

THE FANTASTICAL ADVENTURE OF A TEENAGE DRAMA QUEEN

Book, Music and Lyrics by Ethan Schlessler

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CAST OF CHARACTERS

(4 males, 6 female, flexible)

- JENNA.....A sassy young teenage girl with a clever wit, sarcastic sense of humor, and a “drama queen” disposition. She’s recently become annoyed with her school, friends and family, and longs to escape her life of daily ordeals. Though she mostly plays the “tough kid” role, by the end of her journey we see her vulnerability and potential growth. *(102 lines)*
- MOM/ICE QUEEN.....Jenna’s mom. A working mother who runs an organized home while having to deal with a too-playful husband, a 10 year-old know-it-all, and her teenage daughter, Jenna - - who currently despises her. The Ice Queen is the exaggerated personification of Mom within Jenna’s mind. She reigns in the nightmare world and knows Jenna’s secret fears while cunningly revealing them. *(45 lines)*

DAD/MCDad is a family therapist. He tries to maintain a balance between the clashing worlds of Mom and Jenna. He uses humor and charm with Jenna and tries to use it with Mom, as well. The MC, an animated version of Dad, guides Jenna on the fantastical journey within her mind. He's playful, cunning, and intentionally deceptive so as to help Jenna figure things out for herself. (49 lines)

OLIVIA.....Jenna's precocious, know-it-all 10 year-old sister. While she is annoyed by Jenna's recent attitude change, she still adores her older sister. (16 lines)

NOTE: The ensemble can be played by many or a few actors in multiple roles. Male/female roles are suggested below, though in most cases, they can be switched to accommodate casting needs.

ENSEMBLE:

PARTY GUESTSFriends and family who attend Olivia's party. (They will later become the various characters below in JENNA's mind; therefore they should be played by the same actors.)

THE EMOTIONSCharacters that portray Jenna's feelings within her mind: Love, Anxiety, Rage, Surprise, Guilt, Jealousy and Depression. They are quite animated and insistent. (2-5 lines each)

ID and SUPEREGO.....Olivia's two puppets that come alive in Jenna's mind like vaudeville comedy performers. Id is the wild and impulsive one, while Superego tries to maintain control and a sense of order. They compete with each other for Jenna's affection. Ideally, 2 boys. (*ID - - 8 lines, SUPEREGO - - 11 lines*)

COMMON SENSE DOLLSJenna's old and tattered dolls that have been locked away in her toy trunk. They, too, come alive to reveal answers and shed some light (common sense) about her mysterious journey. Ideally 3-5 girls. (*3 speaking parts, 4-5 lines each*)

THE MEMORIES.....Various friends, family, and teachers from Jenna's memories. They include: Matt, Sarah, Mr./Ms. Hupart, and friends. (*Matt - - 5 lines, Ms. Hupart - - 5 lines, JENNA IN THE MEMORY #1 - - 3 lines, JENNA IN THE MEMORY #2 - - 5 lines, JENNA IN THE MEMORY #3 - - 12 lines, Rachel - - 1 line, Sarah - - 6 lines*)

NOTE: The Memories can be videotaped and projected with actors from the cast; thus JENNA plays herself in the memory scenes. If performed live, use different female actors portraying the "JENNA in the memory" while the real JENNA observes.

THE CREATURES.....Eerie, spooky creatures that represent Jenna's fears and insecurities. They are servants to the Ice Queen in the world of nightmares.

SETTING

The play takes place in the present time. It begins in reality and then journeys into the fantastical world inside Jenna's mind. There are various settings and creative worlds. Let the descriptions in the script be a guide. If necessary, the play can be done on a bare stage using props and minimal set pieces. Imagination and creative use of cubes and chairs can be just as effective if a full set is not available.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

SONG #1	FLY AWAY	Jenna
SONG #2	TRANSITION TO THE CARNIVAL.....	Instrumental
SONG #3	COME ALONG.....	MC & Ensemble
SONG #4	PRELUDE TO GET OVER YOURSELF.....	MC
SONG #5	GET OVER YOURSELF	The Emotions & Jenna
SONG #6	POSTLUDE TO GET OVER YOURSELF	MC
SONG #7	ID & SUPEREGO	Id & Superego
SONG #8	ID & SUPEREGO REPRISE	Id & Superego
SONG #9	ALL IN YOUR MIND	Common Sense & Jenna
SONG #10	ALL IN YOUR MIND REPRISE	Common Sense
SONG #11	AREN'T I ALLOWED	Jenna & Mom
SONG #12	DEM OL' MEMORIES.....	MC & Jenna
SONG #13	GOOD MEMORY MUSIC	Instrumental
SONG #14	BAD MEMORY MUSIC	Instrumental
SONG #15	NIGHTMARE MUSIC.....	Instrumental
SONG #16	WHAT YOU HIDE	Ice Queen & Ensemble
SONG #17	WHAT YOU HIDE, PART 2.....	Jenna, MC & Ice Queen
SONG #18	COME ALONG & FLY AWAY REPRISE	Ensemble & Jenna

SCENE 1
THE BIRTHDAY PARTY**AT RISE:**

Lights up on the warm living room of a “typical” family home. There is an up-tempo sense of urgency as a birthday party for 10 year-old OLIVIA is about to start. Family and other kids will be arriving shortly. Balloons, food, party favors and other last minute set-up items need to be put into place. JENNA is lying on the floor listening to music through headphones, ignoring everything going on around her. MOM enters carrying a tray of neatly stacked cupcakes. Her entrance point marks the location of the offstage kitchen.

MOM: *(Yelling offstage.)* Okay, Tom. Grab the bowl of chips, please, and bring some paper towels. Olivia, are you almost ready? People will be here soon. Jenna, turn off the music.

