

Dungeness

Chris Thompson

People

BIRDIE

ORSON

ADIRA

JEN

TANA

JOTHAM

CAIA

FRANNY

Setting

New Romney town centre. Not far from Dungeness beach.

The communal room of a semi-independent home for young people. It's a large house that has been converted for communal living for young people. It's a strange mix between attempted homeliness and doctor's waiting room. All the doors are fire doors, and there are emergency fire exit signs and a fire blanket. It feels like there's been a risk assessment on every bit of furniture because there probably has. The TV is locked in a cupboard. There are beanbags and a sofa and arm chairs and the stained carpet looks like it's from a school staff room. The room has been painted bright and happy colours by previous residents, which makes it all the more depressing.

The window is frosted so the light comes in but you can't see in or out.

The same window is cracked from where someone has thrown a stone at it from the outside.

Somewhere on the walls are the house ground rules and a wall display which are referred to later in the play. Also on the wall are the Stonewall posters, which say, "Some people are gay/trans/bi etc. Get over it." And next to them is a washing up rota.

Text

/ means the following speaker overlaps.

- means a character deliberately remaining silent or struggling to find the words.

Dungeness

They've just started a house meeting. Everyone is there except CAIA.

BIRDIE I say BOOM.

Silence.

I say BOOM.

Silence.

I say BOOM-CHICKA.

Silence.

I say BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM.

I say BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM.

Jen?

BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM, Jen.

Jen? I say BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM, Jen?

JEN -

BIRDIE BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM, Adira?

Adira? BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM?

ADIRA -

BIRDIE Lots of energy, guys, yeah come on? Lots of upbeat positive energy.

ADIRA -

BIRDIE OK, Orson, I'm not gonna even bother.

Franny.

BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM, Franny.

Yeah? Like that do you, Franny? Want some of Birdie's energy?

FRANNY -

BIRDIE Ooo, careful, who knows where I might go next, Tana?

It could be anyone, Tana.

Where am I gonna go next, Tana?

BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM, Tana. Yes!

TANA -

BIRDIE No?

Lots of energy, come on let's get you all up on your feet and energized, Jotham, you love this one, I know you do. Don't leave me hanging, Jotham, I'm looking to you. Ready? Let's do it, come on Jotham. Energy, eye contact, cool, yeah?

Jotham, ready, this one's for you.

I say BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM.

ORSON Don't do it, Jotham.

BIRDIE BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM.

ORSON Stay strong.

BIRDIE I say BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM, Jotham.

ORSON Don't let her break you.

BIRDIE BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM, Jotham.

BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM, Jotham.

ORSON This is what she does. She picks off a weak one.

BIRDIE BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM, Jotham.

ORSON Jotham.

BIRDIE BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM.

ORSON Jotham.

BIRDIE BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM.

ORSON No, Jotham.

BIRDIE I say BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM, Jotham.

ORSON Don't let her beat you.

BIRDIE BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM.
BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM.
You want to.
Don't you? Don't you, Jotham?
Yeah?
You want it?
It's coming.
Birdie's coming.
BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM, Jotham.
That's what I say, Jotham.

ORSON Stay strong, Jotham,

BIRDIE I say BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM.

ORSON This is bigger than you.

BIRDIE BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM, Jotham.

ORSON Eyes on me, Jotham.

BIRDIE BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM, JOTHAM!

ORSON Look at me.

BIRDIE BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM, JOTHAM!

ORSON Resist.

BIRDIE BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM HE WANTS IT.

ORSON Stay strong. Eyes on me.

BIRDIE BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM, JOTHAM!

ORSON No!

BIRDIE BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM.

ORSON Jotham, no!

JOTHAM I say boom-chicka-rocka-boom.

BIRDIE YES! YES YOU DO.

YES YOU DO BLOODY SAY IT. THAT'S WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT. COME ON!

ORSON You're weak.

BIRDIE BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM, Jotham.

JOTHAM I say BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM, Birdie.

BIRDIE Now we're rolling.

BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-BOOM, Jen.

JEN You won't break me.

BIRDIE Oh yeah?

ORSON Dig deep, Jen.

BIRDIE Boom-chicka-shut-your-face, Orson.

ADIRA Please, make it stop.

BIRDIE This is your meeting, guys.

Your space; your meeting.

This feels good doesn't it? All of us connecting and communicating, alert, full of energy.

Woo! Yeah!

OK, so what I'm hearing you say is that /

ADIRA That this is shit.

BIRDIE I'm hearing you say you all really enjoyed the icebreaker.

BIRDIE finds her agenda.

Fun and hilarious icebreaker.

Tick.

Everyone energized and ready to participate.

Tick.

Item two.

Emus.

I can't read my writing.

Oh yes: Emotions.

Does anyone have any emotions?

ADIRA I'd like to kill myself.

BIRDIE Right that's quite a biggie there, Adira, not sure we're all ready or qualified for that. Any alternative emotion you're feeling other than the one you just said that you could share instead?

ADIRA Nope, it's mainly just that one.

BIRDIE Well maybe just park that for now, OK, Adira?

Lovely.

What about you, Jen?

JEN -

BIRDIE Jotham?

JOTHAM -

BIRDIE Adira?

ADIRA -

BIRDIE Any emotions, Franny? Any at all?

FRANNY -

BIRDIE Any emotions from anyone at all?

Do we need a reminder of the ground rules?

Number four: "Make a positive contribution."

I'm here to facilitate you making a positive a contribution.

Adira, you sure?

ADIRA -

BIRDIE Fine.

OK, let's do another icebreaker.

Groans.

TANA Can someone please shoot me?

ADIRA Count yourself lucky you don't actually live here.

BIRDIE Ok then, fine, let's just sit in silence and you won't be heard and you won't get a say in how we do things at Spectrum, and sod you all, sod the lot of you, I mean it.

Thank you.

So let's get back to the agenda.

I have convened this meeting because of last night's incident.

ORSON Where's Sally?

BIRDIE Sally is on annual leave.

ORSON So we can't have a meeting then.

BIRDIE Yes we can.

ORSON You're not allowed to take meetings unsupervised.

BIRDIE Not true.

ORSON Are you qualified yet?

BIRDIE No.

ORSON There you go.

BIRDIE Sally said it's fine.

Sally said I'm more than capable of taking this meeting on my own. And given there's a deadline, we have to have it now.

ORSON Yes, but /

BIRDIE More than capable, Orson.

Sally's words not mine.

And I'm the oldest.

ORSON Only by two months.

BIRDIE I'm not a teenager any more and all you lot still are and a lot can happen in two months that makes someone more mature.

JEN Like getting fingered by Becky Both-Ways behind Lidl?

BIRDIE I don't discuss my private life with residents, it's unprofessional.

ORSON But you'll lock yourself in the bathroom and cry when Becky Both-Ways goes back to her boyfriend.

Very professional.

BIRDIE It was painful.

JOTHAM Her fingers aren't that big.

BIRDIE Emotionally painful.

JOTHAM ET phone home.

BIRDIE Let's all have a good laugh at my suffering, thanks, great right let's move on.

We need to agree the agenda.

TV rota, washing-up rota, we'll do at the end. We have bigger fingers – fish, we have bigger fish to fry.

After last night's debacle, I want us to get this thing sorted once and for all.

JOTHAM We all go as Disney princesses.

ORSON This is a silent protest.

