

Interra-bang?

by Ry Szelong

ACTOR 1: SATOKO

ACTOR 2: BARKER, G^3, CARL, DR. SMITH

ACTOR 3: SUSAN

ACTOR 4: BATHROOM GHOST, SAMANTHA, DR. KANG, AMERICAN SOLDIER

ACTOR 5: JENNY, LANA

ACTOR 6: JOHNNY, THE KAPPA

| | SATOKO | CARL | SUSAN | SAMANTH A | JENNY | JOHNNY |
|------|--------|------|-------|--------------|-------|--------|
| 1937 | 6 | | | | | |
| 1941 | 10 | 20 | | | | |
| 1945 | 14 | | [40] | | | |
| 1957 | 26 | 36 | | | | |
| 1987 | 56 | 66 | | | | |
| 1993 | 62 | 72 | 34 | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| 2000 | 69 | 79 | 41 | 13 | 7 | 7 |
| 2007 | 76 | 86 | 48 | 20 | 14 | 14 |
| 2010 | 81 | | 51 | 25 | 18 | 18 |
| 2011 | 80 | | 52 | 26 | 19 | 19 |
| 2014 | 83 | | 55 | 29 | 22 | 22 |
| 2017 | 86 | | 58 | 32 | 25 | 25 |
| 2018 | 87 | | 59 | 33 | 26 | 26 |
| 2027 | | | 68 | 42 | 35 | 35 |

{ ... a steady three-tone beat . . . from the drip of a kitchen-sink faucet }
{... it is joined by the sound of - scratching - of two things rubbing together.}

BARKER enters. They are a Shih-Tzu, wearing a dress, and holding a lecture remote.

BARKER

Let's start with the etymology of the name. *[clicks remote]*

“Shih-Tzu”

PROJECTION:

Shih-Tzu

comes from the Wades-Giles Romanization system of the Chinese characters. *[click!]*

獅子

PROJECTION:

獅子

meaning lion, because we were originally bred to resemble the lion as depicted in art.

But I don't like “S-h-i-h-T-z-u” because it was invented by British diplomats, Herbert Giles and Thomas Wade who by the way was a soldier who fought and killed Chinese in the First Opium War, which has nothing to do with linguistic skills but doesn't it make you question his credibility?... *[click!]*

PROJECTION:

Shih-Tzu

“shīzi”

Shīzi /(*shirr-dzə*)

These sounds cannot be represented 100% so “Shh” is familiar to English speakers hence “S-h-i-h”, and in International Phonetic Alphabet - the approximation “s h i r”.

BUT “S-h-i-h-T-z-u” is a useful linguistic example of both of two cases where the Wades-Giles scheme reflects the use of a syllabic fricative after a corresponding consonant cluster (retroflexes and sibilants) in modern Mandarin, which is a unique phonological feature that does not appear in any other known modern language in their standardized form!

I hate Thomas Wade but this is so cool! Um...but lots of people who aren't my owner-family just say ShiT Tzu. as if they are cursing - “look at that little ShiT. Tzu.”

As if the meaning of those sounds attaches itself to my name.

That i am perhaps - poop.

Am I what I eat? I do eat poop if it's there and I am hungry, but I am a dog so it's more acceptable for me to do so, but nevertheless I refuse to be seen the way they see their own detritus.

But I can't decide if I prefer shīzi or Shih-Tzu. Or maybe, I don't want to decide to prefer.

It's almost as if my personal tension between the more intuitively accurate shīzi vs. the more linguistically innovative Shih-Tzu, is an etymological expression for the emotional conflict I experience being a cross between Pekingese *[click!]*

PROJECTION:

[pic of Pekingese]

and Llasa Apso. *[click!]*

PROJECTION:

[pic of Llasa Apso]

...*[click!]*

PROJECTION:

[pic of Shih Tzu]

[He takes a meaningful pause and paces in a half circle]

I just lost my sense of smell.

<<rewind. 1945.

SATOKO:

I know there's a curse, whether it's real or not, it's there.

I don't remember the details, but here goes:

When we were forced open to the rest of the world, the West,

when everything went for better and worse,

when time was pulled from the moon - to the sun,

from ten heavenly stems and twelve earthly branches to 365 ¼ days in a year,

On September 4, 1877, at 3:00 in the morning,

My Great Something Grand Father

was wounded from a sword in the back in a battle,

and he was supposed to do seppuku, like the rest, you know...?

{gestures gutting self with sword + sound}

Bushido, - But.

He didn't want to. **He didn't want to cut his gut.

So uhhh

He ran...Far away. My great something grand father.

Runs north from seppuku, from death, he runs from him self in Satsuma to become new man with new name to live and die,
 so he lives lifes instead of dying that one day,
 instead, everyday continue to be living, and by living getting closer to dying,
 living, dying, **living-dying,
 with his new life with a wife here in Osaka and takes her Name
 **her Father's name
 **their name
 that becomes his new Name now.
 It is his name now. His son's name. and his son's name and so on, until it's my father's name → now All of Our Names.
 It is My Crest. From a Curse.
 Because he was ...not normal....uh....
 a.... rebel. Like me.
 my great something grand father –
 ...it moves fast, and you have to move faster than it.
 But in my opinion, the more you talk about it, the worse it gets.
 But still it comes through my head first.

>> fast-forward. 2010

JOHNNY (ACTOR 6) is at a kitchen table, reading a piece of paper.

JENNY (ACTOR 5) stands to the side.

SATOKO still seated, watching them.

JOHNNY (ACTOR 6)

“Our ancestor, valiantly ran away, changed his name, and went on with his life. He’s my hero.”.. more stuff about transience and indefinable aspects of life. OK OK “With this knowledge” something something something a final sentence let me into your School.

JENNY (ACTOR 5)

It needs something, maybe one last little-

JOHNNY

like walking into a sunset-

JENNY

Right. “With this knowledge”...I am prepared to take on the unknown-

JOHNNY

With this knowledge I am prepared to take on the unknown, with a chopstick and a fork -

JENNY

Wielding -

JOHNNY

**Wielding a chopstick in one hand and a fork in the other, unafraid --

JENNY

nor ashamed to run like a cowardly samurai if i have to.

JOHNNY

Yeah... yeah?...yeah.

JENNY

I also mentioned obachan in my personal essay. I got into my reach.
Okay, from the top:

<< rewind. 1937.

GREAT GREAT GRANDFATHER AKA G^3 (played by ACTOR 2)
now stands over SATOKO:

G^3

..if you dont heal your insides, they'll find a way out.
Like his great Lord Saigo Takamori, he should have left the last battle only in spirit,
his head at his body's side, separated by a chosen beheader,
guts spilled open.
But - he was a coward. A pansy? Too scared to perform the act.
Are you listening?
Turn it off.

SATOKO

I'm listening, Grandpa. But its the first TV message!

G^3

This is real life!
Don't run from your blood like your father.

And if ever you meet someone with our name, ask them first to write it...most likely they'll tell you its two characters. but ours originally was written with one character, see?
橘

So if someone shows you this, you know they are true cursed family.

>> fast-forward. 1993

A hole in a wall - a crack. A fissure. Darkness inside.

sound of flushing...

it keeps going, empty hissing, then whining, croaking, whimpering like a dog}

THE BATHROOM GHOST (ACTOR 4) appears in the dark - green, flickering eyes in the hole in the wall.

SUSAN (ACTOR 3) seated on a toilet in a bathrobe, green face mask, and cucumbers over her eyes, with a baby bump. She stops and listens . . .

BATHROOM GHOST (ACTOR 4)

Lets play roles.

SUSAN (ACTOR 3)

What? ...Im scared. Who are you?

BATHROOM GHOST

I'm scary.

SUSAN

You sound...

BATHROOM GHOST

Familiar? You know me...im a little scaly

{itching sound like sandpaper rubbing}

SUSAN

Do you need some topical steroids? I have eczema on my left hand.

BATHROOM GHOST

That's just my skin. Do you not remember where we met? Im hungry.

SUSAN

Oh! I'm sorry.

Are you when I broke that thermometer during synchronized swimming class, and the mercury danced in my hand till someone told me i was poisoning myself?

BATHROOM GHOST

I was in the baptismal font when you converted before marriage, I felt your face, how you hold your breath underwater is the same as your mother's side, to a sea-woman. I'm in the kitchen-sink when you wash dishes for an hour and the physical act merges with your cerebral landscape of working through the day's problems: You're scrubbing the rice cooker and i trigger a thought that correlates visually to how you are scrubbing, maybe related to rice or just what rice makes you feel, or how circular motion gives you a silvery calm sound like turnstiles of the trappings of your nostalgia. And by the time you're done cleaning, i've been unknotted, your sabotaged behavior has cooled, you've recycled me, and you've moved onto a new dish, a new corner of our mind, silently attaching your subjective meaning onto the objective shape in your hand. we sigh and sweat deeply together as we get to the broccoli steamer or use the steel wool on the burnt pan, because those are the hardest thoughts and secrets to face, aren't they? I'm the pain and pride and then love from never taking medications during birth as is tradition. Im -

SUSAN

I get it. You're many things.

BATHROOM GHOST

NO! Don't look at me.

SUSAN

I have to!

Please?

[She removes the cucumbers from her eyes]

BATHROOM GHOST

I warned you.

SUSAN

OH.

You look ...

BATHROOM GHOST

Familiar? I told you.

SUSAN

you've got a great smile.

BATHROOM GHOST

Im just stretching my face muscles...
please don't anthropomorphize me, that's rude.

SUSAN

Im s- I apologize.

