

# PROM-POCALYPSE!

by Lavinia Roberts

Copyright © 2020 by Lavinia Roberts, All rights reserved.

ISBN: 978-1-64479-091-5

**CAUTION:** Professionals and amateurs are hereby warned that this Work is subject to a royalty. This Work is fully protected under the copyright laws of the United States of America and all countries with which the United States has reciprocal copyright relations, whether through bilateral or multilateral treaties or otherwise, and including, but not limited to, all countries covered by the Pan-American Copyright Convention, the Universal Copyright Convention and the Berne Convention.

**RIGHTS RESERVED:** All rights to this Work are strictly reserved, including professional and amateur stage performance rights. Also reserved are: motion picture, recitation, lecturing, public reading, radio broadcasting, television, video or sound recording, all forms of mechanical or electronic reproduction, such as CD-ROM, CD-I, DVD, information and storage retrieval systems and photocopying, and the rights of translation into non-English languages.

**PERFORMANCE RIGHTS AND ROYALTY PAYMENTS:** All amateur and stock performance rights to this Work are controlled exclusively by Brooklyn Publishers LLC. No amateur or stock production groups or individuals may perform this play without securing license and royalty arrangements in advance from Brooklyn Publishers LLC. Questions concerning other rights should be addressed to Brooklyn Publishers LLC. Royalty fees are subject to change without notice. Professional and stock fees will be set upon application in accordance with your producing circumstances. Any licensing requests and inquiries relating to amateur and stock (professional) performance rights should be addressed to Brooklyn Publishers LLC.

*Royalty of the required amount must be paid, whether the play is presented for charity or profit and whether or not admission is charged.*

**AUTHOR CREDIT:** All groups or individuals receiving permission to produce this Work must give the author(s) credit in any and all advertisement and publicity relating to the production of this Work. The author's billing must appear directly below the title on a separate line where no other written matter appears. The name of the author(s) must be at least 50% as large as the title of the Work. No person or entity may receive larger or more prominent credit than that which is given to the author(s).

**PUBLISHER CREDIT:** Whenever this Work is produced, all programs, advertisements, flyers or other printed material must include the following notice: ***Produced by special arrangement with Brooklyn Publishers LLC.***

**COPYING:** Any unauthorized copying of this Work or excerpts from this Work is strictly forbidden by law. No part of this Work may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form, by any means now known or yet to be invented, including photocopying or scanning, without prior permission from Brooklyn Publishers LLC.

**BROOKLYN PUBLISHERS LLC**

**P.O. BOX 248 • CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA 52406**

**TOLL FREE (888) 473-8521 • FAX (319) 368-8011**

# PROM-POCALYPSE!

*A One Act Comedy*

**by Lavinia Roberts**

**SYNOPSIS:** Evergreen Academy's prom is in a complete state of pandemonium! August, the astronomy nerd in charge of decorations for the "Dancing Under the Stars," prom theme, believes the prom decor should include black holes, asteroids, and meteors. Greer, in charge of entertainment, directs the thespian club to perform Shakespeare monologues. Top athletes Zane and Rory, in charge of catering, are dedicated to a healthy prom featuring sports drinks and protein bars instead of fruit punch and cookies. Will the prom planning committee be able to pull it together to save prom? Or will it be a *PROM-POCALYPSE!*

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

*(5 female, 4-15 either; 0-15+ extras)*

FRANCIS (m/f) .....	Easy going. <i>(40 lines)</i>
ALEX (m/f).....	Assertive, confidant. <i>(51 lines)</i>
BRYN (m/f) .....	Intrepid newspaper reporter and aspiring journalist. <i>(26 lines)</i>
PARKER (m/f).....	Photographer for the school paper. Prefers natural lighting. <i>(18 lines)</i>
AUGUST (m/f).....	In charge of the prom decorations subcommittee. Science nerd. <i>(7 lines)</i>
ASHTON (m/f).....	On the prom decorations subcommittee. Science nerd. <i>(4 lines)</i>
ARCHER (m/f).....	On the prom decorations subcommittee. Science nerd. <i>(9 lines)</i>
GREER (m/f).....	Laid back kid. In charge of the prom entertainment subcommittee. <i>(16 lines)</i>
JESSIE (m/f).....	A member of thespian club. A dramatic teen. <i>(5 lines)</i>
JACKIE (m/f).....	Dramatic member of thespian club. <i>(3 lines)</i>
JODY (m/f).....	Dramatic member of thespian club. <i>(4 lines)</i>