TANA How come you're talking then?

BIRDIE I don't mean the theme for Bournemouth Pride, Jotham. We'll have to park that till next meeting.

You're all going to have to talk to each other again at some point.

ORSON They're not talking because they're protesting against you, Birdie.

BIRDIE They're not talking because they all blame each other for there being no wifi.

And if we ever have a scene like last night again, I'll switch it off for a month.

So let's get to business.

As you've all seen fit to discuss it on social media, but can't seem to discuss it face to face, we're going to all put our phones in this box and you don't get them back till we have agreed how you will commemorate the two minutes' silence.

It's happening like literally in half an hour, and we need to agree what we're doing.

ORSON We don't have time.

JEN I've got a test to revise for.

BIRDIE All phones in the box please.

JOTHAM What if we miss it?

BIRDIE Set your alarm for thirty minutes' time, Jotham.

ADIRA I'm not sitting here with these idiots for half an hour. I'm not talking to them anyway.

JEN No one's talking to you either.

JOTHAM I am.

TANA Me too.

JOTHAM I'm only not talking to Orson cos he slagged off Bournemouth Pride and Bournemouth pride is amazing.

Franny, who are you not talking to?

FRANNY -

JOTHAM Right.

ADIRA I'm not talking to anyone but I'm talking to Jotham a little bit.

JEN If she's not talking to me, I'm not talking to her.

And how come she's allowed to eat her dinner in her room and we're not?

BIRDIE Adira, you're our newest arrival, so I don't expect you to know, but here at Spectrum, we sort things out by talking.

ORSON As our longest member I can tell you we sort absolutely nothing out by talking cos Birdie's in charge.

BIRDIE We do sort things by talking actually.

JOTHAM Yeah and not by emptying the kitchen bin in my bed.

ADIRA That wasn't me.

JEN Who was it then?

BIRDIE I'm going to interview you all separately about it and for the record Orson, how do you think we got the washing-up rota if it wasn't by talking, or the TV rota, or the food labelling system?

JEN We hate all those things.

ORSON Yes, hence our silent protest.

BIRDIE But for now, we've got one agenda item and one agenda item only.

It's happening up and down the county, all over the world in fact. You want to be left out?

I know it happened a long way away. But we need to agree on how we're going to commemorate it.

So, phones please.

Groans.

Come on. They're not actually attached to you.

See, look. They detach from our bodies and everything. Oh my god it's not actually a claw, it's a hand.

Come on.

You know the rules.

BIRDIE walks round with the box. With great difficulty, each parts with his/her/their phone.

Alarm set, Jotham?

JOTHAM Yep.

TANA That's my phone.

JOTHAM Mum gave it to me when she confiscated it from you.

TANA I'm taking it back with me.

JEN It's his phone now.

TANA Stop listening to our conversation.

JEN You're in a communal space actually.

TANA Yeah? Well it's a private conversation.

ADIRA No such thing in this place.

JOTHAM You lost it when you lied to Mum about going to that party so it's mine now.

 Alarm is set.

 And can we hurry up so we can talk about the Pride costumes.

BIRDIE Not today, Jotham.

JOTHAM It's not you who's got to make them.

BIRDIE Jotham, I mean it. This is more important.

JOTHAM OK, fine.

 Go.

JOTHAM sets his alarm and the phone goes off.

BIRDIE Great, let's get this sorted once and for all.

ORSON Can't you lot remember anything? We're supposed to be doing a silent protest.

BIRDIE No one gives a toss what you think, Orson.

ORSON I don't give you permission to speak to me like that.

BIRDIE Like what?

ORSON I call that a very rude remark indeed.

BIRDIE Oh do you?

ORSON It's not appropriate for the youth empowerment mentors to speak to residents like that.

 Sally wouldn't like it.

BIRDIE Sally's not here, are they?

ORSON Do we need a reminder of the ground rules, Birdie?

BIRDIE Oh piss off.

ORSON Number one: "Everyone is entitled to be treated with respect."

 And can I just say, I felt very disempowered when you told me to piss off just now.

 I felt shamed.

BIRDIE Orson, can I speak to you in my office please?

ORSON You don't have an office.

BIRDIE Can you step into my office please?

ORSON It's not an office.

BIRDIE Yes it is.

ORSON No it's not.

BIRDIE Yes it is.

ORSON It's a broom cupboard.

BIRDIE It's a multi-purpose room, can you come please?

ORSON Into that room with the mop and bucket?

BIRDIE And a chair and a desk and a computer and wifi.

JOTHAM When can we have the wifi code again?

BIRDIE When Caia's done the washing up. And when you lot start talking to each other again.

JEN How can she wash up when she's working all the time?

JOTHAM Where is she?

JEN Working, numbnuts.

ORSON This room here with the dustpan and brush?

BIRDIE What do you want?

ORSON And bin bags and bleach and the poster of /

BIRDIE What do you want?

ORSON Aha. So you acknowledge our protest.

BIRDIE What protest?

ORSON This one.

BIRDIE Against me?

ORSON We demand change.

BIRDIE Of what?

ORSON This oppressive regime.

BIRDIE Me?

But I'm nice.

I'm Birdie.

ORSON I have an announcement.

In the spirit of those who came before me: Pankhurst. Milk.

And some others.

I stand here before you and say, "We protest."

Enough is enough.

BIRDIE Enough of what?

ORSON This is a takedown.

I'm going to dismantle you, Birdie.

Slowly, painfully, publicly.

I'm going to take you down.

BIRDIE Is that a fact now?

ORSON Yes.

BIRDIE You think you've got what it takes?

ORSON Oh yes.

And more.

BIRDIE Got what it takes to come for me do you, Orson?

ORSON I've got what it takes to come for you, Birdie

BIRDIE OK, let's go.

ORSON Let's go where?

BIRDIE Let's go, figuratively, let's go as in you think you've got what it takes, so let's go.

ORSON Where do you wanna go, Birdie? Into the broom cupboard.

BIRDIE Take the piss out of my multi-purpose room again, go on, do it and let's see what happens.

TANA OK, stop.

ORSON This is a silent protest, Tana.

BIRDIE Well shut your mouth then, Orson.

TANA It's bullying.

BIRDIE I'm not bullying him.

TANA He's bullying you.

BIRDIE I'm not being bullied.

TANA Yes you are.

BIRDIE No I'm not.

TANA You are.

ORSON Tana, it's a silent protest.

TANA Let's vote.

Hands up if you think Orson is bullying Birdie.

ORSON You don't even live here.

TANA Hands up.

BIRDIE This isn't on the agenda.

TANA Who thinks Orson is bullying Birdie?

Everyone puts up his/her/their hands.

BIRDIE He's not.

He's really not. I'm fine, guys, honestly.

What Orson is doing is a good example of "acting out."

ORSON Learn that in college this week did you?

BIRDIE Orson is not happy with himself as a person, there are bits about himself he doesn't like and instead of saying, let me take ownership of that, he's come in and acted out.

And maybe I did learn it and you can't handle it because I'm the year above you and you don't know about it yet and you don't like that do you?

You can't handle me, can you?

You can't handle Birdie.

ORSON This is a coup, the ground rules no longer apply.

BIRDIE The ground rules always apply.

And you guys wrote them yourselves, including you, Orson: your signature's on the bottom too. So sit down please and let's carry on.

ORSON REVOLUTION.

