

***THE LAST KID  
IN THE UNIVERSE***

*By  
Brent Alles*

# THE LAST KID IN THE UNIVERSE

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THE LAST KID IN THE UNIVERSE

*For Douglas Adams  
Thanks for all the inspiration... and the fish.*

*Special Thanks to Rob Freund, Jeff Stacer, Yvonne Alles, Laurel Conrad,  
Martha Hayden, and Lyssara Ford for helping to develop this show and  
bring it to life.*

## THE LAST KID IN THE UNIVERSE

*The Last Kid in the Universe* received its first production on June 16, 2022, at the Lowell Arts Gallery in Lowell, MI, featuring the following cast:

Jenny Robinson.....Landis Schenck  
Christina Robinson/Gebzad.....Ellory Duimstra  
Rob Friend/Mighty Gor-Bagg .....Wyatt Duimstra  
Duncan Hines .....Michael Golczynski  
Ashley/Nom Nom/Soldier .....Avery Goodwin  
Pixie/Nom Nom/Soldier .....Ellie Burton  
Mixie/Nom Nom/Soldier.....Luna Pagan  
Rikki Rocket .....Piper McCracken  
Captain Kayato .....Cash McCauley  
Panic/Nom Nom/Soldier/Steve.....Henry Schrauben  
Encyclopedia Intergalactica .....Nora Doyle

## THE LAST KID IN THE UNIVERSE

*The Last Kid in the Universe* received its second production with Lowell Arts, in Lowell, MI, at the Lowell Performing Arts Center, from April 14-17, 2023, featuring the following cast:

Jenny Robinson.....Mikaela Burrows  
Christina Robinson/Demeter .....Amy Drenth Hasapis  
Rob Friend/Steve .....Casey Berg  
Duncan Hines .....Percy Wale  
Gebzad Kackillit.....Lyssara Ford  
The Mighty Gor-Bagg .....Jacob Hasapis  
Rikki Rocket.....Hannah Hasapis  
Captain Kayato .....Jeff Stacer  
Encyclopedia Intergalactica .....Amelia Herrera  
Ashley Sampson/Soldier.....Arlo Jarvis  
Pixie/Nom Nom/Alien Diner.....Terra Brenton-Boggs  
Mixie/Nom Nom/Alien Diner.....Leah Breese  
Rory Radical/Samm Aritan.....Kevin Walters  
Wally the Platypus/Vic Trolla .....Samantha Richardson  
Panic .....ZynT Ford  
Bill Holyfield/Kieff Mune .....Victor Preiss  
Ollie Froelich, Avery Goodwin, Cash  
McCauley, Delany Powell  
Chloe Berg, Ellory Duimstra, Lilly Kharmai,  
Anna Kushion, Adelaide Plank, Henry Stacer, Olivia VanGronigen

## THE LAST KID IN THE UNIVERSE

CAST: 11 MALE, 10 FEMALE  
(EXTRA/ENSEMBLE PARTS POSSIBLE, DOUBLING POSSIBLE,  
GENDER AND AGE FLEXIBILITY IN CASTING ALLOWED)

JENNY ROBINSON	Female, 13, scrappy, sarcastic
CHRISTINA ROBINSON	Female, 30s-40s, caring and grounded mother
ROB FRIEND	Male, 30s-40s, A-S-P director, two-faced disciplinarian
DUNCAN HINES	Male, 12-13, odd, excitable, secretly an alien
ASHLEY SAMPSON	Female, 14, school bully, ruthless
PIXIE	Female, 12, Ashley's snickering sidekick
MIXIE	Female, 12, another of Ashley's sidekicks
GEBZAD KACKILLIT	<i>[Kah-kill-it]</i> Female, adult, alien, proud but flustered
MIGHTY GOR-BAGG	Male, older teen or adult, selfish and gluttonous
RIKKI ROCKET	Female, mid-teens, brave space buccaneer, survivor
CAPTAIN KAYATO	<i>[Kai-ah-toe]</i> Male, feline cat pirate
PANIC	Female, older teen or adult, high-strung, panicked robot
ENCYCLOPEDIA INTERGALACTICA	Male, older teen or adult, cheerful, overly chatty AI

## THE LAST KID IN THE UNIVERSE

B. D. HOLYFIELD	Male, 40s-50s, astrophysicist, pompous know-it-all
RORY RADICAL	Male, older teen or adult, bronze-skinned surfer type
WALLY	Male, any age, duck-billed platypus, comic relief
DEMETER	Female, adult, alien restaurant owner, diva
KIEFF MUNE	Male, older teen or adult, drummer, chill vibe
VIC TROLLA	Female, older teen/adult, horn player, cool and smooth
SAMM ARITAN	Male, keytarist, eccentric member of the band
STEVE	Male, adult, mysterious figure, cosmic wildcard

### EXTRAS/ENSEMBLE

NOM NOMS	Small, fluffy, deceptively cute carnivorous creatures
OSAVERAN SOLDIERS	<i>[Oh-sah-vair-ah] [Oh-sah-vair-an]</i>
ALIEN DINERS	

# THE LAST KID IN THE UNIVERSE

## NOTES ON CASTING

*The Last Kid in the Universe* can be performed with a variable cast. The play is written for a suggested 21 speaking roles. (Playwright gives permission to swap gender of roles as needed.) Osaveran Soldiers, Nom Noms, and Alien Diners can be cast as you see fit. You can certainly "double" roles as needed. (Examples of doubling can be found in the production cast lists.) The following roles should probably not be doubled:

- Jenny Robinson, Duncan Hines, Rikki Rocket
- Otherwise, you can definitely consider using an “ensemble” where each person plays several of the smaller parts.

TIME: Next Monday, A.D.

PLACE: Various locations on Earth and in the universe.

## NOTES ON STAGING

The “interludes” are designed to not only allow some additional comic pieces but also to give your theater group time to change scenes as needed. Staging can be kept relatively fluid to allow for quick changes between the scenes and acts. Video projections can be used for outer space and other locales as you see fit.

While PANIC is written as an onstage character, you can also do the character as an offstage voice if needed.

If you don't desire to do the song and dance numbers as written, you can always feel free to just have the actors deliver the lines without music. Whatever works the best for your theater group! For sheet music for the songs, please reach out to the playwright at [alles@comcast.net](mailto:alles@comcast.net).

An intermission can perhaps be held between Acts I and II, but it is optional.

