now. HE AIN'T GONNA SAY THAT. He's gonna say, let me look at the fine lady over there in the yoga pants.

Allow me to help you. Here are some fascinating things you can talk about: Television shows, featuring the work of Shonda Rimes*. Global disasters. Funny things animals do. That's what you talk about.

*(*feel free to change this reference as needed)*

If you still got problems, there's therapy and psychoanalysis and probably doctors that can help you. If not, move to Canada where they got socialized medicine.

And last, Caleb is fine. I don't care if he's checking himself out. He's just doing what I do.

And scene or whatever.

(JESSI goes back to her spot)

12. Tom

(TOM comes downstage center.)

TOM

Hello. Mr. Banks told me that I could do any topic that I wanted for my monologue. So I give you: Star Wars, Episode Six and a Half.

(snickering from behind him)

I'm not going to call this fan fiction, it's more like an imaginative exploration of the themes in the original trilogy.

(more snickering)

I would also like to point out that some people in this class are totally immature and lame. Because they cannot handle the depth of the emotion in my work. I mean I could stand up here and be like, "OMG, y'all, let me tell you about Caleb and London some more cause that is *sooo* fascinating," but I'm not going to do that. Those people have the souls of cockroaches. No offense.

So… The forest moon of Endor. After the Death Star explodes for the second time. Han Solo and Princess Leia are standing next to each other in the Ewok village. They're sweaty.

The fire is dying low. There's an Ewok playing a primitive flute made from hollowed out Stormtrooper bones. Another Ewok is using Stormtrooper helmets for bongo drums. The music is primal. Han feels the blood pumping in his veins. Jub jub. Jub jub. He looks at Leia in the firelight. Her skin is smooth, like the surface of a Corellian Freighter in the moonlight.

Leia looks at Han. The Ewoks are pounding out their tribal music. Boom boom boom jub jub. She feels it too. She goes to him.

"I've always liked scruffy-looking nerfherders," she says.

"I have feelings for you," says Han. "Or is it just a Jedi Mind trick?"

"I'll show you all my tricks," says Leia. She takes down her crazy-long hair braid.

He touches her. She touches him. "Wait," she says. "Let me use the Force." The Force grabs Han's head and pushes him towards her.

It's so hot. There's sweat on Han's forehead. Their lips are about to touch.

MRRWWAR! Chewbacca's there. He's a little disgusted.

"Get lost Chewy," says Han. "I'm busy with this fine lady Jedi."

MWARRRR!

"I said get lost."

Chewy finds this whole thing gross. But the Ewoks don't. They're all watching. Eight hundred little beady eyes –

"Kiss me," says Leia.

"In front of all these furry little teddy bear guys?"

"Especially in front of all these furry little teddy bear guys."

"Heck yes," says Han Solo, and he –

(Mr. BANKS interrupts)

MR. BANKS

And that's all we have time for!

TOM

Oh come on! I've got a hundred and thirty more pages of this!

MR. BANKS

That's great, and you can keep working on that in your spare time –

TOM

I will. It's beautiful.

MR. BANKS

But right now we need to keep going. So thanks. Thank you for your romantic Star Wars fan fiction.

TOM

It gets hotter –

MR. BANKS

And we're done here.

(MR. BANKS ushers TOM back to his spot.)

13. Alyssa

(ALYSSA comes downstage.)

ALYSSA

Isn't it funny how the voices in your head talk to you sometimes? I have two, actually. My first one, my favorite one, is Taylor Swift. I know, right? Cra-zy. It is so great having Taylor Swift in my head though. She's always like, "you are a strong woman, and don't you forget it." I love her. It's like she's sitting on my shoulder and saying things like "Shake it off" all the time. It's magical.

Then I imagine taking Taylor home and showing her my life. Like, this is it, and she'll be like, "your life is awesome, yay!" We're such good friends.

But sometimes I worry that Taylor is getting bored, because, you know, I'm just like an ordinary person, right? I'm not like some big fancy star or whatever. And I know she says nice things about my clothes but she's probably thinking like, "no one even *designed* this, I can't believe you're wearing it. This is from *The Gap.* Who wears clothes from the Gap?"

