

CAST OF CHARACTERS

GEORGE [M, vocal range: A2-Bb4], a newborn meme

DAT BOI [M, frog, vocal range: D3-G4], meme royalty of the fascist variety

SIX [F, vocal range: Bb3-D5], a young meme who often quotes viral videos

GENERIC INTERNET CAT (GIC) [F, cat, vocal range: C4-C5], the oldest meme

DOGE [F, dog, vocal range: C4-Bb4], the self-appointed protector of the Memeverse

NARRATOR [M, vocal range: D3-G4], a narrator

REACTION IMAGE (Ri) [M, vocal range: C3-F#4], the right hand of Dat Boi

POPPY [F, vocal range: A3-C#5], a rebel with a cause prone to referencing pop culture

PAM [F, vocal range varies dependent on ensemble track choices], a Karen by another name

SPOOKY EVIL FEDORA [M, vocal range: B2-F#4], one of Dat Boi's followers

SPOOKY EVIL MUSTACHE [M, vocal range: G3-Bb4], one of Dat Boi's followers

ENSEMBLE/COPYRIGHT/COMEDY POLICE, the various residents of Memeverse

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PRODUCTION NOTES

I imagine Dat Boi being performed as a frog puppet. If you so choose to go this route, perhaps play around with having the puppeteer be a character, whether as the actor himself or as an extension of the inner-world of Dat Boi, a peek behind the veil.

There are moments in the script that describe physical appearance. In general, feel free to change these descriptions to match the actors cast.

The memes and references, you might note, are outdated. Internet culture and relevance makes memory a very ephemeral genre of creation. As time goes by, memes seem to live and die faster and faster. Or maybe its that we're getting older. It's okay for the memes to not be current. Embrace the fleeting nature of it all. Time is running out. The world keeps turning.

ACT ONE

SCENE 1

1. WELCOME TO THE MEMEVERSE

NARRATOR

CLENCH YOUR FIST.
NOW HOLD IT LIKE AN AARDVARK.

ALL

ONE, TWO, THREE FOUR,
FIVE, SIX, SEVEN, EIGHT.

NARRATOR

RAISE IT UP AND PUMP IT LIKE A BABY.

DOGE

YEAH.

POPPY

YEAH!

ALL

YEAH, YEAH, YEAH!

NARRATOR

WHY MAKE SENSE
WHEN YOU CAN HAVE BOTTOM TEXT?

REACTION IMAGE

Get it right; it's called being ironic.

POPPY

That's not what irony means.

NARRATOR

IRONY CAN MEAN WHAT YOU WANT IT TO.

POPPY

That's not how words work.

REACTION IMAGE
YOU CAN WORK ON DEEZ...

ALL
NUTS!

WELCOME TO THE MEMEVERSE, MEMEVERSE.
NOTHING'S WHAT IT SEEMS AT FIRST
HERE IN MEMEVERSE. WOAHH OH OH OH!
SHOOMBA LOOMBA, OOH LA LA!

GIC
MEOW NOW IF I CAN HAS CHEEZBURGAH.

ALL
MEOW. WEOW.

REACTION IMAGE
DRAW YOURSELF AS A CARTOON IN A SUIT.

DOGE
WOLF SUIT!

ALL
FURRIES.

NARRATOR
WHY BE SCARED WHEN YOU CAN BE ANONYMOUS?
AN ALIAS, AUTONOMOUS, AUTOMATON.
BEAR DOWN UPON
CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES FILLED WITH
CONSTITUTIONAL CONSTRUCTIONISTS,
REVISIONISTS
CONSIDERING CONSTRICTING THE CONNECTIONS
OF CONSTITUENTS.

ALL
CONTROLLERSHIP!
TAKE A TRIP TO FCC. FIGHT FOR NET NEUTRALITY.
CONVERSE. COERCE. CONDEMN.

CONTACT OUR REPRESENTATIVES.
WE JUST SAVED THE INTERNET!

NARRATOR

Anyway.

ALL

WELCOME TO THE MEMEVERSE, MEMEVERSE.
WE'RE ALL ABOUT DIVERSE INTERCOURSE.
WOAH OH OH OH! SPAM EMAILS FROM TROLLS.
SHOOMBA LOOMBA OOH LA LA!

NARRATOR

This is a brand new meme, born right before the house opened. It was real gross. His name's George. Hiya, Georgie. Welcome to the Memeverse! Any questions?

GEORGE

Who am I?