MOM finds the perfect place to set down the tray.

JENNA: What? *(Removing headphones.)*

MOM: Listen, if you're not going to help, *(Looks at JENNA's outfit.)* can you at least change and put on that nice shirt I just got you?

JENNA: I have to change? Mom, I look fine.

DAD: *(Entering with bowl of chips.)* Honey, the house looks great, everything's all set. Claire, really, it's going to be great. *(Gives reassuring touch on shoulder.)*

JENNA: Yeah, Mom *(Taking and crunching a chip.)* - - you know what Dad always says to everyone, “You can choose to be less stressed.”

MOM looks at DAD as a plea to help with JENNA. MOM continues to get the house ready.

DAD: Jenna, you can “choose” to help us out. Preparing for these events can be stressful, and you're not making it easier. *(Intentionally being “cute.”)* And we all know that harboring the stress and tension internally can lead to so many other issues . . .

MOM looks at JENNA as they have a rare mother/daughter bonding moment, acknowledging DAD's routine, having heard it many times before.

MOM: *(To JENNA.)* He does that on purpose just to see how I'll react. *(To DAD.)* Just as clever and loveable as the first day I met you.

DAD: Uh huh . . . *(He comes up behind her and gives her a hug.)* and despite all these years of us together, I know you still love me. *(He kisses her on the cheek and MOM allows herself to enjoy the moment.)*

JENNA: *(Eating some chips.)* Uck, will you two stop? Yech.

DAD: *(Sarcastically.)* Yech? That's mature.

JENNA: Dad, you're so lame. You know, I thought you were supposed to be such a great family psychologist who knows how to do things.

DAD: What's that supposed to mean?

JENNA: You're always making jokes. You're never serious.

MOM: Will you two stop fooling around? Jenna - - go change or help out. Now, please. *(Exits.)*

JENNA: Uch! Sometimes she can be such a witch. *(Then realizes she said it too loud.)*

DAD: Okay, you want serious? First of all, I don't want to hear you calling your mother a witch. We'll deal with that one later. Second, this attitude of yours today is completely counter-productive. This day is important for Olivia. Your mother and I work just as hard when it's a special event for you.

JENNA: *(Sarcastically.)* Oh yeah, right . . .

DAD: *(Looking offstage.)* Okay, Claire. What's next?

MOM enters with a bowl of candy.

MOM: If you could just grab the rest of the stuff from the kitchen. Thanks.

DAD exits to the kitchen, OLIVIA enters.

OLIVIA: Hello. Do I look okay?

MOM: Olivia, you look lovely.

JENNA grabs a balloon and blows it up.

OLIVIA: Are the preparations coming together? The guests should be arriving any minute.

JENNA: Preparations? What is the matter with you? Who talks like that?

MOM: Jenna, please, not today - - it's her birthday. Stop playing with the balloons. (*JENNA lets a balloon fly out of her hand as the air is released.*) If you're not going to help down here, then just go upstairs and change, please. Olivia's friends will be here any moment.

JENNA: Do I really have to stay here the whole time?

OLIVIA: Not if you're going to be so temperamental . . .

DAD: (*Offstage.*) Hey, honey . . . where do you want me to put the cookie jar? (*He dances in with a clown-shaped cookie jar. He puts it down and grabs OLIVIA and continues to dance.*) Olivia, I just can't believe you're already 10!

JENNA: Dad, please stop dancing. You're so embarrassing.

DAD: Why?

OLIVIA: It's fun!

JENNA: Oh, please.

MOM: (*Indicating the cookie jar.*) Olivia, you remember where we got this?

JENNA: Yes, Mom, she knows, at some stupid carnival. You tell us the story, like, every week. (*Very dramatic, JENNA incorporates OLIVIA into her theatrics.*) You were about to throw the ball into some basket, and Dad came by, took the ball out of your hand, got it into the basket and won you the stupid cookie jar, and you've been together ever since.

DAD teasingly applauds the performance.

MOM: Lucky for him.

DAD: That's true, honey. (To JENNA.) Lucky for both of the kids, too. They might have never been born.

OLIVIA giggles.

JENNA: Eww. What's wrong with you?

Doorbell rings. OLIVIA rushes offstage to open the door. OLIVIA quickly enters back on stage with 3 or 4 guests who have presents, give hugs, greetings to family, etc . . . JENNA goes to grab a cupcake from the tray and knocks down the whole stack.

MOM: Jenna! What are you doing? Tom, please . . .

MOM goes over to assist OLIVIA greeting guests. JENNA starts to re-stack the cupcakes.

DAD: Jenna, this is Olivia's special night. (JENNA rolls her eyes.) We asked you to help us out, and you told us you would. We try to treat you as if we're able to have a mature relationship.

JENNA: Oh God, Dad -- mature? Yeah, you're dancing around the house with Olivia and a cookie jar. Look, I helped you set up. I thought I could just go over to Rachel's house for a little while. Everyone's going over there.

MOM turns away from guests to face JENNA.

MOM: Jenna, you're staying here. Besides, I thought you were mad at everyone and Matt.

JENNA: MOM! Why do you always have to act like you know everything?

DAD crosses to OLIVIA and guests.

MOM: You just seemed upset the last few days and I thought . . .

JENNA: Mom -- okay, stop.

Doorbell rings. OLIVIA races to greet more guests who walk onstage. MOM crosses to guests and motions for OLIVIA and guests to exit to the kitchen. DAD crosses back to JENNA.

DAD: Jenna, look. We sat down and made a family agreement about Olivia's party.

JENNA: But she's so annoying lately. "Preparations," "temperamental."

DAD: Let her be. It's her way of getting attention from the family. Besides, you think it's easy being your little sister?

JENNA: Please, she doesn't know how good she has it.

DAD: Must be your unique charm and warmth.