BIRDIE Yes, Orson.

ORSON RAGE. REVOLUTION. REVOLT.

Shout it with me, everyone. RAGE, REVOLUTION, REVOLT.

ADIRA Orson, you pressured us into not speaking and I'm not cool with that so sit down and shut up and let's get this dumb meeting over.

ORSON The ground rules, remember.
 RAGE. /

ADIRA Do you want to eat the ground /

ORSON REVOLUTION /

ADIRA rules, Orson, cos I'll rip them off the wall and /

ORSON REVOLT.

BIRDIE Right, stop!

 We get it, Orson.

 Thank you.

 OK.

 Right, can we carry on now please?

 Back to the agenda.

Enter CAIA dressed as RONALD McDONALD.

CAIA Who took my burgers away?
 Where is the Hamburglar? I'm going to find them.

ORSON Who the hell are you?

CAIA I'm Ronald McDonald.
 Who the hell are you?

ORSON We're in the middle of a coup here.

CAIA A coup!
 How thrilling.
 My, don't we all look sad.

BIRDIE Can we have just one house meeting without all this, please?

CAIA You, girl.

JEN Me?

CAIA Yes, you.

CAIA Why are you so sad?

JEN Why is Ronald McDonald talking to me?

CAIA Ronald McDonald will not be silenced!

He comes with a message.

On this day, a day when love wins over hate, a day of coming together, a day of unity, a day of communities rising up all over the globe, in one bright voice, Ronald McDonald brings a message of hope.

BIRDIE Yes, babes.

ORSON RAGE. REVOLUTION.

ADIRA Orson, do you have to do this every day?

BIRDIE Orson can choose not to do this every day if he likes.

CAIA A message of hope, guys.

BIRDIE And if you are planning a coup, you need to put that in writing with twenty-four hours' advance warning and we need to do a risk assessment.

CAIA Ronald McDonald will not be silenced!

You will hear him.

But you shall not fear him.

BIRDIE OK, can we all listen to Ronald McDonald's message of hope please?

Just a quick message of hope though please, Mr. McDonald.

JOTHAM When are you lot gonna fix that window?

BIRDIE Thank you, Jotham, for using this space appropriately.

I'm happy you felt empowered and able to voice your concern safely.

JOTHAM Just answer the question.

ORSON Yes, can you answer that please? Or is it more evidence of how you're unfit to lead this group?

ADIRA They'll only smash it again.

BIRDIE So we'll repair it.

JOTHAM Yeah, then they'll smash it again.

BIRDIE Let them.

 It's not gonna ruin my day.

 We'll repair it.

JEN We should spend the money on something else.

BIRDIE They're coming this afternoon.

TANA Just board it up, then they can't smash it any more.

BIRDIE We're not doing that.

TANA Why?

BIRDIE If we leave it, it says this is OK, this is how we accept being treated.

 We fix it because we fix it. No matter how many times they smash it.

JEN It's a waste of money.

BIRDIE There are other things we could spend it on, I agree.

ADIRA Like better food.

BIRDIE Like better food, or a trip to Bournemouth Pride, whatever.

CAIA Or a dishwasher.

JEN They'll just keep on smashing it.

TANA Why don't you put a CCTV camera up?

BIRDIE We can't afford it.

JEN Cos we spent the budget on fixing the window.

CAIA Silence, I say!

 Ronald McDonald is experiencing an emotion.

BIRDIE An emotion? Brilliant!

 Don't panic, I'm coming.

Birdie's here, she's ready.

Tell Birdie, she's got you.

CAIA There is sadness in Ronald McDonald's heart.

BIRDIE Sadness. Amazing! That's great, really brilliant.

Everyone hear that? Ronald McDonald is sad, isn't that wonderful?

Anyone else?

CAIA Ronald McDonald is sad because a dear friend of his has been spurned.

Ruthlessly, callously, spurned.

BIRDIE Great, Ronald, really great, tell Birdie all about it.

CAIA Isn't that right, Franny?

JOTHAM What about the window?

BIRDIE It will be fixed today, let's move on.

CAIA Hasn't she, Franny?

ADIRA Franny, did you spurn, Ronald?

CAIA No, not Ronald! No one spurns Ronald McDonald.

She has spurned one of Ronald's friends. And now she won't even speak to her.

To punish her.

JOTHAM Caia, we know it's you.

JEN She knows we know.

BIRDIE Caia, can you pack it in now please?

We need to decide what we'll do for the silence.

CAIA Silence!

BIRDIE No obviously silence, the question was /

CAIA No I mean: SILENCE!

Ronald must be heard.

Franny won't even speak to Ronald's friend who she callously spurned.

So, if Franny isn't talking to Caia.

Perhaps she will talk to Caia's dear and trusted friend, Ronald McDonald, and tell him what Caia did wrong?

Even just the tiniest clue would be helpful.

Tell Ronald McDonald all about it.

Why won't you speak to Caia?

ORSON Can I ask the group leader what her plan is to get this meeting back on track cos she seems out of her depth.

BIRDIE Caia stroke Ronald McDonald and Franny. Stay behind at the end and I will facilitate a conversation between the pair of you.

CAIA I need to know now.

Franny, what did I do?

I'm dying.

JEN Is this all you could think of?

CAIA Franny.

Beautiful, rare, gleaming pebble that you are.

I would never have said it if I thought it would upset you.

JEN What did you say?

BIRDIE This is a private conversation, you two. Maybe you should wait till you have privacy?

We need to make a decision about the silence.

Does anyone have any thoughts?

ORSON Yes.

BIRDIE Anyone have any thoughts?

ORSON I do.

BIRDIE Anyone at all.

ORSON Yeah, me.

BIRDIE Anyone at all.

ORSON I have thoughts.

BIRDIE Absolutely anyone at all.

ORSON My thought is we all go outside.

BIRDIE Adira, what do you think?

ORSON She thinks we all go out together.

ADIRA No I don't.

ORSON All out together.

JEN No.

ORSON Yes.

JEN No.

CAIA This how it's been, Birdie.

ORSON We all go out together.

CAIA Not everyone wants to do that, Orson.

ORSON Yes they do.

ADIRA No we don't.

BIRDIE Caia, what do you want to do?

CAIA I want to go out, hold my Franny's hand and show the world I love her and that I'm not scared and that being in love is awesome and my love is as good as theirs and I want to kiss her in the sun with the whole world watching.

 That's what I want to do.

JOTHAM It's raining.

BIRDIE Franny?

CAIA She's not talking.

BIRDIE To you? Or to all of us?

CAIA It started off me but I think she's extended the protest to society as a whole.

BIRDIE What are you protesting about, Franny?

FRANNY -

CAIA She's protesting that I asked her to marry me.

TANA Oh my God that's so cute.

CAIA I know, right? I got down on one knee and everything.

JEN Oh my God, that's so lame.

CAIA And I know the ring was a bit naff but the man in H Samuel's said it was the best I was gonna get at my price point and one day I'll buy a nicer one, but also, who cares? Who cares about a ring?

JOTHAM I do.

ADIRA You've got to have a ring.

JOTHAM I know, right?

When my man proposes to me, I want a flash mob.

ADIRA Why should he propose to you?

JOTHAM Cos he's the man.

ADIRA But you're a man too.

JOTHAM Yeah, but I'm the fabulous one.

CAIA Who cares about all that? I'm trying to tell you what happened.

