# SCENE 1-FIRST ASSEMBLY

Audience is checked in and directed to the gym for the assembly. As they are seated, a member of the company pulls them aside to another room to share a forbidden booze, conveniently disguised as a normal (soda can? Capri sun? Milk cartons?). VIOLA is getting ready for school at a vanity outside the theater. She tapes her breasts down, combs her hair, puts on male clothing, and pencils on a thin, unconvincing mustache.

> VIOLA Conceal me what I am, and be my aid For such disguise as haply shall become The form of my intent. I'll serve this dude: I shall present me as a dude to him: That will allow me very worth his service. What else may hap to time I will commit; Only shape me my silence to my wit.

At curtain, PRINCIPAL FESTE and HALL MONITORS collect any wayward students from the courtyard and bring them to the assembly. A school bell rings.

PRINCIPAL FESTE Welcome students! This first day of classes, we would like to congratulate the class of 2000 for making it this far. Before we begin, let us stand and say the Pledge of Allegiance.

FESTE, STUDENTS, and HALL MONITORS coax audience to stand with them to say the pledge of allegiance together.

ALL I pledge allegiance To the flag Of the United States of America And to the republic For which it stands One Nation, under God Indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for All. PRINCIPAL FESTE You may be seated. (A pause. ANDREW still stands, looking at the flag, hand over his heart) YOU MAY BE SEATED. (a pause) MR. AGUECHEEK. YOU MAY BE-

ANDY

Sorry.

PRINCIPAL FESTE Thank you. Welcome all, to Illyria Prep. Before we begin the school day, a few announcements. Our thoughts and prayers are with Olivia Davenport after the death of her father and brother over the summer. On a lighter note, I'd like to welcome our new student, Sebastian Horowitz! Sebastian transferred in from Elysium High in Elmdale. I expect that you will all make him feel very welcome.

On to announcements.

She looks around at the obviously inattentive students.

PRINCIPAL FESTE (CONT'D) Some are born great?

STUDENTS Some achieve greatness.

PRINCIPAL FESTE Very good. Now, in light of recent national events, this afternoon we'll be conducting a-

FESTE continues mouthing words as lights shift to ORSINO, listening to a Walkman- his voice and "Champagne Supernova" play over loudspeakers.

ORSINO (V.O.) If music be the food of love, play on. Give me excess of it that surfeiting The appetite may sicken and so die. (MORE) ORSINO (V.O.) (CONT'D) That strain again, it had a dying fall O it came o'er my ear like the sweet south That breathes upon a bank of violets Stealing and giving odor. Enough, no more.

Music cuts out.

ORSINO (V.O.) It is not so sweet as it was before.

LIGHTS on ORSINO as he strolls down the center aisle to stare at OLIVIA

### ORSINO

As it was, I was the first person at Ilyria Prep to set eyes on Olivia. It was her first day at school.

ORSINO walks down the aisle to stare at OLIVIA.

ORSINO (CONT'D) I'm sitting in class enjoying a late breakfast when out of all the classrooms in the entire school, she walks into mine. And where does the teacher sit her? Right next to me! Now, up until now, one could write this off to coincidence. But then she reaches in her bag and pulls out a Wild Berry Pop-Tart the very same breakfast pastry I was consuming at that moment!

Walking on the Sun by Smashmouth begins. Olivia heads to her locker, with Orsino close behind. She slams it shut just as he's about to talk to her. They head up the center aisle and Olivia begins the Pledge of Allegiance as Orsino starts to talk to her. Olivia rushes to the window to sit and study a composition book marked "Debate". Orsino sees her, and runs to grab another book with "Debate" on the cover. As he looks down to scribble out the 'E' and 'B', Olivia moseys away. Headphones.

# ORSINO (CONT'D)

Music to hear, why hear'st thou music sadly? Sweets with sweets war not, joy delights in joy. Why lovest thou that which thou receivest not gladly, Or else receivest with pleasure thine annoy?

Orsino makes one final gesture and yanks the curtains open to reveal a giant Pop-Tart art, spelling "Homecoming?" She is nowhere to be seen.

What was I to do? How was I to proceed?

VIOLA Know'st thou this country?

# VALENTINE Ay, madam, well; for I was bred and born Not three minutes travel from this

very place. I walk to school.

VIOLA Who governs here?

VALENTINE A noble dude, in nature as in name.

VIOLA What is the name?

# VALENTINE

Orsino.

VIOLA Orsino! I have heard my father name him: He was a single freshman then.

# VALENTINE

And so is now, or was so very late; For but a month ago I went from hence, And then 'twas fresh in murmur,--as, you know, What great ones do the less will prattle of,-- That he did seek the love of fair Olivia. Who's she?

### VALENTINE

A total babe, the daughter of a cop That died some twelvemonth since, then leaving her In the protection of his son, her brother, Who shortly also died: for whose dear love, They say, she hath abjured the company And sight of men.

### VIOLA

O that I served that lady And might not be delivered to the world, Till I had made mine own occasion mellow, What my estate is!

# VALENTINE

That were hard to compass; Because she will admit no kind of suit, No, not even Dude's.

PRINCIPAL FESTE MR. VALENTINE. I see you've volunteered to give Sebastian a tour of the school?

VALENTINE Yes, Ms. Feste...sir.

P. Feste continues to mouth words as VALENTINE and VIOLA scoot over to sit with ORSINO

ORSINO How now? What news from her?

# VALENTINE

Tough break, bro. The element itself, till seven years' heat, Shall not behold her face at ample view; But, like a cloistress, she will veiled walk And water once a day her chamber round With eye-offending brine: all this to season A brother's dead love, which she would keep fresh And lasting in her sad remembrance.

ORSINO I burn! I pine! I perish!

### VALENTINE

Of course you do. You know she's beautiful and deep. Pure.

TOBY BELCH, MARIA enter, late for school again

TOBY TOROS! TOROS!

MARIA WE SO HORNY!

VALENTINE And here's the jock squad.

TOBY

What a plague means my cousin, to take the death of her brother thus? I'm sure care's an enemy to life.

MARIA

By my troth, Toby, you must pay better attention to my notes.

TOBY Why, let her except, before excepted.

### MARIA

Ay, but you must confine yourself within the modest limits of order.

TOBY

Confine! I'll confine myself no finer than I am: these clothes are good enough to drink in; an they be not, let them hang themselves in their own jock straps.

### MARIA

That quaffing and drinking will undo you: I heard my lady talk of it yesterday; and of a foolish Toro that you brought in one night here to be her wooer.

TOBY

Who, Andy Aguecheek?

MARIA

Ay, he

TOBY

He's as sporting a man as any's in Illyria

MARIA What's that to the purpose?

TOBY

Why, he's our new star quarterback.

### MARIA

Ay, but he'll have but a year as a star: he's a very fool and a prodigal.

TOBY

Fie, that you'll say so! he plays o' the violet Game Boy, and speaks three or four languages word for word without book, and hath all the good gifts of nature.

### MARIA

He hath indeed, almost natural: for besides that he's a fool, he's a great quarreller: and but that he hath the gift of a coward to allay the gust he hath in quarrelling, 'tis thought among the prudes he would quickly have the gift of a grave.

TOBY

By this hand, they are majorly bogus that say so of him. Who are they?

# MARIA

They that add, moreover, he's drunk nightly in your company.

### TOBY

With drinking healths to my cousin: I'll drink to her as long as there is a passage in my throat and drink in Illyria: he's a coward and a coystrill that will not drink to her till his brains fry like an egg in a drug PSA. What, wench! Castiliano vulgo! for here comes Sir Andrew Agueface.

ANDY Toby Belch! how now, Captain Toby Belch! TOBY Dude, don't do that I've told you it's weird ANDY Sorry. Hey Maria MARIA Hey. TOBY Accost, Andrew, Accost. ANDY What's that? TOBY My girlfriend. You mistake, 'accost' is front her, board her, woo her, assail her. ANDY By my troth, I would not undertake her in this company. Is that the meaning of 'accost'? MARIA Fare you well, gentlemen.