BATHROOM GHOST

You don't recognize me.
I'm every time you avoided your reflection growing up - from Taiwan to California, added up, taken to its truest ugliest form you imagined.

SUSAN

[She Tosses the cucumbers into the hole]

Here, you said you were hungry!

BATHROOM GHOST

Is this part of you? delicious!

SUSAN

Sure. They're my eyes.

BATHROOM GHOST

This tastes like water. I love cucumber, but they also have the taste of your eyes which taste like other parts of you....This is a good start.

SUSAN

Are you ...my depression?

BATHROOM GHOST

Ill leave you for now. I'm off to the underwater opera.
Some of us, just like you, if we feel a certain way... we head to the theatre.
Dissolving into a mass, disappearing into perspective, possibility.
If not happiness, give your children characters that can be happy.

{sound of toilet flushing}

<< rewind. 1957.

CARL & SATOKO are seated next to each other in a cinema.

CARL

So what did you think? Are you crying? It was a comedy, Satoko!

SATOKO:

Can we go to that bar with those long, western-style tables? They say they have this drink : “Electric Brandy” and ...“Sake Bombs” ?

CARL:

Sure! Whatever you want. I’ve done those Haole army inventions.

SATOKO:

**American Soldier invention, like you...just kidding. What is haole?

CARL:

Oh. you know... Gaijin, White people.

But it’s hawaiian, which is where i was born and grew up half the time, and where I enlisted.

SATOKO:

Our friend...he says he practices Chinese with you.

He told me: “you’re not like japanese women, Satoko. I know who you should meet, His name is Carrrrl, but he’s ... ~~Chinese but [he’s] nice-~~

**He say you **nothing impressive but you nice” -

I say: “I don’t care!- *[laughs]* Zhōngguó rén” men are better than Japanese men!”

CARL:

[laughs]...ah. Nice Mandarin, I speak that too. My family is from **canton.

SATOKO:

My mother’s family is from Shimonoseki, south of here.

My fathers’ family ... somewhere in Kyushu too. my grandpa told me about our ancestor samurai when my hair started to fall out.

CARL:

I love your hair. Besides, you're healthy, right? That's just an old wives' tale, Satoko.

>>fast forward.

SATOKO:

Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhh.
What was that?

CARL:

The famous Electric Brandy! the recipe is a secret!

SATOKO:

I feel much better. But what is this water on the table - so sad? Not cold and not hot...

CARL:

I think the ice melted. We should hydrate -

SATOKO:

But the water tastes funny. you know, A secret between me and *[points upward]*
....I... taking a night train with my mother...we ...were passing by... Hiroshima .

CARL:

...Oh...Mm.

SATOKO:

On the way to Shimonoseki ...
I dont know why the train stopped. I dont know why we got out to look.
Things i try to forget. And sometimes i do.

CARL:

But then out of the blue, it comes back and it looks the same but different.
There's a type and shape of tree I don't like to look at. And a species of animal I'm
disgusted by. And certain color combinations that make my head hurt. secrets between
[points up... and down]

SATOKO:

I have never been so drunk, never, not once in...my reincarnations. *[laughs]*

CARL:

[laughs]

>> fast forward.

SATOKO:

What happened to your eye?

CARL:

Just an argument in the office. They called me houseboy again.

SATOKO:

No, you're an officer. You all trained the same, on camps with guns and - ?

CARL:

I stayed inside. They gave me to-do lists every day, and I cleaned bathrooms, folded clothes, swept -

SATOKO:

Whaaaaat?! Why? Carl Lim!

CARL:

I'm moving up. Just wait.

SATOKO:

Well, you're lucky. No wonder you're skinny. And still so handsome. They're just jealous of you. Standing in the same place as them.

>> fast-forward. 2000

A hotel bed. SATOKO is in the same place but now using a backscratcher on JENNY's back, who sits on the ground. Standing on the bed is SUSAN (wearing sunglasses for the rest of the show) performing acupuncture on SATOKO.
Knock knock knock.

SUSAN + JENNY:

WHO IS IT?

SAMANTHA (ACTOR 4) races in, with a bleeding left hand.

SAMANTHA:

I was on Waikiki beach right close to the hotel, and I went out just for a second but I went past the Bigger Waves, I know I shouldn't have, you've told me not to, but I was collecting shells and there was this big backwards facing one, and this huge shiny -...thing?.- that I thought Ojichan could maybe put it on a grave for one, when we, so I reached out and UGH - My Blood floating from my hand and I could Taste It iyuck and all of it clouding my snorkel - I doggy paddled back - I can't even look at it, how Deep is it?

SATOKO takes an acupuncture needle from SUSAN and puts it into SAMANTHA's foot.

SAMANTHA:

OW!

SUSAN

MOM! Did you see this, Daddy? She just stabbed Samantha...Sweetie...

SATOKO:

Breathe in and out.

It could be a bite from ... Kappa. You know?

CARL takes the backscratcher from SATOKO, uses it on himself.

All stare at the fourth wall or TV.

SUSAN

Daddy, don't just stand there. Call a doctor!

CARL sits down, uses a landline extending across the space

JENNY:

Here they are! I grew cucumbers in the spring and threw them in the lake for ten days straight and found all its jewels and gave them back to it and so it proposed to me. I said Yes. Now I'm married to a Demon. Aren't they cute?

all lean forward towards the screen

JENNY is holding a Nintendo 64 controller with its cord trailing off the stage --- she reels it in: THE KAPPA (played by ACTOR 6) climbs the stage, looking like a little duck with a rice paddy hat.

THE KAPPA:

I may be too cute.

I'm actually more like human and turtle made a baby, and fish skin, and stripes... and monkey face, frog legs, can be snake sometimes. Drinks blood. And long black ugly hair with bald spot for bowl on top of head -

SAMANTHA:

I think it was an eel. That bit me. I saw it, It was an eel -

SATOKO:

Kappa can also look like eel.

Or this ugly dog you bought and named "Baka," haha!

CARL:

***BAR-KER.

SATOKO:

Yes - Baka, Baka!

Oh and where do you think you're going?

CARL:

I'm going to give "***BAR-KER" a bath time ...if there's some soap left since you crammed all the complimentary hotel samples in your purse, typical -

SATOKO:

"Typical ____" WHAT?

you ninety-pound weak man! I have cancer too, so I should be losing the weight!

I hope you shrivel up.

The sounds of a baseball game.

SATOKO:

Ichiro Suzuki!!! He play better than all Americans. Best in the world because of his health.

SUSAN:

Mom, you watch ESPN?

SATOKO:

Whaaat - He's Lesbian?

SUSAN:

What?! Yuck. What. No.

JENNY:

...What's a lesbian.

SATOKO:

Oh ok. nevermind then...Jenna, you enjoy life while you still young.

JENNY

...

It's Jenny.

sorry.

SATOKO:

[stares, surprised,

She opens a bedside drawer takes out a Gideon Bible, reads it]

... .. maybe i will go with Sammy to doctor, ah?

SAMANTHA:

Mom?

SUSAN:

What??? Don't encourage her, Sammy

SATOKO:

So you love Jesus, huh? How many acupuncture did Jesus get on cross?

[She slams Gideon Bible closed and throws it at SUSAN's butt]

More needles. Now!

SUSAN:

Okay, Mom! Hand. Intestinal Function channel.

[She puts a needle between SATOKO's index finger and thumb.]

>>the sound of static, then sounds of waves and commercialism<<

>> fast-forward. 2007.

SUSAN is still seated, now in a driver's seat, pulling out strands of her hair out the window. In the backseat: SAMANTHA and JENNY.

SAMANTHA:

I don't feel good.

[sticks head out the "window". Sounds of whooshing traffic. Bicyclists.]

SUSAN:

What did you eat?

SAMANTHA:

Some unagi? Pearl wanted sushi before the game.

SUSAN:

Why not something safe like kappa-maki?

SAMANTHA:

Cause cucumber tastes boring and you never let me have the unagi sauce. What even is "unagi" ?

SUSAN:

...It's Eel.

SAMANTHA:

>>wretches, but then swallows it<<

SUSAN:

Ohhh! - Sammy-Sam. Was was Your soccer tournament okay?

SAMANTHA:

Bad. We lost. But I scored all the goals.

SUSAN:

I'm sorry. . .Good job, though.

SAMANTHA:

It's okay...I'll live .

SUSAN:

:/ [She comes to a stop.

She checks phone.]

>>sounds of honking. She looks up to see if it's at her. It's not. She goes back to her phone. The sounds of motorcycles farting. Growling. They whoosh by... (0:03)<<

JENNY:

[out the "window"] [doing a sing songy gesture schoolyard thing]

U-gly! Stupid-face! Both of you are mom's dis-grace!

[She hurriedly rolls up her "window"]

They were like *[the same sing songy schoolyard melody]*

"Chinese, Japanese, Hercules, Look at These!" Drive faster.

SUSAN:

Whaaaat?

People did that to me in school too, But it was "touch your knees," not "look at these."

JENNY:

I learned it in middle school.

SUSAN:

What were they – you know...c'mon you need to change, we're almost there.

JENNY:

Were they what, mom? It doesn't matter.

SUSAN:

The Windows are tinted. Hurry up. Ill take a side route. Are they haole or not?

JENNY:

[JENNY has changed into a white ballgown and taken out a little red pocket-sized book]

Whatever I say, it's just going to confirm what you're thinking.

They're gone, It was a red car with Teenagers.

SUSAN

What is that? Are you bringing that to the rehearsal? Where did you find that?

JENNY

Its just a book? It fell out of my closet? We're working on speeches today.

