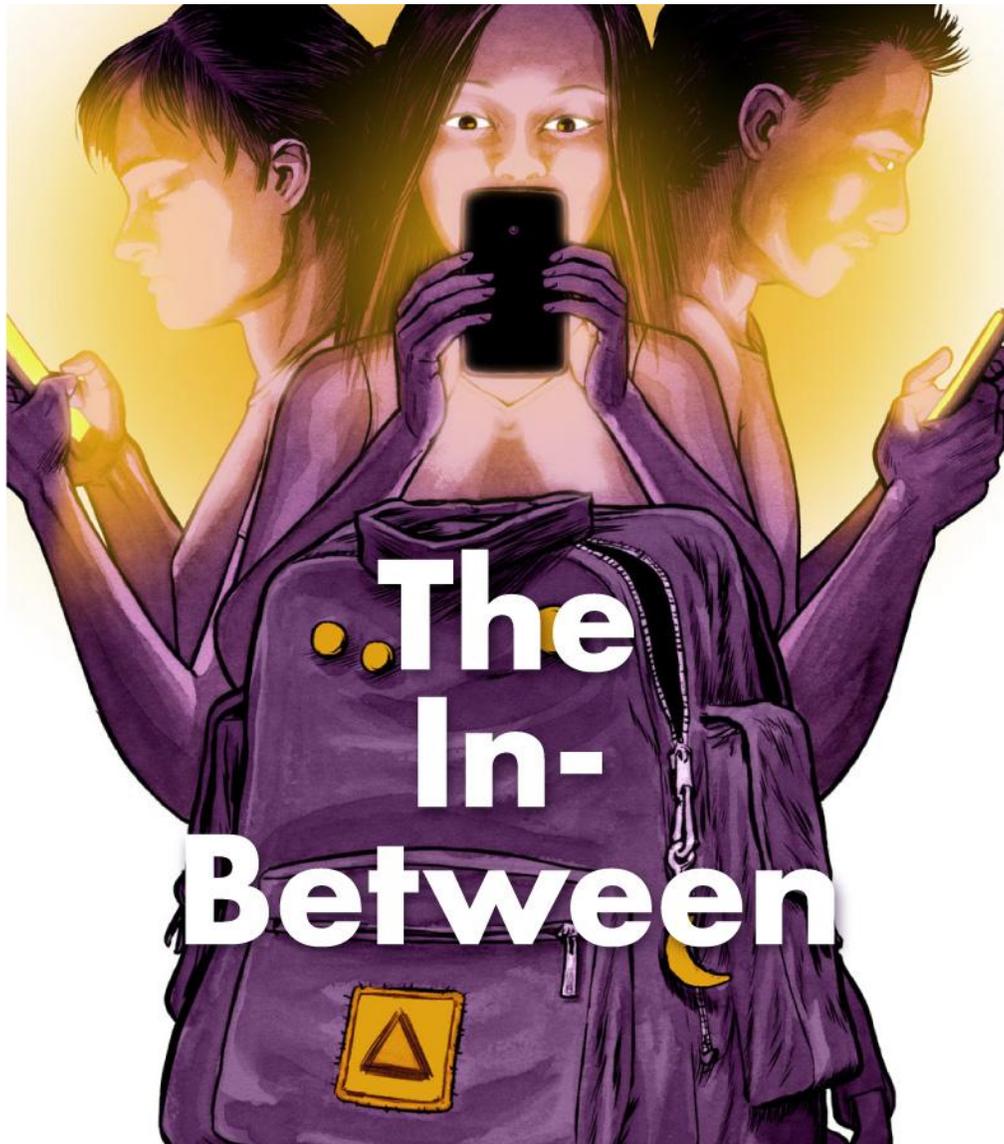


Visual Story

The In-Between



Relaxed Performance Saturday February 9, 2019 at 4:00 pm, Monument National – 1182 St Laurent Blvd

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WHAT IS A VISUAL STORY?

A visual story is a tool to help patrons familiarize themselves with a venue and or with a show. It allows audience members to know in advance what to expect at the theatre, so that they can prepare themselves accordingly. Visual stories were created as an aid for people with autism or learning disabilities. They can be used to help anyone prepare for their visit to the theatre.

ABOUT RELAXED PERFORMANCES

A relaxed performance is open to everyone and is designed to welcome audience members who might benefit from a more casual theatre environment. Some examples include:

- Young children
- People with autism or sensory processing disorder
- People with intellectual or developmental disabilities
- People with anxiety disorders and other mental health conditions
- People with Tourette's syndrome, people who have physical and/or vocal tics
- People with behavioral issues
- People who are unfamiliar with the theatre

At a relaxed performance, there is a more casual attitude towards noise and movement in the audience. There is no expectation to remain quiet and seated

for the duration of the performance. Audience members are free to move around, and may retreat to a quiet space outside the theatre at any time. House lights remain on during the show so the audience is not in the dark. Lighting and sound effects onstage may be adjusted to a lower intensity.

ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE

Performance Time

The performance will start at 4pm and is approximately 45 to 50 minutes in length. The show will finish around 4:45pm.