JEN No one cares.

TANA I do.

Tell the story, Caia.

CAIA It's not a story. It's a tragedy.

JOTHAM Stories can be tragedies.

JEN Your hair's a tragedy.

JOTHAM Your life's a tragedy.

CAIA Listen to me.

JOTHAM The alarm's gonna go off.

CAIA If you all stopped interrupting me –

ADIRA Can't you say it in 140 characters?

CAIA And we got the train to Dungeness and I got down on one knee on
England's only desert that looks dead but it's secretly “with /

ADIRA That's a no then.

CAIA Teeming with life and I said, “Franny, I can't live without you.”

ADIRA What is she? Your phone charger?

CAIA And we stood in the shadow of the power station and it was windy and
I said, “Franny, isn't love wonderful? Isn't it badass and brilliant and
we've got it, so many people don't have it, we have love Franny, and
Franny, will you marry me?” That's all I said.

JEN No wonder she said no.

CAIA She didn't say no.

TANA Did she say yes?

CAIA She didn't say anything.

 She's not spoken since.

 I'm dying cos I'm in Hell: it's like Primark on a Saturday; then Franny
texted, didn't you my shiny pebble, she texted to say she feels
marriage is hold on, I've still got the text, and yeah that's
right...marriage is an oppressive institution.

TANA What does that mean?

CAIA Exactly, Tana.

 What does it mean?

JEN How come her phone doesn't have to go in the box?

CAIA But she says I should have known that because if I'd known that -
Oh God oh God oh God oh I lay myself at your feet, Franny.

FRANNY.
I will drown in the sea. I will do it. I will walk into the sea and not come back.

BIRDIE OK, so why don't we just park that?

ADIRA Come sit here, Caia.

CAIA Thank you Adira.
Kind, compassionate Adira.

ADIRA It's fine.

CAIA I'll just sit here and weep.
Or maybe I'll just die.
Is that what you want, Franny? Do you want me to die from the pain of loving you?

FRANNY -

CAIA She doesn't deny it.

JOTHAM I think she just wants you to stop talking shit.

BIRDIE OK. So we're good?
Can we carry on?

TANA What about the coup?

JOTHAM TANA!

BIRDIE He'd forgotten about it.

JEN Oh no.

ORSON NEVER FORGET!

JOTHAM Go hang out with your imaginary boyfriend, Orson.

ORSON RAGE he's not imaginary actually, Jotham, REVOLUTION, just cos you haven't seen him doesn't mean he doesn't exist REVOLT.

JEN He's Mister "Out and Proud", but won't show us his boyfriend.

ORSON RAAAAAAGE!

BIRDIE THAT IS ENOUGH!

You want rage?

You wanna see a little bit of Birdie's rage?

I got rage. I got rage in spades and you don't want to know what your life will be like with Birdie's rage all up in your face.

So let's park the coup.

Let's park the Ross and Rachel.

CAIA puts up her hand.

And can we actually discuss what we're here to discuss, because time is running out and /

What, Caia? What?

CAIA I think it was very insensitive to choose such a hetero-normative example.

BIRDIE Of what?

CAIA I'm not comfortable with being compared to a cis-hetero couple.

JEN Who the hell are Ross and Rachel?

TANA They were these dickheads in the olden days.

CAIA Proper dickheads.

BIRDIE You're right. I am sorry.

Caia and Franny and anyone else, anyone else at all, including Ronald McDonald, I apologise for my insensitive choice of language. I have listened to your comments and taken the time to reflect on my own privilege and I am sorry if anyone felt devalued or shamed by my lapse of judgment.

OK?

Good.

We need to make a decision and what I am hearing is that you want to go outside.

ORSON Finally some leadership.

JEN I'm not going out.

JOTHAM Nor am I.

ADIRA Nope.

ORSON What is wrong with you?

JEN Nothing's wrong with me.

What's wrong with you?

ORSON We have to get out there.

ADIRA I don't.

ORSON You're letting them win.

BIRDIE It's not as simple as that.

CAIA It is. It so is.

TANA Why do you all have to do the same thing?

ADIRA I know, right?

BIRDIE Solidarity.

ORSON Solidarity.

You're still an unfit leader though.

BIRDIE We're spectrum.

We commemorate as a group.

JEN We don't want to.

BIRDIE But it matters that we do.

JOTHAM No it doesn't.

ORSON I'm sorry, but it does. It absolutely does matter.

People out there want to divide us. And turn us against each other so they can have power over us. That's how they win.

But solidarity is a bond that unites us. It says I'm not scared because I've got you, and you're not scared because you've got me.

It matters because there are people very far away from us who are living in fear, more than we ever have or will, and we need to say to them, you don't need to be scared because you've got us.

We've got them and they've got us.

JOTHAM Outside: no. But as a group, yes.

TANA When is it?

BIRDIE In exactly twenty-one minutes' time.

TANA Jotham, my train leaves at quarter past.

JOTHAM So?

TANA You said you'd walk me to the station.

JOTHAM Well I can't now.

TANA You promised.

JOTHAM I want to do the silence.

TANA I hardly see you.

JOTHAM Then get a later train.

TANA Mum bought the tickets and I have to get the train it says on my ticket.

JOTHAM I'm only worth the cheapest. Thanks, Mum.

TANA Why should we have to pay the earth just to see you?

BIRDIE Tana, I think this is a private conversation.

TANA Nothing's private in this place. I've only been here a night and I know way more about you lot than I want to.

Pack your bags and come home to Mum and Dad.

BIRDIE Do you think you might be being a bit insensitive in saying that to your brother, Tana?

TANA Stop putting ideas in his head.

BIRDIE I'm not.

TANA You're turning him against his family.

JOTHAM No she's not.

TANA You shouldn't be here, with people like him coming out with crap like that.

All that rubbish about solidarity?

What about solidarity with your family?

JOTHAM This is my family.

TANA This lot?

This lot?

CAIA What's wrong with us?

TANA You're in the bloody funny farm.

CAIA Speak for yourself, I'm fine.

TANA I just meant /

JOTHAM I'm not going home.

ORSON Why don't you get a later train? They don't check your tickets down here.

TANA I don't want to get another train. I want to do what my brother and I agreed and not to have bloody group therapy about it.

Jotham?

JOTHAM Are we doing it inside or outside cos if /

CAIA Out and proud.

ADIRA No.

BIRDIE Can we at least agree we'll do it as a group?

ORSON We have to do it as a group.

CAIA Franny?

FRANNY -

CAIA Cool.

BIRDIE Jen?

JEN What?

BIRDIE We'll do it as a group, yeah?

JEN -

BIRDIE Jen.

JEN -

BIRDIE Jen, you /

JEN I don't think she should be allowed to pray.

BIRDIE Who?

JEN Her.

BIRDIE Jen, that's /

JEN Adira, are you going to pray during the two minutes' silence?

BIRDIE Jen, it's not OK to ask that.

JEN I'm not being disrespectful, Adira, are you gonna pray?

JOTHAM So what if she does?

TANA Jotham, let's go.

JEN I don't want to be in some prayer circle. If she prays I want to be separate.

CAIA Who cares what she does?

JEN It's insensitive.

BIRDIE You're the one being insensitive.

JEN I'm not being rude, but I'm not doing it.

You lot, do what you want, but I'm not doing a prayer circle.

TANA Are you gonna pray, Adira?

