

Curtain Call

by

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First Draft 11/15/09
Second Draft 12/18/09

INT. — AUDITORIUM — DAY

Six students stand onstage holding scripts — two standing on the left, four standing on the right — and read from them. The lines are muffled by music.

A group of about ten students sit behind a man holding a clip board and watching the people on stage intently. This is MR. D, the drama director. The students sitting behind him look bored.

BOY 1

God Bless us, every one.

Mr. D stands up and holds his clipboard under his arm while he picks his bag up off of the floor.

MR. D

Good rehearsal everybody! Have your lines memorized by Monday. Have a great weekend.

Mr. D walks down the aisle and out the doors at the back of the auditorium.

An upperclassman boy jumps off of the stage and lands on the ground with a thud.

INT. — MUSIC ROOM — DAY

A man downstairs sitting in front of a large group of students with violins looks up angrily at the ceiling. This is MR. FALKER, the music teacher.

Mr. Falker storms through the interior exit of the music room.

INT. — AUDITORIUM — DAY

Mr. Falker bursts through the doors to the left of the stage. He is angry.

MR. FALKER

I've said this time and time again; do not jump off of the stage. I am teaching violin students downstairs and we can hear you! Not only is it unnecessary, but frankly, it's rude.

The drama students stair blankly at him and say nothing. He turns around quickly and walks back through the door from which he entered.

A preppy girl who was previously sitting in the rows behind Mr. D stands up and picks up her purse. This is ANNE.

Anne walks towards the pit and stands next to a girl who is clearly a sarcastic trouble maker. This is SARAH.

ANNE

Well that was awkward...

Sarah and Anne are joined by two boys. One is casual and laid back. This is TOM. The other is a huge pansy, and rather wimpy. This is PAT.

PAT

That was kind of an overreaction, if you ask me.

A girl wearing a grey sweatshirt and jeans walks over and joins their group, which has now formed a semi circle. This is REBECCA.

REBECCA

What's going on?

TOM

Mr. Falker's just in a bad mood I guess.

A nerdy, annoying girl walks up and joins their group. This is ALLY.

Ally pushes her way into their group rudely and acts casual as if she were invited there. Sarah gives her an annoyed look.

ALLY

You should have seen him in first period chorus today.

Sarah suddenly looks interested.

SARAH

What did he do?

ALLY

Nothing, it was just this story he told us.

INT. MUSIC ROOM - FLASHBACK

Mr. Falker has the attention of his chorus students. He raises his hands, about to conduct.

MR. FALKER

Now remember, sing to Ralf!

Ally raises her hand slightly with a confused look on her face.

ALLY

Who?

The girl sitting in front of Ally turns around anxiously and looks at her. This is AMANDA.

AMANDA

You don't know who Ralf is?

Ally shakes her head, still confused.

Amanda turns around and faces Mr. Falker.

AMANDA

Tell her who Ralf is, Mr. Falker!

Mr. Falker begins to protest while the majority of the chorus class eagerly begs him to tell the story.

MR. FALKER

Alright, alright. I'll tell you the story. It was after one of those late night string rehearsals...

INT. MONTAGE - AUDITORIUM - NIGHT

A young Mr. Falker walks into the auditorium, spilling the light from the English wing into the dark room. He looks visibly tired and sits down in the back and closes his eyes.

MR. FALKER (V.O. CONT'D, OVER MONTAGE)

I had been working all day so I decided that I'd just sit in the auditorium for a while and rest my eyes. Out

of the corner of my eye, I saw some...
 some sort of figure walking aimlessly
 through the aisle. Now I know it was
 late, so I rubbed my eyes a bit to make
 sure it wasn't just my mind playing
 tricks on me...

MONTAGE — MR. FALKER SEEING AND DISCOVERING RALF

-- Young Mr. Falker opens his eyes slightly.

--A ghostly, lit up figure walks between the aisles of the audi-
 torium.

END MONTAGE- BACK TO FLASHBACK

MR. FALKER (CONT'D)

It wasn't. I told my students the next
 day. One of my students said she knew a
 spirit reader of some sort so I
 thought; what do I have to lose? So she
 brought in the spirit reader the next
 day.

Mr. Falker has a look of mischief and bliss on his face.

MR. FALKER (CONT'D)

She said that there was definitely a
 ghost in this school.

Mr. Falker walks out from behind his piano.

MR. FALKER (CONT'D)

His name is Ralf, Ralf Heckle. Now I
 did a little research...

