

Sample Pages from Shout! (One Act Version)

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An A Cappella Musical

(One Act Version)

Book and Lyrics by Lindsay Price Music by Kristin Gauthier

PREVIEW SCRIPT



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The premier production of the One Act version of *Shout!* took place at The ITS District One Acts, performed by Lakewood Ranch High School, on January 25, 2008 with the following cast:

Essa	Kasey SollenbergerHannah SedighKatie Derespino
	-
	Trent Katzenberger
	Nate Weaver
	Natalie Lopez
Billy	Lindsay McKamey
Barbara	Rachel Knowles
Vocal Orchestra	Tali Cohen, Sean Darcy,
	Kiersten Hellier, Bridgette Hogarth,
	Rebekah Jenkins, Laura Melo,
	Kristen Myers, Dustin Olsen,
	Amy Pinsonneault, Lucas Thompson
Producer/Director	Roxane Caravan
Choreographer	Patricia Ross
<u> </u>	Cynthia Bond
	Chris Ward
Lighting	Cameron Helwege
	Alex Comes
Soura	Alex Collies

CHARACTERS

2M/7W + Vocal Orchestra

ARIANE

A deeply moody teen who walks around with her own personal black cloud.

Believes no one understands what she's going through.

KATE

Presents as a perfect, happy girl. But even happy people have secrets.

ESSA

Ariane's older sister. Left home a year earlier and exists in the play only as a memory.

SHANE

Ariane's foster mother. Very easy going no matter what Ariane growls at her.

MR. LANG

The Vice Principal. Stern but fair.

BENITA, BARBARA, BRAD, BILLY (FEMALE) (aka The Buzzy Bees Barbershop Quartet)

This singing group is always thinking: they're very aware of their name, their direction, their sound.

The problem is they can't always agree: they fight A LOT.

THE VOCAL ORCHESTRA

The Vocal Orchestra is the most important part of the show. They provide support and accompaniment for the solos. They should be onstage for the whole show, upstage on risers, or off to the side. This way the actors and the orchestra can always hear each other clearly. They read off their music just as an orchestra does.

We suggest a minimum of nine singers.

Shane and Mr. Lang can easily be played by either gender.



TIME

The play takes place in the present day. Your hometown.

SET

The Set should be generic – cubes for seating and platforms to create different playing areas. Alternatively, use set pieces that can easily be used for more than one location so that scene changes are not necessary. For example, the two cubes that Ariane and Kate sit on outside the VP's office can easily be pushed together to make Ariane's bed in a later scenes.

A big backdrop at the back with the word SHOUT scrawled across it takes up the whole upstage wall.

SONGS

1)	SHOUT	Company
2)	THE BUZZY BEES	The Buzzy Bees
3)	FRIEND	Essa
4)	SEVENTEEN	Ariane, Essa, Vocal Orchestra
5)	YOUR HEAD WILL EXPLODE	Vocal Orchestra
6)	MY BROTHER ANDY	Kate
7)	FRIEND	Essa
8)	FINE	Essa, Vocal Orchestra
9)	FRIEND	Essa
10)	ALONE ON THE DANCE FLOOR	The Buzzy Bees
11)	FRIEND	Kate
12)	MY BROTHER ANDY (REPRISE)	Kate
13)	FRIEND	Vocal Orchestra
14)	SHOUT	Company



How Do You Perform a Musical Without Instruments?

Shout! is a very unique musical. It has no instrumentation. The music comes from the singers themselves. It is all a cappella.

We wrote *Shout!* this way for a couple of reasons. Firstly, it's never been done before and that's a great challenge! We like being challenged and offering challenges. Secondly, there is a trend of performing musicals to pre-recorded tracks. For some schools it's easier that way; some schools just don't have band programs. We wanted a musical that every school could perform live.

Remember, because *Shout!* is entirely a cappella, it's a real challenge to perform. It's also extremely rewarding. Here are some hints and tips to performing an a cappella musical:

• Keep The Choreography To A Minimum, Particularly For The Vocal Orchestra If you're singing and moving at the same time, you're not as focused on the singing and it's easy to lose support and pitch. If you are singing one of the backup lines, remember that the soloist(s) need you focused and solidly on pitch. They are depending on you.

• Put The Vocal Orchestra On Stage

Remember, they are your accompanists. Even if you have extensive sound equipment with body mikes and monitors, the Vocal Orchestra must be able to see and hear the soloists clearly – and the soloists need to hear them. Also, it can be very distracting to have the singers troupe on and off at the beginning and end of each song.

• Pay Attention To The Transition Moments

Not all of the music needs to be performed in isolation. Much of it can and should be used to transition between scenes. Use the music to allow the action to flow smoothly as actors and set pieces are moving. Have singers enter or exit singing. Avoid blackouts and use these transition moments effectively.



SONG 1) SHOUT - COMPANY

COMPANY: SHOUT, WHAT DO YOU SHOUT ABOUT?

SHOUT YOUR JOY? SHOUT YOUR PAIN? SHOUT. WHAT DO YOU SHOUT ABOUT? SHOUT YOUR LOSSES? SHOUT YOUR GAINS?

SHOUT? WHY DO YOU SHOUT? LET ME HEAR YOU SHOUT! WHY DON'T YOU SHOUT!

WHAT DO YOU SHOUT ABOUT?

