

Delusions of an Unopened Book

An Original Play

Curious New Voices

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SIXTH DRAFT

Cast of Characters

BILLY: A black man with an English accent. Enjoys Shakespeare sounding music, despises ignorance, and enjoys talking and helping others to become greater people than they think they are. He is a huge suck up to Mr. Edwards, he'll support his ideas in any way that he can, even if he doesn't think his theories are correct. He also, cares a lot about Michael even though he may seem very harsh with him.

MICHAEL: Billy's cousin. He's white guy that's in his 20s. He talks very clearly; one may think that his speech is very slow. He's a major Hip Hop geek. Loves to break dance around and uses his enjoyment for rap, in his every day language. He sounds and seems extremely ghetto from the outside. But inside he has a huge heart for reaching out to others. Every morning he enjoys a sandwich for breakfast, with lots of mayo. He works at Cheeseburger Town (a sit down restaurant).

DR. EDWARDS: Is a white middle-aged shrink that enjoys, children's book, psychology, junk food and TV. His favorite TV shows are Dr. Phil and Oprah. He is very helpful to others in his practice but when reflecting on himself he tends to jump to conclusions without looking at the whole picture. He's lonely but tries to hide it,

MACY: Is Dr. Edward's daughter. She's a very small example of a valley girl. She loves clothes, shopping, nail polish and big purses. Feels that she's loved most when people spend quality time with her. Her home is a reflection of the Macy store. She a collector of things that most people would usually never take notice of. She also has a very clear memory of people and can never forget someone's face.

SHANIA: Loves being a help to others, enjoys her job, but longs to have a career in modeling. She's quiet but very observant and present. She's smart and caring. She tries her best to make people really think about things. She's very bold, honest. When she speaks, she says the first thing that comes to mind.

Delusions of an Unopened Book

SCENE ONE

Day 1—Dr. Edwards's town home. There is a couch up stage with a turned on TV on the side of it. The rug and sitting area looks fairly descent. The only thing that creates a cluttered look are Macy's boxes by the front door. Lights are dim. Dr. Edward's is sitting down on his coach, surfing channels on the TV. – You can hear a cluster of different TV genres, including sound and music together. Some of the noise being heard is; Dr. Phil and Oprah's TV show. Also, within the cluster, you can hear random music that you might listen to during renaissance time. The channel surfing continues, revealing other music; Hip-Hop, Runway music and a piece that sounds like Beyonce's Diva song, but not really. All the different genres die down except the Oprah sounding TV show. Lights come up just enough to reveal a small living room. Inside Dr. Edwards is sitting down, on his couch. Next to him is a box that looks like it was just taken out of storage. He pushes a recording button on his remote and turns down the volume. He then puts on his reading glasses and takes out a photo album from the box in front of him. He starts looking through the album. The box next to him is also filled with Dr. Seuss children's books. Michael and Billy are inside picking up and taking out Macy's boxes. They both grab a bunch and walk out the door. Macy walks down the stairs located on stage left wearing long flowery dress, big sunglasses, and carrying a huge purse. She walks slowly into the living room to find her dad looking through the photo album. She looks at him a bit longer.

MACY

Hey dad, what are you doing with the TV?

DR. EDWARDS

(Startled) Just recording a Dr. Phil episode.

MACY

Dad, are you like crying?

DR. EDWARDS

(Fidgeting in his seat) No! ... Of course not...why in the world would you think that? (Stuttering) I'm... I'm just looking through this slip picture holder book thing I found.

MACY

Album...

DR. EDWARDS

Album...

MACY

No! I swear you were crying!

DR. EDWARDS

No... a man doesn't cry unless someone dies or he loses money. So drop it!

MACY

Ok... How do I look?

MR. EDWARDS

(Melancholy) fine... you look beautiful!

(BILLY stands in the doorway looking exhausted in an odd way)

MACY

Hey Billy!

(DR. EDWARDS walks over to the door)

DR. EDWARDS

Well thank you for your help Billy.

BILLY

No problem sir... I'll just escort Macy to the car.

DR. EDWARDS

All right... Sooner we can talk, the better.

(BILLY and MACY start to head out the door)

MACY

(Giving him a hug) All right... bye dad! I'll see you later.

DR. EDWARDS

Well later would be sooner if you didn't go to school all the way in Greenfield... But I will see you later Hun.

MACY

(Laughing) okay Dad, Bye.