So that's when I like to thrill her. So this one time I went to Macy's, and I was like, "Taylor, what would you do if I shoplifted this sweater right now" And Taylor Swift got all worried and she was like, "don't shoplift," and I was like okay, so instead I went to the counter, and there was this nice lady there, and she was like, can I help you? And I made my eyes go all crazy and then I faked having a gun and I was like "GIVE ME ALL THE MONEY NOW!!"

OMG, Taylor was freaking out, it was so funny! So I tied up the lady with a scarf or whatever and I grabbed the cash and I was like, "RUN!" and there's this security guard chasing me – and I just grabbed this mannequin and smashed him over the head with it? Boom. He's like unconscious and bleeding or whatever and this alarm sounds like WEE-OO WEE-OO, it was so fun. Taylor was not bored.

She's screaming her little Taylor Swift scream and let me tell you, it still sounded beautiful. She is an angel. We get in my car, and there's that little mall security vehicle chasing us – it's like a Smartcar or whatever, like three feet long – I floor it, smash headfirst into it, and I'm like screaming, "I AM INSANE! DO NOT MESS WITH ME!" It was hilarious, the security guard was crying or whatever. He's like "I have kids and a family!"

Then I tear out of there before the cops show up. I told Taylor, I am never going to let you be bored with me. And I think she really liked that.

She's going to be so surprised by what I do next. Ha ha ha ha.

(she smiles)

That's it.

(ALYSSA takes her place upstage.)

14. Monica

(MONICA comes downstage.)

MONICA

Someone here stole my purse. I know it was one of you. Don't think I don't know. So I am going to stand up here until the person comes forward and gives it back to me.

Is it possible I misplaced it? Is that what you're thinking? Like I'm just going to walk into a room and *misplace* my purse? That seems like a possibility to you? I'm that kind of person? La la la I'm walking along oh hey let me just *misplace* my purse here and keep on walking cause I'm stupid.

NO. I *did not* misplace my purse. It was *stolen*. By one of these people standing up here behind me. So which one was it. I'll close my eyes and you can return it and I won't hurt you.

(She closes her eyes)

My eyes are closed. I am waiting. But you know what? I don't hear footsteps. I don't hear the little footsteps by someone returning my purse to me, which is what should be happening right now.

(she opens her eyes)

I'm gonna tell y'all a little story. It's called, what I'm gonna do if my purse is not returned to me right now. Okay? You wanna hear it? It's a bedtime story. Once upon a time, there was a little piggy who took my purse. And the piggy thought, "ha ha ha, I'll take Monica's purse, and I will hide in a house made of straw and she won't get me."

So then Monica came knocking on the door and she said, "little pig, little pig, I know you got my purse. Give it back or I will put you in a world of hurt." And the little pig said, "Not by the hair on my chinny – urg" because Monica already had her hands around his throat. And then she got her purse back and had bacon for dinner.

That was a metaphor. But it will become reality soon.

You think I left it in my car? You think I'd be up here making threats if I left in my car? You think I'd do that?

(short pause)

I may have left it in my car. But, if you are thinking about stealing my purse, and I know all of y'all are, let these be a warning to y'all.

Okay I'm done. Oh I had a nice monologue about how my grandmother taught me to a nice person, so um… yeah she did a great job. Okay. Scene.

(she goes back to her spot.)

15. Barney

(BARNEY comes downstage.)

BARNEY

I've never really liked my name. It's been a source of constant ridicule from other kids. And teachers. And strangers. And people on the internet.

When I turned twelve I asked my mom, "why did you name me Barney? There's no one in our family named Barney. You didn't even name me Bernard, or Barnwell, or Bartholomew. Just Barney. Why? Why did you do this? What was wrong with you?"

And my Mom smiled and laughed and said, "son… I was on a lot of painkillers. And I think I was watching a show about a dinosaur. And it just spoke to me."

Barney. She named me Barney because a purple dinosaur spoke through a haze of hospital-administered drugs - and commanded her to name me after him.

I said, "Mom, I get teased every day." And she said, "kids are so cruel," and I said, "Grandma teases me," and Mom said, "I don't like her."

So this is my life. Every day I walk down the hall and someone starts in with "I LOVE YOU, YOU LOVE ME, WE'RE A HAPPY – "

Usually I throw a book at them. I'm taking Tae Kwon Doe. And Karate. And Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. I get in fights most days.

Why don't I go by my middle name? My middle name… is Baby. "Mom why is my middle name Baby?" "You looked like a baby." "That's because I was a baby." "I know. So the name really fit." "But at some point I would no longer be a baby." "Yeah I wasn't thinking ahead."

