



A TALE FROM NEVERLAND

by Peter Fenton

Draft 7.0.1 - 16 September 2025

Inspired and disturbed by the character, setting, and story of

PETER AND WENDY

by J.M. Barrie

Peter Fenton P.O. Box 93 Lahaska PA 18931

This play contains dark humor, light profanity, sexual innuendo, alcohol consumption, stage violence, and briefly discusses suicide. Recommended for ages 14+

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CHARACTER NAME	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	AGE	GEND:
PETER PAN	The Eternal Child	20s	М
TINKER BELL	The Sly Pixie	Any	Алу
CONNOR FORSYTH	The Lost Boy	21	M
LINDSAY PLENCNER	The Darling Girl	22	F
MAGGIE WRATTEN*	The Cunning Pirate	55	F
WENDY DARLING	Neverland's Mother	20	F
JAMES HOOK	Peter's Rival	203	M
SMEE	Hook's First Mate	40s	Any
DAN FLICK	Longtime Lost Boy	20	M
ERIC BENNETT	Lindsay's Fiancé	22	M
PROF. BARRIE	English Professor	40s	Any
VARIOUS LOST BOYS AND	PIRATES - OPTIONAL BACKGROU	ND ROLE	ΞS

CASTING & PRODUCTION NOTES

For the smallest possible cast (6, Any Thinicity: 2F/3M/1 Any):

- 1. PETER PAN (Playing 20s, M)
- 2. TINKER BELL (This role can be played as any age/gender)
- 3. JAMES/CONNOR (Playing early 20s M)
 4. WENDY**/LINDSAY (Playing early 20s, F)
- 5. MAGGIE**/BARRIE/PIRATE (Playing 409-50s, F)
- 6. SMEE/ERIC/FLICK/LOST BOY (Playing 20s and 40s-50s, M)

For an expanded cast, remove or re-organize doubling as seen fit. In a minimal cast, FLICK may be the only Lost Boy ever seen on stage, but additional Lost Boys can be added into any scene FLICK appears: BABY MATT, SNAKT, HARDY, SOTA, KEESH. They must be played as male. Dialogue labeled "LOST BOY" can be assigned to FLICK or any LOST BOY. Dialogue labeled "PIRATE" can be assigned to MAGGIE or any PIRATE.

*"MAGGIE WRATTEN" is the name Mr. Fenton requests be shared in all programs and promotional materials for the major role whose identity is revealed at the end of Act One. The name "Maggie" is not uttered ofce, but throughout Act One until the reveal, this character's dilogue is labeled as delivered by MAGGIE. **MAGGIE and WENDY must appear believably related. All roles may be played by ANY ethnicity, but these two must appear related.

PETER, WAGGIE, WENDY, and JAMES are upper-class Londoners. LINDSAY was Miss Teen Indiana seven years prior to the play.

very important things to remember when acting, directing, nd designing this play are that (1) Everyone telling a story has an agenda, and (2) Time works weird in Neverland.** Pay very close tention to whose point of view "The Past" sequences are told rom and what their motivations may be in choosing what they share and leave out.

"Plencner" is pronounced PLANK-ner.

This play is dedicated to my first niece, who at the time of completing my first draft in 2023, was just a few months away from being born and named. By the logic of this play, the day Halli was born was the day I grew up-because my world became so much bigger and more beautiful with her in it.

It would be a missed opportunity if I didn't also mention Hallie's mother, my sister-in-law, is a nice girl from Indian.

OFF-OFF-BROADWAY STAGED READIN

The fifth draft of *I Think We're Lost* was presented as a staged reading on June 7, 2024 at The Flea Theater 1. New York City as part of the Rogue Theater Festival. Directed by Peter Fenton.

PETER PAN: Jonathan P. Chen TINKER BELL: Monah Yancy CONNOR/JAMES: Chad Sell LINDSAY/WENDY: Katie Padilla MAGGIE WRATTEN: Avery Kellington SMEE/FLICK: Michael De Los Angeles

PILOT PRODUCTION // UTAH PREMIERE

I Think We're Lost saw a workshop production of its sixth draft, which ran February 21-March 1, 2025 in Salt Lake City at Stansbury High School. Directed by Glen Carpenter.

PROFESSIONAL PREMIERE

I Think We're Lost will see its professional premiere April 10-19, 2026 with Pier Players Theatre Company at Theatre Exile in Philadelphia, produced by Chelsea Cylinder.

ACT ONE

ACT ONE, SCENE 1. NEVERLAND - THE PRESENT

NEVERLAND, 2025. The set gives a minimalist, toylike impression of an island in the Caribbean: a charming, boyish world crafted from act supplies and flotsam and jetsam of shipwrecks. A projection scrim fills in waps of scenery as needed.

Three clocks loom over the set: one in the center labeled NEVERLAND stopped at 11:07pm; one at each side labeled LONDON and PHILADELPHIA, each moving rapidly forward out of sync with each other.

A pirate ship protrudes from one end of the stage: the Lost Boys' frat house sits at the other with a seaside jungle in between.

AT RISE: The lighting is cold and dark in Neverland's present. Two pirate silhouettes appear on the ship deck; one male, one female. The woman picks up a tri-corner hat adorned with a peacock feather off a DEAD BODY. She sets it on her head.

