

SCENE ONE

*A bunker, home to Wisteria and her younger brother Ezra, both wolves. Their wolfiness can be suggested more so than exaggerated.*

*This is the home of Mother, their owner. Off-stage is a Highly Secret Experiment Room No One Can Enter.*

*With Wisteria is a blanket that never leaves her.*

NARRATOR

Welcome to the Forest Theatre. Today, we present to you a fairy-tale. Only, it's a true story. A true fairy-tale about the bravest girl I've ever known. Once upon a time, in a small house that sat in a grand forest...

1. Begin

NARRATOR

WE START WITH SIBLINGS BOY AND GIRL,  
WISTERIA AND EZRA.  
THIS HERE ROOM IS THEIR WHOLE WORLD.

EZRA, WISTERIA

OUR WHOLE WORLD

NARRATOR

NOTHING COULD BE BETTER:  
FOUR WALLS, A ROOF, AND BEDS.  
ONCE UPON A TIME... BEGIN!

EZRA

Wisty. I've an idea.

WHY DON'T WE PLAY PRETEND?  
I'M CAPTAIN HOOK; YOU'RE PETER PAN;  
AND WE'RE OFF TO FIGHT WITH ROBIN HOOD!

WISTERIA

That doesn't make any sense.

EZRA

That's why it's pretend. Have at thee!

WISTERIA

Doesn't this get boring?

WE DEFEND MAKE-BELIEVE TREASURE BUT  
I'M SO TIRED OF PRETEND.  
I'M READY FOR A REAL LIFE ADVENTURE,  
TO SEE THE WORLD AND MAKE FRIENDS.

Mother enters.

MOTHER

HELLO ONE, HELLO TWO.  
I LOVE YOU, AND I LOVE YOU!

NARRATOR

This is their mom, a human. Weird, I know.

MOTHER

I'm off to the Council of Generals. The Queen's job is never done. Do you need me to call Perry to watch you?

EZRA

I hate Perry.

MOTHER

That's not nice.

WISTERIA

Can we go with you?

MOTHER

Wisteria.

YOU CAN'T, THAT'S FOR SURE.

IT'S A DANGEROUS WORLD  
PAST OUR DOOR.  
SO HERE YOU'LL STAY,  
AND HERE YOU'LL BE SAFE  
FOR THE REST OF OUR DAYS.

NARRATOR

Every day, they run their list of Do Nots.

MOTHER

DO NOT...

EZRA, WISTERIA

SET THE HOUSE ON FIRE.  
DON'T TRY TO MAKE EGGS.  
WOLVES SHOULD NEVER, EVER,  
EVER TRY TO COOK EGGS.

NARRATOR

NO, NO, NO.

MOTHER

DO NOT...

EZRA, WISTERIA

START A REVOLUTION 'GAINST THE BOURGEOISIE,  
WHATEVER THAT MEANS.

NARRATOR

THEY DON'T KNOW!

EZRA, WISTERIA

ALSO CLOWNS ARE BAD.

NARRATOR

THEY'RE SO BAD.

MOTHER

YES, IT'S A BIG SCARY WORLD  
BEYOND THIS ROOM.

I love you. And I love you. I'll be back soon. And no adventures.

NARRATOR, MOTHER

ADVENTURE'S JUST ANOTHER WORD FOR DANGER

EZRA, WISTERIA

I CANNOT WAIT FOR SOMETHING NEW TO HAPPEN

ALL

IS THE FUTURE GOOD OR BAD?  
THERE'S JUST ONE WAY TO FIND OUT.  
YOU HAVE TO BE BRAVE.  
JUST SMILE AND BE BRAVE.  
KEEP GOING; YOU CAN DO IT!

EZRA, WISTERIA

BEING BRAVE MEANS BEING UNAFRAID.

NARRATOR, MOTHER

BEING BRAVE MEANS DO IT ANYWAY.

ALL

TO KEEP LIVING, YOU KEEP MOVING.  
IT'S TIME FOR OUR STORY... TO BEGIN!

Mother exits.

EZRA

Wisty. I'm bored.

WISTERIA

Already?

EZRA

Well. I wasn't bored. I was excited about having a space battle with Robin Hood, but you won't play with me.

Loser.

WISTERIA

I don't want to play pretend. I want to live and have an adventure and go outside.

I wonder what lives there.

EZRA

Dunno. Maybe a duck.

I don't want to go outside. It sounds scary.

WISTERIA

That's the fun!

I have an idea. Follow me.

Oh! My blanket.

NARRATOR

Ezra had no memories of their birth mother, that great wolf who held them when they were small, but Wisteria did. The last thing that wolf told Wisty was, "Be brave."

Whenever she held that blanket, she remembered those words.

Wisty grabs her blanket.

SCENE TWO

*We arrive at a room where experiments happen. Of most importance, asleep somewhere in this room is another wolf: Prince Caon.*

NARRATOR

Wisty had always known how to enter the Super Secret Room, but she'd always been a bit scared to go in. But with her brother beside her and her blanket in her hands, she wasn't scared of anything.

So the door opened.

Cue the scared-y wolf:

EZRA

Ah! Is that a dead body?

Wistyyy.

Is Mom a supervillain killing wolves when she gets tired of them? Is she gonna get tired of us? I don't want to...

Maybe he got really sick, and he wouldn't listen and take his medicine like we're supposed to. If we stop taking it, will we....? Wisty, I'm scared.

WISTERIA

Or he's just asleep.

NARRATOR

Wisteria was right, as usual. The wolf really was just asleep.

WISTERIA

We should wake him up. C'mon.

