

Caught In Between

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ACT I

Scene 1

*The stage should be split in half someway. One half is the real world where Henry is, and the other half is the "other" world where the man in white, and others of such will be.*

*The song "Sixteen Tons" by Tom Jones has been playing.*

*Lights fade up on a man in WHITE at a podium with a big book and a big white feather as the pen.*

*A man in BLACK walks in looking around wondering where he is. He walks up to the podium right as the song is ending.*

WHITE

Name please?

BLACK

What?

WHITE

Name please?

BLACK

Why?

WHITE

(Looks at him sternly)

You're being judged. I need your name for judgment.

BLACK

Judged?

WHITE

Yes.

BLACK

Why? What for? What the hell is going on?

WHITE

(Annoyed)

Please don't say the "H" word.

BLACK

What? Hell?

(CONTINUED)

WHITE

(Holds his hand up)  
Please! Yes.

BLACK

(Laughs)  
Why?

WHITE

(Takes a deep breath, and puts the pen down)  
Right now, you are between worlds, and we don't use such terms here. I am here to judge you. I decide if you are able to be let in, or not. Maybe you might even be one of the special ones that get put to work.

BLACK

Wait? I'm dead?

WHITE

Yes, genius.

BLACK

Really?

WHITE

(Puts his hands up and looks around)  
Obviously.

BLACK

I thought God was the only one who could judge me.

WHITE

Oh, your one of those. Well, GOD is very busy.

BLACK

One of those?

WHITE

You believe in God.

BLACK

As opposed to...?

WHITE

Buddha, Allah, Zeus, and all those others.

BLACK

Oh, so who's right?

WHITE

(He leans toward him)  
Wouldn't you like to know? But that's not to be discussed at this time.

(CONTINUED)

BLACK

Well, how can he...she...it...they...whoever be too busy to do what their supposed to do and judge me their self?

WHITE

Think about it. Don't ask stupid questions.

(Picks up pen)

Now, what is your name?

BLACK

Didn't you say I might be put to work?

WHITE

(Aggravated)

Everyone always has so many questions. Yes, you might be put to work.

BLACK

Even after death I may have to work. That's just great! Why? What am I supposed to do?

WHITE

(Puts down the pen)

It all depends on the life you lived. If you lead a really good life, and were a good person, then you're just fine and dandy. If you were really bad, and lead a bad life, then, well, that's a different story. If you were a good person, but made some mistakes, you are put to work to see if you can learn from the mistakes you made while you were alive. If you learn from them, you are just fine, and you made yourself better as well as many others. If you don't learn, you'll have to find out if you get to that point. Anymore questions?

BLACK

What kind of work?

WHITE

(Puts on a fake smile and shakes his head)

Whatever best suites your qualities. Some may call it unfinished business. If I can get your name, then we can skip the questions, and find out.

BLACK

Shouldn't you know my name?

WHITE

(Quickly)

Absolutely not.

(CONTINUED)

BLACK  
Adam Bingham.

WHITE  
(Sighs)  
Thank you.

*He flips through, and Adam waits impatiently.*  
AH! Here we are. Just as I thought.

BLACK  
I'm good! I knew it! Well, nice talking to you.

*Adam starts to walk off.*

WHITE  
Not so fast! You get to be put to work.

BLACK  
What do I have to do?

WHITE  
It seems that you sir, have the privilege of being a Guardian.

BLACK  
Really? Like an angel? They have those?

WHITE  
Sure, and your one of them now. And it's just a Guardian. Angels are different.

BLACK  
Interesting...

WHITE  
Now, go stand on that circle over there, and we will transport you to your destination.

*He walks to the circle.*

BLACK  
What do I have to do?

WHITE  
That's for you to find out.

BLACK  
How long will it take?

WHITE

However long it takes.

BLACK

But what...

*White pulls a string.*

*There is a light above Adam that goes out and he disappears. The song "In Between" by Linkin Park starts.*

WHITE

Next!

*Lights out.*

Scene 2

*Lights up on a baby basket in the "real world". The baby is crying and you can hear faint sounds of a man and woman fighting.*

*Adam enters dressed in all white.*

ADAM

(Looking around)

Where am I? What's that yelling? Who am I supposed to take care of?

*He notices the baby crying and walks over to him, and tries to calm him.*

Shhhh...It's okay, don't cry. Shhhhh, hey, hey...

(Thinks)

Hey! No way!

(Looks up)

You can't be serious. I'm watching a baby? This is going to take forever.

*He looks at the baby and begins to make faces and noises trying to make him happy. Fighting can still be heard.*

It's ok. Please be quiet.

(Looks off)

Why don't they come take care of you? Too busy fighting about nonsense, that's why.

*He picks up the baby.*

Hey, hey, shhhhh...

*He sits in the rocking chair, and begins to rock, and comfort the baby.*

It's okay, it's okay...

(CONTINUED)

*The fighting can be distinctly heard and/or seen.*

MAN

Shut the hell up before I beat your fuckin' face in!

WOMAN

Yeah, hit me! That will solve everything!

MAN

It'll shut you up!

WOMAN

Will it shut me up? Will it?! Or will it just make me hate you more!

*He slaps her to the floor.*

MAN

You hate me? You hate me now bitch!? Don't start shit with me! Who was that fuckin' guy you were talking to at the bar? Huh?!

WOMAN

None of your damn business!

MAN

None of my business?

*She screams as he grabs her hair.*

MAN

I'll make it my business!

WOMAN

Let go!

MAN

No!

WOMAN

You're hurting me!

MAN

Too fuckin' bad! Who was he?

WOMAN

Please!

MAN

Who was he?

(CONTINUED)

WOMAN

A friend!

MAN

Friend huh? I hope you can lose a friend! Cause I'm gonna find him, and make sure he never talks to you again!

WOMAN

You're drunk!

MAN

What difference does it make!

WOMAN

Ow! Leave me alone!

MAN

Fuckin' slut!

*He throws her down.*

*The fighting continues. The whole time Adam is reacting to it, and trying to comfort the baby. The fighting becomes indistinct.*

ADAM

(Holding the baby tight)

I'm so sorry you have to go through this. It's okay I'm here. I'll protect you.

Scene 3

*It's years later the baby, Henry, is now a teenager. It is actually his 13th birthday.*

*Henry and Adam are walking around outside.*

ADAM

(Putting his arm over Henry's chest)

Whoa! Watch out that car isn't paying attention. Well, the driver isn't anyway. Always be on the look out for stuff like that.

HENRY

Thanks. I'll remember that.

*Adam is walking a bit behind him, then grabs his shoulder, and moves him over.*

ADAM

Hole! Stay on the game there, Skipper.

(CONTINUED)



HENRY

Good Job.

ADAM

That's what I do. So, how's your birthday going?

HENRY

Good, as long as I have you watching out for me.

ADAM

You know, when you turn 13 your life really starts to change. It will change a lot.

*Adam pats him on the back.*

HENRY

Yeah, I know. Hopefully not bad changes.

ADAM

Well, not as long as you make the best of it. Get as much of the good out of the bad as you can.

HENRY

Yeah.

ADAM

I mean, you're not a kid anymore. You're going to need to distinguish right from wrong. Hopefully, I've taught you enough to know what to do. I'm not going to be around as much, so that you can make your own decisions.

HENRY

(Stops)

Your not leaving me, are you?

ADAM

Not that I know of. Just going to stay further back because I can't be around forever. You have to learn to fend for yourself.

HENRY

Okay, just don't leave me.

ADAM

Never. Besides, I don't really think I can even if I wanted to.

HENRY

Why?

(CONTINUED)

ADAM

Just one of the perks of being a guardian.

*They sit on a bench.*

HENRY

What do you mean?

ADAM

I can't leave until I learn from my past mistakes.

HENRY

Have you?

ADAM

No, actually. Haven't even thought about it.

HENRY

Why not?

ADAM

I've been looking out for you. I guess, I just forgot what I was here for.

HENRY

How did you get here? In your position?

ADAM

I got put here. I died and got caught between worlds. I was judged by some guy who needs to get his head out of the book, and into the clouds more, as odd as that sounds. Anyway, he said I was a good person deep down inside, but I made some bad choices in life. So, I was put to work being a guardian for you, to somehow learn and correct my bad choices in my past life. That way, I can be let through the big pearly gates.

HENRY

Wow. How long do you have?

ADAM

I really don't know...I really should've been thinking about this.

HENRY

Well, let's see if I can help. What was your life like?

ADAM

I don't remember.

HENRY

You have to try

(CONTINUED)

ADAM

(He closes eyes and thinks real hard)  
Okay, I'm remembering pieces.

HENRY

That doesn't help much.

ADAM

I know, but that's what I got.

HENRY

Well, we need to figure this out before it's too late.

*All of a sudden a person in BLUE appears.*

ADAM

Uh-oh. Too late.

BLUE

Adam Bingham?

ADAM

Yes?

BLUE

Are you ready to go back?

ADAM

Now?!

BLUE

Yes, that's why I'm here...now.

ADAM

But I just started thinking about my past.

BLUE

Well, you should've been thinking about it, and learning as you went along.

ADAM

But I had business to tend to.

HENRY

You're leaving?

BLUE

Yes. You were supposed to learn from your business by doing your business.

ADAM

Huh?

