

The Miracles of Writing

By Alix Babiak

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Printed and bound in St. Malo, Manitoba Canada by Alix Babiak.

Published by Just About Life Company.

PREFACE

The Miracles of Writing is Alix Babiak's 8th book and is a collection of plays. The Miracle is to write from the heart and the soul and send messages that all can know. You can agree or disagree, yet it will keep you thinking.

***WHEN YOUR WORLD COMES TO AN
END***

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ACT 1

PART 1

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Narrator

Dance/Mime Artist

(Narrator enters Stage Rt. walks to downstage centre (spotlight is following) to a chair.
Sits down and opens a book he is carrying and reads)

*All I can do is Give You A Hug
Hold you Close
Smile in your eyes
Miss you the most.*

*You don't remember me
All that you have had
So we'll make up stories
That are only Good, not Bad.
I'll hold you in my Arms
I will remember the true story
Of our life filled with tragedy
But we still stayed together*

*All I can do is Give You A Hug
Hold you Close
Smile in your Eyes
Miss you the Most*

*We still stayed together
But you don't remember
Through the Glory and Pain
To us,
Life was Just Not a Game
You Just Can't remember
Even the joy of us
I guess, not happy together*

*All I can do is Give You a Hug
Hold you Close
Smile in your Eyes
Miss you the Most . . .*

Narrator to Audience: Losing the Greatest Gift – Your Memory

Narrator: Let's see (Turns the page of the book, fixes the glasses) Ah Yes (and reads)

ON HAPPY ENDINGS

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Anna – Sibling

OVERTURE

*(Anna dances centre stage "Liv'n in Your Dreams", lyrics by Alix Babiak).
(Narrator starts dancing while reading and commenting)*

*When dreams become a reality and you keep liv'n in your dreams . . .
When every place you are, you just don't want to be . . . But you don't
Know where you're going and there is no where left to run . . . So you just
Keep liv'n, letting everything pass you by . . . Not caring, oh yah hurting.
. . . So yah, just keep liv'n . . . Oh Your liv'n in your dreams. (Narrator stops
dancing and says in a soft voice and just stands beside the chair, put book down
on chair and recites)*

*People talk, you cannot hear, you cannot listen and you cannot speak . . .
People stare and all you feel is shame . . . Some don't understand you . . .
And most don't care . . . Cause you've lost your will to dance . . .
Just liv'n in your past . . . Seeing no future, only hurt and pain . . . Amidst
Your lonely game. (Narrator pick up book and while sitting down . . .) Giving Up.*

ANNA (TO AUDIENCE)

My parent used to hum that song when feeling in a bad way. Don't get me wrong, my parent was fine most of the time, but sometimes (the name was Rachel) Rachel would just sit there, stare into space and talk to herself. My relative used to tell me to go to my room when she was like that. You shouldn't bother Rachel, she used to say.

Wait, what is this? (She sees a trunk on the stage and pulls out letters) Do you think I should read them? There are a lot of letter to Roberto from Rachel never

sent. I wonder if Rachel wanted him as a partner? It looks like Rachel had it really bad for Roberto. There is only one letter from him . . .

SCENE 1

(Anna dances to “Unwell by Match Box 20)

Choreographic notes – ballet, jazz and mime

1 Pas de Chat – Arms in Second moving like a puppet

2 Pas de Chat

3 Arabasque – Arms in low third

4 Arabasque – Arms in low third (The song plays and the Narrator get up on

5 & 6 Chasse Back the chorus and dances)

7 Step Fwd.

8 Step Back

(This is the chorus)

ANNA

We discussed this in my psychology class. There is a big thing among mental health professionals not to use the word crazy. I never could understand that, I really don't think you are ever going to get rid of the word and if we understand that we are all crazy at times (excuse me unwell), the stigma would go away. At least that's what my other parent used to say. (Narrator to Audience) Just like my Brother and this guy I knew in school.

ANNA

Here is a letter dated 2007 never sent from Rachel to Roberto. (Anna reads) About every 20 years I lose reality and go to a place where there are angels and demons, God paints pictures for me with the clouds in the sky and I dance with the wind. (Anna to audience) Boy, I want to go there) (Narrator look up at audience and says) Me Too. However, I have someone who pulls me into reality (whether I like it or not) and I lead a very happy life in my older age. I live in a valley, there is a river that flows through it and I have my favorite rock I like to sit on. I have a dog I love dearly. I have a wonderful family with my partner. My partner always makes me laugh and always makes it easier for me to live in

the real world. (Anna pulls out another piece of paper from the trunk and reads)

“The Story of Roberto” I was on the train heading toward Germany when I was 20 years old with my friend Carmelle. We walked in a seating car on the train and there was some person in a black suit on that train who reminded me of Dracula. We were sitting across from that person and Roberto was the name. Roberto kept starring at me and when are eyes met, I just gave him a big smile. Roberto then pointed up and down my body with his finger. Boy, was I embarrassed. (Hey, I was just a child) What I made out what was said, Roberto was just complimenting me on my clothes. So, I said thank you. (I think he understood that) Then the weird thing happened. We started talking about Huckleberry Fin (the book). Roberto mentioned a fishing rod (little did I know the only fish I ever caught was a turtle). Roberto said he was from Yugoslavia and part of me wanted to follow him off the train. Yet, I said to myself, myself, it’s a Communist Country and felt unsafe. Then the train came to a stop and I said good-bye. This person from Yugoslavia helped a young person me, who was missing her partner back home and realized how much I loved him. (To Audience) It’s kinda like Ray St. Germaine’s song Chikita Kowalski, Roberto for Yugoslavia. Get it!

SCENE 2

Anna sings to herself and looks through letters and sings to Audience *“So You Keep Liv’n in Your Dreams”*)Narrator sings: *Liv’n in your dreams, Liv’n in your dreams.*

Here is a letter dated 1982. It says *“On Depression”*. Well here we go . . . I hope it is not too sad.

Dear Roberto,

Here I am in the mountains of B.C. living in an A-Frame. There’s lot of snow, no running water, no electricity and a wood stove and you are telling me you are going to the south of France, when I even haven’t had a shower for a month. It is a far cry from being a City Person living in downtown Toronto. My Relative tells me that all the mountain people were chasing me but I chased them all

away. I am doing more typing for a Theatre Company that choreography, I have never went to Vancouver to meet my former partner (just bad news), my heart

is in my stomach, I can't dance and I have no where left to run. I have just given up.

(Anna says to "Liv'n in Your Dreams")

"People talk, you cannot hear, you listen but you cannot speak. So you keep Liv'n, Liv'n in your dreams)"(Narrator says to audience: This is getting too sad, lets take a break. (Walks off Stage, Comes right back on, sits down, turns page and says with a smile) Just Kidding.

SCENE 3

ANNA:

(Goes through letters) Wow! This is a gold mine . . . Here is a letter from Roberto from Yugoslavia. (Opens letter from Roberto with excitement).

(Looks at audience) Dear Belinda, I can hardly speak English, so a friend is helping me write this letter. The picture of you standing by the Clydesdale horse is pretty funny. You see a very little person standing beside a very large Stallion. We were a little afraid the horse might stop on you. However, you looked happy and then I read your letter.

I guess you have to watch out for those mountain people and it is my recommendation that you go back to the city where you belong. I will be in Canada in September and really like to take you to see Moe Kaufman in Toronto. All I can say now (also said in Yugoslavian) sorry for you. Zaomije.

Good Luck (in Yugoslavian – sretna) Roberto

p.s. I am sending this just for you. (Anna says and looks at the chorus to Bruno Mars' song "Just the Way You Are").

(Narrator) To Alix the writer, there is no Yugoslavia anymore. So behind the times. We'll go on. I like Moe Kaufman too.

(Anna, with tears in eyes to Audience) So this Roberto from Yugoslavia (a good friend). I wonder if they ever met in Toronto. My other Parent always told me,

We all are crazy. I mean unwell. We all get happy and sad and have our own little idiosyncrasies. My other Parent always talked about the good guy on one shoulder and the bad guy on the other. Let the good guy win. Same for

swearing . . . My other Parent told me there was a place to use the F word but you better be careful where say it and to whom or you'd get into a lot of trouble. My other Parent was a real cool guy. I also remember going to Rachel's recitals. I wonder if Rachel would have had any students if the parents had known about her condition? Rachel worked with all those children. I think they were lucky children.