SUSAN:

you think the National Charity League wants one of their debutantes spouting - whatever anti-government revolutionary - is in -

JENNY:

Mom it just fell out of my closet. And Anna's parents fled China when they came here, so she was telling me about it. She wants to try to read this.

SUSAN:

Okay....As long as it's just for socializing today, but then it goes back where it came from.

JENNY:

So my closet.

...Whenever I'm at safeway the cashier calls me sir and then corrects himself and says "maam" when my friends catch up to me, cause i guess with them as context i look like a nerdy asian girl. But by myself im like... what.

SUSAN:

What?

Where is this - ?

O-kay...

You know, Dad thought you both looked more like Me when you were first born – it's not that deep. People change. When they get older.

JENNY:

Why did he say that? Samantha and I look very different.

And all babies' eyes are physically smaller.

SUSAN:

What? Jenny, that sounds a little bit like. Racist.

JENNY:

No, I'm asking did he think we looked more like you because of us or because of you or because of his idea of what an Asian baby looks like?

SUSAN:

"Asia_" like the continent? Really?

SAMANTHA:

What are you talking about? Dad just has really bad eyesight -

JENNY:

I'm not offended, I'm just curious, cause I've never looked like you, Mom –

SUSAN:

what? That's not true.

JENNY:

Not really? ...anyway, I brought up the story cause I thought it was funny...

SUSAN:

Hm. you should correct them. If they

JENNY:

Misgender me?

SUSAN:

Mis-what?

JENNY:

Mis-Jenny-Me.

SUSAN

...Looking for reasons for every single tiny thing is enough to make you go insane.

JENNY:

I know you would...

I don't think... I'm not really " hapa " ...

SUSAN:

What? Why? You're **hapa-haole like all the others in the Bay. and that Actor in the Matrix, apparently, right Sam?

SAMANTHA:

We're white, also, of course, like

SUSAN:

Uh-huh, duh, right, half of mom and half of dad, half of my halves of japanese and chinese, and half of dad - you know, german, polish - you get to be the best of both worlds. and this kind of stuff is going to happen because you're special.

you'll have to work three times as hard because people will assume you should be exceling already, since you're Asian. and there isn't any affirmative action for Asian people, um . But if anyone tries to make you uncomfortable about your race or face, just tell them to go away.

I wish I spoke up the other day, when Lana's sister met me and said I looked like "that Korean lady on the grey hospital show" – I do Not have eyes like hers...do I ?

JENNY:

Wait why are you upset? Sandra Oh is - great - looking

SUSAN:

What? You know her name?

SAMANTHA:

Dad agrees you kind of look like her

SUSAN:

Oh. Well. Lana's Mom comes up to me after Church and says,
 "Hiiiiii I thought I saw You at the Park on the way here"
 I wanted to say "Noooo that was probably the other one, Marissa"

JENNY:

You should do the same to Them.

SUSAN:

What, like: "Hey weren't there Two of you in the Park on Wednesday?" *[laughs]*

SAMANTHA:

"Wait that's Two of You walking by us right now!"

JENNY:

"Aren't I married to you, too?"

SAMANTHA + SUSAN:

[laughs]

JENNY:

...

See this is why I never want kids: I hate children and every time I see one crying I want to punch it in the face and tell it to grow the F up, because all Parents are narcissists who want mini thems they can rear into achieving what they couldn't –

[SUSAN slams Car to a halt.

They all lurch forward, then slam their backs against their seats]

SUSAN:

Jennifer.

Kids called me Hafu for being half Chinese at T.A.S. ... then Chink and Jap when we came over, now Banana? It can seem like it gets worse. I know. Jenny...

JENNY:

I'm not talking about other people - I - ...I'm gonna get my tubes tied once I'm 18.

SAMANTHA:

I don't really want to get married and have kids either. *[laughing]*

JENNY:

ive actually been thinking about it a long time -

SUSAN

Oh, what is a long time ? Huh? Enlighten me.

JENNY:

.....
.....

SUSAN

No, I reject your silent treatment. Get out.

JENNY:

... ..we're here.

SUSAN

I'm not moving till you get out and walk up the driveway. And then later tonight we are washing your mouth out with soap in the hallway bathroom, Young Lady.

JENNY:

[JENNY gets out]

I wish I had Supertitles ^{for my} **LIFE** and Subtitles for my DREAMS !

The car door slams shut.

SAMANTHA

...hormones.

>> fast-forward.

SUSAN still in the driver's seat. LANA (played by ACTOR 5) gets into the "car" - she has a turtle-shell-print-backpack, blond hair,

JOHNNY gets in after - with an updated bowl-haircut, puka shell necklace, in white polo shirt, and a tiger suit tied down at his waist, scratching intensely.

LANA (ACTOR 5):

[to JOHNNY] Thank GOD we got put in the same Cast, i know we are in opposite scenes but at least we can hang out afterwards by the stagedoor --

Um, Rub Don't Scratch. Isn't that what Your Mom says [to SUSAN] Misako ...

JOHNNY:

Shut up, Lana!

The sound of wind rising rapidly, then immediately dying down.

And calmly sifting through leaves (0:03 sec)...

SUSAN:

[shaking] Johnny:....Ojichan... passed away half an hour ago...[cries quietly]

JOHNNY + LANA:

[shaking...]

Breathless.

They look to each other.

They stifle laughter.]

LANA:

...who's ojichan?

JOHNNY:

grandpa...

The sound of wind rising noisily, then falls to almost utter silence (0:04)<<

JOHNNY:

...Why are you telling Us this right now...

SUSAN:

..What?

Oh, Should I have texted you in class?

LANA:

...I'm sorry, Mrs. Szelong...My mom could carpool us to Palo Alto tonight for rehearsal ?

SUSAN:

Um that's okay. Thank you, Lana.

[She starts driving.

a while passes... (0:05).]

The whoosh of traffic passing by the "window" - Doppler effects...

It sounds like the ocean, approaching and receding almost for a millisecond

LANA:

[to JOHNNY] Omg tonight's the Stage Kiss right? Is this your first kiss ...Ever? Onstage?

JOHNNY:

Shut up, Lana!

LANA:

...Sorry.

SUSAN:

- I don't see why it can't be a **Hug.

JOHNNY:

A Hug? Because they're adults? ...it doesn't make sense for them to hug if they're in Love, in the Play.

SUSAN:

It's a **Musical, Johnny, it's made to not make sense. Look: You're fourteen and She's eighteen, and why are your lines in Cantonese and the singing in Mandarin, if it's 1920's New York City? THAT doesn't make sense!

[JOHNNY holds up the blue-green kimono from under a "seat" and hands it to LANA]

SUSAN

! What's that?

JOHNNY:

Nothing. They said we could dress up for the Obon festival celebration, um and Lana was gonna wear it.

SUSAN

No no - that's not. Is that from *Thoroughly Modern Millie*?

JOHNNY

No, it fell out of my closet just like that dead squirrel last year.

SUSAN

Johnny lets not -

Well, how did the kimono get there?

we're almost home, give it to me and i'll put it back -

JOHNNY

Hide it, you mean. I'll just drop out. Of the show. And Medaka.

SUSAN:

Fine. I'll save money. What happened in class, Lana?

LANA:

Uh nothing - we got put into groups - we're in the "Kappa Group" - we got to make little clay Kappas and bake them - want to see mine ?

She pulls out a creepy little melted kappa figurine.

JOHNNY:

Yeah and we did calligraphy and I got a new name: "Ryu" which I love. "Johnny" sucks! Why didn't you give me an Asian name – even Lana gets a Hawaiian name and she's white as HECK!

LANA:

I'm ¼ Chinese and my mom grew up in Hawaii -

JOHNNY:

[to LANA] Yeah, well, so did our Ojichan! AND China, AND Macau! *[to SUSAN]* What did you do to him?! Who are you!?

SUSAN:

You're not leaving your room until right before rehearsal!

The loud sounds of a scooter riding alongside the car

SUSAN:

"Oh why didn't you force him into radiation and chemo?" like we forced you into steroid creams for your eczema when you were a baby, and now you're all hairy and you hate it, so we tried fire ball cups on your back, then switched for those 12 pills during recess from that homeopathic, and on and on and on

JOHNNY:

...go back to your country where you came from. sorry

SUSAN:

[she laughs softly] [she inhales] [she exhales] Really, Jonathan?

[shakes her head] OK. That's it. You need sleep. You're going to go to your room when we get home and you're going to count to 8000 and then I'll take you to the hallway bathroom to use my hand to wash your mouth out with soap and you'll keep the soap in there for half. an. hour, ok?

I'm sorry for my son, Lana.

[She brings The Car to a halt.]

the Car engine rumbling

SUSAN texts JOHNNY:

[she whispers, barely audible] On the military base in Taipei in the 60s my neighbor was this bratty girl who screamed a lot at her mom, and I could hear her mother say "just wait till your father gets home" and at night, sure enough - i thought i could still hear her screaming - but from being whipped with the father's belts ... obachan used to tell me that when I acted out.

I've never forgotten those cries from next door.

Would u like me to be more like... myself, like u say ??

JOHNNY:

Yes. Kill me...Jenny and I can't picture you without your sunglasses on.

SUSAN:

I'm rolling my eyes but you can't see...You might want to have your memory checked out if you can't remember what your own mother looks like.

Bang! A scooter accelerates away.

>>rewind. Fifteen minutes ago.

JENNY crosses the stage with a landline phone, the cord stretching transpacifically.

JENNY:

Szelong residence?

....

May I ask who's calling?

...

Oh! Hi OJICHAN,.....I'm...okay.. How are you?...No you don't. I'm not !