JENNA: Must be.

Doorbell rings again. DAD crosses to the "door" and greets the final group of guests. MOM enters from "kitchen" to grab the tray of cupcakes.

JENNA: Fine! Forget my life. I'll just go be the little puppet on a string.

MOM walks over to JENNA, still holding the tray, trying to keep this argument from affecting the party.

MOM: *(Softly to JENNA.)* That attitude is not necessary. You're completely overreacting.

DAD is trying to usher all the guests offstage (i.e. the kitchen) so they don't have to witness the argument. Meanwhile, some guests who had been ushered into the kitchen are coming back to see what's going on.

JENNA: Mom, stop with that! Stop telling me I'm overreacting!

MOM: *(Losing temper.)* JENNA! *(Cupcakes fall.)* This is your sister's birthday. Just go upstairs, change, and come be a part of this family.

JENNA stomps up to her room. DAD is escorting everyone offstage. MOM starts to pick up cupcakes.

JENNA: I hate this stupid family. This is a freakin' nightmare!

MOM stops all activity with the cupcakes and follows JENNA as she's heading up to her room.

MOM: *(Yelling.)* Not yet, but I'll give you one if you keep that up.

JENNA: Fine!

JENNA slams her door. Lights up on JENNA's room, where she falls onto her bed facedown. She lets out a scream of frustration, throws a pillow, then picks up her cell phone and paces.

JENNA: Hey Rach, I'm having the worst day. I know. I can't believe she said that about me in front of the whole class. She's just a stupid math teacher. Anyway, I gotta stay here. I can't get out of it. My parent's are like, I have to do this for my sister. And my dad's trying to analyze me like I'm one of his patients, but he has no idea what he's doing. Oh! And my mom totally knows that I'm mad at Matt! I don't know how . . . ooh, she's so EVIL. She always knows what's going on. Whatever. So, who's coming over? Sarah? She is? Why would you even let her over your house? She totally knew I liked him. I can't believe she'd go behind my back like that. Maybe it's better that I can't come. WHY IS ALL THIS HAPPENING?

OLIVIA enters and knocks on JENNA's door. She's has two hand puppets - - the "bad" one and the "good" one.

OLIVIA: Jenna, are you okay? Jenna, please don't be so upset. Jenna, Jenna . . .

JENNA: Rachey, I gotta go. I'll talk to you later. *(Calling out.)* Come in. Why are you up here?

OLIVIA: *(Entering while moving the “good” puppet, talking in a sweet “good” puppet voice.)* Gee, Jenna. You really shouldn’t be so irritable. You should rejoice in this celebration. *(Holds up the hand with the “bad” puppet and changes voice accordingly. The “bad” puppet is talking to the “good” puppet.)* Oh, just ZIP IT - - you goody, sensible know-it-all. Jenna’s got a right to be annoying and difficult. She’s my kinda girl.

JENNA: Olivia, take your stupid puppets and go back downstairs and enjoy your BIG “fiesta.”

OLIVIA: *(Lowering hands and taking off puppets.)* You know, whenever my friends come over you’ve usually hung out with us, played games and stuff. They always say how cool you are. It’s my birthday, Jenna! *(Starts to leave.)*

JENNA: Olivia, wait. I’m sorry, okay? My supposed friends are being jerks anyway. Come over here. *(Motions for OLIVIA to sit with her.)* What’s happening downstairs?

OLIVIA: *(Sitting on bed. Puts puppets down on bed.)* Dad’s entertaining everyone. He’s telling his bad jokes. *(They both laugh.)* Why are you so mad at all of us?

JENNA: It’s not you, Olivia. I’m sorry. I just had a crappy day. Mom and Dad just get on my nerves. You’re lucky. When you get to be my age, they’ll be so exhausted from trying to deal with me that you’ll be able to do anything you want. And if they do get weird on you, I’ll be there to help you out. There’s been no one to help me.

OLIVIA: Help you with what? Ever since you started the 8th grade, you haven’t played with me in the longest time, you don’t come into my room, we don’t watch videos together.

**SONG #1: FLY AWAY
(JENNA)**

JENNA: I'm sorry, Olivia. I know it's not fair. You shouldn't have to feel the effects of my daily ordeals.

JENNA: *(Slowly stands, looking out her window.)*

I WISH I COULD FLY AWAY
TO A PLACE WHERE NO ONE WOULD SAY
PLEASE RELAX OR DON'T OVERREACT.
I CAN'T STAND MY LIFE THIS WAY,
DEALING WITH SO MUCH EV'RY DAY,
HOW I WISH THAT I COULD FLY AWAY.

Facing out, as if thinking aloud.

MY PARENTS THEY KEEP BUGGING ME,
GET ON MY NERVES AND YELL AT ME.
I CAN'T EVER DO ANYTHING RIGHT,
ALL WE DO EACH DAY IS FIGHT.
THEY DON'T LIKE THE CLOTHES I WEAR,
OR HOW I LIKE TO CUT MY HAIR,
AND HOW MY FRIENDS AREN'T RIGHT FOR ME, *(Turning to OLIVIA.)*
I JUST WANT TO BE FREE.

Sits with OLIVIA.

I WISH I COULD FLY AWAY
TO A PLACE WHERE NO ONE WOULD SAY
PLEASE RELAX OR DON'T OVERREACT.
I CAN'T STAND MY LIFE THIS WAY,
DEALING WITH SO MUCH EV'RY DAY,
HOW I WISH THAT I COULD FLY AWAY.

With more intensity, stands and crosses room.

THEN MY FRIEND, ONE I THOUGHT I HAD,
SHE GOES RIGHT BEHIND MY BACK,
STEALS AWAY THE BOY I LIKE,
AND I FOUND OUT JUST LAST NIGHT
MY TEACHER SAID I DON'T HAVE A CLUE.
HOW CAN SHE BE SO CRUEL?

