

**The GRANDest Pageant**

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By: all of us

Cast of Characters:

The Characters:

Ring Leader	Nick Watts
HIM (A) -	Richard Thompson
HER (A) -	Meagan Jones
HER (1) -	Grisel Wilson
HIM (1) -	Damian Garcia

The Others:

THE PLAYERS

THE EYE-CANDY

THE WATCHERS

THE VIOLATORS:

THE BIDDERS -

Miscellaneous

1) Don MF Hensmen

1) Matt Winter

2) Mayela Morales

3)

THE TORMENTORS -

1) Don MF Hensmen

**RULES:**

- 1) If at any time AUDIENCE member attempts to disrupt show, cold stop. Black out.
- 2) No photography/filming of any kind

## ACT I: The Celebration

*A welcome festival with warmth and a feeling of embracing everyone. An event that celebrates the values that mean the most to us. All the elements found in places such as churches, circuses, theaters, are fully realized together. A gala for everyone and by everyone.*

*It is a circus-like stage, very colorful and fantastic. Reds, oranges, and yellows are the basic color scheme. The first, and most prominent feature on the stage is the red curtain. It is playful and circus like. With a canvas material for the different illustrated panels showing the 'figures of wonder' and other notable spectacles. A small, easily removable, grouping of relevant ornaments (TBD) to detail a festive stage.*

*Steinfeld Warehouse.*

## The Characters: THE CELEBRATION!

Name	Attitude/Demeanor	Outfit/Attire	Special Notes*/Themes
Ring Leader	You are the greatest showman. Affable, interesting, humorous and charmingly pleasant. A successful car salesman. A gameshow host with an exuberant personality willing to be engaging.	Circus/Ring Leader Outfit (Complete)	<b>Social Implication:</b> Society/Power-Silent and Overt <b>Personal motivation:</b> Platitudes/False Celebrity This is fun!  2 <sup>nd</sup> script: Georgies a stinkybaboso/stinkybaboso is he/ Georgies a stinky baboso/stink stink stink stink stink stink Georgie
HIM (A)	Eloquent and charming. Positive and encouraging. Flashes of frustration show/restrained from RL 'unexpected' outbursts	Full suit. The burgundy one.	<b>Social Implication:</b> Ignores sexism/social awareness to public mysogeny <b>Personal motivation:</b> He built the show and it's being taken away from him.
HER (A)	Professional and logically sounding. Patient, but forceful when being over spoken. A generally cordial attitude, but firsts try to make voice heard. When ignored, she gives up. Is non-confrontational initially.	Full professional attire for a thespian. But also educated in a professional setting Going to a gala.	<b>Social Implication:</b> Ignores sexism/social awareness to public mysogeny <b>Personal motivation:</b> He built the show and it's being taken away from him.
HER (1)	An energetic and jubilant vibe. Carries herself with an excitement being there. An abrupt honesty about her, she is first quietly stunned, and when sure, she speaks loudly.	A personal mix of counter culture (TBD) and traditional personal Latin American heritage history (TBD). In any way she feels best represents herself (as if made herself).	<b>Social Implication:</b> Dismissive to perceived collective thinking/ 'upper left minded) with self-perceived real cred <b>Personal motivation:</b> She is herself and any portion of her is not a defining aspect. She defines herself.
HIM (1)	He is one fine gentleman. While not verbose like HIM (A), he is quietly charismatic. While not as established as HER (A), he is held in well regard. While not passionate like HER (1), he is pretty content. For all that, he's ignored.	A suit one could objectively consider 'nice'. It's not flashy, but it's formal and classy in an understated way. Neutral colors and nothing notable.	<b>Social Implication:</b> Ignores sexism/social awareness to public mysogeny <b>Personal motivation:</b> He built the show and it's being taken away from him.  GET OLD VERSION
THE OTHERS	Attitude/Demeanor	Outfit/Attire	Special Notes*/Themes
THE PLAYERS	Jovial in nature. Playfully distract during ACT changes	Masked Sign holders wearing near-all or all black.)	~1-3 (if available). They hold signs (Applause, 'Ahhhh', "Ohhhhh")

**LIGHT: SPOTLIGHT on STAGE**

**TECH: RED CURTAIN closed**

A main stage is a festive Red curtain closed, with a small area on stage left that appears circus like with a podium and some (TBD) festive ornaments.

**THE RING LEADER** steps onto stage. He is the goddamned lizard king. He is in full circus-themed attire and he is ready to start this evening's entertainment;

**AUDIO: NONE**

**LIGHT: SPOTLIGHT casts on RING LEADER**

**THE BIDDERS** all sit in THE BALCONY.

**PLAYER 1** and **PLAYER 2** emerge on either side of stage.

**THE PLAYERS** each hold a sign.

**THE PLAYERS** Sign-face out: 'Applause'

#### **RING LEADER**

Welcome, welcome, welcome ladies and gentlemen! Tell me, are all of you lovely people doing just *fantastic* this evening?

*~Audience Improv*

Now before we begin, let's give a nice round of applause to Tucson Fringe for putting us together and for Steinfeld Warehouse for hosting us tonight. This is certainly the most *comfortable* warehouse I've been in just before midnight, so there's that! I kid, I kid!! I love it here...

**THE PLAYERS** Sign-face out: 'Ha-Ha'

#### **RING LEADER**

Ok, seriously though, I want to let you know...

*~Beat*

...something from the bottom of my heart...

*~Beat*

That everything is going to be ok! I promise you, that from this moment forward, you can go ahead and leave all those worries and troubles that the world lays on us right at the door behind you. See, tonight is about you. And it's about *me*. About all of *us*. Because when it comes down to what's most important, there's nothing more important than *community*...

*~Beat*

Nothing that means more than bringing us together to remember the things we value most in one another. The qualities that are *truly* inspirational.

Ladies and Gentleman, boys and girls, Thank you for joining us tonight and being a part of **The GRANDest Pageant**.

**AUDIO: TGP Introduction (Gameshow) Theme PLAYS**

**LIGHT: STAGE Lights**

Let's get this evening started right, everyone, why don't give yourselves a round of applause...

**THE PLAYERS** Sign-face out: 'Applause'

**RING LEADER**

That's right folks, that's what I'm talking about!

We are going to have a night filled with connection. Meeting new people. Maybe even running into familiar faces. You, ladies and gentlemen, are what's truly important this evening because everything you will witness tonight was made specifically for you and no one else. That's right, everything you will see is all part of the show and guess what?

*~Audience Improve*

It's about you, and you; Even you! You all get to be a part of it! We want to make sure you enjoy yourselves and that means communication - at least that's what I say! Say it with me folks: It's all part of the show!

*~Audience Improve*

Tonight is simple ladies and gentlemen:

We are here for the greatest Goddamned Show on Earth and that means audience participation is not just encouraged; it is required, because, guess what, the show doesn't end until *you* let it! So whaddya say ladies and gentlemen, let's make sure we all get in on the fun!

*~Audience Improve*

Give yourselves a round of applause, it's all part of the show!

**THE PLAYERS** Sign-face out: 'Applause'

#### **RING LEADER**

We begin this evening with *The Celebration!* A brief, yet personal introduction with four members of the community whose qualities make them especially noteworthy.

And after their lovely introductions, you folks get to *pick your favorite!*

But that's not all, because following that, is *The Spectacle!* The moment where our wonderful performers marvel us with a one-of-kind, one-night-only performance that will never be forgotten!

Just remember to keep those smiles going as you *choose the best!*

And finally, the moment we've all been waiting for, for our entire lives, even if we never knew it! That glorious moment when we truly come together and become family! *The Showcase!* Because at the end of the day, they're here for you. Like you're here for them. Because no matter what, we're here for each other right?

*~Audience Improv*

So get ready, or don't. Sit back or stand up! Do whatever you have to, to make this yours! Because by now, when it comes down to it, we all know the show doesn't end until you let it. Because tonight..

*~Beat*

Is about you..

*~Beat*

About them..

*~Beat*

About all of us! So let's get this show started and introduce you to tonight's PERFORMERS! Put your hands together because it's time to *Celebrate!*

**THE PLAYERS** Sign-face out: 'Applause'

*The CELEBRATION:*

**AUDIO: TBD**

**LIGHT: SPOTLIGHT on STAGE and RED CURTAIN**

**TECH: RED CURTAIN closed**

**TECH: RED CURTAIN RISES**

**LIGHT: SPOTLIGHT wide shot over PERFORMERS**

**THE PERFORMERS: HIM (A), HER (A), HER (1), HIM (1)** stand side by side in an orderly line.

**HIM (A), HER (W), HER (1), HIM (1) Line Order:**

**HIM (A)-1**

**HER (A)-2**

**HER (1)-3**

**HIM (1)-4**



**LIGHT: DIM light over PERFORMERS**

**RING LEADER**

Yeah!! Let's get this party started! C'mon down!