BIRDIE Don't answer, babes.

ADIRA Why can't I answer?

ORSON She means you don't have to answer, but she's an incompetent group leader.

BIRDIE Right. No. Sorry.

Adira, we'll come back to you in a minute, but there's a really good learning opportunity here and it's important I role model appropriate levels of self-esteem, so Orson, would you come into my office please?

ORSON What office?

BIRDIE Over there in the /

ORSON All I can see is a broom cupboard.

BIRDIE You're just angry cos you don't have an office.

ORSON You don't have an office.

BIRDIE It's a multi-purpose room. And come on, let's say it, we all know what this is about.

ORSON You wanna do this here.

BIRDIE Let's go, Face-ache.

ORSON No one here needs you, Birdie.

BIRDIE Yes they do.

ORSON You're not helping anyone.

JOTHAM She's helped me.

ORSON No she's not. She's making you worse.

JOTHAM Birdie was really nice to me.

ORSON If you say you want to stay inside, Birdie has failed you.

BIRDIE No.

ORSON We should be taking to the streets, fight them head on, full out, but you're like, no, let's all stay in and hide.

CAIA I'm not hiding.

ORSON You're dressed as Ronald McDonald!

And look at these windows, how can you say you're not hiding?

CAIA I'm not hiding.

ORSON You're all hiding.

TANA I'm not.

ORSON What have you got to hide from?

TANA I'm booked on a train so let's /

ORSON What is more important? Supporting your brother or getting home on time?

Things are changing. Everything is changing, but you can't see it because you can't see out past these damn windows.

BIRDIE We know things are changing. We did a wall display about it.

BIRDIE points to a wall display entitled "Things are Changing."

ORSON "Don't be too out there."

BIRDIE Who said that?

ORSON You do. Every day.

BIRDIE No I don't, and even if did, don't you think that's sensible?

ORSON Locking yourselves away.

BIRDIE When I lived here we couldn't even open the curtains.

ORSON You think this is progress?

A bit of sunlight.

BIRDIE It is progress.

ORSON It's not.

It's not, Birdie.

You're going backwards.

BIRDIE I know you resent being here.

ORSON I hate it here.

ADIRA Me too.

TANA And me.

JOTHAM You don't have to live here.

TANA Nor do you.

ADIRA How can you expect him to go home?

TANA Who, him?

ADIRA How can he go home?

TANA You just get on a train, it's not hard.

BIRDIE Everyone hates it here, great.

CAIA I don't.

BIRDIE You love everything, Caia.

ORSON Why do you give a crap if everyone likes you or not?

BIRDIE I don't.

ORSON You need everyone to like you.

Well, newsflash, we think you're an armpit.

BIRDIE You don't like it here, OK, fine, you've made that clear but don't make it personal please.

ORSON She's done one term of a youth work diploma and this is how she goes on.

BIRDIE And what have you done?

ORSON You're not qualified to do this.

BIRDIE Sorry, Orson, what youth work qualifications do you have?

ORSON None.

BIRDIE Exactly.

And furthermore, I used to be a resident here. I painted these walls.

ORSON "Been there, done that" is not a qualification.

How do you think it makes them feel when you say you've all got to hide away?

BIRDIE I'm not saying that.

ORSON You are.

BIRDIE I'm not. I'm saying you've got a choice.

ORSON As long as everyone does it together.

BIRDIE I would like it for us all to do it together, yes.

ORSON Inside.

BIRDIE Wherever we want, I don't mind.

ORSON You should mind. If you were doing your job you'd say we've got to get out and be seen, show them we're not ashamed.

All these laws they made against us, they told us we were disgusting. We've got to say, we're not, we know we're not.

The love I feel for my boyfriend is not disgusting.

Get out, be seen, Birdie.

Get up in their faces, not run back into the closet.

BIRDIE It's a multi-purpose room.

ORSON The 'closet' closet. This lot are the sheep and you're the dog rounding them all up.

BIRDIE You can't even be seen out with your boyfriend.

ORSON I just don't bring him here, that's different.

ADIRA Because he's not real.

JOTHAM I don't want to go outside.

BIRDIE You don't have to.

ORSON Yes you do.

Jotham, yes you do. Because if you don't, they've won.

You too, Adira, and you, Jen.

Where's the fight? Where's the pride? Where's the shoulders back, chest out, come for me pride?

JEN I left mine at home.

ADIRA My dog ate it.

ORSON This isn't funny.

I get that you're scared. But this is bigger than you.

And what is that fear?

What actually is it?

You're scared because of what they'll say? They've already said it.

You're scared of what they might do? They've already done it.

So that fear, it's based on what might happen, but everything that might happen already has.

So what does that tell you?

JOTHAM It tells me I'm never gonna get a boyfriend.

ORSON It tells you there's nothing left to be afraid of.

JOTHAM Oh, and that.

ORSON There's nothing left to be afraid of, guys.

ADIRA That's so easy for you to say, Orson.

Not all of us have your life.

JEN No one cares, Adira.

BIRDIE I do.

JEN Maybe you should say a prayer, see where that gets you.

JOTHAM OK, you need to stop.

JEN Are you going to pray, Adira?

JOTHAM Leave her alone, Jen.

ADIRA I can handle her.

JOTHAM When are you two gonna get a room and be done with it?

JEN I don't wanna get a room with her.

ADIRA Gross.

JOTHAM Adira, Jen is so into you, it's off the scale.

JEN Are you gonna pray?

JOTHAM That's it, change the subject.

ADIRA Of course I'm gonna pray.

JEN This is what I mean.
They don't give a shit about us.

ADIRA I get it, Jen.
The attacker looked like me and attacked people like you.

JEN Well didn't they?

ADIRA I'm not disagreeing.

JEN What's your point then?

ADIRA What's my point? On behalf of who? People like me? People like you?
People like us?
Who gives a toss what my point is?
It's way worse for people like me after these things, I can tell you.

JEN People like you did it.

JOTHAM Shut up, Jen.

JEN No.

JOTHAM You're talking shit, Jen.

CAIA Seriously, Jen.

Aren't you gonna kick her out, Birdie?

JEN She should get out.

Adira, can you leave please?

This is my safe space and you're making me feel uncomfortable.

JOTHAM Shut your mouth, Jen.

CAIA Jen, you're being awful.

JEN Get out, Adira.

You're the one that should leave.

ORSON Hey Birdie, great job. I can't wait to tell Sally how you handled this.

BIRDIE That's enough.

The ground rules clearly state that /

ORSON It's a bit late for that, don't you think, Birdie?

JEN Every member of Spectrum has a right to be here without fear of persecution – number two /

BIRDIE Every member has a right to be themselves – number eight

JEN Every member has a right to speak freely – number six

ORSON We can all read.

Birdie's not got the balls, so I'll do it.

Jen, get out.

JEN I'm not going anywhere.

BIRDIE Hold on guys, we can't just /

JEN This is my safe space. You're gonna kick me out? You know how vulnerable I am.

BIRDIE You lose that right when you make comments like that.

ORSON Better late than never, Birdie.

BIRDIE Leave now please, I'll make an appointment with you and we can talk about next steps.

ORSON Oh, I wouldn't do it like that.

BIRDIE Right, you can leave too Orson.

ADIRA I told you I can handle it.

Honestly, you lot do my head in.

Let Jen stay.

I'm done with the lot of you anyway.