(MACY leaves the house carrying a small box... after she steps out, BILLY comes back a few minutes later carrying a brief case. You can hear a car take off soon after he enters into the house. DR. EDWARDS is sitting back on his couch, looking through the box filled with children's books. He takes one out)

DR. EDWARDS

(Looking through a Dr. Seuss book) Gone. First daughter... first and only baby girl at... (Embarrassed) 45. She's in her 20's and I'm in my oldies. ... Just the other day I was sitting down watching Oprah. She said on her show that the older you get, the better life gets. So tell me, why don't I feel that way?

BILLY

I'm not sure what to say sir, I'm sure science could explain... But... "With mirth and laughter let old wrinkles come."

DR. EDWARDS

I wish you didn't say that.

BILLY

(Sensitive) Sorry... So what did you need to talk to me about?

DR. EDWARDS

(Thinking) well I wanted to meet with you to discuss the vision I have for the practice... after I retire.

BILLY

Alright sir!

DR. EDWARDS

I would like you to take over my practice.

BILLY

Why sir... I don't know what to say! Except I'm so thrilled!

DR. EDWARDS

Why shouldn't you be? I am going to make arrangements to retire by the end of this week

(BILLY, still holding his brief case, sits down on the couch next to DR. EDWARDS)

BILLY

Brilliant sir. I'm so excited. (Taking out a folder that he had in his brief case) I have started to write down some ideas that I thought would be useful to the practice. Now now, I think it would be appropriate to show you what I've already planned.

DR. EDWARDS

I don't want to talk about it right now.

BILLY

O? But sir! The practice is very important... We have so much to figure out to help me carry out your vision.

(DR. EDWARDS gives BILLY a weird look)

DR. EDWARDS

... I need to start building up my name. (Trying to sound logical) So that when I die, people will remember me.

BILLY

Building up your name? Is Macy's move hard on you?

DR. EDWARDS

No, no, no, no, no, no! I just need my name out there. I need to leave something profound. That everyone old and young will remember!

BILLY

But sir! You've done so many great things for your patients... And me...

DR. EDWARDS

O! Really? Like who? What patients?

BILLY

Well.. Like Mr. Pathy, the cat man. He couldn't stop drawing pictures of miice because he couldn't come to terms with the death of his oldest cat.

DR. EDWARDS

Yes... I remember... Crazy man! But beautiful testimony for my website.

(DR. EDWARD nods his head mockingly)

BILLY

O! And how could I forget Mrs. Weatherline! You practically pulled her out of her life long depression after the first 30min she was in your office!

DR. EDWARDS

That's right! That's how it's always been... Me pulling people out of their grief or challenges... all the time! And then coming home, Macy was the only one who could do the same for me.

BILLY

(Question) I see sir...

DR. EDWARDS

(Looking at the pages of the Dr. Seuss book) I need to start a new chapter. (Looking closely at the pages) A chapter? A chapter of a child's book. (Getting excited) With real pictures of people. . . . Not like this imaginative Dr. Seuss book. Instead of cartoons I'll have real people. No! One person... a person to represent reality. That's it Billy I...

BILLY

Sir I think you are looking at it all wrong. Trying to draw a... conclusion.

DR. EDWARDS

No... no, no, no... I got it...

BILLY

But Dr. Edwards, think about it. Think about what you're trying to avoid.

DR. EDWARDS

I'm writing a children's book! That will have real pictures!

BILLY

Dr. Edwards! ...

DR. EDWARDS

A man has got to do what a man has got to do... and I'm going to be that man that's going to do it.... And you're going to be a man and help me!

BILLY

Me? I'm not a publisher! Sir I know nothing about writing books.

DR. EDWARDS

That's fine, just for right now Billy. I need a female model that has a good face for my book. And the rest will come together. I hope you realize that I can't retire until I complete this.

BILLY

Yes of course... I'll get straight to work sir...I Shall not fail you.

DR. EDWARDS

Okay now get out of here...

(DR. EDWARDS locks the door)

Black Out!

SCENE TWO

Same day- In the late afternoon. A wall is placed down the center of the stage to separate two completely different homes. Stage left is MACY'S kitchen and living room area and stage right shows BILLY'S living room. On stage left MICHAEL is helping MACY unpack her belongings and putting them on shelves. It's vividly shown that they've been doing that for a while. On stage right BILLY is looking through a Publishing for Dummies book, fixing his written practice plan and also browsing a phone book for modeling agency contacts. BILLY stays active researching and making phone calls while MICHAEL and MACY are unpacking and waiting for their delivery food to arrive to the apartment.