TOBY An thou let part so, Sir Andrew, would thou mightst never don jersey again. An you part so, mistress, I would I might never draw sword again. Fair lady, do you think you have fools in pocket?

MARIA Sir, I have not you by the pocket.

ANDY Marry, but you shall have; and here's my pocket.

MARIA Now, sir, 'thought is free:' I pray you, bring your hand to the butterybar and let it drink. ANDY Wherefore, sweet-heart? what's your metaphor?

# MARIA

It's dry, sir.

# ANDY

Why, I think so: I am not such an ass but I can keep my hand dry. But what's your jest?

MARIA A dry jest, sir.

ANDY Are you full of them?

# MARIA

Ay, sir, I have them at my fingers' ends: marry, now I let go your hand, I am barren.

TOBY O knight thou lackest cojones: when did I see thee so put down?

ANDY

Never in your life, I think; unless you see cojones put me down. Methinks sometimes I have no more wit than a Christian or an ordinary man has: but I am a great eater of beef and I believe that does harm to my wit.

TOBY

No question.

ANDY An I thought that, I'ld forswear

it. I'll ride home to-morrow, Sir Toby.

TOBY Pourquoi, my dear knight? ANDY What is 'Pourquoi'? do or not do? I would I had bestowed that time in the tongues that I have in football, lacross, and pole-vault: O, had I but followed the arts!

TOBY Then hadst thou had an excellent head of hair.

ANDY Why, would that have mended my hair?

# TOBY

Past question; for thou seest it will not curl by nature.

### ANDY

But it becomes me well enough, does't not?

TOBY

Excellent; it hangs like grass on a chia pet; and I hope to see a hot chick take thee between her legs and spin it off.

ANDY

Faith, I'll home to-morrow, Sir Toby: your cousin will not be seen; or if she be, it's four to one she'll none of me: the count himself here hard by woos her.

### TOBY

She'll none o' the count: she'll not match below her grade, neither at homecoming, pizza parlors, nor wit; I have heard her swear't. Tut, there's life in't,man.

# ANDY

I'll try a month longer. I am a fellow o' the strangest mind i' the world; I delight in masques and revels sometimes altogether.

TOBY What shall we do else? Are we not Toros?

ANDY Toros! That's sides and heart.

TOBY No, sir; it is legs and thighs. Let me see the caper; ha! higher: ha, ha! excellent!

PRINCIPAL FESTE

-have it real easy. I never had it like this where I grew up. But I sent my kids here because the fact is you go to one of the best schools in the country: Illyria. Now, for some of you it doesn't matter. You were born rich and you're going to stay rich. But here's my advice to the rest of you: Take dead aim on the rich kids. Get them in the crosshairs and take them down. Just remember, they can buy anything but they can't buy backbone. Don't let them forget it.

Now. Some are born great.

STUDENTS Some achieve greatness.

PRINCIPAL FESTE Great. Now get to class.

BELL RINGS

SCENE 2- FIRST PASSING

THE STUDENTS walk in various places in the group. General conversation with audience members "Man I hate this school". "Welcome to Illyria, I'm\_\_\_\_" etc. VIOLA, VAL, and ORSINO lead the group

# VALENTINE

If the duke continue these favors towards you, Sebastian, you are like to be much advanced: he hath known you but three days, and already you are no stranger.

# VIOLA

You either fear his humour or my negligence, that you call in question the continuance of his love: is he inconstant, sir, in his favours?

### VALENTINE

No, believe me!

VIOLA

I thank you. Here comes the dude.

DUDE ORSINO Who saw Sebastian, yo!

VIOLA On your perfect attendance, my lord, here!

### DUDE ORSINO

Stand you a while aloof, Sebastian, Thou know'st no less but all; I have unclasp'd To thee the book even of my secret soul: Therefore, good youth, address thy gait unto her; Be not denied access, stand at her doors, And tell her, there thy fixed foot shall grow Till thou have audience.

### VIOLA

Sure, my noble dude, If she be so abandon'd to her sorrow As it is spoke, she never will admit me

# DUDE ORSINO

Be clamorous and leap all civil bounds Rather than make unprofited return.

VIOLA Say I do speak with her, what then?

# DUDE ORSINO

O, then unfold the passion of my love,Surprise her with discourse of my dear faith: It shall become thee well to act my woes

### VIOLA

I think not so.

DUDE ORSINO

C'mon, believe it; For they shall yet belie thy happy years,That say thou art a man: Princess Diana's lip was not more smooth and rubious; thy small pipe Is as a chick's organ, shrill and sound, And all is semblative a woman's part. I know thy constellation is right apt For this affair.

VIOLA

I'll do my best
To woo your lady:
Aside yet, a bogus strife!
Whoe'er I woo, myself would be his
wife.

BLOCK 1, SCENE A- MAOI

MAL 'Tis but fortune; all is fortune Maria once told me she did affect me: and I have heard herself come thus near, that, should she fancy, it should be one of my complexion. Besides, she uses me with a more exalted respect than anyone else that follows her. 'Tis What should I think on't? To be Malivia! Olival? God, why is nothing as catchy as Billary? Or Bennifer. Seventeen magazine didn't prepare me for this.

Sliding down to rest against the lockers, she takes a beat up teen mag out of her bag and flips open to a quiz.

MAL (CONT'D) Is he Really Into You? 1. (MORE)

MAL (CONT'D) Does he pass you a note when you arrive in first period? A. Sometimes B. Not usually, but occasionally C. Yes, all the time 2. Do they call you just to check up on you? A. All the time B. Usually C. Once in a while 3. Do they talk about you to their friends, or to yours? A. All the time B. No C. Sometimes 4. Do they smile to you when they see you, or compliment you? A. Never B. Of course! C. Not usually 5. Do you find yourself calling more, and not getting an answer? A. Yes B. No C. Once in a while 6. Can you see yourself with this person in a few years? A. Totally B. No way, just a fling! 7. Do they stick up for you? A. Yeah B. Nope 8. Do people notice that you guys are a 'thing'? A. Hell NO! B. Hell YES! C. We're keeping it on the low 9. Would you say you like them more? A. Yep B. It's even C. No, they're way more into me. 10. Do you think you try to hard to impress them? A. No way, they'll love me either way. B. YES! I want to look perfect. C. I guess, I mean everyone does once in a while- I just don't go to the extreme.

YES! They're totally into you! (MORE)

# MAL (CONT'D)

It's just your job to push it a little more-but not too hard. Apparently, they're too afraid to show you- but they'll come around to it. Just flirt more- and show them what you got!

(Opening her locker What employment have we here? By my life, this is Oliva's hand! These be her very C's, her U's and her T's and thus makes she her great P's. It is, in contempt of question, her hand.

[Reads] 'To the unknown beloved, this, and my good wishes:'

--her very phrases! By your leave, gum. Soft! and the impressure her Juicy Fruit, with which she uses to seal: 'tis my lady. To whom should this be?

Jove knows I love:

But who?

Lips, do not move; No man must know.

'No man must know.' What follows? the numbers altered!

'No man must know:'

if this should be thee, Mal?

I may command where I adore; But silence, like a Razor scooter With bloodless stroke my heart doth gore: M, O, A, I, doth sway my life.

'M, O, A, I, doth sway my life.' Nay, but first, let me see, let me see, let me see.

'I may command where I adore.'