TANA Jotham, come on.

ADIRA What time is your train, Tana?

TANA Quarter past.

ADIRA Mind if I come with you?

JEN Are you leaving?

ADIRA Why would I want to stay here with people like you?

JEN You can't just leave.

BIRDIE Jen didn't mean what she said.

TANA Will you be safe?

ADIRA I don't care about what Jen said.

I'm sorry, but I literally can't stay here any longer.

I'll just grab a bag and send my brothers down for my stuff.

Can I come with you, Tana?

JOTHAM Are we allowed to just leave?

CAIA This isn't prison, Jotham.

ADIRA Yes it bloody is.

BIRDIE We need to talk to your social worker, Adira.

CAIA But Adira, we love you.

BIRDIE We do.

JOTHAM Jen really does.

ADIRA I don't want your love. No offence.

 I want Mum's love. And Dad's love and my brothers'.

BIRDIE They need time, babes.

ADRIA They've had time.

 More than enough time.

JEN What if they kick you out again?

ADIRA I'm not coming back here if they do.

BIRDIE You need to think this through.

ADIRA I have.

BIRDIE You can leave, but why don't we plan it?

 Go home for a weekend at a time; build up it slowly.

ADIRA I'd rather just do it and be done.

BIRDIE I don't think that's a good idea.

CAIA Will you add me on Facebook?

ADIRA I'll add you all.

BIRDIE Adira, I can't stop you.

 But you don't need to rush off.

ADIRA Yeah I do.

 I'm sorry but I'm done.

 I'm so done.

 And you can't stop me.

BIRDIE I'm not stopping you.

ADIRA You are.

BIRDIE Plan it. Don't rush. That's what I'm saying.

ADIRA I don't want to.

I want to go home now.

Don't pressure me to do something I don't want to do.

BIRDIE Ok.

If it's your choice, I stand by you.

But I want you to know that we really do wish you well.

And whatever happens, you know we'll always be here.

ADIRA Thanks yeah.

But do you have any idea how depressing that is?

This place is shit, and no offence, you're all twats.

I miss my mum. And she's not here, she's there.

And I know what she said.

She said she wished I was dead, that having a gay child was worse than death. I know she said that.

But even so -

Jotham, you know what I mean.

TANA Why would Jotham understand that?

ADIRA And Orson, you say revolution but /

TANA No hold on.

Jotham?

Why would you get that?

CAIA There's not enough love, that's what I think.

TANA What's my brother said to you?

Adira, what's he told you?

ADIRA -

TANA What's he told you?

JOTHAM Forget it.

TANA No.

JOTHAM Leave it.

TANA What have you said?

JOTHAM I've not said nothing.

TANA Then why did she say /

ADIRA I didn't say /

TANA Yeah you did.

JOTHAM I said leave it, OK?

TANA No.

BIRDIE Tana, your brother clearly /

TANA Stay out my family's business.

BIRDIE We have a confidentiality agreement.

TANA You're talking about my family.

ADIRA I wasn't.

TANA You said, "Jotham, you get it."

JOTHAM Tana, please.

TANA I have a right to know what's been said about me.

CAIA No one said anything.

TANA Bullshit, what has he said about us?

JOTHAM I haven't said nothing.

TANA Yeah you have.

JOTHAM You're humiliating me.

TANA What about me?

JOTHAM You're gonna miss your train, let's go.

TANA No don't worry, we're talking, it's nice.

JOTHAM Please.

TANA What has my brother said?

Can someone please answer my question?

Answer me.

Silence.

Eventually –

ADIRA He said /

BIRDIE Ground rules, Adira

ADIRA He said your mum and dad kicked him out.

When he came out your dad beat the crap out of him.

Which is what happened to me. So we kind of bonded over it.

TANA He said that?

Is that what he said?

BIRDIE Adira, that /

ADIRA It's family, Birdie.

TANA Jotham, get your stuff and we'll go.

If we get a taxi we'll just make it.

JOTHAM -

(JOTHAM may be crying.)

TANA Jotham, come on.

You lot are twats.

My brother's coming with me.

ADIRA Can I share your cab?

TANA Anyone else want to get out of this dump?

JOTHAM It's not a dump, Tana.
 It's my home.

TANA It's not your home, Jotham.
 These freaks are not your family.

ORSON Hey.

TANA You're freaks. You're mental and you're turning him away from his family.

BIRDIE You need to leave now please, Tana.

ORSON Are we all leaving? There'll be no one left.
 Good job, Birdie.

JEN We're not tuning him away from his mum and dad, Tana. They turned away from him.

TANA How the hell would you know?

JOTHAM Please don't.

TANA We went to Wicked.
 Pizza Express, then Wicked.
 Do you know what that took for my mum and dad to do that?
 Have you seen Wicked?
 It's shit.
 It's got singing monkeys, what's all that about?
 But do you know what it took for my mum and dad to do that?
 Absolutely nothing.
 Nothing at all, Jotham.
 And I've got Dad crying down the phone every night saying bring our boy back, wondering what they did wrong.

I said maybe we should have seen Billy Elliot, but Mum said that was too on the nose, so we went with the singing monkeys, and we were allowed a glass of Prosecco with our dough balls and we said cheers and, by the way, it was way more than I got when I passed my driving test.

We were so proud of you, Jotham.

You don't belong here.

None of you do.

ADIRA Do you want me to help you pack? We'll still get the train.

TANA I'm so sorry your mum said that to you, Adira. I'm so sorry. If you need to stay with us, you can share my bedroom any time you like.

But for Jotham to say what he said.

When it did actually happen to you.

Jotham, that's -

I wish you could have our mum, Adira.

And our dad.

ADIRA Thanks.

I don't.

My mum's amazing.

JEN How can you say that?

ADIRA If you met her.

JEN Yeah but she told you she /

ADIRA I know.

And yeah, it was the worst thing ever.

But I'm still here.

In stupid Dungeness, on the edge of the bloody country. Are we even on the map? All I can see is the sea, there's never any signal and now there's no wifi thanks to you lot and I just want to look at my Snapchat /

JOTHAM No one's messaged you, babes.

ADIRA And send a message on Whatsapp and no one here looks like me. I see them staring at me, you all know they do.

CAIA They stare at us too, when I hold Franny's hand.

ADIRA That's different.

And social services sent me out here to keep myself safe but I don't feel safer.

You don't know what I did to try and change this. For this not to be me. I prayed, so hard, so so hard, and, yeah, all along I thought this would be easier for everyone if I was dead.

So I go back and I say to them, you change. This is on you. You won't pray the gay away, you won't change our family's reputation, it won't do anything.

I'm gonna do the two minutes' silence. In the taxi or on the platform, I don't care, wherever I am, I'll do it. And I will pray for the victims and their families.

And I'm gonna pray for the strength to forgive my mum.

And I want to be there to help her. Because I need her to help me.

And one day, I think she will.

I still think you're all twats, though.

JOTHAM But you'll add us on Facebook?

ADIRA Of course.

It was me who put the bin in Jotham's bed.

JOTHAM I knew it!

ADIRA There's a limit to how many times we can hear *Let it Go*, Jotham.

I prayed for patience. But you sing it a lot.

Forgive me?

JOTHAM Of course I forgive you babes.

I was gonna make you a fierce outfit for Bournemouth Pride.

Shall I send it to you?

ADIRA Why don't you bring it up to me one day?