MACY

(Putting pillows on her couch) Thank you so much for helping me Michael!

MICHAEL

Coo. It's AIGHT Macy. I only volunteered to do it because I know that there aint a lot of gentleman that would.

MACY

Shut up! You did it because you care! And because it was part of you deal to stay with Billy. Right?

MICHAEL

Yea right. (Pushing her in a friendly way) I mean we're friends Macy.

MACY

I Know

MICHAEL

So, why didn't you say much when we were taking up yo
stuff?

MACY
I was just thinking a lot.

MICHAEL
About what?

MACY
Nothing much... Just my dad. He seemed kind of weird be-
fore I left.

MICHAEL
Yo pops?... really...how?

MACY
I don't know. Nevermind !

(SHANIA Knocks on MACY'S door. MICHAEL walks over and opens it up)

SHANIA
(Surprised) Cheese Burger Delivery... Michael? Boy what
are you doing here?

(SHANIA hands MICHAEL the bag of food)

MICHAEL
I get two free burgers before my shift so I thought I'd have
them delivered ... So I could share.

(MACY walks over to the door. SHANIA and MACY make quick glances)

With this lovely lady... (Sounding smooth) I helped her move
this morning.

MACY
(Shaking her hand) Hey... nice to meet you.

SHANIA
Hi... you look really familiar!... oh well...

(Handing Michael ketchup)

SHANIA
See you later Michael! And nice meeting you!

MACY
Wait!
(SHANIA turns around)

You know... it's funny that you mentioned that I look familiar because you seem very familiar to me.

(MICHAEL is sitting down at the table starting to eat his hamburger)

SHANIA

Really?... wow, I wish I could say the same for you. I kinda thought I was trippin. But O well!

MACY

I really think I know where I know you from...

SHANIA

I think I do too... But tell me what you think first.

MACY

It's okay you go ahead

SHANIA

No... I think it's best coming from you.

MACY

My best friend... like every year at Super Cool Girls Camp...

SHANIA

No way! I knew it this whole time Macy... (Pushing her shoulder) Man do you look a lot more different then you do on Face Book.

MACY

I haven't been on that for a while, but same with you! (Excited) We need to catch up on everything....

SHANIA

I know girl... But I'm too booked right now. (Upset) But maybe some other time.

MICHAEL

(Taking a bite from his food) Come on this aint no 187. Shania I'll take over yo shift. So that you and Macy can chat in yo girl ways.

MACY

Michael that's okay of you...

(MICHAEL unclips SHANIA'S Burger Town Badge off her shirt and starts to head out the door)

MICHAEL

I'm straight okay. Go have some girl bonding time.

SHANIA

Geez... thanks so much Michael...

(MICHAEL heads out the door)

MACY

Ciao Michael.... And thank you so much for your help!

(MACY shows SHANIA to one of the kitchen chairs. Macy sits down for a while awkwardly, then gets up and walks over to her fridge)

MACY

So would you like something to drink? (Opening up her fridge) I got Pepsi, Dr. Pepper

SHANIA

Okay...I'll take..

MACY

Also, Coca-Cola, Diet Coke,

SHANIA

Coke... is fine

MACY

Diet Dr. Pepper... O! and Squirt...

SHAINA

A coke is good...

MACY

O! And I have the new Mountain Dew crew... colors are Red, Green Pin..

SHANIA

(Interrupting) I'll just have a coke.

MACY

Good choice... That's what I'm in the mood for.

(MACY opens both of the cans of coke and pours them into glasses)

MACY
(Handing a glass to SHANIA) Here you go!

SHANIA
Thanks! I appreciate it . . .

(SHANIA and MACY sit in their chairs for a few minutes drinking their soda and trying not to make eye contact)

MACY
(Looking around in her apartment) So... How are you feeling?

SHANIA
Fine... you?

MACY
I'm all right!

SHANIA
How's Face Book.

MACY
I don't know I haven't been on it for a while

SHANIA
O! yeah... Sorry

MACY
It's ok (Taking a sip of her drink) Wow! This tastes a lot better than I thought it would.

SHANIA
(Taking a sip) yeah...

MACY
Yeah...

SHANIA
Yepp...

MACY
So, do you remember anything?