Pre-Performance Talk

Theatre Staff will tell you a little bit about the show before it starts, introduce you to the performer, and talk about the specific points in the play to look out for.

Post-Performance Talk-back

There will be a 10 to 15 minute talk-back after the show. This is a time where audience members can ask questions to the actors or special guests, by raising their hands and waiting for their turn. Audience members can leave the theatre before, after or during the talk-back.

Music and Sound

There will be music and sound effects during the show. If audience members are sensitive to loud noises, they are encouraged to bring noise-cancelling headphones.

Changes to the Show

There will be some changes to the lighting and sound to create a less stimulating environment. The lights in the audience will remain on at a low level throughout the performance so audience members can leave the theatre if they need to.

Quiet Space

If any audience member feels overwhelmed and need to leave the theatre, there will be a Quiet Space provided in a room just outside the theatre doors. The door will be clearly marked and audience members can ask a staff member to guide them to the room.

THINGS TO LOOK OUT FOR

- You are welcome to come and go from the performance space as you please.
- If you need quiet, you may go to the quiet area outside the performance space.
- Music will play while you and the rest of the audience are coming in the performance space.
- This show contains music which may be played underneath the voices of the actors.
- Near the beginning of the play, the character of Karim mentions a shooting that happened in a mosque.
- There are screens on stage. They are there to help establish where the action takes place. The screens are also used to show what the characters are texting and sharing with each other on their phones.
- The memes shown on the screen may contain triggering content like racist images as well as terms like white power and white trash. There is also a meme showing an image from the war in Afghanistan.
- There is mention of intimidation and threats being exchanged on the internet by students of the school.
- Some characters use the words “Arabian” and “Arabia” to describe people of Arabic descent and the places where they come from. Some characters also use the word “Muz” or “Muzzie” instead of using the word “Muslim.”
- Brit’s mom is an alcoholic which leads her to be violent towards her daughter sometimes. We don’t ever see this violence, it is only talked about.
- Karim was born in Beirut, where he lived through a war as a child. Beirut is the capital and the largest city of Lebanon.
- Lily and Karim are attracted to each other at the beginning of the show. Near the middle of the show, they kiss.

- There is often tension and fights between the characters of Brit and Karim. Sometimes they shout at each other.
- In the big fight in the cafeteria, the character of Karim mentions “Nazism”. As she recalls what happened, the character of Lily mentions students chanting: “Nazi, Nazi, Nazi”! At the end of this scene, there are videos and memes showing what the students’ reactions to the incident are on the internet. The scene ends with an announcement over the school’s P.A. system.
- Brit thinks there is a bomb in Karim’s school bag. It is not a bomb; it is a fake light saber that he is making for Lily.
- Near the end of the play there is a school lockdown, with loud sirens.
- The music can be loud at times throughout the performance.

The Characters



Lily



Brit



Karim

Throughout the story, Lily, Brit and Karim mention other characters that are part of the action, but not portrayed by the actors.

Brit's mom

Bennie: One of Brit's friend

Tarek: One of the students who came as a refugee from Syria or Iraq.

Tenders: The principal. He sometimes does the PA announcements.

The Story

This is a detailed description of the events in the play.

The Introductions

The three characters, Lily, Brit and Karim get on stage to introduce themselves and their lives. There is also an announcement made over the PA where we find out that some students from the school are using social media to intimidate and threaten each other. Lily and Brit are having a conversation in the cafeteria. They mention Lily's love for Star Wars. Karim joins them to get Lily's homework, then leaves. Lily and Brit talk about Tarek and Bennie.

The Evening Texts and Snaps

Brit is texting Lily. She's asking her to come to her apartment. Lily says she's doing her homework. At the same time, Lily and Karim are texting. They are flirting and making plans to meet. Brit begins writing to Lily about her mother who is drunk that night, but deletes the messages before sending them.

The Meeting on the Hill and Brit's Apartment

Lily and Karim meet and chat. They are flirting and making jokes. They talk about Tarek, and the other students who came as refugees from Syria and Iraq. Lily talks about her identity as an adopted Vietnamese person living with a Canadian family. Karim asks her to go to the top of the hill with him. Lily hesitates because she told Brit she would go to her apartment. Lily and Karim go to the top of the hill together. Meanwhile, Brit is at her apartment, locked in her room. She is

texting Lily asking her why she's not there. Lily and Karim have reached the top of the hill. They talk about the memes that Tarek and Bennie have shared on the internet. They also talk about Lily's Vietnamese and Karim's Lebanese origins. They reveal that they have liked each other for a long time. Lily feels bad that she's not with Brit as she promised. Brit is texting with Bennie. Lily and Karim kiss. Bennie reveals that he saw Lily and Karim's kiss and sends a picture to Brit.

Brit's Story

Brit tells the story of her last evening. Her mother was drunk and was trying to get into her locked room. The mother finally got in and attacked Brit until Brit slapped her. Brit reveals that her mother lost her job and that they don't have the money to pay the rent.