MAGGIE

Hoist the mainsail. We're anchoring at Skull Rock.

SMEE

Aye.

He lifts the arm of the corpse.

SMEE

WHO B CALE.

MAGGIE

Wendy Darling.

SMEE

Λh

Who's Wendy Darling?

MAGGIE

She's dead.

The lights drop out. A light appears of acerbic fairy TINKER BELL.

TINKER BELL

Well.

She clears her throat.

TINKER BELL

Well, well. Our past comes back to haunt us in the dumbest of ways, doesn't it? One day you're sittle' pretty, 'cause you made the damn thing happen. You sent 'em off on a one-way pixie dust trip to London, and Neverland is finally at peace. Peter's happy, you got everything you ever wanted, you're just sittin' down with a cold drink, then BOOM! Outta the corner of your eye, there she is. There he is. You gotta be kidding me. Don't let anyone tell you "to live's an awfully big adventure." 'Cause... well, it is. But if you don't protect that life with everything ya got... all the more reason to spit on your grave.

A silhoutte appears of a pirate fashioning a hook for a hand. Tinker Bell sees this and laughs.

TINKE BELL

Oh, you got a friggin' hook for a hand now? Get outta here. Should've finished you off when I had the shot...

The lighting changes, indicating a slashback. Tinker Bell exits. The LONDON clock lights up.

ACT ONE, SCENE 2. LONDON

On Scrim: KENSINGTON GARDENS, LONDON, 1953.

Charismatic, bubbly PETER PAN (20s) enters with a giddy burst of energy. His neighbor, JAMES (20s), enters—his privacy violated.

JAMES

I'll get you for this someday! Mark my words!

PETER PAN

Mark my words, James Hook! Keep shaking your fist at me and I'll cut it clean off!

JAMES

Are you mad?

PETER PAN

No, of course not. I'm Peter Pan!

JAMES

Following me around day in and day out like my shadow.

PETER PAN

Oh, that's fun! Never thought of myself like a shadow. Rather like that.

JAMES

Please don't get any ideas.

PETER PAN

I make no promises, James Hook.

JAMES

Even to Wendy?

PETER PAN

Well, that's irrelevant. I don't play with Wendy.

JAMES

As you shouldn't.

PETER_PAN

I only play with boys, of course. You've got to keep up with this, James, if we're going to keep on like this--

JAMES

I didn't ask to play. Njust want--

PETER PAN

You're no fun at all.

JAMES

How does one even put a face at the window, three floors up?

PETER PAN

Carefully!

JAMES

Will you tell her I waited all night at stage door?

PETER PAN

All night? It's hardly eleven. You best get back there, James!

JAMES

She played the most lovely Ophelia. Send Wendy my regards.

He exits. A wily actress wearing the tri-corner peacock feather hat, WENDY (20s), enters.

WENDY

Dearest me. There you are.

PETER PAN

Ah! Dearest Wendy.

They kiss.

WENDY

Whatever are you doing in the courtyard?

PETER PAN

I pulled a good one over James Hook. Got up on his roof on the third floor--it's a rather big house--and vent "boo!"

Wendy laughs.

WENDY

The love of my life. Playing like a boy

PETER PAN

Always fun to play with boys, inpit?

WENDY

Will you ever leave that poor Hook alone?

PETER PAN

Why would I?! Even sends his regards. Show was good?

WENDY

Yes, splendid audience. Eight more weeks.

PETER PAN

Why'd you say it Nike that?

WENDY

Like what?

PETER PAN

"Eight more weeks"

WENDY

It's quite unhealthy, don't you think? Disappearing into a role like this, night in. Night out. Telling the tragedy of ophelia so much it's practically sewn into my bones.

PETER PAN

Well, you do it so well! Wendy Darling tells the best stories.

WENDY

If we're not doing it all the way, is it really worth doing?

PETER PAN

There's my Wendy.

WENDY

You'll be the death of me, Peter Pan.

They kiss. The whole stage lights up as a star flies across the sky.

PETER PAN

Wendy, look! Do you see that?

WENDY

A shooting star! Make a wish.

Peter turns to Wendy

WENDY

Make the most wonderful wish. What is the cry of your heart, Peter?

PETER PAN

I wish to stay a boy forever!

Wendy laughs.

WENDY

A boy?

PETER PAN

Yes, a boy.

WENDY

Is there... nothing... else you'd wish for?

PETER PAN

Hmm.

He thinks.

PETER PAN

Well, of course I'd like to stay this age forever. My skin is quite nice. Mint condition body.

He postures. Wendy laughs.

WENDY

Why, of course. "Mint-condition body".

PETER PAN

And... let's see. I'll be a big--Border Collie--exploring the world. I'll play with anyone I like, go on adventures. And guess what? It's the best part.

WENDY

I truly have no idea where you're taking this.

PETER PAN

You'll be there.

He takes Wendy's hand.

PETER PAN

And you'll make the best food.

WENDY

Who says I'll be making all the food?

They smile at each

PETER PAN

I wish to be happy forever. And I'll rever get hurt again. So. That settles that. I shall not grow up!

WENDY

What a wonderful wish.

A bright flash lights up the sky.

PETER PAN

Ooh, God seems to agree!

Tinker Bell materializes in a puff of smoke.