SHOUT FOR LOVE? SHOUT FOR FEAR? SHOUT. WHAT DO YOU SHOUT ABOUT? SHOUT YOUR PRIDE? SHOUT YOUR TEARS?

SHOUT? WHY DO YOU SHOUT? LET ME HEAR YOU SHOUT!

Bell rings and everyone chatters happily to each other. ARIANE sits in a chair stage right. She waits outside the Vice Principal's office. She pulls out a notebook and a pen and buries herself in her writing. KATE runs on from stage left. She comes face to face with THE BUZZY BEES. They sing to her.

SONG 2) THE BUZZY BEES - BRAD, BILLY, BENITA, BARBARA

BRAD: HELLO.

BILLY: HELLO.

BENITA: HELLO.

BARBARA: HELLO!

ALL FOUR: HEY THERE KATE, WE'RE HAPPY TO SAY

IT'S GOING TO BE A WONDERFUL DAY. THE SKY IS CLEAR, NO SIGN OF GRAY IT MAKES US SHOUT HIP HIP HOORAY!

KATE: You guys sound great.

BRAD: We've been practicing.



BARBARA: Every day.

BENITA: And we've hardly been fighting at all.

BILLY: I'm not fighting, you two are fighting.

BARBARA: Who, you two?

BENITA: What are you talking about? I don't fight.

BRAD: We spent two weeks fighting about our name.

BENITA: And I still think *The Four B's* is better than *The Buzzy Bees*.

BARBARA: No, no, no. We're not going through this again!

BILLY: It does make more sense. Brad, Barbara, Billy, Benita...

BARBARA: Our name is *The Buzzy Bees*. Final. Period.

BRAD: Let's take a vote.

BARBARA: No votes! No more votes!

KATE: (easing away) Ok, I'll see you later. I'm late for my meeting with Mr.

Lang.

BRAD: (to the other Buzzy Bees) Guys! End on a high note.

SONG 2A) THE BUZZY BEES - BRAD, BENITA, BILLY, BARBARA

BRAD: BUZZY.

BILLY: BUZZY.

BENITA: BUZZY.

BARBARA: BUZZY!

ALL FOUR: THE BUZZY BEES!



They pose, smile and then exit chattering about their name. KATE plops in the seat beside ARIANE.

KATE: Hi! (*ARIANE says nothing*) Is it one o'clock? I'm supposed to meet

Mr. Lang at one o'clock but my watch stopped. My watch never stops

and I'm never late. I'm always on time.

ARIANE: (*staring at KATE in disbelief*) Do I know you?

KATE: Huh? Oh. No. I'm Kate. What are you writing?

ARIANE: (*back into her book*) None of your business.

KATE: Mr. Lang only gives me five minutes a week, which is a ridiculous

amount of time to discuss the school's recycling policy. My intro is

eight minutes alone. Has he come out yet?

ARIANE: Do you always talk so much?

KATE: Huh?

ARIANE: (putting her notebook away) Mr. Lang's still in his office.

KATE: Great. (*she takes a deep breath*) So. What are you here for?

ARIANE: I'm about to get suspended.

KATE: (sitting bolt upright) Really???

ARIANE: You've never even borrowed a paper clip, have you?

KATE: I have. Sure I have.

ARIANE: But it was an accident.

KATE: Why would I steal a paper clip? (*pause*) So. What did you do?

ARIANE: (*leaning in*) What do you think I did?

KATE: (*almost a whisper*) Did you kill someone?

ARIANE: (*loud*) Are you retarded? Do you think I'd be sitting outside the VP's

office if I did that?



KATE: I don't know. I don't even borrow paper clips. What did you do?

ARIANE: I was provoked.

KATE: About what?

ARIANE: Teachers shouldn't be allowed to – he shouldn't have... (*she doesn't*

finish)

KATE: What? Allowed to what? What?

ARIANE: You don't talk back to teachers.

KATE: No.

ARIANE: That's why you're talking trash and I'm getting suspended.

KATE: Recycling.

ARIANE: Whatever.

KATE: Do you really get suspended, just for talking back to a teacher?

ARIANE: If you shove them while you're talking back you do.

KATE: You shoved a teacher? Shoved a teacher?

ARIANE: What century do you live in? Teachers get shot, knifed, all I did –

KATE: You put your hands (*she demonstrates*, *putting her hands out*) and

you shoved?

ARIANE: I get it, I get it. You've never shoved anyone either.

KATE: You shouldn't do that. Physical violence doesn't -

ARIANE: You wouldn't be about to lecture me would you? I hate being

lectured. I'm about to be suspended so I've got nothing to lose.

KATE: Sorry. (*pause*) But you still shouldn't shove people. (*pause*) It's not

nice.

ARIANE: Nice? I have to be nice too? Do I look nice?



KATE: People don't always act the way they look.

ARIANE: You do.

KATE: How do you know?

ARIANE: You have Pollyanna stamped on your forehead.

KATE: I don't. Do I? (she rubs her forehead) Ha. What did he do? The

teacher.

ESSA enters singing. Only ARIANE can see her. ESSA

exists only as a memory in ARIANE's head.

SONG 3) FRIEND - ESSA, NON VERBAL

ESSA: LA, LA, LA, LA, LA, LA.

ARIANE: He insulted my sister.

KATE: I hope you don't get suspended.

ARIANE: Huh?

KATE: I hope you don't get suspended.

ARIANE: Why do you care?

