

TITLE

Devised by 1st Year Theater & English Students
Process to Production

Setting:

History Day: 7th October 2013 @ _____ Primary School

PRE-SHOW

A Newspaper Playground forms. Kids playing games. GIRL seems to be getting picked on. BOY sits elsewhere in a room by himself. NEWSPAPER REPORTER is snooping around. PRINCIPAL is on the phone looking frustrated. The music and movement swells up, all around BOY.

TEACHER

You wait in here until your parents
come to get you. To think!

[Principal's Office]

NEWS REPORTER

I just have a few questions about
History Day.

PRINCIPAL

Yes I understand.
Hello? Hello-no don't put me on
hold again.

NEWS REPORTER

Just a few questions.

PRINCIPAL

I appreciate you wanting to feature
our school in your story, but I'm a
bit busy at the moment.
Yes hello- I am trying to reach Mr.
Crenshaw-
Sorry I'm going to have to ask you
to step outside
(pushes NEWS REPORTER out
of room;
(MORE)

PRINCIPAL (CONT'D)
the NEWS REPORTER snoops
around)

Yes Hello- Mr. Crenshaw? Yes I
understand that- no I am not
calling about a claim-
It's about his son- no not my son-

[switch to another room]

TEACHER

Now you stay in here with Tommy
until we can reach your parents to
come bring you a change of clothes-

GIRL

But I don't want a change of-

TEACHER

No buts- it's for your own good.

[switch to Principal's Office]

PRINCIPAL

dammit! Disconnected again.

TEACHER

No luck?

PRINCIPAL

His father works for the bloody NHS-
have you ever tried to get through
their phone system?

TEACHER

Have you tried the mother?

PRINCIPAL

(makes a drinking gesture)
I can leave another message.

TEACHER

Well before you do that. We've got
another History day dilemma on our
hands.

PRINCIPAL

What now?

TEACHER

Hannah came to class dressed as
Malala.

PRINCIPAL

Who?

TEACHER

The girl from Pakistan who spoke out for education for girls, and was shot. They're nominated her for the Nobel Peace prize?

PRINCIPAL

That's an original costume idea. What happened to good old fashioned History Day costumes like Queen Elizabeth and Margaret Thatcher.

TEACHER

What's wrong with these parents?— That's the question.

PRINCIPAL

What's the problem with Lamamma?

TEACHER

Mahala.

PRINCIPAL

Right.

TEACHER

The problem is, I can't control the rest of the class from bullying her— They keep calling her a terrorist, because of the scarf. All the boys dressed up as Lieutenant Prince William are playing a war game they have created called "Catch the Terrorist." They keep chasing her around the room trying to pull off her scarf. I think it be best if her parents came and brought a change of clothes.

PRINCIPAL

Great. Lets see if we have any luck getting their parents on the phone.

[switch to room]

BOY

who you supposed to be?

GIRL

Malala. She just put out her own book about her life story. And she advocates for education.

BOY

I'm Hitler.

GIRL
I know. Hard to miss.
Can I ask you something ?

BOY
Sure

GIRL
Why on earth would you dress as
Hitler for History Day?

BOY
Well, he is part of History.

GIRL
But he was evil.

BOY
My grandma says that history is
evil. So I figured I should pick
the most evil person in History. To
try and understand why he was as
evil as he was.

GIRL
Have you figured anything out?

BOY
Well, no one seems to Be very happy
with me- and I'm trapped in this
room.

GIRL
Then again so am I
and Mahala is not evil.
(GRANDPA enters)

GRANDPA
what day is it?

BOY
October 7. 2013.

GRANDPA
That you Peter?

GIRL
Who's he?

BOY
Yup- Peter at your service. Who are
you?

GRANDPA
Don't be silly Peter- It's me!
Grandpa.

GIRL
your name isn't P-

BOY
shhhhh I think he's blind.
Hi Grandpa!
He might be out ticket outta here.

GRANDPA
come on Peter, we gotta go.

GIRL
I don't know about this.

BOY
Come on, you wanna stay in this
room all day while everyone else
celebrates History Day?
Where we going Grandpa?

GRANDPA
Where are we going? We're going
on... an adventure!

BOY
Can my friend come?

GRANDPA
I don't know.

BOY
Pleeeeeeease?

GRANDPA
Okay- it might be good for you to
have a friend with you. What day is
it?

BOY
October 7, 2013

GIRL
I think he's senile.

GRANDPA
You see this paper?
What date does it say?

BOY
October 7, 2013.