You just sound different....You just missed her! Okay she should be soon - I'll let her know right - - do you want to - ? Are you sure ? If you hold on I can - Is there anything I ? Okay okay. You're certain – what? *[to self]* is happening – *[then back]* Ok. um. nice to talk to you. Okay. Bye. Um. Goodbye. .

[continues holding the phone]

>>the dial tone droning transforms into a heart monitor flatlining.<<

JENNY lays on her back in a swimming pool, staring at the sky.

>> fast-forward.

JOHNNY:

What's their word for love?

SUSAN:

No word for that.

JOHNNY:

Well in mandarin, It's Ai. ài with a falling tone. 爱!

SUSAN:

Must have been after the whites came in.

JOHNNY

Oh my god, not true. And you know it.

LANA:

The whites only had it since medieval times with the storytelling !
....anyway, I think you're handling tragedy really well, Mrs. Szelong.

JOHNNY:

My character learns to say i love you in english to Miss Dorothy.
It has to be a kiss, not a hug.
I hate you. I'm sorry.

SUSAN:

Any normal mother would have killed themselves by now if they had you. Should I use pills or would that be too Western?... I think he'd come back as a rat. If he was reincarnated. There could be a place where dad's ancestors and Ojichan might both be right now, but maybe they never meet.

JOHNNY:

Like a venn diagram?

SUSAN:

Uh sure?

<< rewind. 2000.

JENNY is lying on the floor of the hotel holding the remote.
The sound of flipping channels.

SUSAN:

You're giving me a headache. Pick one!

SATOKO:

Kidney.

SUSAN:

No, mom. [to JENNY] A channel, Jenny -

SATOKO:

Kidney channel! Jessy!

SUSAN:

[to SATOKO] - No not you [to JENNY] A TV Channel: Jojo - I mean Jenny!

JENNY:

...Did you call me Dad's name?

Why do you do that - when you're mad –

SUSAN:

...Well, you both have “J” names...Please, I have a migraine, Jenny-Jam.
[gets off the bed, and scratches JENNY's head, then notices grey hair...]
 There's more grey...

JENNY:

I said I don't want any! Obachan's right there, she's ready to be a porcupine!
[changes channel] {static}

SUSAN:

Excuse me? I'll poke one in your lazy shiri !

JENNY:

[changes channel]
changes channel, changes channel, changes -]

SATOKO:

You people, Ahhh!

JENNY:

SUSAN:

[changes channel]

[SUSAN wrestles JENNY for the remote while also trying to insert a needle, but also trying to change her out of her pajamas - stripping, tickling, pain, laughing. JENNY does the most to be unhelpful - staying limp like a dead fish, and then finally SUSAN sticks a needle in JENNY's foot]

JENNY:

Stop! - No Seriously mom- I'm gonna fart on you. OW!

[changes channel]
{news of a natural disaster}

>> fast-forward. 2007.

SATOKO:

Oh! You People see movie *Last Samurai* with Ken Watanabe and Haole Man from Hollywood? Just come out. Tom Cruise!? Bad Movie, should have been about us.

Your Ancestor was like “Last Samurai”...but Japanese. But should have done Hara-kiri. Haoles say: “HaIRy CAiRiee.” *{pretends to split gut open}* so now we cur-

SUSAN:

You've said this, mom.

JENNY:

...i didnt see the movie?

[changes channel.]

{a documentary about a war}

SATOKO:

No! Please change. Too Scary for vacation.

SUSAN:

What? Too “scaLy”? *{chuckles, looks to JENNY}*

JENNY:

{rolls eyes} No, Mom. *{changes channel}*

SUSAN:

Pick one.

SATOKO:

Hm.....Liver!

SUSAN grabs the backscratcher from SATOKO and hits her with it.

CARL is seated on the bed, listening to the landline phone in his underwear.

JOHNNY emerges from the bathroom, looking red, swollen, and scaly from an eczema flare-up, trying to cover his whole body with one towel.

SATOKO:

So Handsome ! Xiào dì, you put on the white powder I give you?

JOHNNY:

Ugh. I don't know! *[He rolls onto the bed]*

CARL:

[CARL hangs up the landline] They said it's pretty common but -- at worst it could be poisonous -- but not lethal, they think, er, well, I think we should just go to the hospital -

Get you all fixed up, Samantha, you get to get stitches for the first time, it's going to be scary but you can show all your friends back home -

SAMANTHA:

Seriously? Wake up Johnny! *[She punches him.]*

JOHNNY:

OW...bitch !

CARL:

[while getting dressed]

Hit Her Back.

SAMANTHA:

DID YOU HEAR WHAT HE SAID?

SAMANTHA + JENNY + SUSAN:

What?

JOHNNY:

I was calling for Barker!

CARL:

You gonna take that?

SATOKO:

Whaaat??? You People...

SUSAN:

Uh-uh, You're Going To Get Your Mouth
Washed Out With Soap, Young Man.

CARL:

[putting on watch, cufflinks] Let's see how
you hit.
She hit you, Johnny.

SATOKO:

Ha, you baka, Daddy, stop.

SAMANTHA:

Yeah i did, you lazy butt-face.

SATOKO:

[pulling on backscratcher from CARL]
Stop! She's hurt!

What are you a a -Pansy ?

SUSAN:

Hey Sam watch it !

CARL:

Sammy's hurt but you don't need to be,
John. You gonna let your older sister win?

JENNY:

EVERYONE STOP!

[changes channel]

[JOHNNY lifts his right foot and kicks JENNY who turns and punches his leg. So he sticks his left foot in her face. She uses her shins to throw both of his feet over himself. JOHNNY tumbles backwards, knocking into SAMANTHA who squares off, then punches JOHNNY's other arm. Both his limbs are "dead"]

CARL:

Do it, Man!

[JOHNNY brings up his right arm and punches SAMANTHA. In her arm.]

SAMANTHA:

[a new onomatopoeia?] ELOWTA. _!\GRR.-- HFFnkya.

Thanks. Let's go now, Ojichan.

SUSAN:

Wait. Pulse. *[she takes CARL's wrist in her hand, checks it.]*

Tongue. *[she leans in, inspects his tongue, then puts a needle between his eyes]*

SATOKO:

...>>tsk tsk<< Bad boy. It's gonna hit you back.

>> fast-forward. 2007.

A bathroom.

SAMANTHA enters crawling on the ground, searching.

SAMANTHA

Godzillas out of her terrarium again. While i was shedding her.

JENNY

.....how was the soccer tournament, samantha?

SAMANTHA:

haha so during half-time, i had an orange slice smile going, and im stretching out, And i hear:

“Schlong?!”

And i turn around and this Dad from the other team had crossed the field,

And He looked at me,

“Schlong what kind of name is that, schlong”

and I'm like oh, hes looking at Our Name on the back of my jersey,

[spins around, showing "SZELONG 88" on the back of her jersey]

And I said

"uhh well 'schh' IS the correct pronunciation sound but we say 'Zee-long.' The S is Silent."

"oh wheres that from?"

Me: "its polish, but people mistake it with the spelling of szechuan, OK I AM Chinese, and Japanese too, and it COULD BE a Chinese surname, but not for us, my moms side came from across the Pacific, and Szelong is our dads last name, who is part Polish so its Polish for me. I guess."

And He's all: "Oh. Are you you know, a halfie or hapa – as they say?"

"Yeahhhhh," And He said "ohhhhhhhh Okay I Knew There Was Something, okok yeah my wifes vietnamese, so my baby is half asian too, half vietnamese but still haha,"

And I'm like "oohhhhhhhh." -- OHHHH okay,

And then He's like "when you were younger did you look _____?"

And so I was like "yeah i looked more asian haha then yeah"

And He was like "okok yeah he looks really asian now, more his mom,"

And I said "yeah that can be the case,

You might look whiter as you grow older - "

And I'm kinda laughing, and He's kind of smiling,

And He's like "ok cool, now i know, I guess im cool with how he'll look, but he's vietnamese of course, but still,"

"Right right yeah" I said,

"Like He'll look more,"

"Yeah,"

And then I say: "who's your daughter? is she the forward who i hurt by accident when they put me in?" And He was like "haha no my daughters on defense, she's not asian, she's from my first wife," And I say "ohhhhhh okay, so this new one who is asian is not here."

And i guess that wasn't cool to say cause He kind of chuckled and looked down and said "uh

yeah new one," and things got Awkward but then "He said okay haha, um, the game's gonna start again - well nice to meet you, kick some butt,"

And I said nice to meet him too...Hahaha, yeah.

>>the steady dripping of a faucet<<

JOHNNY

Wait...HE SAID THAT?

SAMANTHA

Said what?

JOHNNY

That he wants his baby to look more white when it gets older?

JENNY

Maybe he's thankful his baby will have an easier time growing up looking more white?.....dot dot dot?

JOHNNY

you should be. Yes. I mean I think...

JENNY

Yes. I mean I think that's natural. See this is why I never want kids

JOHNNY

[to JENNY] WE KNOW.

[to SAMANTHA] you let that white dad objectify and dehumanize you.

JOHNNY

Yes.

JENNY

"Yes." ?

SAMANTHA

What? That wasn't the point of my / story

SAMANTHA

Um what okay chill out weirdos, I'm not / offended

SAMANTHA

Ohhhh uh-huhhhh gotchaaaaa soooo - You think Dad looks at me this Way? huh?

JENNY

What "Way"?

SAMANTHA

You're gross

SAMANTHA

No

'because I'm eating dinner like a normal human being

JENNY

how?

Like any parent trying to recognize their offspring? Mom's worse.

JOHNNY

Don't you see the way he looks at all of us. Across the dinner table?