What's so good about Bournemouth Pride anyway?

JOTHAM Is she on glue?

Is this girl on glue?

What is so good about Bournemouth Pride?

Do you know where that yellow brick road leads?

Bournemouth Pride, that's where, babes.

Do you know what's at the end of the rainbow, Adira?

Bournemouth Pride, that's what.

And I swear I am going to be crowned queen of Bournemouth Pride and I'm gonna lead the parade on the winner's float, I'm gonna sit on my throne with my crown and drive through the streets of Bournemouth serving fuck-you realness and I'm gonna look so sickening, you lot are gonna gag, hunties.

And all the haters, I'm gonna make them eat it.

OK?

CAIA Yes, Queen!

ORSON He'll put a dress on and drive through Bournemouth pulled by a tractor but he won't stand out in the street and protest in his jeans and t-shirt.

What have you got to say to that, Jotham?

TANA Leave my brother alone.

ORSON Your brother's a hypocrite.

JOTHAM No more than you.

TANA My brother is amazing actually.

And at least he's not a bully.

So it's none of your business what he does.

ORSON Come on Jotham, what have you got to say?

JOTHAM Obviously it's sad and everything, and I don't mean to be shallow, but can I have Adira's bedroom please?

ORSON Typical. Such a pageant queen. Being fabulous doesn't make you safe.

JOTHAM It does for me.

ORSON I don't want to be fabulous.

JOTHAM There's no danger there, babes.

ORSON But it's a mask. What happens when you take it off?

CAIA Stop, no stop, I can't go on no please don't look at me, don't look at me. Oh the pain.

JEN Was it not about you for five seconds?

BIRDIE Sorry Adira, your moment's over.

ADIRA Fine by me.

CAIA I have dreams.

 Vast, open dreams.

 Don't you?

JOTHAM Who?

CAIA All of you?

JOTHAM All of us what?

CAIA Have dreams?

JOTHAM I'm still a virgin, so it's just the one dream at the moment.

ORSON You don't want it enough, Jotham, that's your problem.

JOTHAM I do really want it.

ORSON The only person standing between you and your virginity is you.

JOTHAM Well no, you need another person really don't you?

CAIA Not to dream, Jotham. You don't need another person to dream.

ADIRA I'm gonna get my bag.

TANA Jotham, I'm gonna pack you a bag.

Start saying your goodbyes?

JOTHAM You can't make me.

ADIRA Tana, I'll help you.

Exit ADIRA and TANA.

CAIA Franny. Why?

Why are you torturing me like this?

BIRDIE You're sixteen. I think you need to calm down a bit.

CAIA I can't make you love me, Franny, I know that. Oh Franny, beautiful, elegant and strange creature that you are, so out of context in this shitty house in Dungeness, England, I say to you this:

I love you. I absolutely fucking love you.

FRANNY -

CAIA FRANNY!

Enter ADIRA and TANA with their bags.

ADIRA Is Ronald McDonald dead?

ORSON No, just in love.

Come on Franny, give her a break.

CAIA I'll take lectures in love from anyone except you.

ORSON I've never given anyone lectures, thank you very much.

CAIA What do you know anyway, you have to fake a boyfriend.

ORSON He's real.

CAIA All your talk of love in the open, where is he then?

ORSON We don't kiss in the shadows any more than you do.

It's private that's all.

CAIA You're a hypocrite.

ADRIA It's time to go.

BIRDIE I can't make you stay, but I need to tell your social worker where you are.

ADIRA I texted him.

BIRDIE I'm sorry to see you go.

 We love you and you'll always be welcome.

 I hope your time at Spectrum was helpful.

ADIRA Not really.

 But thanks for being nice.

 I'll send my brothers down for the rest of my stuff.

BIRDIE Here's an evaluation form.

 Or you can do it online.

 Or you know, don't.

ADIRA hugs everyone goodbye.

She gets to JEN last.

ADIRA See you, Jen.

JEN -

BIRDIE Is there anything you want to say to Adira, Jen?

JEN -

ADIRA Well, goodbye.

 We're cool. Just so you know. It's all good.

 We're gonna miss the train.

JOTHAM I'm not coming, Tana.

TANA I know.

JOTHAM You'll come back down though?

TANA Maybe.

Dunno.

You could come up for the weekend?

JOTHAM Yeah.

Maybe.

TANA You're my best brother.

I'm sorry I called you all freaks. You're not.

You're my best. OK?

Bye, Jotham.

JOTHAM Bye.

ADIRA OK, so see you, I guess.

TANA and ADIRA make their way to the door with their bags.

JOTHAM I really miss Mum and Dad, Tana.

And you.

Especially you.

TANA OK.

JOTHAM Will you tell them I miss them?

A moment.

TANA No.

Come on, Adira.

Exit TANA and ADIRA.

JEN They're dropping like flies.

CAIA You should have told her.

JEN Told her what?

CAIA You're like a stone, I can't bear it, Jen.

JEN Yeah? Well at least I'm not on the floor dressed as Ronald McDonald.

CAIA I don't care.

I don't care.

I'm sixteen, OK, so obviously that means I don't know shit.

But if life has taught me something, it's to be kind. And if you find someone that loves you, it's good. It's really good, Jen.

JEN I don't love her.

CAIA Falling in love is very hard. Believe me. It's very hard.

But pretending you haven't fallen in love is even harder.

BIRDIE OK, this is good. This is really good.

Jen, Jen, look at you, all connected and listening.

JEN Shut up.

She's not gonna call me, is she, Birdie?

BIRDIE Are you ok?

JEN She's gone; you're kicking me out. I'm not having a very good day actually.

BIRDIE Can we make a deal?

JEN About what?

BIRDIE What you said to Adira was wrong. And if you can't see that, I want to help you get to a point where you can.

And if I'm gonna do that, I'll need you to stick around. And, you know, we'd miss you.

So can we make a deal? If you want to, you can stay, but there's a condition.

You stop throwing stones at our window please.

JEN thinks.

Eventually she empties some pebbles from her pockets and gives them to BIRDIE.

Thank you.

Thank you.

Did you see that, Orson? It's what, in the trade, we call a breakthrough moment.

BOOM-CHICKA-ROCKA-SUCK-ON-THAT.

Right. We've got to make up our minds.

Inside or outside?

Together or separate?

ORSON Don't give them the choice.

JOTHAM I don't want to do it outside.

ORSON I think you'll regret it.

JOTHAM I know what happened was awful and I want to say that. But I don't know how because doing it outside it's /

ORSON It's the only way. You want to show your anger and solidarity, it counts for nothing unless people see it.

BIRDIE Don't pressurise him.

ORSON Someone's got to.

CAIA I'm going outside and I'm taking my Franny's hand /

ORSON There we go.

That's what I'm talking about.

BIRDIE Orson, stop it.

You're not in charge.

ORSON Well you certainly aren't either.

What kind of outfit do you call this?

You've got two that just left right under your nose, you've got one who thinks she's Ronald McDonald and one who's smashing the place in every time we go to bed.

BIRDIE You're part of the same group.

ORSON I'm at least a year older than everyone here.
At least.

BIRDIE Except me.

JOTHAM So, what, that makes you better?

ORSON It makes me more mature.

JEN It makes you a dickhead.

ORSON You're all cowards.
You make me sick the lot of you.

BIRDIE Oi, that's enough.