SHANIA

Yeah... Ha! I feel like a kid again. I actually want to start talking to you like we used to.

MACY

So you do remember! Do you want to be Ken, Skipper...

SHANIA

(Interrupting) I'll take Barbie...

MACY

(Laughing) I swear... the only toy we played with back then were Barbies.

SHANIA

Pretty much!

MACY

(Laughing) you would always get crazy with them too! You would come up with these abstract ideas... I remember you telling me that a Barbie couldn't have a baby unless she would lie down for ten seconds.

SHANIA

(Embarrassed) Yeah... I sadly remember that.

MACY

Yeah!

SHANIA

Well our families were pretty close. Speaking of... How's your dad?

MACY

(Very upset) I really don't know... Ever since my mom died he's been very confidential with things. He never tells me when he's sad or happy. Or when he's disappointed. I guess you could say that our relationship died along with my mom.

SHANIA

From what I remember, you two were very close.

MACY

I don't know... I think that he tries to reach out to me but doesn't really know how.

SHANIA

Have you ever tried to reach out to him?

MACY

No... It's just easier if I try to avoid it than make it come up. . . .

SHANIA

Weird!

MACY

Do you want to hear something else that's really weird?

SHANIA

What?

MACY

Well this morning, I saw my dad looking through an old photo album that we put into storage like twelve years ago. I swear I saw him crying and like pretty much everything else I ask him... he just denied it completely

SHANIA

Well maybe he's just afraid for you to find out his true feelings.

MACY

I don't know what to think anymore. He never tells me anything...

SHANIA

Well maybe so... Have you ever thought about talking to any of his friends or Co-Workers?

MACY

Actually no... I never even thought about it . . . may be I should... So tell me what's new ...

SHANIA

Um... Well I've been working at Cheeseburger Town. Just trying to pay everything off from college.

MACY

(Shocked) Wow!

SHANIA

I've also been looking at modeling for a while now. My mom got me into it when I was young, so that's the only thing that I'm looking at ... to fall back on ... you know? I mean the economy is just really bad. I don't want to find a new job...

quit my old one. Than have the possibility of getting fired at the new place I end up working at.

MACY

A model?

SHANIA

Yeah... I mean it's always been something that I've wanted to do. Even before I started college. So I'm just still looking at that right now.

MACY

Why modeling?

SHANIA

I just think I was born for it. I mean even when I was young people thought that I had the greatest face expressions and the cutest posses. See look!

(SHANIA stands up and gives about three different posses and face expressions to MACY as an example)

MACY

(Insincere) yeah... I can see why you want to be a model. You're a natural.

SHANIA

(Looking at her watch) wow I got a bus to catch!

MACY

Are you sure you don't just want me to take you home?

SHANIA

Yeah... I'll actually be okay. (Giving her a hug) it was really great chatting with you. (Writing her number on a napkin and handing it to her) it's my cell.

MACY

Cool...

SHANIA

Please call me whenever you need someone to talk to... ok?

MACY

Thanks a lot... bye

(MACY shuts and locks the door, walks over to her kitchen table and sits down. After a few minutes of sitting and looking nervous, she then gets up and gets her cell phone from out of her purse and dials BILLY'S number.)

MACY

(Waiting for an answer)...

(Far stage right is still showing BILLY in his living room. He's on the phone talking to someone as his phone starts to signal that there is someone on the other end)

BILLY

Could you please hold on one second? (Beat) Okay ... thanks you. (Switched over the other line) Hello?

MACY

(Moving toward the long mirror that's in her kitchen) Hey Billy, it's Macy...

BILLY

(Surprised) O... Macy?

MACY

Yeah I know... was thinking about my dad and just thought about asking how your meeting was.

BILLY

Of course... uh...

MACY

I was just curious on what exactly you two talked about.

BILLY

Well your father is planning on retiring, so just wanted to speak with me. (Proud) He told that he'd like me to take over his practice.

MACY

Really?

BILLY

Yes. Actually right now I'm working on a few things for your father and also this plan for your dad's practice of course.

MACY

(Shocked) Retiring? My dad never talked about retiring before?

BILLY

Well, the discussion around that, never happened!

MACY

Why?

BILLY

Because he broke down completely!

MACY

(Looking in her mirror and brushing her hair) did he cry!

BILLY

No but he was completely distraught. Wow... Macy I'm so glad you called. He wants me to be his publisher.