TINKER BELL

Ha! Whoa!

She laughs.

That's the cle of life, huh?!

WENDY

on earth...?

TINKER BELL

otta do that again. Yeah, I could get used to this.

PETER PAN

ell, hi there! What... are you?

TINKER BELL

Good question. I don't really know, I just came alive. So. You figure that out.

WENDY

You just--what?

TINKER BELL

That was a powerful wish you made there, Mister Peter.

WENDY

Who are you that you know my dearest Peter Pan?

TINKER BELL

Who are you that you care?

PETER PAN

Well, I'm Peter Pan, of course! And this is Gvendelyn Moira Angela Darling.

WENDY

Pleasure. Wendy's fine.

She sticks her hand out for a shake.

Tinker Bell doesn't oblige.

TINKER BELL

Uh-huh.

WENDY

And... your name is?

TINKED BELL

(Matter-of-fact.)

Yeah, I don't got one of those. My existence sorta hinges on Peter's dream, so...

PETER PAN

So I can call you anything?!

TINKER BELL

Uh, sure. Yah Any name you want.

PETER PAN

Oh!

Ooh.

How about Tinker Bell?!

A beat. This is a dumb name.

TINKER BELL

You sure about that one?

PETER PAN

Well, I very much like Tinker Bell.

TINKER BELL

Any name. Sure. Yeah. I did say that.

PETER PAN

You very much did!

TINKER BELL

Uh-huh. OK. So anyway, Peter, today's your lucky day. Your wish was so powerful it created me. So I'm here to make the damn thing happen. You wish to never grow up.

WENDY

He wished to have me there by his side--adventuring, and...

TINKER BELL

Uh-huh. Listen, toots. I really only care about the "Peter doesn't wanna grow up" thing. So--if ya don't mind--

(To Peter.)

How about your very own island paradise? Warm breeze, white sand. Lake fulla horny mermaids. We'll call it Neverland. 'Cause you'll never age a day. Never ge hurt. Never leave. Guaranteed.

PETER PA

That sounds lovely, but I'd really rather not go alone.

TINKER BELL

You won't be alone. You'll have me. Plus you'll have a lake--

Peter turns to Wendy.

PETER PAN

Well? Will you... have me?

WENDY

Have you? Peter, you are the first thought when I wake and the last as I drift off to sleep.

PETER PAN

Can't we bring Wendy?

Tinker Bell hesitates.

TINKER BELL

If it makes you happy.

She tosses pixie dust into the air. The LONDON clock stops momentarily on 11:07pm as the light behind the clock face pulsates in and out. The NEVERLAND clock lights up, with time stopped at 11:07pm. The LONDON clock resumes forward as the lights on its face drop off. The stage lights change to a trippy strobe as the Neverland set forms around Peter and Wendy.

When it finishes, Peter and Wendy are surrounded by our first proper look at the Neverland set, bathed in a warm nostalgic glow. A beautiful night on an island paradise.

WENDY

Dearest me. It's awfully romantic, wouldn't you say? Peter?

PETER PAN

Neverland.

ACT ONE, SCENE 3. NEVERDAND

NEVERLAND, continuous from the previous scene through an ambiguously long period of time where nobody ages. Tinker Bell approaches Peter and Wendy.

TINKER BELL

Yeah, yeah, welcome home. Clap if you believe. Peter, what are we doing about the broad?

WENDY

I'm standing right here.

PETER PAN

Play nice. Wendy is a friend.

TINKER BELL

Yeah, I have concerns.

PETER PAN

Like what?

TINKER BELL

OK. So you know how I just said this whole island is for you? You'll never are a day. Never get hurt. Never leave. Someday, that girl and her big, dumb hat is gonna mess it all up.

WENDY

Still right here.

TINKER BELL

wash't born yesterday.

WENDY

You were born like an hour ago.

TINKER BELL

(Ignoring Wendy.)

She's gonna pull you outta Neverland by the balls and this whole thing is gonna be ruined--

WENDY

How dare you assume --?

PETER PAN

That's an impractical way to pull me! How would she ever --?

WENDY

Peter.

You have not a thing to worry about, Tinker Bell would follow my dearest Peter to the ends of the earth if could. And I suppose I did!

PETER PAN

What a coincidence. I'd go to the ends of the earth for no one but you.

WENDY

What of your poor mother?

PETER PAN

I've only room in my heart for one girl.

WENDY

Then I'll do it all for you!

TINKER BELL

Get a room.

She exits. Peter and Wendy kiss. Peter hands Wendy a hibiscus flower.

WENDY

What a lovely flower Wherever did you find this?

PETER PAN

It's a hibigens! There's a whole grove out by Mermaid Lagoon.

WENDY

You must show me!

She puts the flower on her hat and takes Peter's hand. Lights drop out on them. A light appears on Tinker Bell.

TINKER BELL (NARRATING)

So the years went by--or did they? I don't know, time works weird here. Peter and Wendy were attached at the hip. A big, dumb flower on her big, dumb hat.

Lights up on Peter and Wendy at Mermaid Lagoon. Peter and Wendy are laughing together.

PETER PAN

Why, you are just as beautiful as ever. You know that?

WENDY

The eternal night has done wonders for my skin.

PETER PAN

You're positively glowing!

WENDY

As are you.