Turns to OLIVIA.

YOU TELL ME WHAT WOULD YOU DO
WHEN YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND ALGEBRA 2?

Facing out.

I WANT TO GO TO SOME PLACE AND FIND
WHAT'S GOING ON INSIDE MY MIND,
WHY EV'RYTHING ANNOYS ME SO,
I'M SO EMOTIONAL, THAT I KNOW.
DOES EV'RYONE GO THROUGH THIS PAIN?
I JUST WANT SOMEONE TO EXPLAIN.

JENNA slowly moves to bed, OLIVIA holds her hand.

I WISH I COULD FLY AWAY
TO A PLACE WHERE NO ONE WOULD SAY
PLEASE RELAX OR DON'T OVERREACT.
I CAN'T STAND MY LIFE THIS WAY,
DEALING WITH SO MUCH EV'RY DAY,
HOW I WISH THAT I COULD FLY AWAY.

Standing.

HOW I WISH THAT I COULD FLY AWAY.
HOW I WISH THAT I COULD FLY AWAY.
HOW I WISH THAT I COULD FLY AWAY.

JENNA sits while OLIVIA wraps her arms around her.

OLIVIA: Jenna, if you fly away, will you take me?

JENNA: Yeah, sure. *(Grabs the "good" puppet, puts on hand and talks as the puppet.)* "You can fly away with me anywhere."

OLIVIA: *(Grabbing the "bad" puppet and talking as the puppet.)*
"Like being with you would be any fun - - boring. I need some action!"

MOM enters in a fiery mood.

MOM: What's going on? Olivia, this is your party . . . you need to be downstairs. What are you doing?

OLIVIA: I was just talking to Jenna.

MOM: *(To OLIVIA.)* Go downstairs.

OLIVIA waves a sweet goodbye to JENNA and exits the room, leaving her puppets behind.

MOM: Jenna . . .

JENNA: We were just talking, Mom, what's the big deal?

MOM: *(One last effort trying to keep from losing her temper.)* It's your sister's party! Why are you doing this? Can't you leave your issues out of the house for one night, please?

JENNA: You know Mom, I had a bad day, okay? You have no idea. You can't even imagine. You don't even care!

MOM: I'm sure ALL the issues with school and all your friends are a big deal, but for one night, ONE NIGHT, I need to get over it and be considerate of your family.

JENNA: *(Shouting.)* Mom! You don't get it! I don't want to get over it! You and Dad don't get it. No one in this stupid family gets it! I just want to get outta here so I don't have to deal with this or you or my friends or anyone - - anymore. *(JENNA throws pillows and/or anything on her bed.)* Leave me alone! Leave me alone!

MOM exits. JENNA continues throwing a tantrum.

JENNA: *(Still shouting.)* I hate everyone! I hate school, I hate Ms. Hupart, I hate stupid parties *(Slow transition to an eerie calmness.)* I'm just done, I'm done . . . I'm done. I hate it here . . . *(Each time she says her lines, she shows less and less emotion until she finally stops, curls up on her bed and shuts down.)*

SONG #2: TRANSITION TO THE CARNIVAL (INSTRUMENTAL)

Music begins. Lights change color and/or flash creating a transition effect into the fantasy world.

SCENE 2
THE CARNIVAL**AT RISE:**

DAD enters dressed as the carnival MC. He enters from the far end of bedroom, crossing towards JENNA, still on her bed.

SONG #3: COME ALONG
(MC & ENSEMBLE)

MC tosses confetti in the air, uses the party blower, and creates a general spectacle. JENNA slowly rises.

MC: So, you made it here, did you? Life is too stressful for you? You're thinking, *(Mocking.)* "Where am I? I have so many problems . . . PLEASE HELP ME!" *(Sarcastically.)* PLEASE!

As MC speaks, the ENSEMBLE slowly emerges from unusual and interesting places around JENNA's bedroom.

ENSEMBLE moves JENNA, who is unresponsive, out of her bed, out of her room and then eventually onto a rolling cart. MC remains US of the ENSEMBLE playing the "king" of the scene.

MC:

YOUR IMAGINATION IS FADING AWAY.
YOU SAY YOU DON'T WANT TO GO ON.
DECIDED YOU'RE NOT GOING TO SHOW EMOTION,

Various lines and phrases should be distributed creatively amongst the ENSEMBLE.

ENSEMBLE: *(Spoken in rhythm.)*
LOVE! HATE! JEALOUSY! DEVOTION!

ENSEMBLE is moving around the stage, finding interesting places to reside.

ENSEMBLE:

SO YOU SAY IT'S HAPPENED TO YOU,
YOU ARE FEELING OH SO BLUE.
BEST THING TO DO IS SIT ON THE GROUND,
CLOSE ALL YOUR THOUGHTS, JUST SHUT YOURSELF DOWN.
YOU THINK YOU ARE GOING CRAZY

MC: *(Spoken in rhythm.)*

MAYBE IT'S THAT YOU ARE LAZY.

Two ENSEMBLE members push JENNA around on the cart, while the rest of the ENSEMBLE takes out traffic signs from hidden locations. The cart passes around the ensemble in a large circle.

ENSEMBLE:

COME ALONG AND TAKE A TRIP RIGHT THROUGH YOUR MIND
YOU CAN JUST IMAGINE ALL THAT YOU MAY FIND.
YOU CANNOT GO BACK, YOU BETTER JUST UNWIND
AS WE GO FAST FORWARD, SIDEWAYS AND REWIND.

COME INSIDE YOUR MIND AND WE WILL TAKE A TOUR,
WE WILL OPEN EACH AND EVERY LITTLE DOOR,
THERE'S A WILD ADVENTURE FOR YOU THAT'S IN STORE,
THEN, PERHAPS, WE'LL FIND OUT WHY YOU'VE BEEN SO SORE.