MACY

For what?

BILLY

For this idea that he has to write a children's...

MACY

What?

BILLY

Nothing... He just wants me to be a publisher for his website.

MACY

So what exactly are you doing for him?

BILLY

(Trying to think on his feet) I'm just trying to find someone that would be willing to model for the ... uh ... website, of course.

MACY

I see...

BILLY

Indeed... But I've been searching all evening for model... but no luck at all. Female models are so hard to come by, these days.

MACY

(Unconfident) ... I might be able to help you.

Black Out

SCENE THREE

Day 3-The stage is divided in half to reveal two different homes. On stage right, BILLY is in his penthouse which is filled with about 15 big and small unopened boxes. BILLY is sitting down working on his laptop and working on his work proposal. DR. EDWARDS is in his town home watching the recorded Oprah show. The stage lights are dim on DR. EDWARD'S side and are bright on BILLY'S. BILLY is at home trying to figure out his budget for the next coming weeks. MICHAEL comes inside and sits on the chair exhausted from another long day of work. BILLY looks up trying to welcome MICHAEL home as he is still working out his budget.

Michael

Shiz cuz! What are these boxes fo bro!

BILLY

(Looking up) O! they are just some merchandises that I ordered to celebrate my job promotion. Anyway, Welcome Michael. Glad to see you are home for once.

(MICHAEL takes off his shoes and socks and tries to relax a little bit more)

BILLY

Well Michael, since you're here, I would like to talk to you about something that just came up.

MICHAEL

(Curious) Shoot!

BILLY

Well, I'm taking over Dr. Edward's practice. And the plan we created was that he would retire within this week.

MICHAEL

Yeah... so what are you tryin to say?

(On stage right, DR. EDWARDS is being shown sitting on his couch watching the Oprah recording. He gets up a few times trying to get situated by grabbing random things to eat from his stash of chocolate, chips and pop on the table in front of him. After a while he gets situated and starts to focus on the TV. Soon he's captivated with show.)

BILLY

Dr. Edward's will not retire at the date that we planned. If you're going to stay here, I need you to pay twice as much for rent.

MICHAEL

Shiz! Twice as much?

BILLY

Yes... twice as much

(On the far stage left, DR. EDWARD'S show has ended, he is left sitting down in a reflective manor. MICHAEL sees a Shakespeare book on BILLYS table, he picks it up and uses it to change the subject)

MICHAEL

Wow! Nice... Shakespeare, I heard about this guy. He's like some famous poet and play writer. In high school I had to read about this foo... He's pretty gangster. A womanizer for real!

BILLY

Was...

MICHAEL

What?

BILLY

He's not alive any longer Michael. Now stop changing the subject. I need you to pay twice as much, starting today!

MICHAEL

Well that aint happening dawg!

BILLY

And why do you say that?

MICHAEL

Cuz we family! You my cousin! And I anint make that much money as a burger delivery boy! And I aint gonna support your spending habits!

(On the far stage left, DR. EDWARDS gets up, picks up his phone and dials BILLY'S number)

BILLY

(His new phone rings) you know nothing Michael! I spend because I deserve nice thingS. Besides your rent will die down once Dr. Edwards retires.(Picking up the phone and talking to Michael) We'll discuss more on the subject after this call, Michael.

MICHAEL

AIGHT! But please cuz...

(BILLY holds up his finger, signaling to MICHAEL to be quiet, and puts the phone to his ear. MICHAEL limps to stage right and exits.)

DR. EDWARDS

(Sitting on his chair) Billy... You there?

BILLY

Yes sir. And I've been working on finding a photographer for Shania. It's been challenging but you will be glad to hear that I took a br...

DR. EDWARDS

Never mind!

BILLY

Never mind?

DR. EDWARDS

I called you because I just got done watching an Dr. Phil episode that I recorded a while back. It was very eye opening. I'm ashamed that I didn't watch it before

BILLY

Sir? Could you please explain, I'm not following you.

DR. EDWARDS

Dr. Phil had a family and their daughter was explaining that she decided to move back in with her parents before they retired. So that she could take care of them.

BILLY

Okay sir... pardon me, but I'm still not quite sure what you're trying to say to me.

DR. EDWARDS

Billy! I'm not going to retire until Macy moves back in with me. And that won't happen either until my book is done. I want it to be a welcome home present for her.

BILLY

(Shocked) Sir...