MR. FALKER (CONT'D, V.O. OVER MONTAGE)

Ralf Heckle was a wealthy man many,
 many years ago and he owned a house
 that used to lie on this very hill.
 When he died, they noted that his house
 wasn't mentioned in his will so they
 knocked it down and built the high
 school. That's probably why he haunts
 this school today.

PHOTO MONTAGE — RALF

--Ralf with his family in front of his house

-- Newspaper with Ralf's death in an article

-- Present day School

END MONTAGE – BACK TO FLASHBACK

Mr. Falker's expression goes from one of day-dreaming to one of seriousness.

MR. FALKER (CONT'D V.O. OVER MONTAGE)

Now that was thirty years ago that I
saw that...apparition.

MONTAGE – MR. FALKER DISCOVERING RALF

Young Mr. Falker looks scared and shocked as he sits in the back row of the auditorium.

Shot fades into present-day Mr. Falker, with an expression of day dreaming and almost sadness.

END MONTAGE

Mr. Falker stands up straight, slaps his piano, and walks back behind it.

MR. FALKER (CONT'D)

Now I'm not saying I believe in all
that ghost stuff, but I'll tell you
this: what I saw that day was defi-
nitely, without a doubt, a ghost...and
that's the story.

END FLASHBACK –BACK TO SCENE

Girl 1 has a look of accomplishment on her face caused by the shocked reactions of Anne, Sarah, Tom, Pat, and Rebecca.

She turns and walks down the aisle and exits from the back of the auditorium.

Anne, Sarah, Tom, Pat, and Rebecca watch her with confused looks on their faces.

Anne pulls her purse up to her shoulder.

ANNE

Well that was...

TOM

Bizarre.

SARAH

There's definitely something wrong with that girl.

Rebecca shakes her head and laughs. She begins to walk down the aisle.

TOM

What, you don't believe the story?

Rebecca smiles and turns around to face the group.

REBECCA

You can't honestly tell me you believe all that junk.

Anne looks guiltily at Sarah, implying that she believes in ghosts.

Tom looks at Pat, Anne, and Sarah, assuringly.

Rebecca walks back down the aisle and into their circle.

REBECCA

You seriously believe that?

TOM

(defensively)

Fine, if you don't believe that Ralf is real, then we'll prove it to you.

Anne, Sarah, and Pat look questioningly at Tom.

SARAH

How are we supposed to prove that?

TOM

Tonight...tonight we'll come back into the school - after everyone's left, all the janitors, teachers, principals, everyone - and we'll wait in the auditorium for Ralf to come out.

Anne throws her hands up.

ANNE

Count me out!

Anne begins to walk down the aisle.

Sarah and Tom run after her and stop her.

SARAH

Oh, grow up.

ANNE

No way am I getting a ghost angry.
Thanks, but no thanks.

PAT

Yeah, me neither. This seems like a
really stupid idea guys.

TOM

It's all of us or nothing.

Sarah and Tom look at Pat and Anne, clearly wanting them to agree to the plan.

Anne sighs and nods. Pat looks at Anne, rolls his eyes and nods as well.

Tom, Sarah, Pat, and Anne look at Rebecca.

TOM

Ten o'clock?

Rebecca takes another moment to scan the faces of her friends.

REBECCA

Ten o'clock.

INT. OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL – NIGHT

A car pulls up into the looping driveway of the school.

Tom and Pat step out of the car with gym bags over their shoulders.

The car drives away and down the road.

Anne, Rebecca, and Sarah stand up and grab their bags.

Anne shivers and stands up.

ANNE
(angrily)
What took you so long?

INT. AUDITORIUM - NIGHT

Sarah leads the group into the side entrance of the auditorium.

They walk across the floor until they reach the right of the front section.

Anne puts her bag on one of the chairs and sits on the arm of that chair. The rest do the same.

TOM
You know, my brother told me that these kids in the grade above him tried to do this...none of them ever came back.

SARAH
(sarcastically)
Then it makes a whole lot of sense to be here now, doesn't it?

Anne stands up.

ANNE
Stop guys! I'm really freaked out right now and I -

Tom sneaks up behind Anne and yells in her ear.

Anne screams.

Sarah and Pat laugh at her and Tom assures her that he was just kidding.

ANNE
(annoyed)
Yeah, that's real funny guys.

Anne starts to walk away in a huff.

REBECCA
Where are you going?

ANNE

The bathroom, not that anyone cares.

Anne walks up the side steps on the stage and exits through the science lobby door.

Sarah, Rebecca, Tom, and Pat all exchange annoyed glances.