KATE: You're funny. A sense of humour is a sign of intelligence. Smart

people who do not so smart things should get a second chance.

ARIANE: You don't know anything about me.

KATE: Not yet. It was nice to meet you Ariane. (*looking off*) Oh! Hi

Mr. Lang.

ARIANE: How did you know my name?

KATE: (*she stands, and waves to ARIANE*) See you later. (*she exits*)

ARIANE: You don't know me! You don't know anything! Stupid nut-job.



ARIANE takes a postcard out of her pocket. It is worn, something ARIANE reads over and over again.

ESSA: (*moving forward*) First Postcard. Doing great. Running late.

ARIANE: Jimmy's the best.

ESSA: I'll prove them wrong. Wait and see.

ARIANE & ESSA: Love you Ari. I'll write more. Soon. Essa.

ESSA: PS. Don't worry. I mean it.

SONG 4) SEVENTEEN - ARIANE, ESSA, VOCAL ORCHESTRA

Vocal Orchestra intro begins under dialogue.

ARIANE: What a stupid thing to say.

ESSA: I mean it. I'm fine.

ARIANE: How do I know? I need to talk to you.

ESSA: You are.

ARIANE: The real you, not the imaginary voice in my head. I'm a mess. I'm

shoving teachers.

ESSA: Don't worry.

ARIANE: DON'T WORRY. I MEAN IT.

DON'T WORRY. JUST LEAVE IT.

LEAVE IT WHERE? JUST DON'T CARE? ALL I DO IS WORRY. STOMACH SCURRY THOUGHTS A FLURRY LIKE SNOW.

I DON'T KNOW.

SHOULD I FEEL THIS WAY AT SEVENTEEN?

CAUGHT BETWEEN

A SCREAM AND A SCRAWL?

ESSA: DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN WE WERE SMALL,

AND OUR BIGGEST WORRIES WERE SHADOWS ON THE WALL?



ARIANE: SEVENTEEN. ONLY A NUMBER.

ESSA: SEVENTEEN STARS IN THE SKY.

ARIANE: WHY DID YOU HAVE TO LEAVE ME?

ALL MY HOPE HAS GONE DRY.

BOTH: DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN WE WERE SMALL,

AND OUR BIGGEST WORRIES WERE SHADOWS ON THE WALL?

ARIANE: SEVENTEEN. FEEL I COULD RUN NOW.

ESSA: SEVENTEEN. STAY CLOSE TO HOME.

ARIANE: SEVENTEEN LEAVES ME BROKEN,

THERE'S NO JOY IN BEING ALONE.

BOTH: FIVE AND SEVEN

YOU AND ME

FLASHLIGHTS HELD SO TIGHTLY

THERE WAS NOTHING THAT WE COULDN'T BE.

WHERE DID THE LIGHT GO?

WHERE DID WE GO?

DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN WE WERE SMALL,

AND OUR BIGGEST WORRIES WERE SHADOWS ON THE WALL?

ARIANE shoves the postcard back in her pocket. MR.

LANG and KATE enter.

MR. LANG: Ariane, join us will you?

ARIANE: Why?

KATE: Hi! (*she waves sheepishly at ARIANE*) Remember me?

ARIANE: From five minutes ago? It's a stretch but I think I can manage.

MR. LANG: We have a new situation to discuss.

ARIANE: I don't want to discuss anything. Just tell me how long I'm suspended

for and I'll be on my way.

MR. LANG: I'm not going to suspend you.



ARIANE: Why not? I shoved him. I'm sure you're dying to get rid of me.

MR. LANG: I realize this is a difficult time for you.

ARIANE: (*groaning*) Please don't tell me I have to do counselling. I don't want

to talk to anyone.

MR. LANG: I understand what you're going through.

ARIANE: (*looking up*) You don't understand anything.

ESSA runs forward causing ARIANE to move away from KATE and MR. LANG. The lights change.

ARIANE: Essa?

ESSA: Ari.

ARIANE: Where are you going?

ESSA: You're home early.

ARIANE: What's the bag for?

ESSA: I gotta go. Jimmy asked me to and I can't stay here anymore.

ARIANE: You're leaving?

ESSA: It's not forever.

ARIANE: Let me come with you.

ESSA: No.

ARIANE: Why not? I can't stand it here either.

ESSA: You have to stay.

ARIANE: Why?

MR. LANG: Ariane. Are you listening?

ARIANE turns back and the lights change.



MR. LANG: We're going to start you in a peer mentor program. Kate here will be

your mentor.

ARIANE: What?

MR. LANG: Someone your own age to talk to and perhaps keep the shoving to a

minimum.

ARIANE: What?

MR. LANG: Kate is going to be in the same classes as you and be available for

you...

ARIANE: (*she stands*) Anyone but her.

MR. LANG: I think Kate will be a perfect companion.

ARIANE: I do not need a babysitter.

KATE: Peer mentor.

ARIANE: That sounds so much better. Mr. Lang, please. I'll do anything else.

MR. LANG: This is what I've decided.

ARIANE: Can't I get solitary confinement or something? Or lines? Or

bathrooms? Seriously, I'll clean bathrooms.

MR. LANG: Ariane.

ARIANE: She's going to drive me crazy!

ARIANE runs offstage. MR. LANG and KATE slowly

follow behind.