# THE LAST KID IN THE UNIVERSE

## ACT 1 PROLOGUE

*Curtain, if there is one, is closed. Perhaps a spotlight on BILL DELAWN HOLYFIELD, an astrophysicist, as he enters.*

**HOLYFIELD.** Good evening. I'm Professor Bill DeLawn Holyfield, P-H-D. You may know me from my many books and my television and radio appearances. You probably know me best from my long-running show on the Science Channel: "Space... it's Really, Really, Really Big." However, I am here tonight to issue a stern warning to all of you who are about to view this play. No, it's not the usual warning to silence your phones and not take flash photography. You plebians should already know that. No, my true warning is that, unfortunately, this play is filled with SCIENTIFIC INACCURACIES. And so, I regret to inform you that you cannot take any of this seriously. Do you want some examples? Well, later on, when characters are supposed to be in zero gravity, watch their hair. If their bangs don't float freely on their head, then they must be using REALLY good astronaut mousse, hmmm? Also, you're going to see alien soldiers using "laser swords." Don't make me laugh. If they really were "laser swords," then they would just pass through each other because they're BEAMS OF LIGHT! And don't even get me started on WARP DRIVE, because the only thing that's WARPED is the mind of this play's writer and... *(A MYSTERIOUS PERSON dressed in a robe and wearing an alien mask enters, holding a stuffed dolphin toy. He walks up to Holyfield, silencing his rant momentarily. The Mysterious Person stares at Holyfield for a moment and then hits him in the head with the stuffed toy. They then both turn and exit as our play begins.)*

# THE LAST KID IN THE UNIVERSE

## SCENE 1

*The after-school program [A-S-P] room at a local school. This room is for the older kids, ages 10-14 [grades 4-8]. Tables and chairs and various items of study and play can be seen scattered about. CHRISTINA ROBINSON leads her daughter JENNIFER "JENNY" ROBINSON into the room.*

**CHRISTINA.** Well, here we go. The Nickels After School Program... *(Reading a crudely drawn sign on the wall.)* "A... S... P." Looks like an OK enough place, huh, Jenny?

**JENNY.** *(Head down.)* Yeah, I guess.

**CHRISTINA.** Look, I know it's not what you want. But after school's done, we need a place for you and your brother to go before your dad or I can pick you up.

**JENNY.** I don't understand. Why can't we just go home after school's done and wait for you there? I'm old enough to take care of both of us!

**CHRISTINA.** We tried that already, remember? You almost burned down the house!

**JENNY.** Bobby wanted S'mores. I thought I could make 'em over the stove.

**CHRISTINA.** Yes. The problem is that you went to chase your brother around the room and forgot to take the toasting skewers OFF the stove!

**JENNY.** Hey, I can't help that he whacked me in the back of the leg with his stupid robot toy. That really hurt! He's such a pest! I hate him!

**CHRISTINA.** Don't say that about your own brother! Anyway, it's only a couple of hours. You'll have time to work on your homework, you know? Look, we need this, okay? Your dad and I both need the jobs we have. To keep a roof over our head. Provided you don't burn it down first. *(ROB FRIEND enters, holding a clipboard. He seems extremely pleasant.)*

**FRIEND.** Hello there! You must be the Robinsons. *(Friend shakes hands with Christina.)*

**CHRISTINA.** Hi, I'm Christina Robinson. This is my daughter Jennifer. Though she goes by Jenny.

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**FRIEND.** Jenny! (*Friend offers Jenny a “high five,” but she “leaves him hanging.”*)

**JENNY.** (*Head down again.*) Hi.

**CHRISTINA.** Sorry, she’s a bit shy around people she just met.

**FRIEND.** Oh, that’s okay. You are free to be who you want to be at the A-S-P!

**CHRISTINA.** That’s catchy.

**FRIEND.** Thanks! I came up with it myself. Anyway, I’m the A-S-P Director, Rob Friend. As I always like to say, you’ve got a FRIEND in Rob Friend! (*Laughs.*)

**CHRISTINA.** (*Chuckling uncomfortably.*) My younger son Bobby’s in the K-3 room. He got distracted by LEGO so I could bring Jenny down here. (*Christina looks around the room.*) So, are there any other kids in this room?

**FRIEND.** Oh yes, they’ll be here soon enough. After the final bell rings, they head straight here from their classes.

**CHRISTINA.** Jenny and Bobby will usually be here after their bus drops them off from their other schools. They unfortunately don’t have any “A-S-P” over there.

**FRIEND.** Yes, those darn budget cuts. Luckily, I work for Doctor Pepper and Red Vines! (*Laughs.*)

**CHRISTINA.** Great. I had a rare day off today, so I thought I could drop the kids off in person. So we could all see the place. Now, I have to run a few errands. Nice to meet you, Mr. Friend.

**FRIEND.** Oh, call me Rob!

**CHRISTINA.** OK... Rob. (*To Jenny.*) You behave yourself, Jenny. I’ll be back around six. (*Christina exits. There’s a slightly awkward pause.*)

**JENNY.** So... uh... Rob. What is there to do around here?

**FRIEND.** (*Getting uncomfortably close.*) YOU CAN CALL ME MISTER FRIEND, JENNIFER.

**JENNY.** It... it’s Jenny...

**FRIEND.** IT’S WHATEVER I WANT IT TO BE. HERE. AT THE A... S... P. Let me explain something to you, JENNIFER. My job’s not to make sure you have “fun.” It’s to make sure you BEHAVE. Are you going to BEHAVE, JENNIFER?

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**JENNY.** Y-y-yes.

**FRIEND.** *(Smiling again.)* Good! That's what I like to hear. Kids that know how to behave. Because if you DON'T... then you... will... make... THE LIST! *(Friend clicks his pen and makes a check mark on his clipboard before starting to exit. He turns around before he leaves and menacingly clicks his pen again at Jenny before he exits.)*

**JENNY.** Boy, what a hardcase... *(The oddly dressed DUNCAN HINES enters, holding what appears to be a smartphone. Duncan wanders around the room, stopping here and there, waving the device around and muttering, pushing a few buttons every once in a while, and paying no attention to Jenny, who watches him in disbelief.)*

**JENNY.** Um, excuse me?

**DUNCAN.** *(Startled.)* AHHH!

**JENNY.** *(Reacting.)* AHHH!

**DUNCAN.** Oh, terribly sorry, mate. You startled me.

**JENNY.** Not as much as you startled me. Who are you?

**DUNCAN.** Oh, I'm sorry. Appalling manners on my part. Hello. I'm Duncan... Duncan Hines. *(Duncan extends a hand for a shake. Jenny slowly takes his hand. Duncan shakes her hand vigorously but doesn't let go.)*

**JENNY.** I'm Jenny. Uh... you can probably let go now. *(Duncan lets go of her hand.)*

**DUNCAN.** Oh right, right! Dreadfully sorry!

**JENNY.** What were you doing anyway?

**DUNCAN.** Trying to get a signal.

**JENNY.** Oh... must be nice to have a phone. My mom says I can't have one until I'm at least fifteen.

**DUNCAN.** Phone? Oh... right! Anyway, welcome to the A-S-P. First day here?

**JENNY.** Yeah. You?

**DUNCAN.** Day Twelve Hundred and Sixty-Five. But who's counting? It's a pleasure to meet you. Would you like a fig newton?

**JENNY.** Uh... no thanks.

**DUNCAN.** Suit yourself. More for me! *(Duncan pulls some fig newtons from a pocket and happily munches away on one.)*

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**JENNY.** So, are there any other kids coming today?