**AUDIO: Sample of Will Smith "Getting Jiggy with it"**

**LIGHT: SPOTLIGHT cast on HIM (A)**

**HIM (A)** moves to forestage.

**HIM (A)**

Hi, how everything going? It's good to be here. I'm real excited..

**RING LEADER**

Why, how...are...you...doing?

**HIM (A)**

I'm doing gravy as a matter of fact! It's awesome being here—

**RING LEADER**

Gravy!!? Who are you? Do you have a secret book that teaches you talk so cool, or is that just you?

**HIM (A)**

What can I say? I love me some words!

**RING LEADER**

You know what, every single time I see you, you look like you stepped right out of the 40's? You have to tell me sometime, how I can learn to dress like you do!

**HIM (A)**

(Laughs)

Oh my f-- god, I guess sometimes I like to snazz it up, I don't know...

**RING LEADER**

Well, I think you know what I mean...

**HIM (A)**

Yeah, yea-

(To AUDIENCE)

Well...First I really want to say thank you for everyone coming out here! Please, on behalf of everyone who worked so hard to bring this show to you, give yourselves one more round of applause...

So, I'd like to start off by saying that I never expected to be asked to help with this. To see it start from nothing and just...it really happened...like a promise fulfilled. A personal dream realized.

**HIM (A)** begins to move across stage.

**HIM (A)**

Now I so started relatively recently when it comes to theater and really I don't know much on how it actually, I - mean, on how all these things work, if that makes sense.

**RING LEADER** stops him casually and motions for HIM (A) to sit on the stool.

**HIM (A)** sits down.

**HIM (A)**

It's really cool that so many of my friends, and the people I got to start working with in the community, in *this* theater community, like helped embrace me and through them I actually got this opportunity to start...this.

Ok, I apologize, I know I'm kind of talking out, maybe going all over the place. It's been crazy, but believe it or not, I's because of this piece, and everyone, especially you- seriously...

(Looks at PERFORMERS.  
Looks at AUDIENCE.)

I may not be showing it off right now, obviously, but this entire process has taught me how to communicate so much more clearly so that *my* ideas are heard.

That I can contribute to the healthy discussion of how to best work with our community as we inspire through the arts, education, and understanding. I'm here because of you and now I - with everyone's amazing help and contributions - get to build something great that will bring us together. Something that can't be destroyed or taken away, you know what I mean?

It can't, because an idea held firm with conscious, compassion, consideration, and...community. No one can take that from us.

**HER (A)**

Doesn't he speak like Obama?

**HIM (1)**

(Unimpressed)

I guess it's ok...

**HIM (A)**

...so - and I want to say that I'm just so glad to be here. I think I can do something *more* with this opportunity...

**RING LEADER**

(Clasps **HIM (A)** on  
Shoulder. Smiles big.)

Sir.

**HIM (A)**

(Oblivious)

What?

**RING LEADER**

It's Sir, remember. It was always sir!

(Lean into **HIM (A)**)

We're all friends here, but...

(Move in close, denying  
Personal space to **HIM (A)**)

We put it in the script. Don't worry about it...just say it...

**HIM (A)**

(Instinctively/  
Apologetically)

Ahh yes sir!

**RING LEADER**

(Smiling the most now.  
Pats HIM (A) on the  
back.)

Perfect, why don't you go on back so we can meet the next performer. That's a good boy..

**HIM (A)**

(Self-aware)

What'd you sa...

**AUDIO: Sample of Will Smith "Getting Jiggy with it"**

HIM (A) walks back to background.

**RING LEADER**

(Smiling)

Nothin...

(To AUDIENCE)

I don't care what you say, you can't argue that the man is eloquent. Not all of 'em are, I assure you!

(To **HIM (A)**)

You should be proud of yourself. You talk like you look!  
You are indeed a testament to your people;

**THE PLAYERS** Sign-face out: 'Applause'

**HIM (A)**

Nah, nah, nah...what??...

(To **HER (A)**)

What did he say?

**HER (A)**

(Shrugs/looks like she doesn't want to get involved.)

**HER (1)**

A whole testament huh?

**HIM (1)**

(To **HER (1)**)

Have we started yet? Is this all it is?

**RING LEADER**

(Wags finger at **HIM (A)**.)

All part of the show everybody, all part of the show! So let's keep this show going and...who do we have here?

**THE PLAYERS** Sign-face out: 'Applause'

**AUDIO: Sample of Beyonce Knowles "Beautiful" (?)**

**LIGHT: SPOTLIGHT moves: HIM (A) → HER (A)**

**HER (A)** moves to forestage.

**HER (A)**

Thank you so much, it's so good to see you too.

(Shakes **RING LEADER**'s  
hand assertively.)

**RING LEADER**

Now that is a pretty good handshake! Not bad, not bad at all. If I didn't know any better, I'd say it seems like you know your stuff!

(Looking away from her with  
each compliment.)

You know I can already tell; smart, sophisticated, worldly. You cannot deny the intelligence up here.

(Slightly smacks lips.)

Go ahead and tell them about yourself..

**HER (A)**

(Takes a deep breath and  
Stands tall.)

I want to start this off by saying Me too. But not the way you think. The way I mean it is that it's now time for me too. It's time for me to get those praises for going after the valedictorian spot I did when I got my doctorate 8 months earlier than my advisor, Mr. Hayward, said I could.

~Beat

It's time for me to earn not the same as the *man* who sits across from me at our firm twiddling his thumbs while I bust my ass, but to make more than him. Way more!

^Beat

It's time to realize that this power struggle doesn't have to be unequal.

^Beat

Because now I know that the power that was used to keep us caged up and put down has no strength in our community. Because we, the community of strong minded, educated, and professional women are nothing less than hardcore bitches. You heard me right, hardcore bitches, because for *all* women, including - no, no, no - especially including Me too, I refuse to make this about being hurt by people who think they have control.

*~Beat*

That was a lie, we, *I* let you believe for too long.

(Glances at  
RING LEADER.  
Chuckles)

You've had it for so long, it's my turn. I'm not here to cry about me too, I'm here to tell you that someone is coming for what you got, and that includes me too!

What I'm saying, is that *all* the shit you had for so long is now for Me too. Education; Me too. Leadership; Me too. Presidencies; Me too.

*~Beat*

We can now finally say that after so long, and fighting so hard, that we can now say Me too to actually having the power to change the social struct-

#### **RING LEADER**

--Not to interrupt, what you are saying is fascinating I promise, but with all this logic, do you ever have time to laugh? I mean, you have such a pretty face, it's hard to see it from a book. Shoot, I bet you have an amazing smile behind that face of yours. You like laughing don't you?

#### **HER (A)**

(Stammers)

Uhh...I mean...yeah...I like it...

**RING LEADER**

Perfect!! You're a...

(Looks her up  
and down)

...smart one...sophisticated alright...got that whole Alexandria  
Ocasio-Cortez vibe going on...I mean...but like a powdered  
version...

(To HER (1))

No offense or anything...we're all friends here...

(To HER (A))

so I bet you'll appreciate this: Ok, so a kid has this  
paper to write for school, right?— Oh, and I promise, no  
more interruptions after this, ok? Well so the kid goes to  
his dad, who's just sitting there, and asks "Hey dad, what  
does it mean to be American?"

*~Audience Improv*

**HIM (A)**  
(Stifles laughter)  
This muthafucker...

**HER (1)**  
What is he  
talking about?

**HIM (1)**  
I've heard  
this joke  
before...

**RING LEADER**

So the dad says, "Son, let's take our home for example...

(Points around the  
Stage and venue)

..you get the idea...any way, the dad continues "...so in this  
house, I got the money right? So you can call me  
'Capitalism'. Your mom, wherever she's at, is the  
administrator of the money-

(Shrugs unconcerned)



so we'll call her the government.

(Breaks from joke.  
To HER (A))

*~and of course, the government would be a woman!*

(Returns to joke.  
To HER (A)  
and Audience)

And I'm sure she'd make a great government. Anyway, she -  
the government - takes care of your needs, right? "So you",  
son,

(To HER (A))

the dad says, "son, you are the people". Are you with me so  
far?

**HER (A)**  
(Totally stopped.  
Looks at Performers.)

**HIM (A)**

(Rolling hands)  
Just keep going...  
learning this...

Just keep going...

**HER (1)**

(To HIM (A))  
I don't remember  
learning this...

I don't remember  
learning this...

**HIM (1)**

(Leans forward  
while 'shooing'  
other  
PERFORMERS)

Stop talking,  
Let me hear  
What he's  
saying.

**HER (A)**

Yes, I'm with you, but can I finish...