Why, she may command me: I serve her; she is the head of the homecoming committee. (MORE)

MAL (CONT'D) Why, this is evident to any formal capacity; there is no obstruction in this: and the end, --what should that alphabetical position portend? If I could make that resemble something in me, --HEY! Get to class! Softly! M, O, A, I? L? M, --Mallory; M, --why, that begins my name. M, -- but then there is no consonancy in the sequel; that suffers under probation A should follow but 0 does. And then I comes behi--God is that an L or an I? M, O, A, I; this simulation is not as the former: and yet, to crush this a little, it would bow to me, for every one of these letters are in my name. Soft! Here follows prose. 'If this fall into thy hand, revolve. In my stars I am above thee; but be not afraid of greatness: some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon 'em. Mal lets out a squeal of delight, then looks around to make sure she is still alone. Thy Fates open their hands; let thy blood and spirit embrace them; and, to inure thyself to what thou art

16.

(MORE)

and wished to see thee ever

cross-gartered: I say, remember.

like to be, cast thy humble slough and appear fresh. Be opposite with a kinsman, surly with classmates; let thy tongue tang arguments of state; put thyself into the trick of singularity: she thus advises thee that sighs for thee. Remember who commended thy yellow stockings,

# MAL (CONT'D)

I will be proud, I will read poetic authors, I will baffle that Toby, I will wash off gross acquaintance, I do not now fool myself, to let imagination jade me; for every reason excites to this, that Olivia loves me. She did commend my yellow stockings of late, she did praise my leg being cross-gartered ; and in this she manifests herself to my love, and with a kind of injunction drives me to these habits of her liking. I thank my stars I am happy. I will be strange, stout, in yellow stockings, and crossgartered, even with the swiftness of putting on. Jove and my stars be praised! Here is yet a postscript.

VALENTINE emerges from around the corner, filming MAL.

MAL (CONT'D)

'Thou canst not choose but know who I am. If thou entertainest my love, let it appear in thy smiling; thy smiles become thee well; therefore in my presence still smile, dear my sweet, I prithee.'

Jove, I thank thee: I will smile; I will do everything that thou wilt have me.

MAL runs through a door, smitten. VALENTINE stops filming for a moment.

### VALENTINE

Do you want to see the most beautiful thing I've ever filmed? It was one of those days when it's a minute away from snowing, and there's this electricity in the air, you can almost hear it. And this bag was just, dancing with me, like a little kid beggin' me to play with it - for fifteen minutes. And that's the day I realized that there was this entire life behind things, and this incredibly benevolent force that wanted me to know that there was no reason to be afraid, ever.

Video's a poor excuse. (MORE)

VALENTINE (CONT'D) But it helps me remember - I need to remember. Sometimes, there's so much beauty in the world - I feel like I can't take it, like my heart is just going to cave in.

VALENTINE begins a slow, ritualistic dance with his camera. The world around him is still.

BLOCK 1, SCENE B- ENGLISH CLASS

MRS. FESTE (reading in a thick, Southern drawl) Wit, an't be thy will, put me into good fooling! Those wits, that think they have thee, do very oft prove fools; and I, that am sure I lack thee, may pass for a wise man: for what says Quinapalus? 'Better a witty fool, than a foolish wit.'

OLIVIA enters, ORSINO sits up and stares at her.

MRS. FESTE (CONT'D) God bless thee, lady!

OLIVIA Take the fool away!

MRS. FESTE Do you not hear, class? Take away the lady. Ok, Olivia, take your seat. Now. That was a passage from one of William Shakespeare's great works, Twelfth Night. We'll be studying this story over the next few weeks. Now who besides Olivia did the reading last night and can tell me who was just speaking?

Silence.

MRS. FESTE (CONT'D) What a surprise.

VIOLA and ORSINO scoot out of the mass of students. ORSINO becomes SEBASTIAN. We are in VIOLA's daydream.

SEBASTIAN You can't drive for shit you know that, you Al-co-hol-ic??? He takes a swig of a bottle in the passengers seat.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D) What the hell is this crap?

VIOLA

You asshole.

# SEBASTIAN WATCH OUT!!!!!!

VIOLA What was that? Maybe it was an animal It must have been a dog or something. Jesus Christ, my fuckin' car. Dad is gonna freak on my ass. Aside Fuck! Can't you see where you're going?? (She sees Sebastian, limp on the side of the car) Oh my god. No way. Oh my god. Oh my god this isn't happening. (Viola screams in horror, Sebastian is dead. She removes his vest and dances with it as the daydream finishes)

### MRS. FESTE

Mr. Horowitz? Are you still with us? To the front, please. Now, can anyone think of anything in our lives that relates to Twelfth Night?

VIOLA Are you Olivia?

OLIVIA Speak to me, I shall answer for her. Your will?

# VIOLA

Most radiant, exquisite and unmatchable beauty,--I pray you, tell me if this be Olivia, for I never saw her: I would be loath to cast away my speech, for besides that it is excellently well penned, I have taken great pains to con it. Good beauties, let me sustain no scorn; I am very comptible, even to the least sinister usage.

### OLIVIA

Whence came you, sir?

# VIOLA

I can say little more than I have studied, and that question's out of my part. Good gentle one, give me modest assurance if you be Olivia, that I may proceed in my speech.

### OLIVIA

Are you Mitch Hedberg? Spit it out.

# VIOLA

No, my profound heart: and yet, by the very fangs of malice I swear, I am not that I play. Are you the lady of the house?

### OLIVIA

If I do not usurp myself, I am.

### VIOLA

Most certain, if you are she, you do usurp yourself; for what is yours to bestow is not yours to reserve. But this is from my commission: I will on with my speech in your praise, and then show you the heart of my message.

# OLIVIA (V.O.)

Would you look at that body language? Legs crossed towards each other. That is an unequivocal sex invite.

### OLIVIA

Come to what is important in't: I forgive you the praise.

VIOLA Alas, I took great pains to study it, and 'tis poetical.

# OLIVIA

It is the more like to be feigned: I pray you, keep it in. I heard you were saucy at my gates, and allowed your approach rather to wonder at you than to hear you. If you be not mad, be gone; if you have reason, be brief: 'tis not that time of moon with me to make one in so skipping a dialogue.

MRS. FESTE Ms. Davenport! Now I know you know better. (Choosing an audience member) Now, would you go right ahead and read this passage for me? (She hands an audience member a copy of Twelfth Night)

# AUDIENCE MEMBER

This is the air; that is the glorious sun; This pearl she gave me, I do feel't and see't; And though 'tis wonder that enwraps me thus, Yet 'tis not madness. Where's Antonio, then? I could not find him at the Elephant: Yet there he was; and there I found this credit, That he did range the town to seek me out. His counsel now might do me golden service; (MORE)

AUDIENCE MEMBER (CONT'D) For though my soul disputes well with my sense, That this may be some error, but no madness, Yet doth this accident and flood of fortune So far exceed all instance, all discourse, That I am ready to distrust mine eyes And wrangle with my reason that persuades me To any other trust but that I am mad Or else the lady's mad; yet, if 'twere so, She could not sway her house, command her followers, Take and give back affairs and their dispatch With such a smooth, discreet and stable bearing As I perceive she does: there's something in't That is deceivable. But here the lady comes.

MRS. FESTE

(only letting aud. member get sooo far) Stop. STOP! It's just not very good. I could lie to you, but I would do you a disservice, because it's-it's just bad. Ok. Now, lets continue...

VIOLA

Some mollification for your giant, sweet lady. Tell me your mind: I am a messenger.

### OLIVIA

Sure, you have some hideous matter to deliver, when the courtesy of it is so fearful. Speak your office.

### VIOLA

It alone concerns your ear. I bring no overture of war, no taxation of homage: I hold the olive in my hand; my words are as fun of peace as matter OLIVIA

Yet you began rudely. What are you? what would you?

VIOLA The rudeness that hath appeared in me have I learned from my entertainment. What I am, and what I would, are as secret as maidenhead; to your ears, divinity, to any other's, profanation.

# OLIVIA

Mrs. Feste, I think this portion of class would be best if we worked in groups.

MRS. FESTE Well, Olivia, I had planned to...

OLIVIA Of two. I pick Sebastian!

MRS. FESTE Well, alright! Let's try it.