**DUNCAN.** *(Chewing more slowly, frowning.)* Yes, unfortunately. The rest all tend to travel in a pack. Lead by the most DREADFUL creature named...

**ASHLEY.** *(Off.)* IT'S CLOBBERIN' TIME!

**DUNCAN.** Ashley Sampson. *(ASHLEY SAMPSON enters with a mean look on her face. Two snickering kids, PIXIE and MIXIE, accompany her. Mixie is carrying schoolbooks and sets them down on a nearby table. Ashley walks over to Duncan, grabs his hand, and makes him start to hit himself with it.)*

**ASHLEY.** Why are you hitting yourself, Hines? Huh? Why are you hitting yourself?

**DUNCAN.** My hand seems to not be in control of itself. Terribly sorry about that!

**ASHLEY.** Oh, you'll be "terribly sorry," Hines, when I'm done with you!

**JENNY.** Hey! Leave him alone! *(Ashley releases Duncan's hand and menacingly turns towards Jenny.)*

**ASHLEY.** Who... are... you? *(Jenny backs away.)*

**JENNY.** Uh... I... I...

**ASHLEY.** Pixie... Mixie... grab her! *(Pixie and Mixie both grab an arm of Jenny as Ashley slowly and menacingly advances.)*

**JENNY.** Now... now wait a minute... I didn't mean to... I mean...  
Duncan? Little help here?

**DUNCAN.** *(Still hitting himself.)* Sorry, chap! I can't seem to stop this. It's like I'm on repeat!

**PIXIE.** What are you going to do, Ashley?

**MIXIE.** Wet Willie?

**PIXIE.** Atomic noogie?

**MIXIE.** Purple nurple? *(Ashley cracks her knuckles.)*

**ASHLEY.** No. This freak deserves something more special. She deserves... HAPPY BIRTHDAY.

**DUNCAN.** *(Finally not hitting himself anymore.)* No! Not that! Not HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

**JENNY.** What... what's Happy Birthday?

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**ASHLEY.** *(Grinning cruelly.)* Oh, you'll find out. Right... NOW... *(Rob Friend enters.)*

**FRIEND.** WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? *(Pixie and Mixie let Jenny go as Ashley is momentarily panicked before grabbing her arm and faking pain.)*

**ASHLEY.** OW! MR. FRIEND! SHE HIT ME! FOR NO REASON!

**FRIEND.** *(To Jenny.)* WHAT? Did you MISBEHAVE?

**PIXIE.** She did, Mr. Friend! We just wanted to do our homework. And this new kid wouldn't leave us alone! *(Mixie pushes her books off the table while no one is looking.)*

**MIXIE.** She pushed my books off the table!

**FRIEND.** Is this true, JENNIFER?

**JENNY.** No! I didn't do any of that! Duncan, tell them! *(Duncan is meekly chewing on a fig newton.)*

**DUNCAN.** What? Oh. Dreadfully sorry, mate. I didn't see anything. I just stopped hitting myself, you see.

**FRIEND.** I told you what happens if you don't BEHAVE! You just made... THE LIST! Come with me, JENNIFER! *(Friend makes a check mark on his clipboard and then drags a protesting Jenny off stage.)*

**ASHLEY.** *(To Duncan.)* Good job, WEIRDO. Good thing you didn't narc on me... or I would have made you CHOKE on those disgusting "cookies" you eat all the time!

**PIXIE.** Duncan only stops eating those to eat BOOGERS.

**MIXIE.** Yeah! Nothing better than BOOGER NEWTONS! *(All three mean kids leave the stage, laughing. Duncan watches them go and then slowly puts the package of fig newtons back in a pocket. He then removes the "smartphone" device and walks around the room, once again scanning... for something... before he exits.)*

### INTERLUDE 1

*Outer space. RORY RADICAL enters, carrying a bronze-colored boogie board. His skin also looks like it is made of bronze. He sounds like a "surfer dude" from California.*

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**RORY.** Behold! It is I, Rory Radical! Whoa! Welcome to deep space, brah! I roam the galaxies and solar systems of the universe, sadly never able to return to my home planet that was, like, totally DESTROYED by the evil Tannus Boothus! Tannus, like, made me into the figure that you see now, filled with the Power Universal and covered with bronze skin that can survive the coldness of deep space. Though my power may indeed keep me warm, brah, my heart grows cold at the thought of the danger that will soon befall your world. Third from the star Sol. The planet you call Earth! I must try to reach you all in time to warn you of the peril that you face, little brahs! *(Rory sets his boogie board down.)* So, upon my BRONZE BOOGIE BOARD, I will BOOGIE my way through the cosmos to avert catastrophe! TO ME, MY BOOGIE BOARD! *(Rory then jumps on his boogie board and, humorously, shuffles off stage on his stomach.)*

### SCENE 2

*Back in the A-S-P room. Duncan and Jenny enter and play cards at a table.*

**DUNCAN.** Do you have any threes?

**JENNY.** No. Go Fish.

**DUNCAN.** I'm not hungry, though.

**JENNY.** No, that means you draw a card.

**DUNCAN.** Oh! Right! Terribly sorry! *(Duncan sets the cards down and begins to studiously draw on a piece of paper.)*

**JENNY.** What are you doing? *(Duncan holds up his drawing.)*

**DUNCAN.** There! Does that look like a card to you, mate?

**JENNY.** No, no. You DRAW a card like... oh, never mind. It's my turn. Do you have any sixes? *(Duncan looks at his cards and nods.)*

**DUNCAN.** Yes, I do.

**JENNY.** *(Pause.)* Well?

**DUNCAN.** Well what?

**JENNY.** Give me your sixes!

**DUNCAN.** But then I won't have them.

**JENNY.** That's the point of the game!

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**DUNCAN.** I thought the point of the game was to catch fish?

**JENNY.** Not CATCH fish. GO fish!

**DUNCAN.** Just where are they going anyway? *(Jenny throws her cards down in disgust.)*

**JENNY.** Oh, never mind.

**DUNCAN.** It's a VERY confusing game. *(Duncan pushes a few buttons on his "smartphone.")*

**JENNY.** Now what are you doing?

**DUNCAN.** Just recording some quick notes. *(Speaking into device.)* "Day thirteen hundred and seventy-six. Today my best mate Jennifer..."