DR. EDWARDS

I need you to get Macy to move back into my house.

BILLY

Sir... You've got me going around and over a bunny trail for you....

DR. EDWARDS

I know Billy, but I need to figure a lot of things out. You're the only person that I trust to help me.

BILLY

But... Dr. Edwards, why don't you just ask her yourself?

DR. EDWARDS

No! That would just ruin my whole plan. I need you to get your cousin to do it for me... It will work best that way. ..

BILLY

(Reciting as if cursing)

"Alas, I blame you not; for you are mortal,
And mortal eyes cannot endure the devil.
Avaunt, thou dreadful minster of hell!"
Sorry sir, I just had to vent!

DR. EDWARDS

It's okay Billy, I must say, if that poetry works that well on you, then I'm sure that it will do miracles for your soon to be patients.

BILLY

I believe so sir... Well I must get to work for you.

DR. EDWARDS

Thank you a million times Billy... bye!

(BILLY hangs up his phone. On far stage left, DR. EDWARDS does the same, sits down on his chair and starts to fall asleep. Lights are dim on far stage left and are bright on far stage right. On far stage right, BILLY calls out to MICHAEL. MICHAEL comes out from stage right, wearing his white t-shirt, black sweat pants, his Sponge Bob slippers and he's rolling his suitcase. He starts to head over to the door to leave. But then stops over by BILLY.)

MICHAEL

I heard what you be saying. I'll convince Macy to move in with her dad. But if I do, then I aint gotta pay more.

BILLY

Deal!

Black Out!

SCENE FOUR

Day 4 - Scene opens with MICHAEL and MACY sitting down at Cheeseburger Town, they have just received their food. It's obvious that they have been eating their food for a while. MACY is thinking that MICHAEL just wanted to take her out because he likes her. But MICHAEL is trying to convince her to move back in with her dad. They are going back and forth at first, but not really getting anywhere.

MACY

(Holding a fry) Michael, I'm not really understanding you right now. Like what exactly do you want?

MICHAEL

Come on Macy! I think it would be best if you move back in with yo dad.

MACY

But, like... what are you really trying to say?

MICHAEL

Uh... that it would be best if you move back in with your dad...

MACY

No you're not! There is something else that you're not telling me...

MICHAEL

O! really... Yo Macy... What I'm saying is what I'm saying. Yo dad an old man.

Last night he told Billy on the phone that he is not planning on retiring until you move back.

MACY

What is going on with my dad? Like ever since I moved out he's been acting like he has no life whatsoever.

MICHAEL

AIGHT... calm down! It's not just about you Macy... this whole thing with your dad is effecting everyone Billy, me, you, and Shania.

MACY

O! really... like how?

MICHAEL

Yo dad aint moving out until you move in. So that means Billy has to readjust his budget, I have to pay more and I aint got enough money as it is. Shania I'm sure is affected some way. Man girl! Why you gotta be so difficult.

MACY

Well... Why didn't you tell me all of this before?

MICHAEL

I just found out about it shorty! Are you going to move back or not?

MACY

(Reflecting) I just wish my dad talked to me about this all before. I mean it was only challenging for me to pay for gas and all. If he had told me he just wanted me to move back then I would have.

MICHAEL

O Really!

MACY

Yeah! My mother's death was hard on us both. And I told him that I would stay with him until he passed. But things changed, ideas changed.

MICHAEL

I see that now...

MACY

Ever since I was a little girl, I would run and hide from the hurtful reality, from people I loved. It was just something I had to do... to survive. Now I see that it killed the only family that I have left in my life. I need to move back... but...

MICHAEL

But what?

MACY

Gas, I need to figure out how to pay for gas. Or else I won't be able to afford going back and forth from college. You know?

MICHAEL

Shoot! I'll help you out girl.

MACY

Really

MICHAEL

Why not? Girl you tight! And I don't mean nothing like what you said before you know... I'm just being a friend.

MACY

Thanks you Michael, I appreciate that you told me. (Looking at her watch) Well I'm going to head home, and call my dad. We need to figure out the arrangements for me to move back in.