# OLIVIA Give us this place alone: we will hear this divinity. Now, sir, what is your text?

VIOLA Most sweet lady,--

OLIVIA A comfortable doctrine, and much may be said of it. Where lies your text?

### VIOLA

In Orsino's bosom.

### OLIVIA

In his bosom! In what chapter of his bosom?

VIOLA To answer by the method, in the first of his heart.

OLIVIA O, I have read it: it is heresy. Have you no more to say?

### VIOLA

I see you what you are, you are too proud; But, if you were the devil, you are fair. My lord and master loves you: O, such love Could be but recompensed, though you were crown'd The nonpareil of beauty!

### OLIVIA

How does he love me?

# VIOLA

With adorations, fertile tears, With groans that thunder love, with sighs of fire.

# OLIVIA

Your lord does know my mind; I cannot love him: Yet I suppose him virtuous, know him noble, Of great estate, of fresh and stainless youth; In voices well divulged, free, learn'd and valiant; And in dimension and the shape of nature A gracious person: but yet I cannot love him; He might have took his answer long ago.

# VIOLA

If I did love you in Orsino's
flame,
With such a suffering, such a
deadly life,
In your denial I would find no
sense;
I would not understand it.

# OLIVIA

Why, what would you?

# VIOLA

Make me a willow cabin at your gate, And call upon my soul within the house; Write loyal cantons of contemned love And sing them loud even in the dead of night; (MORE) VIOLA (CONT'D) Halloo your name to the reverberate hills And make the babbling gossip of the air Cry out 'Olivia!' O, You should not rest Between the elements of air and earth, But you should pity me!

OLIVIA

You might do much. What is your parentage?

VIOLA Above my fortunes, yet my state is well: I am a gentleman.

OLIVIA Get you to your friend; I cannot love him: let him send no more; Unless, perchance, you come to me again, To tell me how he takes it. Fare you well: I thank you for your pains.

VIOLA Love make his heart of flint that you shall love; And let your fervor, like my master's, be Placed in contempt! Farewell, fair cruelty.

OLIVIA (V.O.) 'What is your parentage?' 'Above my fortunes, yet my state is well: I am a gentleman.' I'll be sworn thou art; Thy tongue, thy face, thy limbs, actions and spirit, Do give thee five-fold blazon: not too fast: soft, soft! Unless the master were the man. How now! Even so quickly may one catch the plague? (MORE)

OLIVIA (V.O.) (CONT'D) Methinks I feel this youth's perfections With an invisible and subtle stealth To creep in at mine eyes. Well, let it be. Mallory shall run after that same peevish messenger, He left this ring behind him.

Olivia begins a beauty routine. She begins with cardio, tosses her hair, applies lip gloss, smiles, and files her nails. Each time she becomes a little more frantic and desperate.

# OLIVIA (V.O.)

I do I know not what, and fear to find Mine eye too great a flatterer for my mind. Fate, show thy force: ourselves we do not owe; /What is decreed must be, and be this so./

BLOCK 1, SCENE C- CUTTING CLASS

TOBY Approach, Sir Andrew: not to be abed after midnight is to be up betimes; and 'diluculo

surgere,' thou know'st,--

ANDY Nay, my troth, I know not: but I know, to be up late is to be up late.

TOBY A false conclusion: I hate it as an unfilled can. To be up after midnight and to go to bed then, is early: so that to go to bed after midnight is to go to bed betimes. Does not our life consist of the four elements?

ANDY Faith, so they say; but I think it rather consists of eating and drinking. TOBY Thou'rt a scholar; let us therefore eat and drink. Maria, I say! a cigarette!

# MARIA

What a caterwauling do you keep here! If my teacher had not called up her student Mallory and bid her turn you out of doors, never trust me.

# TOBY

My teacher's a klepto, we are politicians, Mallory's A creepy loser, and 'Three merry dudes be we.' Am not I consanguineous? am I not of her blood? Tillyvally. Lady! (They rock out to some 90s tunes)

TOBY (CONT'D) Out o' tune, sir: ye lie. Art any more than a steward? Dost thou think, because thou art virtuous, there shall be no more cakes and ale? Go, sir, rub your chain with crumbs. Some booze, Maria!

### MARIA

Go shake your ears.

### ANDY

'Twere as good a deed as to drink when a man's a-hungry, to challenge him the field, and then to break promise with him and make a fool of him.

# TOBY

Do't, knight: I'll write thee a challenge: or I'll deliver thy indignation to him by word of mouth.

# MARIA

Sweet Sir Toby, be patient for tonight: since the youth of the dude's was today with thy lady, she is much out of quiet. (MORE)

# MARIA (CONT'D)

For Mal- let me alone with her: if I do not gull her into a nayword, and make him a common recreation, do not think I have wit enough to lie straight in my bed: I know I can do it.

TOBY

Possess us, possess us; tell us something of her.

### MARIA

The devil a puritan that she is, or any thing constantly, but a timepleaser; an affectioned ass, that cons state without book and utters it by great swarths: the best persuaded of herself, so crammed, as she thinks, with excellencies, that it is her grounds of faith that she is an excellent hall monitor, and that your cousin looks on her lovingly, and on that vice in her will my revenge find notable cause to work.

### TOBY

What wilt thou do?

### MARIA

I will drop in her way some obscure epistles of love; wherein, the shape of her leg, the manner of her gait, the expressure of her eye, forehead, and complexion, he shall find himself most feelingly personated. I can write very like Olivia, your cousin: on a forgotten matter we can hardly make distinction of our hands.

TOBY

Excellent! I smell a device.

### ANDY

I have't in my nose too.

### TOBY

She shall think, by the letters that thou wilt drop, that they come from Olivia, and that she's in love with her. MARIA My purpose is, indeed, a horse of that colour. ANDY And your horse now would make her an ass. MARIA Ass, I doubt not.

ANDY O, 'twill be admirable!

# MARIA Sport royal, I warrant you: I know my physic will work with her.

ANDY Before me, Maria's a good wench.

TOBY She's a beagle, true-bred, and one that adores me: what o' that?

ANDY I was adored once too.

TOBY For this device, I could take this wench to prom.

ANDY So could I too.

TOBY And ask no other dowry with her but such another jest.

ANDY Nor I neither.

TOBY Wilt thou set thy foot o' my neck?

ANDY Or o' mine either?

TOBY Shall I play my freedom at traytrip, and become thy bond-slave?

# ANDY

I' faith, or I either?

### TOBY

Why, thou hast put him in such a dream, that when the image of it leaves him he must run mad.

### MARIA

Nay, but say true; does it work upon him?

TOBY Like vodka and moscato with the ladies.

### MARIA

If you will then see the fruits of the sport, mark Mal's first approach before my lady: she will come to her in yellow stockings, and 'tis a colour she abhors, and cross-gartered, a fashion she detests; and she will smile upon her, which will now be so unsuitable to her disposition, being addicted to a melancholy as she is, that it cannot but turn Mal into a notable contempt. If you will see it, follow me.

### TOBY

To the gates of Tartar, thou most excellent devil of wit!

MARIA I'll make one too.

FIRST BLOCK PASSING:

# MAL (V.O.)

Were not you even now with the Countess Olivia?

VIOLA (V.O.) Even now, sir; on a moderate pace I have since arrived but hither.

### MAL

She returns this ring to you, sir: you might have saved me my pains, to have taken it away yourself. She adds, moreover, that you should put your lord into a desperate assurance she will none of him: and one thing more, that you be never so hardy to come again in his affairs, unless it be to report your lord's taking of this. Receive it so.

### VIOLA (V.O.)

She took the ring of me: I'll none of it.

MAL (V.O.)

Come, sir, you peevishly threw it to her; and her will is, it should be so returned: if it be worth stooping for, there it lies in your eye; if not, be it his that finds it.

