

# SÄVË THË WHÄLËS, etc.

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## Characters

ROBIN – he/him – 30-ish

PIERRE – they/them – 30s

MORGAN – she/her – 60s

LYRA – she/her – early 20s

TODD – he/him – 60s

PONY – she/her – 20s-50s

## Setting

A waiting room, a Zodiac, and a glacier. Newfoundland, Canada.

## Formatting & Style

-Generally, lines are meant to fit in between one another rather than “overlap.”

-Ellipses indicate that the character holds focus during a pause.

-Asides appear on the right side of the page.

-Sometimes, the asides become the main tract of dialogue, in which case the character name will move to the left side of the page. This simply indicates that everyone is listening to them now.

Like this:

TODD  
Chicago, Chicago!

LYRA  
Mom?  
Mom!!!

LYRA  
They do *relish* there.

## Contact

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## 8. If You're Horny

*Pony stands in front  
Of the waiting room scene.*

*And as she talks  
The characters behind her melt  
And wave  
Like goo  
Into goo  
The world coalescing  
From hard plastic (chairs)  
To soft rubber hull (Zodiac)  
Inflatable, infallible, inevitable,  
Floating in the ocean,  
Like a piece of trash.*

PONY

There's nothing fun about being Pony  
And if you need to ask why, well,  
All I have to say to you is  
You've lived a lucky life.

I hold my hands up in prayer to God  
Sometimes  
And wait for a high ten back  
Even a high five  
And instead, there's wind.  
Or worse,  
Still air against my palms.  
And I think  
Really?  
You can't just  
Once  
Reach down  
And slap me some skin, my guy?

I'm interested in the idea of sitting with a group of people to watch it all unfold  
The end  
Like this  
Like you are  
I'd build an amphitheater for the warm winter days  
For us to lean back  
In those chairs like couches  
And watch it all.  
My friends making out over the arm rests.

The sky...  
Will there be a snowflake this winter?  
A raindrop?  
A cloud?  
Will we see the sun?

You would think that it's tiring to always have the answers but  
On the other hand, it makes the job easy.  
I know where the barf bags are,  
And also, how to fix a broken leg.  
I have the spiels, the fun facts, and stories at the ready.

Which leaves Todd to do the thing  
That one thing which I really can't do  
That I'm not interested in doing  
To be honest  
Which is to be present.  
To navigate the water  
As it is right now  
In the present  
Which is to turn a part of yourself off.  
To not think about  
You know  
The way things should be  
Or were,  
Which is hard for me.

I'm an idealist.  
I admit that.  
Maybe it makes me naïve or something but I do think that  
If we  
If everyone took collective action,  
Right?  
And listened to each other...  
Not in a passive way,  
Not in a "conservatives have valid points too" way  
Or a "private property" way  
But in a  
Oh, we *do* need X Y and Z  
Oh, we *do* need to tax this man  
Oh, we *do* need to build exercise into our routines for endorphin purposes  
Oh, we *do* need to eliminate 10 out of 12s  
Oh, we *do* need to lead with empathetic support and understanding and hope  
That sort of thing.

So, when we float into this place where

This patch of ocean where  
There used to be just ice  
Solid ice  
I...

It's pretty sad.

And I have to go someplace else  
In my mind  
I have to go out  
Out  
To pasture  
To a screen saver in there, like  
The one that's  
You're shooting down a tunnel of light  
Like a wormhole or something  
A disco tunnel  
A disco *slide*  
And open the tap  
And let the words come out of my mouth, the spiels  
Because I'm not  
With  
These people.  
Do you know what I mean?  
Like,  
I'm not really here  
I am a fake person  
That is a part of the story  
Of this world and place  
Sort of like an actor  
At one of those  
At like a Ren Fair or Colonial  
Fort  
Reenactment thing.  
Is that-  
That makes sense.

Playing the part:  
Canadian,  
Keeper of Winter,  
Guardian of the Glacier,  
And the last, chilly hope for us all.

*The scene behind Pony has assembled itself:  
A tall dock,  
Water below,*

*A floating Zodiac.*

*Pony climbs up onto the dock  
Which is taller than her head  
With the aid of the other actors.*

*Once she's on the dock,  
She realizes that she's not in the next scene right away,  
And exits.*

## **9. Float On Alright Already We All Now Don't You Worry Even If**

*Morgan, Lyra, Pierre, and Robin stand  
In a row  
On the dock.  
Each wears a big orange life preserver.*

*The Zodiac floats in the ocean underneath them.*

MORGAN

Is it almost time to go?

ROBIN

Any minute now...

PIERRE

They're coming, they're coming.

ROBIN

They never forget.

PIERRE

They won't.

MORGAN

I didn't-

ROBIN

The light came on.