(CONTINUED)

BLUE

You would know if you knew. Now, we have to take off.

ADAM

Everyone is so pushy up there.

BLUE

It's all about timing.

ADAM

Well, what about him? I'm supposed to be guarding him.

BLUE

He's reached a turning point in life. He needs no guardian. It's time for him to distinguish right from wrong. That's someone else's job.

ADAM

Whose?

*The song "Shadow of The Day" by Linkin Park begins to fade up and plays in the background.*

BLUE

He'll find out. Ready?

HENRY

You said you wouldn't leave me.

ADAM

(Looks at Henry)  
I'll always be with you.  
(To self)  
Wow, that is cheesy.  
(Back at him)  
But it's true. Just make the right choices.

HENRY

Will I see you again?

ADAM

(Looks at person in blue)  
I don't know.

BLUE

Me either. It's possible, I guess.

HENRY

I hope you make it into a good place

ADAM

Me too. But even if I don't, just know, I've enjoyed every moment we've had. You're a good kid, stay that way. I'm very proud of you.

(CONTINUED)

BLUE

(Smiles)

I'm sorry, but we really must be going.

ADAM

See you later, Skipper.

*Henry runs and hugs Adam.*

HENRY

Please try to come back.

ADAM

Everything in my power.

BLUE

Okay, please stand over here.

*The person in blue and Adam stand in a spotlight, it goes out, and they disappear.*

HENRY

Bye.

Scene 4*Lights up on Henry walking into his room upset. There is an older boy sitting in a chair next to his bed dressed in RED.*

RED

What a day, huh?

HENRY

Whoa! What? Who are you?

RED

Oh, just someone taking over. Tuff day huh?

HENRY

Taking over? What do you mean?

RED

Hey, Genius! Think about it! You just lost your guardian to be left all alone. Didn't they tell you? I'm the replacement.

HENRY

You're my new guardian?

RED

Of sorts.

(CONTINUED)

*Red stands, walks to him, and puts an arm around him.*

I'm here to lead you in a better direction. I'm going to do much more than just look after you. We're going to have some fun.

HENRY

Okay.

RED

We clear? Good, now as I was saying, you've had a pretty tough day. Wouldn't you say?

HENRY

It was fine until Adam had to leave me.

RED

He gets taken away on your 13th birthday. Tisk, tisk, tisk. That's gotta hurt.

HENRY

Yeah.

RED

It must make you angry.

HENRY

No, more sad really.

RED

I'll take that. You're parents home?

HENRY

It's just my mom, but no.

RED

What? Your mom isn't waiting for you on your birthday? That's a shame. She better be planning something big.

HENRY

I'm sure she is, but she has to work.

RED

Well, It's your 13th. It is a very important day. You're not a kid anymore. You're all grewed up!

HENRY

I don't know if she was thinking about it. She didn't mention anything.

(Thinks)

I don't think she said happy birthday this morning.

(CONTINUED)

RED

What? I bet all the other kids parents wake them up just to tell them. Especially, on their 13th.

HENRY

My friend Jerry said that his mom brought breakfast to him in his room and let him stay home from school on his birthday.

RED

Awwww, you wasted most of your day at school, and not even a friggin' cupcake with a candle. That sucks.

HENRY

Yeah, I just cereal.

RED

You can eat that anytime! That's nothing special!

HENRY

Yeah I know!

RED

(Smiles)

Sounds like she really doesn't care.

HENRY

Yeah, it kind of does.

RED

The least she could do was Happy Birthday! Is that so much to ask?

HENRY

No, it's not.

RED

You should say something about it as soon as she gets home.

HENRY

I might.

RED

You should

HENRY

It doesn't seem right though.

RED

Oh, come on. After everything that has happened on a very important day? To me, that's inexcusable.

(CONTINUED)

HENRY

I don't know.

*A GIRL in white shows up.*

GIRL

What are you doing?

HENRY

Huh? Who are you?

RED

Shit. I'm just trying to get him what he deserves on his birthday.

GIRL

Don't listen to him.

HENRY

Why not? Who are you?

GIRL

I'm here to guide you in the right direction.

RED

Oh, please. Give me a break.

HENRY

Okay, what's going on?

GIRL

Since you asked. We are here to help you decide...

RED

*(Interrupts)*

Oh, he doesn't want to be bored with this stupid story.

HENRY

Actually, I'm real confused. I'd like to know what's going on.

*Red makes a groan and sits down in the chair, and looks bored.*

GIRL

We are here to help you decide right from wrong. You really don't need a guardian telling you what to do. So, it's time for you to hear both sides, and decide for yourself. Decide where to go, what to do, what to say. We can't make you do anything, we just tell you our side, and you do what you think is best.

(CONTINUED)



HENRY

So, you guys are like the shoulder angels.

RED

Ding, ding, ding. But I'll have you know, I'm not a pushover.

GIRL

(Glaring at him)

Neither am I.

HENRY

That's awesome! I only thought that happened in movies.

RED

Yeah, well here we are.

HENRY

Does everyone get one?

GIRL

Actually no, only special cases get them.

HENRY

Special case? Why am I a special case?

GIRL

It's not really time for that right now. You're not ready.

RED

Awww, come on. Don't treat him like a child.

HENRY

Yeah, I want to know.

GIRL

I can't say.

(Looks at Red)

Neither can you, and you know it.

HENRY

(Pointing at each)

So, you're the bad, and you're the good.

GIRL

Was it the colors that gave it away?

RED

No! I refuse to take that! I'm not that bad. Sometimes bad things can be good for you, right?

(CONTINUED)

GIRL

(Shrugs)  
He's right.

RED

Shazamm!

HENRY

How?

GIRL

Well, you can learn from bad things. So, it might work for you. Some things that are considered bad really aren't. It might not necessarily be right, but not really bad enough to hurt you. Spiritually anyway.

RED

Yeah, so being bad can be good.

GIRL

(To Red)  
Don't push it.

(To Henry)  
You have to do what you think is right. Don't base it completely on what we say.

RED

Yeah, you become who you are, and what you want to be.

HENRY

How did you two get in your position?

GIRL

Sorry, can't really tell you that either.

RED

Well, that's not totally true. We can say that we were once like you. Just kids living our lives, had little accidents, and died. We did certain things in our lives and we work by putting our qualities to use.

GIRL

Some had more than just little accidents.

RED

Oh, you're not perfect.

GIRL

Of course not.

HENRY

What kind of accidents? How did you both die?

(CONTINUED)

GIRL

That's what we can't really talk about. It might influence your decisions a little too much.

RED

Yeah, on both sides of the perspective. Not just mine.

GIRL

Sometimes there are just unanswered questions, but they will be answered in due time.

RED

Okay! Anyway, enough fiddle fartin' around. Let's do something.

(He starts jumping on the bed)

All this information crap is boring. We aren't getting anywhere.

HENRY

What should we do?

RED

You're the birthday boy. You decide. What do you want?

GIRL

Got homework?

HENRY

Yeah.

RED

Awwww, it's his birthday, he already had to go to school. He needs to have a little fun. Don't ruin it for him.

HENRY

Well, I can't really do anything fun without my mom.

RED

Why not? Call some friends and party.

HENRY

I really don't have any friends. I usually just stay at home.

RED

Well, we are going to have to work on that dude. That's no bueno at all.

HENRY

Bueno?

(CONTINUED)

GIRL

It's Spanish for good. He thinks he's clever.

HENRY

I don't know Spanish.

RED

What are they teaching kids these days! You got to know how to ask for la cerveza.

HENRY

Huh?

GIRL

Doesn't matter.

RED

At least go watch some TV.

GIRL

If you get your homework done now, you won't have to worry about it later.

RED

One day won't hurt. Go find some good food, and watch TV. Relax.

HENRY

I am hungry and burned out on school.

RED

Alright, go relax. Enjoy the day.

*We hear his mom's voice from off stage.*

MOM (O.S.)

Hey! Happy Birthday! I have a surprise for you! I've been preparing all day! Come check it out kiddo!

HENRY

Really?

*Red shrugs and the Girl smiles.*

MOM (O.S.)

Yeah!

HENRY

Alright!

*Henry runs out of the room, and Red and Girl follow shortly after.*

Scene 5

*Lights up on Adam at the podium in the "other world" like the beginning.*

WHITE

Welcome back. How was work? Have the clouds been looking nice? Haven't been able to see them since I have my head in this book all the time. Do I look uptight to you?

ADAM

YEAH, SORRY. LOOK, I DIDN'T KNOW I WAS GOING TO COME BACK THIS SOON. I THOUGHT I HAD TO LEARN MY LESSON, AND THEN COME BACK.

WHITE

You didn't learn your lesson?

ADAM

Well the thing is that I really don't remember my life before. So, I don't know what the lesson to learn.

WHITE

What have you been doing all this time?

ADAM

My job.

WHITE

Your job was to learn your lesson. Realize the mistakes you made in your life, and fix them through the child. You were given a second chance.

ADAM

How am I supposed to do that if I don't remember my previous life and mistakes?

WHITE

I don't know. Let's see if I can help you. What did you do in your new life? What was it like?

ADAM

You're going to help me?

WHITE

Of course.

ADAM

Can you do that?

(CONTINUED)

WHITE

Why not? Everyone can use as much help as hey can get. So, go on, tell me about it.