They look into each other's eyes. Wendy pulls away from Peter.

WENDY

Peter, how long have we been here?

PETER PAN

That's a very good question!

WENDY

Have we not seen all there is to see in Neverland? It's a rather small island. My heart has always dreamed of—a large world. Didn't you say once ages ago that we were going to visit New York?

PETER PAN

Wendy, we have an *island*! It's just ours! Way better than whatever they have in the states.

WENDY

Time's gone on so looy I'd rather not ask what's going on in the states. But what about London? Don't you miss--?

PETER PAN

There was nothing worth taking from London but you.

WENDY

Well, I'm flattered, of course. And Neverland is beautiful--

PETER PAN

Huzzah. Shall we carry on, then?

WENDY

suppose.

Peter takes Wendy's hand. Lights drop off and a light appears on Tinker Bell. Wendy exits.

TINKER BELL

Well. You see a little crack there? I sure as hell saw a little crack there. I wasn't gonna let that pass me by.

Lights up on Tinker Bell and Peter.

TINKER BELL

We're having a great time, aren't we, Peter?

PETER PAN

I am.

TINKER BELL

But...

PETER PAN

But I'm not sure Wendy is.

Do you think she's getting quite sick of p

TINKER BELL

How could anyone get sick of you?

PETER PAN

Right? I was thinking the same thing

TINKER BILL

Hey, I got an idea.

She whispers in Peter's ear. Wendy

enter.

PETER PAN

Oh, you're so good!

WENDY

What's so good?

PETER PAN

I have something serious I must ask. Do you like being in Neverland? With me?

WENDY

I love you. What kind of question is that?

PETER PAN

Right but. I've heard it said love can only stretch as far as your own imagination can take it.

WENDY

Do you not trust me?

PETER PAN

I trust you, Wendy. But I've a sinking feeling that someday things will change.

WENDY

Nothing will change. We're in Neverland.

PETER PAN

I want nothing to change, ever again. So--Gwendolyn Moira Angela Darling--

Wendy smiles, expectant. Peter gets down on one knee. Tinker Bell enters.

WENDY

Oh, dearest me--

PETER PAN

We must bring more boys here! Yes! Yes, a million times yes!

Peter and Wendy exchange shock--Peter gleefully surprised; Wendy embarrassed.

PETER PAN

Splendid, Tinker Bell! That went over so big!!

Tinker Bell whips out a binder.

TINKER BELL

So! Who we pickin' up first? English-speaking frat boy types--who recently had the thought "I don't wanna grow up..."--

Wendy exits.

TINKER BELL (*)

Evan Daigle. Seems annoying. Sean Liu. Too smart. Peter Fenton... Oh, he's way too old...

PETER PAN (*)

And we can't have two Peters here!

(*) For any given performance, improvise three male names and a quick joke that will play to your audience.

TINKER BELL

So many choices, Peter.

PETER PAN

An embarrassment of riches!

TINKER BELL

and ya know why?

PETER PAN

No boy ever wants to grow up!!

Blackout. The face on the PHILADELPHIA clock lights up.

The PHILADELPHIA clock continues moving forward rapidly while the NEVERLAND clock remains frozen at 11:07pm.

ACT ONE, SCENE 4. PHILADELPHIA

On Scrim: ST. JONATHAN'S UNIVERSITY, PHILADELPHIA, 2025.

A prestigious Catholic liberal arts college in Philadelphi.

Lights up on English professor BARRIE (40s), and straight-laced students
LINDSAY and ERIC (both 22) crossing
themselves. Present-day college senior
CONNOR (21) stumbles through them
carrying notecards for a presentation.

CONNOR

Oh--uh. Sorry. Um.

As Connor walks through Barrie, Lindsay, and Eric, the three disperse to join a classroom setting. Connor is in the middle of a presentation.

CONNOR

You know, I used to look forward to growing up. Even as a kid, all my parents' friends would say, "oh, he's like a little man." So mature, so articulate. But they never bothered to notice any point I was making, or—and that annoyed me, you know? It's like—people have been impressed my whole life that I could say something and they completely missed that I had something to say. And the older I get, the less impressed anyone is that I'm like "a little man", because—well—I am a man now. At least, almost. But no one's listening to me! So maybe, I've been thinking, when I'm a "real" adult, what I have to say will matter. But I'm seeing myself getting older—and... it's like... um.

He stops himself before continuing.

CONNOR

When you think about growing up. What comes to mind?

No response.

CONNOR

Please. Anybody?

Lindsay raises her hand.

CONNOR

Yeah. Lindsay?

LINDSAY

It's like... having confidence in yourself to, with all the mess of life and everything to—see somebody. Really see them. And be vulnerable when it matters.

CONNOR

Making my own point better than me--

He has a nervous laugh

CONNOR

I'd say the moment someone grows up is when a person--

BARRIE

Thank you, Connor. You're two minutes over

CONNOR

What?

One of Conner's note cards flutters to the floor.

BARRI

You have an entertaining style but rely far too much on colloquialisms.

CONNOR

No, can I--?

BARRIE

I also don't see adequate evidence of a Catholic perspective integrated into this oral essay.

CONNOR

Well, I was getting there, I--

BARRIE

You submitted this to Sapentia, didn't you?