VIOLA meets the audience at the bottom of the elevator and walks them into Sex Ed

### VIOLA

I left no ring with her: what means this lady? Fortune forbid my outside have not charm'd her! She made good view of me; indeed, so much, That sure methought her eyes had lost her tongue, For she did speak in starts distractedly. She loves me, sure; the cunning of her passion Invites me in this churlish messenger. None of my lord's ring! why, he sent her none. (MORE)

# VIOLA (CONT'D)

I am the man: if it be so, as 'tis, Poor lady, she were better love a dream. Disguise, I see, thou art a wickedness, Wherein the pregnant enemy does much. How easy is it for the proper-false In women's waxen hearts to set their forms! Alas, our frailty is the cause, not we! For such as we are made of, such we be. How will this fadge? my master loves her dearly; And I, poor monster, fond as much on him; And she, mistaken, seems to dote on me. What will become of this? As I am man, My state is desperate for my master's love; As I am woman, -- now alas the day! --What thriftless sighs shall poor Olivia breathe! O time! thou must untangle this, not I; It is too hard a knot for me to untie!

SECOND ASSEMBLY-SEX ED

VIOLA

My duty, madam, and most humble service.

OLIVIA

What is your name?

### VIOLA

Sebastian is your servant's name, fair princess.

### OLIVIA

My servant, sir! 'Twas never merry world since lowly feigning was call'd compliment: You're servant to the Dude Orsino, youth.

### VIOLA

And he is yours, and his must needs be yours: Your servant's servant is your servant, madam.

# OLIVIA

For him, I think not on him: for his thoughts, Would they were blanks, rather than fill'd with me! VIOLA

Madam, I come to whet your gentle thoughts On his behalf.

# OLIVIA

O, by your leave, I pray you, I bade you never speak again of him: But, would you undertake another suit, I had rather hear you to solicit that than music from the spheres.

# VIOLA

Dear lady,--

### OLIVIA

Give me leave, beseech you. I did send, After the last enchantment you did here, A ring in chase of you: so did I abuse Myself, my bestie and, I fear me, you: Under your hard construction must I sit, To force that on you, in a shameful cunning, Which you knew none of yours: what might you think? Have you not set mine honour at the stake And baited it with all the unmuzzled thoughts That tyrannous heart can think? To one of your receiving Enough is shown: a cypress, not a bosom, Hideth my heart. So, let me hear you speak.

# VIOLA

I pity you.

OLIVIA That's a degree to love.

### VIOLA

No, not a grize; for 'tis a vulgar proof, That very oft we pity enemies.

# OLIVIA

Why, then, methinks 'tis time to smile again. O, world, how apt the poor are to be proud! If one should be a prey, how much the better To fall before the lion than the wolf! (Bell rings) The clock upbraids me with the waste of time. (MORE)

# OLIVIA (CONT'D)

Be not afraid, good youth, I will not have you: And yet, when wit and youth is come to harvest, Your were is alike to reap a proper man

# VIOLA

Grace and good disposition Attend your ladyship! You'll nothing, madam, to my lord by me?

### OLIVIA

Stay: I prithee, tell me what thou thinkest of me.

VIOLA

That you do think you are not what you are.

### OLIVIA

If I think so, I think the same of you.

VIOLA

Then think you right: I am not what I am.

OLIVIA

I would you were as I would have you be!

### VIOLA

Would it be better, madam, than I am? I wish it might, for now I am your fool.

### OLIVIA

O, what a deal of scorn looks beautiful In the contempt and anger of his lip! A murderous guilt shows not itself more soon Than love that would seem hid: love's night is noon. Sebastian, by the roses of the spring, By maidhood, honour, truth and every thing, I love thee so, that, maugre all thy pride, Nor wit nor reason can my passion hide. Do not extort thy reasons from this clause, For that I woo, thou therefore hast no cause, But rather reason thus with reason fetter, Love sought is good, but given unsought better.

### VIOLA

By innocence I swear, and by my youth I have one heart, one bosom and one truth, And that no woman has; nor never none Shall mistress be of it, save I alone. And so adieu, good madam: never more Will I my master's tears to you deplore.

### OLIVIA

Yet come again; for thou perhaps mayst move That heart, which now abhors, to like his love.

They head to their seats

# COACH FESTE

Hi. Okay. Sex. Yes, well, sex. What's to say really, y'know? You like a someone, you do it. Sometimes they call. Sometimes they don't.

Don't have sex. Because you will get pregnant and die. Don't have sex in the missionary position, don't have sex standing up. Just don't do it, promise?

When you ineveitably don't listen
to me and do it anyway, these are
condoms. LADIES.
 (Stuffing a bust of
 Shakespeare into a
 condom)
If this guy can fit in here, so can

your guy. Don't let him tell you otherwise.

Now, lets get to this question box... (Answers a few questions

from the question box.)

### ANDY

Marry, I saw your niece do more favours to the count's serving-man than ever she bestowed upon me; I saw't i' the orchard. TOBY Did she see thee the while, old boy? tell me that.

ANDY As plain as I see you now. 'Slight, will you make an ass o' me?

TOBY

Why, then, build me thy fortunes upon the basis of valour. Challenge me the count's youth to fight with him; hurt him in eleven places: my niece shall take note of it; and assure thyself, there is no lovebroker in the world can more prevail in man's commendation with woman than report of valour.

ANDY

Will either of you bear me a challenge to him?

TOBY Next period. Gym class.. I hear there's gonna be...

TOBY (CONT'D)

Dodgeball.

# MARIA

If you desire the spleen, and will laugh yourself into stitches, follow me. Yond gull Malvolio is turned heathen, a very renegado; majorly bogus- She's in yellow stockings.

TOBY

And cross-gartered?

### MARIA

Most villanously; like a pedant that keeps a school i' the church. I have dogged her, like her murderer. She does obey every point of the letter that I dropped to betray her: she does smile her face into more lines than outside the Backstreet Boys concert: you have not seen such a thing as 'tis. I can hardly forbear hurling things at him. MARIA (CONT'D) I know Olivia will strike Mal: if she do, she'll smile and take't for a great favour.

MARIA quickly rushes over to OLIVIA

### MARIA (CONT'D)

I just wanted to tell you this before you heard it from someone else. Mal's coming; but in very strange manner. She is, sure, possessed.

OLIVIA Why, what's the matter? does she rave?

#### MARIA

No, she does nothing but smile: you'd best be on guard, if she come; for, sure, the woman is tainted in'r wits.

OLIVIA

I am as mad as she, If sad and merry madness equal be.

Enter MAL

OLIVIA (CONT'D) How now, Mal!

MAL Sweet lady, ho, ho.

OLIVIA Smilest thou? I told you of my sad occasion.

### MAL

Sad, lady! I could be sad: this does make some obstruction in the blood, this cross-gartering; but what of that? if it please the eye of one, it is with me as the very true sonnet is, 'Please one, and please all.'

MAL's DAYDREAM begins.

COACH FESTE Haha! Well now, we call this the act of mating. (MORE) COACH FESTE (CONT'D) But there are several differences between humans and animals that you should know about.

BUTTERFLY by Crazy Town begins. A bizzare mating dance.

At the conclusion of the dance, MAL takes OLIVIA's hand and leads her to a park in the front of the room. *Sixpence Nonethericher's "Kiss Me* plays in the background. Coach Feste begins drawing hearts around the couple on the overhead projector. MAL and OLIVIA do a slow courtship dance, and lean in to kiss during t

MAL

When I finally get kissed, I'll know. I've kissed guys. I've just never felt that thing--That thing. That moment. You kiss someone and it's like the world around you gets all hazy and the only thing in focus is you and this other person and you know that one person is the person you're meant to be kissing for the rest of your life. And for that one moment you've been given this amazing gift and you want to laugh and cry at the same time because you're so lucky you found it, and--

The song fades, the lights return to normal.

MAL (V.O.) So scared that it will all go away.

OLIVIA Why, how dost thou, Mal? what is the matter with thee?

#### MAL

Not black in my mind, though yellow in my legs. It did come to his hands, and commands shall be executed: I think we do know the sweet Roman hand.