- KEETON (f).....Leader of cheer squad. (*7 lines*)
- KEAGAN (f).....Member of cheer squad. (*6 line*)
- KELSEY (f).....Really enthusiastic. Member of the cheer squad. (*6 line*)
- KENDELL (f).....Also enthusiastic. Member of the cheer squad. (*6 line*)
- KENNEDY (f).....Insecure. Kind of a follower. Member of the cheer squad. (*6 line*)
- ROWEN (m/f).....Bohemian, artsy. In charge of the prom invitation subcommittee. (*1 line*)
- INDIGO (m/f).....Conceptual and postmodernist. On the prom invitation subcommittee. (*6 lines*)
- ZANE (m/f).....Sporty. In charge of the food subcommittee. (*11 lines*)
- RORY (m/f).....Athletic. On the prom food subcommittee. (*7 lines*)
- EXTRAS (m/f).....Optional, any number. More astronomy-loving students, cheerleaders, nerdy students, artsy kids, or athletes. (*Non-Speaking*)

**DURATION:** 30 minutes.

**TIME:** Present day.

**SETTING:** A high school gymnasium, being decorated for prom.

### OPTIONAL DOUBLING

The only roles that cannot be double cast are Bryn, Francis, Alex, and Parker. The rest of the characters can be double or even triple cast. The characters playing Zane, Rowan, and Archer should not be played by the same actor. Example of possible casting combinations:

ACTOR 1 (m/f): Bryn

ACTOR 2 (m/f): Francis

ACTOR 3 (m/f): Alex

ACTOR 4 (m/f): Parker

ACTOR 5 (f): August, Keeton, Zane

ACTOR 6 (f): Ashton, Jody, Keagan, Rowan

ACTOR 7 (f): Archer, Jackie, Kelsey

ACTOR 8 (f): Greer, Kendell, Indigo

ACTOR 9 (f): Jessie, Kennedy, Rory

### SET

No sets are necessary for this production. You could potentially put some bleachers onstage to make the space feel more like a gymnasium, and give actors a way to create levels while on stage. This play could also be performed onsite in a gymnasium or school cafeteria.

### PROPS

- clipboard (ALEX)
- pen and small notepad or recording device (BRYN)
- camera (PARKER)
- paper or cardboard cutout of a comet (AUGUST)
- paper or cardboard cutout of an asteroid (ASHTON)
- paper or cardboard cutout of a black hole (ARCHER)
- pom-poms (optional) (KEETON, KEAGAN, KELSEY, KENDELL, and KENNEDY)
- invitations that are a black piece of paper spattered with white paint (ROWEN, INDIGO)
- silver tray with protein bars cut up on it (RORY)

### COSTUMING

FRANCIS: Everyday attire.

ALEX: Everyday attire.

BRYN: A blazer, business casual.

PARKER: A blazer, business casual.

AUGUST: A cool, geeky t-shirt, and jeans.

ASHTON: A cool, geeky t-shirt, and jeans.

ARCHER: A cool, geeky t-shirt, and jeans.

GREER: A band t-shirt and jeans.

JESSIE: Shakespearean garb.

JACKIE: Shakespearean garb.

JODY: Shakespearean garb.

KEETON: Cheer uniform or gym clothes that are school colors.

KEAGAN: Cheer uniform or gym clothes that are school colors.

KELSEY: Cheer uniform or gym clothes that are school colors.

KENDELL: Cheer uniform or gym clothes that are school colors.

KENNEDY: Cheer uniform or gym clothes that are school colors.

ROWEN: Bohemian, artsy.

INDIGO: Bohemian, artsy.