The Next Day

Brit confronts Lily about her kiss with Karim. Brit is frustrated by Lily's actions and leaves. Karim offers a gift to Lily. She sees something else in his bag, but he hides it from her. Karim asks Lily to go to the cafeteria with him, but she refuses. She leaves. Karim talks about the moment when the students who arrived as refugees came at the school.

The Cafeteria Incident

Lily, Brit and Karim explain what happened in the cafeteria and act it out: Bennie, Brit and their friends were sitting at the table usually taken by Karim and the Muslim kids. Karim confronted Brit and Bennie. The fight escalated. Brit called Karim a Muzzie. Karim called Brit a Nazi. The tension is high. One of the kids makes a racist comment and some other kids in the cafeteria joined in. Brit and

Karim shouted at each other. Lily walked into the cafeteria Brit and Karim stopped fighting and both looked at her.

After School

Brit explains the aftermath of what happened in the cafeteria. Lily confronts Brit on her views on the refugees. Brit confronts Lily on her affection for Karim. Lily explains how she feels stuck in between Brit and Karim.

Brit and Karim Meet

Karim waits for Brit. They fight about Lily. Brit leaves. Karim goes to meet Lily.

Lily and Karim's Memories

Lily and Karim are together. Lily talks about her memory of Brit's dad. Karim talks about his memories of living in Beirut. Brit arrives and sees Lily and Karim together. Brit and Karim fight. Brit thinks she sees a bomb in Karim's bag and leaves. She goes to the principal's office. Lily receives an email announcing she won a writing contest.

The Lockdown

Lily explains how the lockdown happened. There was an announcement on the PA telling the kids to stay calm because the school was in a lockdown. People were scared. They started singing. There was yelling in the hallway. Karim was arrested and expelled because people thought the light saber in his backpack was a bomb.

Lily's Trip

Lily is about to leave for her trip. Brit is there and talks about her mother doing better. Karim arrives. Lily makes Brit and Karim apologize to each other.

The End of the Play

The End of the Play

At the end of the show, the actors will come back onstage and take a bow. This is called the "curtain call". Audience members may clap loudly. If you are sensitive to loud noises, you can put on your noise cancelling headphones.

GLOSSARY

Arabia/Arabian: Some characters use the words “Arabian” and “Arabia” to describe people of Arabic descent and the places where they come from. These words can be hurtful from people from that culture. It would be better to use the expression “The Middle East” or “People of Arabic descent”.

Arabic: Arabic is a language used in the Arab world. It serves as a bridge language between many different countries in the Middle East.

Comicon: A comic book convention or comicon is an event with a primary focus on comic books and comic book culture, in which comic book fans gather to meet creators, experts, and each other.

Iraq: Officially known as the Republic of Iraq, Iraq is a country in Western Asia.

The Iraqi conflict (2003–present) is a long-running armed conflict that began with the 2003 invasion of Iraq by a United States-led coalition.

Lebanon: Officially known as the Lebanese Republic, Lebanon is a country in Western Asia. Its capital is Beirut. Many armed conflicts have forced its population to leave the country.

Lightsaber: A lightsaber is a fictional energy sword featured in the *Star Wars* universe. A typical lightsaber is depicted as a luminescent blade.

Lockdown: An emergency protocol to prevent people or information from escaping from an area. Lockdowns are also used to protect people inside a facility.

Meme: An image, video, piece of text, etc. that is copied and spread rapidly by internet users.

Muzzie/Muz: This word is used as an abbreviation to Muslim. It is a racist term used to describe the students who came as refugees for Syria and Iraq.

Nazi/Nazism: Nazism is a form of fascism and shows that ideology's disdain for liberal democracy and the parliamentary system, but also incorporates fervent anti-Semitism and racism.

PA: Public Announcements, generally made by the school principal, to the entire school with an intercom.

Racism/Racist: The belief in the superiority of one race over another, which often results in discrimination and prejudice towards people based on their race or ethnicity.

Refugee: A person seeking refuge in a foreign country out of fear of political persecution or because of a war.

Snapchat: A multimedia messaging app used globally. One of the principal features of Snapchat is that pictures and messages are usually only available for a short time before they become inaccessible to users.

Star Wars: An American epic space opera franchise, created by George Lucas and centered around a film series that began with the eponymous 1977 movie. The saga quickly became a worldwide pop culture phenomenon. Characters and themes include Rey, Kilo Ren, Padme, Darth Vader, The Force and The Last Jedi.

Syria: Officially known as the Syrian Arab Republic, Syria is a country in Western Asia. The **Syrian Civil War** (2011 - present) is an ongoing multi-sided armed conflict in Syria.

Vietnam: Officially known as the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Vietnam is the easternmost country on the Indochina Peninsula. The Vietnam War (1955-1975) forced the population to flee the country. The refugees from this crisis are known as the *boat people*.

White pride/White power: Expressions primarily used by white separatist, white nationalist, neo-Nazi and white supremacist organizations. Political and social scientists commonly argue that the idea of "white pride" is an attempt to provide a clean or more palatable public face for white supremacy or white separatism and that it is an appeal to a larger audience in hopes of inciting more widespread racial violence

White trash: A derogatory predominantly American English class slur referring to poor white people, especially in the rural southern United States.