They said I had behavioral problems. That I was mentally disturbed. That I picked fights with garbage cans. Yep. Sure. Absolutely.

Barney Baby. So I'm counting down the days until I turn eighteen when I can change my name to something cool. Like… Kool Mo-D or Sir Mix-a-Lot. Nobody makes fun of those guys.

16. Morgan

(MORGAN comes downstage with her phone.)

MORGAN

Hold on one second.

(She has her phone play inspirational intro music.)

(MORGAN takes a moment. She stares out into the audience importantly.)

I know you're hurting out there. You've got troubles. Your parents don't understand. Your teachers are giving you homework. Your dog is stand-offish lately. Maybe you don't even have enough money to buy a Lexus.

What can you do? You're just one person. And the world is so, so big.
My heart

(She pats her heart)

My heart is hurting for you. I want to help you, I want to see you succeed, I want you to look into the mirror and say "HECK YES I AM A SWEET PIECE OF LOVIN" I want you to go out there on that basketball court, on that tennis court, in that swimming pool, in that classroom, in that Burger King, and I want you to *BELIEVE IN YOUR OWN BRILLIANCE.*

YES! YOU! You are brilliant. You don't believe me, you say, Morgan, Morgan, I hear what you're saying, but I am scared – *DON'T BE SCARED! FEAR IS HOLDING YOU BACK!* Take your fear, crumple it into a ball, and set it on fire. And then eat it. While it's on fire. Will it hurt you? It's just flaming fear. It only hurts if you're scared of it.

I am telling you the truth. Because I love you. I want you to look inside yourselves now. Close your eyes. Close them. It's dark in there, isn't it? Now ask yourself this question: Who am I? What do I want to be? How can I can succeed at life? Because life can be scary, friends, life can like a giant mountain ten thousand feet taller than the giantest mountain on earth, and this mountain, this mountain has trolls on it, thousands and thousands of trolls, with axes, and some of them have magical powers, and they are hurling boulders at you and sending fireballs at you – *how ARE YOU GOING TO MAKE IT UP THE MOUNTAIN WITH ALL THE STINKING TROLLS?!*
Let me tell you something now, and listen up. Are your ears open? Are they? You will never get past those trolls… without my latest series of self-help videos.

What? That's it? That's all you need? YES! Your first question, How do I make it? That's the title of my first video. How you make it. Coincidence? No. Your second question: How do I survive the stupid trolls and climb the mountain? My second video is called: Dodging fireballs and kicking butt, lessons on the mountain. Wow.

Wow.

Think about that. I have all the answers for you. Without them, you will die. I'm not lying to you. You will die if you don't order my videos. In a lot of pain and fear. One of those trolls is going to take a big club and smack you right off the mountain.

How much does it cost?

How much would you pay to reach all of your dreams? Five thousand dollars? Forty-eight hundred dollars? Forty-seven hundred dollars? No. I'm not even charging close to that. I'm only charging $49.95. Whoah. That's a deal. For each video. I sell them separately.

I take cash and money orders and I'll be available after the show.

And scene.

17. Todd

(TODD comes downstage.)

TODD

Some people have talents. Some people don't have any talent at all. I'm not one of those people. In the second category. The people without talent. I have a talent.

You know what I do in my spare time?
(he puts on a helmet)
I'm a human cannonball.
(he stares forward for a second)
You think it's scary to be a human cannonball? You think my Mom worries about me? She's at home, `oh no, my poor baby is being shot out of a cannon again? What have I done wrong?' No. She loves it.

You see, my Mom is actually the one that suggested this for a career. She knew I was special. Based on the velocity I exited the womb. Apparently I just shot out – the umbilical cord snapped like a rubber band and I went shooting down the hall – broke a wall with my skull. Doctors just stood there, stunned. Then one guy started a slow clap.
(TODD demonstrates the slow clap.)
From that point on, I was hooked. I was a child prodigy human cannonball. People used to rent me out for birthday parties. Instead of pinatas, they'd stuff me in a cannon and fire me at a brick wall. I loved it. The fans. The cheering. The gunpowder.

I flew so high. So high. Like a golden rainbow of awesome.
(MR. BANKS interrupts)

MR. BANKS

Hey Todd?

TODD

What?