ADAM

Well, when I first got there, Henry was just a baby. I came in on his parents screaming and yelling. His dad was an abusive alcoholic. They just left Henry in his crib crying. They paid absolutely no attention to him, gave no care. Right from the beginning I took complete care of him. His dad was never really around, but his mother took good care of him when she could. Eventually, she divorced him and married a couple of other times, but now it's just the two of them. They have managed very well. I wasn't just a guardian, I felt like...like a father. Yet, I feel like there is more to it. I feel like something is left out.

WHITE

Well, judging from what you've said, I can tell you that you have learned your lesson.

ADAM

Really?

WHITE

Yes, but like you said, there is more to it. You have to know what lesson it is. Unfortunately, I am not the one to be dealing with that area. You will have to go talk to the Head Guide. Well, one of them anyway.

ADAM

Wait, what? Why don't you deal with this?

WHITE

I just don't, okay?

ADAM

What's a Head Guide?

WHITE

I really don't have time to tell you. There is a war going on down there and lots of fairly innocent people are coming soon. I've already had to deal with Saddam, so you can imagine what that was like, and I can't wait until Bush gets here. Ask **her** what she does.

ADAM

Well, how do I find the Head Guide?

WHITE

Same routine, stand in the circle, and I will transport you.

(CONTINUED)

ADAM

All right.

*Adam goes and stands in the circle.*

WHITE

Have fun, and good luck. Don't screw this up, or...you'll be screwed. Bye.

*White pulls string.*

ADAM

Wait, how...

*Adam is gone, and White chuckles.*

Scene 6

*Lights up on Henry in his room sitting at his desk studying and writing. Red is pacing around the room, and the Girl is sitting on the bed reading.*

*This is a 5 yrs later. It is Henry's 18th birthday.*

RED

Come on! Why the heck are you doing here on your 18th birthday?

HENRY

What is there to do outside of here?

RED

Freakin' party! Go out with your friends and drink, do some drugs if they have them. Something. Anything!

HENRY

You know very well I don't have friends that do all that.

RED

That's what I've been trying to do! Get you to make friends with all of them, and be able to have fun for once in your life.

HENRY

I just don't fit in.

RED

*(Pointing to Girl)*

You've been hanging around him too much. How can you be getting to him? We are both around him all the damn time!

(CONTINUED)

GIRL

Don't get mad at him for making the right choices.

RED

Right choices?! Whatever, you're just being cocky because you're winning.

GIRL

And your just jealous.

RED

Yeah! I want to have some fun. He needs to have some fun.

*Red starts playing with the small basketball, and shooting it in the net above the door.*

HENRY

There is always time for fun later. It's Monday anyway, I have school work to do. Besides, Mom is going to have family over tonight for my birthday.

RED

Family?!

HENRY

Yeah, family.

RED

What about friends?

HENRY

We've been over this. I'm off to college next year. That's when I can have some fun. I need to spend the time that I have here with my family because I'm not coming home hardly at all.

*Red slams the ball.*

RED

Damnit!

GIRL

(Smiles)

Wise decision.

RED

Oh well, that's okay, I can have more fun with college people anyway. I don't need these high school losers.

*Red goes to Henry, puts his arm around him, and smiles*

You will love college. There are so many more people there. You are bound to find at least a handful of

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)



RED (cont'd)

people that you fit in with. You'll have plenty of time to party and do work. People do so much more there, and it will be all around you. You will be able to try many different things. Have tons of fun!

HENRY

(Smiles big)

Yeah! Wait, what is your idea of fun anyway? Just getting drunk and doing drugs?

RED

And girls!

GIRL

Just shut up, okay.

HENRY

I remember on my last birthday you said I could by cigarettes because I was 17. Then, I tried, but I couldn't because I had to be 18. So, you talked me into stealing them, only to get stopped to by the cop outside.

RED

Yeah, your 18! Let's get some cigarettes!

HENRY

When we ran into someone with them, you convinced me to smoke...A lot. I ended up sick, and blacked out. You can't smoke 3 at a time!

RED

You just didn't know how to do it.

HENRY

I'd never smoked before!

RED

See, if you would listen to me earlier then you would've been fine...Whatever, college will be real fun. You'll see. Now, just do your work now and make it to that point.

GIRL

He'll do his work anyway.

HENRY

(To Girl)

By the way, could you come help me concentrate on this?

(CONTINUED)

GIRL

(Going to him)  
Sure, what do you need?

HENRY

Just be here next to me, and keep me focused.

RED

I can do that.

HENRY

Can you?

RED

No, I guess not. I get bored.

HENRY

That's what I thought.

GIRL

You know, I was the same as you when I was in school.

HENRY

Really? What was your life like when you were alive?

RED

Nope! Can't do it.

GIRL

(To Red)  
Shut up, I know.

RED

Of course you do.  
(Sarcastically)  
You know all, you know what's best, and you know what's right.

GIRL

(To Henry)  
Sorry, it's still not the time for that.

HENRY

When is the time? I'd really like to know more about you two.

GIRL

(Putting her hand on his shoulder)  
I know, but the time will come. That will probably be the time we have to leave you, and you're still not quite ready for that.

(CONTINUED)

HENRY

When will I be ready?

GIRL

It's actually up to you, in a way. We'll just know.

RED

Let's just tell him, and see what happens.

HENRY

No, it's okay, I can wait.

GIRL

Good, I'm not ready now either. Now, your work. You probably have a few hours before your family starts getting here.

RED

What's on TV?

GIRL

No, he needs to get this done.

RED

But this is such a drag.

GIRL

Too bad, it's not about you.

*Red sighs and drops to the floor.*

Scene 7

*Lights up on Head Guide at a desk in the "other world".*

*Adam walks in.*

ADAM

Hello, are you the Head Guide?

GUIDE

One of them, yes.

ADAM

I'm supposed to come see you.

GUIDE

Who sent you?

ADAM

The guy at the gate with a stick up is ass...oopps, probably shouldn't say ass, huh?

(CONTINUED)

GUIDE

Make that your last time.

ADAM

Sorry. So, why am I coming to see you?

GUIDE

I don't know, you tell me.

ADAM

Ummmm...okay, how?

GUIDE

What was your conversation with him, and what did he say before he sent you here?

*Adam speaks quickly just to get it out to her. The Guide smiles listening.*

ADAM

(Takes a deep breath)

I died somehow, and was sent to the gate judge. He put me to work being a guardian for a little baby named Henry Gain. On Henry's thirteenth birthday I was sent back to the man at the gate to see if I learned my lesson, but I didn't because I couldn't remember my past life. I described my new life, and the gate guy said that I learned my lesson, but couldn't get in because I needed to know the lesson to be learned. So, he sent me to you.

GUIDE

Alright, this is what I'm going to do to help you. I'm going to look up some clips of your life, and they will be played in that 'Watching Well' over there. Then...

ADAM

'Watching Well'?

GUIDE

Yes, see that thing over there?

*She points to it and it lights up.*

That's a 'Watching Well'. The same thing as a 'Wishing Well', except that instead of making a wish into it, you see what you wish to see. Hence, 'Watching Well'.

ADAM

Oh, very interesting.

GUIDE

Now, after I show you clips from your life, I will show you clips from the life of which you were a guardian.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

GUIDE (cont'd)

Maybe you can put the pieces together. Then, do whatever the "gate guy" tells you.

ADAM

Why can't someone just tell me what my lesson is, so I can realize and understand, then be done with it?

GUIDE

Before you can learn anything, or understand, you have to figure it out for yourself. You can't have someone tell you what you've done, or who you are, and expect that to be good enough. No one really learns that way.

ADAM

Yeah, I guess that's true... You know, you seem very familiar.

GUIDE

Well, we probably met in our previous life. Many people who die have done something in their life that could be useful to others. Most get put to some kind of work in this world.

ADAM

What did you do in your life to get you put to this work?

GUIDE

Well, I guided one person in the right direction by making a right choice in life, but I strongly misguided another. So, I'm one of the people over those who actually guide people. I learned my mistakes, and I know both sides of life. I was promoted without working my way up.

ADAM

What exactly is your work? What is a guide?

GUIDE

Why do you ask so many questions? You're never going to get where you want by asking questions all the time.

ADAM

Oh, now that's not true. I will get to where I want, just slower than most. I'll have all the answers when I get there, and it won't slow me down later. Besides, I have to ask questions when they come because who knows if I'll ever get the chance to get to ask questions to certain people ever again. That's what everyone wants, right? We all want answers to so many questions that we ask through our entire life? Now, what is a guide?

(CONTINUED)

GUIDE

Interesting fact...Everyone has at least one guide in their life. Most of the time you can't see your guide. Everyone has a designed plan to their life, a path to follow to bring them where they want to go, or need to go, in life. The guide helps you follow that path. They watch out for you so that you don't get involved with something that isn't meant for you. They put you in the right place at the right time. You ever hear the term "everything happens for a reason?"

ADAM

Yeah.

GUIDE

That's because the guide does lead you to bad situations, but that's because it's to test you, and see if you do it or not. It's a learning situation, you are supposed to learn from that bad situation, and use it to your advantage to help progress to where you want to go. Early in life, sometimes even before your life, you plan everything.

ADAM

So, I planned to die and be a guardian?