CONNOR

I did. Yeah.

BARRIE

es, I read it.

LINDSAY

Can we hear how it ends?

CONNOR

Oh my god, Lindsay...

BARRIE

Look at the time, class dismissed.

Lindsay, here are the Sapentia committee's final selections

She hands Lindsay some papers. Conno crosses to Eric.

LINDSAY

You didn't have to put mine on top!

BARRIE

I've seen you write better.

LINDSAY

Oh.

BARRIE

Get these to me by Friday.

LINDSAY

Of course.

Barrie exi

CONNOR

That was rough.

ERIC

You were vulnerable.

CONNOR

"Vulnerable."

ERIC

Yeah. That's a good thing.

CONNOR

I made it easy for someone to hurt me.

ERIC

Well-no. That's--

CONNOR

Whatever

Lindsay picks up the note card Connor dropped--she sees he was ready to say something especially vulnerable. She watches Connor.

CONNOR

I get hurt all the time. And I'm not even grown up yet.

ERIC

Well--I mean, yeah. Bad things happen to everybody--

CONNOR

No. They happen differently to me.

ERIC

Uh--what?

CONNOR

It's just like--we have two weeks left before we're suddenly "real adults". You know, we walk at graduation. But nothing's gonna change. It's just all this--crap--but now with bills? And debt? Adulthood's a scam.

Lindsay crosses to join her fiancé, Eric.

LINDSAY

I don't know if adulthood's a "scam" we just kinda have to do it. And pray everything works out.

CONNOR

Easy enough for you to say.

LINDSAY

What's that supposed to mean?

ERIC

I hope Miss Teen Indiana is ready to grow up. My bride. The mother of my children--

Lindsay stops Eric before he can kiss her.

LINDSAY

All in the right time.

ERIC

It's so soon! You should run for the real Miss Indiana.

LINDSAY

Little flaw in your logic there, Eric. "Miss" Indiana. See this ring?

ERIC

ur kids are gonna be amazing.

LINDSAY

All in the right time.

Lindsay gives into a kiss as Eric exits. She hands Connor the note card.

Hey, I think you dropped this.

CONNOR

Oh. Yeah, thanks.

LINDSAY

I--I appreciate what you were going to say. At least, if I read that note card correctly.

CONNOR

Oh. Thanks.

LINDSAY

Have you told anyone else? I mean, I remember when you--

CONNOR

We're graduating in two weeks.

Lindsay nods

LINDSAY

I really appreciate you being willing to share something so vulnerable. I think--

CONNO

(With disdain.)

"Vulnerable".

INDSAY

OK. Um. I just. I'd think someone "like you" at Catholic school. You'd want to know who your real friends are, and--

CONNOR

We're not really friends.

A chilling pause.

LINDSAY

Oh?

CONNOR

No -sorry. That came out wrong.

An awkward pause.

LINDSAY

Sure.

CONNOR

I'll... probably see you at the apartment.

Yeah, sorry we took over your kitchen table. Don't plan a wedding, Connor.

CONNOR

Oh?

LINDSAY

Oh--no. No. No. I love Eric. He's the one. It's just--sometimes--the "nice girl from Indiana" thing, uh... I just--

She changes the subject

LINDSAY

I won't come by until later. I have fencing then I'm proofing Sapentia pieces.

CONNOR

Did I make it?

LINDSAY

Oh! Oh--right, you submitted!

She thumbs through the stack of papers.

LINDS**A**Y

I don't see it here. I'm sorry--

CONNOR

What's your problem with me?!

An earth-shaken silence. Both Connor and Lindsay are surprised at the force with which that came out.

LINDSAY

I didn't make the decision.

CONNOR

I've submitted to your stupid literary magazine eight times. Eight rejections.

LINDSAY

There are like five of us who read the submissions and--

CONNOR

tight rejections.

LINDSAY

Sapentia really isn't everything--I don't have any real power. Barrie hated my piece this time.

CONNOR

Did you get rejected?

No.

CONNOR

Oh boo-freakin-hoo.

LINDSAY

You could post yours on Facebook? Or submit it to the New Yorker?

CONNOR

Why would the New Yorker like it if Sapentia didn't?

LINDSAY

You were so vulnerable--

CONNOR

"Vulnerable."

Lindsay exit

Lights off Connor. The face of the NEVERLAND clock lights up again--still stopped at 11:07pm, as the PHILADELPHIA clock continues moving forward rapidly. Lights drop off the PHILADELPHIA clock.

ACT ONE, SCENE 5. NEVERLAND

NEVERLAND, some time following Peter's decision to recruit more Lost Boys. A downtrodden Wendy enters with a pajamaclad Lost Boy.

WENDY

So, here's the veranda of course, and--I'll show you to your room. The other boys are playing inside.

LOST BOY

Gnarly. Hey, I totally spaced -- what was your name again?

Wendy swallows.

WENDY

Call me Mother.

LOST BOY

Sick

He exits. Peter enters.

PETER PAN

Well! "Mother"! I say it's a good look on you.

WENDY

(Coldly.)

Is it?

PETER PAN

Why yes, of course! It's like your one of the boys now! Jericho, Flick, Baby Matt, Slippery Craig--Peter Pan, of course, -- and Mother!

WENDY

If I let you call me "Mother".