MICHAEL

AIGHT . . . Hey, how about we head over to Billy's house? Billy was saying something about yo dad being there today

(MICHAEL watches as MACY heads out the door. He stands up and snaps his finger showing that he's excited. He then does a smooth transition two step dance move, out the door)

Black Out

SCENE FIVE

DR. EDWARDS and SHANIA are over at BILLY'S house. All the boxes that were in his room before are now hidden with sheets. It's the late afternoon, BILLY and SHANIA are on the floor looking over the photos that they both think will go along with DR. EDWARD'S children's book. DR. EDWARDS is on BILLY'S chair writing down lines for his children's book, His phone rings, he gets up and leaves the room to speak. MACY and BILLY are left in the room a lone, soon to discover that a lot of the pictures that SHANIA modeled for didn't turn out as well as they had hoped.

SHANIA

(Looking at some of the pictures) wow... a lot of these pictures turned out pretty bad. I understand that Dr. Edwards wanted to have the pictures taken with real film, but whoever developed these did a horrible job.

BILLY

(Holding out his hand to see the picture) O! my... that's horrifying... You look like a squirrel....

SHANIA

A squirrel, I know...

BILLY

We need a digital camera, I shall make a note, on my to do list.

(BILLY turns towards DR. EDWARDS returns back into the room after being on the phone)

BILLY

Dr. Edwards, I have some bad news sir. The pictures must be re....

DR. EDWARDS

(Handing Shania a sheet in a hurry) Never mind Billy. Shania, I would like you to read what I just wrote. It will start off my book.

SHANIA

"Macy looked just like her mother, from the day she was little until the time she was grown." (Shocked) Dr. Edwards... I don't know what to say.

DR. EDWARDS

That's fine, perfectly fine. (Pointing to the squirrel looking picture) I am thinking about having that picture to go along with the words.

BILLY

No! sir... there is no way we can go through with this without using a digital camera.

SHANIA

I can't do this either way. (Looking at Dr. Edwards) you had more in mind with this children's book than we could have expected.

DR. EDWARDS

What do you mean you can't do this? We have to finish the whole story idea.

BILLY

Why sir... I didn't know that you were so eager to get this done. I'm so thrilled now. I will get straight to work, arranging the printing.

SHANIA

Excuse me but Dr. Edwards, this book is about your daughter. I don't want to be a model for a book that's about her.

BILLY

That's absurd! Total nonsense. Dr. Edwards wants this book to be a surprise for Macy before she moves into his home. . . the sooner we get it done the better.

DR. EDWARDS

Shania... It's a welcome home present for her, and a retiring gift for me. We need to complete this!

SHANIA

As Macy's friend I shouldn't be the one impersonating her without her knowing anything about it.

DR. EDWARDS

No! don't look at it that way! We need to complete this!

SHANIA

Why?

BILLY

Because Dr. Edwards is not going to retire until this book is published! You don't understand...If you don't go through with this than everything will fall a part!

SHANIA

Fall apart? What do you want? Because as far as I know Dr. Edwards won't retire at all if Macy moves back with him. He just needs to talk to her and he'll be fine.

DR. EDWARDS

Shania?

BILLY

(Looking at Dr. Edwards) Shania what? What? No that can't happen.! You told me that you retire once Macy moves back in!

SHANIA

That's what it was before! But I had to convenes him that if she moved back

BILLY

(Speaking to Dr. Edwards) But you said Dr. Phil told you that!

DR. EDWARDS

Yes, he told me. I told you. But once I spoke to Shania about it at the photo shoot. Her brilliant mind told me other wise.

BILLY

What?

DR. EDWARDS

I will not be retiring. There will be no need to. Macy just called me, She's moving back!

SHANIA

Excellent! I knew that she would!

BILLY

What? I'm sorry sir, but I'm googled right now. What's the point of the children's book?

DR. EDWARDS

I'm glad that you brought that up Billy, Because now that I look at it, there is no point! (Ripping up the paper in his hand) How about we screw it all together.

BILLY

No! We cant' do that! Dr. Edwards! I worked so hard, I made plans arrangements. I started to seek out your vision. I bought furniture, new kitchen supplies, a 9-pound bag of crips for heavens sake! The only hope I have to survive is if I get your position.

SHANIA

Why? I mean I told him there would be no need for him to, if she moved back in.

(Just as SHANIA picks up her coat and starts heading towards the door, MICHAEL and MACY come into the room.)

MICHAEL

(Trying to act confident) Yo Shania... What up!!