**JENNY.** Jenny.

**DUNCAN.** Jennifer Jenny tried to teach me a new game about going fishing. Strangely enough, we didn't use any poles or even a net. Just a deck of cards. Utterly fascinating! *(Jenny rises and walks around.)*

**JENNY.** Hard to believe we're the only two kids here today.

**DUNCAN.** Yes. It's rather nice, actually. Just some good time alone without...

**ASHLEY.** *(Off.)* IT'S CLOBBERIN' TIME! *(Jenny and Duncan look at each other.)*

**JENNY AND DUNCAN.** Ashley Sampson. *(Ashley enters, smirking and menacing, with Pixie and Mixie entering behind her.)*

**ASHLEY.** Well, well, well. If it isn't Weirdo Number One and Weirdo Number Two.

**PIXIE.** What are you doing, WEIRDOS? Trying to play a card game? *(Mixie grabs the cards and hurls them into the air.)*

**MIXIE.** I got a game for ya... 52 PICK-UP! *(Pixie and Mixie laugh as the cards scatter to the ground.)*

**ASHLEY.** *(To Jenny.)* You heard Mixie, Weirdo. PICK 'EM UP!

**JENNY.** But we didn't...

**ASHLEY.** NOW! *(Jenny and Duncan hurriedly pick the cards up.)*

**JENNY.** *(Under her breath.)* One of these days, YOU'RE going to have to pick things up... *(Ashley grabs Jenny by the ear.)*

**ASHLEY.** WHAT WAS THAT?

**JENNY.** OW... OW... OW...

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**DUNCAN.** She said, “One of these days, YOU'RE going to have to pick things up!”

**JENNY.** Thanks a lot, Duncan!

**DUNCAN.** You're welcome!

**ASHLEY.** That's what I thought you said. I've had just about enough of you, Weirdo. It's been too long since I made either of you pay the penalty. And boy, are you going to pay!

**JENNY.** Not Happy Birthday!

**ASHLEY.** No, not Happy Birthday. Today I think I'm going to go with...  
**THE RAIN PIPE!**

**JENNY.** No! Not that! Not the rain pipe!

**PIXIE.** YES! The rain pipe!

**MIXIE.** Make it rain, boss! *(Ashley is about to do something mean when suddenly an explosion is heard. Ashley lets go of Jenny as everybody on stage shakes and staggers.)*

**PIXIE.** What the...?

**MIXIE.** What's going on?

**GEBZAD KACKILLIT.** *(Off.)* Attention, citizens of Earth! This is Gebzad Kackillit, Majordomo to The Mighty Gor-Bagg, RULER of the entire Andromeda Galaxy! I am extremely excited to be speaking to you in your own rather primitive language, and I am here to inform you that in five minutes, your planet will be completely destroyed!

**ASHLEY.** *(Afraid.)* What?!? No!

**PIXIE.** This can't be happening!

**MIXIE.** This has to be a joke! *(Pixie looks offstage.)*

**PIXIE.** No, look outside! Giant spaceships in the sky! *(Mixie looks offstage.)*

**MIXIE.** There are so many of them! They're blocking out the SUN!

**ASHLEY.** We gotta run! Hide! *(Ashley, Pixie, and Mixie run offstage, screaming. Jenny is about to run off as well, but she stops when she sees that Duncan remains behind, tapping away on his device.)*

**JENNY.** Duncan, come on! We gotta go!

**DUNCAN.** Yes!

**JENNY.** What?

**DUNCAN.** I have a signal! After all these years, I HAVE A SIGNAL!

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**JENNY.** I don't care how many bars you have, Duncan! We have to go!

**DUNCAN.** Jenny...

**JENNY.** What? *(Duncan hugs Jenny.)*

**DUNCAN.** Hold on!

**JENNY.** Duncan, I don't want a hug! We've gotta go find my family!

**DUNCAN.** HOLD ON! *(Duncan holds his device in the air as lights flash and then blackout. Jenny screams. Jenny and Duncan exit in the blackout. The Earth... is destroyed.)*

### INTERLUDE 2

*The darkness of space. The place where the Earth used to be. WALLY, a duck-billed platypus, enters, "floating" in space and holding a Red Bull energy drink.*

**WALLY.** *(To audience.)* Hi there! I'm a duck-billed platypus. We don't really have "names" like you humans do, but I suppose if you NEED to give me a name, you can call me Wally. Now, you may all be a little confused as to why I'm just floating here in space where the planet Earth used to be. It's not really that confusing, though. Even though you all pretty much ignored or made fun of us while your planet still existed, it turns out that the duck-billed platypuses were TRULY the most remarkable creatures on planet Earth. WAUGH! *(Wally takes a sip from his Red Bull.)* Now, how am I drinking this in the cold vacuum of outer space? Don't worry about it. After all, your planet's been destroyed, so how are you all still watching this? Hmmm? And you're worried about how a duck-billed platypus could be drinking a Red Bull in outer space? WAUGH! *(Wally takes another sip from the Red Bull.)* Anyway, where was I? Oh yes! The duck-billed platypus was truly the most wondrous creature on the planet Earth... when it existed. I mean, we're mammals, and we lay eggs! Isn't that crazy? *(Wally laughs and takes another sip from the Red Bull.)* I mean, there were other mammals that laid eggs, but they're a bunch of pikers. Also, a male platypus, like me, has a spur on the hind foot that delivers a venom that can cause severe pain to humans. However, I prefer to deliver

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my venom by pointing out the flaws in what you all chose to wear to the show today. *(Wally looks at an audience member.)* I mean, look at you. THAT shirt with THOSE pants? Retro is SOOO last year, friend! WAUGH! *(Wally takes another sip from the Red Bull.)* All I'm saying is that if all of you weren't so busy paying attention to your precious video games and social media when your planet still existed, maybe you could have paid more attention to the egg-laying, duck-billed, beaver-tailed, otter-footed mammals, huh? What do you think about that? And isn't it ironic? Even though we were the endangered species... now that the planet is gone, and I'm the only thing left, I guess we had the last laugh, didn't we? WAUGH, WAUGH, WAUGH! *(Wally laughs hysterically and then pauses for a moment before taking another sip of Red Bull.)* Right. Well, now I suppose I just wait for someone to come save me. Any minute now. ANY... MINUTE... NOW. *(Wally sips the energy drink and then whistles for a brief moment before looking at another audience member and shaking his head.)* Socks with sandals? And they call us animals. *(Wally "floats" away, exiting the stage.)*

### SCENE 3

*An Osaveran spaceship that is near where the Earth used to be.  
OSAVERAN SOLDIERS enter and stand on stage. Gebzad enters.*

**GEBZAD.** *(Speaking into a microphone.)* Thank you for your cooperation. Your planet has now been destroyed. Oh, wait, there's no one left to hear this. Why am I talking to myself? Oh, never mind. Soldiers! Let us celebrate our latest victory with the Osaveran National Anthem! *(Music plays as Gebzad and any Soldiers dance/march around the stage.)*

**GEBZAD (AND/OR SOLDIERS).** *(Singing.)*

WE RISE IN OOZING GLORY FROM THE PITS OF OUTER SPACE  
OUR TENTACLES UNITE IN SLAPPING FOES ACROSS THE FACE  
WE GIGGLE AS WE CONQUER EVERY PLANET IN OUR PATH  
AS BLOBS OF BLUE WE JIGGLE  
LEAVING VICTIMS IN OUR WRATH

## THE LAST KID IN THE UNIVERSE

OUR SQUISHY HEARTS ARE BEATING TO A SLIPPERY, SLIMY  
TUNE

WE'LL BOUNCE ACROSS THE GALAXIES AND SNATCH UP  
EVERY MOON

LET'S TRAVEL THROUGH THE COSMOS  
WITH OUR KING OF GELATINE

FOR OSAVERA STANDS AS THE MIGHTIEST EVER SEEN  
OH OSAVERA

LAND OF GOO AND GOOP

UNITED WE STAND IN A JIGGLY TROOP  
WITH WIBBLES AND WOBBLES

WE'LL NEVER STAND STILL

FOR OSAVERA RISES TO CONQUER AT WILL!