NARRATOR

You're George. Pay attention.

GEORGE

Who are you?

NARRATOR

I'm the Narrator. You can call me God.

GEORGE

What?

NARRATOR

God. A storytelling device of lazy writers. Maybe I am a writer. I'm the moon having fun watching a bunch of ants.

GEORGE

That's not very nice.

REACTION IMAGE

COMEDY IS MEANT TO BE OFFENSIVE.

NARRATOR

That's Ri. He's a reaction image. Also a dick.

REACTION IMAGE

DON'T GIVE A SHIT AT WHOSE EXPENSE IT IS.
LIFE'S A FIGHT, AND JOKES SHOULD BE PUNCHES.

GIC

BUT BE SURE, IN WAR
TO NOT GET LOST IN THE TRENCHES.

ENSEMBLE

IT'S WAR.
DON'T BE A DICK. NO,
NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO.

POPPY

DON'T BE A DICK IS THE GENERAL CONSENSUS.

REACTION IMAGE

DON'T BE NAIVE.
TAKE OFF THOSE ROSE-COLORED LENSES.

POPPY

THEY'RE PRESCRIPTION.

REACTION IMAGE

LIKE A HONEY BADGER, I DON'T GIVE A SHIT.

NARRATOR

HEY, CHILL. NOT IN FRONT OF THE NEW KID.
THAT'S NO WAY TO WELCOME HIM TO THE
INTERNET.

ENSEMBLE

WELCOME, COME, COME...
STOP!

DOGE

HAVE SOME PORN.

NARRATOR

GOD, HE'S HOT.

POPPY, GIC, REACTION IMAGE

NO, HE'S NOT.

ALL

WELCOME TO THE MEMEVERSE, MEMEVERSE.
 THIS SONG'S ABOUT PANDERING,
 ISN'T THAT THE WORST? WOAH OH OH OH!
 SHOOMBA LOOMBA OOH LA LA!
 WELCOME TO THE MEMEVERSE,
 WELCOME TO THE MEMEVERSE,
 WELCOME TO THE MEMEVERSE,
 WELCOME TO THE MEMEVERSE,
 WELCOME TO THE MEMEVERSE!

NARRATOR

He looks scared. Did we confuse him?

REACTION IMAGE

I got this.

NARRATOR

You are not qualified to narrate.

REACTION IMAGE

I said I got this. Git!

The others leave.

Hey, bud. Listen. I know this is a lot. Confusing place and all. I can help. Teach you some of the battens, wires, shit that'll help you touch the sky or blah blah something inspirational. Follow me.

2. WELCOME TO THE MEMEVERSE: REPRISE

REACTION IMAGE

CLOSE YOUR EYES.
 SEE THE NUMBERS THAT RESIDE
 ON YOUR LIDS, THEIR INSIDES.

IT'S A FIVE.
GEORGE

ONLY FIVE!
ENSEMBLE

THAT'S THE TIME LEFT 'TIL YOU DIE.
REACTION IMAGE

HE'S GONNA DIE!
ENSEMBLE

Die??
GEORGE

IT'S BASED ON VIEWS,
BASED OFF USE.
REACTION IMAGE

Five? Five what?
GEORGE

WHO KNOWS TIME? THAT'S ABSTRACT.
BUT NO ONE HAS IT; THAT'S A FACT.
REACTION IMAGE

What happens when we die?
GEORGE

You're taken to the Slush.
REACTION IMAGE

THE SLUSH PILE:
WHERE THE REJECTS FALL.
YOUR BODY DIES.
CAN'T CLOSE YOUR EYES.
A MILLION PEOPLE IN YOUR MIND.
REACTION IMAGE, ENSEMBLE

YOU WILL DROWN
DEEP, DEEP DOWN

REACTION IMAGE

IN THE SLUSH PILE.

REACTION IMAGE, ENSEMBLE

What's your number?

GEORGE

525,600. I've been lazy, so it's a little low.

REACTION IMAGE

That's low? I'm doomed.

GEORGE

No one starts with a high number. You'll be fine. Here, a gift.

REACTION IMAGE

A pill?

GEORGE

Take it when you need a break. Who knows? It might up your time.

REACTION IMAGE

The Comedy Police are arresting a meme.

FALL IN LINE.
FALL IN LINE!

COMEDY POLICE

Who are they?

GEORGE

The Comedy Police.

REACTION IMAGE

COMEDY POLICE
IF YOU STEP OUT YOU WILL DIE.