MR. BANKS

These are supposed to be personal reflections.

TODD

They are.

MR. BANKS

Truthful reflections.

TODD

Uh-huh.

MR. BANKS

Things that actually happened to you.

TODD

Right.

MR. BANKS

So you see what I'm saying?

TODD

Ohhhhh – no.

MR. BANKS

You didn't actually shoot out of the womb like a cannonball, right?

TODD

Are you calling my Mom a liar?
(MR. BANKS thinks about it)

MR. BANKS

I guess not.
(He exits)

TODD

Where was I?

SOMEONE *(from behind)*

Golden rainbow of awesome.

TODD

Right. I flew higher than any human cannonball before me. When I was fifteen I achieved low-earth orbit, and landed in Narnia. I landed on a talking lion. Killed him. And I became king of a magical kingdom filled with talking animals… I may have also suffered brain damage.

Thank you, talking animals. I have listened to your requests and will no longer be eating most of you. Except the talking pigs. Cause you guys are yummy. Thank you.
(TODD bows and returns to his spot.)

18. Jeramy

(JERAMY comes downstage.)

JERAMY

Hey ladies. I'm single.

(He stands there for a moment. Tries to look attractive.)

MR. BANKS

Um… this isn't really what the –

JERAMY

Hey. Chill. I got more.

MR. BANKS

I know, but –

JERAMY

Just wait. It's poetical. Serious.
Ladies.
Just looking at me, you probably think I got a girlfriend. I'm not gonna flex right now cause I don't want to embarrass these other dudes up here, but rest assured, if I did flex, you would be enthralled. That's right. I said it. Enthralled.

In addition to my muscularity-ness, I have many other features. Soulful eyes. Look at `em. I want you to imagine a candlelit dinner and me sitting across from you. I'm looking at you hard. And I give you this look.

(he gives the ladies the look)

See that? In my eyes. The soulfulness? In some countries that's illegal. I get stopped at the border and they're like, "nah, you're too beautiful to enter we have to defend our women, and I'm like, that's all right, I'll close my eyes and then they're like, okay come on in."

Now the next feature is this: soft, kissable lips. You heard me. Sometimes I kiss myself. And it's amazing. These are all natural too. I know some guys are putting like collagen or whatever in their lips? I don't need to do that. Cause they're like this naturally.

But the best part of me is my ears. Cause I'm gonna listen to you, girl. You wanna talk about your problems? I'm here for you. You wanna talk about dreams of being a backup dancer for Beyonce. I hear you. You wanna talk about dental school or whatever or your theories of the literary significance of stuff in books? I'm listening. These ears are open for you, baby.

But you aren't gonna need to talk much, cause pretty soon I'm gonna look at you like this.

(he gives the look again)

That's what I'm saying.

(he goes back to his spot.)

Skipping Forward

But you'll never break –
(someone makes a slapping sound)
(TARA goes with it.)
Aah you mon –
(someone makes another slapping sound)
Don't touch –
(another slapping sound)
(three or four more people make slapping sounds. TARA keeps trying to react)
(a ton of slaps)
STOP IT!
(they stop the slapping sounds)
(TARA gets it together)
You can hurt me but don't you touch my baby! Don't you touch him!

SOMEONE

Poke.
(TARA tries to ignore them.)

TARA

I swear, as long as I have breath in my body, I will hunt you down

SOMEONE ELSE

Another poke.

TARA

I will hunt you down and I make you pay for what you have –

SOMEONE ELSE

More poking.

TARA

For what you have done. As God as my witness, I will make you pay!

SOMEONE *(happy baby sound)*

Goo goo.
(TARA spins to look upstage and everyone is still.)

TARA

Just for that, we're starting over.
(Everyone groans upstage.)
(MS. BANKS comes on.)

MR. BANKS

Nope nope that was great –

TARA

But I was –

MS. BANKS

Thank you Tara –

TARA

Again, my name is Tara and I would –

MS. BANKS

And we're done.

(MS. BANKS shoves TARA back into position.)

20. Lola

(LOLA strides downstage, full of confidence.)

LOLA

I'm going to tell you a story about my greatest triumph: The seventh grade spelling bee.

You can learn parts of words and waste your time memorizing the dictionary or whatever, but that's not what wins. What wins is mental domination.