GUIDE

Maybe, some people make their map and are guided, but fall into bad situations and take them the wrong way. After a while it can keep happening and then no longer follow their guide. In which case, a path is made for you by us, trying to lead you to where you need to go. Maybe to help you get back on track, but mostly to help other people stay on theirs. You basically become a pawn in the game of life. That's why some people just get "bad vibes" from people. Those are people who are on track and come in contact with those who aren't. Also, if you ever hear someone say "you have a good Ora about you," then that means they are on track with their life.

ADAM

Interesting, but what do you do as a Head Guide? And how is a Guardian any different than a Guide?

GUIDE

I look over the guides. When the person that is being guided falls asleep, the guide comes back to one of us, and we remind them where the person is going and what has to happen to keep them there. Basically, guide the guides. Guardians help protect the person, not guide them.

(CONTINUED)

ADAM

Huh, good to know. Is there someone above everything?

GUIDE

I really can't say. Now, shall we continue with what we are actually here for?

ADAM

Yes, of course, no more questions.

GUIDE

All right then. Go over to the 'Watching Well' and look into it. The Well will read your heart, mind, and soul through your eyes, and give you what you need to know.

*Adam goes to the Well and looks inside. Sound effects go off before, and during the process. Lights flash and swirl around as well.*

*The song "The Outsider" by Aperfectcircle (Apocalypse Mix) plays.*

*Adam watches and feels several different emotions to what he is seeing. He says things while watching it, but not giving anything away. Just reaction words. After a little while he looks up at the Guide wide eyed.*

ADAM

Why didn't you tell me?

GUIDE

I told you that you had to see, and figure it out for yourself.

ADAM

That's why you looked familiar.

*The Guide nods.*

ADAM

What happened to our children? Can it show me that? And the girl, what happened to her?

GUIDE

It can show you everything that has to do with you. Just look into it, and think about what you wish to see.

*Adam looks back in and it all happens again.*

(CONTINUED)

ADAM

I knew it, somehow I just always knew. I can't believe all that happened, but it's weird how it all turned out. I'm so sorry I caused all of this.

GUIDE

No, I'm sorry. I'm responsible for a lot of it as well. It's all okay now. It worked out for the best. It always does.

(shrugs)

Everything happens for a reason.

(giggles)

ADAM

(chuckles)

Yeah...Is it possible for me to hug you?

GUIDE

Of course, I think we deserve it.

*They hug.*

ADAM

Can I go back to Earth, and get things straight?

GUIDE

It might be too late to help yourself.

ADAM

But I still have time to confront it, and get things settled, and be able to rest in peace.

GUIDE

That's true, but that isn't for me to decide. That's for the guy at the gate. Go back to him, and tell him that you learned your lesson, explain what you wish to do, and it may be granted.

ADAM

Okay, thank you so much.

GUIDE

No, thank you for finally understanding what I tried to explain to you all those years ago.

ADAM

(Drops head in shame)

Yeah.

GUIDE

And if you do go back, tell them I love them very much. Always have, and always will. I'll be watching them.

(Giggles)

(CONTINUED)



ADAM

(Nods)  
Will do. Bye.

GUIDE

No, see you later. There are no more goodbyes for us.

ADAM

(Smiles)  
See you later.  
(Walks off then turns)  
I love you.

GUIDE

I love you too.

*Adam walks off, and The Guide is left watching him.*

*The song "What I've Done" by Linkin Park plays as the lights slowly fade.*

ACT IIScene 1

*Lights up on Henry, Red, and Girl at a bar with Henry's friend Chance, and Chances girlfriend, Faye. It is 3 years later, Henry's 21st birthday.*

HENRY

(Takes a shot and cringes)  
Wow, that one was strong.

RED

That's number 5. After those hit you, nothing will be too strong. What was that one called?

HENRY

What was that one?

CHANCE

Two Hicks and a Spic Chasing a Turkey Down a Gold Mine.

RED

Huh?

HENRY

(Drunkenly)  
Two Chicks and a Shpick Charsing a Twerkey Down a Goold Mine?

CHANCE

(Laughs)  
Sure.

GIRL

Oh no...

RED

Okay, well, write it down. It's tradition to write all your shots and drinks down.

HENRY

Write that down! What's in that?

CHANCE

Jack Daniels, Jim Beam, Tequialla, Wild Turkey and Goldschulger.

HENRY

I'm goinna be wasted in a few minutes.  
(Shakes head)  
Scratch that. I'm wasted now.  
(Laughs)

(CONTINUED)

CHANCE

Good, that's the way it's supposed to be.

RED

Time for something else!

HENRY

What's next on the list?

GIRL

Henry, you may want to slow down, or you'll get sick.

HENRY

Wait. I don't feel like getting sick.

RED

What?!

CHANCE

No man, you're not 21 until you throw up.

RED

Listen to the man!

HENRY

You're right!

GIRL

Alright, fine.

HENRY

I really shouldn't have eaten those wings and burger basket; right before taking all those shots.

GIRL

I told you!

RED

But they were mighty tasty!

CHANCE

Yeah well, shit happens. Time for a beer. What do you want?

HENRY

Corona with lime!

CHANCE

Alrighty then, Corona coming up.

HENRY

With Lime!

(CONTINUED)

CHANCE

Of course, is there any other way?

FAYE

I'll go get it.

CHANCE

Thanks babe.

HENRY

Thank you.

FAYE

No, problem.

GIRL

Great, now mixing liquor and beer. That's a smart choice.

RED

Liquor before beer you're in the clear!

HENRY

I'm glad you two were able to make it down here.

CHANCE

Wouldn't miss this for the world man.

GIRL

Not if you go back and forth between the two all night.

RED

Shut up and let him have some fun. He's finally learning.

HENRY

How's Virginia?

CHANCE

Man, it's beautiful! I love it over there.

GIRL

I figured the drugs would be enough.

RED

Those were real fun, but this is legal. He has to be able to have legal fun in public.

HENRY

Why did you leave here anyway?

(CONTINUED)

CHANCE

I don't know. I just had to get out of this place. I had family in Virginia, and figured that would be a fun place to go.

GIRL

Go figure, one of the worst things to do, and the most dangerous for you in all aspects, would be the legal thing to do.

RED

(Agreeingly)  
Only in America!

CHANCE

You should come sometime and check it out.

HENRY

Man, I got to now, it's only fair. I've missed you man.

CHANCE

I've missed you too.

HENRY

We used to have some fun times.

CHANCE

Real fun times.

RED

He had the hook up to everything.

CHANCE

Speaking of fun times, you want to go smoke a bowl after this? For old times sake?

HENRY

I would love too, but I can't.

RED

Do it! You'll feel like a champ!

CHANCE

Why not?

HENRY

I'm on probation.

GIRL

Thanks to you!

(CONTINUED)

RED

Me?!

CHANCE

What happened?

GIRL

I tried to tell him to leave it behind, but you insisted to get him to go over and smoke.

HENRY

I was walking down the street at four in the morning with two of my friends. Then, four cop cars stopped us and gave us a sobriety test, searched us, and found pot on me.

GIRL

See!

RED

You tried to tell him!

CHANCE

That's unlucky.

HENRY

Yeah, tell me about it. It was such a fucked up situation. I didn't even get my rights read to me.

CHANCE

That's not cool.

HENRY

I know.

CHANCE

Have you been tested already?

HENRY

No, but it's coming, and I don't know when.

RED

He won't spring it up on you. Have some fun.

GIRL

Don't take the risk.

HENRY

I really think I could get away with smoking tonight, but I can't take the risk.

(CONTINUED)

CHANCE

I understand, don't push it.

HENRY

But when I'm off, it's going to be on.

CHANCE

Yeah, I bet.

*(Faye walks up with the drinks)*

FAYE

Here ya go. I got you one too.

HENRY AND CHANCE

Thank you.

*Henry and Chance cheers, and drink half their bottle.*

HENRY

So how long have you two been together?

CHANCE

About 8 months.

HENRY

Good job. Man, has it been that long since we've really talked?

CHANCE

Yeah, I guess so. We just talk bullshit randomly every once in a while.

GIRL

You know, I've always liked this guy. I've always had this feeling of importance with him.

RED

Awww, an outer world crush.

GIRL

Doesn't matter, that's not really the feeling I'm talking about.

RED

Whatever, you wish you could do him.

GIRL

I'm just saying that this guy plays more of a significance than we think.

(CONTINUED)

HENRY

So things are going well between you two?

CHANCE

Yeah, things are great. Right?

FAYE

Of course.

HENRY

Well, if this guy doesn't do it for you, I'm right here.

CHANCE

Fuck that man. You are not even better than me.

HENRY

Uh huh.

FAYE

Actually, you two are a lot alike.

HENRY

Yeah, we got that a lot.

CHANCE

Yeah, except I'm better looking.

FAYE

(Smiles)

That is true.

HENRY

She's just saying that because she has too.

CHANCE

She better.

RED

Enough of this crap! Go find you a woman, stop hitting on his.

HENRY

I need to find me a good woman.

CHANCE

Yeah you do.

HENRY

I'm tired of always being the third wheel.

(CONTINUED)



CHANCE

Me too.

HENRY

Don't agree with me.

CHANCE

But it's all true.