ZANE: Sporty, exercise clothes.

RORY: Sporty, exercise clothes.

**COSTUME NOTE:** If you decide to do the optional epilogue at the end of the production you will also need to obtain prom finery for the cast. Perhaps ask students to bring in formal wear they have from home.

### SOUND EFFECTS

- pre-show and post-show music (optional)

### PRODUCTION NOTES

Consider having the roles of Jessie, Jody, and Jackie, speak in over the top Shakespearean actor voices. This will not only be fun for actors but also be an opportunity for you to teach them a little bit about acting Shakespeare.

There is a choreographed cheer with the cheerleaders. You can also have the cheer team improvise a dance number.

If desired, you could add the optional epilogue at the end of the play and choreograph a fun dance number.

**AT START:** *The school gymnasium, the week before prom. FRANCIS and ALEX enter. ALEX has an official looking clipboard.*

**ALEX:** All members of the prom committee are signed in, present, and accounted for.

**FRANCIS:** Great.

**ALEX:** So, fearless leader, what would you like me to do now?

**FRANCIS:** That depends. What would you like to do?

**ALEX:** That's not how this whole assistant thing works. You tell me what you need assisting with, and I assist you.

**FRANCIS:** Oh, yeah. Right. Cool.

*BRYN and PARKER enter. PARKER snaps a few photos, every so often at newsworthy moments throughout the play.*

**BRYN:** I'm Bryn. You might know me as the intrepid reporter who busted the school lunch personnel for serving mac and cheese using the processed powder, not real cheese.

**ALEX:** That exposé really dug deep. It revealed hard hitting truths and asked the tough questions.

**FRANCIS:** I haven't eaten school mac and cheese since.

**PARKER:** Parker. Photographer for the Evergreen Academy Gazette. I'm totally looking forward to documenting prom. Anything is better than photographing congealed pasta in orange goo. Great natural lighting in here. That artificial lighting in the cafeteria made it really hard to get compelling shadows and depth.

**BRYN:** So, who's the head honcho around here?

**FRANCIS:** Hi, I'm Francis. I'm in charge of the prom committee. This is my awesome assistant, Alex.

**PARKER:** Smile!

*PARKER snaps a photo of ALEX and FRANCIS.*

**ALEX:** Thanks for scheduling us in! I'm sure you have a lot on your plate. Besides processed mac and cheese.

**BRYN:** Of course! I have my readers to consider! The voracious readers at the Evergreen Academy Gazette are avid to get the scoop on how prom preparation is going.

**ALEX:** Well, prom is a very special night of the year. Prom is a time to dress up. To have fun with friends. To dance. For seniors, prom is a big bash before the end of high school.

**PARKER:** And to get your photo taken! I'll certainly be employing my photographing prowess on prom night.

**FRANCIS:** What the prom committee has planned this year is really special.

**BRYN:** Right!

*BRYN gets out a notepad. BRYN jots observations in notepad throughout.*

**BRYN:** So, let's start with the theme? What did the prom committee decide?

**FRANCIS:** The prom committee voted for an old classic, "Dancing Under the Stars."

*AUGUST, ASHTON, and ARCHER enter carrying cardboard cutouts. AUGUST is carrying a comet, ASHTON'S cutout is of an asteroid, and ARCHER'S cutout is a black hole.*

**ALEX:** August, Ashton, and Archer. Are you working on a science project, or something? You're supposed to be decorating for prom, remember?

**AUGUST:** Class project? No way.

**ARCHER:** We are decorating for prom.

**ALEX:** But the prom committee took a vote on the theme and agreed that this year's theme was "Dancing Under the Stars."

**ASHTON:** We're changed it to "Dancing Under Celestial Bodies and Huge Balls of Gas Held Together by Gravity."

**AUGUST:** We wanted to use the correct nomenclature. How can we expect prom-goers to fully enjoy themselves if the prom theme isn't scientifically accurate?

**ALEX:** What is that?

**AUGUST:** Oh this. An asteroid. Rocky, icy, airless worlds that orbit our sun, but are too small to be classified as planets. It's not as "stellar," as Archer's comet!