JOHNNY

I see the way he looks at me. Like he's searching for his parts in me, if it can't be found in like -

JENNY

Listen. Dad's a weeaboo. (YT person who wants to be AZN.)
 Second. Like Dad's an egg. like Mom's a banana.
 Oh. Maybe you're the one looking for yourSELF in Him!
 ...like what tense a book is written in?

JOHNNY

Shut up, Sam.
 Do you know about this thing called the White Gaze?
 No.
 The internet told me about it.

SAMANTHA

What??? This isn't "Play Practice" this is real life, helloooo? Oh Shut up, Jennifer.

Yes i know gay ppl exist, Johnny.

JOHNNY

The way he sees us is different than the way we see him, maybe?
 This: i'm talking about is a thing You're Almost Born With... because of the world.

JENNY

Like Original Sin?

SAMANTHA

...bakatare...YO who's gonna have kids ?

JENNY

I'm still getting my tubes tied.

JOHNNY

"Yo"? You

SAMANTHA

Ew no. you. You're the dude, you have to carry on the name.

JOHNNY

Yeah the name, sure, but MINE are gonna look hella white.

SAMANTHA

[to JOHNNY] Yeah your nose landslided into Dad's. Mom says you could park cars in my nose. I have Ojichan's. Obachan's is big and flat. Mom kind of has that. You have dad's. It's like on the scale of like ...Dadness to Momness...Jenny's in between. *[pointing to her own nose]* dook *[to JENNY's nose]* dook *[to JOHNNY]* dook.

JOHNNY

Yeah but my nose was totally not Dad's when I was born.

JENNY

Want my boobs? I don't even use them.

JOHNNY + SAMANTHA:

I wish.

[SAMANTHA disappears into the shower, tugs the curtain shut, JOHNNY sits on the toilet. JENNY turns away.]

SAMANTHA:

[behind shower curtain] So...What'd you learn in school today?

JOHNNY:

Um. About Kappas.

SAMANTHA:

Oh. - where do they live?

JOHNNY:

Ummmm. ponds. Rivers. Lakes. Water.

[the lights go out.

the shower starts.

The creepy kappa figurine glows green and continues to burn incense.

JENNY turns on a flashlight.

SAMANTHA's hand emerges slowly from behind the shower curtain.

It shakes. searching...it's webbed. and there are four hands.

SAMANTHA:

....I need a towel. And Another. For my hair.

The shower curtain is torn back.

SAMANTHA is revealed: in a towel, with another towel atop her head.

JENNY points the flashlight at SAMANTHA's feet]:

SAMANTHA:

[sniffs] I found Godzilla.

[JOHNNY, still on the toilet, bows.

JENNY bows too, and then tosses the flashlight across the floor]

JENNY:

I can't reach. Can You Bend Over and Pick That Up.

[SAMANTHA walks across the room and stops.

She gently holds her head towel in place as she squats down vertically, picks up the flashlight, never bending down or over.

She turns the flashlight around, pointing it in JOHNNY and JENNY's eyes]

SAMANTHA:

And in toilets.

JOHNNY + JENNY:

What?

SAMANTHA:

Where they live. You're too young for the truth:

What kappas *really* like.

More than cucumbers:

Is Colon Meat.

[SAMANTHA bursts out in laughter - and falls to the ground. She pulls out a full beer glass, a cup of sake, and chopsticks. She sets up a "Sake Bomb".

You think I'm kidding...

They'll tear your intestines out. Through your anus.

I just learned today. I call it my Hiroshima Sake Bomb. Bottoms Up!

The ground shakes and the sake cup falls into the beer cup. SAMANTHA chugs it.

<<rewind. 1945

MOTHER

Why are we stopping?

SATOKO:

Why did you stop the story? You mean I have a brother somewhere?

MOTHER

Had. **Half-brother. We can finish this when we get to Grandma's. Hold my hand.

SATOKO:

Why are we getting out?

MOTHER

I think people need help.

Red clouds begin to billow as the sound of snapping and crackling and a low droned hum reverberate. The inability to distinguish shapes clearly until a circle begins to grow - huge - like a comet. The negative of the sun. Then shadows. Then the negative of shadows, and the silhouette of a shadow.

SATOKO + MOTHER

What is that

MOTHER

Ungodly smell. Stay close. My god

SATOKO

What? ...

I cant believe this is real. Is this ? - this is the end of the world.

MOTHER

I dont know. What can you see?

SATOKO

Nothing. Can you? Itai!

MOTHER

What?! Careful. Stay close, hold my hand. Is that someone -

SATOKO

Where? From the train?

MOTHER

Right there?

SATOKO

It looks like my shadow. No im over here.

MOTHER

Oh my god. It was... - where are they?

SATOKO

Where is the sky? Im so thirsty. It's so dry - my mouth is like lead.

MOTHER

Theres little fires, watch out. And everything else

SATOKO

is burning, except where is the sun?

[SATOKO knocks into a small spout rising out of the ground. It twists open.

Squeak.

Water trickles out.

>>squeak<<

THE KAPPA (played by ACTOR 6) appears, green, and red, with a bald spot atop his head, and black stringy hair. From head to toe he is covered in scales, spots, and carries a giant singed leaf as an umbrella.

THE KAPPA:

Ever since this morning I've felt like everything is burning but freezing at the same time and I can't tell which door is open. You know when you dip your finger into unknown water and for a second its both hot and cold? I feel that - like I'm about to lay an egg that could hatch into a parasite or a symbiote.

Did you just arrive at the end of the world? I've been at the bottom of the lake, getting clogged by all those leaflets with pictures of flying metal whales and lists and lists of cities that kept changing and saying that those on the list are to be heeded and those off the list aren't to be ignored, so I just stayed in my upside-down-world of kappas waiting for everyone to stop.

There were no air sirens...there was quiet, finally for once.

A perfect day in the park. And then that familiar buzzing B something,

But an unfamiliar smell - with hints of Pluto and Uranus - I thought maybe a Qirin had awoken from its slumber but no,

It had its name tattooed in english on its side: End of Day.

Then it laid something long and thin that fell from the sky, a black dot, a bright light, a creation. I was feeling at peace, I thought it might be a new kind of man-made firework - but then everything went White - then that hot-cold-unbearable wave and I could only hear: humans splitting into spirits – and then perish three times over – by heat, pressure, and then light inside-outside-in, and now there are spores, bodies transforming in fire, shadows torn from time... what comes next? Do you know? Does the big thing ... go back up?

MOTHER

Satoko! Come here. Get out!
Stop that!

MOTHER pulls SATOKO away from the trickle of water coming from the spout. She has been drinking - for how long?
She sticks her fingers down SATOKO's throat. and SATOKO pukes.

MOTHER

Why did you do that?! What is wrong with you?

??? (ACTOR 4)

I - I can't see. Is there anyone - my my face - it's - I can't feel - where is it?

The sound of the train.

MOTHER

Uh we - have to - we can't miss that -

SATOKO:

HELP! Over here!

MOTHER:

Maam, can you hear me? Stay here, they're getting the medics to this area.

>>fast-forward.

MOTHER

Where did our seats go? Sit on my lap. Good girl.

<< rewind. 1941.

CARL ducks to the ground, curling into a ball.

The sounds of gunfire, and shouting.

CARL finds a little red book next to him, he flips through it, and water flies from the pages to his face. He rubs his eyes.

>> fast-forward.

CARL has fallen asleep.

THE KAPPA now covered in robes like a monk, approaches CARL, then sits in front, meditating.

The sound of voices approaching...

THE KAPPA opens its eyes, and stares forward.

A gunshot. THE KAPPA slumps backwards, covering CARL.

The sounds of shouting and running off...

CARL cautiously wriggles out from under THE KAPPA's body...eyes wide. He stays squatting, frozen, searching all directions with his eyes, then looks down at the KAPPA. He reaches his hands out, hesitates, and starts to feel the robes for...something ? food ? useful ? he realizes what he is doing, recoils, and carefully hops away, carrying the little red book.

>>fast-forward. 2011

SATOKO

[She pulls out a blue pouch with screw off top]

This is extra natural. Hydrogen water, radicalized.

When you drink it, the molecules...um. they take away the toxins.

I dont know the science, but american bottled water isn't like this, yet.

But one day...everyone will be obsessed with this special water in the future, and you get a head start.

Wait! One more thing.

And take this penny. Clean it, put oil on, and dig into the muscle.

Your friends will waste all their money going from doctor to massager to herbs, but all you need is one coin.

Instead of acupuncture, i know you are so sensitive... Jenny? Take them.

>>fast-forward. 2014.

JOHNNY:

...Whenever I get eczema flare-ups I think of you. Like...a shared transcontinental morse code between our skin. Like bi-coastal sibling psychic corporeality.

JENNY

...I don't have eczema, dude. ...you do. only.

JOHNNY

Oh. wait what?

JENNY

So I went to a furry convention. In San Jose.

JOHNNY

You did not.

JENNY

Yeah...It was great. I wasn't in anything, but Trong Tri was. and his friends er boyfriend
- all of his boyfriends.

Everyone was really nice. Kids were there and everything was safe, I mean I'm
sure...every community has part of it that aren't, but,

And people were just positive and learning about expression. And introducing their
fursonas.

Oh my god, there was a yuppie white girls' volleyball championships in the same space.

You should have seen the volleyball moms.

The convention center programs them together every year, on purpose,

And.

it's.

Beautiful.

I don't know how I feel about otherkin, though.

JOHNNY

Wow. Yeah. Same.

JENNY

But / I

JOHNNY

But I read about feral children who are forced to integrate back into society, to give up exceptional senses of smell and hearing they've acquired, in order to be "normalized -

JENNY

....Yeah. why can't they just live on a farm with animals, why do they have to learn language, who gives a fuck...like one of them was normalized into society to work in an office?..ok...im not sure that's better than living as a wolf.