GRANDPA
Come on then- we've got no time to
waste. Can your friend read?

GIRL
I can read.

GRANDPA

Good. You'll take turns. There's something very important in today's paper that we must find.

(They leave the room and go on journey through the newspaper looking for Grandpa's article)

[Meanwhile PRINCIPAL continue to try and reach BOY and GIRL's parents]

[Elsewhere:]

NEWS REPORTER

Hey Johnny. It's me. Yeah, yeah I'm at the school. No, I don't think I'll be back in time- It's become more than a happy little History Day story. Get this...

BOY

AL-SHABAB BEATS BACK US SEALS AFTER PRE-DAWN ASSUALT

BARIS

Hey Caesar. Look what I got! The new Catch the Terrorists: Navy Seals Hunt the Johadists!

CAESAR

Sick mate! Been waitin' ages for this to come out. Catch the Terrorists knocks Call of Duty out of the water.

BARIS

Let's play!

CAESAR

Hells yeah.

BARIS

Cool, I'll load it.
 (a loading pause)
 (screen opens)
 The graphics are sick.
 (enter Navy Seals)

GIRL

"Al-Shabab, the Somali-based militants fought off an attack by America's most highly trained soldiers at the weekend, underscoring their military prowess after the deadly siege in a Kenyan shopping mall last month."

BARIS

Select sides. I get to be the **Americans.**

CAESAR

I wanna be the Americans.

BARIS

Tough. My game.

CAESAR

C'mon man, I don't wanna be British.

BARIS

Tough. My game, my system, my house.

CAESAR

Your way... as always.

BARIS

You're British.
You can be Prince William,

CAESAR

Nah...

BARIS

Whatever mate. It don't matter. We fight on the same team anyway.

BOY

"The pre-dawn assault in Baraawe, an Indian ocean port 110 miles south of Mogadishu..."

BARIS

Select your Seal.
(blup blup blup blup blup)

CAESAR

That one.
(blup blup blup blup blup)

BARIS

This one's the best!

GIRL

"Members of America's Navy Seal Team 6 used speedboats to make a raid on the two-storey home of "a known al-Shabbab terrorist" who has not been named..."

BARIS

Start!

BOY

"The Seals were forced to retreat"

CAESAR

Let the mission begin!

AMERICAN SEAL

Once these boats have landed in Barrawe, we will advance on the compound and complete the mission. We took down Bin Laden- This guy will be easy, especially with the help of our British allies.

(music)

(1's)

(2's)

(3's)

(BRITISH SOLDIER dies)

CAESAR

Aw man, I already died.

(4 & 5)

BARIS

Don't worry you get three lives. But I gotta die first.

(AMERICAN SOLDIER dies)

(music out)

Aw man! Stop distracting me.

GIRL

"... America would never stop in its effort to hold those accountable who conduct acts of terror."

(music)

(6 & 7)

(1)

(2)

(3)

CAESAR

Pause!

(music out; aall freeze)

BARIS

Why you pausin` it?

CAESAR

I'm bout to die again. Hey you know
what would be sick?
If we could play against each
other.

BARIS

Huh?

CAESAR

Like if you can be the jihadist.

BARIS

You'd be the jihadist.
What the hells wrong with you? You
wanna be a jihadist? Don't say shit
like that. Unpause it.

(music)

(1)

(BRITISH SOLDIER dies)

CAESAR

That's it, I only have one life.

(2)

(3)

(all drop)

BARIS

You suck at this.

CAESAR

Thanks.

(music out)

BARIS

Yes! Next level!

BOY

**"Reinforcements soon came and the
foreigners fled... But The
Americans have weapons with
silencers. al-Shabbab fought back
with their assault rifles and
grenades"**

(silent round)

(1-7)

BARIS

Watch this!

(all drop)

(all rise)

(all drop including
BRITISH SOLDIER)

CAESAR

I got killed too.

BARIS
Friendly fire.

CAESAR
That's lame.

BARIS
Don't knock my game.
Where you goin'?

CAESAR
I'm done with this game.
(walks into the game and
joins the jihadists)

BARIS
But we're not done.
(all rise with Caesar;
music on; American Seal
dies)
Awww man!

CAESAR
Why would you dress as Hitler? And
why would you dress up as a suicide
bomber?

GIRL
I'm not a suicide bomber! I'm
Malala.

BOY
Why would you dress up as a suicide
bomber?

CAESAR
I'm not-wait a minute-

GRANDPA
This isn't the article. What's
today's date?