**MIGHTY GOR-BAGG.** *(Off.)* GEBZAD! *(A record scratch sound is heard.)*

**GEBZAD.** Oh no... *(The MIGHTY GOR-BAGG, ruler of Osavera, enters, holding a jar full of... something. Any Soldiers kneel before their ruler. Gebzad prostrates herself as well.)*

**GEBZAD.** All hail the Mighty Gor-Bagg, ruler of Osavera, monarch of the Andromeda Galaxy!

**GOR-BAGG.** OH, STOP YOUR SNIVELING, GEBZAD! *(Gor-Bagg reaches into the jar and pulls out something that appears snakelike and slurps it up in a nasty fashion.)* Mmm... that's good GLORB. So, has that wretched planet been destroyed?

**GEBZAD.** Yes, Mighty Gor-Bagg. The planet known as Earth... is no more!

**GOR-BAGG.** Good. It was blocking my view of Venus, you know. That's why I had it destroyed.

**GEBZAD.** Yes, I know.

**GOR-BAGG.** I mean, I suppose I could have destroyed Mars... or YOO-rah-nuss -

**GEBZAD.** Mighty Gor-Bagg, I beg your forgiveness, but I believe it's pronounced - *(Gor-Bagg glares and growls at Gebzad.)*

**GEBZAD.** Never mind.

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**GOR-BAGG.** But that Earth planet was just so annoyingly... in the WAY. You know?

**GEBZAD.** Yes, Mighty Gor-Bagg. As always, your wisdom is immense. And your wisdom is only exceeded by your beauty!

**GOR-BAGG.** *(Belches.)* Don't I know it! *(Gor-Bagg slurps down another snake thing.)* Well then. We've got to wait until the warp drive is back to capacity before we can head back to Osavera. How about lunch?

**GEBZAD.** You're still hungry?

**GOR-BAGG.** I could eat! Isn't there that famous restaurant in the asteroid belt near here?

**GEBZAD.** Ceres' Place? Oh, we haven't been there in ages!

**GOR-BAGG.** I know! They have the best Martian Meatloaf. You slather it with peanut butter and pickle sauce... MMM MMM! *(Gor-Bagg licks his lips in a disgusting fashion.)*

**GEBZAD.** *(Ill.)* Um... I'll probably just have the Neptunian Salad...

**GOR-BAGG.** Suit yourself. Now, let's get going! Even at sub-warp speed, it's going to take a while to get to Ceres, and I'm STARVING! *(Gor-Bagg slurps down another snake thing and belches again as Gebzad appears more ill.)*

**GEBZAD.** OSAVERANS... PREPARE FOR SUB-WARP SPEED!  
*(Soldiers run around in chaos and then into each other, crashing to the ground. Gebzad shakes her head in disgust and then hits a button as a space engine igniting is heard. All exit.)*

### INTERLUDE 3

*Back to the darkness of the space, where the Earth used to be. Rory Radical enters.*

**RORY.** NO! I'm too late! The earth has been destroyed, brah! Total bummer! I knew I shouldn't have stopped for that extra guac in the Canis Galaxy. But that guac is totally killer! You can't blame me for that. Oh, is this to be my fate? To always arrive too late to help and blow chunks after eating too much guac? My chakras are all off, brah! WILL I FOREVER BE ALONE? *(The Mysterious Figure from earlier, still wearing the alien*

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*mask, enters. This time he is holding a rubber chicken. He and Rory stare at each other for a moment, and then the Mysterious Figure hits Rory with the rubber chicken. Rory and the Mysterious Figure exit. Wally enters, “floating” across the stage.)*

**WALLY.** Hey! Where are you going? Don’t leave me behind! I’m all out of Red Bull. I don’t want to float all the way to Mars and have to live off potatoes grown out of my own poo! COME BACK! COME BACK!

**WAUGH!** *(Wally continues to “float” off the stage and then turns to someone in the audience.)* Stripes with solids? You ARE brave! *(Wally turns back, looking towards where Rory exited.)* COME BACK! COME BACK! *(Wally exits.)*

### SCENE 4

*Inside a transport spaceship. Boxes are scattered around. Jenny and Duncan enter. Jenny is still screaming but stops once she realizes they are somewhere else.*

**JENNY.** Where... where are we? What did you do?

**DUNCAN.** Well, I finally got a signal. So I transported us to this ship right before the Earth was destroyed.

**JENNY.** *(Panicking.)* Transport? Ship? You? Me? I...

**DUNCAN.** Oo, word games! I love word games! Let me try... “person”... “woman”... “man”... “camera” ... “TV” ...

**JENNY.** Stop that! How were you able to “transport” us? What... what are you?

**DUNCAN.** Well, Jenny, I didn’t want you to find out this way but... I’m an alien.

**JENNY.** A what?!?

**DUNCAN.** Oh, not an ILLEGAL alien! I mean, okay, I crash landed on your planet and didn’t have any papers, but I still have made myself EXTREMELY useful over all these years. Even though I’m really just around your age...

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**JENNY.** Wait wait wait. *(Jenny holds her head for a moment and then finally looks at Duncan.)* You're an alien.

**DUNCAN.** Yes.

**JENNY.** And we're on a spaceship?

**DUNCAN.** Yes.

**JENNY.** And the Earth... is destroyed?

**DUNCAN.** Yes. Oo, I believe you just won Final Jeopardy! Now let me tell you what you've won -

**JENNY.** Be quiet! You mean everything on Earth... is gone?

**DUNCAN.** Yes, I'm afraid so.

**JENNY.** My dad.

**DUNCAN.** Yes.

**JENNY.** My... my mom.

**DUNCAN.** Yes. *(Pause.)* And your brother Bobby too.

**JENNY.** *(Thinking, then shrugging.)* Oh yeah, him too. *(Now incredibly sad.)* But Dad! Mom! I'm never going to see them again! *(Jenny breaks down, curling up into a ball and sobbing. Duncan looks down at the floor for a moment, unsure how to handle this.)*

**DUNCAN.** Well then. I wonder what kind of a ship we're on?

**JENNY.** No more baseball. *(Duncan begins to explore the ship.)*

**DUNCAN.** Looks like there's a lot of boxes. It must be a cargo ship.

**JENNY.** No more football!

**DUNCAN.** All these items are being sent... somewhere.

**JENNY.** No more pro bowling! We've lost all the best athletes! *(Wails. Duncan slaps his forehead)*

**DUNCAN.** Oh! I know! Now that we're out in space, I should be able to bring up the Encyclopedia Intergalactica! *(Duncan pushes a few buttons on his device and the ENCYCLOPEDIA INTERGALACTICA, a humanoid figure, enters.)*

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** Hello! I'm the Encyclopedia Intergalactica! What would you like to know about today?