**RING LEADER**  
(Ignoring **HER (A)**)

Yeah, yeah, yeah...so you're the people right!?

**HER (A)**

Ok...

**RING LEADER**

Ok good...so dad continues, "...and you know the babysitter right, well the babysitter is the working class. You got that...the babysitter is the working class, and she works hard for your little brother, our future. Do you understand son?"

(Waits for a  
response silently)

Are you with us?

**HER (A)**

Oh! Yes, I thought you were still telling the joke.

**RING LEADER**

Oh - you're such a pretty thing - I am! So the boy goes to bed to think about what he was told when that night, he was awoken by his little brother's cries. Naturally, you went to see what was wrong. And that's when you saw it huh?

**HER (A)**

Huh? Saw what?

**RING LEADER**

Well you saw the little brother sitting in his dirty diaper as he cried, so naturally, the first person you looked for was the mother, but you saw she was pretty much passed out, and wasn't going to be doing anything. You would have gotten the babysitter, but when you found her, the father was in bed with her. You tried knocking there too, but nothing happened. Are you with me so far?

**HER (A)**

(Shaken and unsure)

What are you doing Ni-

**RING LEADER**

(Ignoring HER (A))

~Audience Improv

So the boy wakes up the next morning with the most reasonable definition of an American he could think of and he goes right up to his dad to tell him what he realized. "Dad", the boy says to his dad, "I don't know what an American is, but I know that capitalism is fucking the working class while the government is sound asleep. And as the people are completely ignored, and the future is nothing but full of shit."

(Boisterous laughter)

**HER (A)**

(Surprised and relieved)

That...is actually pretty funny and ties right to what I was saying that I personally find passiona-

**RING LEADER**

Isn't it? So out of curiosity, who are you in it?

**HER (A)**

What?

**RING LEADER**

The joke. Who are you in it? I mean, are you the breadwinner, the regulator, or the future? Oh...Are you just waitin' to fuck the maid?

**HER (A)**

Uhhhh...

(Looks at HIM (A))

I...don't...

**RING LEADER**

(Boisterous laughter.)

One more joke...not like before...this one is hilarious! I promise, then you get to finish...I promise! And it's super quick!

(Waits patiently)

**HER (A)**

Ok...

**RING LEADER**

Why is jam better than peanut butter?

**HER (A)**

(Confused.)

Why?

**RING LEADER**

You can't peanut butter  
your dick up somebody's ass!

**HIM (A)**

(Covers face. Trying  
To be discrete  
Trying to be  
discrete.

Hey, hey, hey, it's a joke!!  
We're all friends here!  
Besides, I didn't say WOMAN  
I coulda meant anybody! Isn't  
that progress? C'mon folks,  
say it with me:

(TO RING LEADER)

It's all part of the show...

Dude...dial it back man,  
for real.

**RING LEADER**

Hey, hey, hey, we're all just having a little fun here, it's ok... no one's angry. C'mon you know it's all part of the show.

**HIM (1)**

(Covers mouth while laughing)

Heh...heh...jam...that *is* pretty funny...

**RING LEADER**

SEE!! See, I told you, people get it! It's hilarious!... cause you can't peanut butter your...

(Unconvincingly thrusts Pelvis.)

*~Audience Improv*

Nothing?

(Sighs.)

All right, tough crowd...

(To HER (A))

I know when I'm beat, and we need to move on, so thank you for being such a great sport! Go on back sweetie...

**AUDIO: Sample of Beyonce Knowles "Beautiful" (?)**

**HER (A)** moves to backstage.

**HER (1)**

(Leans into HER (A))

Don't worry mija, men always think with their pito!

(To HIM (A);  
calmly pissed)

*This is what you call fucking art??*

**RING LEADER**

...that's right, that's right folks, give her a round of  
applause everybody...fantastic...

**THE PLAYERS** Sign-face out: 'Applause'

**RING LEADER**

...we will most certainly appreciate...all of her...specialties...

**HIM (A)**  
(Aggravated)

**HIM (1)**

Oh! So we're just saying  
whatever we want?// Awesome!

//Who cares...it's only a  
joke anyways...

**THE PLAYERS** Sign-face out: 'Ha-Ha'

**RING LEADER**

(To AUDIENCE.)

Now ladies and gentlemen, we want to keep all those hopes  
as high as we deserve them to be, is everybody still doing  
good?

*~Audience Improv*

Now, we've just met two very outstanding...nay...extraordinary  
individuals that truly stand out among the rest. But, this  
wouldn't be known as 'The Best Goddamned show on Earth' if  
we didn't bring you any...hmmmm...

(Rolls hand like thinking)

Culture from those places that we only dare watch on  
television or in the movies...

(Moves STAGE RIGHT)

And people! Oh yes, we can't ever forget the people. Some of which are just like you and me.

(Moves STAGE LEFT)

Speaking of which...please everyone put your hands together for our next amazing performer.

**THE PLAYERS** Sign-face out: 'Applause'

**AUDIO: TBD (?)**

**LIGHT: SPOTLIGHT moves: HER (A) → HER (1)**

**HER (1)** moves to forestage.

**HER (1)**

(Acknowledge AUDIENCE  
With a subtle wave, gesture  
thanks to AUDIENCE in  
modest thanks)

**RING LEADER**

Well, well, well...it's very nice to meet you again.

**HER (1)**

(Laughs)

It is! I mean, thank you again -it's good to be here.

**RING LEADER**

(Friendly smiles and tone.)

Well c'mon now, you know the drill, tell us about yourself. What did you think of the working with everyone?

**HER (1)**

(Laughs.)

Well, I do want to first say thank you for being a part of Fringe!! So to be honest, I didn't really know at first, uhh, what to expect when I was first asked to be a part of...well all of this, so being here right now, with everybody...all of you too...

(Motions to PERFORMERS)

...is like...I'm trying to find the right words to...it's definitely not what I thought! But, umm...

I had this planned..

**RING LEADER**

(laughs)

It's ok...we're all friends here..

**HER (1)**

Ok, well I'm L-

**RING LEADER**

(Booming in volume, chortling)

--No names, remember performers! We like to make sure nobody gets special treatment!

**HER (1)**

(Suddenly Remembers.)

Sorry...

(Composes self.)

I just realized how hard it is to start something without saying my name. It just threw me off, cause - to answer the question - I really think the process was about finding our-selves as much as it was creating the show. It was all about identity...I mean for me at least. And, I think it's pretty incredible that through the devising sessions we had, some of them umm...unorthodox...

(Laughs)



...we we're encouraged to learn how to be ourselves and really making sure to show that in everything we're bringing tonight. Even, what I'm saying right now, is...us. Is me... I wanted to create a performance that was a part of me. All of me, and not *just* a haircut or a sexual preference or anything that...I think identity gets lost so easy from...easy ideas, and - I hope that what I'll be showing next - my *celebration*; all the work that we put in will be seen. There were some nights after rehearsal, you know how it is; you want to go and fall straight into a coma, but I remember some nights we'd be doing blocking, or rewrites, or whatever..

(HER (1) makes eye  
Contact With  
PERFORMERS.  
Laughs.)

Seriously though, right!

**HIM (A)**

(Nodding in agreement.  
Gestures of  
acknowledgment.)

**HER (A)**

(Nodding in agreement.  
Gestures of  
acknowledgment.)

**HER (1)**

(Turns back to AUDIENCE.)

Yeah, it really is...Learning more about who I am. Connecting and owning my identity. That I can decide who to be. That I get to decide to be whatever I want. I get to build a performance from who I am. And that's something so reassuring, that this show is letting me be me.

**RING LEADER**

(Faux-Polite and mildly  
patronizing applause.)

Well that is certainly a lovely, lovely sentiment. There's such a romantic quality about it, don't you think?

**HER (1)**

Ha, I guess so, ya know, I really think that—

**RING LEADER**

(Ignoring HER (1))

And isn't that part and parcel to the whole Latinista culture? I mean, you guys have some pretty big families. I've been to the Mass out here before; like watching little caravans rushing to genuflect or something. Little nana holding up the rear! I mean, at Christmas and Easter at least...

**HER (1)**

Whoa! That was not in the script! Ok, there was a lot in that, but first, my nana -god rest her soul- she never held up a rear, she was a backbone, so remember that...but, I think I kinda get the church thing you're talking about. The 'twice a year' Catholics, yeah, I mean...

(Shrugs)

It's a thing I guess, but doesn't like every religion kinda have the same thing?

**RING LEADER**

(Laughs)

Touché! That's pretty clever, I don't think it's *exactly* the same, but ya know what, it definitely deserves a round of applause doesn't it!?