MOTHER
BARIS! Dinner time.
(screen shuts)

GIRL
October 7th, 2013.

BOY
Hey, we gotta go. Wanna come?

CAESAR
Okay!
(joins them on the
journey)

TEACHER

Any luck?

PRINCIPAL

Can't get either of their parents on the phone.

TEACHER

I have more bad news.

PRINCIPAL

What now?

TEACHER

They're missing.

PRINCIPAL

They're what? Who?

TEACHER

Hannah and Tommy.

PRINCIPAL

How?

TEACHER

I left them in the room for five minutes.

PRINCIPAL

We have to find those kids. That damn reporter from the Sun is roaming around. He gets wind of this, our whole school will be on the front page.

NEWS REPORTER

(to audience)

"Kids Dressed as Hitler and Malala Go Missing From School on History Day."

GRANDPA

Read me another article.

GIRL

"Madeleine McCann Inquiry "Making Progress."

BOY

"A reconstruction of the "latest, most detailed understanding" of the events around the time Madeleine went missing will be shown on BBC crimewatch."

ALL

Madeleine...

Madeleine...

Madeleine...

DAD

Goodnight sweetie. Don't let the bed bugs bite.

SARAH

Daddy. I've been having weird dreams. I keep hearing voices saying the name "Madeleine."

DAD

Don't be silly honey- Your grandmother was Madeleine. This used to be her room. Your just dreaming of grandma.

SARAH

Daddy. I want to go outside. Like normal kids.

DAD

Honey. You're not like normal kids. You're my special little princess. And your skin is too sensitive to be outside. You know that.

SARAH

But daddy-

DAD

NO BUTS, darling. Go to bed.
(staring off into the audience)

SARAH

Psssst. Hey! Tania!
(knocking on wall)
You there?
You awake?

TANIA

Yeah. Be quiet.
Dad gone to sleep?

SARAH

Yeah.
Hey, I need you to do me a favor.

TEACHER

Tania is the perfect student. Her reading and maths are off the charts, but- forgive me, but, in class, she seems distracted. She keeps talking about a Madeleine.

(MORE)

TEACHER (CONT'D)

Perhaps, an imaginary friend of hers?

DAD

Oh that. Her grandmother, my mother was Madeleine. Grandma Maddy. The girls- I mean Tania, watched one of those silly ghost movies and now she thinks she sees Grandma's ghost.

TANIA

No more favors. Everytimee I do you a favor I get in big trouble with daddy.

SARAH

This is the last favor. I promise.

TANIA

Fine. What do you need me to do?

SARAH

Sneak into the hall, and get dad's keys to unlock my door.

TANIA

Are you crazy?!

SARAH

Please Tania. I need to see what's out there. Just for a quick walk. Besides, it's dark- nothing will happen to my skin.

TANIA

Okay. This is the last favor!
(sneaks into the hall)

GIRL

"Met detectives have interviewed 442 people as part of their review-turned-investigation into Madeleine's disappearance. It has identified 41 people of interest, including 15 UK nationals."

SARAH

Thanks.

TANIA

You better be real quiet coming back.
(returns to her room)

SARAH

(to the audience)
I'm not coming back.
(MORE)

SARAH (CONT'D)
 (walks towards BOY, GIRL,
 GRANDPA & CAESAR)

GIRL
 Hi.

SARAH
 Hi.

GIRL
 What's your name?

SARAH
 Sarah. I mean- Madeleine.

GRANDPA
 That's not the article either. Are
 you sure it's October 7th?

GIRL
 Positive.

BOY
 Madeleine. Do you wanna come with
 us?

SARAH
 Where to?

BOY
 We're looking for an article.

SARAH
 Okay!
 (joins them on their
 journey)

PRINCIPAL
 No luck?

TEACHER
 No luck.

PRINCIPAL
 Where can they be?

TEACHER
 Some of the students said they saw
 them walking around with an old man
 with a cane and sunglasses.

NEWS REPORTER
 (to the audience)
**"Children Mysteriously Disappear
 With Blind Prophet"**

GRANDPA
 Read me another.

BOY

**"The Twisted Tale of the Family
Inheritance Scam"**

GIRL

(reads first lines of
article)

TEACHER

Okay kids, it's our favorite time
of day! Story time.