The key is to introduce fear into the hearts of the other competitors. Break their spirits. You can tell right away which of them are going to crack like tiny little eggs. You make eye contact. Stare into their souls.

(She shows off her dead-eyed stare.)

This is my look. I call it Corpse Eye. I find the first little boy. A sixth-grader. Suhail Patel. He's about four foot nine. I get about this close to him. I'm so close that our noses might touch. And then I whisper:

`You think you understand the proper spelling of latinate verbs? Go home, little boy. I'm going to enjoy crushing you.'

And then you know what I do? I blow on his face.

(she blows)

He freaks out like a swarm of bees just stung him. Starts crying. He'll be out in the first round.

I use a different tactic with the girls. They've prepared for months. They're all full of confidence and hope. They got little pigtails and smiles – I start the rumors - `So I hear you're using performance enhancing drugs.' `What?' `I won't tell anyone. But people are talking' Then I move on to the next girl. `Miranda says even if you win she's stealing your boyfriend.' `I don't have a boyfriend.' `That's not what Suhail Patel says.'

By the time we get on stage everyone hates each other. Who's their friend? Who's their enemy? Who's taking drugs? It's a slaughter.

Down to the final two. Me and Steven Williams. Steven is cold as ice. He stares forward, acts like he's deaf, he pretends not to see me, not to hear me. He's a machine. The word is Syzygy. Definition please: An arrangement of heavenly bodies. Country of origin: Undetermined. He starts spelling – S Y Z

He thinks he's going to win. He knows the word. But then, just for instant, he glances my direction, as if to say, I'm going to win, and that's when I unleash the look that will win me this competition: I call it: Spastic Thunder.

(LOLA makes "Spastic Thunder")

It looks like I'm having a seizure. My eyes cross. My teeth start shaking – spit flies out of my mouth – Steven loses his place, he makes a mistake. A second Z. Ding. He's out.

That's when I give him my final look. Flaming Triumph.

(LOLA makes "Flaming Triumph")

My word is pulchritudinous. I'm so awesome I don't ask for country of origin. Pulchritudinous. P U L C H R I T U D I N O U S. Boom. Mic drop.

I'm taking home a cool hundred dollar gift certificate to Barnes and Noble. And that's how the game is played, suckers.

(LOLA gives one last look.)

(She turns and returns to her place)

21. Callie

(CALLIE comes downstage. She's very nice and sweet, but very nervous.)

CALLIE

Hi. My monologue is about the most influential person in my life. Some people are influenced by political figures or sports people or… other people… but not me. I'm influenced by my Aunt Beulah.

Who is Aunt Beulah? She's not your Aunt so don't call her that. Ha ha ha.

(The joke doesn't land. CALLIE swallows hard.)

Let me tell you who she is. She's my Grandma's sister and she doesn't care what anyone thinks of her. I guess that makes her my great Aunt.

(she laughs a little bit.)

That was a funny line. I thought you would laugh at it. But that's okay, you don't need to laugh at the funny parts. Although I kind of had my heart set on you laughing there but all right. I guess I'm not funny.

(she breaks down a bit)

That's all right no one cares if I'm funny in my house. Cause my Mom doesn't really pay attention to me and my brother microwaved my gerbil to see what would happen. You know what happens when you microwave a gerbil?

(she tears up)

Exactly what you think would happen.

Okay, all right, um… my great Aunt Beulah is awesome because she doesn't care what anyone thinks of her. Like, if someone is making her mad, she'll say, "I'm gonna punch you in the throat." That's one of her sayings. Or if someone is annoying her she'll say, "you are one annoying little rodent." She says that all the time to my brother. He's scared of her.

I especially love my Aunt Beulah's tattoos. She has a lot of skulls on her. And cobras. Most of the cobras are crawling through the skulls. One time I asked her why she had so many tattoos and she said to earn respect from the other Hell's Angels. Ha ha ha.

And we never know when she's going to arrive at our house. Sometimes she gets there at two or three in the morning and climbs in my window and says "shhh don't say anything!" and then she ducks for a while while the police go past. It's like a little surprise. Then she takes my piggy bank and says "I was never here" and she's gone again.

Yes, my Aunt Beulah sure is great.

(short pause)

That was supposed to be funny again. Fine. Don't laugh. But I'm gonna tell my Aunt. The end.

(she returns to her spot)

22. Mia

(MIA comes downstage.)