**THE PLAYERS** Sign-face out: 'Applause'

**RING LEADER**

(Squints eyes to HER (1))

Your family though? Anyone in the AUDIENCE? You know, little mijo?

(Jokingly peers though  
the AUDIENCE)

**HER (1)**

Uhh...it's kind of late for them, but...well, yeah, I mean I have people here, most definitely..

(Searches AUDIENCE and waves.)

...I mean, they are my *family*!

(Attempting to Engage RING LEADER)

Even you! We don't have to be blood to be family! We're all here together, right?

**RING LEADER**

(Laughs.)

Once again, that is certainly a very, very lovely sentiment. Very romantic to be sure. We are all *here*, that is most definitely true.

(Jokingly thumbs over the AUDIENCE)

And now that we all are here, maybe you're right; no, as a matter of fact you are right! It really does mean that we are *aaaallllllll* here together finally. You've given me a new outlook for the second time.

Thank you for that. That deserves a round of applause. Let's put our hands together folks for this, exotic..

(Big smile,  
Clenched teeth)

Clever...

(Bigger smile. Welcoming to HER (1))

Princessa...

**THE PLAYERS** Sign-face out: 'Applause'

**RING LEADER**

(Hollow smile with hard eyes)

You can go back now. You did very, very good..

**AUDIO: TBD (?)**

**HER (1)** moves to backstage.

**RING LEADER**

Now, I have personally been waiting to introduce you to this young, strapping lad up next. Don't get me wrong, each performer you've just had the pleasure of meeting are top of their class. The cream of the crop to be sure. But there's just something special about the next fine gentleman that when you get to meet- you know, I'm gonna quit talking..

(Looking back at house)

Maestro...show us who's next...

**AUDIO: Sample of "Pretty Fly for a White Guy"**

**LIGHT: SPOTLIGHT moves: HER (1) → HIM (1)**

**RING LEADER**

(To HIM (1))

What are you waiting for man!? Get over here!

**HIM (1)**

(Somewhat sheepishly)

Hi, how are you doing?

**RING LEADER**

I am doing quite well, thank you for asking! So tell me how are you doing these days? Still impressing everyone that way you do?

**HIM (1)**

(Nervous laughter)

Well...I think I'm going to sound like everyone else, but thank you; I'm really happy to be here...I don't know exactly why they thought of me, but I'm very happy to be here.

**RING LEADER**

(Struggling to stay entertaining)

...Hmmm...A man of few words...but that's ok! We love a man of mystery, don't we folks! Or are you a little shy my man?? Oh, that's adorable, isn't it, folks!? C'mon, let's let our last act know exactly how much we are grateful he is here! C'mon everyone, one more round of applause for this fine young gentlemen!

*~Audience Improve*

Yea, that's it folk!!

**THE PLAYERS** Sign-face out: 'Applause'

**RING LEADER**

(Leans into HIM (1))

See, look at how much they like you! There's nothing to be afraid of; go ahead...tell us about yourself. Actually, tell us anything you like. You'll be just fine...

**HER (A)**

(Rolls eyes like  
Injustice confirmed  
Crosses her arms.)

**HER (1)**

(Scoffs)

Well, I guess it's cool he's letting somebody talk.

**HIM (A)**

(To HER (1))

Ha! Must be nice!?

**HIM (1)**

(Pleasantly surprised.)

Oh, well...thanks so much...Ummm ok, well, I'm really happy to be here - Oh, I said that already - hmmm...well I've always really liked being a team player and I guess that's why I've always wanted to do more for the community - oh I mean the entire community, not only, ya know, the theater community.

(Nervous laughter while  
Repeatedly adjusting  
An article of clothing.)

So, and...well it's - I like being a part of this cause, well I came in kind of late, they were already putting everything together and - now that I think about it - they pretty much had it going before I got here. But, ya know, I made sure to do my part so that, ya know, everybody pitches in.

But one of the nicest things was how cool everyone is with me even when 'personal conflicts' would come up. AHCCCS sucks out here, and I've had ADHD since I was a kid - I know that, so I hate it that I have to 'prove' what I already know, and when the doctors out here misdiagnose you have no idea when...if...

(Shakes head and  
Looks at PERFORMERS.  
Takes breath)

**HER (A)**

**HIM (A)**

**HER (1)**

(~Improv Agreement)

**HIM (1)**

At least they understood what it's like. So, I missed a lot, but...

(Changes demeanor)

It's also really nice to be getting paid, 'cause I don't really...

**HER (A)**

**HER (1)**

(To HIM (A))

You said you ,  
couldn't pay us!!?

We're getting  
paid!?

**HIM (A)**

I swear to god I don't know what he's talking about!

**HIM (1)**

...I don't make much, but - I guess it's ok to say it -  
especially now, since I can start off the year right with  
the five hundred, they offered is so amazing...

**HIM (A)**

**HER (1)**

**HER (A)**

(Stunned)

(Stunned)

(Stunned)

500!!

Are you fucking  
Kidding me?

I heard ATC  
actors get  
\$600

**RING LEADER**

(Coughs and grumbles  
loudly. Prevents HIM (1)  
from speaking.)

Goddamn, what a joker eh folks!? who knew you were such a  
comedian!! C'mon man... We're all 'creatives' here...we all  
know there ain't no theater company in Tucson willing to  
pay an actor that much.

**THE PLAYERS** Sign-face out: 'Ha-Ha'

**RING LEADER**

I kid, I kid...I imagine there are plenty of productions that  
pay their actors...

But, I think that's great idea, let's make sure all of you  
guys get taken care of, yeah!?

(Looks at PERFORMERS,

Grins big.)

I wanted to keep this a surprise for after, but Ri-ahhh almost broke my own rule...

(To HIM (A))

we are being sponsored by a wonderful benefactor through Graveyard Production Company; and *he* wants to make sure you're all compensated properly.

Now isn't that wonderful folks! An example of community and support! Now that deserves a round of applause!!

**THE PLAYERS** Sign-face out: 'Applause'

**HIM (1)**

(Lean into  
RING LEADER)

Did I mess up? I didn't-

**RING LEADER**

(To HIM (1))

No, no, no my boy!! Let me put your little heart at ease, you couldn't mess up if you tried. Not on my watch, why don't you go ahead and give the audience a little bow and head back. You did marvelous...

Didn't he folks! Let's make sure to give some love to a fine, upstanding citizen like this! Let him know how valuable he is! And, oh why not, give him another round of applause!!

(To HIM (1))

Thank you son...

**THE PLAYERS** Sign-face out: 'Applause'

**AUDIO: Sample of "Pretty Fly for a White Guy"**

**HIM (1)** moves to backstage.



**RING LEADER**

Remember, get those paddles up if you like what you saw!  
They are here for you as much as you are here for them. And  
don't worry if you can't decide who you like the most, you  
can pick all of them!

(Points to HIM (A))

Who wants to show some love to our first performer? Get  
those paddles high! And remember, you can have all the  
favorites you want!!

**HIM (A)**

(Waves)

**RING LEADER**

*~Audience Improv~ Gratitude to AUDIENCE participation*

(Points to HER (A))

And who can forget the lovely and sophisticated performer  
number 2?

**HER (A)**

(Waves)

**RING LEADER**

*~Audience Improv~ Gratitude to AUDIENCE participation*

(Points to HER (1))

And how about some love for her over there?

**HER (1)**

(Waves)

**RING LEADER**

*~Audience Improv~ Gratitude to AUDIENCE participation*

(Points to HIM (1))

And of course, please raise your paddles for the finest young man this stage has seen in a long time.

**HIM (1)**

(Waves)

**RING LEADER**

(To HIM (A))

No offense!

*~Audience Improv~ Gratitude to AUDIENCE participation*

They are here for you as much as you are here for them. And don't worry if you can't decide who you like the most, you can pick all of them!

Now, now, now there is no limit to how many times you'd like to vote, cause when it comes to the important thing, the really important things, there's always enough to go around..

(CURTAIN FALL)

END of ACT I

**THE RINGBOY** emerges from backstage.

**THE RINGBOY** holds a sign. Walks one length of stage. Sign-face out: 'The Celebration Ends...'

**THE RINGBOY** holds a sign. Returns to other side of stage. Sign-face out: 'The Spectacle Begins...'

**LIGHT: SPOTLIGHT moves: HER (A) → HER (1)**

Start of ACT II

ACT II: The Spectacle

*pageantry and celebrity given to reality shows, beauty pageants, and old vaudeville theater (harkening back to the cruelty of minstrel shows, black face, and other demeaning entertainment). It's ok to be a little messy because everything is only a joke anyway.*

The Characters: THE SPECTACLE!!

Scene 1

Setting:

The first, and most prominent feature on the stage is the red curtain. It is playful and circus like. With a canvas material for the red/white curtain (with 'feature' images painted. A small, easily removable, grouping of relevant ornaments (TBD) to detail a festive stage.