SONG 5) YOUR HEAD WILL EXPLODE - COMPANY

COMPANY: THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU DON'T SHOUT.

THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU DON'T LET IT OUT.
THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU STEW AND POUT.

YOUR HEAD WILL EXPLODE.



KEEPING EMOTION LOCKED INSIDE.
WHAT EXACTLY ARE YOU TRYING TO HIDE?
WAIT TOO LONG AND YOUR BRAIN'LL BE FRIED.
YOUR HEAD WILL EXPLODE.

BITS OF BRAIN, BLOOD AND GORE, ALL OVER THE LIVING ROOM FLOOR. WHAT HAPPENED HERE, POLICE WILL SAY AS THEY TIPTOE THROUGH THE FRAY.

THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU DON'T SHOUT.
THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU DON'T LET IT OUT.
THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU REFUSE TO SPOUT.
YOUR HEAD WILL EXPLODE.
WE REALLY MEAN IT YOUR HEAD WILL EXPLODE.

A bell rings. ARIANE stomps onstage with KATE following close behind. The BUZZY BEES also enter, talking quietly among themselves.

ARIANE: Would you stop following me around?

KATE: I'm not following you. I'm supposed to be with you.

ARIANE: It's embarrassing. I have a reputation.

KATE: I know.

ARIANE: (*whirling around to face KATE*) What's that supposed to mean?

(KATE doesn't say anything. ARIANE leans in, menacing.) What does

'I know' mean?

KATE: It means... I know you have a reputation. People talk... about... you?

ARIANE: (stepping even closer to KATE) Who?

KATE: People. That's how you get a reputation, isn't it? Are you going to

shove me? (ARIANE steps away.) It's not a bad reputation. There are

worse things than being called Gloom and Doom.

ARIANE: What? Who calls me that?

KATE: I don't know. Not me. Some people.



ARIANE: (*glaring around at the other people in the room*) They do not.

KATE: Ok.

ARIANE: (*stepping toward KATE*) Now you're lying.

KATE: (*stepping back*) I'm just trying not to get shoved.

ARIANE: (*stepping back*) Ok. (*she folds her arms across her chest*) Go.

KATE: Go where? Oh, go on? Right. Well... You're a, you're a... you're

somewhat of a dark cloud, Ariane – (taking a step back) Not that I'm

saying you don't have stuff to be dark about.

ARIANE: (*taking a step forward*) What do you know about my stuff?

KATE: Nothing.

ARIANE: Let's keep it that way.

ARIANE turns and storms off. KATE takes a deep

breath.

KATE: Ok, round one and no one got a black eye. Success!

KATE sits, right near the BUZZY BEES.

BENITA: Still stuck to Gloom and Doom, huh?

KATE: I like her.

BILLY: You're the only one.

BENITA: See, that's why I'm not a peer mentor. You have to talk to icky people.

BARBARA: She's changed a lot.

BENITA: Didn't her mother go crazy?

BRAD: I thought it was her dad.

BARBARA: No, he's in jail. She lives with foster parents.

BENITA: (with a shudder) Gross.



BRAD: She should join the choir. Singing always puts me in a good mood.

BARBARA: That's your answer? Singing? Singing will solve all her problems?

BRAD: They might.

BARBARA: That's the stupidest thing I ever heard. (*she exits*)

BRAD: (*following BARBARA out*) Singing makes the world go 'round, you

know!

BENITA: You're lucky, Kate.

KATE: How so?

BENITA: You don't have problems like Gloomy does. Count your lucky stars.

KATE moves forward. Before BENITA exits, she blows KATE's note on the pitch pipe.

SONG 6) MY BROTHER ANDY - KATE

KATE: MY BROTHER ANDY

OLDER WITH SANDY BROWN HAIR

SMILE FULL OF DIMPLES
QUICK WITH A WINK HE'LL

ALWAYS BE THERE.

THAT'S WHAT HE SAID.

BEFORE HE FELT THE DREAD. THE DRAGGING DOWN OF LEAD,

THE PULL AND THE TRANCE,

DESPERATION DANCE.
THE NEED TO DROWN
EVERYONE AROUND
TURNED UPSIDE-DOWN,
THAT'S WHAT HE DID.

MY BROTHER ANDY

OLDER WITH SANDY BROWN HAIR

I SWEAR I'LL NEVER MISS HE SAID, "DON'T WORRY, SIS.

I WANT TO SEE YOUR FRED ASTAIRE."



THAT'S WHAT HE SAID.
BEFORE THE NEEDLE WAR
THE PUNCH, THE KICK, THE ROAR.
THE LIES HE TOLD
THE MONEY HE STOLE
AND EVERY TIME
THE VERY LAST CRIME
PROMISES GRIMED
THAT'S WHAT HE DID.

MY BROTHER ANDY
OLDER WITH SANDY BROWN HAIR.
AND I TRY NOT TO CARE.
BUT.
MY HEART IS FULL OF TEARS (rhymes with cares)
FOR MY BROTHER ANDY.

Lights come back full and KATE's cell phone rings. She answers it.

KATE: Hello? Hey mom. (*KATE looks very upset*) What? Are you sure? I'll be

right home.

KATE runs off. ESSA enters singing.

SONG 7) FRIEND - ESSA

ESSA: THERE'S A LIGHT, THERE'S A HAND HOPE WHEN NO ONE UNDERSTANDS...