SCENE 4

ANNA:

(Still going through letters) (To Audience) Here is a letter dated 1989.

Dear Roberto,

I met the most amazing person today who has all the solutions to the World's problems. I think I really like this person. I even told Ben (that is his name) that I had mental health problems and that I have just gotten out of a Sanitorium and that person asked me out on a date. That person must be very special.

(to Audience) Ben was so funny, could put a smile on anybody's face, always took me fishing and canoeing and has the biggest heart in the world.

(Anna starts looking through letters) Here's one dated 1991.

Dear Roberto,

I am getting married. Soon to be a step-parent myself. Sam once caught me taking my medication and asked what was wrong. Was I sick? I told Sam when he gets older I will take to A & W. I told him that sometimes I get depressed. The doctors said I have a mild form of Schizophrenia and as I was explaining that to Sam he said: "There are lots of students at school like that. You know Rachel we are all a little weird, but that's o.k., I 'll love you anyways. You also make a mean macaroni and cheese.

(Anna to Audience) What a cool child! Like Ben. (Anna keeps reading) There is also a trusty dog named Boo who always gives me unconditional love and Ben is my finance that I met last year.

Scene 5

(Anna to Audience) Now here is a note from Rachel written just recently)
Anna: Well here is a note Rachel wrote just recently. (Reads) Well, Ben and I got Married and sure we've had our ups and downs. At one point there was talk of divorce and the angels and demons appeared again. We both realized that we are together than apart and lived happily ever after, if there is such a thing. I think what is most important is that us Crazy people Get Better and one out of five people in Canada have a mental illness. It's when you stop functioning, that's when you are in trouble. This mental health problem of mine never stopped me from doing the things I love or I always fulfilled my responsibilities. Only broke a Canadian law through parking tickets, car accidents and going over on the Visa Card. I never hurt a fly.

Anna to Audience with tears): We recently got some bad news that my mother who in now 86 years old suffers from dementia. Some of the medications they use for mental illness can do this to you. One day, Rachel will not know who I am and hope that she will be with Ben up in heaven really soon. As far as Roberto from Yugoslavia. I hope he has met his Chikita Kowalski. There is hope!

Narrator: Hit it!

(Spotlight Dims and Narrator Poses or possibly dances)

(End with Ed Sheran's Fire Love)

(At end of Song)

In our country Canada of Beauty and Serenity, There is hope with children like Anna and Sam. Losing the Greatest Gift – Memory.

Blackout

Intermission

BACKGROUND FOR 5 MINUTE INTERMISSIONS

There is a dance/mime production done with lights and fog throughout the stage depicting When Your World Comes To An End. The music is a Drum Solo.

Choreographic Notes:

- *Use Punching Bag with Pole as Prop Upstage left and dancer kicks punching bag to beat of music and uses the pole to walk around to centre stage and back.*
- *Dancer falls to the ground and beats fists on floor and rolls in pain*
- *Ideas for Dance Steps:*
 - 1 *walk fwd. swaying arms in second pushing fog towards punching bag*
 - 2 *repeat lft.*
 - 3 *repeat rt.*
 - 4 *repeat lft.*
 - 5 *Repeat 1-4*
 - 6 *“*
 - 7 *“*
 - 8 *“*

1 & 2 chasse rt.

3 & 4 ball change

5 & 6 chasse lft.

7 Kick rt.

8 & 9 ball change rt.

10 & 11 lunge step rt.

12 & 13 ball change lft.

14 & 15 lunge

ACT 1

PART 2

(Narrator enters stage rt., walk back to his chair (spotlight), opens the book he is carrying and reads)

***There is a time to leave your Brocken body
Someone said: "That Means Dying, Doesn't it?"
No, it means You Sleep Forever and Do Not Remember . . .***

***The humans spend too much time
Trying to fax their Broken Body
Isn't there a Time to Just Say Good-bye?***

***Don't you get Tired
Of all the Troubles in Your Life?
The trouble continues
Even when Everything is Right!
You've Done Everything You've Dreamed to do
Everyone you've been Responsible for
Are all Taken Care Of . . .
So Tired and Warn Out
With Your Broken Body
Isn't it Time to say Good-bye!***

(Narrator turns the Page and says: Let's See

Narrator: (on chair downstage centre, sitting on chair and reading, spotlight)

***The Book of Liam – Part 1V
World War 1V & It's Weapons
Leni and Lou***

Overture

Narrator: (Don't Punish Me With Brutality – Lyrics by Alix Babiak)

***Don't Punish Me With Brutality
Talk to Me, So you Can See
A Different Way to Stop the Hate
Just Be Patient and Wait
That You'll See a Better Way
To be Free and Get What You Need
And Then You will See, What's Been Going On
Yah, Don't Punish Me with Brutality
That's What's been Go'in On
That's What's been Go'in On***

***That was Then . . . Just Like Now
1920-2021
All the Elders Have Seen Plenty
Now the Covid 19
But There was the Spanish Flu
Blacks Versus White and Everyone Hates you Too
Riots on the Streets
Everyone can go hear the drum beat
Starvation, Bad Weather
No More Happy Together***

Yah, Mercy Mercy Me

Narrator: (Look up and says to audience) Seem there is no Mercy anymore.

Act 2

Narrator: (Turns Pages of Book and Reads)

As you remember, Leni McFee has a desk job with the Royal Canadian Armed Forces. Leni Spends a lot of time drinking with his friends, fishing and riding on backs of Sleighs. That was then, this is now. There is a Beautiful person with Auburn hair that Leni Cooked many meals for.

Lou McFee, a Social Worker with the Canadian Armed Forces spent (and still does) many hours at the Army Barracks, consulting with Sargeants and Generals about there infantrymen, pilots and such. Lou had many Beautiful People in his life and drank a lot of beer, especially with Leni.

However, with the Covid 19, their lips were slightly parted, their uniforms and clothes were torn, their noses were bleeding and they were forced to work from home and stay home (like everyone in Canada) Really, around the World). Then to top it off, forced to take two Vaccines (and that isn't finished yet). Leni refused to take the Vaccines. He was one of the many due to medical conditions who could not take the vaccine. Yes, Leni lost his job.

Leni has seen the worst kind of Battles, disabled in the Air Force (shot down), worked so hard to get back on his feet (which he never did . . . in a wheelchair for life), worked overseas shouting commands for peace in a shack in the middle of the Sinai Desert,. Leni then took his knowledge to Ottawa, Ontario, only to be shunned from all of his country (Canada). What was Lou to do with his cousin, friend for life, the one of a kind Leni McFee? Is this the way we treat our heroes? I guess it is . . . Look at Jesus Christ. Narrator says "we should be ashamed of ourselves"

Lou would and still does bring Leni groceries, beer and cheer. What about that Beautiful Person. The Person moved to the Ottawa Valley.

One day, Lou was bringing (the best was cheer) and all kinds of things for Leni. He found Leni collapsed in his apartment with the TV Blaring, his computer

geared toward another virtual reality game and loud music in the background. Yes, World War 1V and it's Weapons.

Lou gave Leni Mouth to Mouth Resuscitation. Leni's head was bleeding. Yes, Leni's lips were slightly parted, Leni's clothes were torn and it smelt like dead bodies in the apartment. Leni, finally opened his eyes and Lou carried Leni's broken body to bed. Lou toostow weeks off and Leni was under Lou's care for life.

Lou, first turned off the TV, the computer and the Loud music. Then Lou had to clean and disinfect Leni's apartment. Lou also used his knowledge and experience of his Social Work ways. Tons of walks Leni and Lou took and they cut back the beer. Marijuana wasin and yah, they took a toke or two.

What people did not know about Leni (No Brainer, he learnt it in the Air Force: You can't fly a plane without some sor to computer knowledge) that Leni was a computer genius. Leni could make computers, fix computers and outwit any hacker or problem. He should have work for Cesus. However, Leni was not vaccinated so Leni opened up a computer business from home. What about the Beautiful Person? The Person who would visit Leni sometimes for really good meal. We don't know what goes on behind closed doors . . . just use your imagination. Do they live happily ever after? Lou thinks they will.