Why hasn't J.K. Rowling written any more Harry Potter books? Like, what else is she doing with her time? She's J K Rowling. She should be writing more Harry Potter books.

I know I know like okay – she's writing detective books or whatever under an assumed name. So? What the heck is that? Is there magic and mythical creatures and fancy stuff in her detective novels? No! I picked up one! Someone gets a severed arm in the mail. I'm serious. There is a severed arm in it. What the heck? You're J K Rowling! Write some more Harry Potter, dang it!

So I came up with a plan. Maybe she's just out of ideas. Maybe she just needs a little bit of help.
(MIA takes out some printed pages)
That's where I come in. So here's what I'm gonna do. Next time she makes an appearance on the Today Show or whatever, I'm just gonna charge the stage. And I'll have to do it fast cause they have bodyguards or whatever. So I just charge, right and I take my ideas and I just throw them at her. And I'll be like, "WRITE MORE HARRY POTTER, DANG IT!" And then I hurl my idea at her.

I'll bet she'll love that. So she picks up the ideas, right? At this part the bodyguards probably have me and are punching me or whatever, but J K just holds up her hand and she's like, "wait. J K." And she looks down and reads it out loud.

"Harry Potter and the Divorce Attorney of Doom." She looks at the pages. Harry and Ginny are fighting. Harry's losing his hair. He's out of shape. The magic is dead. Not the actual magic, just the attraction between them or whatever. So they both cast love spells on each other – but Hagrid shows up for a surprise visit – boom – love triangle.

Harry to Hagrid: I have feelings for you.
Hagrid: Ach, no! It canna be.
I can't deny it any more, Hagrid.
Harry! It's Ginny. She's there. She turns to Hagrid – your beard reminds me of a warm fuzzy bear. Let's cuddle.
Hagrid's like: wut is goin' on?
Harry and Ginny start fighting. He's mine! He's mine! Slap fight. *Expelliarmus! Cruciatus curse!* Everyone's crying.

Somebody apparates from the Ministry of Magic. A Divorce Attorney: Voldemort.
Waaaaa!

Harry's scar goes crazy. "What? I thought you were destroyed!"
"They gave me a new job Harry. The boy who lived. But couldn't make his marriage work."
Voldemort laughs.

That's when he says, "I also happen to be…. A marriage counselor. *Counseloro!"* voom! They're in Voldemort's office talking about their feelings. There's a truth spell on them. Harry says, "I've always been in love with Hermione!"

Ginny says "I knew it! I'm still in love with Hagrid!"
Wooooah!
So they divorce. Harry moves into a one-bedroom apartment with Neville Longbottom. Ginny goes and lives with her parents again. They do a lot of binge-eating. The end.

I'm pretty sure this would be awesome. Now if I can just get it to J K Rowling.

23. Matt

(MATT comes downstage)

MATT

First of all, just because you can fit into yoga pants, doesn't mean you should wear them. Let's all be honest here. Those aren't pants. They're tights. You're not wearing pants. You're walking around without pants. Would you like it if I showed up in yoga pants tomorrow? No. No one would be cool with that.

Second, I'm a little sick and tired of people dissing London. Okay? She's not the one who ruined that relationship. I'm looking at you Caleb.

MR. BANKS

Is this a monologue?

MATT

Absolutely.

MR. BANKS

I don't remember hearing this one in rehearsal.

MATT

I'm pretty sure I rehearsed this and you weren't paying attention because you're not a very good teacher. All right? Please let me continue.

(MR. BANKS slinks off the stage)

I had a front row seat to this because I happen to be London's best friend, and I am telling you, this dude over here, he is the worst boyfriend in the history of the world. He texts like once a day. You know what his text says? Sup. That's it. Three letters. Sup. He can't even manage to put a question mark after it. How's London supposed to know what that means?

CALEB

Why are you looking at my texts, dude?

MATT

She shows `em to me because she can't decipher your oh-so-eloquent message, you heartbreaker. Now if you'll excuse me, I'm in the middle of my monologue about how horrible you are.

This guy does not deserve her. All right? She is a delicate flower. She is a beautiful young woman and any guy in this class would be LUCKY to go out with her. She's smart, she's funny, she's nice, her hair is like a curtain of sunshine, when you get close to her you realize that she smells just a bit like a vanilla and it takes you back to childhood and memories of your grandma making cookies, and not only that her eyes are like gleaming pools into her beautiful, beautiful soul. THEY ARE GLEAMING POOLS OF WONDERFULNESS!