BOY

(reads lines)

TEACHER

Once upon a time... there was a
young, beautiful girl named Julia
who lived in a huge mansion with
her evil stepmother: Kay.
Kay was a very greedy, stingy woman
who had
five fugly daughters:
Kally
Kristy
Kourtney
Kim
Kloe.
Poor Julia's mother passed away
when she was a very little girl.
Julia's daddy was a
very wealthy man.
Years later, her daddy met and
married Kay.
Sadly, and mysteriously,
Julia's daddy died of
food poisoning.
After his death, Kay always claimed
to be in need of money while
spending frivolously.

KAY

Julia! No more dinners for you. I
can't afford to feed your rotten
mouth and pay all of these bills
your father left behind.

JULIA

But, I'm the one who cooks the
dinner.

KAY

And I better not catch you sampling
the goods on the job.

SISTERS

(ugly laugh)

TEACHER

Kay made Julia clean the entire
mansion and she was never let
allowed to have any fun. Her
grocery shop at Tesco was the only
time she was allowed to leave. And
school of course.
One friday night DJ Koolie was
doing a set at Elements. Kay and
the Ugly were party animals, and
huge fans of Koolie!
Julia of course was not allowed to
go to the club.

KIM

Julia sew this for me.

KOURTNEY

Julia, do my hair.

KRISTY

Julia, do my nails.

KHLOE

Julia, shave my legs.

KALLY

Julia, wax my stash.

TEACHER

Julia went to get the sewing kit
from Kay's room.
One thing that always got Julia in
trouble was that she very nosey.
She noticed that Kay's drawer was
open, and she decided to look into.
She found an envelope with her
daddy's name on it.
She decided to open it.
She could not believe her eyes.

JULIA

I can't believe my eyes!

TEACHER

The letter was from Barclays.

BARCLAYS BOY

Dear Kay D'Evil,
This is a statement of the
remaining funds left behind by your
late husband for his daughter,
Julia. The total amount is One
Million pounds, on her eighteenth
birthday- October 7th, 2013.

JULIA

I can't believe it. Kay always
told me I didn't have a birthday.
Nt only do I have one, but it's
today!

BARCLAYS BOY

You will remain the keeper of these
funds until the enclosed form is
submitted with your signature.

JULIA

Oh no! I will never get her to sign
this.

SISTERS

JULIA!
What's taking you so long?

KHLOE

So hard to find good help these
days.

SISTERS

(ugly laugh)

TEACHER

Julia rushed downstairs to prep the
ugly step sisters for their big
night out at Element. The sooner
they could leave, teh sooner she
could figure out how to get her
money.

KAY

Well Julia. I've left this nice
long list of cleaning duties you
can take care of while we are
twerking our heads off at Element.
Just remember- we'll be super
hungover, so make sure there's a
nice greasy breakfast waiting for
us on the table.

KOURTNEY

I like my bacon crispy.

KHLOE

I want sausage.

KIM

And beans!

KRISTY

I like my eggs wet.

KALLY

And lots of brown sauce.

TEACHER

That night, while Kay and the Ugly Stepsisters got their twerk on, Julia snook off to the Barclays bank. There was a handsome boy with deep blue eyes who worked at the bank. Julia had seen him before and fancied the pants out of him. She explained the situation and showed him the letter.

BARCLAYS BOY

You need Kay's signature in order to get your money out of the bank.

JULIA

What can I do?

BARCLAYS BOY

There's only one solution. We need to fake the signature!

JULIA

Isn't that, illegal?

BARCLAYS BOY

Not if you don't get caught. We can fake the signature, and run off together.

JULIA

I'd like that.

BARCLAYS BOY

Let's do it!

TEACHER

Meanwhile, Kay and the Ugly Step Sisters returned home drunk, hungry and cranky.

KHLOE

I'm sooooo drunk.

KIM

I'm sooooo hungry.

KRISTY

Stop stepping on my heels!

KOURTNEY

Then get out of my way!

KALLY

Don't yell I think I have a headache!

KAY

GIRLS!

KALLY

Ow!

KAY

Where's Julia? Where's our breakfast?

TEACHER

Kay suspected something was up.

KAY

I suspect something is up. My drawers have been rummaged! She took the letter!

TEACHER

Kay didn't make it to the bank in time. Julia and the Barclays Boy got the money and were headed for Heathrow.
Back at the bank:

KAY

That's not my signature! Fraud! Fraud! My signature has been forged.

(winds begin to underscore the story)

TEACHER

Julia and the Barclays Boy were detained at the airport, and were each called in for questioning.

BARCLAYS BOY

I didn't do it. It was all Julia. She forged her step mother's signature.