(Narrator closes book and walks off stage saying:)

**Just Another Day in Paradise Canada
Are We?**

(Performer enter stage left and dance and mimes to the song "Just Another Day in Paradise by Phil Collins – There is a wheelchair centre stage)

Choreographic Notes: Performer enter crawling and limping to wheelchair, dance/mime number consist of arm movement and any kind of modern arm Movement that can depict a puppet. Wheelchair can travel through the song all over the stage (different formations). BLACKOUT AND 15 MINUTE INTERMISSION.

ACT 2
PART 1

ACT 2

(Narrator enters downstage right and Spotlight is following. Goes to Center Stage, carrying a book and Angrily Says)

Narrator: GET THIS FRIGGIN SPOT OFF ME! (Takes a handkerchief out of pocket and wipes the sweat off of face) (Lights go up) (Snaps his fingers and a Rainbow appears) That's Better (He sits down in Chair)

Narrator: Where were we. . . (Clears his throat)

Joy to Violation

**You have your own Land
With a House and a beach filled with Sand
You have clothes on your Back
Food for Everyone in Your Family
Joy with a Smile they Bring
Yes, you have it All . . .**

**Then One Day You Come Home
To Find You Have Nothing Left
It could Be a Bomb, Fire, a Flood or Theft
Or it could be Some People
Out for Your Blood.**

**Your heart falls to You Stomach
With Repulsion
You Fall on your Knees
You Are Breathless**

**Now, What Can you Do Without Nothing?
You have Mouths to Feed
No Shelter
If You are Lucky, you Have a Car
You try to find the Strength To Just Walk Away
From the Destruction**

**Hope You Will Find a Helping Hand
Joy to Violation
You'll Never Overcome It
Too Many of Us have Seen it
So Believe It!**

Narrator: (Snaps his Fingers and Rainbow Disappears and There is Fog) That's Better . . . Let's See, You and Dog Named Boo – The Flood)

**"It was 1997 and We had it all
A Place in the Country
Down a Valley
The River Ran Through It
Then We lost it All.**

**The River Ran through it
Rose High and Destroyed it
We waited for the Water's to Recede
Rebuilt it.
Just Takes a Little Time.
The Violation Never Won
The Joy We found Again"**

Narrator: (snaps his fingers and the Rainbow Appears Again) (Narrator exits downstage left and the Native Drums Begin)

**(Dance Mime Artist enters downstage Right to Centre doing Aboriginal (Cree) Basic Step, Falls to his knees and Ballet Jete Turns 4 counts as he gets up. The set and lighting design is of a outside of a Tornado and Cloud Formations)
(Continue the Choreograph for about 2 minutes)**

Blackout

ACT 2
PART 2

(Lights go up on Narrator Downstage Centre)

A Young Fellow

Joined the Canadian Armed Forces

The Story is So Sad

So many times he tried to save the world

Luke kept trying

Everytime it turned out so Bad

It's a Whirlwind this life you know

Sometimes high, Sometimes low

Walking in a Circle

Trying to find a Path

Having Ecstatic Dreams

Facing Reality

Shown a Life like That

The Young Fellow

Was first sent to Salmon Arm, British Columbia

There were torrential rains, floods and destruction Everywhere

**Luke spent his time Sandbagging and ditches for all the livestock that
Had died.**

**They were pulled out, only to be stationed back to the long-term care
facilities and reservations to transport vaccines for the Covid 19.**

**So Luke changed diapers, did a nurses job and tried to save some
Canadian Lives.**

It didn't matter to Luke whether you were black, white, red or green

As long as you were a Canadian, he would protect and defend you.

Luke, when he was working was a beautiful sight to see.

Yes, It's a Whirlwind this Life You Know

Sometimes High and Sometimes Low . . .

(lights go up on the Narrator Downstage Rt. – Spotlight)

Narrator: Luke McFee was Liam McFee's great greatgreatgreat Grandson. Luke was born in Chilliwak, British Columbia and as a young child, he really liked his B B Gun. Luke was tall, like Liam, his great greatgreatgreat grandfather and had eyes of blue.

Luke's lips were slightly parted, Luke's nose was always bleeding from all those fights over the ladies. Therefore, Luke's nose was broken. A rugged looking gent was Luke.

Brandy Tysek was born and bred in Latvia. Brandy was brought up on a farm and moved to the city when she was 21. Brandy worked for the Canadian Armed Forces Base in Latvia under a sargeant's command. Office Work, you know. Brandy Tysek and Luke McFee met when Brandy was walking to work. Brandy's hair was black and long and Brandy's eyes were deep dark brown. Luke just took one look at Brandy and became infatuated immediately. Let's see what Happens . . .

(Note: This is done very quickly. Lights dim and Narrator exit Stage Rt and lights go up on Brandy enters stage left carrying a pile of books. Brandy trips and the books fall to the Ground. Luke enters Stage Rt. In army uniform. Helps Brandy with her books and their eyes meet and Luke grabs Brandy's hand. (Black Out) (Then Spotlight on Narrator Downstage Rt)

Narrator: Should I say more . . . Luke joined the Army as an infantry Man at the age of 18. Most currently Luke was stationed in Montreal at a long-term care facility, bringing vaccines for the Covid 19 and acting as a health attendant to the Canadian Senior Citizens there. He was then stationed in British Columbia during landslides and torrential rain. Luke was sandbagging and digging ditches to cover all the livestock's dead remains.

After that, then to Latvia to a Canadian Armed Forces Base. The Operation Luke was in was called, Operation Reassurance. This Operation was the Canadian Armed Forces way to give defensive and deterring measures in Central and Eastern Europe.

Now, Luke is stationed on the Eastern Border of the Ukraine. Luke is trying to keep the Russian Forces out of the Ukraine. Is this World War V? Some Historians say the Cold War was the third World War. I say the Covid 19 was the fourth and now we are on the verge of the fifth World War with only just one bomb dropped on the Ukraine. What is yet to be seen? It is all up in the air. So we are going to use our imagination . . .

(Black out. Narrator exits stage Rt. Luke comes walking in with a machine gun, patrolling around the stage in a mist. Lights go down. Spotlight again on Narrator Downstage Rt.)

Narrator: So the World Came to an End. Let us say Canada survived. Luke saved Brandy from Latvia and ended up at a Canadian Army Base Called Shilo in Portage La Prairie, Manitoba. There they found food, shelter and clothing. Oh Yes, their lips were slightly parted, their noses were broken and their clothes were tattered and torn. A New Canada was born. The Old Canada was filled with Pandemics, War, Racism and Hate. This New Canada is filled with wheat fields, sunshine and all Canadians working hand in hand for peace.

**It's a Whirlwind This Life You Know
Sometimes High and Sometimes Low . . .**

BLACKOUT

(Lights go up, the drummer starts playing like the intermission in Act 1 Part 1 and the light show begins for 2 minutes) (The light show surrounds the Narrator who falls to his knees) (The Rainbow appears)

The Narrator gets up and says: When your world comes to an end is there hope? Just use your imagination and see your loved ones in your eyes. Just dream the good dream, not the bad and try to find some peace. Find the strength to get out of the pain. You just might live again. There is always light amidst the darkness.

***WE DON'T WANT WAR
NO MORE***

WE DON'T WANT WAR NO MORE

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Characters

Denise – a fair person from Canada of Mennonite background who's father was a Minister and they moved to Israel – a writer

Dominik – a handsome person from Austria who now lives in Canada – an international lawyer An Israeli Soldier

Two Young Teens

Dance/Mime Artist

Overture

(Lights go up on Dominik sitting in a chair with his 2 grandchildren sitting on the floor. Takes out a book and reads.

Dominick: A dear friend of mine wrote this book. The beautiful person's name was Denise Friesen. (looks at teens) and lights dim almost voice over

Dominick: Once upon a time

Lights go down (Dominik and Grandchildren disappear in Fog)

(Voice Over and Dance/Mime tells whole story)

(Voice Over)

(Dance/Mime Artist is Charlie Chaplin Character)

In a world full of lawlessness,

Anarchy and sexual perversity

In a world full of violence, war and destruction

Nothing being genuine

In a world full of celebration, spectacle and adventure

In a world full of horror and little sanity

Can we find a beautiful trust and some joy?