HENRY

I know that, but I don't need you to prove it.

GIRL

It's okay, you will find the right one eventually.

RED

Not if you don't start hitting on some. Stop letting them get away.

HENRY

I need another drink.

CHANCE

Fish bowl, coming up.

HENRY

Oh shit.

GIRL

Uh oh, try not to do anything stupid. Remember to drink lots of water before you pass out.

RED

That's what I'm talking about! You aren't going to remember anything.

HENRY

Bring it on!

CHANCE

Remember, you have to finish it in seven minutes or less.

*Henry drops his arms, and has a sick look of horror.*

*Chance and Faye laugh, Girl slaps her forehead, Red's arms go up in joy. Lights down.*

Scene 2

*Lights up on White at the podium. After a few moments Adam walks up.*

ADAM

Why is it every time I have to go to another step; I have to come to you.

WHITE

I wonder that myself sometimes.

ADAM

So, what do I do next?

WHITE

I don't know.

ADAM

Shouldn't you?

WHITE

Not until you open your mouth, and tell me what happened.

ADAM

Okay, well, I wanted to know if there was anyway to get back down there, and try to set some things straight with Henry.

WHITE

Have you learned your lesson?

ADAM

In more ways than you know.

WHITE

I doubt that. I can see that you did learn your lesson.

ADAM

Really? You know that for sure?

*White gives Adam a look.*

So, can I go back and talk to him? Just to let him know about what happened, apologize, make sure he is okay and going to be okay, going in the right direction, and all that jazz?

WHITE

I'm sure we can arrange that.

(Begins to search through some papers)

Shouldn't be hard to do...

(Searching)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

WHITE (cont'd)

Maybe hard to find...The form...Ah Ha! Now...

(Writing and signing)

Take this form to The Sender, and they will know what to do.

ADAM

That's it?

WHITE

Yep.

ADAM

How long will I be there?

WHITE

You'll see.

ADAM

How will I know when I have to leave?

(White is silent)

Ooooook, so just to the circle then...

*Adam walks to the circle.*

WHITE

You're a fast learner...Now.

ADAM

(In the circle)

Yeah, thanks for that.

WHITE

You're welcome.

ADAM

I'll be back.

WHITE

I'm preparing already.

ADAM

Catch you on the flip side.

*White pulls the string and Adam is gone.*

*White lets out a deep sigh, and looks away as if looking for the next person.*

*Lights down.*

Scene 3

*Lights up on The Sender looking very bored and unhappy. After a few moments, Adam walks up.*

ADAM

Are you the sender?

SENDER

Why do you ask? Do you think you would be sent to the wrong place?

ADAM

No, just making sure.

SENDER

What makes you think this wouldn't be the right place?

ADAM

I don't know...You're not very chipper.

SENDER

Would you be if you were in my position?

ADAM

I'm not sure. What exactly do you do?

SENDER

I spend my eternity sending people where they want, or need to be, and they usually end up happier. I'll never be able to do that. I'm stuck here forever. I have a very miserable job.

ADAM

I'm sorry, that really...

SENDER

How would you feel if you helped people go places to be happy, but never happy yourself? People being able to go about their lives, and me not even getting the option. What do you think it's like for me?

ADAM

Well, it would...

SENDER

It's torture! Why can't I do it?! Why am I left behind?

ADAM

Did you get another chance?

(CONTINUED)

SENDER

Yeah, but I didn't do too well...Didn't do too well about five different times.

ADAM

I see...

SENDER

But I told them that six was my lucky number. If I could just get one more chance, I could change something. This is a living nightmare! Well, I guess just a nightmare. You would have to actually be living to live a nightmare. I'm not really alive, so I can't be living. What I wouldn't give to be alive again!

ADAM

I'm sorry, I don't really have time for this. Can you just take this paper and send me where I need to go?

SENDER

That's my job, isn't it? To make you happy? It's all about you.

(Snatching the paper)

Time doesn't exist here, so I don't know what the rush is about.

ADAM

Time exists there though. I need to get there ASAP.

SENDER

Doesn't matter, you're going to be late anyway. Of course, late can be on time.

ADAM

Can you just send me please?

SENDER

Yes sir, excuse me for trying to have a decent conversation for once.

(Looking at paper)

Well, it looks like you're going back as a ghost. Lucky son of a gun. Sent to Henry Gaines, age 22.

ADAM

22?! Has it been that long?

SENDER

Hello, no existence of time.

ADAM

Right, whatever, send me.

(CONTINUED)

SENDER

Fine Mr. Impatient, stand in the square.

ADAM

The square? No more circles?

SENDER

Do you want to ask questions, or go? Your choice.

ADAM

Okay, okay.

*Adam stands in the square.*

SENDER

Have fun, be happy, have a good life, or afterlife.  
Hope that you don't screw up, and end up here with my  
job. No need to thank me, because no one ever does.

*The Sender pulls the lever.*

ADAM

Thank you!

*Adam is gone.*

SENDER

Finally! Your welcome.  
(Picks up a book)  
Now, 'The Number 23'. This is so me.

*The Sender reads intently.*

*Lights down.*

Scene 4

*Lights up on Henry pacing, and is a little angry.*

*Red and Girl walk into Henry's room.*

HENRY

Leave me alone!

RED

Just go after her. You need to hit that!

HENRY

I know, but it doesn't matter, that's not what I want.

GIRL

If he really wanted to he would go over there and do  
it.

(CONTINUED)

HENRY

Yes listen to her!

RED

You shut up! This isn't fair, it's supposed to be my time! He's been following you his whole freakin' life!

GIRL

He knows what's right.

HENRY

Yeah, I do, and I know what I want.

RED

It's not hard, just go over there and be nice, then start being a dick. Chicks love it!

HENRY

I know what to do. She doesn't fit my category.

RED

Name one thing wrong with that girl.

HENRY

For one she is hitting on all the other guys. I really don't feel different from all the other guys, I don't like competition when going after a girl, and if she is stupid enough to fall for one of those assholes with same dumbass routine, then she's too stupid for me. There! You got a three for one deal.

GIRL

That is great reasoning.

RED

Why does he have to be like you?

HENRY

Why aren't all the girls like you?

GIRL

What?

RED

What?!

HENRY

I wish there was some way I could be with you.

GIRL

Look Henry, you can't feel that way.

(CONTINUED)

HENRY

Why not?

GIRL

Because it's...

RED

Weird!

GIRL

Actually, yeah.

HENRY

Well I know that, and I know that it's impossible, but it won't keep me from feeling that way anyway.

GIRL

Henry I...

HENRY

You know me, you know what I want, you are just...it. You're perfect.

GIRL

I'm not perfect.

RED

Chill out man, chill out.

HENRY

Why wouldn't you be? What was your life like that would keep you from being perfect? What happened?

RED

Well, for one she's dead.

GIRL

Henry you know I can't tell you.

HENRY

When then?

GIRL

When it's time.

RED

That sounds like a cop out!

HENRY

It is a cop out!

(CONTINUED)



GIRL

No sense in copping out when there is no chance that we could be together, or the fact that NO ONE is perfect. Ever!

HENRY

Yeah, well, I just want to know where you two are coming from. The back story, it's been bothering me for years.

GIRL

When you are ready, then we can tell you.

*Adam starts to walk in behind Henry. He is wearing grey.*

RED

He's ready!

GIRL

What?

RED

(Pointing behind Henry)

Look!

HENRY

(Turns)

Oh shit! Who the fuck are you?!

ADAM

I'm Adam. You don't remember me?

HENRY

No, should I?

ADAM

I was your guardian until you were 13.

HENRY

That's been so long ago, a lot has happened since then.

RED

You damn right!

GIRL

He was the one before us. Are you his final one too?

ADAM

No. The grouchy guy said I was a ghost.

(CONTINUED)

HENRY

A ghost?! Why would he send you back as a ghost? You can do that? Go from being a guardian to a ghost?

ADAM

You, wouldn't believe what goes on over there.

HENRY

No, there has to be an actual reason why this would happen.

ADAM

I don't know what it would be.

(Pauses and thinks, then realizes)

Oh of course, that makes sense.

HENRY

What? Are you allowed to tell me?

ADAM

Yeah I can tell you. It's the reason I was able to come back. I actually have something for everyone.

GIRL

Did I get a promotion?

RED

Can I be a ghost? That would be awesome!

HENRY

(Pointing at Red)

I hope he's not a ghost.

ADAM

No, it's a very serious matter.

GIRL

What would you have that's serious for us?

RED

Yeah?

HENRY

Enough, bullshit! The suspense is killing me!

ADAM

There is no easy way to really say this...

ALL THREE

Get on with it!

(CONTINUED)

ADAM

Fine! Henry, I am your father.

RED

Vader! I knew you were on my side!

ADAM

I'm your father too.

HENRY AND RED

What?!

ADAM

I guess you can say I did some soul searching, and found that in my past life I was your father.

HENRY

That doesn't make any sense, how can you be my father? You have seen both of my parents.

RED

I don't even remember my father. So, I guess it can make some sense.

(Thinks)

I do remember having a little brother. My mom gave him up for adoption.

HENRY

I'm adopted?!

ADAM

Yes.

HENRY

What happened?

ADAM

Well, I was an abusive alcoholic...

HENRY

Just like my dad.