ARIANE enters and sits. She holds a postcard in her

hand. ESSA stands behind ARIANE.

ARIANE & ESSA: Second postcard.

ESSA: Like the picture? Weather's warm. Jimmy's job didn't pan out.

ARIANE: Don't worry.

ESSA: Everything's fine. Lots of options.

ARIANE & ESSA: Soon as we're settled I'll -



ESSA: Send you my address. Essa.

ARIANE: (*turning the postcard over*) It's a stupid picture.

ARIANE puts the postcard in her notebook. ESSA

sings.

SONG 7A) FRIEND - ESSA

ESSA: THERE'S A WAY AND A GUIDE

WHEN YOU'RE TIRED AND YOU'VE TRIED

YOU CAN ALWAYS FIND YOUR WAY BACK HOME.

KATE enters. She is a changed girl. Her shoulders are

slumped. ARIANE sees her.

ARIANE: Well, well, look who's here. Haven't seen you for a couple of

days, Pollyanna, Back for another kick at the can? (KATE continues crossing the stage. ARIANE jumps up and stops her. KATE won't look at her.) Hey, hey! You bug me like a leech on a bloody knee and now you ignore me? I know you're up to something. (KATE tries to get past but ARIANE stops her again) Hey! What's going on? You look

terrible.

KATE: (wrenching away) Leave me alone. You don't care.

ARIANE: I know, I know, but you look... you look really upset.

KATE: (*mocking*) Even Pollyanna gets upset. Even Pollyanna has problems.

ARIANE: Aw I didn't mean -

KATE: My parents have to go back to Vancouver to identify a body. It's

probably my brother.

ARIANE: What?

KATE: I have to go.

ARIANE: Wait. What are you talking about? What happened? Are you ok?

KATE: I'm fine.



She turns away. She and ARIANE freeze. ESSA sings.

SONG 8) FINE - ESSA & VOCAL ORCHESTRA

ESSA: FINE IS A WORD, EVERYBODY USES

EVERYBODY SAYS IT. 'I'M FINE.'
FINE IS A WORD, EVERYONE ABUSES

EVERYBODY USES 'I'M FINE.'

HOW WAS YOUR DAY?

ORCHESTRA: FINE.

ESSA: HOW ARE YOU FEELING?

ORCHESTRA: FINE.

ESSA: ANYTHING WRONG?

ORCHESTRA: NO, I'M FINE.

ALL: FINE IS A WORD THAT COVERS UP BRUISES

EVERYBODY SAYS IT. 'I'M FINE'.

FINE IS A WORD THAT COVERS EXCUSES

EVERYBODY USES 'I'M FINE.'

ARE YOU SURE? FINE. YOU LOOK ODD. FINE. WANT TO TALK? NO, NO, I'M FINE.

I'M FINE, I'M FINE, I'M REALLY FINE.

SOLO: TREMENDOUS ÜBER-LICIOUS FINE!

ALL: I'M FINE, I'M FINE, I'M REALLY FINE.

SOLO: I'M NOT SO FINE.

ALL: GET BACK IN LINE!

EVERYBODY HERE IS JUST FINE.

WHEN YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T TURN THOUGHTS INTO WORDS

IT'S EASIER TO SAY THAT YOU'RE FINE.



YOUR LIFE'S A HURRICANE EVERYTHING IS BLURRED WHY NOT JUST SAY THAT YOU'RE FINE?

I'M FINE, I'M FINE, I'M REALLY FINE. **DOWNRIGHT DYNAMITE FINE!** I'M FINE, I'M FINE, I'M REALLY FINE.

SOLO: I'M NOT SO FINE.

ALL: **SHUT UP YOU SWINE!**

> EVERYBODY HERE IS JUST FINE. I'M ABSOLUTELY, POSITIVELY, NO DOUBT ABOUT IT ALL I CAN BE

I'M A HUNDRED PERCENT SUPER OK, I'VE GOT EVERYTHING

GOING MY WAY

ACES, DANDY, FIRST-CLASS, COOL. FIRST RATE, FIVE STAR,

FANTASTIC TOO.

SPIFFY, SPLENDID, SHIP SHAPE, SUPREME. STUPENDOUS

SPLENDIFEROUS, PEACHY KEEN.

HUNKY-DORY, HUNDREDTH STORY, ON CLOUD NINE,

CAN'T YOU SEE I'M PERFECTLY FINE?

I'M FINE, I'M FINE, I'M REALLY FINE. SO GREAT, GLORIOUS FINE!

I'M FINE, I'M FINE, I'M REALLY FINE.

SOLO: I'M NOT SO FINE.

ALL: NO NEED TO WHINE!

> EVERYONE IS DIVINE. **EVERYONE HERE IS -**

> > Everyone breathes in, looking toward KATE and

ARIANE.

You'll have to go see Mr. Lang. I don't know when I'll be back. KATE:

KATE exits. ARIANE is at a loss.

ARIANE: Kate! Kate!

ARIANE freezes. The rest finish the song.

ALL: ABSOLUTELY,

POSITIVELY,



NO DOUBT ABOUT IT SHOUT OUT LOUD IT ALL WE CAN BE FINE!

ARIANE moves stage right to sit. She is in her room trying to write. She writes something and scratches it out. She throws her book away. She gets up and paces rapidly.

SHANE: (offstage) Ariane.

ARIANE: What?

SHANE: (offstage) What are you doing?