PETER PAN

"Mother".

WENDY

You'll let me start adventuring with you and the boys? Even though we've seen all there is to see--

PETER PAN

If you come along with us, who's going to make the food?

WENDY

If we're playing make-believe. Pretend I made a steak.

PETER PAN

Huh. Medium well?

WENDY

Wouldn't you want something a bit rarer?

PETER PAN

Hmm. I just might

WENDY

So it's settled then. Make-believe food.

PETER PAN

Yes! I rather like the sound of that.

WENDY

So I'll join you boys. Can we go back to the hibiscus grove?

PETER PAN

No, silly!

WENDY

Excuse me?

PETER PAN

Make believe you're cooking a steak. When we come back, I can't wait to see what you've imagined.

WENDY

Oh--so--you want me to stay at the house? While you go off and adventure?

PETER PAN

Yes, you get it!

Peter kisses Wendy on the cheek. Tinker Bell enters. Peter whistles His Lost Boys enter.

PETER PAN

Here we go boys! Mother will make us food when we get back!

LOST BOY

Awesome!

PETER PAN

Off we go!

He leads the Lost Boys to exit. Wendy watches, despondent. Tinker Bell approaches Wendy.

WENDY

Not a word.

TINKER BELL

That boy is done with you. It was only a matter of time.

WENDY

Time isn't real. in't that right? None of this is real.

TINKER BELL

OK. "Mother". If this isn't real. Tell me--what are you still doing here?

WENDY

Peter Pan is the love of my life.

TINKER BELL

So why's he not with you? You know, not that you asked--but I just don't think the boy loves you--

WENDY

You have no right to speak on our relationship.

TINKER BELL

The last thing I want is to see you get hurt.

WENDY

What are you playing at?

TINKER BELL

Don't you have a life to get back to? Don't you have a future? I could help you go.

She pulls out a bag of pixie dust

TINKER BELL

Pixie dust. Can take you anywhere you want to go. You leave Neverland and never come back.

WENDY

No. I shall never leave him as long as I live

TINKER BELL

House full of boys and you're still not leaving.

WENDY

I just didn't ask to be their Mother Certainly didn't ask to be Peter's Mother.

TINKER BELL

Thought for sure Slippery Craig would be the one to make you wanna leave--

WENDY

I'm just--I'm reminded of those nights in London when I'd come home to an empty flat. Waiting for a scrap of Peter's attention while he's off tormenting that poor neighbor, James Hook--

NINKER BELL

Jackpot.

Blackout. The face on the LONDON clock lights up. The LONDON clock continues moving forward rapidly while the NEVERLAND clock remains frozen at 11:07pm.

ACT ONE, SCENE 6. LONDON

On scrim: KENSINGTON GARDENS, LONDON, 1953.

It's later on the same night Peter and Wendy disappeared to Neverland. James enters.

JAMES

Peter Pan? Are you gone? I know you're hiding somewhere.

He looks over his shoulder.

JAMES

Wish you'd come face me like a man. I'm ready to give you piece of my mind.

Tinker Bell enters. She sneaks up behind James and throws pixie dust in the air.

A bright flash lights up the sky.

JAMES

Ah!!

Tinker Bell grabs James by the shoulders.

JAMES

Ah!!!! What--do you want?

TINKER BELL

Should ask you the same question Timie Hook.

JAMES

It's James.

TINKE BELL

Yeah, no, I'm gonna call you Jamie. That was a powerful wish you made there.

JAMES

A wish?

TINKER BELL

My name is--Tinker Bell.

JAMES

Tinker Bell?

TINKER BELL

Uh-huh. I don't have time to get into it.

JAMES

What are you?

TINKER BELL

Good question. I'm your--fairy godmother? I'm here to make ll your dreams come true. You wanna fight Peter Pan.

JAMES

He stole my dignity. And the love of my life, too--

TINKER BELL

Love of...? Wendy?

JAMES

Gwendolyn Moira Angela Darling.

Tinker Bell stifles a laugh.

JAMES

Is something wrong?

TINKER BELL

No, no. This is good. This is good.

JAMES

Back in our school days, when London was building, she and I were on a train to Sussex. I saw her look out the window to the great, wide world. Eyes fixed on the horizon. I knew if we were making it out of the war alive, she'd make something of herself. She's an actress now. The most charming woman I've ever met.

TINKER BELL

If you say so.

JAMES

I don't even know why she picked Peter over me. What has he that I don't?

TINKER BELL

A pair of balls?

Anyway--I'm here for anything you want. I'll make your dream come true.

JAMES

I want to humiliate Peter Pan. Show Wendy I'm her true love.

TINKER BELL

Yeah, yeah. Haven't you always dreamed of sailing, though?

JAMES

I--suppose?

TINKER BELL

Here's what I'm thinking: I'm gonna get you a crew and a boat and a big, dumb hat. They're gonna call you Captain Hook. I'll trap Peter, Wendy, and some boys on an island. Make it a nescee mission. Save Wendy from the horrible, selfish Peter Pan.

JAMES

Oh--that does sound quite like everything I want, doesn't it?

TINKER BELL

Peter Pan's head on a platter.

Don't do nothing stupid and you won't get hurt. Guaranteed.

JAMES

I won't get hurt?

TINKER BELL

Not if you don't do nothing stupid. Shake on it?