We don't want no war no more

We want a simple way

Where everything is accepted

Every opinion, every size and appearance

Of humankind and a smile

Just for peace and kindness

We just don't want war no more.....

In a world full the political uprising and
People fighting for power
Can we find that simple life of peace and kindness
We just don't want war no more.....
(lights go down)

Act 1 – Scene 1

(Through the fog a phone is ringing and lights go up on Dominik (downstage centre) answering the phone.

Dominik: Denise, I heard. Many people killed . . . can you get out of Israel?
Denise Denise (phone disconnects) (fog comes up and Voice Over)
We don't want war no more!

(fog disappears on to Denise in her Apartment in Israel. Two Massad come to her apartment and kick her out. Denise has nowhere to go. No planes in and out of Israel. Left as a Walking Mark. (All mimed with Voice Over) Denise is grabbed by an Israeli Soldier and driven to the airport to catch a plane to Toronto, Canada.

(fog appears and Charlie Chaplin Character – Voice Over

“Can we find that simple life of peace and kindness

We just don't want war no more!”

(fog disappears) (Song Baby Baby by Linda Rondstad plays in background)

Denise is on the phone to Dominick downstage centre

Denise: Hello Dominick . . . No I am alive and back in Canada . . . (long Pause)

O.K. Dominick, I will never call you again . . . I understand you commitments.

(Denise put down the phone and says to herself ‘I guess back to Grunthal.’)

(fog appears)

Charlie Chaplin character and voice over.

“We don't want war no more

We want a simple way

Where everything is accepted

Every opinion, every size and appearance

Of human kind and a smile

Just for peace and kindness, We just don't want war no More (Blackout)

***THE TRAVAILLE ADVENTURE
TRILOGY***

THE TRAVAILLE ADVENTURE

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Working Script

CHARACTERS

ANNOUCER AS VOICE OVER
YOUNGARD – YOUNG MAN
CAIRE – A YOUNG WOMAN
FREDDIE ANDROV – A FOOTBALL PLAYER
TWO FOOTBALL PLAYERS
ICE CREAM MAN
GERTRUDE – A LITTLE GIRL
JOHN – AN OLD SAILOR

TOWNS

ACHPO, OCEANA
LUVAVIKA, OCEANA
BRIE, OCEANA
PHEW, OCEANA
CLARKSVILLE, OCEANA
LUFF LUFF LAKE, OCEANA
CITY OF MIRACLES, OCEANA

ACT ONE

OVERTURE

(LIGHTS GO UP) (VIDEO OF TRAINS AND TRAVELLING IS PRESENTED, THE SONG “500 MILES” BY PETER, PAUL AND MARY IS PLAYING IN THE BACKGROUND)

(RECOMMENDED DIRECTING – MIME – CAIRE & YOUNGARD ENTER MIMING, CARRYING BACKPACKS TO CENTRE STAGE ,TAKE OFF BACKPACKS – DANCE A PAS DE DEUX – END SITTING DOWNSTAGE CENTRE, SITTING CROSS LEGGED ON THE FLOOR)

BLACKOUT

SCENE 1

(LIGHTS UP)

(SIGN SAYING ACHPO TRAIN STATION – CAIRE AND YOUNGARD ARE STILL SITTING CENTRE STAGE ON CHAIRS – BACKPACKS BESIDE THEM)

(SOUND OF A TRAIN AND A TRAIN WHISLE BLOWING)

YUGARD (MIMING LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW) YOU KNOW, IT'S REALLY FLAT HERE. REALLY CAIRE, THERE IS NOTHING BUT WHEAT FIELDS. EXCEPT YOU CAN SEE FOREVER.

CAIRE: (LOOKS OVER YUGARD'S SHOULDER) DID YOU SEE THAT???

YUGARD: A GOLDEN EAGLE! WOW! (LOOKING BACK AT CAIRE) DO YOU HAVE ANY OF THAT BREAD AND CHEESE?

CAIRE: SURE (PULLS OUT FOOD)

YUGARD: THANK YOU.

CAIRE: WHAT TOWN IS NEXT?

YUGARD: LUVAVIKA

(LIGHTS GO DOWN)

SCENE 2

ANNOUNCER – VOICE OVER: LUVAVIKA, OCEANA

(LIGHTS GO UP)

(YUGARD ARE STILL SITTING ON CHAIRS. AS MUSIC STARTS, CAIRE AND YUGARD MOVE CHAIRS AND BACKPACK UPSTAGE CENTRE) (YUGARD AS THEY ARE MOVING CHAIRS SAYS) MUST BE A UKRAINIAN TOWN . . . LET'S TAKE A LOOK.

(PRODUCTION NUMBER BY UKRAINIAN DANCERS – CAIRE AND YUGARD WATCH)

(LIGHTS GO DOWN)

SCENE 3

ANNOUNCER – VOICE OVER: BRIE OCEANA

(LIGHTS GO UP)

(SPOTLIGHT ON FREDDIE ANDROV, DRESSED IN AS A FOOTBALL PLAYER, CARRYING A FOOTBALL AND RUNNING ACROSS THE STAGE – CAIRE AND YUGARD HEADS TURN WATCHING FREDDIE DO THIS)

(FREDDIE GOES UP TO CAIRE)

FREDDIE: HI! I AM A BOMBER.

CAIRE: YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE A BOMBER . . . DO YOU FLY PLANES? (CAIRE IS SMITTEN BY FREDDIE)

FREDDIE: NOT . . . THE TOWN OF BRIE IS KNOWN FOR THE BOMBERS OF BRIE FOOTBALL TEAM. . . SO THERE! (CAIRE IS EMBARRASSED)

(AS FREDDIE, CAIRE AND YUGARD ARE ON STAGE . . . TWO OTHER FOOTBALL PLAYERS RUN ACROSS THE STAGE – FREDDIE, CAIRE AND YUGARD'S HEADS TURN)

(FREDDIE AND OTHER FOOTBALL PLAYERS TAKE POSITIONS FOR THE PRODUCTION NUMBER TO THE SONG "WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS" BY QUEEN WITH A LOT OF MIME THROWING THE FOOTBALL AROUND)

(LIGHTS OUT)

SCENE 4

ANNOUNCER – VOICE OVER: THE TOWN OF PHEW, OCEANA – ISABELLA TOLSTAI IS A FAMOUS SINGER HERE!

(LIGHTS GO UP)

(SPOTLIGHT ON CAIRE AND YUGARD SITTING CROSSED LEG DOWNSTAGE CENTRE WITH BACKPACKS BY THEIR SIDE)

CAIRE: (TO THE AUDIENCE) WHO THE HECK IS ISABELLA TOLSTAI?

YUGARD: (TO THE AUDIENCE) HOW THE HECK DO I KNOW?

CAIRE: HEY LOOK OVER THERE, THERE IS AN ICE CREAM MAN . . .

**(YUGARD LOOKS VERY SAD AND TEARFUL WITH HIS SHOULDERS DOWN. YUGARD FOLLOWS CAIRE RELUCTANTLY TO THE ICE CREAM MAN WHO IS DOWNSTAGE RIGHT)
(YUGARD AND CAIRE FIND A BENCH AND PUT THEIR BACKPACKS DOWN)**

ICE CREAM MAN: WHERE THE HECK ARE YOU KIDS FROM? (TO YUGARD) YOU DON'T LOOK VERY HAPPY AT ALL.

YUGARD: I'M SORRY SIR, I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT.

CAIRE: (SHRUGGING HER SHOULDERS) HE JUST HAS A BROKEN HEART. WE ARE HEADING TOWARD THE UNIVERSITY OF THE CITY OF MIRACLES.

ICE CREAM MAN: YOU KNOW YOUNG MAN, THE BEST WAY TO FIX A BROKEN HEART IS TO GO TO UNIVERSITY. MEET LOTS OF PEOPLE . . . COULD BRANDY ICE CREAM DO FOR YOU. IT DOESN'T HAVE ANY ALCOHOL IN IT, BUT MIGHT BRING SOME SUNSHINE TO YOU TODAY. (SCOOPS OUT SOME ICE CREAM AND GIVES IT TO YOUNGARD.