JOHNNY

Yeah...Don't normalize them, make them... bilingual.

JENNY

Humans suck. You should come to the convention next time.

JOHNNY

Yeah, totally. I'll wear my tiger suit, which might be misleading.

JENNY

Haa. Why do you wear that if you're not like...

JOHNNY

My acting teacher told me to stop wearing it and just come out of the closet so...

JENNY

Haha Yeah...

Mom and I had a talk again...

She said it'll take time.

To accept me. Fully. But it's been years. I don't know.

JOHNNY

What... are you...?

JENNY

Um I hate men. I know I like women more. I feel. I'm agender. And asexual. Right now. I had a girlfriend but she moved. But like why is love so important. I'm worried about saving The Great Barrier Reef.

JOHNNY

Oh okay. Cool.

JENNY

Hahaha I'm going to be the old witch of the neighborhood. The crazy cat lady. Ugh I should just join a pack of shiba inus. I think I'm going to be a nomad for real. I don't know. Ugh. I don't know.

JOHNNY

What do you want? To do?

JENNY

I don't know. Environment stuff. But consistency ruins everything.

JOHNNY

Well Like. what's your like... like what's your like super objective?

JENNY

My Super What?

JOHNNY

Nevermind... Like your like what's your arc? That you see for yourself? I don't think your arc is ...is like clear yet. To me, at least.

JENNY

What the fuck are you talking about?

JOHNNY

I don't know. I think you should be a writer. You're such a good writer. But like publish it. You could be so successful - famous. The world is missing out.

JENNY

I don't want.

I don't need.

i don't need to tell people. If I do, I will.

The world can suck it. I don't need to be seen like that.

Be careful of your imagined nostalgia. Be specific.

Have you seen my family tree I'm making?

JOHNNY

Jenny...do you believe in the curse? Remember when we went to Japan and found our family crest on that wall.

JENNY

...Johnny. That wasn't "The Samurai's Crest." That's just Obachan's family crest. Her grandfather, the samurai who lost the battle, who should have performed seppuku, who escaped suicide, who ran away and had a family, who chose life over death, shame over honor, who is the Cowardly Samurai Ancestor:
He was basically adopted into his wife's family.

It's pretty common.

There might be a family somewhere with that original crest still, and they're related to us, and none of us know it.

Unless we learn Japanese and go on a cinematic journey to find them.

I feel like. I'm being. Exotified. Right. Now. Exotified then commoditized. I don't like. The spotlight.

JOHNNY

I'm not trying to help... maybe preserve? Celebrate? I don't want our queerness to be interpreted as the manifestation of the family curse.

JENNY

I'm not like you.

you were the one to get out of the car to get the mail, and the one to go into the post office to drop off the letters,

I do the other

things. I keep the secrets.

I'm in the corners singing to myself.

Or in places where no one speaks the same language as me, and I'm alone in the wild. You're all out and loud, and crashing around things familiar.

and I really just want to be in my room, receding.

There you go, put it in your little play and give me royalties.

Besides, this was always going to be biased

towards you cause it's theater and all, so, you're the theater kid.

Remember when Mom sent me out in the rainstorm to sell girl scout cookies cause she thought I'd be pitied more and would sell more? and she made you come with me to

double it in the tiger suit? and bring Barker to triple it? so we made a cute little tableau under an umbrella?

I need to get out of here before...I don't know.

JOHNNY

Oh. I'm sorry.

JENNY

Don't be.
Or...do be.

What's done is done. I really don't feel well.

JOHNNY

Okay.

JENNY

Yeahhhhhh I'm going to go

JOHNNY

Okay

JENNY

...Tell mom to like...

I don't know.

She asked if you were an influence on me.

JOHNNY

Oh. What'd you say?

JENNY

No. Obviously.

She was like 'why don't you fit the stereotype like Johnny did growing up? And I was like I don't know, cause im progressive? and we laughed, then she said it's just our generation, so I cited ancient male priest couple Shino No Hafuri and Ama No Hafuri. And she said I hope you're not completely turned off by guys, and I said I was.

Then she started to cry...because she has no idea what that is like.

She said if she tried to get to the bottom of who she was, she would go insane.

And I was like, "I know you would."

So I took back that I was into only girls, and added in guys, which made her more upset, so I took back guys and said just girls, sorry about that, and I don't know where we ended but it was funny watching her squirm.

JOHNNY

End scene. Wait. Lets cut this scene.

JOHNNY

What? I think you're breaking up.

JENNY

Hole person of halves
Have Two Wholes in one single
1/2 + 1/2 was 1...

I want to kiss like I chose this.
Like I'm not blaming it on something elsewhere,
Like I wasn't born this way, like I didn't trip and fall into it, like it's
not cowardly biological determinism,
Like I don't have to prove its naturalness or unnaturalness, or cite it
like some revival of the historical,
Page break,
But something now in this moment only I made,
Something new,

JOHNNY

It's not fair, I know. Next time I'm home I will talk to her about
shudo and shirabyoshi and onnagata and queer kami / and...

JENNY

Love you. You don't have to. But you could.

JOHNNY

I love you too.

JENNY

Um Bye.

JOHNNY

Oh wait. Um. what do you um want me to call you.

JENNY

Ugh I'm not -
I'm not -

I'm don't need to say anymore.
But "She" is fine. "Sister" doesn't bother me. I'm not going to say
anymore, But you're still my brother, right?

JOHNNY

Yeah. Right now, yeah.

JENNY
Cool. Bye.

JOHNNY

Bye.

[They stand motionless, still holding landline phones up to their ears. JENNY looks at him with the expression of “um hang up.” Finally JOHNNY does, but then they approach each other, and do a weird hug dance of uncomfortable queer sibling affection. JOHNNY can’t let go - so JENNY pushes him down, slinks out of the embryo cord mess and shuffles out of the theater. She re-enters through another side, unseen.]

<< rewind. 2007.

SUSAN in the driver’s seat.

SATOKO holds a vase reconstructed through kintsugi with a smiley face pin on it. JENNY leans forward to put in a tape into the sound system - it is a compilation of Noh music recorded from the 70s. SAMANTHA leans forward and puts in some 90s J-Pop, then SUSAN puts in a Harry Potter book on tape with that British narrator, then JOHNNY turns it off.

SUSAN

Manoa Cemetery to Manoa Road and the Safeway Parking Lot and Starbucks that is There Now to Rainbow Tower to Ala Moana Shopping Center to Pearl Harbor to Mililani Cemetery and then we'll drive back from Mililani Cemetery to Pearl Harbor to Ala Moana Shopping Center to Rainbow Tower.

CARL in white tank top, dress pants, barefoot, in one hand smokes a cigarette as he wanders through the “car”

SATOKO

What about the beach?

JOHNNY

We can toss him into the ocean?

SATOKO

We already have a plot ready at Mililani where we will bury vase. And a plot for me.
And a plot for Mommy.
So we all together

JOHNNY

What about Dad?
Or just the women?

SATOKO

What about your Daddy? If Mommy die before him, he will probably just remarry.

CARL ashes his cigarette into the vase of his ashes, and then changes into a hospital scrubs becoming DR. SMITH.

>>fast-forward. 2017

Stage Left is one coast

Stage Right is another coast

SAMANTHA throws on a lab coat becoming DR. KANG (ACTOR 4) for JOHNNY, who wears a tiger suit.

DR. KANG

[holds out a hospital gown to JOHNNY, not looking at him]

DR. SMITH

[hands one pearl earring to SATOKO, looking deeply into her eyes]

JOHNNY

[grabs the gown and holds it, awkwardly in front of him]

SATOKO

[takes her earring and puts it on her left ear, where it belongs.

DR. KANG

[hands an empty piss cup to JOHNNY, now looking at him and recognizing]

DR. SMITH

[holds the adorable kappa plushie...hesitates, sets it on her lap impolitely trying to be polite]

Oh Hey There

[extends her other hand]

I think this was yours...?

SATOKO

When did I lose these?

JOHNNY

[half-smiling, falling tone] Heyy, [shakes hand]

DR. KANG

Good to See You Again. Nice outfit.

JOHNNY

Yeah, good to see you too, Dr. Kang, even under the... *[motions "circumstances"]*
...yeah um.....*[like a midwife saying "it's a boy!", referring to tiger suit]* it's a tiger!...

DR. KANG

[looks, goes back to computer. nods] So change wherever - I see so many bodies.
Yours. Most are unsurprising.

SUSAN

[And swats it away onto the ground]
no thank you.

JOHNNY

[high tone] O-kay.

I was in a stage adaptation of "The House at Pooh Corner" - Winnie the Pooh, and I played Tigger, the tiger, so my mom made me this. When I was twelve.

DR. KANG

It says here you're 24.

JOHNNY

[turning in circle, looking at self] Right, it still fits, and I still wear it, why?, well, that's... for my therapist
But! I wish I was a tiger..
Like Chinese Zodiac-ally. You know?

DR. KANG

Oh. Okay.

JOHNNY

What about you?

DR. KANG

Um, Well I'm technically a dragon.

JOHNNY

Nice.

DR. KANG

...Eh...we have egos

JOHNNY

But you're nice.

DR. KANG

Ha, well mine is a little hidden

JOHNNY

Ah...

Hehe: "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon."

DR. KANG

...Huh?

SATOKO

Doctor! Have you seen my wallet? I need cash.

DR. SMITH

For what?

SATOKO

to pay you

DR. SMITH

Ohhh you don't have to pay me for my services, Misss Tachibana!