ADAM

Irony isn't it.

GIRL

Life itself is one big irony.

ADAM

You have no idea. Anyway, when I died it was impossible for your mom to take care of the both of you, so she gave up the youngest for adoption; figuring it would be easier for you to forget who your real parents were.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ADAM (cont'd)

Someone adopted you right away, but got stuck in the same situation. That's why you were chosen for me, for me to understand myself from the other side. From your point of view. I was never there for you, but then again I was.

RED

We couldn't take it, Mom and me. She went crazy, started to be a really religious person, but being a horrible person at the same time. No one was there for me! I was stuck alone getting treated like crap! I started to not care what was right or wrong anymore. I started getting out of hand, partying all the time, drinking, doing drugs, having lots of sex...Then I just started getting angry. I tried everything I could just to make people feel as badly as I did. I corrupted them, talked them into all kinds of things that they never wanted to do. Then, one day I snapped, and decided to just start shooting. It all caught up to me rather quickly.

(Pause and then gets really upset)

If only someone was there! Someone to help guide me through. Where was my guardian?! Where were you?! Why didn't you come back to help me?! Why did he deserve to get you back, I was the oldest! It was the most crucial part of my life and you left me! Mom tried to help me, but it just wasn't enough.

ADAM

(Goes over to hug him)

I'm here for you now.

RED

(Pushes him away)

It's too late! I don't need you now! Look at me! I'm dead and cursed forever! Doomed to repeat all my mistakes in life.

ADAM

You may have a second chance, if you choose to have one. Maybe this is your test. To see if you can finally learn, and confront it all. As long as you pay attention, and don't pass up the opportunity.

RED

There are no more chances for me. Unless the chances are worse.

HENRY

I'm sorry.

(CONTINUED)

RED

There's nothing to be sorry about, I don't need anyone to pity me. Just forget about it, what's done is done. We all have to live with what we get, or not live with what we get.

HENRY

If it helps any, I forgive you, and you are the best brother anyone could ever ask for.

RED

I did nothing but try to lead you in the wrong direction.

HENRY

In doing so you helped lead me in the right direction with some fun on the way.

RED

Thank her, she lead you the right way the entire time.

HENRY

Yeah, but I wouldn't have been able to have all the fun like I did without you. She is too goody goody.

GIRL

I kind of have to be.

HENRY

Yeah, but you can't have one without the other. I wouldn't be here without either one of you. There are two sides to everything life, the world, people, stories, history, everything.

GIRL

What about me? You said you had something for all of us.

ADAM

Yes, I needed to tell you that I'm so very sorry.

GIRL

Why?

ADAM

Do you remember how you died?

GIRL

Yeah, I was in a car accident.

ADAM

How did that happen?

(CONTINUED)

GIRL

I remember driving over a bridge, and when I was coming down there was a car slowly drifting into my lane, and hit me on the front corner. I started to tumble and that's it.

ADAM

Me too. The other driver was me. I was drunk and being stupid. I'm sorry, I know you had a lot to look forward to in your life.

GIRL

Actually, no I didn't. Believe it or not you did me a favor.

HENRY

Huh?

GIRL

I was driving around thinking of how I should kill myself.

HENRY

Why?

GIRL

I couldn't handle my life anymore. There was no excitement to it. I didn't have any friends. People just came to me for help all the time. Help with homework, relationships, friendships, all of it. I helped people with those problems, but had those problems myself. I just stayed alone and did school. No fun whatsoever, and when I would try to help myself, no one would listen to me. I lead people up hill while I was tumbling down. I attempted to commit suicide a few times, but it just didn't work. No one even cared, they all just laughed at me, and talked about me behind my back. They thought I was just doing it for attention. I guess in a way I was, but I needed the attention I needed it to stay alive, a reason to keep living. I never got it, so, I decided to end all the pain and suffering the only way I could.

HENRY

What about your parents?

GIRL

They had their own problems to worry about. I never wanted to bother them with mine. I wanted to show I didn't really need them. That was probably a mistake. Now, I'm here trying to lead people the right way, and not give up by being there for them when they need it. That way they won't end up making the wrong decisions like I did.

(CONTINUED)

ADAM

You can have a second chance too.

GIRL

Yeah, but this is better for me. This is what I was initially intended to do, I guess, help others instead of myself. I'm okay with that. I don't want to worry about dealing with real life again.

HENRY

I'm sorry it didn't work out for you.

GIRL

Don't be sorry. I'm glad to have been with you to help. The only thing I would've done differently is to find someone like you. I'm sorry you haven't found someone. I'm sure it will all work out. Especially, since you are going the way you should be. I do wish I had people like us when I was alive.

ADAM

He is a special case. He has something to do, a purpose in life, instead of a purpose in afterlife. He will do great things.

HENRY

I hope so...What about mom? What ever happened to her?

RED

She had cancer, and died about a year after I did.

HENRY

Really?

ADAM

But I've seen her, and she is fine. She is watching you to help guide you where you need to be. You have everyone on your side.

HENRY

So, what happens now? I know none of you can stay around with me. I can feel that I'm at my point in life to make my own decisions without any help.

GIRL

I don't know what will happen to any of us.

RED

Probably just be transferred to someone else who needs us.

(CONTINUED)

HENRY

When do you have to leave?

ADAM

Well, I...

*Blue enters.*

BLUE

Who is ready to go?

HENRY

You know you have impeccable timing?

BLUE

I try, it's all about timing you know. So who is it gonna be?

ADAM

I guess all of us.

BLUE

Except Henry, of course. Well, say your goodbyes and let's get in the air.

HENRY

What will happen to all of us?

BLUE

Well, you three will go back to see the man, and sort stuff out with him. As for you, well, you are going to be left on your own for a while. If you stay in the right direction then you will have one more final guide to get you through.

HENRY

Will I know what happens to them?

BLUE

You'll know, just know now that everything's going to be all right.

HENRY

Well, I guess this is good bye.

ADAM

No more goodbyes, just see you later.

HENRY

Okay, well, see ya later.

(CONTINUED)



ADAM

Bye son, sorry I wasn't always there for you.

HENRY

You were, be there for him now.

RED

Bye baby brother. You know I always knew that would be true, it just fit so well.

HENRY

Yeah, typical brothers.

RED

Well, be good, or I'll be back to show you what not to do. You've learned from the best.

GIRL

See ya Henry.

HENRY

I hope we will meet again somehow.

GIRL

(Giggles)

Maybe in another life. "Que sera, sera."

BLUE

Timing, timing, timing. We all have to stay on track. There will always be time for reunions, as you've seen already. It happens all the time.

*The Girl goes to Henry, runs her hands through his hair, and lightly kisses him.*

GIRL

Think of me when the wind blows.

*They all stand together.*

RED

See you on the flip side.

*They disappear.*

*The song 'Valentine's Day' by Linkin Park plays.*

*Henry stands alone for a while, and then sits thinking.*

*Lights slowly fade.*

ACT IIIScene 1

*Lights up on White at the podium. Adam, Red, and Girl walk up.*

WHITE

Ah, three in one. Well, that saves me some time.  
(Chuckles)  
So, what's the situation?

ADAM

As you know, I've done everything I was supposed to do. I've learned my lessons, and sorted everything out with everyone. What do I do now?

GIRL

What about us? We did what we were supposed to do. Do we get assigned to someone else? Or...

RED

Can I be a ghost?! That would be so much fun, I think I could do some good.

WHITE

Such a young soul. Actually, you and I need to talk.

RED

Me? Why?

WHITE

Because you are the bad one, you still have some making up to do.

RED

But I know I did wrong, and I pointed my brother the right way.

WHITE

Sorry, not good enough.

(Looking at the Girl)

You Miss, have been promoted. You did a great job and I know that this sort of work is what you want to do. So, if you take it, then you can be a Final Guide.

GIRL

What is it like?

WHITE

Well, pretty much the same thing, but it's a "big promotion", and you will have to go to school.

(CONTINUED)

GIRL

I would love to.

WHITE

Good, then we are gravy. Go see the one of the Head Guides, and she'll set stuff up for you.

*White hands her a paper form, and Girl takes it.*

WHITE

Go over to the circle, and you will be on your way.

*Girl goes to circle.*

GIRL

I hope everything works out for you two. We will see each other again, I'm sure. Oh, and Adam. I do forgive you.

ADAM

Thank you.

GIRL

See you later.

RED

See ya. Lucky!

*White pulls the string, and she is gone.*

WHITE

Now, Adam, what do you think we should do with you?

ADAM

I honestly would like a second chance in life. If that's possible.

WHITE

I think that is a great idea, but know this, if you don't lead a better life this time you will be in a bigger pickle than you were now.

ADAM

Absolutely, it won't happen again.

WHITE

Now, you won't remember any of this that has happened. We don't want you going down there, and disproving everything people believe. We wouldn't be able to have as much fun here if you do that. It's interesting to see what people come up with to solve the meaning of life.

(CONTINUED)

ADAM

I agree.

WHITE

I have the perfect place for you to go and lead your life.

(Writes on a paper and hands it to him)

Now, take this to the oh so pleasant Sender, and you will be on your way.

ADAM

This should be fun.

(Goes to the circle)

Bye son. Be good, please. I hope you get what you need.