OLIVIA Wilt thou go to the nurse, Malvolio? To bed?

MAL To bed! ay, sweet-heart, and I'll come to thee. OLIVIA God comfort thee! Why dost thou smile so and kiss thy hand so oft?

MARIA How do you, Malvolio?

MAL At your request! yes; nightingales answer daws.

MARIA Why appear you with this ridiculous boldness before my lady?

MAL 'Be not afraid of greatness:' 'twas well writ.

OLIVIA What meanest thou by that, Malvolio?

MAL 'Some are born great,'--

OLIVIA

Ha!

MAL 'Some achieve greatness,'--

OLIVIA What sayest thou?

MAL 'And some have greatness thrust upon them.'

OLIVIA Heaven restore thee!

MAL 'Remember who commended thy yellow stocking s,'--

OLIVIA Thy yellow stockings!

MAL 'And wished to see thee crossgartered.' MAL

'If not, let me see thee a servant still.'

OLIVIA Why, this is very midsummer madness.

MAL

(Slowly realizing the reality of what she's done)

For she incites me to that in the letter. 'Cast thy humble slough,' says she; 'be opposite with a classmate, put thyself into the trick of singularity;' and consequently sets down the manner how; as, a sad face, a reverend carriage, a slow tongue, in the habit of some sir of note, and so forth. I have limed her; but it is Jove's doing, and Jove make me thankful!

#### COACH FESTE

Uh. Walk it off. You'll be..... Alright.

#### TOBY

Go, Andrew: scout me for him in the gym like a bum-baily: so soon as ever thou seest him, wreck him; and, as thou grab a ball, swear horrible; for it comes to pass oft that a terrible oath, with a swaggering accent sharply twanged off, gives manhood more approbation than ever proof itself would have earned him. Away!

#### ANDY

Nay, let me alone for swearing.

#### TOBY

Now will not I deliver his letter: for the behavior of the young gentleman gives him out to be of good capacity and breeding; (MORE)

### TOBY (CONT'D)

his employment between Dude and my cousin confirms no less: therefore this letter, being so excellently ignorant, will breed no terror in the youth: he will find it comes from a clodpole. But, sir, I will deliver his challenge by word of mouth; set upon Aguecheek a notable report of valour; and drive the gentleman, as I know his youth will aptly receive it, into a most hideous opinion of his rage, skill, fury and impetuosity. This will so fright them both that they will kill one another by the look, like cockatrices.I will meditate the while upon some horrid message for a challenge. Exeunt SIR TOBY BELCH and MARIA OLIVIA I have said too much unto a heart of stone And laid mine honour too unchary out: There's something in me that reproves my fault; But such a headstrong potent fault it is, That it but mocks reproof.

BLOCK 2 SCENE A- MAL IN DARK ROOM Mal stands at a sink, makeup running. She stares at herself in the mirror for a moment, then bends down to wash her face.

> DR. TOPAS (V.O) Dr.Sara Topas, patient Mallory O.sixth session. Now Mallory, you said at our last session that you felt like you were "in the dark". Do you want to talk more about that?

TOBY (V.O.) Well, hello there, Sir Andy

ANDY (V.O.) Bweenos De-ass, Sir Toby.

MAL Who's there?

TOBY (V.O.) Hear that, Andy? Sounds like the loony lesbo! (MORE) TOBY (V.O.) (CONT'D) If all the devils of hell be drawn in little, and Legion himself possessed her, yet I'll speak to her.

Mal quickly rushes to the door and finds it locked. She yanks on it, in more and more of a panic

#### MAL

FUCK YOU! Unlock this door or I'llor I'll... I... Olivia? Olivia are you out there? Go off; I discard you: let me enjoy my private: go off.

MARIA (V.O.) Can't you talk about anything but girls, you rug muncher?

> TOBY (V.O.) (Laughs)Well said, babe

MAL Let me out! I swear, I'll get Principal Feste to-

MARIA (V.O.) Door's unlocked, numnuts.

MAL

Never was I so wronged: I'm not crazy,: they have laid me here in hideous darkness.

DR. TOPAS (V.O.) Tell me, Mallory. Do you feel unsafe at school?

MAL Let me out!!

DR. TOPAS (V.O.) Be honest with me. I can't help you if you aren't honest. You have to be transparent.

MAL I am not mad. I say to you this house is dark.

DR. TOPAS (V.O.) There is no darkness but ignorance. MAL I am not mad, this house is dark. I am not mad, this house is dark. I am not mad this--

DR. TOPAS (V.O.) Mallory, do you ever worry about hurting yourself, or others?

MAL I am not mad, this house is dark There was never man thus abused. I am no more mad than you

MARIA (V.O.) God, you are pathetic! Talking to yourself in there. Honey, look around you. To everyone here who matters, you're vapor. You're spam, a waste of perfectly good yearbook space, and nothing's ever gonna change that.

MAL I am not mad, this house is dark.

MARIA Oh, you're not gonna cry, are you?

MAL I am not mad...this house is dark

MARIA (V.O.) (a whisper) If I was as pathetic as you, I would have killed myself ages ago.

MAL

I am not--I am--I am not mad--

DR. TOPAS (V.O.) Mallory? Can you answer my question? Do you ever worry about hurting yourself or others?

MAL Fool, there was never a man so notoriously abused: I am as well in my wits, as thou art.

BLOCK 2 SCENE B- VIOLA/ANDREW DUEL

# COACH FESTE

Alright, it's raining, all regular gym classes have been postponed, so you know what that means: dodgeball!

#### MARIA

Coach Feste? My plastic surgeon doesn't want me doing any activites where balls fly at my nose.

COACH FESTE (Under her breath) There goes your social life.

# MARIA

What was that?

COACH FESTE That's the third time this week. You've got to play.

# MARIA

UGH! Fine.

TOBY Gentleman, God save thee.

VIOLA And you, sir.

#### TOBY

That defence thou hast, betake thee to't: of what nature the wrongs are thou hast done him, I know not; but thy intercepter, full of despite, bloody as the hunter, attends thee be wary in thy preparation, for thy assailant is quick, skilful and deadly.

### VIOLA

You mistake, sir; I am sure no man hath any quarrel to me: my remembrance is very free and clear from any image of offence done to any man.

TOBY

You'll find it otherwise, I assure you: therefore, if you hold your life at any price, betake you to your guard;

(MORE)

TOBY (CONT'D) for your opposite hath in him what youth, strength, skill and wrath can furnish man withal.

VIOLA I pray you, sir, what is he?

#### TOBY

He is knight, true; but he is a devil in private brawl: souls and bodies hath he divorced three; and his incensement at this moment is so implacable, that satisfaction can be none but by pangs of death and sepulchre. Hob, nob, is his word; give't or take't.

### VIOLA

I am no fighter. I have heard of some kind of men that put quarrels purposely on others, to taste their valour: belike this is a man of that quirk.

### TOBY

Sir, no; his indignation derives itself out of a very competent injury: therefore, get you on and give him his desire.

#### VIOLA

Beseech you, do me this courteous office, as to know of the knight what my offence to him is: it is something of my negligence, nothing of my purpose.

Toby heads to the back of the line

#### TOBY

Man, he's a very devil; I have not seen such a Bravehart.

### ANDY

Pox on't, I'll not meddle with him.

TOBY Ay, but he will not now be pacified: Plague on't, an I thought he had been valiant and so cunning in dodge ball, I'ld have seen him damned ere I'ld have challenged him. Let him let the matter slip, and I'll give him my car! It's a Mustang!

TOBY

I'll make the motion: stand here, make a good show on't: this shall end without the perdition of souls.

Joining his teammates

# TOBY (CONT'D)

(to Viola)
There's no remedy, sir; he will
fight with you for's oath sake:
marry, he hath better
bethought him of his quarrel, and
he finds that now scarce to be
worth talking of: therefore draw,
for the supportance of his vow; he
protests he will not hurt you.

