

Fire-Breathing Kitten

A Comedy in One Act
by
Bradley Walton

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STORY OF THE PLAY

When a stray kitten turns up at her sister's wedding reception, Avery decides to give it a temporary home in her family's laundry room. When she checks in on the kitten later that night, Avery discovers that a portal to outer space has opened in the wall, a T-Rex is trying to eat the washer and dryer, and the kitten can breathe fire. Then a unicorn shows up. And some aliens. And a few mythological deities. Avery is convinced it has to be a dream—but it's not. Her life is about to get a whole lot more interesting, and she may never be able to complete another homework assignment again. About 25 minutes.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(Widely flexible cast of 9 - 24)

(12 speaking roles and 12 non-speaking roles which can all be played by actors of any gender. Extras.)

SPEAKING ROLES

EVERY: A high school student.

EVERY'S MOM or DAD

WEDDING GUEST #1

WEDDING GUEST #2

KITTEN

T-REX

TORTELLINI

UNICORN

*THOR: The Norse god of Thunder.

*APOLLO: The Greek god who pulls the sun across the sky.

*POSEIDON: The Greek god of the oceans.

MR./MS. SNYDER: Avery's math teacher.

*The mythological deities are male, but there's no reason the actors have to be.

NON-SPEAKING ROLES

OUTER SPACE (up to 3)

FIRE

FLYING SAUCERS #1-6

LASER BEAMS (1 actor)

STAGE CREW MEMBER

LIGHTNING

EXTRAS: There may be additional Wedding Guests.

NOTE: There may be as few as 2 FLYING SAUCERS—the actors can exit and re-enter as "new" saucers after the previous saucers have been destroyed.

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STAGING

Staging is simple. Two flats are needed: A small one representing the fronts of a washer & dryer, and a larger flat suggesting a section of laundry room wall. Additionally, cardboard or foam core cutouts are used extensively to help represent characters—see costume list.

PROPS

2 Bowls
Towels
Cell phone or watch
Electric guitar (real or a drawing on cardboard)
Trig homework

SOUND EFFECTS

Flame thrower
1950s-style flying saucer noises
Explosion
Laser beam
Lightning & thunder
Hard rock guitar music
Burp

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(AT RISE: On a bare stage, a SPOTLIGHT comes up on AVERY, a teenager dressed in school clothes, addressing the audience.)

AVERY: If I'd just skipped my sister's wedding reception, there would never have been a problem. Of course, I was in the wedding party, so skipping out was never an option. Which probably means that what happened was destiny—completely unavoidable, and totally not my fault.

(SPOTLIGHT goes down and LIGHTS come up to reveal WEDDING GUESTS mingling in the background. AVERY'S MOM (or DAD) enters and crosses to AVERY.)

MOM: Having fun, Avery?

AVERY: Do you want an honest answer to that question?

MOM: No.

AVERY: *(Deadpan.)* I'm having a great time. Stupendous. The best time ever.

MOM: Good. Keep telling yourself that and maybe you'll believe it by the time we go home.

AVERY: I wouldn't count on it.

MOM: Can't you at least be happy for your sister?

AVERY: I am happy for my sister. I can be happy for my sister without having a good time at her wedding reception. The two things are completely unrelated. I could be happy for my sister without being here at all.

MOM: She wanted you in the wedding party.

AVERY: That's debatable. But she knew you'd have thrown a fit if I wasn't.

MOM: I wouldn't have thrown a fit. Your father and I would have just refused to pay for anything.

AVERY: You're the best mom ever.

MOM: You bet I am. Why are you being so grouchy?

AVERY: I don't like crowds and this church basement's not that big to begin with.

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AVERY: (*Cont'd.*) I feel awkward at social events where I'm surrounded by people I don't know. And I have a big test review packet for trigonometry that I should be working on.

MOM: You can do it tomorrow.

AVERY: You don't like me putting off my homework. Why is this an exception?

MOM: It's your sister's wedding. And do you seriously expect me to believe that if you weren't here, you'd be doing trig homework on a Saturday night?

AVERY: It's due on Monday and it's worth 75 points. I'm kind of stressing out about it.

MOM: How long have you had the test review packet?

AVERY: Since Monday.

MOM: Have you started it?

AVERY: Yup.

MOM: How much have you gotten done?

AVERY: Not enough.

MOM: Whose fault is that?

AVERY: Whoever invented trigonometry.

(*Beat.*)

MOM: You should at least get a drink.

AVERY: I'm not old enough to drink, and there's no alcohol here anyway.

MOM: I meant lemonade.

AVERY: Why do you want me to drink lemonade?

MOM: It would give you something to do, instead of just standing here.

AVERY: I'd just be standing here drinking lemonade. It wouldn't be that much different.

MOM: Go get some lemonade.

AVERY: Is that a suggestion?

MOM: Nope.

AVERY: Fine.

(*MOM exits R. AVERY crosses L. WEDDING GUESTS 1 and 2 and KITTEN enter from L. Guest 2 has their left arm extended around Kitten's back. Guest 2's left hand is on*

End of Freeview

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