ARIANE: Nothing. (*she suddenly calls out*) Uh, I'm very busy, I'm doing – I'm

cleaning my room. I'm really busy cleaning! I'm too busy to do

anything you have planned.

SHANE enters. She has an amused smile on her face.

SHANE: Now that was too much. Homework, maybe. Cleaning your room?

Never.

ARIANE: Oh. Sorry. Did you want something?

SHANE: Just wanted to make sure you were all right. You seem worried.

ARIANE: I'm fine. I have something - I'm just thinking about something. Leave

me alone.

SHANE: Ok.

ARIANE: (*defensive*) You're not going to ask me what it is?

SHANE: Ariane, I get grief if I ask you what you want for breakfast. If you

want to tell me, I'll listen. If you want to work it out yourself, that's

fine. I'll be downstairs if you want to talk.

ARIANE: (*blurting out*) I think I know someone in trouble. Not big trouble.

Not trouble. I don't know what's wrong with her. And she's not my friend. I don't care what she does. But I don't know. She's not – (*ARIANE stops and sighs*) I don't give you grief over breakfast, do I?



SHANE: Not too much. Only if there's no toast. Do you want to talk?

ARIANE: No. Uh, thanks. I'm fine.

SHANE: All right. (*she exits*)

ESSA enters singing. ARIANE stands. She pulls a

postcard out of her pocket.

SONG 9) FRIEND - ESSA, NON VERBAL

ESSA: LA, LA, LA, LA, LA, LA.

ARIANE & ESSA: Third postcard.

ESSA: In LA now. It's very sunny. Every girl I see is blonde and tan.

ARIANE & ESSA: Jimmy and I broke up.

ESSA: As soon as I'm settled you can come out.

ARIANE & ESSA: And we can go to the beach. Essa.

ARIANE stares at ESSA.

ARIANE: You're never settled.

A bell rings. ESSA moves upstage. ARIANE paces.

THE BUZZY BEES enter, singing.

SONG 10) ALONE ON THE DANCE FLOOR - THE BUZZY BEES

ALL FOUR: BABY, DON'T YOU SEE ME

BABY, WITH YOUR GOATEE WITHOUT, YOUR LOVE SO FREE BABY, DON'T HATE ON ME.

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ARIANE turns to stare at the BUZZY BEES. She

stalks toward them.



ALL FOUR: BABY, THEN WE WERE CHILLIN'

MY HEART, IS STILL WILLIN'

BUT YOURS, IT AINT SO THRILLIN'

MY TEARS, ARE SO SPILLIN'

ARIANE: (interrupting) If you don't stop singing I'm gonna pull all your

tongues through your noses!

This stops the BUZZY BEES in their tracks. They are

shocked into silence.

ARIANE: Kate Crosbie, do you know her? (*silence*) Do you know her?

BENITA: Is it all right to talk?

ARIANE: (rolling her eyes) Yes.

BENITA: Sure. Everyone knows her.

ARIANE: Where does she live?

BILLY: Uh, I don't know.

BARBARA: Me either.

BENITA: We always see her at lunch and she hasn't been around for days.

BRAD: Is there something wrong?

ARIANE: I'll tell you what's wrong. Everyone in this school knows her and

everyone likes her and no one can tell me where she lives!

BRAD: Why don't you ask at the office?

ARIANE: (with menace) Are you telling me I should go to the office and just ask

and they'll tell me?

BILLY: You might have to growl a bit.

ARIANE: That's a good idea.

ARIANE stomps off. The BUZZY BEES look at each

other.



BILLY: I was kidding.

BENITA: Do you think it's safe to start singing again?

BRAD: Maybe we should put a little distance between us.

BARBARA: Good idea.

BILLY: I think she really would have pulled my tongue through my nose.

The BUZZY BEES scurry offstage. KATE enters. She looks extremely sad. ARIANE enters. She sees KATE but KATE doesn't see her. KATE sings, non-verbally.

She sits.

ARIANE hesitates and turns away. ESSA moves

downstage.

SONG 11) FRIEND - KATE - NON VERBAL

KATE: LA, LA, LA, LA, LA, LA...

ARIANE: Essa. What should I do? Should I go after Kate?

ESSA: Maybe you should stop asking me, huh? I'm long gone, Ari. I'm just a

picture in your head.

ARIANE: Yeah. A pretty messed up head.

ESSA: Maybe I didn't care about you, Ari.

ARIANE: Don't say that!

ESSA: I didn't say it. You did.

ESSA exits. ARIANE takes a deep breath and walks

over to KATE.

ARIANE: Hey.

KATE: (very surprised) What? Are you –

ARIANE: (*sitting*) Surprised?



KATE: How did you find me?

ARIANE: I'd like to say razor-sharp intellect... I saw you leave your house and

followed you.

KATE: Why?

ARIANE: What's the bag for?

KATE: None of your business.

ARIANE: How come you're at the bus station?

KATE: None of your business.

ARIANE: I'm going to take a wild stab and say you want to take the bus

somewhere.

KATE: Look will you just – (*she sits bolt up*) It's 12:30!

ARIANE: So?

KATE: You left school property during school hours. You're not supposed to

do that!

ARIANE: Nice to see you haven't completely changed.

KATE: Mr. Lang knows why I'm not at school.

ARIANE: But not, I'll bet, why you're at the bus station.

