

Way Out

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A Ten-Minute Play

by

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Two teenage friends find themselves  
in an unknown location, totally unaware  
of how or why they are there.

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Way Out

Cast of Characters

JORDAN DAVIS:

A 16-year-old teenager, any race, any gender

SYDNEY BROWN:

A 16-year-old teenager, any race, any gender

Scene

A dark tunnel with no doors or windows.

Time

The present.

Way Out

SETTING: A long tunnel somewhere between the here and the hereafter.

AT RISE: The set is in Blackout. Sydney and Jordan are onstage but not visible.

SYDNEY

Oh, my God! Jordan ... Riley ... is anybody here?

JORDAN

I'm here, wherever the hell that is.

(We see a massive blast of blinding white light.)

SYDNEY

What's with the interrogation lights?

JORDAN

Who knows? All I know is my future's so bright; I gotta wear my Lexxola Damien Shades!

(The light tones down a bit,  
and Jordan and Sydney are visible.)

Syd, you look like a deer in the headlights.

SYDNEY

Where's Riley?

JORDAN

The hell with her. Where the hell are we?

(The light goes out. They both scream.)

SYDNEY

It's dark as death ...

JORDAN

Damn, I don't have my cell phone. I must have left it in the car. Y'got yours?

SYDNEY

Yeah.

JORDAN

Turn on the flashlight.

SYDNEY

Let there be light.

JORDAN

Do you have any cell service?

SYDNEY

No. We're in a dead zone.

JORDAN

I have no idea how we got here. The last thing I remember is ... we were cruising along the Robert Moses Causeway with the radio blasting, and Riley was sitting in the backseat, passing me a joint.

SYDNEY

Yeah, and I remember you dropped it and started screaming, "My dad will kill me if I burn a hole in the seat."

JORDAN

Imagine what he's going to do now that I've lost the whole damn car.

SYDNEY

And what about Riley? How the hell did we lose her?

JORDAN

This is crazy. The pot must have been cut with Angel Dust.

SYDNEY

I'm scared.

JORDAN

So, what else is new? If it weren't for me, you'd still be sitting in your car seat being chauffeured around by your Mommy. Now, stay calm. Let's think logically.

SYDNEY

OK. We have to figure out how we got here in the first place.

JORDAN

We must have driven here. I mean, we were stoned ... are stoned. We don't remember driving here, that's all. Maybe we stopped at one of those Escape Rooms Riley's always bugging us about. Yeah, I bet that's it. So, there has to be a way out. I'll just keep running my hands along the wall until I find a hidden door.

SYDNEY

I hope we're not being buried alive.

JORDAN

Shut the hell up and check your cell phone again.

SYDNEY

Still nothing. Something's not right. I don't think this is an Escape Room.

(Sydney starts screaming for help.)

Maybe it's a safe room, you know, one of those rooms you run to when there's a home invasion or if the Apocalypse comes or if extraterrestrials take over the world.

JORDAN

It could be a bomb shelter. Do you think someone dropped the bomb? Or tossed the Nuclear Football?

(Sydney screams again.)

Stop screaming! I don't think anyone can hear you anyway. We're like in the middle of no man's land.

SYDNEY

Maybe it's a cosmic joke. Wait! Wait! Wait! My iPhone just got five bars.

JORDAN

Halle-friggin'-lujah!

SYDNEY

And there's a breaking news alert—two High School Seniors from Great South Bay High School Die in Crash.

JORDAN

I hope it was Dylan Doyle and Jessie Drinkwater. It'll be the happiest day of my life if I never have to see those two dicks in homeroom again. So, who got killed?

(Sydney doesn't answer,  
and Jordan grabs the phone.)

What? This has to be some kind of a sick joke.

(Reading from Sydney's cell phone.)

“Authorities have identified the two 16-year-old teens killed in last night's crash as the driver, Jordan Davis, and the passenger, Sydney Brown. According to friends and families, the teens have been best friends since preschool. Multiple witnesses told the police that the 2022 blue Tesla Model S was speeding along the Robert Moses Causeway when a deer darted out in front.”

SYDNEY

So, we're dead?

JORDAN

Looks that way.

SYDNEY

What about Riley?

JORDAN

“A third passenger, 17-year-old Riley Miller, is in stable condition at a local hospital. It is unclear where the teens were heading at 11 p.m. yesterday evening. On Long Island, a 16-year-old with a junior driver’s license is only permitted to drive between the hours of 5 a.m. to 9 p.m.”

SYDNEY

It’s a good thing we’re dead, or our parents would kill us!

JORDAN

Can you make a call?

SYDNEY

No. We have no cell service again.

JORDAN

There’s got to be a way out!

SYDNEY

That’s what you say every time *you* screw up, and *we* get in trouble. Somehow, I don’t think you’re going to charm your way out of this mess.

JORDAN

But we haven’t passed through the pearly gates or been greeted by St. Peter with the “keys to the Kingdom,” so there has to be a door, a portal, or a hole in the universe we can sneak through.

SYDNEY

People don’t come back from the dead.

JORDAN

Sure, they do. We watched that Netflix series about all those people who had Near Death Experiences. They saw the light and a long tunnel, but they still came back. We just have to find the way out. Come on. Let’s go.

SYDNEY

No, I’m waiting here until an angel, or a dead relative comes and gets me.

JORDAN

Do what y’gotta do, but I’m hellbent on finding a way out.

SYDNEY

That's not going to be as easy as cutting a hole in a fence or sneaking out the Fire Exit or climbing out a window.

JORDAN

Give me your cell phone.

SYDNEY

No!

(Jordan tries to grab it.  
They struggle a moment.)

JORDAN

I want the flashlight.

SYDNEY

Here take it. It's not an eternal flame. The battery is about to die anyway.

(Jordan exits. Sydney is left  
all alone in the dark.)

JORDAN

(Off)

You'd better hope your Grandma Theresa doesn't come for you. She'll yell at you the whole way back up to God.

(Sydney continues to wait in the dark for a long moment.  
Then a light appears on the opposite side of the stage  
from where Jordan exited. Sydney walks toward the light.)

CURTAIN.