ICE QUEEN enters. ENSEMBLE bows down.

ICE QUEEN:

EV'RYTHING IS DARK AND SHE'S ALL ALONE.
NOBODY CARES AND SHE NEVER FEELS AT HOME.

ENSEMBLE:

SHE FEELS HER LIFE IS POINTLESS, FEELS VERY SMALL,
NOBODY ANSWERS WHEN SHE CALLS.
LOOK HER EMOTIONS DON'T AGREE,
THEY ARE FIGHTING CAN'T YOU SEE?
THE BAD MEMORIES ARE CIRCLING AROUND,
AWFUL SIGHTS, AWFUL SOUNDS.

MC:

IT'S SO EASY TO FEEL BAD,

ENSEMBLE:

SHE'S NOT EVEN TRYING TO FEEL BETTER.

ENSEMBLE forms large circle around JENNA and marches.

COME ALONG AND TAKE A TRIP RIGHT THROUGH YOUR MIND
YOU CAN JUST IMAGINE ALL THAT YOU MAY FIND.
YOU CANNOT GO BACK, YOU BETTER JUST UNWIND
AS WE GO FAST FORWARD, SIDEWAYS AND REWIND.

COME INSIDE YOUR MIND AND WE WILL TAKE A TOUR,
WE WILL OPEN EACH AND EVERY LITTLE DOOR,
THERE'S A WILD ADVENTURE FOR YOU THAT'S IN STORE,
THEN, PERHAPS, WE'LL FIND OUT WHY YOU'VE BEEN
SO SORE, SO SORE, SO SORE, SO SORE.

By the end of the song, JENNA is moved DSR sitting, facing the stage. Traffic signs are collected and taken off stage.

Lights fade. MC bangs his staff to abruptly begin the next scene.

SCENE 3 THE UNITED EMOTIONS

AT RISE:

The ENSEMBLE characters become the EMOTION characters and take their places in random spots on the stage (except for RAGE, who exits.) Each EMOTION changes their costume or adds a sign to display the name of their EMOTION characters. SURPRISE finds somewhere to hide on the stage. (i.e., behind a cube, under the bed) The MC is standing behind JENNA, as the scene unfolds.

Lights up as EMOTIONS passionately ad-lib until LOVE finally begins.

LOVE: Please, please everyone! Quiet down! I think we should have peace between the Emotions because Jenna needs peace of mind. This chaos is driving her crazy.

JEALOUSY: *(Crossing to confront LOVE.)* Why do you always get to talk first? You're always starting these things, why you?

DEPRESSION: *(Sighs.)* Oh dear, I just can't see anything good coming out of this. We always argue. I can't believe that we've all been in here all these years, and we still can't get along.

ANXIETY: (*Rising.*) Um, can I just say something? I don't know if this will help, but maybe if I could just rearrange some things and put them in a different order - - (*Moves LOVE and JEALOUSY around as indicated.*) like if Love was here and Jealousy was there . . . I could see this whole thing working out better . . . (*To Himself.*) But what if it doesn't? Oh NO! What will happen then? (*Sits.*)

LOVE: I appreciate your suggestions. Why don't we all move around? That way we can all get a chance to be closer to each other, and get to know each other better!

SURPRISE: (*Jumping out from hiding spot.*) We're gonna move around? And change seats? WOW! I can't believe it!

EMOTIONS move to different locations around the stage.

JEALOUSY: Oh, so he (*Pointing to ANXIETY.*) tells everyone to do something and we all just do it? How come we're listening to him? I'm smart and no one listens to any of my ideas.

GUILT: How did I let it turn into this? Why couldn't I keep all of us more organized? Why couldn't I control myself?

LOVE: Hey everyone . . . if we just focus on the positive, maybe we can stop this poor child from melting down. Come on, Jenna needs our help.

RAGE: (*Storming in.*) No one told me about this meeting! (*Shouting.*) What's going on? (*To LOVE.*) Who said you were in charge? This is totally unacceptable!

DEPRESSION: It doesn't matter who's in charge. We're never going to get along no matter what. We're doomed! Jenna is doomed!

GUILT: It's all my fault. I should have known this would happen. Everyone was trying to help me - - but I wouldn't listen. It's all my fault.

LOVE: (*Crosses to GUILT.*) No, it's not! She's not doomed. (*Gives GUILT a hug.*) Look, I'll start! I'll sit here! (*Moves to sit down near ANXIETY.*)

RAGE: How dare you change your seat just like that? (*Shouting.*) What gives you the right?

SURPRISE: You chose that seat?! Next to him? Gee! Just like that?

JEALOUSY: I wanted to sit there! Why do you get to sit there?

ANXIETY: I can't believe you sat right next to me! Oh, that's bad . . . that's very, very bad. What's going to happen now? I have to get up! I can't share a seat! Two people in a seat? (*Gets up, moves around, and continues muttering.*)

RAGE: (*To ANXIETY, shouting.*) Stop moving around!

ANXIETY: . . . It's all wrong . . . this is not good. This was a bad idea.

LOVE: (*Crosses to calm ANXIETY.*) It was your idea! And it was a wonderful idea, please believe me. It will help Jenna.

JEALOUSY: My idea was better.

RAGE: (*Shouting.*) Stop whining! I am so sick of all of you!

SURPRISE: Who's Jenna?

The scene turns into chaos as all the EMOTIONS passionately ad-lib. Finally, the MC freezes the scene with a wave of his staff.