KATE: It's a free country. I can be wherever I want. (*she sighs*, *weary*) Go

away, Ariane.

ARIANE: I'm sorry your brother died. (*pause*) You can't go out there on your

own.

KATE: Why not?

ARIANE: Something will happen to you. You're –

KATE: I'm what? Too Pollyanna? Too naive? You know everything, don't

you?



ARIANE: I'm just –

KATE: You are so busy telling everyone around you within shouting

distance that they don't know you. Nobody knows you. Maybe you don't know either. Maybe you're so busy shouting and acting tough, yes acting, maybe YOU'RE the one without a clue and maybe you

should just shut up. I have to catch my bus. (she stands)

ARIANE: (*leaping up*) Don't go. Really. Kate, I'm asking you as a, as a... friend.

KATE: A what?

ARIANE: Are you going to make me say it twice?

KATE: Yes.

ARIANE: A friend. Don't go.

KATE: Give me one good reason why not. (ARIANE doesn't say anything)

Thought you couldn't.

ARIANE: (*blurting out*) I want to be a novelist. That's what I'm working on in

my notebook.

KATE: What are you doing?

ARIANE: I've never told that to anyone. (*she lets out a big breath*) Now you

know something about me. You go. Tell me something about you.

KATE: My bus'll be here any minute.

ARIANE: My sister left last year. She writes me postcards. I asked her to write

me letters and she barely fills up the space. (*she pulls out a postcard and shows KATE*) See? I carry them with me. Now you know two

things. Tell me something. About you.

KATE: This has nothing to do with being my friend. You pity me.

ARIANE: Do you really think I would waste my time pitying you?

KATE: (knowing the truth) No.

ARIANE: So. (*pause*) Talk to me.

KATE turns away. She sings.



SONG 12) MY BROTHER ANDY - KATE

KATE: MY BROTHER ANDY

OLDER WITH SANDY BROWN HAIR

SMILE FULL OF DIMPLES OUICK WITH A WINK HE'LL

ALWAYS BE THERE. THAT'S WHAT HE SAID. NOW HE'S GONE AND DIED

MY LIFE IS ALL A LIE EVERYTHING A MESS FAKING HAPPINESS THE END OF MY ROPE I FEEL NO HOPE -

ARIANE: (*jumping up*) You don't mean that! You don't mean that. You can't.

KATE: That's how I feel.

ARIANE: Kate. You're the only person I've ever met... You don't know... I need

you to have hope. I need to believe you have hope. Mountains will crumble, cities will topple, everything will fall to a million pieces, I'll

fall to a million pieces if Kate Crosbie doesn't have hope.

KATE: I can't help you, Ariane.

ARIANE: If you stay, I promise I'll never shout at you. I'll let you follow me

around all day, every day and I won't say anything. I didn't mind it as much as I said. Sometimes, I go whole days when I don't talk to anyone or anyone talks to me. (*desperate*) If you stay, I'll show you

my novel.

KATE: Now I know you're lying.

ARIANE: (*she brings it out of her bag and holds it out*) There it is. Take it. (*she*

puts it on the ground)

KATE: You're serious.

ARIANE: Take it!



SONG 13) FRIEND - VOCAL ORCHESTRA

Vocal Orchestra intro begins under dialogue.

KATE kneels down and picks up the book. ARIANE physically cringes as if she thinks the book will blow up, which causes KATE to give a little laugh. She

holds it back out to ARIANE.

KATE: Why don't you show me later?

ARIANE: Later when you get back from Vancouver?

KATE: Later, when we explain to Mr. Lang why you weren't in English.

ARIANE: We should go see Shane, too. You could... come for dinner? If you

wanted. It's vegetarian lasagna. Shane's a vegi. Sorry.

VO: THERE'S A LIGHT, THERE'S A HAND

HOPE WHEN NO ONE UNDERSTANDS

KATE: (*she pauses before she speaks*) Ok.

ARIANE: Ok.

They exit together.

VO: THERE'S A WAY AND A GUIDE

WHEN YOU'RE TIRED AND YOU'VE TRIED

YOU CAN ALWAYS FIND YOUR WAY BACK HOME.

THERE'S A LIGHT, THERE'S A HAND HOPE WHEN NO ONE UNDERSTANDS

THERE'S A WAY AND A GUIDE

WHEN YOU'RE TIRED AND YOU'VE TRIED

YOU CAN ALWAYS FIND YOUR WAY BACK HOME. I WILL ALWAYS LIGHT YOUR WAY BACK HOME.

The lights fade, then quickly up for the finale.



SONG 14) SHOUT - COMPANY

ALL: SHOUT.

WHAT DO YOU SHOUT ABOUT?

SHOUT YOUR JOY? SHOUT YOUR PAIN?

SHOUT.

WHAT DO YOU SHOUT ABOUT?

SHOUT YOUR LOSSES. SHOUT YOUR GAINS?

WHAT DO YOU SHOUT? WHY DO YOU SHOUT? LET ME HEAR YOU SHOUT!

I NEED TO SHOUT!

SHOUT.

WHAT DO YOU SHOUT ABOUT? SHOUT FOR LOVE? SHOUT FOR FEAR?

SHOUT.

WHAT DO YOU SHOUT ABOUT?

SHOUT YOUR PRIDE? SHOUT YOUR TEARS?

SHOUT.

