

CAST OF CHARACTERS

MIKE: Young teenage student. 17.

DAVE: The manifestation of MIKE's emotions personified by his dead brother. Age 21.

JANE: Young teenage girl who was friends with MIKE. 17.

PRINCESS: MIKE's first girlfriend. 16.

CHORUS: KNIGHTS, CLOWNS, PEOPLE, MONSTERS: figments of MIKE's imagination and fantasy. Any age.

MOM and DAD: recorded voices acted out by actors on stage in memory scene.

SETTING

Place: High School.

Time: Present or future. Close to the end of the school year.

SPECIAL NOTES

Audience votes during the play. Audience vote effects outcome of the play. Three alternate endings.

SHOOT HER

Act 1 Sc.1 School

Black. SFX off stage, bell ringing, voices chatting, footsteps and a dripping fountain. Bag being unzipped and a gun being put together and loaded.

Door open and the sound of a gun being fired. People screaming. Gun continues to fire. An alarm sounds and the sounds of screaming get louder as well as the sound of gunshots. Several people run across the edge of the stage as the gunfire gets close enough that the lights flash on and off in imitation of gun fire. One girl from the group, JANE, falls as the others rush off stage. She struggles to get up but MIKE comes in with a gun in his hand.

JANE

Mike stop!

MIKE

I have to do this.

JANE Why?

MIKE

Because of the way you look at me.

JANE

I care about you.

MIKE Why? What

do you know about me?

JANE

I know enough to know that you wouldn't do this. I won't let you hurt anyone, even yourself.

DAVE

(Offstage. Inhuman) Shoot her.

MIKE raises the gun and puts it against Jane's forehead.
She is crying.

Look at her. She thinks you're pathetic. Kill her. Shoot her!

There is a sound of breaking strings and the stage goes dark. Lights come up on the whole stage. The stage is a school hallway filled with door all different colors. There are FOUR doors which are the biggest. One is many colored and has an assortment of junk around it, Imagination. One is white and plain, bad memories. One is black with the door open and destroyed, next to it is DAVE dressed in a simple t-shirt and cargo pants but wears ballet shoes. The last door is black as well but covered in chains and locks. JANE is frozen in time MIKE pauses and looks around in confusion.

DAVE

(To audience, calmer, cooler voice) Well that was unexpected.

MIKE

Dave? What are you doing here?

DAVE

What? A big brother can't come to see his little brother? But I'm sorry I'll let you finish what you were doing.

MIKE

I was just... I...

DAVE

Don't let me stop you go on.

MIKE

But... how did you get here?

DAVE

I've always been here.

MIKE

Still doing ballet?

DAVE

You tell me, I didn't put them on because they're comfortable.

DAVE begins stretching.

MIKE

What am I doing? This isn't right.

DAVE

I don't know. Why don't we ask them?
(Points to audience)

MIKE

No they shouldn't be here. You shouldn't be here. This has to be a bad dream.

DAVE

(Points to gun) That looks
pretty real to me.

Pause

MIKE

No. I really fucked up didn't I? I have to fix this.

DAVE

Why? People suck. They're mean liars who only care about themselves. I mean I would have shot people if I could have gotten away with it. And I would have actually hit them. You're a pretty lousy shot.

MIKE

Jane! What do I do? What can I say to her now?

DAVE

Well why don't we ask them what they think of you right now. Maybe they can give us some ideas.

(Gestures towards audience)

MIKE

I'm asking *you* for help not them, I don't care what they think?

DAVE

Then why are they here?

Pause. DAVE dances through the next scene very soft and elegant like. Dialogue affects his movement.

Well now that that's settled let's ask them. We'll make it democratic. And instead of the annoying elections where there are only two options we'll throw in a third to be extra special. And remember folks you can only vote once so choose wisely. Now anyone who thinks Mike here is a good guy raise your hands! (Audience vote and tally up)

All who think he's a bad guy raise your hand!

(Audience vote and tally up) All who thinks he's bat shit insane raise your hand! (Vote tally read verdict, doesn't have to be exact go with popular vote)

Interesting don't you think?

MIKE

I don't need this bull shit! I need you to help me figure out how to fix this mess I'm in.

DAVE

Uh I hate to break this to you bro but I doubt the school or Jane will easily forgive this little stunt and pat you on the back on your way out. The only thing left to do is pull the trigger. A least you'll be remembered for doing something big.

MIKE

No. You're my older brother, tell me how to make it *right*.

DAVE

I don't know why you care so much. You already made up your mind when you went into the bathroom and pulled out your gun.

MIKE

But I didn't hurt anyone, which has to count for something.

DAVE

I taught you to fight back when you were little didn't I? So fight back.

MIKE

What is it with you and shooting people?

DAVE

What is it with you and not shooting people?! Have you forgotten what it's like to be in the dark alone with no one else? That's where I found you and pulled you out. I put the gun in your hand and gave you a purpose, gave you a goal. Now pull the fucking trigger!

MIKE

I'm not crazy. I'm fine. My life is good, I just... fucked up.

DAVE

That's a pretty big fuck up. It's not like tripping the bitch as she walks down the hall.

MIKE

Don't talk about Jane like that, she cares about me. Or at least she used to.

DAVE

Bullshit she didn't know anything about you. You said so yourself.

DAVE's dancing becomes more jagged and scary, more animalistic.

I saw the way she really looked at you. Her eye's filled with pity. The way everyone looked at you.

(To audience)

And the way you looked at him! No one looks at him that way. No one! Where was Jane then, where is she now?

DAVE finishes his dance. Pause. Gathers himself.

Well?

MIKE

Jane was there to help me ask out my first girlfriend.

Doors open and KNIGHTS and PRINCESS comes walking out. Followed by Jane dressed as a queen. At the same time JANE is unfrozen and is now wearing a different shirt. She walks up to MIKE.

DAVE

Dude you got to lay off those fantasy films, it's starting to weird me out.

JANE

Just go up and talk to her.

MIKE

What do I say?

JANE

Be yourself. Talk to her. It's strange, girls like guys they can talk to, go figure.

MIKE

I can't be myself! That's why I asked for your help.

JANE

Break the ice with a joke. Then get her to talk about herself. People like to talk about themselves or things they like.

MIKE

Ok. Here goes.

Several Knights get in-between him and PRINCESS

Oh god there's other guys there. I can't do it.

JANE

Boy get your ass out there and ask out that girl. If you have the balls to walk up to her with all those guys around her she will totally fall for you. Chicks dig guys with confidence.

JANE puts a sword in MIKE's hand and takes the gun.

MIKE charges into the knights. He fights them and manages to defeat them all. As he approaches PRINCESS he trips and falls over. MIKE stands back up.

MIKE

Hey.