(To White)

Please go easy on my son, he has been through so much. He doesn't need to suffer because of what I've done. He has come a long way, and he does have good to offer. Everyone deserves a second chance.

WHITE

I know, he will be fine.

*Adam nods and waves.*

RED

See ya, Dad. Thanks.

*White pulls the string, and Adam is gone.*

WHITE

(Maniacal laugh)

As for you.

RED

Can I be a ghost...Please?

WHITE

No, I think you would just have too much fun with that, and wouldn't learn anything.

RED

Can I have another second chance at life?

WHITE

Maybe, but you won't be human if that's the case.

RED

What do you mean?

WHITE

What do you think I mean? Go in as an ant so you can see what it's like to be tortured by little kids, or a

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

WHITE (cont'd)

fly to see how much you can really bug people. Maybe a butterfly, you can find how patience and hard work can get you to a beautiful stage in life, then cherish that beauty for a few short days, only to die and come back here. Or a dog, because I think both of us could enjoy that.

RED

I see...

*A bark comes from offstage, and White looks quickly.*

WHITE

Lucifer no! Put that down, bring it back!

(To Red)

Excuse me.

(White walks offstage)

Drop it! Give it to me. No sir! You want the calendar?

You want to pick another date for the world to end?

Then drop it. Thank you, now go lay down.

(White walks back on stage with a small white wing in his hand)

An angel wing. There's an angel somewhere flying around in circles. He's such a troublemaker sometimes. You know, one day he peed on Mother Nature's calendar and she ended up making it snow on Easter...In East Texas!

*White laughs.*

RED

So, when is the world going to end?

WHITE

Oh, I don't know, it's just a treat for him to pick random dates to tell people when.

RED

Well, what is it now?

WHITE

December 21, 2012. But it probably won't be for a good while. We would loose too many jobs, and wouldn't really have anything to do. Anyway, I tell you what, fill this application out, and give it to the secretary over there, and we will find a good job position for you.

(Hands him an application)

In the mean time, walk around and mingle. Oh, actually after turning in your application, try to find out who this belongs to.

(Hands him the wing)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

WHITE (cont'd)

I would be very grateful.

RED

Sure, I guess I could do that. How long will it take for me to get a position?

WHITE

Does it matter? There isn't any time here, don't you know that?

*Red shrugs.*

WHITE

Look, don't be upset. I'll tell you a joke, it's one of my favorite's. Why is 6 afraid of 7?

RED

I've heard this...

WHITE

Because 7, 8, 9!!! 8 as in ATE. 7 ATE 9!!!  
Hahahaha...and 7 is supposed to be a good number, and 6 is bad, and 9 is a 6 upside...down...You've heard that one.

RED

Yes, very funny...I'm going to go over here now.

*Red walks off.*

WHITE

Well, at least I have a sense of humor. Find where the wing goes! Please! Thank you. Kids think they got it so hard. Next!

*Lights down.*

## Scene 2

*Lights up on Henry in his room on the phone with is mother. It is three ears later.*

HENRY

Yes, Mom, everything is fine...Yes I'm sure...I'm working on finding a job that I actually want...What's wrong with the one I have?!...It has nothing to do with the degree that I got. I went to college for a reason. I worked my ass off for that degree and I'm bound and determined to put my hard work to good use...I know I can get good money without a degree, but that's not really fair. I have one and I'm using it...Of course I'm making the right decision. How can you even ask

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

HENRY (cont'd)

that?...My life is on track. I've met and talked to some people that can eventually help me out. It's all going to work out, it always does. Someone is bound to like my writing, and when they do I'll be all over it to get some writing work...Because that's what I want and love to do. We've been over this...

(Sighs)

No, I don't have a girlfriend...No I haven't been putting myself out there that much, I'm working on getting my career started first...Because it's easier and less to worry about in the long run...Knowing my luck it will all come to me at the same time and make life a lot more enjoyable for about 2 weeks, until I'll find more problems...

*Chance walks in wearing a purple outfit/suit, and sneaks up on Henry.*

I just have that feeling that everything is going to be fine, and you should too, stop worrying...

*Henry turns around and sees Chance and is startled.*

Jiminey Cricket!!!

*Chance smiles and waves.*

(Staring wide eyed at Chance)

Nothing, uh Mom gotta go, sorry...Love you too, bye... Yes I'll call you tomorrow... Okay, fine you call me...Whatever, I don't care, I really gotta go. Bye.

(Hangs up)

Chance!

CHANCE

Henry!

HENRY

What...How...Huh?

CHANCE

(Pauses and gets confused)

What?

HENRY

What are you doing here? How are you here?

CHANCE

Thanks for clearing that up for me.

HENRY

You're dead!

(CONTINUED)

CHANCE

In a sense yeah, I guess so.

HENRY

What does this mean?

CHANCE

I'm your final guide. Didn't the Messenger tell you this would happen?

HENRY

Messenger?

CHANCE

Think back 3 years. When your Dad and Brother had to leave.

HENRY

Oh, of course. You're one of them.

CHANCE

Yes, except I'm the cream of the crop.

HENRY

This must mean I am on the right track in my life.

CHANCE

Yes, but you can still screw it up. So, don't...Screw it up.

HENRY

That's weird that it ended up being you to be here.

CHANCE

Yeah, I guess it is isn't it.

HENRY

How did it manage out that way?

CHANCE

I guess we were both going down the same path, and were meant to meet up again. It was just very unfortunate in my case. I guess we made a great team, a perfect match for me to help you stay on your path.

HENRY

It was unfortunate for you. Well, now that I actually have a chance to ask, what happened?

CHANCE

I was just at the wrong place at the wrong time. I was in the first building the guy started shooting up. I knew the guy, and his girlfriend. He asked me where his

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)



CHANCE (cont'd)  
girlfriend was, and I said I didn't know. He thought I was hiding her, and he was already furious, so, he shot me.

HENRY  
That sucks.

CHANCE  
Tell me about it.

HENRY  
Man, I can't believe you went out like that.

CHANCE  
It's not like I had a choice. It all happened so fast, I couldn't defend myself, or anyone else. The way I look at it though, I have a chance to save your life, and because of all that there shouldn't be anything as bad as what happened at any other colleges. Safety has stepped up everywhere now.

HENRY  
That's true. I always knew there was something about us, and I always wondered why the heck I was your friend to begin with.

CHANCE  
(Confused)  
Thanks?

HENRY  
We had a lot in common, and clicked so well, but we haven't known each other, or were around each other that much at all.

CHANCE  
I guess we were around each other at the right time in our life when we needed someone to help the most.

HENRY  
Yeah. So, what do we do?

CHANCE  
You do whatever you want. I'm hear talk you through it in anyway I can to help you. It's all up to you to actually decide and consider it all. We just hope you decide correctly...Just go about your business.

HENRY  
Well, I was kinda wanting to go to the bar.

(CONTINUED)

CHANCE

You think that's a good idea?

HENRY

Why not?

CHANCE

Drinking hasn't got out of hand for you has it?

HENRY

Never, I wouldn't let it. My Dad scared it out of me. It's just good to have one every once in a while anyway. Something about going tonight tells me it's a must do.

CHANCE

Okay.

HENRY

Pot on the other hand, can get out of hand. I just love that stuff so much.

CHANCE

(Laughs)

Yeah, got to have that dankatey dank.

HENRY

You know it.

CHANCE

But it's not the best thing. Of course, you've learned that already.

HENRY

About the only good thing about being on probation was that I saw what it was doing to me, and what it can do to people. But didn't make me stop loving it.

CHANCE

Alright, well how about that bar?!

HENRY

I know this great bar called Flashbacks. Good prices, environment, and the food is awesome.

CHANCE

Well, that does no good for me right now, but I'm happy for you.

HENRY

(Laughs)

Sorry.

(CONTINUED)

CHANCE

No, it's cool, I'm bound to get some kind of experience out of this too.

HENRY

Let's hope so, nothing worse than a boo-hooing ghost.

CHANCE

Oh, you got jokes, I see.

HENRY

You're kind of a ghost, right?

CHANCE

I'm higher ranking than a ghost.

HENRY

(Walking to the door)

Nice.

*They walk out the door, and lights fade.*

Scene 3

*Lights fade up with them walking into the bar. The bar can be set up as the same one they were at earlier in the play. They can sit in the same spot as before. This time another booth, the bar, or some other sitting place should be seen. The bar can be placed at a lower level than the rest of the set to save time and flow faster. There is bar music playing in the background.*

CHANCE

Nice place.

HENRY

Yeah, I like it.

(They sit)

CHANCE

So, tell me about your love life.

HENRY

(Groans)

Do we have to go through this? Did you not hear me talk to my mother about this a while ago? I really don't like to discuss it. Besides, you know all about me anyway, right?

(CONTINUED)

CHANCE

Yeah, but I want to hear from you, talk to you about it.

HENRY

Look, all I'm saying is it hasn't been that good. I've been trying to get my life straight, and a career started before I make any moves like that. That and no one will really go out with me. I'm just waiting. It will come at the right place, the right time, when I least expect it, and who I least expect it with. It will be like fate, or something.

CHANCE

You really believe in that?

HENRY

I want to. That's the only thing I can think of as an excuse for my being alone. Besides, I strongly believe in karma, and that's been proven to be true several times. So why can't fate exist?