(MATT stares at LONDON.)

She's amazing. She's everything. She's probably going to be president someday. And I, for one, would be honored to serve in her cabinet as the chief of staff. A chief of staff who is in love with her from afar and can't bring himself to say how he really feels. A chief of staff who is standing in front of her right now and saying, "Madame President, I want you to sign the Executive Order to my Heart."

(He stops.)

(Realizes what he's done.)

Uh… so yeah… um… Caleb's a loser.

Thank you.

(He returns to his spot.)

24. London (part 2)

LONDON comes downstage again.

LONDON

Um… I have a second monologue, y'all.

MR. BANKS

You can't have two monologues.

LONDON

Yes I can! I have two monologues. All right um… Matt uh… so… you're a super nice guy, and thank you for backing me up on the whole yoga pants thing, but like… a relationship is based on… um… attraction, right?

CALEB

Ooh!

LONDON

Shut up, Caleb!

CALEB

This is gonna hurt!

LONDON

All right so… attraction… I'm not feeling that towards you. Like, when I look at you, I think about like muppets, you know? Like Kermit the frog. And the bear guy.

CALEB

Fozzy.

LONDON

Thank you. And I like muppets, but I'm not like in love with muppets, you know? And I don't really see myself with a muppet in a romantic sense. You know what I'm saying?

MATT

Yeah. I guess.

LONDON

But we can still be friends. And you still be my chief of staff when I'm president.

MATT

All right.

LONDON

In the meantime, as long I'm up here… I'm reminded of one other thing that Caleb did that was totally annoying, y'all. He collects Barbies. I'm serious, y'all. He's got like thirty of `em.

CALEB

Oh come on!

LONDON

You do! I've seen them! He changes the outfits on them!

CALEB

I'm into fashion! I like fashion!

LONDON

He's got mental problems. What kind of teenage guy sits at home with a bunch of Barbies and changes their clothes? That ain't right, that's all I'm saying. There's something wrong with him. That's all. Loser.

(she heads back to her spot)

25. Caleb (part 2)

. *(CALEB comes downstage)*

CALEB

I have a second monologue as well.

First of all, okay – I showed you that in confidence and it's totally normal for a guy to have passions, all right? Passions that you cannot possibly understand because you are a heartless witch.

All right, London is a scorpion woman. When she is not talking and driving you insane, she has her stinger out and she is POISONING YOUR LIFE. All right. That is what she does. Sting. Sting. Sting. And you take it because you think she was cool or whatever and you want to share your nachos with her, but what you don't understand is that she will devour your lifeless corpse when she is done with you.

That's all. That's my monologue. I am so much happier now that I'm single. And I hope you cry yourself to sleep every night.

LONDON

I don't. I'm so over you.

CALEB

Good!

LONDON

Good!

CALEB

Awesome!

LONDON

Go play with your Barbies.

CALEB

They are FASHION TEMPLATES.

LONDON

Whatever.

CALEB

And my second monologue is finished. Boom. Mic drop. Again.
(He heads back to his spot)

26. Jessi (part 2)

(JESSI comes downstage)

JESSI

Okay, so now I got something more to say.

MR. BANKS

No! NO! STOP IT!

JESSI

I support my man in whatever he does. That's all I'm saying. If you don't support your man, if you don't help him chase your dreams, then that's all on you. Truth. Also. Squats. Learn to do some. Just saying.

(MR. BANKS chases JESSI back to her spot.)

27. Kate

(MATT is about to come downstage)
(KATE chases him off and takes her spot downstage)

KATE

NO! NO! IT'S MY TURN! I've been sitting up here listening to this and it's my turn! I'm getting a good grade on this and I'm doing my monologue! You people need professional help. All right? After this show is over I want you to go to the counselor and stay there and NEVER COME BACK!

(KATE takes a deep breath)

Sorry.

Have you ever had the experience where you're sitting on stage for a really long time and you hate everyone in the room? I have. But that's not what this monologue is about.

MATT

Actually, can I just - ?

KATE

NO! NO! BACK OFF! I HAVE A WHOLE MONOLOGUE ABOUT MY VERY SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH MY MOTHER AND YOU PEOPLE ARE RUINING IT!