INT. SCIENCE LOBBY-NIGHT

Anne walks across the science lobby while the muffled sound of their conversation is audible.

INT. SCIENCE LOBBY BATHROOM- NIGHT

Camera zooms in on girls room sign.

Anne is standing at at the mirror reapplying her makeup.

She looks curiously and confused into the reflection of what is behind her in the mirror.

She turns around quickly and sees that nothing is there.

She sighs in relief and turns back around.

When she turns back around, a shaded face in a black cloak is visible in the mirror reflection.

Anne turns around and screams.

INT. AUDITORIUM - NIGHT

A scream is heard.

Sarah, Rebecca, Tom, and Pat all look at each other, concerned.

They stand up quickly and run towards the science-lobby exit of the auditorium.

INT. SCIENCE LOBBY- NIGHT

Rebecca, Tom, Pat, and Sarah run through the science lobby and towards the girl's bathroom

INT. AUDITORIUM- NIGHT

SARAH

She just loves attention, doesn't she.

Sarah rolls her eyes.

SARAH (CONT'D)
(mumbling)
Drama Queen.

INT. SCIENCE LOBBY BATHROOM - NIGHT

Rebecca enters the bathroom first with Sarah close behind her.

Tom and Pat follow reluctantly behind.

Rebecca walks slowly and cautiously across the bathroom.

REBECCA
Anne?

Rebecca slowly opens one of the stall doors. She continues down the row of stalls while she says:

REBECCA
Anne, are you in here?

Rebecca Opens the last stall door.

SARAH
It's just like her to run off when something doesn't go her way.

REBECCA
(scared)
Umm..guys?

Written on the mirror in the last stall, the words "I AM RALF HECKLE" appear in red lipstick.

Rebecca turns around and faces Tom, Sarah, and Pat.

Sarah turns and looks at them casually.

Tom and Pat leave their spot near the doors and walk further into the room to see the mirror. Tom is surprised, Pat is terrified.

TOM
What the -

SARAH
Oh calm down.

PAT
(panicking)

Who wrote that? Where'd she go?

SARAH

This is probably all part of some stupid plan she had to get back at Tom for scaring her.

PAT

I don't know guys. What if something happened to her? What if -

SARAH

Oh my god, calm down. We'll just go look for her, okay?

Sarah walks out of the bathroom with Tom and Rebecca following her.

Pat looks once more, nervously, at the writing on the mirror and then follows the group.

INT. SCIENCE WING- NIGHT

Pat runs forward to catch up with Tom, Sarah, and Rebecca who have already made it half way down the hall.

Neither Sarah, Rebecca, nor Tom acknowledge Pat's presence.

TOM

All the classrooms are locked, she couldn't have gone far.

Tom, Sarah, Pat, and Rebecca turn the corner and enter the science stairwell.

INT. SCIENCE STAIRWELL- NIGHT

Tom turns and looks to the other side of the stairwell.

Sarah crosses her arms and leans against the wall.

Pat looks around hopelessly and terrified.

Rebecca leans against the railings and sighs.

SARAH

She's so ridiculous.

PAT

(paranoid)

Im freaking out guys, FREAKING OUT!

Rebecca glances over the railing to lower floor at the bottom of the stairwell.

Suddenly, a man in a black cloak runs across the lower floor.

Rebecca turns around suddenly and faces the rest of the group.

REBECCA

(Scared)

Did you guys see that?

Tom and Sarah look at her, confused.

Pat's facial expression grows more frantic.

REBECCA

Someone just ran across the bottom floor...someone in a black cloak. And it wasn't Anne.

Pat stands up straight and alert.

PAT

Someone's here!

TOM

Calm down, let's just go get our phones and call Anne, okay?

Without a word, Sarah, Pat, and Rebecca run and follow Tom out of the stairwell.

INT. AUDITORIUM- NIGHT

Rebecca, Tom, Pat, and Sarah enter from the back of the auditorium.

They search through their bags.

Pat looks up nervously.

PAT

My phone..it's gone.

SARAH

Mine too...

TOM

Same...

PAT

I'm getting out of here.

Pat runs out of the science-lobby exit from the auditorium.

Rebecca, Tom, and Sarah follow him.

INT. MAIN LOBBY- NIGHT

Pat, Tom, Rebecca, and Sarah run to the front doors and push against them.

None of the doors will open, but they continue to push on them anyways.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL - NIGHT

Pat, Tom, Rebecca, and Sarah are visible from the front doors of the school and the view zooms farther and farther away until they are barely visible.