**ARCHER:** Your asteroid is "out of this world!"

**AUGUST:** What about my black hole? You can't have stellar evolution without some stars eventually imploding on themselves. A black hole is a region of space that has a gravitational field so intense that no matter or radiation can escape.

**BRYN:** A black hole? As part of the prom decor?

**ALEX:** Francis, is there anything you want to tell the prom decoration subcommittee, you know, considering that you are in charge of prom committees, and everything?

**FRANCIS:** Well... I... I mean... I guess you three worked hard on those... and I... it's certainly a very different take on the theme "Dancing Under the Stars."

**ASHTON:** We've changed it to "Dancing Under Celestial Bodies and Huge Balls of Gas Held Together by Gravity." Remember?

**AUGUST:** Yeah, no need to thank us, Francis.

**ARCHER:** Isn't it great, that in the vast infiniteness of space and time, we are here, in this space and time, to do prom decorations?

**ALEX:** Yeah. Really great.

**ARCHER:** We better go hang these. I bet the glitter is almost dry on those red giant stars.

**BRYN:** Red giant stars?

**AUGUST:** Yeah, with so many different types of stars you can't expect us to just have one type.

**ASHTON:** You can't have "Dancing Under Celestial Bodies and Huge Balls of Gas Held Together by Gravity," without neutron stars, white dwarf stars, brown dwarf stars, and at least one supergiant star.

**ASHTON:** It looks like the meteor shower we hung up might have gotten tangled with the fleet of flying saucers.

**ALEX:** Flying saucers? Seriously?

**AUGUST:** Considering the vast infiniteness of the universe, you really don't think that we are the only intelligent life form out there, do you?

*AUGUST, ARCHER, and ASHTON exit.*

**ALEX:** At prom. I meant, flying saucers, at prom.

**PARKER:** A meteor shower tangled with flying saucers? That's front page news, for sure! Hey! Ashton! August! Archer! Wait up! Before you start untangling that, let me snap a few photos! (*Exits following AUGUST, ARCHER, and ASHTON.*)

**BRYN:** “Dancing Under Celestial Bodies and Huge Balls of Gas Held Together by Gravity?” Comets, and black holes as part of the decor. This prom will certainly be “astronomically,” unusual.

**ALEX:** Francis! You are seriously going to let the decorations subcommittee hang asteroids and meteors up around the gymnasium?

**FRANCIS:** Well, I mean, it’s not like I can tell them no.

**ALEX:** Yeah, you can. You are in charge of the prom committee. And everyone voted on “Dancing Under the Stars.” Not dancing under celestial whatever.

**FRANCIS:** I mean, August, Archer, Ashton, they are my friends.

**ALEX:** Black holes and meteor showers? This prom can’t possibly get any worse.

**BRYN:** Is that a Shakespeare performance troupe?

**FRANCIS:** No way.

**ALEX:** Something is rotten in the state of prom.

*GREER, JESSIE, JACKIE, and JODY enter. JESSIE, JACKIE, and JODY are dressed up in Shakespearean garb, acting very dramatic.*

**GREER:** Hey Alex, hey Francis!

**ALEX:** Hey Greer. Are you rehearsing something for thespian club?

**GREER:** More like thespian club is rehearsing something for prom.

**ALEX:** Huh? Greer, you are in charge of the entertainment subcommittee. That means DJ. A cool indie rock band. Something like that.

**GREER:** Yeah, but this is way better than some DJ. Alright actors! Show them what you’ve got!

*JESSIE steps forward. Very over-the-top. Rolls as many r’s as possible.*

**JESSIE:**

To be, or not to be, that is the question:  
Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer  
The slings and arrows of outrageous fortune,  
Or to take arms against a sea of troubles  
And by opposing end them.