PIERRE

Don't worry,  
Don't worry.

LYRA  
We're not.  
...  
...  
Just,  
It's cold.

ROBIN  
It feels good to be cold.  
Doesn't it?

LYRA  
Kinda.

MORGAN  
I'd forgotten.

ROBIN  
Feels good.

PIERRE  
It does.

MORGAN (*to herself*)  
I forgot.

LYRA  
Brrrr.

PIERRE  
Aww.

ROBIN  
Any second now...

*Todd walks onto the dock for a second and looks at them.*

MORGAN  
Oh!  
The captain  
That's him right?  
I remember.  
My captain!

ROBIN & LYRA  
Shh.

*Silence.*

*They wait for Todd to say something.*

TODD  
Pony.

*Todd exits.*

*Pony enters, with a clipboard.*

MORGAN  
Tough cookie!  
O!

LYRA & PIERRE  
Shhh!!!

*Pony looks them all up and down.*

PONY  
Are any of you traveling together?

MORGAN (*indicating Lyra*)

Yes, we are.

PONY  
Anyone else?

*Robin prepares for the glacier  
Which is to say,  
He has become very quiet.  
Maybe he rubs his temples.*

PIERRE  
Um  
Us?  
We are.

PONY  
Right.  
Hi.  
Sorry, formality.

PIERRE (*helpfully, to Pony*)  
Insurance.

PONY  
Right.

So,  
You have your life preservers on. That's good.  
Great.

*(back in the groove)*

Remember,  
NEVER take those off while you are in, on, near, far, or anywhere else within sight of the boat.  
Is that clear?

On land, by sea, in the air, it doesn't matter.

MORGAN

Keep

Excuse me?

The vest

On.

LYRA

Mom.

MORGAN

Excuse me?

Sorry,

But this wasn't part of the first presentation.

Was this a part of the first presentation?

I missed it and then

I feel like I missed this.

Did you go over this?

...

...

Did you-

HEY.

*She jabs Robin in the ribs.*

ROBIN *(coming back to reality)*

Hm?

MORGAN

Was this part of the first thing?

LYRA

Mom!

MORGAN *(to Robin)*

What aren't you telling me?

PONY

Ma'am.

ROBIN

I-

I didn't

I did the whole thing

LYRA *(to Morgan)*

I said it all, ok!?  
I said it all!

MOM, you're like-  
You're being so mean!

MORGAN  
I am not!  
They are-  
These  
They are *deliberately*-  
Canadians!

PONY  
*Ma'am.*

PIERRE  
Hey,  
Excuse me.  
My friend is fragile right now,  
Going into a fragile state,  
And life depends on him,  
All of our lives.  
He's picking up on something  
Something *beyond*, and, and, and-  
Look,  
If you're not going to take care of hm  
Or at least like, abide?  
I'll fucking  
I'll-  
I'll push you overboard.

PONY (*warningly, to Pierre*)  
Friend.

MORGAN  
But my hair!

LYRA  
MOM.

PONY  
Everyone,  
Please.  
If you're all so jittery we can't let you in the boat.  
Is that what you want?  
To not be on the boat?  
To not see the glacier  
At all?

MORGAN (*icy*)  
Who's jittery?

*Todd steps onto the dock.  
He is wearing an orange waterproof outfit  
Rubber from head to toe  
Or like,  
Rain jacket/wader material.  
A puffy jacket underneath.  
He looks like a superhero  
If a superhero was a normal lobsterman.*

*He walks down the dock,  
And stands, poised,  
Above the vessel for a second.*

*Then, he hops into the boat,  
Both feet connecting with the hull at the same time.  
He lightly taps one hand down on the side of the hull.*

TODD  
Three points of contact.

*He goes to the back of the boat.  
He starts the motor's blower.  
And sits,  
Waiting for the others to join.*

*Pony hops down, then turns around,  
Her arm extended.*

PONY (*to Morgan*)  
You next.

*Lyra and Todd hold Morgan's hand while she clambers into the boat.*

You.

*Lyra follows her mother into the boat.*

*Pony points to Pierre.*

*Pierre climbs into the boat without help.  
They turn around.*

*Then, Pony picks up Robin,  
Cradling him in her arms,*

*And lowers him down into the boat,  
Where Pierre and Todd accepts their friend  
And Pierre sits him down  
Beside them.*

*Pony unties the ropes.*

*She climbs into the boat.*

*The boat turns ninety degrees,  
So now its bow faces the audience.  
A giant fan blows into them,  
Maybe,  
Whipping everyone's hair back.*

*Todd's beard goes into his mouth  
He sucks on it, thoughtfully,  
Lovingly,  
Self-soothing,  
While they push off towards the glacier.*

*End of Excerpt.*