YOUNGARD: THANK YOU.

CAIRE: I'LL HAVE A CHOCOLATE. WHO IS ISABELLA TOLSTAI.

ICE CREAM MAN: SHE'S A SINGER, SONGWRITER THAT WAS BORN HERE IN PHEW AND IS WELL KNOWN IN PROVINCE OF ST. MARION. WOULD YOU LIKE TO HEAR? WHY DON'T YOU JUST SIT DOWN (HANDING THE ICE CREAM CONE TO CAIRE) AND I WILL PUT HER MUSIC ON.

(YOUNGARD AND CAIRE SIT DOWN ON THE BENCH, EAT THEIR ICE CREAM CONES, YOUNGARD STILL LOOKS FORLORN)

(LIGHTS DIM DOWN TO SARAH MCLOCHLIN'S SONG "ICE CREAM")

(LIGHTS GO DOWN)

SCENE 5

(LIGHTS GO UP GRADUALLY WITH YOUNGARD & CAIRE SITTING CENTRE STAGE ON CHAIRS . THEIR BACKPACKS ARE BESIDE THEM) (THE SONG "TAKE THE LAST TRAIN TO CLARKSVILLE" IS PLAYING IN THE BACKGROUND. THE SONG IS BY THE MONKEYS)

YOUNGARD: WELL HERE WE ARE IN CLARKSVILLE, OCEANA. I AM SO DEPRESSED. MAYBE I'LL CALL NELLIE AND TRY TO WORK THINGS OUT WITH HER.

CAIRE: MAYBE I'LL CALL FREDDIE. THE CUTE FOOTBALL PLAYER FROM BRIE.

(BOTH CAIRE AND YOUNGARD PICK UP THEIR BACKPACKS. YOUNGARD WALKS OFF STAGE RIGHT AND CAIRE WALKS OFF STAGE LEFT. THERE IS A MOMENT OF SILENCE) (YOUNGARD WALKS ON STAGE, HEAD HANGING LOW, VERY DEPRESSED, SITS DOWN ON HIS CHAIR AND TAKES HIS BACKPACK OFF. CAIRE AT THE SAME TIME WALKS ON STAGE, TAKES HER BACKPACK OFF AND LOOKS AT YOUNGARD WITH CONCERN).

YOUNGARD: (CRYING) NELLIE HAD TO WORK. ASKED HER IF SHE WOULD MEET ME AT LUFF LUFF LAKE.

CAIRE: I GUESS TO NO AVAIL. FREDDIE SOUNDED GOOD. WON THEIR GAME THE OTHER DAY. I GUESS IT'S YOU AND ME NOW

(LIGHTS GO DOWN WHILE THE SONG "LAST TRAIN TO CLARKSVILLE" BY THE MONKEY'S FADES OUT SLOWLY – A TRAIN WHISTLE BLOWS)

SCENE 6

ANNOUNCER – VOICE OVER: WELCOME TO LUFF LUFF LAKE. NOT FAR FROM THE FINAL STOP. (DRUMROLL IN BACKGROUND) THE CITY OF MIRACLES, IN THE PROVINCE OF ST. MARION, OF COURSE IT'S THE COUNTRY OF OCEANA. LUFF LUFF LAKE IS NOT A BAD PLACE TO GET A JOB IF YOU RUN OUT OF MONEY. LAKE, MOUNTAIN, FISHING, SWIMMING . . . FUN WHILE YOU WORK.

(LIGHTS GO UP)

(YUGARD ENTERS WITH A LIFE JACKET ON. GERTRUDE ENTERS WEARING A BATHING SUIT. (YUGARD GRABS A LIFE JACKET AND HELPS PUT IT ON GERTRUDE)

YUGARD: HI! I AM YUGARD AND I AM THE BOATMAN.

GERTRUDE: HI! I AM GERTRUDE. I HAD A LITTLE TRAINING ON THE CANOE, BUT I WOULD LIKE TO LEARN THE FORWARD AND BACKWARD SWEEP.

YUGARD: GLAD TO MEET YOU, 40 PENCE WILL DO.

(GERTRUDE & YUGARD TAKES POSITIONS ON STAGE FOR MIME NUMBER TO "SAILING" BY CHRISTOPHER CROSS)

CHOREOGRAPHY RECOMMENDATIONS

YUGARD AT STERN, GERTRUDE AT BOW (ALL DONE IN MIME)

USE FORWARD PADDLE, BACKWARD PADDLE IN CANOING

MIME YUGARD TEACHING FORWARD SWEEP AND BACKWARD SWEEP IN CANOIN

GERTRUDE SETS UP A TARP ON HER PADDLE. HOLDS IT IN FRONT. YUGARD AT STEAR, LIES BACK AND ENJOYS THE RIDE. YUGARD PULLS OUT SOME GOODIES TO EAT . . . EATS SOME AND THROWS THE BAG TO GERTRUDE . . . GERTRUDE CATCHES IT WITH ONE HAND . . . DOESN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH IT AND PUTS THE BAG OF GOODIES DOWN.

MIME WITH CHANGING POSITION WITHOUT TIPPING THE CANOE.

**END WITH GERTRUDE ON STERN (BACK OF CANOE) YOUGARD ON BOW (FRONT OF THE CANOE)
GERTRUDE HAS A BIG SMILE ON HER FACE AND YOUGARD GIVE THE THUMBS UP.**

(LIGHTS GO DOWN)

**(LIGHTS GO UP ON CAIRE AND YOUGARD . . . CARE IS IN A CAMP OUTFIT AND YOUGARD IS STILL
WEARING HIS LIFE JACKET . . . THEY ARE SITTING CROSS LEGGED CENTRE STAGE)**

YOUGARD: HOW MUCH DID YOU MAKE TODAY?

CAIRE: IT WAS A GOOD DAY. ONE OF THE PARENTS GAVE ME 10 POUNDS.

YOUGARD: I ONLY GOT 40 PENCE . . . YOU DID GOOD.

CAIRE: THE KIDS WERE SO CUTE WHEN WE SANG ONE FINGER ONE THUMB.

(THEY BOTH START SINGING ONE FINGER ONE THUMB)

(LIGHTS GO DOWN)

SCENE 7

**ANNOUNCER – VOICE OVER: WELCOME TO THE BRIGHT LIGHTS AND MANY SITE OF THE CITY
OF MIRACLES, OCEANA. THIS IS OUR LAST STOP. NOTICE THE MOUNTAINS AND THE OCEAN.
WE STOP RIGHT BY THE SAILOR’S OCEAN.**

(LIGHTS UP)

**(YOUGARD AND CARE WALK AROUND STAGE LOST WITH BACKPACKS ON. THEY ARE LOOKING
HAGGARD. AT DOWNSTAGE RIGHT IS AN ELDERLY, GREY HAIRE, DISHELVLED MAN CASTING
A FISHING ROD AND HAS SOME BAIT. YOUGARD AND CAIRE WALK UP TO HIM.**

CAIRE: EXCUSE ME SIR, DO YOU KNOW WHERE THE YOUTHHTHTH HOSTEL IS?

**JOHN (THE FISHERMAN): JUST TAKE MIRACLE ROAD WHICH IS JUST DOWN THERE. TAKE A
RIGHT AND YOU CAN’T MISS IT. HERE I’LL TELL YOU A STORY. (YOUGARD AND CAIRE SHRUG
THEIR SHOULDERS, TAKE THEIR BACKPACK OFF AND SIT CROSS LEGGED) I USED TO BE A CRAB**

FISHERMAN. ALL OF A SUDDEN IN THE BLUE SEA THERE WERE TERRIBLE WHITE CAPS, THE WIND SUDDENLY PICKED UP IT WAS LIKE OUR BOAT WAS GOING TO TIP AT ANY MINUTE.

CAIRE: WHAT DID YOU DO?

JOHN: WELL, MY FOOT GOT CAUGHT IN ONE OF OUR PODS TRYING TO TAKE THE POD OUT OF THE SEA. ONE OF OUR GUYS WENT OVERBOARD. STUPID ME, TRYING SAVE HIM. EVERYONE WAS FREAKING OUT. WE WERE GOING UNDER. TO MAKE A LONG STORY SHORT, THEY THROUGH OUT A LIFE BOEY, WE WERE PULLED IN AND WE SAT OUT THE STORM.