SATOKO

so you can massage my legs, okay? Right now when we have time

SUSAN

Mom... this isnt a third world country.

SATOKO

I wish it was! At least I'd get proper help!

Why am I here?

DR. SMITH

You just got out of surgery for your colon, in an operation called a -
 Polypectomy - that's polypectomy with a P. as in Pasta.
 Resection of the colon. Resection. That's R if you want to...
 With Anastomosis.

What we found was cancer that was larger, so the doctor performed a
 Partial Colectomy - Colectomy
 Removing the cancer and a small amount of Healthy Tissue around it, which I hope was
 okay...?

I'm going to let you sit for a bit and recuperate - Rest -
 There's some pita chip salted wafers and cranberry juice to your right, my left, and
 should you need to stay longer than tonight we can talk that later.

SATOKO

I had cancer right here thirty years ago and you know how I got better?
 Prayer.

SUSAN

That's not completely true?

DR. SMITH

Given the circumstances, and the nature of the patient we had to take extra precautions
 and were not able to get the best results, it said in my notes that you were shown the
 x-rays and scans as well and also agreed they were sufficient.

SUSAN

But they weren't.

DR. SMITH

But **that they were sufficient in determining that what we found was not conclusive.
 Correct?

SUSAN

What are you talking about? I'm sorry.
 What do you mean - given the nature of - of my mom?

DR. SMITH

Her unwillingness to cooperate made it very difficult -

SUSAN

She's an old - older woman. And not used to this.

DR. SMITH

She made threats...

SUSAN

To who?

DR. SMITH

Herself, mostly. Somehow, under anesthesia, she tried to take the surgeon's scalpel to do it herself

SUSAN

[laughing?] WHAT? No she didnt!

JOHNNY

Remember when Zhang Ziyi, or "Ziyi Zhang," as the haoles say was cast in "Memoirs of a Geisha." What a fucking insult to Japanese and *[gestures to DR. KANG]* Chinese. Representation. Like, my insides finally agreed on something - "We Don't All Look Aliiike!"

DR. KANG

[typing] I'm Korean. / Open

JOHNNY

[nods] AH - *[opens mouth]* thought Kang was Chinese...

DR. KANG

It is. Close.

Also Korean.

SATOKO

What a stupid doctor, i knew it the moment i saw his dumb hipster haole face.

SUSAN

Haha, I think he's hapa actually.

<< rewind. 1987

CARL reenters.

CARL

What happened, Satoko? Did you fall? how long have you been laying here?

SATOKO

Leave me here, call the kamisama.

CARL

What about our flight?
Should I call Susan?
We can't miss her wedding.

SATOKO

Give me time.

Carry me on the plane, if i die on the way over, just put the airline blanket over me so no one notices. Same thing for when we come back.

>> fast-forward. 2017

CARL becomes Dr. SMITH again.

DR. SMITH

We need to look inside you again, okay, miss tachibana?

SATOKO

[seething]

Susan Please! I heard marijuana is helpful for this kind of thing - this kind of intense pain. Susan? Yes? Ahhhhhhhhhh

SUSAN

Oh you got my mom doped up

DR. SMITH

Ma'am. She is fine..

SATOKO

[trying to hold in great pain...making sounds]

DR. SMITH

Nurse Kang! She uses weed - marijuana? Has a medical license?

SUSAN

Can we - help her? What?

DR. SMITH

Is she - is your Mom asking for weed

SATOKO

[SEETHES IN. SEETHES OUT. SEETHES IN. SEETHES OUT]

DR. SMITH

Is Is she not pretending to smoke

SUSAN

...?!

NOOOO SHES IN PAIN.

DR KANG

[snaps on hospital glove]

Bend over, please.

Are you sexually active?

JOHNNY:

[bending over] Um Yes and No.

DR. KANG

So yes. Any significant other?

JOHNNY

Um. I mean, I like to think of myself as Significant - And Other.

DR. KANG

So no. Cough.

JOHNNY

[coughs] Ow.

DR. KANG

Okay we are going to need to do a Flexible Sigmoidoscopy.

JOHNNY

Who?

DR. KANG

Like a colonoscopy, but jr. You've ever done of those before? It'll be easy, we'll have you go clean yourself out a couple times, with an enema, you ever used one before? we'll fill you up, you'll wait a little bit, when you feel it coming, go to the bathroom down the hall and let it all out, come on back, we'll get started and put the camera inside you - *[snaps on other latex glove]* oh - my intern will be helping out watching - and I'll be controlling it with a little joystick, like Xbox, or a Wii *[winks]*, and we'll check you out and see what's going on and it'll be easy, ok? Roll over.

JOHNNY

wan wan ...like the dog - like "woof" - the dog kind not the Scruff kind- OW.

DR. KANG

Relax. We're going to take some pictures.

[an INTERN THAT LOOKS LIKE A KAPPA (played by ACTOR 5) enters, motions hi to JOHNNY, and stands with camera.

SATOKO

Which one are you? Can you get the fat one, he was nicer.
Or the pretty one. Maria.

DR. SMITH

Maria?

SATOKO

The pretty one! God's Mary!

DR. SMITH

.....OHHHHH...Maryyyy. Sorry. Yes. I'll get her right now...

SATOKO

God bless you.

DR. SMITH

You're... Christian?

SUSAN

No she's been Buddhist her entire life.

SATOKO

You are a very good doctor. You should go to Japan. They'd find your disposition similar to theirs...

Scuse me. Doctor. Smith? *[choosing words carefully]*
Do you Have a Pill That Can Make Me Go Away - Peacefully?

DR. SMITH

What? Ohhhhhh You're Going to Live a Very Long Life! A Very Long Life!

SATOKO

[looks at SUSAN] Does he not speak English?

SUSAN

...

DR. KANG

So... this theatre...production... - how you got that tiger suit. For tigger - a Biracial Tigger. That's ...something ?

JOHNNY

Well but Winnie the Pooh was still white.

...I think I'm like blossoming, you know? but I only use Western medications now but...When I was seven I wished on the Christmas Star that I was full white, so I guess be careful what you wish for haha.

DR. KANG

Hm. Weird. Interesting. First picture. Looking Good in Here, John!

JOHNNY

...John? You're hapa right?

DR. KANG

Oh yeah - eurasian - haha

JOHNNY

Mom, right?

DR. KANG

I have two moms. and a dad. I'm actually from three sets of genes.

JOHNNY

Woah. but you still came out a halfie.

DR. KANG

What do you have

JOHNNY

My mom's japanese and chinese.

DR. KANG

Oh nice.

JOHNNY:

Sometimes, I'm the only Person of color in a cast...

DR. KANG

Oh? ..."Person. Of. Color" I mean, i dont even know if i - i mean i am - but - some really want to wear that term, you know, like a badge of honor, which it can be, and for some i think its less of a choice and more of a role you're cast in, for an Arts example ;), or ... you know im all science, so colors change based on who we are -

Literally, when light hits our three-cone system and triggers a shape change in our retinal molecule, changing its structure from its bent (cis) form to its linear (trans) isomer, and all our thoughts and feelings and belief systems meet that information and we are seeing our own version of Green. Which is apparently the most visible color to humans, but what's the difference between looking at green and thinking nature? Wait what was I talking about?

Oh yes, the word is changing. And the world. i dont know. I mean, I'll take whatshername in "Memoirs of a Geisha" over Emma Stone in that Hawaii movie. These are just words, and we're going to be the majority soon. I don't know, I'm a doctor not a...*[makes a motion, spins in a circle]*

JOHNNY

...What is that - bandage with a tiger logo on it?

DR. KANG

don't touch. it's a patch. for muscle soreness. relieves pain.

JOHNNY

Ah. Does it treat emotional pain?

...

DR. KANG

JOHNNY

[makes "yikes" face] Tough crowd.
Um. so I think I was, I was, I know I was,...
this guy was sort of rough once.

DR. KANG

[rising tone] Oh - ? *[falling tone]* Oh. Were you um Safe?

JOHNNY

Uh - I packed a kitchen knife with me? in case, for defense? But it was on the floor?
Across the room? in my jacket?

DR. KANG

I mean condom...

JOHNNY

Oh.

DR. KANG

You need to be careful. Try to stay relaxed right now, sorry ...Picture.

JOHNNY

"You like it when i stab the shit out of you"
I said stop, but I was face down in the couch, there were stripes of blood. down my leg.
when i went to the bathroom. Oh! Woah, I feel it *[touches his gut]*
"Best boy-pussy" he ever had, he said. So.
[does hair-toss-over-shoulder motion] Meow?

DR. KANG

What?.

JOHNNY

Sorry. That wasn't for you. The lower half of my body hurt. but then he called me
beautiful afterwards. He liked that he didn't know what I was, and I liked that, and I knew
it might be risky but I thought I should face my fears. I felt sorry for him so I let him leave
his mark in me ?

DR. KANG

Um *[shrugs]*

I only know about colons. Sorry.

Almost done.

Oh! I found it.

If You Want To See Inside You, Look Up At the Screen. If You Don't Want To, You Don't Have To

DR. SMITH

This will be easy. This will be simple. And if you want you can look up at the color TV display of yourself in four parts.

SATOKO

Where is Dr. Smith?

You are much better.

You know, in 1919 my father worked for a cotton company in Japan and he flew to Texas for work.. And he saw workers being whipped by their bosses, and then he went to see a Hollywood movie for the first time, and he had never seen this before. This - line - ? with white people over here, And then koku-jin over there.

SUSAN

Mom. Shut up. Please.

DR. SMITH

Should i - ? We say **black people?