**JENNY.** Ah! Who's that? How did it get here?!?

**DUNCAN.** That's the Encyclopedia Intergalactica. The stored knowledge of all the universe!

**JENNY.** THAT'S the stored knowledge of all the universe?

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**DUNCAN.** It's a holographic projection. *(Jenny reaches out to see if she can pass her hand through the Encyclopedia. The Encyclopedia takes a step back.)*

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** I wouldn't do that if I were you.

**JENNY.** Why not?

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** Attempting to pass your hand through my holographic field would cause a protonic inversion of your digits into subatomic space.

**JENNY.** Speak English?

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** Your hand would explode. *(Jenny pulls her hand back, screaming.)*

**DUNCAN.** Aw, mate! That would have been EPIC! *(Jenny stares at Duncan in disbelief.)*

**JENNY.** What is wrong with you?

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** Did you know the universe is approximately thirteen-point-seven billion years old? Well, probably only thirteen-point-SIX billion, but who's counting?

**DUNCAN.** We don't have time for that now!

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** Would you like to know how crab nebulas taste better when they're covered in butter?

**DUNCAN.** No! I mean... yes! That does sound tasty... no! What kind of ship are we on?

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** Oh, that's easy. You're on an Alpha Centauri transport ship. It took off from Alpha Centauri many light cycles ago and...

**JENNY.** Wait a minute. How come we didn't get the Encyclopedia Intergalactica on Earth?

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** Not enough bandwidth. And you probably would have wasted us anyway, always asking questions like "How many toes does a rhinoceros have?" or "Why is my face on my head?" or "Why does cucumber taste like shampoo?"

**DUNCAN.** So where is this ship headed?

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** Well, it's... *(Pauses, staring ahead.)* Buffering... buffering... buffering...

**JENNY.** What's happening to it?

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**DUNCAN.** Aw, mate, we must be going through a cosmic radiation field. That always seems to screw up the E-I reception. *(One of the boxes suddenly moves. Jenny screams and hides behind Duncan.)*

**DUNCAN.** What is it?

**JENNY.** That... that box just moved! *(Several other boxes on stage start to move as well. Duncan and Jenny huddle together, panicked.)*

**DUNCAN.** Don't... don't panic! I'm sure they're perfectly harmless! But... just in case. *(Duncan fishes a "spork" out of a pocket and brandishes it like a weapon.)* Back off! I've got a spork, and I'm not afraid to use it!

**JENNY.** A "spork"?!?

**DUNCAN.** It was the only thing I could find in the A-S-P kitchen. *(The boxes are now opening as some things are apparently crawling out.)*

**JENNY.** This is it... I'm going to die. I've never even KISSED a boy. I'm the last kid in the universe, and I'm going to die. Here in space. With my friend THE ALIEN... and a SPORK! *(The NOM NOMS, fluffy little teddy bear things, emerge from the boxes.)*

**NOM NOMS.** Nom nom... nom nom. *(The Nom Noms quickly surround Jenny and Duncan and start hugging and cuddling them.)* Nom nom... nom nom... *(Etc.)*

**JENNY.** Hey. These things aren't that bad? They're kind of cute!

**DUNCAN.** They're so soft! And FLUFFY!

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** Buffering... buffering... back online! Hello! I'm the Encyclopedia Intergalactica!

**JENNY AND DUNCAN.** WE KNOW!

**NOM NOMS.** Nom nom... nom nom.

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** Did you know there are more stars in the universe than grains of sand on all the beaches on Earth? I mean, when there used to be an Earth -

**DUNCAN.** Never mind all that. Just tell us what these wonderful creatures are!

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** Oh, that's easy. From the planet Nom in the Nom Galaxy, these are the Nom Noms!

**NOM NOMS.** Nom nom... nom nom.

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**JENNY.** I guess that's why they keep saying that over and over again. That must be the only words they know.

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** Silly Earthling! Their language is incredibly complex. Why, they have seventy-three different words that mean "hug." And another interesting thing about the Nom Noms is that they are car... car... (*Staring ahead again.*) Buffering... buffering...

**JENNY.** That thing's on the fritz more than my dad's old car. (*Jenny shakes her head sadly.*) Aw, man, dad.

**DUNCAN.** They certainly do know how to hug. Oo, right there! My neck hurts from when Ashley gave me a Swirlie Deluxe the other day.

**NOM NOMS.** Nom nom... nom nom. (*Jenny and Duncan enjoy the Nom Nom's affectionate embraces for a moment.*)

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** (*Snapping out of it.*) Hello! Back online! Now where was I? Oh yes. Another interesting thing about the Nom Noms is that they are car-NIVEROUS! (*Jenny and Duncan freeze and look at each other.*)

**JENNY.** Car -

**DUNCAN.** Niverous?

**NOM NOMS.** (*Now sinister.*) NOM NOM... NOM NOM! (*Jenny and Duncan scream and break away from the no longer innocent bears. The Nom Noms now look HUNGRY.*)

**JENNY.** They're going to eat us!

**DUNCAN.** Not me! I'm an alien! I'm... I'M GAMEY!

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** Did you know that the sensation of being digested while still alive was first described by Catlorm Dopley, the explorer who thought he discovered an uncharted asteroid only to find out that he was actually in a very hungry space caterpillar?

**JENNY.** BE QUIET! (*Jenny and Duncan try to get away from the Nom Noms.*) Duncan, what are we going to do?

**DUNCAN.** Nice Nom Noms... good Nom Noms. Could I interest any of you in the vegan lifestyle? I'm told it does wonders for your hair and skin! Wait a minute! Oh, I forgot! Let's try... THIS! (*He fishes a medium-sized red rubber ball out of one of his pockets and throws it at one of the Nom Noms, who catches it by reflex.*)

**JENNY.** A rubber ball?

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**DUNCAN.** Watch! *(The Nom Noms start tossing the ball back and forth between each other, playing catch.)* See? It's the Red Rubber Buggy Bumper Ball of Remulak. Once you catch it, you automatically want to throw it to someone else. And then so on, and so on! That should keep them busy for a while! *(An alarm sounds as PANIC, the ship's robot, enters.)*

**PANIC.** *(In a language that sounds like French.)* Je suis le contrôleur interventionnel automatisé personnel des nanobots... PANIQUE! AHHH!

**JENNY.** What the heck is this?

**DUNCAN.** It must be the ship's robot controller. It's obviously programmed to speak in the Centauri language.

**JENNY.** It... kind of sounds like French?

**DUNCAN.** You know, you're right! I never thought about that before. Centauri indeed sounds just like French!

**JENNY.** Great. I don't know French. I can barely habla Español!

**PANIC.** Que fais-tu sur ce vaisseau?

**JENNY.** What does that mean?

**DUNCAN.** No idea.

**PANIC.** Vous êtes tous stupides! AHHH!

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** The Centauri language is not easy to translate, but I think the controller just said we all look very nice.