SONG #4: PRELUDE TO GET OVER YOURSELF (MC)

MC: (*Sung freely to the tune of the verse of "Come Along."*)

SEE WHAT IS HAPPENING TO YOU RIGHT NOW?
YOUR OVERREACTING AND ALL YOUR EMOTIONS
ARE BOUNCING AROUND INSIDE YOUR MIND
WITHOUT ANY SENSE, ANY REASON OR RHYME. SEE WHAT'S INSIDE.

SONG #5: GET OVER YOURSELF (THE EMOTIONS & JENNA)

Lights change to set mood of a rock concert. Though JENNA is still in a state of disbelief, she's beginning to react to the characters.

LOVE:

LET'S EMBRACE EACH OTHER AND STOP FIGHTING ABOUT.

DEPRESSION: (*Spoken in rhythm.*)

SHE'S SHUT DOWN AND WE CAN'T WORK IT OUT.

RAGE: *(Spoken in rhythm.)*

FINE! I'LL DO SOMETHING BETTER INSTEAD!

ANXIETY:

I MUST GET THINGS ORGANIZED INSIDE HER HEAD!

JEALOUSY:

WHY DON'T THEY EVER SING A SONG ABOUT ME?

SURPRISE: *(Spoken in rhythm.)*

ARE WE SINGING A SONG? OH WOW, NOW I SEE!

GUILT: *(Spoken in rhythm.)*

WHAT'S ALL OF THIS, AND WHY ARE WE HERE?

ALL EMOTIONS:

WE REALLY NEED TO MAKE THIS MORE CLEAR.

MC: *(Spoken.)* Ladies and gentlemen . . . please welcome, live on stage, the fabulous . . . the fantastical . . . THE EMOTIONS!

Choreography should reflect a fun Motown-style dance routine.

ALL EMOTIONS:

GET OVER YOURSELF AND DEAL WITH WHAT'S AROUND YOU,
LIFE IS NOT SO BAD, THERE'S MUCH MORE THAT YOU CAN DO
TO DEAL WITH ALL THE THINGS THAT YOU THINK ARE SO TROUBLING,
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SHUT DOWN; YOUR MIND IS SLOWLY CRUMBLING.

GET OVER YOURSELF AND DEAL WITH WHAT'S AROUND YOU,
LIFE IS NOT SO BAD, THERE'S MUCH MORE THAT YOU CAN DO
TO DEAL WITH ALL THE THINGS THAT YOU THINK ARE SO TROUBLING,
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SHUT DOWN; YOUR MIND IS SLOWLY CRUMBLING DOWN.

EMOTIONS break from their dance routine, create pairs, and move around the stage.

JEALOUSY & LOVE: *(Spoken in rhythm.)*

IS THERE REALLY A WAY WE CAN ALL GET ALONG?
WE USED TO BE FINE, DON'T KNOW WHAT WENT WRONG.

RAGE: *(Spoken in rhythm.)*

IT'S BECAUSE OF HOW FAST WE COME AND WE GO.

ALL EMOTIONS:

JENNA'S LOST CONTROL, IT'S STARTING TO SHOW!

LOVE & GUILT: *(Spoken in rhythm.)*

SHE'S GOTTA SLOW DOWN,
SHE'S GOTTA CONFRONT THE FACT THAT WE ALL CAN'T BE OUT AT ONCE.

SURPRISE: *(Spoken in rhythm.)*

ONE OF US AT A TIME IS REALLY THE WAY,

ALL EMOTIONS:

SO LISTEN TO WHAT WE HAVE TO SAY.

During the next chorus, the EMOTIONS form a line leading from JENNA to CS. They pass her along the line until she is CS. The EMOTIONS then create a circle around her.

GET OVER YOURSELF AND DEAL WITH WHAT'S AROUND YOU,
LIFE IS NOT SO BAD, THERE'S MUCH MORE THAT YOU CAN DO
TO DEAL WITH ALL THE THINGS THAT YOU THINK ARE SO TROUBLING,
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SHUT DOWN; YOUR MIND IS SLOWLY CRUMBLING.

Lights change to create a dramatic effect directly overhead. EMOTIONS are standing with hands connected while JENNA is trying to escape the circle.

Sung simultaneously:

EMOTIONS:

GET OVER YOURSELF
AND DEAL WITH WHAT'S AROUND YOU,
LIFE IS NOT SO BAD,
THERE'S MUCH MORE THAT YOU CAN DO
TO DEAL WITH ALL THE THINGS
THAT YOU THINK ARE SO TROUBLING,
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SHUT DOWN;
YOUR MIND IS SLOWLY CRUMBLING.

JENNA:

I WISH I COULD FLY AWAY

I WISH I COULD FLY AWAY

EMOTIONS kneel while JENNA stands on a cube, reaching out.

EMOTIONS: *(Much softer.)*

GET OVER YOURSELF
AND DEAL WITH WHAT'S AROUND YOU,
LIFE IS NOT SO BAD,
THERE'S MUCH MORE THAT YOU CAN DO
TO DEAL WITH ALL THE THINGS
THAT YOU THINK ARE SO TROUBLING,

JENNA:

I WISH I COULD FLY AWAY

I WISH I COULD FLY AWAY

YOU DON'T HAVE TO SHUT DOWN;
YOUR MIND IS SLOWLY CRUMBLING

EMOTIONS:

DOWN . . . (*Ad-lib and fade.*)

The EMOTIONS fall down and freeze as the MC crosses to JENNA.

**SONG #6: POSTLUDE TO GET OVER YOURSELF
(MC)**

MC: (*To the melody of the chorus of "Come Along".*)

YOUR EMOTIONS WILL CONTINUE TO DRIVE YOU CRAZY
IF YOU STAY SHUT DOWN BECAUSE YOU'RE BEING LAZY.
MAYBE NOW THE TIME HAS COME TO OPEN YOUR EYES;
TAKE A LOOK AROUND YOU AND SEE WHAT YOU MAY FIND.