JOTHAM I'm not doing the silence with him.

JEN Or me.

ORSON We all do it together.

BIRDIE Why?

ORSON I can't believe you need that explaining.

CAIA Orson, stop being so unkind.

ORSON Oh shut up, Ronald McDonald, go get me a Big Mac.

CAIA Hey.

BIRDIE That's not helpful.

ORSON Oh get back in your closet.

BIRDIE It's a multi-purpose room.

JOTHAM We're running out of time.

ORSON Why don't you put your dress on, princess?

JOTHAM Oh you'd like that would you?

ORSON Birdie, get it together.

CAIA She's got it together ...

JOTHAM Stop bullying us, Orson.

ORSON You think you're being bullied, look how the world treats you.

BIRDIE Everyone please calm down.

ORSON Go get fingered then dumped again.

BIRDIE She broke my heart, Orson.

ORSON I'm going outside, who's coming?

JOTHAM I want to stay here.

ORSON Nice bit of pride you got going on, princess.

JOTHAM I am proud.

ORSON No you're not.

BIRDIE What do you know?

CAIA Ronald McDonald says -

JOTHAM Fuck off, Ronald. You look like a joke.

CAIA You fuck off.

BIRDIE We haven't got time for this.

ORSON Everyone out together.

JOTHAM You are not in charge.

ORSON Nor are you.

BIRDIE I'm in charge.

ORSON Good one, Birdie.

BIRDIE I swear to God, I'm gonna kill you.

JOTHAM Get him, Birdie.

CAIA Stop it, you lot.

JOTHAM I'll get you, my pretty, and your little dog too.

ORSON I don't have a dog.

BIRDIE Shut up, Orson.

ORSON Who's got a dog?

JOTHAM Fly, my pretties.

ORSON Not so big now are you?

JOTHAM I am big. It's Bournemouth Pride that got small.

ORSON He's speaking in tongues.

JOTHAM You're a shit gay, Orson.

ORSON You're a shit gay.

JOTHAM I am a great gay.

ORSON You're a great gay bellend.

And you, Birdie.

BIRDIE What about me?

ORSON Call yourself a lesbian?

My mum's a bigger lesbian than you.

BIRDIE I'm not surprised. Have you seen your dad?

ORSON I'm gonna kill you.

BIRDIE Not if I kill you first.

JOTHAM Stella!

ORSON Who the fuck is Stella?

BIRDIE Come on, Orson, I swear to god you are so done.

ORSON Yeah?

Etc.

The argument descends into an enormous ad lib argument.

It gets louder and louder and more vicious until everyone is stood up screaming in each other's faces. When we think it can't get any worse....

FRANNY HEY!
STOP IT
ALL OF YOU.
I SAID, STOP IT.

Silence.

CAIA Franny!
You're alive.
It's a miracle.

Enter ADIRA and TANA

ADIRA There's all these people in the streets, we couldn't get a taxi.

TANA We knew we were gonna miss the train so we came back.
What's going on?

CAIA Franny has come back to us, that's what's happened.

FRANNY I'll tell you what's going on.
Orson. You're a real wanker sometimes.
Birdie is trying.
She is trying so hard.
And you lot. You smug, entitled idiots.
You think someone blowing you up is the biggest thing you've got to worry about?
You're doing a good enough job of that on your own.
What do you want? What do you actually want?
When we walk down the streets holding hands, we're making a statement. When we kiss at the bus stop or at the movies, we're making a statement.
And love starts where the movies end. It's scary, cos you have to show someone the bits of you you don't even show yourself, but lots of things in life are scary and you still do it.

I know you lot don't like Orson. I get it. I don't like him much either. But he's found someone and if that's what he wants in life then leave him alone.

And Orson, Birdie is trying. Give her a break.

Jotham doesn't have to go outside, and Jen, Adira doesn't have to love you back if she can't. You can't make her. But you fell in love, you should be happy that you can, because if you can now, you will again and one time, that person will love you back and it will be amazing and wonderful and you'll never be the same again because you were brave enough to let someone love you and that's what's at the end of the rainbow.

JOTHAM No, it is actually Bournemouth Pride.

FRANNY So I ask you again. All of you.

What do you actually want?

JOTHAM I think I preferred her when she wasn't speaking.

BIRDIE I know what I want.

I can tell you exactly what I want.

All these haters out there. They're nothing.

All you lot, saying you hate me, even though I'm trying, I'm really trying. Doesn't mean a thing.

Believe me. No can hate me more than I do sometimes.

FRANNY But what do you want?

BIRDIE What I want is to look at myself in the mirror and maybe one day, just one out of the seven, for me to look in the mirror and like what I see. Just one day out of seven to look at myself and say, "Today, I'm enough."

And I can. I can do it.

I don't know where I learned to hate myself so much, but I will be damned if I'm gonna let it get in my way.

That's what I want.

Because today, I'm enough.

CAIA I know what I want.

Franny, I know I've been a bit over the top, looking back I can see how this might have all come across as a bit, I don't know, desperate or something.

But I love you. And I want you as my wife. And if one day, you then become my husband, I want that too.

Franny, please.

Will you marry me?

FRANNY -

JOTHAM'S alarm goes off.

JOTHAM It's time.

CAIA Franny?

BIRDIE Everyone ready?

CAIA Franny?

BIRDIE Caia, you'll have to wait.

ORSON But we haven't decided.

BIRDIE We'll have to do it just as we are.

Take us as they find us, right?

JOTHAM It's time.

BIRDIE OK. Ready everyone?

JOTHAM I'm ready.

ADIRA We're all ready.

House lights up slowly through the following.

BIRDIE We will all now observe two minutes' silence.

Stand if you wish, or stay seated, but I ask all of us to honour this moment.

For all those living in fear, far from us, or on our doorstep, we show you our solidarity; for all those fighting for their right to love, to be

themselves in all corners of the world, for all those who have fought before us. For everyone who has fought in the name of love.

We stand in solidarity and we remember them now. And we say, *Love wins.*

Two minutes' silence.

We begin now.

We observe two minutes' silence.

After the silence.

From outside we can hear a choir sing a song we know.

Through the frosted window we get the sense of a crowd congregating. We see the blurred shapes of rainbow flags drifting by. More and more people are walking by the window.

The song gets louder and louder through the following.

BIRDIE Thank you everyone.

CAIA Franny?

JEN What's all that noise?

JOTHAM It sounds like an army.

BIRDIE Let's go see.

Exit BIRDIE, ORSON, TANA and JOTHAM.

Now the whole crowd is singing along.

FRANNY Caia.

I love you too.

But of course I'm not gonna marry you.

I'm sixteen.

Enter JOTHAM.

JOTHAM Guys, you've got to come see this.

Guys, come on.

Caia, Franny, Adira, come on.

Jen.

They're all headed to the beach, Jen.

There's flags and banners and candles and lanterns and the sun is
shining and /

Caia.

Franny.

Hurry up, you'll miss it.

Jen.

Adira.

Come on!

Come with me!

Come outside.

It's beautiful.

ADIRA, JEN, CAIA and FRANNY follow JOTHAM onto the street.

We're outside now.

They join a huge throng of people with flags and banners who have taken to the streets singing the song we all know.

The rousing song builds and builds. They stand down stage taking it all in.

They sing.

We sing.

The powerful, uplifting climax of the song and a triumph of rainbow flags.

Blackout.