**DUNCAN.** Oh! I know how to solve this. Jenny, we need to give you a Lingo Bean.

**JENNY.** A Lingo Bean? What's that? *(Duncan gets what appears to be a jellybean out of yet another pocket.)*

**DUNCAN.** Once you swallow it, you'll be able to understand any language in the universe. It will automatically translate whatever anyone says to English in your brain. It will also translate whatever you say so that THEY will understand it as well.

**JENNY.** Okay, I guess that might be helpful. Hey! It looks like a jellybean. What's its taste like?

**DUNCAN.** What's your least favorite jellybean flavor?

**JENNY.** *(Pause.)* Black licorice.

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**DUNCAN.** It probably tastes like that then! *(Duncan forces the jellybean into Jenny's mouth. She grimaces but swallows it. She then coughs vigorously as Duncan produces and swallows another jellybean.)*

**DUNCAN.** Black licorice?

**JENNY.** Yeah... mixed with feet.

**DUNCAN.** Hmm. Maybe I should have given you mine.

**JENNY.** What did yours taste like?

**DUNCAN.** Chocolate ice cream!

**JENNY.** Why, you! *(Pause.)* Anyway, how long is it going to last? Isn't it going to... you know?

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** The Lingo Bean usually takes the equivalent of forty-two Earth Years to be totally digested.

**JENNY.** It's going to be in my stomach for FORTY-TWO YEARS?

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** Some say it's similar to eating a Deep-Fried Twinkie.

**PANIC.** I repeat. I am the Personal Automated Nanobot Interventional Controller. PANIC! Ahhh!

**JENNY.** We are!

**PANIC.** No, Panic is my NAME. Just wanted to let you know that a request for docking is complete. Rear airlock engaged. Ahhh! *(One of the Nom Noms drops the red ball. The carnivorous bears turn back to Duncan and Jenny, snarling.)*

**DUNCAN.** Oh no!

**JENNY.** It... it dropped the Red Rubber Bumpy... Red Buggy Bumper... it DROPPED THE BALL!

**NOM NOMS.** *(Slobbering.)* HUG... EAT... HUG... DEVOUR!

**DUNCAN.** Jenny, I can understand them now!

**JENNY.** I don't WANT to understand them! *(The Nom Noms corner Jenny and Duncan.)* Well, I guess this is it. Eaten by Care Bears. What a way to go!

**DUNCAN.** Goodbye, Jenny! You've been the best mate an alien could ever ask for! *(Duncan grabs a fig newton from a pocket and takes a bite.)* One more newton for the road! *(Jenny and Duncan crouch down, preparing to be eaten, when suddenly RIKKI ROCKET bursts onstage, dressed in a "space pirate" outfit and holding what appears to be a laser gun.)*

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**RIKKI.** Hey, fuzballs! Over here! (*Intense music plays as the Nom Noms turn, snarl, and charge Rikki, but she fights them off, “blasting” them offstage one at a time.*)

**DUNCAN.** Who... who is that?

**JENNY.** She’s amazing!

**RIKKI.** (*To Panic.*) Controller!

**PANIC.** Ahhh! What?

**RIKKI.** Override code twenty-three-SKIDOO! Open the front airlock!

**PANIC.** If you say so! Ahhh! Opening airlock! (*The airlock opening is heard as the Nom Noms can be heard screaming offstage as they’re jettisoned into space.*)

**RIKKI.** (*Speaking into a wrist communicator.*) All clear, Captain. The Nom Noms have been launched into space. (*Rikki strikes a heroic pose.*) Rikki Rocket is here... to save the day!

**CAPTAIN KAYATO.** (*Off.*) Arrr... good work, me little swabby. I think I’ve completed the dockin’ and secured our ship. I’ll be with you in a few. (*Jenny approaches Rikki.*)

**JENNY.** Excuse me...

**RIKKI.** (*Startled.*) Ahhh! You’re... you’re a HUMAN?

**JENNY.** Yes! My name’s Jenny.

**RIKKI.** (*Turning to Duncan.*) And you’re traveling with this ALIEN?

**JENNY.** Yes, I... wait a minute. You can TELL Duncan’s an alien?

**RIKKI.** Well... yes! (*Rikki points to Duncan’s nose.*) See this mole? On the right side of his nose? It’s SOOO obvious!

**JENNY.** Well, I... (*Jenny shakes her head and grimaces.*) Oh, never mind. I just can’t believe it. I thought I was the last kid in the universe. And here you are!

**RIKKI.** Yes, here I am, and here you are, and... wait. Did you say, “last kid in the universe”?

**JENNY.** Yes! Oh... you don’t know.

**RIKKI.** Know what?

**DUNCAN.** The Earth. It’s been destroyed.

**RIKKI.** What?!? (*Duncan offers Rikki a fig newton.*)

**DUNCAN.** Newton?

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**RIKKI.** I don't want a cookie! I don't believe it. Now I'll never get home! Captain said we were just about to finally visit. *(Rikki looks like she's going to cry and then slaps her face to regain composure.)* No, Rikki! No crying! Catsairs don't cry!

**JENNY.** Catsair? *(CAPTAIN KAYATO enters in a dramatic fashion. He is a "felinoid": half humanoid, half cat. He is also dressed like a "space pirate.")*

**KAYATO.** Arrr! Avast, ye mateys! The dread Captain Kayato has boarded yer ship and is gonna take yer booty! MEOW! Lay down yer weapons and reach for the... reach for the... *(Kayato suddenly coughs and sputters violently.)* Arrr. Sorry. Hairball. *(Jenny begins pinching herself.)*

**JENNY.** Ow... ow...

**DUNCAN.** Jenny. What are you doing?

**JENNY.** The cat pirate just made me realize that I am DREAMING and so I just need to wake up...

**KAYATO.** Arrr! I be no lowlife PIRATE! I'm a Catsair! The Captain of the Segue Catsairs. From the Segue Galaxy? We're always travellin'... always leadin' from one thing to the next! MEOW! *(Kayato starts licking his hand much like a cat would.)*

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** Did you know that cats always land on their feet? Of course, if you drop them from twenty stories up...

**RIKKI.** Be quiet! I... I need a minute. *(Jenny puts a hand on Rikki's shoulder.)*

**JENNY.** Where were you from?

**RIKKI.** Nebraska. One night my family and I were driving down a dirt road and up in the sky... we saw a bright light. Then... we were abducted by the Osaverans!

**JENNY.** The Ose-a-what-ans?

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** The Osaverans are an alien race that conquered the Andromeda Galaxy... and most recently erased your planet. They are led by the Mighty Gor-Bagg, a ruler who many say looks like gelatin but smells like moldy cheese.