CHANCE

You bring up a good point. What if it happens your way just by chance, but it was what you waited for, wanted, and believed it so strongly that you just think it's fate?

HENRY

Then, fate will exist in my mind, not necessarily be true in everyone everywhere, but to me it exists because it came true to me. Either that, or it's destiny.

CHANCE

Aren't they the same?

HENRY

Fate is what is meant to happen, destiny is what is supposed to happen.

CHANCE

Hmmmmmm...Interesting subject of discussion, but I'm afraid there is no time for that. You need to get up, and go talk to that woman sitting right over there.

*Henry turns, and notices the woman sitting there with her back turned. He turns back to Chance.*

HENRY

Why?

(CONTINUED)

CHANCE

Just go do it.

HENRY

It's no use, nothing will come of it.

CHANCE

This is why there has been no girl. Get off your butt and go talk to her.

HENRY

But..

CHANCE

No buts. Go. At least you can get conversation going that's not in your head, and get some flirting action.

HENRY

Why are you pushing me so much.

CHANCE

Your wasting time, just go.

HENRY

Is there something going on I don't know about?

CHANCE

It's fate! Okay, is that incentive? Go before she walks away, gets drunk, or finds a drunk.

HENRY

You're right, I'll never know, or learn, if I don't step up the game.

CHANCE

Less talky and more walky.

*Henry stands, composes himself, and walks over to the woman.*

HENRY

(Points to empty seat next to her)  
Is this seat taken?

FAYE

It will be if you sit there.

HENRY

May I?

FAYE

If you dare.

(CONTINUED)

HENRY

(Sitting)

Nice night. You from around here?

FAYE

I don't know how many girls that line has worked on, but it won't work on this one.

HENRY

(Laughs)

No, that was actually a serious question. You look very familiar, but I don't ever remember actually seeing you here before.

FAYE

You know, you look familiar as well. But yeah, no I'm from Virginia.

HENRY

Really? Did you go to school there, or actually from there?

FAYE

Both.

HENRY

What school?

FAYE

Virginia Tech.

HENRY

Oh, wow, I'm sorry. Were you there when it happened?

FAYE

Yeah, but I was across campus in class. Things got crazy over there real fast.

HENRY

Wow, must've been something. I actually had real good friend that was going there, and got killed in the shooting.

FAYE

I'm sorry. My boyfriend got killed in the shooting.

HENRY

Well, that's something we have in common, knowing someone who died tragically in an accident at the same place.

(CONTINUED)

FAYE

What was you friend's name? I might've known him.

HENRY

Chance Goodman.

FAYE

Are you serious?!

HENRY

Yeah, why?

FAYE

That's why you're familiar. Chance was my boyfriend, we came in for your birthday.

HENRY

Holy shit! Yeah, I remember. This is so weird!

FAYE

Yeah, it is.

HENRY

I'm real sorry, I was really wasted that night.

FAYE

It's okay, it happens on your 21st. Henry, right?

HENRY

Yeah, and I really can't even remember your name.

FAYE

Faye, Faye Tate.

HENRY

Faye Tate, of course. It's really weird how ironic life is, isn't it?

*He turns around, sees Chance, shakes his head, and smiles. Chance smiles, and shrugs.*

FAYE

Yeah.

*She turns around and sees Girl who has walked up. Girl is dressed in purple. They smile at each other. Then Girl notices Chance and Chance sees her. They go and sit down together. Faye turns back to Henry.*

HENRY

Can I buy you a drink?

(CONTINUED)

FAYE

Of course, I'd love it.

HENRY

Great.

*The lights dim on Henry and Faye. Lights get brighter where Chance and Girl are sitting and talking.*

GIRL

You were Henry's friend that came in for his 21st birthday right?

CHANCE

Yeah, how did you know?

GIRL

I was at his side helping to guide him at that time.

CHANCE

Well, that's interesting. (Points to Faye) That was my girlfriend that was with me.

GIRL

Yeah, I know, I'm her final guide now.

CHANCE

So, you got promoted or something?

GIRL

Yeah, something like that. It's weird how all this works out, huh?

CHANCE

It gets weirder and weirder.

GIRL

What's even weirder is that, I thought you were the cutest thing ever when I saw you. Henry even had a crush on me. If I was alive we would've probably fell for each other.

CHANCE

Wow, that is weird.

GIRL

I know.

CHANCE

Can he see you?

(CONTINUED)



GIRL

No, of course not. We are in their minds really.

CHANCE

Then how is this, us, possible? Conversing?

GIRL

Not only are they compatible in physical aspects, apparently. They are very compatible in mind. They're able to communicate very well physically and mentally. A perfect match.

CHANCE

Well, that's what is supposed to happen anyway, right?

GIRL

Yeah, I long as neither one of them fall off track they will be together forever.

CHANCE

Good, he is good for her. I feel better knowing she found someone special. She deserves it.

GIRL

So does he. I don't think they will mess it up.

CHANCE

I'll make sure of it.

GIRL

(Laughs) Yeah, me too. (Thinks) You know, I feel that you and him are a lot alike.

CHANCE

Yeah, we've gotten that a lot. Don't know how, but it happened. It's all good though.

*They watch Henry and Faye.*

GIRL

Yeah, this should be an interesting life.

CHANCE

Oh yeah, some changes will be caused by this life. Something big is coming.

GIRL

Yeah, I've seen it to. It won't happen without our help.

CHANCE

We are all the chosen ones.

(CONTINUED)

GIRL

All for one and one for all.

*Chance and Girl look at each other and laugh)*

CHANCE

The Four Musketeers now.

GIRL

That one will soon change.

CHANCE

It better, it's crucial.

*Lights fade with "She's A Lady" by Tom Jones playing.*

Scene 4

*Lights up on Adam, Red and The Sender.*

RED

Ok, well can you send me now?

SENDER

Hang on, this thing takes time. You have to wait until a slot opens up.

RED

How does a slot open up?

SENDER

Someone has to die.

RED

People die constantly. How can a slot not be open?

SENDER

Sure they do, but in your case, the right people don't die all the time. Now wait.

RED

I've been waiting forever.

ADAM

Be quiet! There is no tome here, besides I've been here waiting longer than you. I know a slot had to have open for me by now. Someone had to have died for me.

SENDER

Actually you've been waiting on certain people to have a baby. The judge was very specific with you.

(CONTINUED)

ADAM

Why?

SENDER

I don't know, I just do what I'm told.

RED

I'm telling you to send me.

ADAM

I didn't think you were allowed to go back.

RED

Well, the lady who took my application made me some bull crap job and I complained a lot. So they decided to get rid of me. They said people could use my annoyance back down there to keep them in line.

ADAM

Don't kill anyone this time.

RED

I won't, I'm passed that.

SENDER

Ok, you are ready to go.

RED

Me?!

SENDER

Yes, stand there so I can get rid of you.

RED

Awesome!

SENDER

Bye.

ADAM

See you later son!

RED

See ya!

*Lights out and Red is gone.)*

ADAM

Where did he go anyway?

SENDER

Apparently killing people wasn't the only thing he did. All I'll say is that he liked women a lot. Liked their

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SENDER (cont'd)  
skin and hair, and stuff. I's really sick, you don't want to know.

ADAM  
So where did he go?

SENDER  
He is going to end up being a nice looking woman, who likes butch women, in a place where they don't like that sort of thing. He gets to see what it's really like to be a woman and treated badly. (Laughs) It's times like these when I actually enjoy my job. He was very annoying.

ADAM  
I really hope he won't kill people.

SENDER  
He won't. He won't even remember anything that has happened already. Anything that happens that is familiar will jut be familiar, quicedence, or de ja vu.

ADAM  
Oh, ok.

SENDER  
Ok, well it looks like you are ready to go. Enjoy your 9 months of being surrounded by goo. And I hope you like being split in half.

ADAM  
(Walking to the circle and standing there) What is that supposed to mean.

SENDER  
Doesn't matter, you won't remember this anyway.

ADAM  
Then tell me.

SENDER  
Nope.

ADAM  
Why?

SENDER  
Much more fun my way. Bye!

*Blackout.*

Scene 5

*Lights up on Faye in bed holding two babies. One wrapped in a pink blanket the other in blue. Henry sits beside her looking at the babies. Chance and girl are on either side of them.*

FAYE

They are so beautiful.

HENRY

I know, we make beautiful babies.

FAYE

Was there any doubt?

HENRY

Not for a moment. (Pause) I can't believe we had twins. I always wondered what it would be like to have them.

FAYE

I know, isn't it amazing. What should we name them?

HENRY

I would actually like to name the boy Adam.

FAYE

Why?

HENRY

For my father.

FAYE

Ok, well, would you be upset if I named the girl then?

HENRY

Absolutly not.

FAYE

I like...Eve.

HENRY

Eve? Why Eve? Is this this a religious reason?

FAYE

Kind of, I just always enjoyed the story. It also really does sound good together.

HENRY

Ok, I can go with that. Adam...

(CONTINUED)

FAYE

And Eve...

*The song "Leave Out All The Rest" by Linkin Park  
fades up.*

HENRY AND FAYE

Adam and Eve.

*Chance and Girl look at each other smile and nod.*

CHANCE AND GIRL

Adam and Eve. The start of a new life.

*Lights down.*