The same goes for ACT II

AT RISE:

RL is standing at the front of the stage. He is dressed even more spectacularly.

**AUDIO: TGP Theme PLAYS**

**LIGHT: SPOTLIGHT casts on RING LEADER**

**RING LEADER**

We're back. The PERFORMERS are ready to show their talents, so if you guys are ready, we can-well wait? You are ready aren't you? C'mon let me hear you out there!

*~Audience Improv*

Good, good, don't get me wrong, the Celebration is key, but the Spectacle, ahhh my friends, the spectacle, is my favorite. Right now, each contestant is going to do a talent that will educate and illuminate...illuminate? See folks, we're already breaking boundaries! Put your hands together because it's time to *Spectacle!*

**THE PLAYERS** Sign-face out: 'Applause'

*The Spectacle:*

**AUDIO: TBD**

**LIGHT: SPOTLIGHT on STAGE and RED CURTAIN**

**TECH: RED CURTAIN closed**

**TECH: RED CURTAIN RISES**

**LIGHT: SPOTLIGHT wide shot over PERFORMERS**

**THE PERFORMERS: HIM (A), HER (W), HER (1), HIM (1)** stand side by side in an orderly line while wearing outlandish outfits. They fidget uncomfortably.

*~Audience Improv*

**LIGHT: DIM light over PERFORMERS**

**RING LEADER**

Now this is what I'm talking about!! Get down here you silver tongued son-of-a-bitch!

**AUDIO: Sample with ACT II distortion (Vaudville/Minstrel)**

**LIGHT: SPOTLIGHT cast on HIM (A)**

**HIM (A)** walks to foreground.

**HIM (A)**

So, people have always said I should talk about my life—

**HER (A)**

Ha!

**HIM (A)**

(Turns to look at  
HER (A))

As I was saying...people have asked me about my perspective as being mixed. I always like telling people that it's a loaded conversation 'cause I was mixed before Alicia Keys made it cool.

So, being a young half-black/half-white kid in Tucson growing up is a weird in its own right, in addition to trying to understand myself, my race, my identity, when I had trouble even connecting with those that were *supposed* to be my people. Like being too black to be white, and at the same time, being too white to be black.

Or how about even being able to enunciate a word. Actually, no beyond, that, to understand a word. Because I've found that community and understanding are inextricably tied to one another. And it's easy to try and slough off the realities of how race - and even sexuality to an extent, then and now, are not an indelible aspect of progress.

Paul Mooney once said that the scariest nightmare for a White man is a nigger that could read. I don't think that's the case. I think its nigga that can speak!

So to show this, I'd like to start with a short one-minute, man-made mono-

**RING LEADER**

Hey, hey, hey...watch out there! Giving people ideas, gotta watch the language...

(Leans close to HIM (A))

Besides nobody wants a short, one-minute man.

(Motions to HIM (A)  
groin area)

Or is that all an *urban* legend?

**HIM (A)**

*What?*

**RING LEADER**

Ahhhh shit son, you got a pecker brain instead huh!? You know, 'Darnell', not 'D-boy'!?

**HIM (A)**  
(Stammers)

Are you out your mind?

**RING LEADER**

C'mon, calm down. You know my *nigga*...

**HER (1)**

(Stifle involuntary  
Laugh.)

Did he really just say that?

**HIM (A)**

God damn man!? So am I even doing this man? Fuck!

I am sorry...I...hey-

(Composes himself)

**RING LEADER**

(Leans into HIM (A))

It's ok brother, this is the big stage. It takes time to get used to it. You'll get it son, someday..

**HIM (A)**

(To RING LEADER close/  
Quietly.)

I don't like how you're fucking this up man, it's not cute and you know we..

(Gestures to performers)

Never went over this..

(Gestures to stage around.  
Calms)

This is not cool, but we can use this as a learning experience with what I was actually about, and so I was mentioning I'm... a learning but it's actually a really good example of w-

**RING LEADER**

*Niggah...*

**HER (1)**

(Glowering.)

I knew fucking Nick would do this..

**HIM (1)**

I don't believe in that word.

**HER (A)**

I know! My parents taught me to not even see color.

(To HER (1))

Oh hi, I didn't see you.

**HIM (A)**

You just wanna get straight raw huh!?

**RING LEADER**

(Gets excited)

Oh yeah! You rather get all shuck and jive style! It's all good! Be like that angry Obama like on Key and Peele! No, no. no, like Chappelle...be like him! Keeping it real!! Oh yeah, he's buff too.

**HIM (A)**

Oh yeah, I know! Fucking 'A' I know! You know what, you got it! I don't even care anymore!! The fuck you need me to do? Yawl want some soft-shoe??

(Starts taking out a  
Braid)

How 'bout I sparkle up them boots you got there mista! Got damn, they'z some mighty fine shoes suh! Can I do it suh, can I suh? Yes suh...yes suh...

(Starts jumping  
Around like an ape  
And doing minstrel  
Movements.)

YES SUH...YES SUH... IS *that* fucking good yet!?? YES SUH YES SUH!! You know what, fuck this show!! This is fucking done!

(To AUDIENCE. Composes  
And while frustrated  
Tries to explain. Like  
To a Comcast operator.)

I'm so sorry. I thought this was something completely different. This is not what we wanted to sho-

**RING LEADER**



Calm down friend! Calm down, you're scaring the nice people out there! You know all that was just jokes.

(Reassuringly, grabs  
HIM (A) shoulders, looks  
HIM (A) right in the eye.)

**HIM (A)**

I guess...dude what the fuck?...

**RING LEADER**

C'mon, c'mon brother...  
It's all part of the show...

**HIM (A)**

(Unapprovingly/  
resigned)  
Yeah...man, they  
didn't say you  
Were coming at  
us like that...

**RING LEADER**

Shhhh...Shhhh...it's all good. It's ok...It's all part of the show...you know that...Say it with me.

**HIM (A)**

(Looks at RING LEADER)

**RING LEADER**

C'mon brother...c'mon...say it...let *them* know it's ok up here. That even this - you talking to me right now - is all part of the show. C'mon, you're the word guy. Goddamn Obama muthafucker over here. Let them know there ain't nothing wrong up here. Tell em.

(almost whispers)

Tell em.

**HIM (1)**

He's gonna do it!

**HER (1)**

Don't do it...You don't...

**HIM (A)**

(To AUDIENCE)

It's all part of the show.

**RING LEADER**

Louder.

**HIM (A)**

(Looks at RING LEADER,  
Then at AUDIENCE)

It's all part of the show!!!!

**RING LEADER**

(To HIM (A))

Perfect. Perfect.

(Slaps HIM (A) on back  
Keeping his hand there.)

You know, I have no doubt you will be very appreciated...for a very long time...but why don't you go back so we can go on with the show! How does that sound to you?

**HIM (A)**

Yeah...I guess...I mean, of course...

**AUDIO: Sample with ACT II distortion (Vaudville/Minstrel)**

**LIGHT: SPOTLIGHT cast on HER (A)**

**HIM (A)** walks to background.

**HER (A)** walks to foreground.

**HIM (A)**

**HER (A)**

(Make eye contact)

**HER (A)**

First off...before you can start pigeon-holing me

(Pointing around STAGE  
And AUDIENCE)

I come in too many flavors for one FUCKING spoon!

I'm bringing my own take to the famous Langston Hughes poem, "Let America be America again", that was influenced by the slam poetress Stacyann Chin...

(Readies herself)

*Let America be America again.  
Let it be the dream it used to be.  
Let it be the pioneer on the plain  
Seeking a home where she herself is free.*

*~America never was America to me. There's never been  
equality for me, Nor freedom in this "homeland of the  
free."*

**RING LEADER**

(Under breath, and rolls  
eyes)

Really? Was it really that bad?

**HER (A)**

*Yet I'm the one who dreamt our basic dream*

*O, let America be America again—  
The land that never has been yet—  
And yet must be—the land where every man is free.  
The land that's mine—the poor woman AND man's, Indian's,  
Negro's, ME—ME TOO*

**RING LEADER**

(Under breath, examining

HER (A)

Every man is free! We are already there! I don't know what you're so angry about...

**HER (A)**

*Who made America,  
Whose sweat and blood, whose faith and pain,  
Whose hand at the foundry, whose plow in the rain,  
Must bring back our mighty dream again.*

**RING LEADER**

(Almost raises hand to  
Ask question, but  
Declines and continues  
Listening.)