MC taps his staff on the ground. Lights change as EMOTIONS rapidly find a place to sit along the perimeter of the stage to watch. (If necessary, actors playing ID and SUPEREGO exit to change.) JENNA slowly begins to regain her senses and persona.

JENNA: Okay, maybe it's me, but I'm a little confused. What's going on? Where am I? What was that insanity? (*Noticing the MC.*) And who are you?

MC: Ah! She speaks. (*Emotions applaud.*) Good day! I, (*EMOTIONS cough to get MC's attention.*) we - - are you.

JENNA: Oh, that's much more clear, thanks.

MC: We're all different parts of you . . . you came here. I'm your host - - responsible for taking you around the place . . . showing you what's going on inside here.

JENNA: Uh huh, uh huh, okay. Inside here . . .

MC: (*Points his staff at her.*) Jenna, you're being difficult!

JENNA recognizes that phrase.

JENNA: What's going on? This is totally crazy.

MC: Like I'm out of my mind? Or inside of yours?

JENNA: *(Moves away from MC.)* Okay, have you drugged me or something? You're some lunatic. Some freak. I'm calling my *(Looks at the MC.)* . . . Dad.

MC: Ah yes, child, just relax - - just relax. *(Throws confetti.)* You've seen your emotions, they're all out of whack, *(EMOTIONS act accordingly.)* fighting with each other, can't get along. You're a teenager. It's what happens. Such an interesting, yet difficult, time.

JENNA: Huh?

MC crosses and puts arm around JENNA.

MC: You see, you have all these emotions swirling around. That's fine. Great. Pick one! Feel! Enjoy! *(JENNA is not amused.)* Or not. But it's all about choices, kiddo. It's the choice you make on how to deal with those emotions once you feel them.

JENNA: What are you talking about?

MC: Remember - - the choice is always YOURS.

MC bangs his staff to change the scene. EMOTIONS reset furniture and cubes, then exit. MC moves to a new location to observe the scene.

SCENE 4 ID AND SUPEREGO

AT RISE:

JENNA remains CS. From offstage, ID tosses a large bouncing ball towards JENNA then enters running and screaming.

ID: Hey you - - yeah you . . . *(Shouting.)* RUN, RUN! Scream like a headless chicken! Jump - - fall down! *(Continues ad lib.)*

SUPEREGO enters, trying to keep cool. Grabs the ball and tosses it offstage.

SUPEREGO: *(To ID.)* Will you stop? Just stop. *(To JENNA.)* Don't listen to him. You're fine. Just relax. It will all work out.

ID: No, it won't. Not at all! Look - - over there! *(From offstage, a stuffed animal is tossed high in the air towards JENNA. Shouts.)* Go grab it! Get it! Go, go, go!

JENNA runs to grab it and is covered in powder. She coughs and tries to clear the powder off her body.

SUPEREGO: *(To ID.)* What is wrong with you? *(Crosses to JENNA.)* Jenna, I was going to try to tell you to think about what could happen before you did that. Sit down and think about it.

JENNA: *(Coughing.)* What the hell is going on? Who or WHAT are you?

ID AND SUPEREGO: I'm glad you asked that!

ID: *(Pointing to piano player.)* Hit it!

ID and SUPEREGO catch two canes which are tossed from offstage. They move CS. JENNA is sitting on floor watching from the side.

SONG #7: ID & SUPEREGO **(ID & SUPEREGO)**

Note: If girl is playing either part, adjust HE/SHE accordingly.

ID and SUPEREGO do a vaudeville-style dance.

ID:
I'M ID,

SUPEREGO:
I'M SUPEREGO,

BOTH: *(Arms around each other.)*
WE'RE SOMEWHERE IN YOUR BRAIN.

SUPEREGO: *(Spoken in rhythm.)*
HE'S ID,

ID: *(Spoken in rhythm.)*

HE'S SUPEREGO,

BOTH: *(Pretend to choke each other.)*

WE DRIVE EACH OTHER INSANE.

SUPEREGO: *(To JENNA.)*

WE TRY TO HELP WITH YOUR DECISIONS

ID: *(Crashing into SUPEREGO.)*

THOUGH OUR GUIDANCE SEEMS TO CAUSE COLLISIONS,

BOTH: *(Meet up together CS.)*

EVENTU'LLY IT WORKS OUT IN THE END.

SUPEREGO: *(Strikes a Superman pose. Speaking.)*

I'M SUPEREGO,

Singing.

HELP YOU FIND WAYS TO STAY CALM.

ID: *(Speaking.)*

I'M ID, I'M NUTTY;

Singing.

GO AHEAD PULL THE FIRE ALARM.

SUPEREGO: *(Speaking.)*

DON'T DO IT,

SUPEREGO: *(Singing.)*

THINK ABOUT WHAT WILL HAPPEN.

ID: *(Speaking.)*

DON'T LISTEN, JENNA, THAT DOESN'T MATTER.

SUPEREGO: *(Speaking.)*

OF COURSE IT DOES, YOU HAVE BETTER THINGS TO DO.

ID: *(Runs and jumps off a cube.)*

LISTEN TO WHAT I HAVE TO SAY! JUMP OFF A CLIFF.

SUPEREGO: *(Crosses to JENNA.)*

NO IT'S DANGEROUS, READ A BOOK INSTEAD.

ID: *(Throws sponge brick into audience.)*
THROW A BRICK AT SOMEONE'S HEAD.

SUPEREGO:
YOU ARE INSANE!

ID:
MAKE THEM FEEL THE PAIN.

SUPEREGO:
CONSIDER THE OUTCOME LET ME EXPLAIN.

BOTH: *(Meet CS and shake each other's shoulders. Speaking in rhythm.)*
NO, NO, NO NO NO!