VIOLA

[Aside] Pray God defend me! A little thing would make me tell them how much I lack of a man. (To Toby) Uh... ok, I guess?

TOBY

Come Andrew, there's no remedy; the gentleman will, for his honour's sake, have one bout with you; he cannot by the duello avoid it: but he has promised me, as he is a gentleman and a soldier, he will not hurt you. Come on; to't.

ANDY

Pray God, he keep his oath!

VIOLA I do assure you, tis against my will. COACH FESTE Now, for those of you that may have forgotten, the rules are as follows: you dodge.

COACH FESTE blows a whistle. They begin the game. MARIA is hit quickly and falls to the ground. Her DAYDREAM begins. "Baby, One More Time" by Britney Spears begins playing as the dodgeball game continues in slo-mo. MARIA only has eyes for the audience as she recreates the choreography.

Play resumes as she's done and ANDY is knocked out.

HIS DAYDREAM begins. Paula Cole's "I Don't Wanna Wait" plays softly in the background. JAMES VAN DER BEEK appears, hair waving in the wind. They circle each other, and close the distance before:

> ANDY Did you mean it, Dawson?

JAMES VAN DER BEEK Every word. Which is why you should turn around and go to Olivia.

ANDY

of me, you didn't.

What?

JAMES VAN DER BEEK Last year, you had the opportunity to go to football camp, and because

ANDY Dawson, that wasn't your fault.

JAMES VAN DER BEEK Yes, it was. I should've made you go. But I was selfish, and I didn't want you to go. I wanted you to stay here with me. And I refuse to make that mistake again.

ANDY Dawson, 1 mean, what if it's my choice? What if 1 want to stay?

JAMES VAN DER BEEK Andy, come on. Even 1 can see it. Olivia's this year's Football Camp. (MORE) JAMES VAN DER BEEK (CONT'D) And this time, you have to go. You have to see for yourself. I can tell you it's a colossal mistake and all roads lead back to me, but it won't make a difference. Words and speeches sound great, but they don't add up to anything. All that matters right now is what you want.

ANDY I don't even know what I want.

JAMES VAN DER BEEK Yes, you do. You want her. You want her like I want you. You love her like I love you. And you deserve that. And I'm not gonna be the one who stands in the way of you getting that. You're free. You can do whatever you want.

ANDY Yeah, but I want us to still be friends. I want to know that you don't hate me.

JAMES VAN DER BEEK Those are words, Andy. They're just words. Because after you're done dispensing your pleasantries here you're gonna turn around, and you're gonna walk away from me. Aren't you?

ANDY I have to. Otherwise, I'll never know.

JAMES VAN DER BEEK Just go.

ANDY Look, Dawson--

JAMES VAN DER BEEK Andy, go. I'm telling you. Before I take it all back. (MORE) JAMES VAN DER BEEK (CONT'D) Just go. Go.

ANDY runs away. JAMES slowly begins the dance-- it's too much. He can't finish. He cries the saddest cry and leaves.

ANDY returns to finish the dance-- we are back in gym.

BLOCK 2 SCENE C- MATH CLASS

The audience is instructed to take their seats in Math after the bell rings. A teacher sits at the front of the room.

MATH TEACHER (V.O) Ladies and gentlemen, today is a POP quiz on the pythagorean theorem applications in the real world. Please take out your #2 pencils- our proctor for today will be collecting your test. As always, do your best work, points will be given for attempted answers. There is NO GUM and NO TALKING. No exceptions!

A proctor passes out an exam to the class. Any talkers are shushed. The test should be impossible to complete. Perhaps the letters are mixed up, the diagrams incomplete, etc.

After about 3 minutes of silence, an announcement over the loudspeaker:

PRINCIPAL FESTE (V.O.) Students, this is your principal speaking. We will be conducting a mock intruder drill commencing now. As we discussed in the assembly, please turn off the lights and proceed to the wall nearest the door.

After a few moments in the dark, the door begins to rattle, and a pounding sound is heard.

Suddenly, a hidden projector turns on and projects scenes of news coverage of the Columbine shooting on the far wall. 911 calls (if possible) are played over the visuals- this should be unsettling and visceral.

SECOND BLOCK PASSING

\_

\_

FOURTH PASSING

PROM

FESTE sits at her desk, on a phone call.

PRINCIPAL FESTE Hello, Mr. Olio? This is Veronica Feste calling. I wanted to talk to you a bit about Mal. (A pause) No, no she's not in any trouble. (A pause) No, that won't be neccessary Mr.---Mr. Olio, I'd appreciate it if you'd lower your voice.

Suddenly we are in FESTE'S DAYDREAM. She crosses through the audience in a slow, dreamlike haze, and puts on a backpack. Soundbytes of her bullies play as she darts through the crowd.

PRINCIPAL FESTE (CONT'D) I don't care about being your stupid prom queen. I want to tell you something. You people who have been keeping the geeks down through the ages. You will spend your lives trying to figure out ways to keep others down, because it makes you feel more important. And you will miss out on so much. Why her, huh? What did she ever do to you? And to all of you-- there's a big world out there. Bigger than prom. Bigger than high school. When you get there, it won't matter if you were prom queen or the quarterback of the football team or the biggest nerd in school. Find out who you are, and try not to be afraid of it.

She returns to her desk and the call.

PRINCIPAL FESTE (CONT'D) Yes. Yes, I understand Mr. Olio. Just know that I'm worried about her.

She plugs in (lights?) and PROM begins.

VOGUE by Madonna begins- The students enter one by one.

# DUDE ORSINO

Here comes the countess: now heaven walks on earth. But for thee, fellow; fellow, thy words are madness: All school year this youth hath tended upon me; But more of that anon.

#### OLIVIA

What would my lord, but that he may not have, Wherein Olivia may seem serviceable? Sebastian, you do not keep promise with me.

VIOLA

Madam!

DUDE ORSINO Gracious Olivia,--

OLIVIA What do you say, Cesario? Good my lord,--

VIOLA My lord would speak; my duty hushes me.

### OLIVIA

If it be aught to the old tune, my lord, It is as fat and fulsome to mine ear As howling after music.

DUDE ORSINO Still so cruel?

OLIVIA Still so constant, lord.

# DUDE ORSINO

What, to perverseness? you uncivil lady, To whose ingrate and unauspicious altars My soul the faithfull'st offerings hath breathed out That e'er devotion tender'd! What shall I do?

### OLIVIA

Even what it please my lord, that shall become him.

DUDE ORSINO

Why should I not, had I the heart to do it, Like to the Egyptian thief at point of death, Kill what I love?--a savage jealousy That sometimes savours nobly. But hear me this: Since you to nonregardance cast my faith, And that I partly know the instrument That screws me from my true place in your favour, Live you the marble-breasted tyrant still; But this your minion, whom I know you love, And whom, by heaven I swear, I tender dearly, Him will I tear out of that cruel eye, Where he sits crowned in his master's spite. Come, boy, with me; my thoughts are ripe in mischief: I'll sacrifice the lamb that I do love, To spite a raven's heart within a dove.

#### VIOLA

And I, most jocund, apt and willingly, To do you rest, a thousand deaths would die.

#### DR. TOPAS (V.O)

Dr. Sara Topas. Patient, Viola Horowitz. Third Session. Viola, in our last session, you said you were having some confusing feelings at your new school. Would you mind talking some more about that?

OLIVIA Where goes Sebastian?

### VIOLA

After him I love More than I love these eyes, more than my life, More, by all mores, than e'er I shall love wife. If I do feign, you witnesses above Punish my life for tainting of my love!

OLIVIA Ay me, detested! how am I beguiled! VIOLA Who does beguile you? who does do you wrong?

OLIVIA Hast thou forgot thyself? is it so long?

DUDE ORSINO Come, away!

OLIVIA Whither, my lord? Sebastian, prom date, stay.