INT. MAIN LOBBY - NIGHT

Tom is pacing back and forth with a worried expression on his face. He is holding his chin with his hand.

Pat is sitting against a wall breathing heavily having a nervous breakdown.

Sarah is standing with her arms crossed, trying to act blase.

Rebecca is leaning against the wall, looking aimlessly around with a scared expression on her face.

Sarah looks at Tom.

SARAH

So what are we gonna do?

Tom opens his mouth to say something, but then covers his face with his hand and leans against the wall instead.

Rebecca stands up straight and walks in between Sarah, Tom, and Pat.

REBECCA

Okay guys, there's got to be another way out of here. Just split up and find

another doorway. Tom, you come with me
to check the exit in the English wing.
Pat -

Rebecca looks at Pat, who is now mumbling to himself and frantically looking around.

REBECCA (CONT'D)
Pat, you go with Sarah and check the
exit in the basement. If your door is
open, come and find us..

Tom, Rebecca, and Sarah all exchange looks.

Rebecca and Tom run off towards the English wing.

Sarah turns around, looks at Pat, rolls her eyes and pulls him up off of the floor.

SARAH
(Angrily)
Don't worry about it. You're gonna be
fine.

Sarah drags Pat out of the lobby by the arm.

INT. LOCKER ROOM HALLWAY - NIGHT

Sarah leads a frantic, hysterical Pat into the hallway and sits him down against the wall.

SARAH
(frustrated)
Just sit down there, I'm just gonna
check the door over here....try not to
pass out.

Sarah walks out of of the hallway.

INT. ENGLISH WING - NIGHT

Rebecca and Tom run up to the English wing exit. - it's locked.

INT. BASEMENT EXIT- NIGHT

Sarah skips up the steps and up to the exit. This door is also locked.

The shot creeps up behind Sarah and she turns around suddenly.

Sarah turns around and screams. Rebecca and Tom are standing behind her and frightened her.

Rebecca puts her hand over her heart and catches her breath.

TOM
Where's Pat?

Sarah walks down the stairwell and turns the corner.

SARAH
He's right -

Sarah points to the empty hallway and stops talking.

SARAH (CONT'D)
I left him right there...he was there a minute ago.

Sarah suddenly looks nervously at Tom and Rebecca. Rebecca mirrors her expression.

TOM
(Nervously and doubtfully)
Maybe he went in the locker rooms...

Tom runs off towards the locker rooms and Rebecca and Sarah follow him.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - NIGHT

Tom, Rebecca, and Sarah enter the locker room. All of the showers are on and the lights are flickering slowly.

Rebecca turns left and walks around the corner of the locker room, Tom turns right around another corner, and Sarah continues to go straight.

Rebecca turns around her corner and walks slowly and cautiously across the room.

Tom turns his corner and opens the corners of the shower slowly and cautiously.

TOM
Pat? Pat, are you in here?

Sarah, Rebecca, and Tom meet back in the entrance of the locker room.

REBECCA
Did you find him?

Tom and Sarah shake their heads.

Sarah, Tom, and Rebecca are seen from an arial view while a muffled conversation between them goes on.

Suddenly, a drop of red blood falls from the ceiling and lands on Tom's head.

Tom reaches his hand towards his head and looks up.

His expression turns to shock and horror as he turns completely around and looks up to face the ceiling. Rebecca and Sarah do the same.

Written on the ceiling in blood is the phrase "I AM RALF HECKLE"

Rebecca runs quickly out of the locker room and Tom and Sarah chase after her.

INT. BASEMENT HALLWAY - NIGHT

Rebecca walks down the hallway and doesn't stop as Tom and Sarah call her name.

Tom runs up to her and turns her around. Rebecca covers her face to hide the fact that she has been crying.

REBECCA
There's no way out of here.

TOM
Rebecca....

Rebecca starts to walk down the hallway again and Tom and Sarah follow closely behind her.

REBECCA
Whoever is in this building is way ahead of us. They already have all the doors locked, and there's no use in walking around aimlessly looking for a way out.

She stops walking and turns around to face them.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

The only thing we can do now is hide...

INT. BASEMENT HALLWAY - NIGHT

Rebecca slowly walks down the hallway and doesn't stop as Tom and Sarah call her name.

Tom runs up to her, and grabs her shoulder. She looks back over at him.

REBECCA

There's no way out of here.

TOM

Rebecca...

He looks back over at Sarah in anger.

TOM

Why did you leave Pat by himself? What were you thinking?