TEACHER

That nice Barclays Boy turned out to not be very nice. He turned Julia in, and Julia was sentenced to 10 years in prison for forgery. That gave Kaye and the Ugly Stepsisters ten more years to live off of Julia's inheritance.

SISTERS
(ugly laughter and winds
increasing)

GIRL
This sounds a like some twisted
Cinderella.

GRANDPA
This is not the article.
We're running out of time.

BOY
Okay, Next article.

GIRL
**"Powerful Typhoon Fitow hits
Eastern Chine"**
(winds increase)

BOY
**"A powerful typhoon has slammed
into China's east coast with
powerful winds and heavy rains.
More than half a million people
were moved to safety in the hours
ahead of Typhoon Fitow making
landfall."**

TYPHOON MOVEMENT I
(interspersed with weather facts)
(tearing up of newspapers)

TYPHOON MOVEMENT II

(BOY, GIRL, GRANDPA, CAESAR & SARAH holding onto poles)
(furniture floating)

TEACHER

No sign of them anywhere!

PRINCIPAL

We're gonna lose our jobs for this!

NEWS REPORTER

**"School Turned Upside Down in
Search for Little Hitler and Malala
Wannabe."**

TYPHOON MOVEMENT III

(movement intensifies at the center)
(beats layer in, montage of music sampled in)

GRANDPA

We gotta keep moving! Next article.

BOY

**"Twerking to the Top: Miley Cyrus
scores double number one with
Bangerz and Wrecking Ball."**

(TWERKTEAM FAN is
revealed)

DOYIN

Stop stop! Cut, Stop, stop stop.
(music out/lights up)
Girl. What the heck are you doing?

TWERKTEAM FAN

Practicing my twerk.

DOYIN

What is wrong with you. Don't you know you're just exploiting yourself.

TWERKTEAM FAN

No I ain't. I'm gonna be a performer. TwerkTeam is having auditions for new members.

DOYIN

What? There's a Twerk Team? That's disgusting.

TWERKTEAM FAN

The Twerk Team is an Atlanta based dance group that started in 2005. It started off as girls putting together dance routines and performing them at high school house parties. The girl's would practice and make these dances to some of their favorite songs and decided to video tape and upload it to YouTube.

ALL

Girl Power!

VOICE

Memo to Miley: twerking is not a feminist statement

TWERKTEAM FAN

Twerking did not start with Miley Cyrus.

ANOTHER VOICE.

I don't have a problem with twerking. I have a problem with Miley.

ANOTHER VOICE

I don't have a problem with Miley. I have a problem with twerking.

DOYIN

I have a problem with the whole thing.

ANOTHER VOICE

In 2013, twerk was added to the Oxford Dictionary Online. The dictionary said the word had been around for 20 years, but the evidence for it to be included in the dictionary had tipped the scale when American pop star Miley Cyrus performed a controversial and headline-producing twerking dance at the MTV Video Music Awards on August 25, 2013.

TWERKTEAM FAN

In the United States, twerking was introduced into hip-hop culture by way of the New Orleans bounce music scene. In 1993, DJ Jubilee recorded the dance tune "Do The Jubilee All" in which he chanted, "Twerk baby, twerk baby, twerk, twerk, twerk." [6] The video for the song increased the popularity of twerking.

ANOTHER VOICE

According to the Oxford Dictionary Online, to twerk is "to dance to popular music in a sexually provocative manner involving thrusting hip movements and a low, squatting stance".

DOYIN

Twerking is not a dance.

TWERKTEAM FAN

Comparisons have been made with traditional African dances, for instance the Mapouka from West Africa which was banned from the television of Ivory Coast due to its suggestive nature

ANOTHER VOICE

Twerking is degrading to women!

ANOTHER VOICE.

Twerking exploits black women.

ANOTHER VOICE

Miley Cyrus is trying to be black.

ANOTHER VOICE.

The whole entertainment industry exploits black culture.

TWERKTEAM FAN

In 1995 New Orleans-based rapper Cheeky Blakk recorded the song "Twerk Something!" a call-and-response dance song dedicated to twerking.

SINEAD O'CONNOR

Dear Miley,
I wasn't going to write this letter, but today i've been dodging phone calls from various newspapers who wished me to remark upon your having said in Rolling Stone your "Wrecking Ball" video was designed to be similar to the one for "Nothing Compares" ... So this is what I need to say ... And it is said in the spirit of motherliness and with love.