**HER (A)**

*O, yes,  
I say it plain,  
America never was America to me,  
And yet I swear this oath—  
America will be!*

**RING LEADER**

(Waits patiently)

**HER (A)**

*Out of the rack and ruin of our gangster death,  
The rape and rot of graft, and stealth, and lies,  
We, the people, must redeem  
The land, the mines, the plants, the rivers.  
The mountains and the endless plain—  
All, all the stretch of these great green states—  
And make America again!<sup>1</sup>*

RING LEADER

GREAT!!!

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<sup>1</sup>From *The Collected Poems of Langston Hughes*, published by Alfred A. Knopf, Inc.  
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HER (A)  
(Screaming)

*And make America again!*

**RING LEADER**  
(Completely scoffing  
And mocking laughter!!)

Didn't you hear me!? It already is! Ok, ok,  
just...one...more...joke. And it's perfect for you and this  
*wonderful* job you've done here. Ok? Here goes:

(Leans into HER (A))

What did one saggy boob say to the other saggy boob?

~Draw out punchline gap uncomfortably

"We better get some support before someone thinks we're  
nuts!"

(Howls in laughter)

It's just a joke!! I know you've heard worse! Forget it,  
let's see the best part of your act as you get back to your  
spot!

**THE PLAYERS** Sign-face out: 'Applause'

**HER (A)** walks to background.

**RING LEADER**

I don't care what they say, you can have all the diplomas,  
all the awards, and all the commendations, but sometimes,  
people just want to see some ass.

**AUDIO: TBD ACT II distortion (De colores kids version)**

**SPOT LIGHT: Cast on HER (1)**

**HER (1)** walks to foreground.

**HER (1)**

(Uncomfortable)

Hi...where did you get this dress? This is not...

**RING LEADER**

Oh, I'll check into that, but you look lovely. We wanted to give you an authentic Mexican look! How do you like it? Did you know I was once accused of being Mexican. Wanna know what I said when I heard that?

**HER (1)**

I don't know if I d-

HIM (A)

**HER (1)**

HIM (1)

(Shrugs)

(To HIM (A))

(Frustrated)

Just keep going

I don't remember this

Stop talking,  
Let me hear

**RING LEADER**

I told 'em, well you know, this is a case where I am what I eat!

**HER (1)**

So we're really not on script anymore? You really just said that, didn't you?

**HIM (A)**

Nick!! What the fuck are you doing??

**HER (A)**

This is ridiculous, I'm never working with Richard again... fuck...

**RING LEADER**

(Reassuringly to HER (1))

So, I hear through the tomato vine that you'll be doing a very special dance for us? Of the *Flamingo* persuasion perhaps!?

**HIM (1)**

I love Flamingos!

**HER (1)**

Flamingo?? Ahhh, mijo...I think you need to go back and read a book. It's Flamenco. And no, I'll be doing a dance rooted in MY culture, but more importantly that is based on who I am, not what you think that means! Do you understand me?

**RING LEADER**

(Feigns being scared)

So fiery!! Just don't throw a chonkla at me!

(Gets serious)

Really though, that is a muy muy bien idea, but if I am to be honest, wanna know what's been on my mind.

(Points to AUDIENCE)

What's been on their minds. And it's beautiful, really. Do you really wanna know what I think the AUDIENCE would love?

What would really wow them? If you said in your beautiful native language. Why don't you say it in Spanish for everyone? You can speak it right?

**HER (1)**

(HER (1) hesitates.)

What?

**RING LEADER**

Mexican. Er Spanish, whatever...you know what I mean...

(Starts waxing/

pontificating)

Oh, it's a beautiful language! I could listen to it all day. Sometimes I think about learning it myself, *pero, asi es la vida...*

(Emerges from reverie.  
Pointedly addresses  
HER (1))

So, Spanish?

**HIM (A)**  
(Under breath)

That's not cool man...

**HIM (1)**

What's wrong with asking  
to hear it in Spanish?

**HER (A)**

(Covers mouth in  
disbelief)

Holy shit...

**HER (1)**

(In composed disbelief)

Ok, uh...I mean of course...

(HER (1) looks back  
at PERFORMERS.)

**RING LEADER**

(TO HER (1) with a  
big grin)

There ain't nothing over there to see. Give the people what they want. It's ok...It's all part of the show.

(Starts clapping and  
Addresses everyone.)

It's all part of the show everybody, c'mon...give her a round of applause!



**THE PLAYERS** Sign-face out: 'Applause'

HER (1)  
(Turns back toward AUDIENCE  
and RING LEADER. Changes  
confused demeanor  
to cheerful.)

Umm...ok...yeah, Of course...I'd be happy to.

**RING LEADER**

Fantastic!!

**HIM (A)**

Dude, Nick man??

**RING LEADER**  
(Annoyingly shoos criticisms)

Shhhhh!! C'mon guys let her talk!

**HER (A)**  
(To HIM (A))

This wasn't in my script...what's he saying?

**RING LEADER**

C'mon go ahead, it's ok...we're all friends here...everybody  
shhh!!!

**THE PLAYERS** Pantomime: 'Shhhhhhhh'

**HER (1)**

*\*In Spanish~ Mayela & Griesel: Are there terms in Spanish  
that sound sweet, but can have a deeper meaning behind it?  
Each positive phrase is distorted due to the now seemingly  
forced action to take.\**

(HER (1) is hesitant)

It was all about identity...I mean for me at least. We were...umm... encouraged to learn how to be ourselves. Even, what I'm saying right now, is...me... sorry...

*~Beat*

I wanted to create a performance that was a part of me. I think identity gets lost, so easy from...easy ideas, and I wanted to challenge that. That I'm more than a hairstyle...more than a place even...

*~Beat*

Yeah, it really is...Learning more about who I am. Connecting and owning my identity.

*~Beat*

I get to build a performance from who I am. This show is letting me be me.

*~Beat*

That no one can tell me who to be. No one can make me into what they want.

(HER (1) has a hollow smile.)

**RING LEADER**

(Silent)

*~Beat*

(Applaud Explosively)

Tremendo!!! Absolutamente tremendo!!! Oh, that was exactly...exactly what we all needed to hear. Magnificent! Everyone, please one more time, give her a round of applause!

**THE PLAYERS** Sign-face out: 'Applause'

**RING LEADER**

(To HER (1))

You can go back now. You did very, very good...

**HER (A)** walks to background.

**HIM (A)**

(To himself)

I'm gonna fuck him up later

**HIM (1)**

He didn't write the script, did he?

**HER (A)**

I want to go...I thought you were my friend...

**THE PLAYERS** Sign-face out: 'Applause'

**AUDIO:** "Pretty Fly for a White Guy" ACT III distortion

**LIGHT:** SPOTLIGHT cast on HIM (1)

**RING LEADER**

XXX - Introduction

**HIM (1)** slowly walks to foreground.

**HIM (1)**

(He is unsure, looking at  
other performers  
for confirmation.)

**HER (1)**

**HIM (A)**

**HER (A)**

(Shrug and don't have solutions)

**HIM (1)**

(Trying to be discreet)

Uhhh...you didn't tell me about this.

**RING LEADER**

What?

**HIM (1)**

You didn't tell me about this. I was told we were going to say hi and that's it. The stuff in the first act? That was all I...

**RING LEADER**

I could have sworn you were at rehearsal...

(Scrutinizes HIM (1).  
Shrugs it off)

Are you sure?

(Waves it away  
Dismissively)

It, ok ok, you're fine. You know what, as a matter of fact, you are one of finest gentlemen I've had the pleasure of acquainting! You know, now that I think about it, you just being here is special enough for us already. Go ahead young man, show the crowd what an upstanding young man looks like.

(Turns to AUDIENCE. Starts  
clapping vigorously.)

Isn't he fine folks, everybody give him a round of applause!

(Stops clapping. ~Over  
applause. To HIM (1))

See. Nobody cares, you could - I don't know - fucking shoot up main street and *really* what's gonna happen to you? Go on back big-boy...

(Smacks HIM (1) on  
Butt.)

You do just fine indeed.

**HIM (1)** walks to background.

**RING LEADER**

Remember, get those paddles up if you like what you saw!  
They are here for you as much as you are here for them. And  
don't worry if you can't decide who you like the most, you  
can pick all of them!

(Points to HIM (A))

Who wants to show some love Mr. Wakanda Forever? Get those  
paddles high! And remember, you can have all the favorites  
you want!!

**HIM (A)**

(Looks away/downward)

**RING LEADER**

*~Audience Improv~ Gratitude to AUDIENCE participation*  
(Points to HER (A))

And who can forget Ms. Maya Anthony PeliClinton! If you  
ever wanted to fuck a book and burn it at the same time?

**HER (A)**

*(TBD: what action would  
Show tacit shame?)*

**RING LEADER**

*~Audience Improv~ Gratitude to AUDIENCE participation*  
(Points to HER (1))

And how about our Ms. Flamingo herself? Maybe we can show  
you some *real*, down to earth, dances!

