

SARAH

I wanted to talk to you about that actually. I don't know where the rack is.

CHARLES

You don't know where the rack is?

SARAH

No, I got here this afternoon and all of the costumes were in a pile over there. I mean I was going to try and find out what happened to it, but first I had to add military rankings to Tybalt's cape, and wash the alien makeup off of the collar of the Friar costume and one thing led to another and now we're here.

CHARLES

Well where could it have gone? Costume racks don't just walk away you know.

PETER

They roll.

CHARLES

What?

PETER

I'm just saying, it's on wheels you know? So it would have rolled away.

CHARLES

Fine. Costumes racks don't just roll away you know.

DAVID

What if it was on a hill? Then gravity would have pulled it down.

CHARLES

And I suppose it dropped all the costumes on the floor as well?

DAVID

Gravity can do that too.

ELIZABETH

Charles. I have an huge issue.

(CONTINUED)

CHARLES

Elizabeth, I don't have time...

ELIZABETH

(interrupting)

The box office won't let me reserve seats for my family tonight. It's opening night, and they always see me on opening night.

CHARLES

We have open seating. You can't reserve seats. Why are you trying to reserve seats?

ELIZABETH

Because you told me I could. Two weeks ago.

Awkward beat. Sarah, David, and Peter exit to avoid the scene.

CHARLES

What...I would...I don't have time for this right now! We are missing a costume rack!

ELIZABETH

The costume rack's not missing. It's on the stage.

CHARLES

On the stage? What's it doing there?

ELIZABETH

I don't know. I just saw it out there. It's totally empty and sitting in the middle of the stage.

CHARLES

And why, may I ask did you not think to bring it back here where it belongs.

Elizabeth shrugs. Mary and Seth enter and cross to Charles.

ELIZABETH

I didn't know it wasn't supposed to be out there. The costume rack isn't my job.

(CONTINUED)

CHARLES

Fine. I will go out there and bring it back here myself.

MARY

You can't.

CHARLES

What do you mean I can't?

MARY

I mean you can't go out there. The house is open.

CHARLES

The house is open? Why is the house open? Who gave the OK for the house to be open. I didn't say to open house!

MARY

You said to be sure no matter what that the house be open by 7:30 and that was twenty minutes ago. Oh that reminds me. Ten minutes to places everybody.

Marco and Luke enter bickering.

MARY

(con't)

Charles, you never gave me any pre-show music. What do you want me to play?

CHARLES

I swore we talked about that already.

MARY

Well kind of. Last time I asked you, you said something about space and vision and then walked away humming Lost in Space. We never made it any further than that.

SETH

(interrupting)

Hey Charles, now that Sam is gone, how do you feel about the tape line? I could really use more space...

(CONTINUED)

MARY
Don't you dare touch that line!

CHARLES
What tape line?

Mary and Seth continue to bicker as Luke interrupts.

LUKE
Charles, tell Marco that he can't
keep hoarding the knife prop!

MARCO
Charles, tell Luke that Romeo's
needs are more important on stage
than his!

Rachel and Jocelyn enter.

CHARLES
Luke, why do you need a knife?

LUKE
You told me I could have one...

CHARLES
Well, that settles that. Luke needs
the knife.

Marco continues to argue with Luke.

MARY
If I find one candy bar wrapper...

ELIZABETH
Charles, my family is waiting to be
seated!

RACHEL
Charles, we really need to work out
a game plan for when...if Claire
forgets her lines. What do you want
me to do?

JOCELYN
A more professional actor would be
able to roll with the spontaneity
of live theater!

RACHEL
You just told me you can't be
expected to act opposite of someone
who doesn't know their lines!

(CONTINUED)

Sarah enters dragging Jacob in incomplete make-up. Rachel turns on Jocelyn.

MARCO
Romeo needs a knife!

CHARLES
Oh that does have merit.

SARAH
Charles, where is the green make-up you brought me?

CHARLES
I...What?

SARAH
We are out of make-up and Jacob is half green. You said it would be here by tonight.

CHARLES
I did?

Andy enters holding a broom.

SETH
I will eat where I please!

JOCELYN
Claire can write her lines on her arm.

RACHEL
Oh real professional!

Peter and David enter.

ANDY
Charles, I can't move the set pieces quietly with all this clutter. It's a safety hazard.

CHARLES
Well maybe we could move...

PETER
Charles, did we settle on space tree?

DAVID
Charles, I hate to bother you, but I really just feel like I am barely
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DAVID (cont'd)
in this show. My girlfriend is here
tonight. Could I just like do some
stage crosses to increase my
visibility?

Claire enters and crosses to Charles quickly.

CLAIRE
Charles. I'm sorry, but Rachel
wasn't in the dressing room. I
looked everywhere I can't find her.

LUKE
You stole my stuff!

MARY
You slob!

JOCELYN
You upstart!

RACHEL
You pretentious-

CLAIRE
Oh there she is!

Michael hurries in and pushes past everyone. Holds up his
hands.

MICHAEL
Everyone! Stop! Please can we just
take a moment!

Everybody stops mid argument.

MICHAEL
(Con't)
My phone is dead. Does anybody have
a charger?

Everyone starts talking to Charles at once, trying to make
their concerns heard. Charles frozen in the middle is
completely helpless. In the commotion Sam enters unnoticed
by anyone else.

CHARLES
People, people PLEASE! We can't go
falling apart at every new hiccup.
Just because Sam isn't here-

(CONTINUED)