JAMES

Which hand?

TINKER BELL

Either works.

They shake hands. The strobe effect is ignited as the light of the clock labeled LONDON drops off. The NEVERLAND clock lights up, still stopped at 11:07pm. James Hook is sent to Neverland.

A light appears on Wendy. Tinker Bell swipes her hat.

TINKER BELL

I'll take that!

Wendy exits. Tinker Bell puts Wendy's hat on James.

TINKER BELL

Looks better on you

Blackout.

ACT ONE, SCENE 7. NEVERLAND - THE PRESENT

NEVERLAND, continuous from the end of Act One, Scene 1. The stage is dark.

SMEE (IN THE DARK)

Who's Wendy?

She's dead.

MAGGIE (IN THE DARK)

A silhouette appears at the pirate ship of a captain brandishing a hook for a hand.

TINKER BELL (IN THE DARK)

Should've finished you off when I had the shot.

Lights up on the cold, dark Neverland lighting of the Present.

Tinker Bell is looking up to the silhouette of a pirate brandishing hook for a hand.

TINKER BELL

What to do, "Captain Hook", what to do? What is a chaos pixie to do?

Peter enters.

TINKER BELL

Hey! How's my favorite piece of crap?

PETER PAN

Been better. I've started to think... Perhaps it is time to leave.

TINKER BELL

Say what now?

PETER PAN

Well, ever since we lost Wendy-

TINKER BELL

You don't have to use her name.

PETER PAN

But I do very much like saying it! Wendy. Wendy. Wendy.

TINKER BELL

Hey, shut up.

PETER PAN

Grinning.)

You can't tell me what to do!

TINKER BELL

No, no I can't.

PETER PAN

I can do whatever I want. Wendy. Wendy.

TINKER BELL

Talk to me, what can we do? I don't like seeing you like this. There's very little I'm not willing to do for you.

PETER PAN

I want Wendy back.

TINKER BELL

I--I don't think I can do that.

PETER PAN

Then let's storm the ship! Pay Hook back once and for all!

TINKER BELL

Huh. Tyin' him to the anchor and gettin' dropped into a sea fulla hungry crocodiles wasn't enough?

PETER PAN

Has he a bigger anchor?! Hungrier crocodiles?

(Playfully determined.)

If I know James Hook, he's alive, well, and plotting his revenge. You know he's the only pirate Long John Silver ever feared?

TINKER BELL

Yeah, I told you that. But even if Jamie Hook is out there--

PETER PAN

He is.

TINKER BALL

You want a bigger mess? More blood

PETER PAN

Well, I need something. There's a Wendy-shaped hole in my heart, Tink.

TINKER BELL

No! No, no. We can find something--let's get you a new Boy.

PETER PAN

But all the beds are full.

TINKER BELL

Well, we'll figure something out--

PETER PAN

Flick, Baby Matt, Snake, Hardy, Sota, Locky, Keesh. That's seven.

TINKER BELL

You got an empty bed. Locky's out.

PETER PAN

He is?

TINKER BELL

Yeah, once I--you don't even like Locky that much.

PETER PAN

But he's one of the boys--

TINKER BELL

Well, he's gone.

PETER PAN

Why do boys leave?

TINKER BELL

Because all the children, except one, grow up.

She messes with Peter's hair.

TINKER BELL

Trust me. This'll make us both happy.

PETER PAN

Promise?

TINKER BELL

More than you'll ever know.

She tosses pixie dust in the air. The lights change. Peter and Tinker Bell now appear to be standing in an interdimensional void.

TINKE BELL

So! Here's our new mark.

A lifeless render of Connor appears at center stage. Peter inspects him.

PETER PAN

Hmm. Rather like this one.

TINKER BELL

Thought you would This is Connor Forsyth. From Cherry Hill, New Jersey.

PETER PAN

Ooh, Jersey boy!

TINKER BELL

Twenty-one years old. Senior at St. Jonathan's University. Dad's a lawyer.

PETER PAN

Thy doesn't he want to grow up?

Tinker Bell tosses pixie dust in the air. The lighting around Peter and Tinker Bell drops out, leaving only Connor. The PHILADELPHIA clock lights up. It continuously moves forward.

ACT ONE, SCENE 8. PHILADELPHIA

On Scrim: AN OFF-CAMPUS APARTMENT NEXE ST. JONATHAN'S UNIVERSITY, PHILADELPHIA, 2025.

It's about twelve hours after the events of Act One, Scene 4 Connor's lifeless render remains of stage alone and jolts alive.

CONNOR

"Vulnerable."

Lights up to reveal Connor and Eric's off-campus apartment. He removes his jeans and cracks open a beer.

CONNOR

Here I am, gonna graduate in two weeks. So "vulnerable". Essay didn't matter. Nothing matters. None of this matters.

He finishes his beer and sets it on the table. Lindsay enters. Connor doesn't see her.

CONNOR

We're all just shouting into the void. The world's on fire and everyone's past the point of caring that anyone has anything to say. We're all just waiting to die.

A beat.

Connor takes the belt out of his discarded pants.

CONNOR

Maybe -- just maybe. Someone will see I had something to say.

He sets the belt down and takes out a piece of paper to stand up and write a note. He writes a few words before stopping.

