

A Play by Stephanie Singh

CHARACTERS

JULIA (OLDER AND YOUNGER)	Asian; bubbly; President, quirky, love-struck, rebellious; She doesn't want to be a burden to people so she often bottles things up and kind of just does everything that is asked of her.
AMANDI	Hispanic; normally the voice of reason; best friends with TANIA but for this scene she's hesitant around her because of a previous argument
ANNA	She speaks with indifference but deep down inside you can tell that she genuinely cares for everyone.
CASSIDY	Black; dramatic; comedic relief
JORDAN	Hispanic; basically the antagonist towards TANIA and ANNA; hypocritical
TANIA	Hispanic; witty
MOTHER	Asian; loving
FATHER	Asian; drunkard; abusive
PERSONS 1-5	Unnamed supporting characters

FROM THE PLAYWRIGHT

A slight overview about the play (because I don't even know what it's about at this point): This play is supposed to be about four girls TANIA, AMANDI, ANNA, and JULIA as they go through their last year of high school, where they experience changes in their life that forces them to confront their fears and their pasts, some of which includes abuse, alcoholism, depression, suicidal thoughts, etc., while simultaneously trying to keep their friendship intact. In this particular scene, there's a focus on JULIA and a revelation about why she acts the way that she does; why she always does what people tell her to do. It also reveals her downfall because of it.

SCENE

(JULIA is in the auditorium doing student council work when suddenly....)

PERSON 1

Julia! Come here! Please!

(JULIA puts down the papers and starts to make her way to PERSON 1, when PERSON 2 grabs her arm.)

PERSON 2

Julia! Where are the posters?

JULIA

Ah. They are—

PERSON 3

(Interrupting)

Julia, can you please give this to Ms. D?

JULIA

Actually, I'm kind o—

PERSON 3

Thanks.

(She pushes the assortment of supplies into her hands before walking off.)

PERSON 4

Julia, when are the pictures for the video due?

JULIA I don't really know—

PERSON 5

Hey. When are you going to teach everyone the dance for the flash mob? I would...

(The voices muffle together in unison and they start to swirl and spin in a sea of colors around JULIA, making her bunch her hands into fists and shut her eyes.)

CASSIDY

Hey Jul—

JULIA

(Dropping the stuff down)

What? WHAT!? What the heck do you want?!?

CASSIDY

Uh-uh. I just...

JULIA

(Fiery eyes)

What? You just what? You wanted me to do something too?

(Putting her hands on her hips)

Well... What is it? You might as well tell me since it seems like I don't have my own things to do. Apparently, I am a robot. A freaking, metal machine! That's what my worth is to you all! That's what I guess everyone here thinks I am! Because no one seems to believe that I get tired! (Walking back and forth) And TIRED I AM! I am so fucking tired. I don't want to do any of this. I can't do all of this!

(Walking towards CASSIDY)

I am one person.

(Picking up one finger)

ONE PERSON!

(With tears in her eyes)

One per—

(JULIA faints and the scene shifts to a younger JULIA who is playing with her toys. It is nighttime and the entire family is doing their own little thing... even the father, a skinny, average height man, who has just come home.)

FATHER

H-h-h-heeeey! Wheeeeree is every- (hiccupping) one?

(He stumbles forward and presses his hand the wall, trying to gain some support.)

MOTHER

(Coming out from the kitchen)

Honey! What are you doing?! How could you come back drunk!?

FATHER

I'mmm not drunkkk.. I is sobbberr.

MOTHER

Sober?! Sober?! Does a sober man look like you? Your clothes—

(Pulling on his shirt)

--are disarranged. Your breath smells like vomit and ... for Christ Sake!!! You can't even stand properly.

No! Daddy! We have to help mommy! She's bleeding from her head!

(FATHER grabs JULIA's arm as she tries to run pass, and pulls her back, making the latter fall to the floor.)

FATHER

Your mom's fine! What about, daddy?! Do you not care about me!?

YOUNG JULIA

(She stands up again, clutching the wet cloth in her hand, and a determined look in her eyes)

You're not the one that is bleeding!

(She tries to move past him again only to be slammed back to the ground by her father.)