DUDE ORSINO

Prom date!

OLIVIA Ay, prom date: can he that deny?

DUDE ORSINO Her prom date, sirrah?

VIOLA No, my lord, not I.

# OLIVIA

Alas, it is the baseness of thy fear That makes thee strangle thy propriety: Fear not, Sebastian; take thy fortunes up; Be that thou know'st thou art, and then thou art As great as that thou fear'st.

# DUDE ORSINO

O thou dissembling cub! what wilt thou be When time hath sow'd a grizzle on thy case? Or will not else thy craft so quickly grow, That thine own trip shall be thine overthrow? Farewell, and take her; but direct thy feet Where thou and I henceforth may never meet.

## VIOLA

My lord, I do protest--

### OLIVIA

O, do not swear! Hold little faith, though thou hast too much fear.

DR. TOPAS (V.O.)

You said you felt guilty about your brother's passing. It's been a year now since his death. Are you still grieving? You've said before that you should have been driving instead of him. That it should have been you. Do you still feel that way?

VIOLA Dude, here's the truth. I love you

DUDE ORSINO Uh... I, um- I'm flattered really but--

### VIOLA

You know what, I can't do this anymore. Everybody, I have something to tell you. I'm not Sebastian. I'm Viola. Sebastian died in a car wreck last year. I never should have let him drive that night. I was a mess. The stress of a new school was too much. I've been pretending to be him to-- to live the life he couldn't.

### DUDE ORSINO

Boy, thou hast said to me a thousand times Thou never shouldst love woman like to me.

VIOLA

And all those sayings will I overswear; And those swearings keep as true in soul As doth that orbed continent the fire That severs day from night.

DUDE ORSINO Give me thy hand; And let me see thee in thy woman's weeds. VIOLA rushes to do a quick change. Suddenly- Paula Cole's "I Don't Wanna Wait" begins playing and the doors open. JAMES VAN DER BEEK emerges.

JAMES VAN DER BEEK Pardon me, sweet one, even for the vows We made each other but so late ago.

DUDE ORSINO Valentine?

JAMES VAN DER BEEK No. James Van Der Beek

DUDE ORSINO One face, one voice, one habit, and two persons, A natural perspective, that is and is not!

ANDY How have the hours rack'd and tortured me, Since I have lost thee!

JAMES VAN DER BEEK I--I just drove a really long way to tell you, um... More sort of to try and explain, really. No, I--I don't mean that. Uh... I wanna show you... Yeah, I wanna show you that I can and that I'm not afraid to... Oh, hell. I know there's people around, but who cares, right? I mean, that's the whole point. I finally have the courage to do this.

### OLIVIA

(Dryly) Most wonderful!

### DUDE ORSINO

Meantime, sweet sister, We will not part from hence. Sebastian, come; For so you shall be, while you are a man; But when in other habits you are seen, Orsino's mistress and his fancy's queen.

THE COUPLES DANCE. PRINCIPAL FESTE SINGS

# PRINCIPAL FESTE

When you were here before, Couldn't look you in the eye, You're just like an angel, Your skin makes me cry, You float like a feather, In a beautiful world, I wish I was special, You're so fucking special.

#### MAL (V.O.)

I had always heard your entire life flashes in front of your eyes the second before you die. First of all, that one second isn't a second at all, it stretches on forever, like an ocean of time... For me, it was lying on my back at Girl Scout camp, watching falling stars... And yellow leaves, from the maple trees, that lined our street... Or my grandmother's hands, and the way her skin seemed like paper...

#### PRINCIPAL FESTE

But I'm a creep, I'm a weirdo, What the hell am I doing here? I don't belong here.

I don't care if it hurts, I want to have control, I want a perfect body,

I want a perfect soul, I want you to notice, When I'm not around, You're so fucking special, I wish I was special.

#### MAL

And the first time I saw my cousin Tony's brand new Firebird... And Olivia... I guess I could be pretty pissed off about what happened to me... but it's hard to stay mad, when there's so much beauty in the world. Sometimes I feel like I'm seeing it all at once, and it's too much, my heart fills up like a balloon that's about to burst...

PRINCIPAL FESTE But I'm a creep, I'm a weirdo, What the hell am I doing here? (MORE) Oh, oh

She's running out again,

MAL is illuminated, standing on the edge of the roof. She climbs over the railing As FESTE hits the high note, the light blacks out. We are back at the prom.

#### MAL (V.O.)

And then I remember to relax, and stop trying to hold on to it, and then it flows through me like rain and I can't feel anything but gratitude for every single moment of my stupid little life...

> PRINCIPAL FESTE She's running out... She run run run run... Run...

MAL (V.O.) You have no idea what I'm talking about, I'm sure. But don't worry... you will someday.

The roof is illuminated again. MAL is gone.

WE TRANSITION TO AN ASSEMBLY. Corsages are removed, colored elements from costumes are taken off Lights come on, everyone is stone faced and stricken.

# PRINCIPAL FESTE

I wish you would step back From that ledge my friend You could cut ties with all the lies That you've been living in And if you do not want to see me again I would understand, I would understand The angry boy a bit too insane Icing over a secret pain You know you don't belong You're the first to fight You're way too loud You're the flash of light --on the burial shroud

She trails off, lost in grief. She places Mal's backpack and sash on the floor at the front of the stage. COLORBLIND by Counting Crows fades up as students line up in a funeral processional. One by one, they slowly drop a flower on Mal's grave. Maria approaches the dais.

#### MARIA

However dark the cloud, there's always a silver lining. It might be hard to see, but what we should learn from this is to be true to ourselves and to resist the temptations of peer pressure. As student body vice president, I've tried to set an example in myself. Unfortunately, the one person 1 could not reach out to in time was my dear friend, Mal.I know she's looking down on us today and--

During Maria's speech, Andrew pulls out a stack of copied pages and begins handing them out. Mal's suicide note. A murmur among the gathered students as Olivia claps her hand to her mouth as she scans the page.

> MARIA (CONT'D) I know she's looking down on us today and-she'd want me to say--She'd want me to say, ''Ma--'' She'd want me to say,Maria, l'm sorry.'' What is going on? Don't you people have any respect?

Olivia gets up on stage and begins reading.

OLIVIA Madam, you have done me wrong, Notorious wrong., and the world shall know it: though you have put me into darkness and given your drunken cousin rule over me, yet have I the benefit of my senses as well as your ladyship. I have your own letter that induced me to the semblance I put on; with the which I doubt not but to do myself much right, or you much shame. Think of me as you please. I leave my duty a little unthought of and speak out of my injury. Have I, Mallory? to Maria no. (MORE)

Reading You must not now deny it is your hand: Write from it, if you can, in hand or phrase; Or say 'tis not your seal, nor your invention: You can say none of this: And tell me, in the modesty of honour, Why you have given me such clear lights of favour, Bade me come smiling and crossgarter'd to you, To put on yellow stockings and to frown Upon Sir Toby and the lighter people; And, acting this in an obedient hope, Why have you suffer'd me to be imprison'd, Kept in the dark tell me why. I'll be revenged on the whole pack of you. --THE MADLY-USED MAL.' Alas, Mal, this is not my writing, Though, I confess, much like the character But out of question 'tis Maria's hand. And now I do bethink me, it was she First told me thou wast mad; then camest in smiling, And in such forms which here were presupposed Upon thee in the letter. To heaven Prithee, be content: This practise hath most shrewdly pass'd upon thee; But when we know the grounds and authors of it,

Thou shalt be both the plaintiff and the judge Of thine own cause. ANDY Good madam, hear me speak, Most freely I confess, myself and Toby Set this device against Mal, Upon some stubborn and uncourteous parts We had conceived against her: How with a sportful malice it was follow'd, May rather pluck on laughter than revenge; If that the injuries be justly weigh'd That have on both sides pass'd.

### OLIVIA

Alas, poor fool, how have they baffled thee! She hath been most notoriously abused.