(Mimics Tango)

**HER (1)**

(Wide eyes fury/calm fury;  
No matter what; fury)

**RING LEADER**

*~Audience Improv~ Gratitude to AUDIENCE participation*  
(Points to HIM (1))

And of course, please raise your paddles for my favorite little guy!

**HIM (1)**

(Confusion)

**RING LEADER**

One last final applause for our magnanimous performers...

**THE PLAYERS** Sign-face out: 'Applause'

**AUDIO: TBD**

**LIGHT: SPOTLIGHT cast on Curtain and wide shot over PERFORMERS**

(Applauds. Looking between  
Curtain closing and masked  
men entering the back space,  
the curtain remains open long  
enough to see THE TORMENTORS  
Accost and jostle PERFORMERS.  
Curtain closes)

**RING LEADER**

Ahh, its ok folks, don't worry, don't worry...It looks worse than it is, they're some of the...uhhh...most dedicated...

(Chuckles)

...most talented men and women to be introduced to.

(CURTAIN FALL)

END of ACT II

**THE RINGBOY** emerges from backstage.

**THE RINGBOY** holds a sign. Walks one length of stage. Sign-face out: 'The Spectacle is Over...'

**THE RINGBOY** holds a sign. Returns to other side of stage. Sign-face out: 'It's Bidding Time!!!!'

Start of ACT III

ACT III: The Showcase

*At the apex of the celebration, after the spectacle has been witnessed, the set begins being broken down as it is revealed to be an auction stage.*

Scene 1

Setting:

During ACT III, 'The Others' begin deconstructing stage. It is not acknowledged by the RING LEADER. The stage ornaments, the red curtain, and any removable pieces of the scaffolding/curtain holding equipment is taken down to reveal a simple black curtain.

AT RISE:

RL is standing at the front of the stage. He is the goddamned lizard king.



**AUDIO: TGP Introduction Theme PLAYS**

**LIGHT: SPOTLIGHT casts on RING LEADER**

**RING LEADER**

Ladies and Gentlemen, there is no need for me to get any more excited. WE made it folks. To the main event. The grand act. *The Showcase!* And when I think about it there's a certain, special kind of panache...a feeling of elegance with being a winner don't you think? Let's all be winners tonight. And let's be winners for as long as we can. Because it'll have to end sometime, but we get to decide that...Get ready folks...

*The Showcase ~Humiliation:*

**TECH: THE PLAYERS begin to tear down THE RED CURTAIN and SET.**

**TECH: BLACK CURTAIN is revealed.**

[Behind the curtain]

**HIM (A)**

**HER (A)**

**HER (1)**

**HIM (A)**

(Muffled screams and cries)

**RING LEADER**

Finally, the moment we've all been waiting for! You picked your favorites. You chose the best. You know what time it is!! It's bidding time!!

**AUDIO: TGP Introduction (Gross version) Theme PLAYS**

**TECH: RED CURTAIN RISES**

**LIGHT: SPOTLIGHT wide shot over PERFORMERS**

**THE PERFORMERS: HIM (A), HER (A), HER (1), HIM (1)** stand side by side in an orderly line. They are stripped. All have bags on their heads. Each PERFORMER is being restrained by a **TORMENTOR**.

**HIM (A)**

**HER (A)**

**HER (1)**

**HIM (A)**

(Muffled screams and cries)

**RING LEADER**

This is why we're all here! They're here for you! Give them all a round of applause everyone. And remember, if you have a yourself a golden paddle, it's worth twice as much! Ahhh, don't worry folks, gold or silver, no matter what, every paddle holder here tonight is our special guest!

**RING LEADER**

We don't have much time so get one last gander before we all...run...out...

**AUDIO: Sample of Will Smith "Getting Jiggy with it"**

**LIGHT: Hits HIM (A) and TORMENTOR 1**

**RING LEADER**

Who would like this fine specimINE!? You know this is a complete package! A face like Denzel and a brain like...well, you know he can put two and two together...

**TORMENTOR 1**

(Rips bag off HIM (A))

**HIM (A)**

(Feral and frothing. Lifts Chained hands as if to hit)

You muthafucka cocksu-

**TORMENTOR 1**

(Viciously punches HIM (A) in the face.)

**HIM (A)**

(Takes the blow-stunned/hurt)

**RING LEADER**

Ahhhhh...not in the face...what are you doing?

**TORMENTOR 1**

(Looks at RING LEADER, and

And begin dealing body  
Blows to HIM (A))

**HIM (A)**

(Cries in agony and falls to  
His knees. He protects his  
Face.)

I'll fucking kill you!! I'll kill you!!

*~Audience Improv*

**RING LEADER**

(To TORMENTOR 1)

There ya go, was that so hard? Jesus, what kind of  
operation do you think we're running around here?

(Turns to audience)

Sorry about that folks, we just get a little excited  
ourselves is all and don't worry about him back there, he  
can handle a lot more than that...can't ya boy?

**TORMENTOR 1**

(Attempts to get HIM (A)  
In a standing position.  
Pummels him throughout.)

**HIM (A)**

(Cries in agony. Refuses to  
Stand, bracing down with one  
Knee. He screams and  
Curses with abandon.)

*~Audience Improv*

**RING LEADER**

Now, now, now...use the King's good English! I know you can!  
You're better than that!

(Motions to Tormentor 1)

**TORMENTOR 1**

(Puts bag on head of HIM (1))

**LIGHT: Moves off HIM (A) and TORMENTOR 1**

**THE TORMENTOR** continues to restrain HIM (A)

**RING LEADER**

And, who do we have next!?

(Turn to AUDIENCE)

*~Audience Improv*

**AUDIO: Sample of Beyonce Knowles "Beautiful" (ACT III distortion)**

**LIGHT: Moves on HER (B) and TORMENTOR 2**

**TORMENTOR 2**

(Rips bag off HER (A))

**HER (A)**

(Sobbing/Deeply morose  
and wide eyed.

Never looking at TORMENTOR  
Trying to find connection  
With any other PERFORMER.)

**RING LEADER**

Alright, alright, alright, and onto contesta-

(Realizes the tormentor is outright  
molesting HER (A). Turns around  
To the AUDIENCE.)

**TORMENTOR 2**

(Rubbing arms and neck  
Of HER (A) as he circles  
her)

**HER (A)**

(Sobbing/Deeply morose  
and wide eyed. Never  
looking at TORMENTOR 2.)

**RING LEADER**

You know, I see stuff like  
that and - I have a  
daughter - and I see  
stuff like that and it...

(Concerned voice)

...it makes me realize what  
she's going have to go  
through...that she's going  
to need to know how to  
survive out here. You know  
how it is? Life can be tough,  
but you know what, it doesn't  
have to be. That's what I'm  
going make sure she always  
understands:

**TORMENTOR 2**

(Leans in close  
so close it looks  
like breathing into  
face. \*Grab breast/  
rip blouse.)

**HER (A)**

(Clutches herself  
tightly as she  
screams when  
touched.)

**HER (1)**

(Attempts to grab  
HER (A)'s hand.)

**TORMENTOR 2**

(Smacks hand away)

**RING LEADER**

(Turns around and looks  
once, Shaking head in  
resignation and with  
a shrug)

That, ya know, sometimes life is going to try and run you  
down. And when it does, you just gotta 'Grin and Bear it'.  
That's life.

**HER (A)**

(Blood curdling/sobbing)

Stop it! Please...please!!! They're lying to you...this isn't-

**RING LEADER**

HEY HEY HEY, SHUT THE FUCK UP!! You're getting paid aren't you!!? Quit being a fucking drama queen!

(Turns to AUDIENCE)

See, see!! I told ya everybody, she acts so good, even got me going!! Fucking goddamn, it's ok though!! It's ok, It's all part of the show!! Give her a round of applause everybody c'mon!! And remember, if you're like what you're seeing, get those paddles up later!

Well, I'm certain you'll all be talking about this for years to come, but we gotta keep moving!

**LIGHT: Moves off HER (A) and TORMENTOR 2**

**THE TORMENTOR** continues to restrain HER (A)

**AUDIO: TBD (ACT III distortion)**

**LIGHT: Moves on HER (1) and TORMENTOR 3**

**TORMENTOR 3**

(Rips bag off HER (1))

**HER (1)**

(A silent face full of Rage and hate. She says Nothing and doesn't cry. Her eyes scream.)

**RING LEADER**

(Similar as in ACT I,  
He touches his heart  
In reverie.)

Ahhh, yes! Who could  
forget our clever little princess!  
With her beautiful little  
language and fascinating -er...  
well stories of fascinating  
dances, well you're in for  
a treat. And when you see  
her do something new to you,  
just make sure to remind her

**TORMENTOR 3**

(Picks up can of  
white paint off the  
ground. Opens it  
Carefully.)