CONNOR

No. No, they don't need a note.

LINDSAY

Um--Connor--?

Connor looks up; mortified. He throws on a pair of pajama pants nearby.

It's OK, I didn't--see anything.
What are you... writing?

CONNOR

Nothing worth reading. Actually, no. You know? Publish it in Sapentia. I don't care.

LINDSAY

You know... if you need to talk to someone. I know there's a hotline--

CONNOR

With all due respect, I don't think a phone call's gonna change my life.

LINDSAY

Well, it never hurts to talk to somebody.

CONNOR

All right. Why don't I talk to you.

LINDSAY

Oh--no, I'm not really in a good headspace to--

CONNO

Just listen to me, OK?

LINDSAY

Fine. OK.

CONNOR

People would care it ou disappeared. 'Cause when Miss Teen Indiana says she wants it, she gets it--

LINDSAY

My pageant days were years ago--

CONNOR

Marrying my perfect Catholic roommate. Off to pop out some perfect Catholic babies.

LINDSAY

How much have you had to drink?

CONNOR

nough.

LINDSAY

Where's Eric?

Connor shrugs. A sudden noise. Connor and Lindsay both are startled.

CONNOR

Eric?

Peter bursts in.

PETER PAN

Be not afraid!! I have arrived!! Have you seen my shadow?

Connor stifles a shriek.

PETER PAN

Didn't mean to cause such a fright. What's the year?

CONNOR

It's 2025--

PETER PAN

(With a laugh.)

That long?

It's nice to meet you, Connor Forsyth. Name's Peter Pan. I've been looking all over for boys just like you.

CONNOR

How--how do you know me--?

PETER PAN

Boys who are--for lack of a better word--lost. All types, really. Brits. Americans. Black, white. Straight. Gay. We live together on a healtiful island. Neverland. Baby Matt's 19, believe Hardy's about 26. Oh, and Sota's from Japan! We never grow up. We never get hurt. You don't have to go on like this.

Connor swallows.

CONNOR

Well. I can to on like this.

PETER PAN

Splendid! It's off to Neverland, then?

CONNOR

Vanh.

Yeah, screw it. I'm in.

LINDSAY

Mě too.

A beat.

CONNOR

What?

PETER PAN

Oh! But... you're a girl.

LINDSAY

Well. Multicultural utopian paradise... or aging?

Tinker Bell enters.

TINKER BELL

What is taking you so long? Could've been on the road five minutes ago. You throw the shadow in first and then you-

PETER PAN

Don't mind Tinker Bell. Her bark's far worse han her bite.

TINKER BELL

Oh, yeah, yeah, don't mind me. The reason you can do any of this; it's cute. Real cute. Speaking of cute--

She crosses to Connor.

TINKER BILL

Hello, sir.

(To Peter.)

What are we calling him?

PETER PAN

Call him Four!

INKER BELL

Yeah, he'll do. Jewish?

CONNOR

Catholic.

TINKER BELL

Close enough

CONNOR

What #?

TINKER BELL

Who are you?

TITNDSAY

indsay. I'd like to go to Neverland.

TINKER BELL

Two of 'em. Even better...

LINDSAY

Two of what?

TINKER BELL

We gotta bring her.

PETER PAN

No. Only lost boys come to Neverland. That's final because said so.

TINKER BELL

Well, then don't think of her that way. She's not lost

It pains Tinker Bell to say this, but it's her ace card.

TINKER BELL

She's a "Darling". Don't you think?

Peter's heart leaps.

PETER PAN

Oh my goodness! She's not a lost gir, she's my new Wendy!

LINDSAY

Wendy?

PETER PAN

We must fly you both at once to Neverland! All right. Close your eyes and breathe in.

Connor and Lindsay close their eyes. Tinker Bell rifles through her purse.

PETER PAN

Then--keep your eyes losed! And think of a happy thought.

TINKER BELL

Where the held did I put it?

CONNOR

A happy thought?

PETER PAN

Yes, wh. A moment where you'd be elated! At your lightest in heart and soul!

Tinker Bell finds a small pouch in her purse. She opens it and tosses pixie dust in the air; Connor, Lindsay, and Peter levitate. Connor and Lindsay open their eyes.

CONNOR

Δhι

Oh my gosh!!

PETER PAN

Look at that! They've thought some happy thoughts!

CONNOR

Dude--I can't fly.

PETER PAN

Not to worry, it's already happening! All it took was a bit of faith and trust--

TINKER BELL

It's mostly the pixie dust.

PETER PAN

And then it's off to Neverland!

CONNOR

Are we just going? Like, we don't get to pack or anything?

TINKER BELL

You look fine, doll face. Go on with ya bad self. You can fly!

Connor and Lindsay experience some turbulence due to their lack of experience. Peter and Tinker Bell fly with ease.

PETER PAN

All right, so! We orient ourselves with Lepus--the celestial rabbit. See him out there?

CONNOR

Not really no.

PETER PAN

All right, so from Lepus we count--second to the right--and straight on 'till morning!

CONNOR

Great. Yeah.

LINDSAY

Then what?

Blackout. The PHILADELPHIA clock stops momentarily on 10:24pm as the light behind the clock face pulsates in and out. The NEVERLAND clock lights up, with time stopped at 11:07pm.

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