CAIRE: BOY, YOU HAD AN EXCITING LIFE. WE REALLY HAVE TO GO (THEY STAND UP, PUT THEIR BACKPACKS BACK ON) WE HAVE A MEETING AT 10:00 IN THE MORNING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MIRACLES TOMORROW. GOTTA GET SOME SLEEP AND CLEANED UP.

(DIM THE LIGHTS ON THE FISHERMAN AND PUT STREET SIGNS ON STAGE. CAIRE AND YOUGARD DO A DANCE MIME NUMBER TO "BRANDY" BY LOOKING GLASS. AT END OF SONG, YOUGARD SAYS: "LOOK, THERE IS THE UNIVERSITY OF THE CITY OF MIRACLES)

(LIGHTS GO DOWN)

(CONCLUDE WITH "A WHOLE NEW WORLD FROM ALLADIN, ORCHESTRAL VERSION)

PRINTEMPS

© Alix Babiak, May 1, 2023

Cast of Characters

Yougard

Belinda

Chorus

Staging

X XXXXXXXXXXXX

X XXXXXXXXXXXX

(chorus)

(table) off stage

Overture

Voice Over: In the City of Miracles in the Country of Oceania is a University. Two Students of Distinction would sit at a table in conversation after class and would ignore everyone around them. In Spring, they were about to live out their dreams.

(lights go up. Production Number to The Flower Little Person by the Cowsills.)

Choreographic Notes and Staging

Alumni

XXXXX

City of Miracles University

XXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXX

Table Off Stage

(chorus in jeans, tee shirts and running shoes; (chorus carrying backpacks and books underneath arms)

Pose 5 characters at Alumni Centre – 3 people buying tickets. Pose 20 people underneath City of Miracles University Sign

Pose before music starts 8 people on Stage.

Music Starts and you can use the following scenes during song:

- 1) One person that looks lost waits turn at the Alumni Sign. 2 People at the Alumni Sign get their tickets with glee and next another person. That person gets tickets . . . gives a thumbs up and dances around and exits.*
- 2) Chorus – Group of People at the City of Miracles University Sign does a basic Musical Theatre Dance Number*
- 3) Enter Stage Right a couple walking; person drops books, another person helps her pick it up exits stage left (Mime whole scene)*
- 4) Chorus same as 2 and whole Chorus enters at the End doing formations using the following step:*
 - 1 step rt.*
 - 2 step lft.*
 - 3 step rt.*
 - 4 step lft*
 - 5 ball*
 - 6 change*
 - 7 Repeat to Count 1*
 - 8 Keep Repeating*

Scene 1

(light go up on table Stage Rt. just off stage)

(Belinda enters in front of the stage lft. Spotlight. Has a raincoat and an umbrella and is drenched) (runs to the table where Yougard is and says)

Belinda: Hi! The buses were late and I missed class. When is the Exam?

Yougard: April 25 (Solemly)

Belinda: Why are you so glum?

Yougard: Went to the Theatre with Natalie. We had a big fight!

Belinda: I'm sorry. Thought you two would get married. I'm not having much luck with my partner either.

Yougard: I can see that . . . look over there . . . The Flirt. Thinks he's Gods Gift to People!

Belinda: (sinks down in here chair) Let's change the subject "Is War Necessary?" Did Professor Stuart discuss this today?

Yougard: Not at all.

(Lights go down)

Scene 2

(Lights go up)

(Music to Bee Gees – How Do You Mend a Broken Heart)

Mime Notes:

Belinda wearing a sundress and Yougard in shorts and t-shirt enters stage left to center riding a bicycle. Belinda is on the handle bars holding books. They ride across the stage and in a circle and stop suddenly at downstage centre. They get off the bicycle and Yougard throws a blanket down and they both sit with books in hand.

(Lights go down)

Scene 3

(Spotlight goes up with Belinda and Yougard sitting at the table off stage)

Yougard: Is War Necessary?

Belinda: There are economic, political and social issues that cause war. What is sick is that war might be necessary for population control. But there is birth control and pandemics.

Yougard: I have the same answer. Yes, sick. Listen to this (Yougard grabs a guitar and walks centre stage where there is a chair. (Production Number to Simple Song of Freedom by Bobby Darren)

Choreographic and Staging Notes:

Yougard is Downstage Centre on a Chair singing with guitar. You can change the words of the Song if Produced.

After second Verse bring the Chorus on stage. Ten chore entering stage right and Ten Core entering stage left doing this step into position behind Yougard. Position is double line to right and double line to left.

Step:

***Walking step, step snap your fingers over head rt. and lft) 4x
Pivot turn – presenting with arms rt. &lft.***

Scene 5

(Spotlight goes up on Yougard and Belinda at Table)

Yougard: I was in the laundry matt the other day and met a school teacher. We hit it off. Belinda, don't you think that you should stick to your own kind. You being Jewish and all.

Caire: YOUR WRONG! (storms off Stage, Yougard holding head down in shame)

(Spotlight goes off, lights go up on stage for Production Number for First We Take Manhatten, then we take Berlin by Leonard Cohen sung by Jennifer Warren)

Choreographic Notes:

Chorus enters with rifles marching – many formations

Scene 6

(Spotlight goe up on Belinda and Yougard at Table)

Belinda: I think I understand you Yougard. We can be friends.

Yougard: LOOK OVER THERE BELINDA! This group looks like they are up to know good. Almost looks like they have meetings.

(Sound of Bomb goes off) (Yougard and Belinda run off)

(Spotlight goes off)

Scene 6

(Spotlight goes up on Belinda at Table. Yougard passes and envelope to Belinda and walks off)

(Belinda Opens Envelope and says)

Belinda: Oceana Student Loans and Bursaries Application. Never heard of this . . . I will apply to get my Masters and that University in Brie. Summer Job and Loans . . . this should do it.

(Spotlight is turned off, Lights Dim on stage and Production Number to Pieces of April by Three Dog Night)

Choreographic Notes:

Pas de Deux by Yougard and Belinda

(Lights Go Down)

Voice Over: Yes, they will live out their dreams as friends forever.

AMI

© Alix Babiak July 5, 2024

Cast of Characters

Yougard

Caire

Voice Over

Overture

(Lights Up) (two chairs are downstage centre with backpacks leaning on each side. Yougard and Caire are at each side in muslim prayer position. Dance/Mime Number to Circle of Life, Opening Number to the Lion King written by Elton John. Costumes are Blue Jeans and running shoes)

Choreographic Notes:

Use African Dance Steps and Use Whole Stage – Some basic ballet and modern . . . on line “Circle of Life” Yougard picks Caire up and Caire falls into the Fish. At End Caire and Yougard end sitting on chairs facing the Audience.

Scene 1

(lights go up on Caire and Yougard and Train Whistle Blows)

Voice Over: Last Call for Train from City of Miracles to Atlantic City in the Province of EnnEss in the Beautiful Country of Oceana.

(There is an explosion) (Yougard and Caire Grab Eachother and Tremble) (The Train Starts Moving)

Yougard: It is so good we are going home!

Caire: Do you think we will make it with this War going on.

Yougard: Duck! (the luggage falls all over them)

Caire: (puts luggage aside) Alpo seems to be winning. They've taken over the city. I really need to find a job once I get home. I have to find a place, maybe just outside the city. Probably just work with children again.

Yougard: Me Too. Maybe I can find something at the Rec Centre. I'll be looking for a place too. How is your money holding out. I have saved 500 pounds.

Caire: I have about 600. Maybe we can stay at the Youth Hostel until we save enough money for a place. We didn't even get a chance to finish school.

Yougard: Let's get some sleep.

(End Scene with Mona Lisa's and Mad Hatters by Elton John)

Scene 2

(Lights go up on Caire and Yougard downstage centre)

Yougard: (Carrying a letter) I have to go . . . up to Nivev . . . There are people there who will get people like Belinda out of the City of Miracles.

Caire: This is not your problem Yougard. You could get yourself killed.