Where was I? My Mom. Some people don't have good relationships with their parents. Like most of these people up here behind me. Probably because they weren't raised right. So if one of these kids up here belongs to you, just know that you screwed up. Big time. Seriously. You put like sixteen years of effort into raising these people, and you failed.

I think that's clear, right? You are responsible for creating these humans. Great job, y'all. Like, when they were toddlers did you just fill their bottles with Dr. Pepper and be like, "I don't know what I'm doing, it's so hard to read the parenting manuals. Maybe we'll just *wing it*. I'm sure it won't cause any problems if we let our kids watch television for eight hours a day."

`In my day we didn't have car seats, let's let `em roll around in the front seat. If we crash, that's how they learn.' Look in the mirror, parents. Look at the results of your work. It's a wonder these humans can even dress themselves. And honestly, they're not doing a good job. I'm totally on board with the yoga pants aren't pants theory, by the way.

MATT

Thank you.

KATE

Shut up! You're the worst one!

MATT

Hey!

KATE

All right. So… my relationship with my Mom is good. I have totally lost my train of thought. Seriously. I had a whole thing prepared where I talked about how great spa day is, and now I can't remember a word of it.

(she turns to the people behind her)

THANK YOU FOR MESSING ME UP!

(back to the audience)

Um… so spa day is great. Mom and I get manicures together or something. I don't know. Uh… yeah. The best thing about my Mom is that she's really helped me control my rage. Thank you.

(KATE heads upstage)

28. Karl

(KARL comes downstage, energetic and happy.)

KARL

You hear a lot about crazy cat ladies. Like these little old ladies who live in a house with like forty-seven cats or whatever? BUT… you never hear about… crazy cat men.

Because that is my plan. Cats don't judge you. Cats don't look at you and say, "I don't think you're relationship material." Cats don't say they're going to meet you at the movies and then turn their phones off and never show up so you're just standing there with an extra large bucket of popcorn by yourself. And then you have to watch Jurassic World all by yourself because your Mom isn't going to pick you up until after the movie is over. So then you just sit there in this dinosaur movie crying and sobbing and eating popcorn.

And cats don't send ushers down to tell you to stop crying, and then threaten to call security because you're making a scene and other people can't enjoy the movie. Cats don't do that. Cats don't ignore your texts where you say "WHERE WERE U" either. Cats wouldn't do that to you.

Because you know where you stand with cats. You provide food for them, and you clean litter boxes and you have a very clear relationship with well-defined boundaries and no one gets confused that this is going to lead to a romantic relationship. Because you can't have romantic relationships with cats in most states. I think they passed a law in Kentucky, but that's not the point.

So I'm gonna get like twenty of them. And I'm going to let them all sit on me at the same time. Like I've got a blanket of cats. That would be awesome. And maybe I'd all leash them to a wheelchair or something, and they could pull me through town like sled dogs.

And you will be so jealous when you see me coasting through town with my pack of sled cats – and you'll say to yourself, "why didn't I snatch him up when I had the chance?" Too late. Too late! Cause I'm happy with my life.

So so happy.

I'm a little bit allergic but I'll deal with it.

So there.

(KARL returns to his spot)

29. Joe

(JOE comes downstage.)

JOE

Dude. You know what the problem with zoos is? They're boring, bro. The animals just sit there. Like what is that? Hey I'm a lion I'll just lay around in the sun. Dude. I paid good money to come to this zoo, and there's nothing happening.

It's not natural. All these animals just have their food delivered to them, bro. They're like on animal welfare. Get a job! They're lazy cause they don't need to do anything. It's like socialism for animals.

What if they had jobs? Like, some kind of learn-to-work program. Giraffes can change lights and monkeys can dig trenches. Could that work?

No. Cause it's stupid. Like Adam Sandler movie stupid.

Bro. Check this. I got this from idea from YouTube. There's a chimpanzee and a cat. Like a cute little housecat. And the chimp just beats the heck out of the cat. Like the cat's like "I'm gon' kill you" and the chimp's like "I got opposable thumbs, bring it" and they fight. And it's like slap slap slap

(Bruce Lee sounds)

Ha-cha! The chimp is doing moves. He's like Kung Fu chimp or whatever. It's awesome. And then afterwards there's like respect. Much love.

End of Excerpt.
To purchase this play, visit www.concordtheatricals.com