*JACKIE, JODY, and GREER clap. JESSIE bows.*

**ALEX:** Huh?

**JESSIE:** It's from Hamlet's famous soliloquy. The existential speech where he contemplates life and death.

**ALEX:** Yeah. Sounds like just the thing to create a fun atmosphere at prom.

**JESSIE:** Fun? Fun? This year prom will be more than merely fun!

**JACKIE:** It will be intellectually engaging and delightfully dramatic!

**JODY:** Marvelously melodramatic and tragically tear-jerking!

**JESSIE:** Jody, why don't you perform part of your gut-wrenching monologue from *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*?

**JODY:**

Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears;  
I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him.  
The evil that men do lives after them;  
The good is oft interred with their bones;  
So let it be with Caesar.

*JESSIE, JACKIE, and GREER clap. JODY bows.*

**ALEX:** A funeral eulogy? At prom?

**JODY:** Not only that! Jackie, please give them a sample of your artistic offering from *Romeo and Juliet*?

**JACKIE:**

O Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Romeo?  
Deny thy father and refuse thy name.  
Or if thou wilt not, be but sworn my love  
And I'll no longer be a Capulet.

*JESSIE, JODY, and GREER clap. JACKIE bows.*

**GREER:** Isn't the thespian club performing selections of dramatic Shakespeare monologues at prom way better than a band, Francis?

**ALEX:** Francis?

**FRANCIS:** Bravo. Your performances were worthy of a standing ovation! Tony awards to everyone! But live theatrical performances were not what the prom committee had in mind...

**GREER:** I know, our performances are even better than dancing the night away, right?

**JACKIE:** Come on, troupe! Parting is such sweet sorrow, but we must go rehearse!

**GREER:** Take pains; be perfect!

**JODY:** Adieu! I have too grieved a heart to take a tedious leave! Farewell.

**JESSIE:**

And whether we shall meet again, I know not.

Therefore our everlasting farewell take:

For ever, and forever, farewell!

If we do meet again, why, we shall smile;

If not, why then, this parting was well made.

*JESSIE, JODY, and JACKIE exit, dramatically.*

**GREER:** Not what you were expecting, eh, Francis?

**ALEX:** No. Not what we were expecting at all.

**FRANCIS:** Well... I mean, it's not what we had agreed on during the prom committee meeting.

**GREER:** Well, those stupendous performances... are not all!

**BRYN:** Not all?

**GREER:** Oh no! I've got even more great acts planned! Come on out, cheer squad!

**ALEX:** The cheer squad?

*KEETON, KEAGON, KELSEY, KENDELL, and KENNEDY enter.*

**KEETON:** Hey! Hey! What do you say? Let's get fired up. Give me a P!

**CHEER SQUAD:** P!

**KEETON:** Give me an R!

**CHEER SQUAD:** R!

**KEETON:** Give me an O!

**CHEER SQUAD:** O!

**KEETON:** Give me an M!

**CHEER SQUAD:** M!

**KEETON:** What does that spell?

**CHEER SQUAD:** Prom!

**KEAGAN:** P is for popping.

*CHEER SQUAD dance, popping.*

**KELSEY:** R is for the robot.

*CHEER SQUAD dance the robot.*

**KENDELL:** O is for one step.

*CHEER SQUAD dance the one-step.*

**KENNEDY:** M is for the Macarena!

*CHEER SQUAD dance the Macarena.*

**KEETON:** Let's go, prom! Let's go!

**CHEER SQUAD:** Let's go, prom! Let's go!

*KEETON creates rhythms by clapping and stomping her feet that the rest of the CHEER SQUAD repeat.*

**KEETON:** Let's go, prom! Let's go!

**CHEER SQUAD:** Let's go, prom! Let's go!

*Optional: CHEER SQUAD does a dance routine. GREER claps when they are done. CHEER SQUAD exit, dancing or doing a cheer offstage.*

**GREER:** This is going to be an evening of entertainment that no one is ever going to forget!

***Thank you for reading this free excerpt from  
PROM-POCALYPSE! by Lavinia Roberts. For performance rights  
and/or a complete copy of the script, please contact us at:***

**Brooklyn Publishers, LLC**

**P.O. Box 248 • Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406**

**Toll Free: 1-888-473-8521 • Fax (319) 368-8011**

**[www.brookpub.com](http://www.brookpub.com)**