GEORGE

They put a bag over his head.

REACTION IMAGE

We can save him if you want.

COMEDY POLICE

JUST STAY CALM.
YOU'LL BE FINE,
EVEN THOUGH IN JAIL
YOU CAN'T GAIN TIME.

GEORGE

You can't gain time? You heard them. He'll be fine.

COMEDY POLICE

WELCOME TO THE MEMEVERSE, MEMEVERSE.
FALL OUT OF LINE, YOU'LL BE IN A HEARSE.

REACTION IMAGE

Almost anything sets them off. Be careful. I'll put in a good word for you. There's one last thing you should know.

ENSEMBLE

COPYRIGHT!

REACTION IMAGE

I WAS GOOD, RISING HIGH,
ON MY WAY, BUILDING FAME,
WHEN SOME BROTHERS, THEY DECIDE

ENSEMBLE

TO TRADEMARK!

REACTION IMAGE

THE WORD REACT. IT'S IN MY NAME.
IT'S JUST A WORD. IT WAS INSANE!

ENSEMBLE

IT WAS FINE.

REACTION IMAGE

I ALMOST DIED.

The Copyright would've sent me to some sweatshop making cheap clothes and shitty movies. I'd rather die. I'm lucky the claim failed.

ENSEMBLE

WE WOULD HAVE FED YOU,
 WOULD HAVE CLOTHED YOU,
 WOULD HAVE HOUSED YOU,
 EVEN LOVED YOU.
 YOU MAKE US SOUND SO BAD.

REACTION IMAGE

I'D BE A SLAVE!

REACTION IMAGE, ENSEMBLE

WELCOME TO THE MEMEVERSE, MEMEVERSE.
 IF YOU STRAY YOU'LL DIE THAT'S FOR SURE.
 SHOOMA LOOMA WOAH OH WOAH OH!

REACTION IMAGE

STAY IN LINE. STAY IN LINE.
 STAY WITH ME AND YOU'LL BE FINE!

ENSEMBLE

IN THE BOY'S CLUB YOU WILL SHINE.

This is a lot. As any self-respecting person is wont to do in the midst of a panic attack, George runs away.

REACTION IMAGE, ENSEMBLE

WELCOME TO THE MEMEVERSE!

SCENE 2

NARRATOR

Now arriving at Town Square, center of Memeverse. Why is it the center? I live here. I'm sort of like God. Currently, God is annoyed because that empty-eyed, plaid-wearing, drop dead gorgeous eyes motherfucker (*or whatever works*) down there is clearly not in his light. And he's asleep so he can't move. One moment.

The Narrator moves George into the light.
Anyways, George took his pill, and it knocked him the fuck out.

POPPY

There he is. Told you he'd end up back here.

GIC

Are you sure you want to do this? He looks like a stock photo sort of meme. Someone who would shrug with an ugly hat and say, "Don't use the printer!"

POPPY

You know as well as I how rare it is for Nar to call for the Memeverse song. Asleep or...? They're not to the point of violence on newbs, are they?

GIC

Ri's a reactionary. They're all violent. But he looks fine. Why make him or Nar an enemy?

POPPY

Georgie needs a parody then. Some light for the coming days. Just slip it into his pocket...

GIC

If he has days. I'll draw a dick on his face to be safe.

POPPY

We're such memeitarians.

GIC

Stop inserting meme into every word.

POPPY

You know, Doge is another memeitarian.

GIC

She's a loud mouthed dog is what she is. And a vigilante.

POPPY

I'm only saying, you know, it's been a year since the Copyright took Grumpy--

NARRATOR

No! Don't say that name.

POPPY

Whatever. I'm worried, babe. Do you want to sing about it?

3. A BALLAD

GIC

No.

4. DAT BOI'S THEME

ENSEMBLE

OH SHIT, OH SHIT, OH SHIT.

OH SHIT!

IT'S DAT BOI!

OH SHIT, WHAT UP?

POPPY

Fuck.

Poppy and GIC flee.

NARRATOR

That sound is the calling card of a meme legend. He's a frog prince, but if you kiss him, you'll only get warts. He's the belle of the incel ball. Give it up for Dat Boi!

5. A WARMONGER'S ADVICE

DAT BOI

MY THANKS FOR THAT, MY DEAR

NARRATOR, LOVE.

BUT OUT! WHO BE THIS ANGEL

FELN FROM 'BOVE?