I am extremely concerned for you that those around you have led you to believe, or encouraged you in your own belief, that it is in any way "cool" to be naked and licking sledgehammers in your videos. It is in fact the case that you will obscure your talent by allowing yourself to be pimped, whether it's the music business or yourself doing the pimping.

ANOTHER VOICE

What's the big deal already?
Controversial performances on the VMA's is nothing new.

ANOTHER VOICE.

Old news actually.

TWERKTEAM FAN

In 1997 DJ Jubilee recorded "Get Ready, Ready" in which he encouraged listeners to "Twerk it!".

ANOTHER VOICE.

Miley Cyrus's twerking routine was cultural appropriation at its worst
Cyrus's act was less a homage to hip-hop and more a minstrel show.

(the debate continues; A
Step Team steps,
Cheerleaders cheer,
Rappers rap, Singers
sing, Twerkers twerk)

GRANDPA

A whole lotta noise. Next article.

TEACHER

The media is in a frenzy. They're pushing us to release the names of the missing kids.

PRINCIPAL

Hold em off for a bit longer. I'm gonna take a drive around the neighborhood. They can't be in the school- we've checked everywhere.

BOY

Hey, you! TwerkTeam Fan Girl. You wanna come with us? We're on a journey to find an article for this man-I mean, my friend's grandpa.

GIRL

Hey, Tommy. I think we should head back. They might be looking for us.

BOY

Nah. I bet they don't even notice we're gone. Next article, come on. You pick.

GIRL

"!200 Killed by Mental Health Patients."

(they take turns reading the sub headlines as the tableaux form.)

BOY

"Beaten and Strangled"

GIRL

"Knifed at Doorstep"

BOY

"Knifed 39 Times"

GIRL

"Shot by her Son"

BOY

"Attacked in the Street"

GIRL

"Killed by a Sword"

BOY

"Stabbed in the Park"

DOCTOR ONE *
Is her being here critical? *
Budget cuts are limiting us on the *
amount of patients we can admit.

DOCTOR TWO *
She claims to be violent but we *
have yet to see this. She's just *
another addict who needs a home. *

DOCTOR ONE *
Good morning Anna- *

HANNAH *
Hannah *

DOCTOR ONE *
Oh sorry, Hannah. *
We've called you in here today as *
we've been looking over your *
records and observing you, and we *
feel like you are ready to go.. *

HANNAH *
I'm not ready... the voices.. *
I'll hurt someone if I leave- *

DOCTOR TWO *
Hannah you keep saying this but we *
are yet to see any form of *
violence. You're ready. *
You're free. *

DOCTOR ONE *
You're ready. We believe in you. *

DOCTOR TWO *
But first if you could just sign *
this form- *
Thank you. We wish you the best of *
luck. *

DOCTOR ONE *
I'm sure we will see you around. *
(DOCTORS exit) *
(voices) *

HANNAH *
(begins to walk; finds a *
knife) *

YOUNG GIRL *
Happy Valentine's Day to you. *
(HANNAH followed her off) *

*
*

GRANDPA

We're never going to find that article, we're running out of time. Read faster.

BOY

"Bullying at BBC added to Hall's list of problems."

GIRL

"Magistrates may drop oath on the Bible for "truth" vow."

BOY

Crime chief relying on European help to beat influx of gangs.

(a speed-reading and overlapping of various headlines builds into a frenzy and takes GRANDPA, BARIS, CAESAR, TWERKTEAM FAN and SARAH away)

Where'd they go?

GIRL
We never found his article.

BOY
Oh well.

GIRL
We better get back to school.
They're going to be worried about
us.

BOY
Hey! Check this out.

GIRL
No more newspapers please. The news
is too intense.

BOY
But look. Isn't that him?

GIRL
Who?

BOY
The old man.

GIRL
Joseph Matthews, (December 3, 1926-
October 7, 2013). Beloved father of
two, Jenny and Joseph Jr. and
grandfather of one, Peter. Passed
away-

BOY
Why did you stop?

GIRL
It's torn up- the rest of the
article is gone.
(a moment of silence)
Come on Tommy, we should go back to
that room.

BOY
But I hate school.

GIRL
You shouldn't say that. Some kids,
in other countries, like Pakistan,
have to fight to have an education.
Like Malala.

BOY

But no one likes me. And now they
really don't like me because I
dressed up as Hitler.

GIRL

You can stay here, but if you ask
me, school is a much better place
to be than the newspaper. I'm going
back. Your choice...

BOY

But...

(the playground reforms
around him- GIRL rejoins
the kids- spot on BOY and
fade to black)