(The front door opens, MICHAEL and MACY walk inside. MACY runs to her dad and gives him a hug. Anticipation starts to rise and BILLY flows into a piece that he ends up reciting from Shakespeare)

BILLY

(Loudly) "In sooth, I know not why I am so sad;
It wearies me, you say it wearies you;
What stuff 'tis made of, whereof it is born,
I am to learn,
And such a want-wit sadness makes of me,
That I have much ado to know myself. "

MICHAEL

Whatever that means... (Putting his arm around BILLY'S shoulder) But hey cuz!

Macy totally agreed to move back in with her dad! She talked him on the phone and they be family again bro. Aint that great!

BILLY

Well Michael, that just ruins everything! (Looking at Dr. Edwards) What do you think I should do now.

MICHAEL

Man... you could ju...

BILLY

You stay out of this Michael! I'll deal with your ... behavior later!

MICHAEL

Shiz... For what? I did what yo told me to do!

BILLY

(Looking at Shania) Do you not see your part in this?

SHANIA

(Upset) My part? I have no part in this.

MACY

Part? What's going on?

BILLY

(Yelling) None of your business!

DR. EDWARDS

Billy!

BILLY

(Pointing to Shania) You new Dr. Edwards plan from the very beginning! You knew he wasn't going to retire!..

MACY

Plan what plan!

BILLY

I lied to you Macy! Okay? Your dad needed a model because he wanted to write a children's book that had real pictures of a person in it!

MACY

A children's book for what?

DR. EDWARDS

I don't know Macy. . .It was the only thing that I could come up with that would keep my mind off of being alone.

MACY

Wow Dad! That actually was a good idea.

DR. EDWARDS

Yes, I think that was too! But now that you're moving back, there is no need to complete it.

BILLY

(Pointing to Dr. Edwards,) You got me going on this bunny trail! You fooled me...

SHANIA

No! A bunny trail is under stating it Billy! And you know Dr. Edwards was going through a mid life crisis...

BILLY

Well what do you propose I do now!

MACY

You need to fix this all Billy! You have certainly gone crazy!

BILLY

(Screaming) I need to fix this! No I say... I shall not! I will stay here until everything comes back to order! Dr. Edwards is a fat liar!

DR. EDARDS

Why are you speaking as if I'm not here? How could you just turn to the dark side so fast?

MICHAEL

Yeah Billy! You be flagioun!

BILLY

What the hell are you talking about? What is Flagioum?

MICHAEL

It's like yo a zebra running with a pack of horses. You be flagouin cause you aint a horse. So you and yo be flagouin cause you aint like everyone else.

MACY

Yeah... I can really see that now! You are Flagouinn Billy.

SHANIA

(Picking up her belongings) I can't take your Flagouin Behavior! You need to fix your problem on your own!

(SHANIA heads out the door and MACY follows)

DR. EDWARDS

Once you shape up, I will reconsider if you can work for me or not.

(DR. EDWARDS exits out the door)

MICHAEL

Cuz... I know you be breaking down and everything. But you really didn't need to be acting so rough. Have fun with your flagouin ways. DEUCES!

(BILLY breaks down and falls to the floor)

BILLY

(Whining on the ground) "My enemy has beat me to the pit!"

MICHAEL

Yo cuz! Ugh... (Having pain breathing) what the shiz ?

(BILLY looks up showing a blank stare)

MICHAEL

Yo man! You scaring me bra... shiz yo changed!

(BILLY puts his head back down, picks up one of the soda cans and takes a sip)

MICHAEL

Yo bra...(MICHAEL starts to head out the door) I'm sorry cuz that I had to be seeing you ilike this ...

BILLY

(Blank stare) It's quite all right, you just startled me.

MICHAEL

(Feeling sorry for him) O bra! What happened man? You were put so well together, now you be acting like a damn foo!

BILLY

O Michael! Quit your blah... blah blah blah blah!

MICHAEL

You made everything fall apart! Shiz and what ever happened to yo love for that womanizer poet and play write?

BILLY

"Fie Fie" ... Don't speak of Shakespeare as if you know him.
(Acting drunk) You are starting to make me angry.

MICHAEL

Why you be sounding like you drunk?

BILLY

I don't know! I don't know anything anymore!

(BILLY stands up, walks over and picks up his poetry book and looks at
it)

BILLY

(Not listening) I need to start a chapter.... (looking at the
pages) A chapter of a poetry book. (Excited) That's right!
Poetry that tells its poems by using art in its pages...

MICHAEL

(Pushing Billy, trying to wake him up from his delusion) Billy?
Yo cuz!

Black out!