NARRATOR

They tried many things to wake the wolf. They sang in his ears. Wisteria slapped the poor thing a few times. They even tried getting him to dance.

Oh. Oh no, they dropped him.

Well, none of that worked, of course, because he was cursed. And there's only one way to truly break a curse.

EZRA

I've got it!

WISTERIA

What, a brain? Took you long enough.

EZRA

Rude.

I was thinking: this is like all the stories we read. The only thing that can wake him up is True Love's Kiss - Trademark!

WISTERIA

Makes sense.

EZRA

You have to kiss him.

WISTERIA

Wait, what?

EZRA

You keep talking about wanting a real life adventure so you can show off how brave you are. Well. Here it is. Adventure.

WISTERIA

I... We don't know where he's been. He could be from Oregon. How awful would that be?

Being brave does not mean kissing boys.

It's your idea. You kiss him.

EZRA

Don't wanna.

WISTERIA

Then I guess the poor thing is going to sleep forever. Oh, if only we could help, but Ezzie is a little chicken.

EZRA

Fine!

Fine.

And so, Ezra kissed Prince Caon. Perhaps the others are drawn in. Will the magic work?  
Alas. Nothing happens.

EZRA

It didn't work.

But now the wolf awakens with a start. He launches into a hug, holding Ezra tight.

CAON

My princess!

EZRA

I'm a boy.

CAON

My prince! I've waited so long.

Woah, you look my age. And you're handsome. Score!

Who's that? Is she a princess trying to win your love? Back off.

WISTERIA

Ew.

CAON

No? Then are you the best friend? His knight? An enchantress waiting to curse us?

No, that can't be right. You don't have the right cheeks to be a witch.

WISTERIA

I'm his sister.

CAON

Boo. You being a princess is the most boring thing you could be.

EZRA

We're not royalty.

CAON

Oh. Well... I'm a prince, and if you're my One True Love - Trademark! - that makes *you* a prince. A future prince. My prince. Keep up.

EZRA

You're a prince?

CAON

Prince Caon Lycanlupason at your service. Call me Caon. What about you?

WISTERIA

That's Ezra. I'm Wisteria. Call me Wisty.

CAON

Caon and Ezra and Wisty it is. Let's go.  
Whoops. Hello floor.

He fell.

EZRA

Are you okay?

CAON

Yeah. It just hurts a lot.

Ezra helps Caon up.

CAON

Aw. You really are my prince.

WISTERIA

Where are we going?

CAON

To my forest so I can be king.

EZRA

We can't go outside. The air is made of wolf poison.

CAON

Wolf poison? Says who?

EZRA

Our mom.

CAON

Your mom's a weirdo. You can breathe outside.  
Wait. So this is inside? Cool. I've never been in an inside before. It's very big.  
Well, when you've seen one inside, you've seen them all. That's what the squirrels say.  
Glad to get that out of the way.  
On we go!

EZRA

We can't! Mom told us to stay here, and we'll be safe.

## WISTERIA

I can't take it anymore, Ezzie. I'm ready for an adventure.

## 2. Begin - Part 2

## WISTERIA

I WANT THE THRILL OF A GREAT BIG SOMEWHERE  
 WITH THE SUN ON MY BACK.  
 I WANT TO MARCH OVER RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS.  
 I CAN'T SHAKE THIS FEELING THAT THERE'S  
 SOMETHING THAT I LACK.  
 AND OUT THERE WHERE THE BIRDS CHIRP  
 THROUGH MIDNIGHT  
 ARE QUESTIONS I COULD NEVER DREAM TO ASK.  
 I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK, CAON IS OUR LINK  
 TO A LIFE THAT'S GREATER THAN OUR DREAMS.

## EZRA

YEAH, BUT OUT THERE ARE  
 TENTACLE MONSTERS WITH SEVENTY-FOUR EYES.  
 AND OUT THERE  
 QUICKSAND WAITS TO CLAIM OUR LIVES.  
 MOM SAID TO STAY FOR THE REST OF OUR DAYS.  
 I CAN'T LEAVE KNOWING SHE WOULD GRIEVE.

## CAON

HEY, I KNOW THE WORLD CAN BE FRIGHTENING,  
 BUT I WILL PROTECT YOU. TRUST ME.  
 AND OUT THERE IS BEAUTY.  
 FOR INSTANCE, THERE ARE BUGS MADE OF  
 LIGHTNING  
 THAT IN HERE YOU'LL NEVER GET TO SEE.  
 BEFORE THEY FLY, BIRDS LEAVE THE NEST  
 WHERE THE FIRST STEP IS THE HARDEST.

CAON, WISTERIA

WE'RE A LITTLE SCARED, TOO,  
BUT WE'RE OKAY BECAUSE WE HAVE YOU.  
THREE IS BETTER THAN ONE,  
AND ONE IS WORSE THAN TWO!

EZRA

MAYBE YOU ARE RIGHT...  
AND OUT THERE

THE THREE WOLVES

ARE STORIES THAT WE COULD NEVER DREAM.  
SO WE'LL PLAY FOR ADVENTURE  
THAT'S EXCITING, MAGICAL,  
AND AS FUN AS CAN BE.  
IT'S TIME TO HAVE COURAGE.  
LET'S GO!

SCENE THREE

*The forest.*

NARRATOR

With courage, they stepped outside.  
That happens to be where we are now: Outside in the midst of a forest that teeters  
somewhere in that mysterious lining between the real and the fantastic. Like the horizon  
on a magenta sunset. Despite all the trees, wherever you look, you see the sky.  
It's a sky full of wonder.

CAON

Don't hate me, but... This might be the wrong forest.

WISTERIA

You don't know where we are?