WHAT DO YOU SHOUT? WHY DO YOU SHOUT? LET ME HEAR YOU SHOUT! I NEED TO SHOUT!

SHOUT IT OUT! CRY IT OUT!
SCREAM IT OUT! WHOOP IT OUT!
ROAR IT OUT! CALL IT OUT!
CHEER IT OUT! BLAST IT OUT!
WAIL IT OUT! SOUND IT OUT!
SHOUT, SHOUT, SHOUT, SHOUT!

SHOUT.

WHAT DO YOU SHOUT ABOUT? SHOUT.

WHAT DO YOU SHOUT?

Blackout.

— THE END —

Lindsay Price & Kristin Gauthier ©2008





An A Cappella Musical

(One Act Version)

Book and Lyrics by Lindsay Price Music by Kristin Gauthier

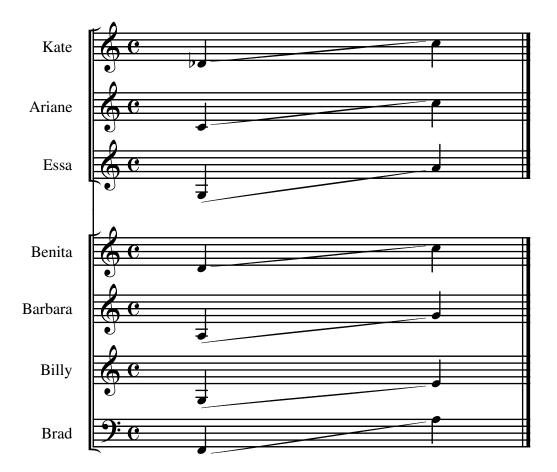
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Vocal Ranges



1. Shout

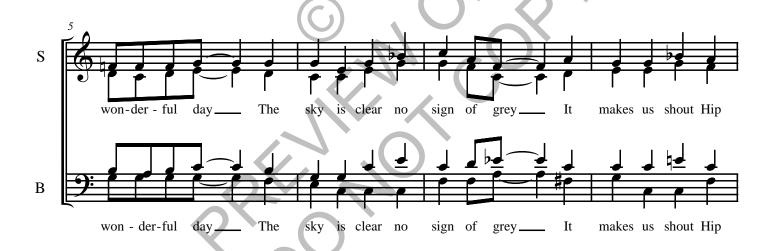


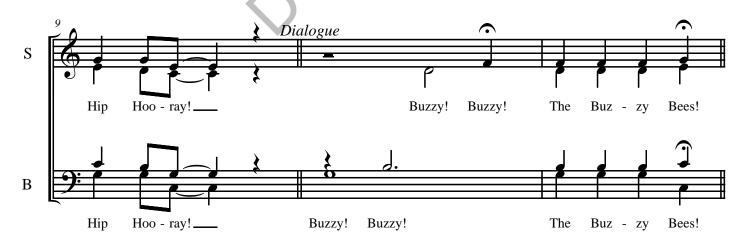
1 - Shout



2. The Buzzy Bees





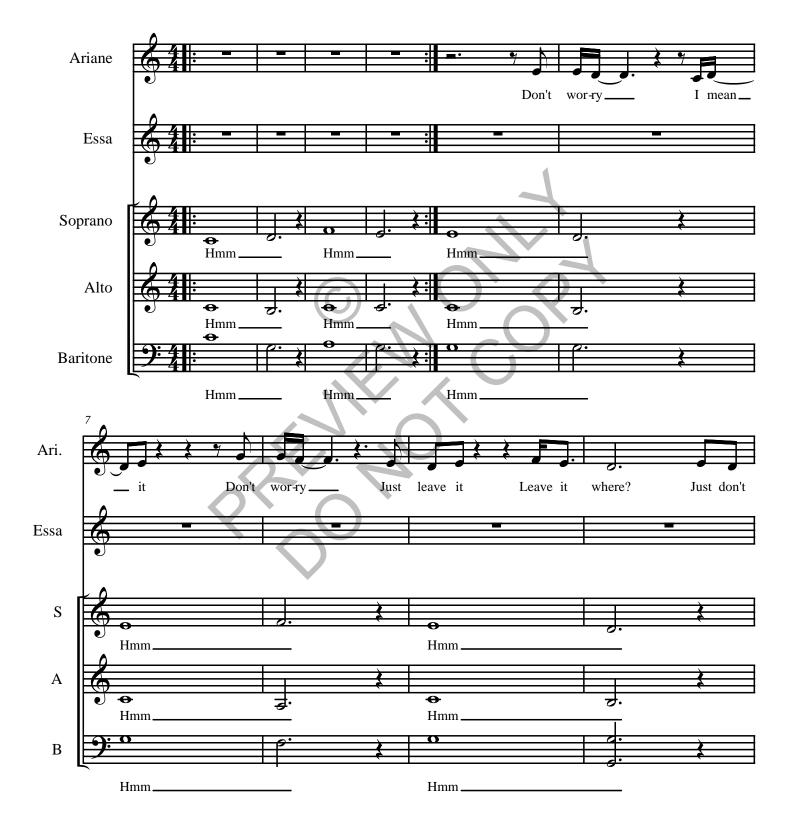


3. Friend





4. Seventeen



4 - Seventeen



4 - Seventeen



4 - Seventeen



5. Your Head Will Explode



5 - Your Head Will Explode



5 - Your Head Will Explode



6. My Brother Andy





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