SATOKO

That's what i just said?

SUSAN

No don't - it's not -- Mom, just say **African-American, its of your time.

SATOKO

Ahhhhh I am so sorry. Yes. they were sitting on this side of the line.

And so my father standing there - not knowing where to go -

And he go and sit with the white people.

Of course, white lady switched with her husband so she is not sitting next to my japanese father.
But, you people -

SUSAN

[to DR. SMITH] Give us a second!

You're on drugs, okay, mom? You're not lucid.

Please just...

...what? that crucifix on the wall? Is that scary? Should i take it down?

SATOKO

...are you Maria, Mother of God?

SUSAN

...Sure...

It's okay. We're safe.

>>fast-forward

AMERICAN SOLDIER (played by ACTOR 4) wanders in.

AMERICAN SOLDIER (ACTOR 4)

Water? Hello? Can you see me?

Water! Please!

SATOKO

I'm not supposed to talk to soldiers.

AMERICAN SOLDIER

I was just released, up along the coast.

You live here?

SATOKO

I'm visiting - family.

Are you ...chinese?

AMERICAN SOLDIER:

Yes. I'm Chinese-American, I speak a little japanese. Do you have any water? I've been walking miles

SATOKO

Yes, but i cant give water to strangers, either -

AMERICAN SOLDIER:

Please.

SATOKO:

...

AMERICAN SOLDIER

It's official, right?

It's officially over? We won?

SATOKO

...Yes. it's done.

Its moved to other countries.

I have to wait till the kitchen is empty.

I'm not from here.

My family isn't like me.

They just got back from their duties in the Puppet State.

They said they saw two teenagers kissing behind a tree.

And it was their duty to _____ them _____.

So after they did that, they laid their bodies on the ground. And _____ cut their _____ and _____ and rearranged _____ each other, reattaching _____.

They called it an experiment and _____ into one person.

And they said they got paid. And they called it work, and they said their work would be used for world science.

I think they made it all up because they were laughing so much.

Is this something that was - normal?

Did you hear stories like this? Did they make us do this to you?

I'm making nonsense. Let me get your water.

AMERICAN SOLDIER

Thank you...

...When the news came that the Japanese had lost.

They didn't wait a second to set us free.

I hear some Germans are still keeping prisoners of war right now, but ...

When my soldier let me go, he turned and bowed to me lower than i've ever seen someone bow. It was very startling... as if it was a new person. Or maybe it was just set free.

>>fast-forward. 2017.

SATOKO

I Have Been Saved! We are on the higher path now -
Thank God we are on the higher path.

SUSAN

You just got out of surgery -

SATOKO

Because I was in The Death World, just now. Where is Ojichan?
there was an American Soldier next to my bed -

SUSAN

You're in a separate recovery area
Because you didn't want to meet the Chinese patients.
You got cold and said "is this an American blanket? This is an American blanket!" And
threw it across the room at me since it was made in China, so it wasn't American
enough for you -

SATOKO

No I didn't. Who is she?

SUSAN

This is Dr. Kang, remember? the nurse from Taipei, too?

SATOKO

No, who are you?

SUSAN

...

[heavy sigh, how many times is this?]
Susan. Your daughter. Misako, mom.

SATOKO

No.

Susan in California with her husband.
Doctor, who is this White Visitor?

PROJECTION:

[snaps to]:
[a picture of the inside of his colon]

PROJECTION:

[snaps to]:
[a picture of the inside of her colon]

JOHNNY + SATOKO:

Wahhhhhh....

DR. KANG

? *[to JOHNNY]* Are you crying?

SUSAN

I'm sorry, Mom.

DR. SMITH

I'll give you two a second.
[DR. SMITH and DR. KANG exits]

JOHNNY

a
 Soul...

SATOKO

A
 Soldier...

JOHNNY

[JOHNNY takes out his iphone. takes a picture of the pictures of his insides. reverently...the sound of the phone camera]

DR. KANG

I know this might be a pain in the butt (no pun intended),
 But

You've been bleeding inside for 2 years: Yikes. You have a lot of extra muscle down there.

So it's very tight - which isn't a bad thing! Obviously. I can tell you live a...stressful...life so.

Well it's Manhattan so. Everyone has sticks up there butt - um. You have thin skin. Physically...and probably emotionally... anyway:

2 Hemorrhoids and 2 fissures. And maybe something else.

[hands over a paper] Here's a diagram of the rectum and the anus.

The rectum is like the lobby,
 and the anus is the revolving door exit

[catches self] or entrance

[catches self] or both.

[points at paper.] The rectum. inside.

[points at paper.] The anus. outside.

[points at paper.] The rectum. you control.

[points at paper.] The anus. your body controls.

[points at paper.] The anus.

[points at paper.] The rectum.

[eye contact] The anus

[eye contact] The rectum

the anus

the rectum

[eye contact] The Ranus?

[eye contact] The Rectum

...Got it.

[points] Here's treatment...

We could give it botox which will freeze it?

Or cut out $\frac{1}{3}$ of the muscle of one side?

Also, there's this new trend where you can get your - hole - steamed. To detoxify, reduce tension, inflammation - supposedly gives you deeper sleeps too. Apparently it was originally a treatment for the Emperor of China.

And um, lay off, you know, um, you know, You Know your body, listen to it. it'll heal with time.

[holds out hand, takes it back, removes rubber glove, puts hand out again]

JOHNNY

[shakes hand] Thank You. Will I ever be able to have sex again?

DR. KANG

[shrugs] See you next time. Or, hopefully not. Ha.

>> *fast-forward. 2018*

SUSAN

She was, is a medium so I'm sure she'll always be reachable once she's...

Are you hungry? I can fix you something? It's been... how long? And we live right across from each other....I do. I do have mayo...Sometimes I think that she was always like this, maybe I just knew her as a different person. Or maybe I changed. And she

couldn't keep up with us. I'm thinking of driving her up to Skyline. And letting her Go, There. When she wants to. I can camp out in my car, she can disappear when she wants to, even while I'm sleeping.

I'll never know the exact day she left or the exact time of her death. Why are you sorry? I mean she wants this -- she really believes in this method and -- -- "Obasute."

Traditions never get carried on by staying in one place, so I'm taking time into my own hands and driving her to Skyline. Before more organs are removed, more holes are made; when a drainage process needs to be induced to keep her under care in the hospital, when she cant even open her eyes to try to recognize or remember what's in front of her. Yes, sooner than "nature" intended.

[pauses chopping cucumbers. She pricks her finger. She tastes it. She sniffs the cucumber.]

I think someone used this cucumber to ... it's kind of slimy. and then tried to clean it or put it back without me noticing. Oh please. Don't you learn stuff you wish you didn't know when you do your family's laundry? You just tune it out. You have to leave. I need to take my mom for a drive and then come home and make a shrine, even though they told me my house isn't set up for the Buddhist ritual of mourning. Here, your tupperware you left here six years ago. I mixed mapo tofu and zaru soba together, so when you eat this its like youre ingesting our identities. Seriously, don't let mayo be your lunch.

>>time stops<<

A pocketed memory is released. Everyone is on a different timeline in 2000.

SUSAN

Well here we all are. Finally.

At Star-Bucks. . .

. . . .Not all these haoles here

.There's boba in the espresso now?

SAMANTHA:

[SAMANTHA enters, from 2027, in a scuba suit, tiger-print bikini refashioned from johnny's tiger pants, and a short pixie cut]

Well. duh its a starbucks.

JOHNNY:

[JOHNNY enters, from 2027, in a green qipao, hair tied up in ponytail]

JOHNNY pulls out the little red book, which has been carved out for a little chamber - a flash drive falls out.

SAMANTHA and JOHNNY set up a laptop and put the flash drive in...

A voice is heard:

CARL:

...by Diamond Head the better area, and the japanese and chinese lived next to each other but we never played together. Sure, I got to hang out with filipinos, koreans, hawaiians around us in Manoa Valley, but the japanese farmers? Never.

JENNY from 2027 enters in a U.S. military uniform, with short spiky hair.

JENNY

Some relatives from Poland and Japan reached out.

Obachan was a sixteenth Korean. Is.

But that's not a surprise.

SATOKO:

SATOKO, seated and petting BARKER the dog puppet, while fanning herself.

Carl, where would you all sleep?

CARL

CARL appears using his backscratcher next to SATOKO

The entrance of my family's supermarket would have been...

Right there. By the entrance of that Starbucks.

And Imagine a back room - right There. Me and my siblings beds'. Milk crates.

SATOKO

...Ai-ya...

SUSAN

Johnny - I think they're calling your name....your tall vanilla bean frappuccino.

JOHNNY

JOHNNY takes out a vanilla bean frappuccino with "JENNY" on it.

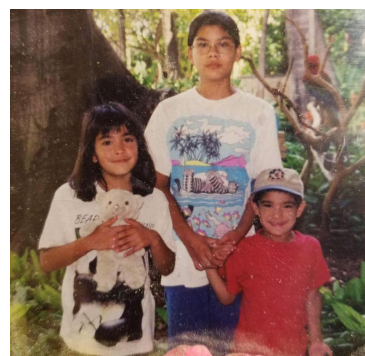
...They put "Jenny" haha... jenny.

[JOHNNY takes a straw and pokes it against his gut, pushing it out of its wrapper.

SATOKO looks at him and scratches her scalp]

CARL

Vanilla Bean Frappuccino....



SUSAN

Are you sure you don't want anything?

CARL

Let me try theirs.

[JOHNNY hands the drink to CARL who tentatively drinks the Vanilla Bean Frappuccino...he hesitates, considers, then continues. the sound of slurping through the straw.

End.]