**HER (1)**

(Looks incredulous  
not unrealistic.  
Stares at TORMENTOR  
3 and the paint can  
in his hand. She  
reaches and grabs

how to do it the *real* way and  
you'll be just fine.)

HER (A) hand.)

**TORMENTOR 3**

(Singing out-of-tune:  
*De colores*. And dipping  
his hand in paint can.)

**HER (1)**

(Staring at him.)

*De colores,  
De colores se visten los  
campos en la primavera.  
De colores,  
De colores son los  
pajaritos que vienen  
de afuera.*

**TORMENTOR 3**

(Sloppily smears white  
paint over HER (1) face.)

**HER (1)**

(Eyes closed.  
Breath slow.  
Fists clench)

*De colores,  
De colores es el arco  
iris que vemos lucir.  
Why por eso los grandes amores  
de muchos colores  
Me gustan a mÃ*

**TORMENTOR 3**

(Sing *De colores* louder and  
Smears paint more forcefully.  
*Tears off Mexican flag patch  
From her breast~TBD.*)

**HER (1)**

(Eyes water)

*Canta el gallo,  
Canta el gallo con el quiri,  
quiri, quiri, quiri, qui,  
La gallina,  
La gallina con el cara, cara,  
cara, cara, cara,  
Los polluelos,*

**TORMENTOR 3**

(Sing *De colores* even

**HER (1)**

(Weakly)

louder and pinches cheeks  
to make HER (1) sing.)

*Los polluelos con el pÃo,  
pÃo, pÃo, pÃo, pi.  
Why por eso los grandes  
amores de muchos colores  
Me gustan a mÃ.*

*Los polluelos con el pÃo,  
pÃo, pÃo, pÃo, pi.  
Why por eso los grandes  
amores de muchos colores  
Me gustan a mÃ.*

~Beat

**TORMENTOR 3**

(Finish *De Colores*,  
Absurdly/disrespectfully)

*Los polluelos con el pÃo,  
pÃo, pÃo, pÃo, pi.  
Why por eso los grandes  
amores de muchos colores  
Me gustan a mÃ.*

**HER (1)**

(Finish *De Colores*  
with the rest of  
her strength.)

*Los polluelos con el pÃo,  
pÃo, pÃo, pÃo, pi.  
Why por eso los grandes  
amores de muchos colores  
Me gustan a mÃ.*

**RING LEADER**

So beautiful!! Who can resist that? C'mon folks, after  
being serenaded by a ballad like that, I should be seeing  
hands to the rafters! Remember to keep this in mind for  
later!

**LIGHT: Moves off HER (A) and TORMENTOR 2**

**THE TORMENTOR** continues to restrain HER (1)

**RING LEADER**

But last, and most certainly not least, is...

**AUDIO: Sample of "Pretty Fly for a White Guy" (Cover)**

**LIGHT: Moves on HIM (1) and TORMENTOR 4**

**TORMENTOR 4**

(Rips bag off HIM (1).)

**HIM (1)**

(Genuinely confused)



**TORMENTOR 4** stands silent. He carries duct tape, a dog collar, and a marker. Doesn't move, just stands next to **HIM (1)**.

**HIM (1)**

What the hell do you think you're doing?

(Grasping at outfit)

Get these off of me!!

*~Audience Improv*

**RING LEADER**

(Starts removing leash from his pocket.)

Hey, hey, hey there's no need to get so excited, it's ok young man!

(To AUDIENCE)

Can you tell I'm a little partial to this one...

(Points thumb at HIM (1))

...well, no time like the present.

(Waves hand to TORMENTOR 4 to begin.)

**TORMENTOR 4** unfurls tape, examines **HIM (1)** carefully and forcefully - Grabbing face, turning head, and patting on back~ ala a prize horse

**HIM (1)**

(Realizes what's happening. Start screaming to the AUDIENCE)

HELP ME! HELP ME! This isn't part o-

**TORMENTOR 4**

(Wraps duct tape over his eyes  
And over his mouth. Spins HIM (1)  
Around, places on dog collar  
And draws eyes/mouth  
slaps his back.)

**RING LEADER**

(Takes leash and strolls  
to HIM (1), whistling.  
Connects leash to collar.)

You always need someone to do the stuff that needs doing.  
Even if the stuff that needs doing, doesn't needs anyone  
knowing what needs to be done! Everybody say it with me,  
its all part of the show!

**HIM (1)**

(Still trying to scream  
But subsiding and  
weakening.)

**RING LEADER**

(Reassuringly)

Ahhh, shhh...shhh... it's ok  
Little guy. You don't have to  
Worry about a thing...

**TORMENTOR 4**

(Silently rubbing  
HIM (1) arms and  
back, supportively)

**RING LEADER**

(Caresses HIM (1) face)

You'll never have to worry about a thing. I'm never gonna  
let you go...ever...I promise...

(Hands leash to TORMENTOR 4.  
Gently rubs HIM (1) face  
Once more. Walks to center  
Stage.)

**SPOT LIGHT: Black-out from HIM (1)**

**THE BIDDERS** all sit in THE BALCONY.

**RING LEADER**

(Puts on a *Mask* (TBD))

It's BIDDING TIME! And remember; it doesn't end, until you let it!

(Points to HIM (A))

Who want's this Idris Elba Tucson knock-off? He got a face people like looking at, a mouth people like listening to and don't forget, he knows how to talk so good, you'll probably have to go full fucking circle and remind him to 'Shut the Fuck up'! But there's no doubting, with his ass - shit - he can make you money anyway you need.

**BIDDER 1** raises paddle.

**RING LEADER**

(Points to BALCONY)

Now that it's started, it's never gonna end until you get those hands up folks! Who wants them?

*~Audience Improv~ Incite them to choose*

You hear that folks? That's the sound of success! But we can't let him have it all! Who's going to help him? What are you going to do?

*~Audience Improv~ Gratitude to person who makes choice*

**RING LEADER**

(Points to HER (A))

And who can forget the lovely and sophisticated goddamn Octavio-Maya Angelou Susan B shut-the-fuck-up Super-bitch? She'll tell you about how much the bacon cost when you got her making it for you. And even better, you can get a mouth worth using.

**BIDDER 2** raises paddle.

**RING LEADER**

*~Audience Improv~ Incite them to choose*

What are you going to do? You can't even stand up? Just raise your hand? Tell us what you want!

*~Audience Improv~ Gratitude to person who makes choice*

**RING LEADER**

(Points to HER (1))

And how about some love for this one? You want her, you got her! Might have to keep your eye on her, but all she needs is a little perspective. Ya know, give a little hue for her understanding.

**BIDDER 3** raises paddle.

**RING LEADER**

*~Audience Improv~ Incite them to choose*

It doesn't end until you stop! You're not going to do anything!!? It's all you have to do. Just pick one!!

*~Audience Improv~ Gratitude to person who makes choice*

**RING LEADER**

(Points to HIM (1))

And of course, please raise your paddles for the one man on this stage that'll be everything you ever imagine. Take him! He could be a stuttering, disabled, poor-ass hipster fag motherfucker, but he's *ours*. Get that fucking paddle up.

**BIDDER 4** raises paddle.

**RING LEADER**

*~Audience Improv~ Incite them to choose*

Are you just going to watch or are you ready to stop the show?

*~Audience Improv~ Gratitude to person who makes choice*

**AUDIO: TGP Introduction (Gross version) Outro-Theme PLAYS**

**LIGHT: House Lights**

**TECH: All SET except BLACK CURTAIN being torn down.**

**RING LEADER**

(Remove bidding mask  
And toss it on floor.)

Well, folks, that's it. The favorites we're picked. The best were chosen. And the bids were made. That's all there is folks. That's all you had to do. And now it's over,

**(Black Curtains Drop)**

(Screams and chaos are heard)

**HIM (A)**

**HIM (A)**

**HER (1)**

**HER (1)**

(Muffled screams and cries)

**RING LEADER**

Now, for those poor souls that were deprived of the glory from this evening..

You put their little fears at ease. See this show isn't going anywhere, despite what all them nay-sayers want to tell you. As long as you're here, we'll always be here setting up next show. Because, when it comes down to it, you're the only one that'll stop it. But I'm heartened to say that I don't see that happening any time soon; we always seem to have a full house!

So folks, until next time..

(Slowly puts on mask)

Thank you, ladies and gentlemen, for joining us tonight and being tonight's real winners. Thank you for being part of community in this time-honored tradition. Thank you for finally making a new tradition. Thank you for being a part of **The GRANDest Pageant**.

**BLACK OUT**

**THE WATCHERS** stand in silence. Both inside and outside, watching The AUDIENCE as they leave.