Sarah moves close to Tom.

SARAH

This isn't real Tom! Its just a prank!

TOM

Just a prank? Just a joke?

He wipes some blood on his face. He shows her his hand.

TOM

Does this look like a joke? Is this funny?

SARAH

It's not real!

TOM

Then what is it Sarah? And who took Pat and Anne!

REBECCA

Shut up, both of you!

Sarah pauses and looks at both of them.

SARAH

I'll prove to you both this is a joke.

She runs towards the stairs that lead to the guidance hallway. Rebecca and Tom look at each other and run after her.

INT. GUIDANCE HALLWAY

Sarah runs out of the stairway, screaming at the top of her lungs.

SARAH

Come on ghost, take me!

She runs towards the English wing.

SARAH (CONT'D)

Take me!

She starts to run down the English wing and then stops suddenly. Tom and Rebecca follow her at the beginning of the English hallway.

REBECCA

Sarah, get back here!

Sarah slowly turns around.

SARAH

Guys, coming here was a mistake.

Suddenly, the lights turn off and Sarah's scream can be heard. The lights turn on again, revealing Sarah has vanished. The camera returns to Tom and Rebecca who both look down at their feet and notice that there is a note that says "I Am Ralf Heckle." Tom looks over at Rebecca.

TOM

We can't stay here.

The both run towards the auditorium.

INT. AUDITORIUM - NIGHT

The lights in the auditorium are off and the only lighting comes from the English hallway and the small red lights lining the aisles of the auditorium.

The door closes quickly and loudly, as if pushed closed, behind Tom and the auditorium is pitch black.

Suddenly, an eerie blue light turns on onstage and smoke rolls across the floor.

Rebecca and Tom cautiously walk down the aisle.

The lights onstage turn off again for three seconds.

The blue lighting comes back on full blast and strobe lights reveal six random people onstage moving strangely.

Rebecca gasps and the lights turn off again.

As they continue to walk down the aisle, the lights turn on again and the six random people onstage are back.

The lights turn off once more but when they turn back on, the lighting is normal.

Suddenly, a girl with no eyes appears in front of them, screeching.

Rebecca screams and slaps the girl across the face.

Tom and Rebecca run quickly out of the music stairwell exit and into the music room. They close the door quickly behind them.

INT. MUSIC ROOM - NIGHT

Mr. Falker is playing a scary song on his piano and looks up suddenly as Tom and Rebecca run in, frantically. He stops playing.

Mr. Falker stands up.

MR. FALKER

What on earth are you still doing at the school at this hour?

REBECCA

(frantic and hysterical)

Mr. Falker! There's someone here! They've got Sarah and Pat, and Anne. It's Ralf! It's Ralf Heckle and we can't stop him please Mr. Falker, Please...

Rebecca starts to cry and Tom walks forward.

Mr. Falker looks confused and concerned.

MR. FALKER

Okay, okay. Wait here, I'll be right back. I just have to get my keys out of my office.

Mr. Falker walks into his office leaving Rebecca and Tom in the music room.

Rebecca sighs, and turns towards the board.

Her face suddenly looks astounded as she looks at the board.

The shot zooms in on a spot on the board where "MICHAEL FALKER" is written on the board.

Rebecca looks more closely at the board, her face growing more and more terrified.

MONTAGE - DISAPPEARANCES

-- Anne turns around in the bathroom and screams as she is grabbed by the man in the black cloak .

-- Anne sits onstage and is lit by a blue light with a very sickly-looking face.

-- Pat is sitting in the locker room hallway, looks up, and sees the man in the black cloak standing above him.

-- Pat sits onstage and is lit by a blue light with a very sickly-looking face.

-- Sarah is cautiously standing on the top of the prop deck. She turns around and sees the man in the black cloak and screams.

-- Sarah sits onstage and is lit by a blue light with a very sickly - looking face.

-- The letters in the words "MICHAEL FALKER" that are written on the board slowly start to rearrange themselves until they spell "I AM RALF HECKLE"

END MONTAGE

Rebecca turns frantically towards Tom.

REBECCA

Tom! It's him! The man in the black
cloak, it's Mr. Falker!

Tom looks at Rebecca shocked and confused.

Mr. Falker walks casually out of his office.

Rebecca gasps and warily steps back away from him.

Mr. Falker walks over to the door leading outside from the music
room.

MR. FALKER

So like I was saying before...

Mr. Falker locks the door.

MR. FALKER

(sinisterly)

I'm glad you're safe.

FADE OUT.