Yougard: She is my FRIEND . . . She can't help the marks on her skin. I saw how they treated her. Like a piece of manure, like she is not even human. I am afraid that this beautiful person is already dead. I can find out in Nivev.

Caire: You'll get yourself killed. I just (pushes him and walks off in tears)

(The light dim slowly to Peter Cetera's Glory of Love and as Yougard waits for his train does a dance/mime)

(Lights go down)

Scene 3

(lights go up Yougard on his cell phone)

**Yougard: You found her . . . where are you taking her? What shape is she in?
Can you get her to the Nivev Hospital? I'll meet her there . . . (He opens the
letter and reads in tears:**

**Yougard,
The birthmark on my skin
I have to say Goodbye
Why do I cry?**

**You pulled me out of the darkness
You made me laugh and find joy
You gave me everything I needed
You gave me love and friendship
But it is the Birthmark on my skin
I have to say Good-Bye
Why do I cry?**

**The Tears will never stop falling
The knives will always keep stinging
The pain will never subside
The birthmark on my skin
I have to say Good-Bye
Why do I cry?**

**The tears and laughter
The memories
Tomorrow I will die
I have to say Good-bye
Why do I cry?**

(Yougard puts the letter in his pocket and falls asleep)

Act 2

Scene 1

(Lights go up in a Hospital Room) (Yougard is sitting in a chair and Belinda is half dead, bruises, brocken bones. All of a sudden Yougard hears:

Belinda: Is war necessary?

Yougard: (Smiles) Totally Unnecessary! I think you're going to be alright. It is safe here . . .

(Lights dim to Peace Train by Cat Stevens. (If I had a rocket launcher by Bruce Cockburn kicks in at times)

Scene 2

(6 months later (sign says) (restaurant scene . . . table and chair center stage) (Yougard is sitting at the table lights up and Belinda walks in just like nothing has happened)

Belinda: You called it . . . I am a Jew but I really belong to the race of Oceana and so do you. That's my story and I'm sticking to it. Just for old time sake (graps his hand and Shades of April by Three Dog Night start playing. They do there pas de deux.

Voice Over: They will be Friends Forever.

Blackout

***HOW TO PICK UP THE
BROKEN PIECES...***

CANADA'S SORROWS

c Alix Babiak March 20, 2025

BY

ALIX BABIAK

OVERTURE

(Lights Go Up Downstage Centre to Belinda Kar)

Belinda:

**Two Neighbours and
So Called Friends
Looks Like We Are
Going to make Amends
The Tariff War
The War Machine to the South and
The Leader With the Big Mouth
At Least This Leader says the U.S.A.
Will Protect Canada Militarily
Yet will That Leader Starve Us and
Take All Our Jobs Away?**

**It's a Whirlwind This Life You Know
Sometimes High, Sometimes Low
Walking in a Circle
Trying to Find a Path
Having Ecstatic Dreams
Facing Reality
Shown a Life Like That**

**A Friend Stabbed It's
Neighbour In the Back
Relations that were integrated and Friendly
Will Never Be the Same
The Trust is Gone
Now Independence for Canada
Is a Necessity
To Stand on Our Own Two Feet
Never Admit Defeat**

Chorus

**The Problem that Has Been Arising
Is Separation of the Provinces
Which Could Lead to Canada's End
We have to Stand Together Now Canadians
More than Ever
A Strong Message We should Send
That Canada is Not for Sale and We
Will Not Become the 51st State.**

Chorus

Scene 1

(Spotlight goes Up on Belinda Kar sitting at a Desk Writing Downstage Centre)

Belinda:

I had lunch with Nick and Josephine in Niverville today and left close to tears. Nick is saying that Trump is pure entertainment and wouldn't mind if Canada became the 51st State. Josephine is a Trump Supporter and even the Server was a Trump Supporter. This is Canada! The brain-washing of Trump's propaganda campaign has taken over, here in Canada too. What happened to Canadian Nationalism, The Canadian Identity? Long and the Short, the Canadian Media, thank goodness, is supporting that.

We need Frontenac, We need Prime Minister Pierre Elliot Trudeau. We still have Jean Cretien. We've lost Quebec, We might lose Alberta and yes, we might lose our country.

I could see it all happening with decentralization of power to the Provinces, with the FLQ Crisis (they got away with it all), The Insurrection of the Trucker's Union, The Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party aligning themselves with Ted Cruz. Then there was Tucker Carlson. He even went to Russia to complain about Canada. Great, the passage of the Meech Lake Accord . . . Then the Lamé Duck Government and the fall of the Liberal Party. Really, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau took the fall and Prime Minister Mark Carney built up the Party. Seems Mark Carney is the best to deal with Trump. I just keep telling myself status quo . . . just go along as normal. I'm lucky, I'm self-employed and I will not lose my job as so many people have.

(lights go up and Song Moody Manitoba Morning start to play. Lights go up on Pictures of the Prairies and a soft light)

Scene 2

(Spotlight goes up on Belinda downstage centre looking at the Video. Peace Train by Cat Stevens plays with Video of Via Rail Train Travelling Across Canada)
(At end of Video Belinda Turns Around a speak to the audience)

Belinda:

In Canada we have free dental, drug plans, low-income housing, places to go and get free food, free medicare and not like the States, a person who is ill or disabled has all the resources to get better and back on their feet. We have our constitution and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and strict gun laws. There still are not enough police officers and jails. We do not have the death penalty yet our justice is really hard on the criminal. They have to face society once their jail term is up and get back on their feet. Canada has the most beautiful landscape from coast to coast. Resources and Clean Water are abundant. We have the brightest minds. Sure there is David Suzuki and Mark Carney to name a few. We have the best schools. From Osgood Hall to the University of British Columbia.

Are we really willing to give up this beautiful country to that military might South of the Border. Are we going to go down fighting? Mark Carney and President Trump stopped that . . . But how long can it be stopped? In the end, a number of us Canadians will always have Canada in Our Hearts.

(lights go down)

Belinda:

When Everyone has a full stomach
When Everyone has a Home
When Everyone has something to do
When Everyone has Peace
Just Goes Along Status Quo
Everything will Work Out
The Neighbours can live side by side

Be Happy and Have Peace of Mind

Canada's Sorrows

Will be Left Behind in the Past

All Our Tomorrows

Will be Plentiful and Great

The kindness, the thoughtfulness

The Helping Hand of the Canadian identity

Will Last for Eternity

This Land is Our Land

This Land is Your Land

From Bona Vista

To Vancouver Island

Sing it out Everyone!

DANCING WITH THE WIND

c Alix Babiak May 1982

BY

ALIX BABIAK

Overture

(Narrator sitting on a chair downstage centre)

Narrator:

When dreams become a reality and you keep liv'en in your dreams, when every place you are, you just don't want to be, but you don't know where your go'in and there is nowhere left to run, so you keep liv'en, letting everything pass you by, not caring, oh yah, hurting, so just keep on liv'en, your liv'en in your dreams. People talk, but can hear, you don't listen and you cannot speak, some don't understand you, most don't really care, cause you've lost your will to dance, just liv'en in your past, seeing no future, only hurt and pain, amidst your lonely game.

Confusious says: How Depressing . . . Just Reach for the Stars!

Scene 1

I was sitting on a park bench by the river and the trees were blowing with the wind. The wind came up like an ocean and pushed me to the north, to the west, to the east and to the south. It was a rush . . . and then the rain set in.

When the Wind was Howling

I was just standing outside in the middle of the field next door. The wind just picked up suddenly, like God said it was time to sore. When the wind was howling around and around, through the trees and fields with a very roaring sound. I just stood still, trying to keep my feet planted on the ground, then I ran with the wind, Someone must have sinned. Ran to my home and closed the door, had a sigh of relief and just great peace.

Confusious Says: I think you were dancing with the wind!

Scene 2

Narrator: I always look at the trees. Yes, blowing with the wind. I pick a branch to dance and gently move my head. It gives a sense of freedom and comfort, that joy should always surround you and joy wins every time.

What is the Real Love

Who knows what the real love is . . . It just does not mean holding and a kiss, It is a feeling of joy and peace and sense of responsibility that can hurt and bring you to your knees, It can crush you or bring you to fulfillment, or ecstasy that you never have had. Who knows what the real love is . . . it just makes the world go around, silent and without a sound.