**JENNY.** Sounds... wonderful.

**DUNCAN.** That reminds me! I absolutely adored grilled cheese sandwiches! Do you think we'll be able to find some out here?

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**JENNY.** I have no idea.

**DUNCAN.** Maybe some tomato soup at least?

**RIKKI.** Anyway. My parents and I... we were experimented on.

**TORTURED.** It was HORRIBLE. They... they didn't make it.

**JENNY.** Oh. I'm so sorry, Rikki.

**RIKKI.** Thank you. I thought I was also a goner. But then Captain Kayato and his Catsairs came and rescued me!

**KAYATO.** Arrr... those Osaverans think they're so tough. Well, not when they get a little taste of our Kayat [*kai-at*] Fu! (*Kayato does some karate moves.*) MEOW!

**RIKKI.** That was years ago. Since then, I trained with the Catsairs and eventually became one myself. We had a lot to do, always trying to steal back what the Osaverans stole first and then return the loot back to its rightful owners. We never really had time to get back to this galaxy... until now.

**DUNCAN.** So, you're a Catsair. That's why you were such a whiz with that ray gun!

**KAYATO.** Arrr! She's a crack shot, all right. And she's a whiz with a can opener too, let me tell ya. She opens all the Kayat food for the Catsairs.

**JENNY.** (*Becoming ill.*) You eat... Kayat food?

**RIKKI.** Eh, it's not so bad. You get used to it. I try to stick to the stuff that tastes like tuna.

**DUNCAN.** It might go well with tomato soup!

**KAYATO.** Enough about yer precious soup! We're takin' yer cargo! To return to its rightful owners!

**DUNCAN.** Well... go ahead.

**JENNY.** It doesn't belong to us anyway.

**KAYATO.** Oh... well... that was easy. Can you... at least pretend to put up a fight? I've got a reputation to maintain, ya know!

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** Oh! I just remembered. I failed to answer your question earlier.

**DUNCAN.** What question was that?

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** Where this ship was headed.

**DUNCAN.** Oh! Right! Where is our final destination, anyway?

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**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** *(Smiling.)* The star that previously warmed the Earth... before the planet was destroyed, of course. Sol, the Sun!

**DUNCAN.** Oh, great! Well, that will be lovely to see... *(Everyone except the Encyclopedia does a double take.)*

**EVERYONE (EXCEPT ENCYCLOPEDIA).** THE SUN?!?

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** Yes! This is an Alpha Centauri GARBAGE transport. That's what all of these boxes are... their garbage. They fly this ship through a wormhole that comes out close to Venus and then heads right into the Sun. That's probably why they put the Nom Noms on here. They're obviously too dangerous to let live.

**DUNCAN.** How... how close are we to it?

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** Hmm. By my calculations... at our current speed... we should reach it in a few hours.

**JENNY.** A few hours?!?

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** Oh, I could translate that into several different intergalactic understandings of time if you like. For example, the Seepappians of the planet Appria perceive time in terms of how long it takes to have a good nap. They're very much into naps. So, I suppose you could say we'll reach the sun and burst into flames in just a few naps. However, I assumed that translating the time into Earthling understanding would be helpful for you in terms of just when you're going to experience your fiery demise.

**KAYATO.** MEOW! We've got to get out of here!

**RIKKI.** We need to get back to the Freedomquest!

**JENNY.** The Freedomquest? What's that?

**RIKKI.** Our ship!

**KAYATO.** *(Proudly.)* It's the seventh fastest ship in the universe! MEE-OW!

**DUNCAN.** Seventh?

**KAYATO.** *(Embarrassed.)* Well... yes... but we hope to make sixth someday.

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** *(Looking offstage.)* The Freedomquest will indeed go fast... for someone else. It currently appears to be floating away.

**EVERYONE (EXCEPT ENCYCLOPEDIA).** WHAT?!? No! That can't be! *(Etc.)*

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**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** Oh yes. I'm afraid someone didn't secure it properly to this transport ship, and now it's floating off into deep space.

**RIKKI.** *(To Kayato, angrily.)* CAPTAIN?!?

**KAYATO.** Arrr! You know I'm no good at dockin'! These paws can't handle the controls well enough! MEOW!

**RIKKI.** Well, EXCUSE ME. I had to handle the ravenous teddy bears!

**JENNY.** Um... EXCUSE ME. Can you two settle this later? Right now, we have to figure out how not to PLUNGE INTO THE SUN!

**KAYATO.** Arrr! No problem. We just need to adjust the flight path of this ship and we'll be right as rain. Come here, Controller! Meow! *(Kayato approaches Panic. Panic's "alarm" sounds again.)*

**PANIC.** Ahhh! Don't touch! Bad kitty! Leave me alone! You're not allowed to change course! That's the only part of my operating system that CAN'T be changed.

**KAYATO.** *(Defeated.)* Arrr. I don't know what I'm doin'. I need somethin' to calm me nerves. *(Kayato gets a cat toy from his belt and bats it around.)* Hee hee hee... MEOW!

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** Would you like to know the proper sunscreen to apply for being only a million miles away from the sun? Most would say S-P-F thirteen hundred, but I would suggest S-P-F...

**EVERYONE.** BE QUIET!

**DUNCAN.** Well, Jenny, it looks like we're doomed.

**JENNY.** Again.

**KAYATO.** *(Sadly.)* Mee-ow.

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** Did you know that the wise alien philosopher from the Borscht asteroid belt, Bel M'rooks, once said that at moments like this, when you're facing the unknown... of what may happen after you expire... that you have to face those moments with dignity... and quiet grace.

**DUNCAN.** That makes sense, I guess.

**KAYATO.** Arr... that's very wise indeed.

**JENNY.** Dignity.

**RIKKI.** And quiet grace. *(They all look at each other for a moment and then start screaming and running in all directions.)*

**JENNY.** HELP! HELP!

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**KAYATO.** *(Speaking into a device.)* ARRR! This be Captain Kayato, broadcastin' on all frequencies. I'm here with an earthling...

**RIKKI.** Two earthlings!

**KAYATO.** Arr... make that TWO earthlings...

**DUNCAN.** And a Duncan!

**KAYATO.** And a Duncan! Our ship, the Freedomquest... has floated away! And we're headin' straight into a SUN! WE NEED HELP! I repeat, WE NEED HELP! MEOW!

**RIKKI.** *(Screaming into her wrist communicator.)* Somebody help us... PLEASE! *(Duncan twirls around, holding his hands to his head.)*

**DUNCAN.** Auntie Em, Auntie Em, it's a twister, Auntie Em! *(Jenny collapses to her knees.)*

**JENNY.** I... hate... space.

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** Well, the good news is that you won't be a part of space for very much longer. *(Everyone stares coldly at Encyclopedia.)*

**ENCYCLOPEDIA.** What? Do I have something in my holographic teeth? *(Blackout.)*

### END OF ACT 1

***THE PLAY IS NOT OVER!! TO FIND OUT HOW IT ENDS--  
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