FATHER

You just don't listen! With ears, like that, do you think you'll succeed? Don't be stupid, you worthless little thing. It looks like I have to teach you a lesson.

(He takes a step closer to JULIA, his burning cigarette in his hand, as JULIA stays on the floor, unable to move because of fear.)

(Lights illuminate the stage, blinding the audience momentarily as the scene shifts to a white room. There's a little nightstand with a vase of white carnations resting on top of it. Next to that nightstand is a bed with JULIA on it. Her entire body is covered by a white sheet, saved for her arm which is dangling off the bed,

hooked up to an IV. Outside her room door is ANNA with TANIA, and AMANDI with JORDAN whose hand was on the doorknob.)

JORDAN

(Sarcastically)

Oh. Look who it is. Well if it isn't our *good* friends.

TANIA

Just save it. I'm not in the mood to fight with you.

JORDAN

Oh really now?! Well that's shocking, considering you had so much to say to me before.

ANNA

Don't you have any sense to know when and where is the right time to fight? We are in the flipping hospital for crying out loud! Can you at least act with some decency?!

(CASSIDY walks in between the girls to go into the room, oblivious to the tension between the girls. Her hair is all over the place and red circles around her bloodshot eyes. She notices the white sheet and moves toward it as slow as a zombie. She grasps the footboard and waits for a few seconds before her knees give in and she falls in a heap of tears.)

CASSIDY

(Ugly-like)

Wwhhhhyyyy? JULIA!!

TANIA

(Following her in with the other girls; disgusted)

Ew. There's snot coming out of her nose.

AMANDI

(Whispering)

Should we tell her the truth?

CASSIDY

SHE...

(She grabs onto ANNA's hand, shocking her)

SHE WAS SO YOUNG!!

(Looking at the girls)

Who is going to tell me I look like crap even when I don't!? Who am I going to be ratchet with?! Who is going to be irresponsible with me?!

(She begins to cry louder.)

JULIA

(Sitting up)

WOULD YOU SHUT UP?! I'M TRYING TO SLEEP!

(She glares at CASSIDY who stops crying at her outburst.)

ANNA

Looks like Sleeping Beauty finally decided to stop playing dead.

(She goes to sit on the JULIA's bed.)

(CASSIDY quickly gets up from the floor and engulfs JULIA in a tight hug, much to the latter's dismay.)

CASSIDY

YOUUUUU'RREEEE ALIVE!!!!!!!!!!

JULIA

Of course I am. Why would you think I was dead?

CASSIDY

Be-be-because. You had just collapsed onto the floor and then you haven't woken up until now.

JULIA

(Looking to ANNA)

How long was I out?

ANNA

A couple of days.

AMANDI

You must be pretty hungry. Here.

(She hands JULIA a basket of food.)

JULIA

(Her face brightening up)

FOOOOD!!!

(She immediately digs in to the basket and begins eating.)

JORDAN

It's like you haven't ate in days. Oh wait. You didn't.

(TANIA laughs at that for a few seconds before realizing what she did and reverting her face back to one of indifference.)

TANIA

That wasn't funny.

JORDAN

Says the person who was laughing.

ANNA

Guys...

JORDAN

(Turning on her)

What? You want to say something? You're such a—

JULIA

Stop it!

(Her eyes harden on JORDAN)

If you're going to start something here, then please just leave. I rather be alone than have you guys here bickering and bringing back my stress levels up. Do we have an agreement?

(She looks at CASSIDY who had JORDAN's food in her mouth.)

Okay?

CASSIDY

(Nodding)

Okay.

JULIA

(To AMANDI)

Agreed?

AMANDI

Agreed.

JULIA

Anna?

ANNA

Yeah.

JULIA

(To JORDAN)

Got it?

JORDAN

It's not me you should be worrying about. You should be worrying about that bi—

JULIA

Jordan!

(JORDAN jumps.)

I'm serious! No fighting! Do you get it?

JORDAN

(In a small voice)

Yes...

JULIA

Good. Now come sit.

(Gestures to the other chairs in the room.)

I want to hear about what I missed.

(End Scene)