Confusious says: I have the real love, do you?

Scene 3

Narrator: I was sitting in the middle of a field. I look up at the sky, see all the stars on a clear night and suddenly the Northern Lights appear. I know God is watching over all of us, always watching over us. Yes, God's Miracles . . .

Is There Really a God?

Well, I still smoke too much and drink too much coffee. When I am ill, I don't kneel to pray. I am an Independent woman and I think you can pray anywhere. I strongly believe in multiculturalism and have given lots of things away. Have tried to protect God and his miracles. This is all I can say . . . I haven't been struck down yet. Believe what goes around, comes around and if there wasn't a God, Nothing would exist.

Confusious says: I believe God lit the match of the great explosion that created us all and everything we see around us. Something had to light the match, therefore there is me and you.

Scene 4

Narrator: As I dance a pirouette in front of the mirror . . . I realize I have to make a change in my life and way we all are inside. Always to become kinder and always to be good to eachother. Yah, the person in the mirror tells all our secrets . . .

Secrets of Dance

The music rushes through you. It takes over, You Move. A sense of freedom is all that is left to do. It brings much Joy . . . Something to look for once a day. Look at Today, Tomorrow and not yesterday.

Confusious says: I love to dance, dance with the wind, dance with a stance of a pony's prance. With a Heel and Toe and Away I Will Go!

Scene 5

Narrator: I was playing with the rain in an open field. Turning and Turning . . . I realized that you have one life to live and if you're lucky enough, you'll find that one true love. You've got to make it happy or you will live in pain. The sadness too hard to take.

Happiness to Pain

*Happiness to Pain
It's all done over again
One life we have to live
If you only get and don't give
There is no Meaning
Only Pain
In a Lonely Game.*

Confusious says: All this is hard to take!

Scene 6

Narrator: I was looking out my window and felt there was so much hate and prejudice out there. People dying while others are laughing and yes, a tragic comedy. We have to stand together to change all of this and bring even like into our world again . . . the world changed in a minute with the World Trade Towers in New York blowing up. The world blew up that day. What I mean is everyone would be afraid of terrorism, war, hate, discrimination, crime, technology, oil spills and big brother forever. It's all in the Powers' (and there are many) hands. All thinking they are God. Everyone acting on their own.

Laws Broken

Laws are not made to be broken. They are there to protect you from the bad guy we all have inside. They make all of us safe . . . when you lose self-control . . . the Authorities are the patrol.

Confusious says: Yes, it is all in the Powers' hands and Your Hands. Look at what you have done. There is a good guy on one shoulder and a bad guy on the other. You let the bad guy win.

Scene 7

Narrator: I'm lying in the field in the rain, just feeling empty with the hole I've dug for myself. You've got to try bringing some kind of joy into your life, before your heart and soul feels like it has been cut by a knife.

Someone From Yemen

Someone from Yemen told me that us Canadians dig ourselves in ditches and never get out. Where we come from he said, we get into those ditches, get out quick and start fighting.

One Joy A Day I Say and Confusious says:

Yah, People from Yemen Come Out Fighting With Machine Guns and Us Canadians are Hiding.

Scene 8

Narrator: I am sitting on my swing, looking at the river and going back in time. When reading fairy tales we thought of dragons, witches, warlocks, evil step-mothers, princes, princesses, kings and queens. We all have to imagine, we all have to dream . . . just to survive in this world.

In the Land of Otterlee

In the land of Otterlee, It's against the law to be mean. There Are prairies and rolling hills and Angels dancing with the wind.

Confusious Says: It's Great to Dream!

Scene 9

When Your World Comes To An End, Is There Hope?

You Still have your own circle of people you trust . . . When you make them Happy, It brings a sense of contentment and peace within your heart. Yah, there is hope in your little circle. If You don't have anybody, Reach Out and touch someone. Talk of Today, Tomorrow, Not Yesterday and figure out in your own way . . . how to fix things for yourself then everyone.

**WITHOUT PAIN, WITHOUT GLORY
LET'S BRING BACK SOME SEMBLANCE OF LAW AND ORDER
REMEMBER IN THE LAND OF OTTERLEE,
IT'S AGAINST THE LAW TO BE MEAN. SADNESS WILL LEAD TO HAPPINESS.
IF YOU DON'T MAKE WAVES YOU WILL FIND A BETTER DAY.
KEEP DANCING WITH THE WIND.**

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

ALIX BABIAK IS A PLAYWRIGHT, DIRECTOR, CHOREOGRAPHER AND PRODUCER. SHE HAS WRITTEN, CO-WRITTEN, DIRECTED, CO-DIRECTED, CHOREOGRAPHED, CO-CHOREOGRAPHED MANY THEATRICAL AND DANCE PRODUCTIONS FOR SUCH PLACES AS YORK UNIVERSITY IN TORONTO, THE ROYAL DANCE CONSERVATORY IN WINNIPEG, STARBURST DANCE STUDIO IN ST. MALO, MANITOBA, MANY SOCIAL AGENCIES FOR THE INTELLECTUALLY AND PHYSICALLY DISABLED AND THOSE WITH MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS. ALIX IS CONSIDERED A DANCE AND THEATRE ARTIST WITH THE CANADA COUNCIL OF THE ARTS AND A LITERARY AND THEATRE & DANCE ARTIST WITH THE MANITOBA ARTS COUNCIL. ALIX HAS HER BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS HONOURS, MAJOR DANCE, MINOR THEATRE FROM YORK UNIVERSITY IN TORONTO, ALIX'S 1ST YEAR AFTER-DEGREE PROGRAM FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG AND ALIX HAS A MENTAL HEALTH WORKER CERTIFICATE FROM MANITOBA EDUCATION AND TRAINING. ALIX HAS WRITTEN SEVEN BOOKS THAT INCLUDE "WORKS FOR THE BEAUTIFUL MIND", "OUR FRIENDS . . . IN GOOD TIMES & BAD", "THE BOOK OF LIAM" AND "MY HEART & MY SOUL", "JUST ABOUT LIFE", "BEAUTIFUL TRUSTS" AND "SECRETS OF DANCE". "BEAUTIFUL TRUSTS" IS ONE OF FIVE BOOKS OF PLAYS, STORIES AND POEMS IN THE LIBRARY ARCHIVES OF CANADA. ALIX SPECIALIZES IN CHOREOGRAPHED BASED DANCE/MIME MUSICAL PLAYS.

ALIX HAS RUN ALIX'S OWN DANCE SCHOOL IN ST. MALO AND BROUGHT THE ROYAL WINNIPEG MANITOBA HYDRO SATELLITE PROGRAM TO ST. MALO (WHERE SHE COORDINATED AND TAUGHT). ALIX ALSO CONCEIVED AND TAUGHT THE INTELLECTUALLY & PHYSICALLY DISABLED DANCE PROGRAM IN ST. MALO AND CONCEIVED, COORDINATED AND TAUGHT THE ART PROGRAM FOR THE INTELLECTUALLY & PHYSICALLY DISABLED IN ST. MALO, BRINGING IN CANADIAN ARTISTS FOR WORKSHOPS AND PRODUCED ANNUAL PLAYS. OVER THE PAST 6 YEARS ALIX SPENDS HER TIME MOSTLY PLAYWRITING , WRITING AND DOING CHOREOGRAPHY. ALIX IS ALSO PAST PRESIDENT OF A NON-PROFIT ARTS ORGANIZATION CALLED ARTS FOR THE BEAUTIFUL MIND, PAST ARTISTIC DIRECTOR OF WORKS FOR THE BEAUTIFUL MIND, PAST PRESIDENT OF THE ST. MALO/ST.PIERRE ARTS COUNCIL AND PAST PRESIDENT OF ARTS FOR THE MIND INC. OUT OF WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

A SPECIAL THANKS GO OUT TO BARRY ALLAN BABIAK, JAQUELINE DROUIN , JANEL SHAW, THE ARTS ACCESSIBILITY NETWORK, AND SCOTT DOUGLAS – CONSULTANT ON THE PLAY "IT'S TOO HARD TO HATE".