ID: *(Turns to JENNA and motions for her to come to him.)*
I'M ID, DO THINGS ON IMPULSE;

(Speaking.) GO ON GET A REAL TATTOO.

SUPEREGO: *(Moves to JENNA, stopping her. Speaking.)*
I'M SUPEREGO, GET A FAKE ONE;

Singing.

THINK ABOUT IT, IT'S BETTER FOR YOU

ID: *(Jumps on other side of JENNA.)*
GO PIERCE YOUR TONGUE,

(Speaking.) IT'S REALLY COOL!

SUPEREGO: *(Spins JENNA around to face him. Speaking.)*
IT'S REALLY GROSS, DON'T BE A FOOL.

ID: *(Jumps up and down behind JENNA. Speaking.)*
DYE YOUR EYEBROWS BLUE, SCREAM AT YOUR MOM!

SUPEREGO: *(Pushes ID to the floor.)*
JUST THINK AND CONSIDER, TRY TO STAY CALM.

ID: *(From the floor.)*
JUST REACT AND DO THINGS THAT'S WHAT I SAY.

SUPEREGO:

TAKE TIME TO COOL DOWN FROM YOUR DAY.

ID: *(Repeats routine from beginning with SUPEREGO.)*

I'M ID,

SUPEREGO:

I'M SUPEREGO,

BOTH:

WE'RE SOMEWHERE IN YOUR BRAIN.

SUPEREGO: *(Speaking.)*

HE'S ID,

ID: *(Speaking.)*

HE'S SUPEREGO,

BOTH:

WE DRIVE EACH OTHER INSANE.

SUPEREGO:

WE TRY TO HELP WITH YOUR DECISIONS

ID:

THOUGH OUR GUIDANCE SEEMS TO CAUSE COLLISIONS,

BOTH:

EVENTU'LLY IT WORKS OUT IN THE END.

They strike a fun pose to the final beat of the music.

ID: Allow me to introduce myself. Id's the name - - DANGER'S THE GAME.

Flashing sinister lights while ID acts wildly. Suddenly SUPEREGO motions his hand across neck while looking towards the lighting booth to indicate that they should stop flashing the lights.

SUPEREGO: Oh, he's so dramatic. Superego here. Nice to meet you.

SUPEREGO bows to Jenna. She looks at SUPEREGO as if to say "whatever."

ID AND SUPEREGO: We're part of your inner mind.

ID is mocking SUPEREGO while he talks to JENNA.

SUPEREGO: We help you make choices. You know, once you feel something. Stay away from Id. He's a little nuts. (*ID pokes SUPEREGO with his cane just as SUPEREGO says "impulse".*) Makes all these IMPULSE choices. He's the one that gave you that idea to slam the door to your room the other night because you were so angry.

JENNA: (*To ID.*) That was your idea?

ID: (*To audience.*) Thank you, thank you, no money, no autographs.

JENNA: I got in so much trouble. (*She grabs ID by the shirt collar and walks slowly.*) The door got stuck for three hours. It cracked the wall. My parents had to unscrew the hinges.

SUPEREGO: Exactly! See, if you would have thought about what would happen . . .

JENNA: (*To ID.*) It was fun, though! (*She drops him.*)

ID: AH HA!

SUPEREGO: You **HAVE** to consider all the facts. Examine the possibilities and the outcome . . .

JENNA: You're beginning to sound like my parents.

ID: I know, just kills you, doesn't it? (*Holds cane like a sword and pushes it under his arm as if stabbing himself.*)

JENNA: Yeah, but that door thing got me grounded for two weeks. With **NO PHONE** and **NO COMPUTER**.

SUPEREGO: I tried to stop you. I was trying to tell you what could happen . . .

JENNA: Okay - - **QUIET!** Enough from you two! What does this have to do with anything?

ID AND SUPEREGO: We're glad you asked that!

ID: (*Pointing to musicians.*) **HIT IT!**

SONG #8: ID & SUPEREGO REPRISE
(ID & SUPEREGO)

JENNA rolls her eyes then buries head in her hands.

ID: *(Posing.)*

I'M ID,

SUPEREGO: *(Posing.)*

I'M SUPEREGO,

BOTH:

AND WE MAKE QUITE A TEAM.

SUPEREGO: *(Mocking ID. Speaking in rhythm.)*

HE'S ID,

ID: *(Mocking SUPEREGO. Speaking in rhythm.)*

HE'S SUPEREGO,

BOTH:

WE MAKE YOUR EGO SCREAM.

The music slows and builds to inspire a big "kick line" finish. ID and SUPEREGO grab JENNA who actually has fun.

BOTH:

THE EGO IN YOUR HEAD DECIDES WHAT'S RIGHT.

CHOOSE BETWEEN US AS WE FIGHT.

WE'RE ID AND SUPEREGO WE ALWAYS DISAGREE,

SO NOW YOU KNOW WHAT IT IS YOU SEE.

YEAH!

ID and SUPEREGO strike a final pose to the last beat of the music.

ID: Run! Yell! Panic! Scream! Go NUTS!

ID exits.

SUPEREGO: Look what happened the last time. Listen, honey, just think before you act . . .

SUPEREGO exits.

JENNA: Oh - - my - - GOD. Enough already!

MC strolls toward JENNA.

MC: Hey, kid - - don't need to be so resistant. See, I'm just trying to get you to understand. It's all about choices. No need to overre . . .

JENNA turns quickly to look at MC. Suddenly, stage lights flicker and then dim. The ICE QUEEN is near . . .

ICE QUEEN: *(From offstage.)* I know what you “hide” in your mind, Jenna. I always have, I always will. You will come to see me, won't you? You just might get that “freakin’ nightmare” after all. I'll be waiting. *(Laughs.)*

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