

Remember, Remember!

A Healthcare Science play to perform at home

By Nicola Baldwin with Dr Elaine Cloutman-Green

Chapter 2: The Princess In The Fog

Pathology Week Drama & Science At Home 2020

First created for Great Ormond Street Hospital

Pathology Week, November 2018

Characters

You can change character names, ages and whether they are male or female. We performed the play with 4 actors, by 'doubling' characters. We doubled like this: Princess Elizabeth played by same actor who plays Eliza; Lily / Sir Jasper Wingard; Rosa / Guard at Tower of London; Frank / Guy Fawkes. You can perform it with more, or less people. It's up to you!

Princess Elizabeth (age 9) – daughter of King James 1. Good at getting her own way.

Lily – Senior Healthcare Scientist, who works the whole 'patient pathway', she deals directly with patients as well as leading the team. Good at dealing with people.

Rosa – recently joined the lab, loves the science and equipment. Good at being enthusiastic.

Frank – experienced Healthcare Scientist, who thinks that nothing can surprise him now. Good at reading results.

Guard at the Tower of London

Guy Fawkes (aka John Johnson) thinks he is an international man of mystery

Sir Jasper Wingard Head of Security, His Majesty's Parliament

Other Plotters a desperate band of hot-heads

Eliza – a clinical engineer

Setting

Hospital laboratory in the present day, and 1605 London at the time of the Gunpowder Plot. *'Stage directions' to describe action / places are written in italic letters like this.*

Credits

*Written by playwright Nicola Baldwin with Dr Elaine Cloutman-Green, Lead Healthcare Scientist at Great Ormond Street Hospital. Created for patients, families and staff at Great Ormond Street Hospital. First performed at GOSH for Pathology Week, November 2018. Director, Hannah Jones. Our project was funded by SfAM; the performance at GOSH was also supported by the **Royal College of Pathologists**. Thanks to: Abi Bown, Melisa Canales, NT Costumes, Rachel McNery, She'miah Hastick, Miranda France, Polly Cheeseman, Anthony Manuel DeSouza (EDUCATION RESOURCES), Fionnuala Wilkins (GOSH SCHOOL), Amy Sutton (GOSH YOUTH FORUM), Laura Walsh (GOSH PLAYTEAM), Andrew Roast (GOSH DIGITAL), Royal Literary Fund. Photography was by Rabbit Hole Photography. This play is for performing at home.*

CHAPTER 2: THE PRINCESS IN THE FOG

Lily, Rosa and Frank are shocked, but relieved, to see each other; they all laugh.

LILY What are you both doing here? *(to Frank)* Did you get lost looking for chewing gum?

FRANK In all honesty, no. I couldn't resist coming up here to have a look at where X marked the spot... In a spirit of scientific curiosity.

ROSA Same here

LILY Well I can't see anyone

Princess Elizabeth appears as if by magic, looking regal. She coughs.

ELIZA Ahem. Here you are! *(They are shocked)*
I've been waiting and waiting for you. On my own.

LILY Er... ok –

ELIZA You may curtsey now *(very surprised, the scientists try to do this)*
(to Frank) Not you! Boys bow. *(Frank bows awkwardly)* I'm glad I don't bow. If I'm was wearing a tiara, it would fall off. Once, my father's courtier bowed so low in the garden at Dunfermline Palace, his beard got stuck on a rose bush! That's REALLY TRUE and it was SO funny. I'm not supposed to laugh so I had to do this with my mouth
(squishes up her mouth)

FRANK I can't believe I'm asking this, but... did you send us a message?

ELIZA Not a message. A command.

LILY How did you.... send a command through our machine?

ELIZA No time for silly questions. Your Princess needs your help

ROSA Princess?

ELIZA Princess Elizabeth Stuart. And I'm nine. Nine and a quarter. Don't look so astonished at me I REALLY AM AND I'M TEN NEXT SO THERE!

LILY Elizabeth –

ELIZA / Princess –

LILY Princess Elizabeth.... what are you doing out so late on your own?

ELIZA It's truly terrible. You have to help.

LILY We'll help it we can

ELIZA (*checks no one listening*) There is a Plot to get rid of my father, King James 1st -

ROSA You mean The Gunpowder Plot?!

FRANK Of 1605?

ELIZA How do you know that?! Are you involved? Are you plotters? HELP! HELP!

FRANK HELP-E ?

LILY No, no, it's alright. We're here to help-e. We're scientists.

FRANK We work at the children's hospital

ROSA We help children all the time... we've never helped a Princess before

ELIZA Well it's like this. The soldiers at the Palace of Westminster uncovered the Plot. They arrested a stranger hiding in the UNDERCROFT! He won't say where the gang are hiding. But their Plot is to get rid of my father, and make me queen! At first I thought – 'I can eat cake for breakfast and throw my schoolbooks out of the window and make a law it's my birthday EVERY DAY!' Imagine! I'd be like TEN tomorrow?
...Eleven on Sunday. By next... (*counts on fingers*) Wednesday I'm almost FIFTEEN -

LILY (*interrupts*) So, the help you need from us...?

ELIZA Well, I've realised being queen is actually quite rubbish. The big crown is SOOO heavy and you have to sit for HOURS signing papers which is even worse than homework. You have to do wars, have loads of portraits painted and YUK get MARRIED!

FRANK I don't exactly see how we can help /-

ELIZA /You said you would. You promised. You said you (*starts to cry*) help children... (*sobs heart-breakingly a few moments more*)

LILY Please don't cry.

ROSA We'll do what we can!

ELIZA (*brighter*) I knew I could count on you. But how can you help? (*upset again*)
We'll have to go to the Tower of London and interview the Prisoner and go to the Houses of Parliament and look for clues – and if we don't catch the Plotters tonight it will be too late!
It'll be HOMEWORK AND MARRIAGE forever and there's NOT ENOUGH TIME!
(*she cries again*)

LILY Now then, I'm sure there's a way. We're scientists. We'll do it systematically by splitting up. You and I can go to the Tower, Frank and Rosa will look for clues in the –

ELIZA the Undercroft.

ROSA How do we get to the Undercroft?

ELIZA I drew you a map.

FRANK That's the map we saw on Bonnie! How did you manage to project visual imagery across time and into our digital equipment?

ELIZA It was easy. I'll tell you later. The boat is waiting.

FRANK I didn't know there was a river near here.

ELIZA You silly Science-issues! Everyone knows Mr Lamb built this water channel to conduct water from the Fleet River for drinking and washing. How do you think Lamb's Conduit Street gets its name?! AND THAT'S REALLY TRUE! Come on, get in the boat –

They start to climb aboard. Lily halts them.

LILY Wait a minute. The State Opening of Parliament was delayed in 1605, because London had an outbreak of –

FRANK the Plague!

Frank and Rosa recoil from the boat/water

ELIZA Oh its fine, we burned lots of herbs and the evil air is quite gone! I ORDER you to get in. By royal command. I'm a Princess and THERE'S NO TIME!

LILY (*patiently*) There's always time for infection prevention

FRANK Be aware of risks when handling potentially contaminated materials.

ROSA Always wash your hands!

Princess reaches towards the river water as if to wash. Scientists react No/ stop

LILY Not in the river water!

ELIZA Make up your silly minds.

The Princess holds out her hand demurely. Frank helps her. The 3 scientists get carefully into the boat, elbows out, not touching anything that could be contaminated. Lily and Rosa pull on their scientists' rubber gloves to row.

(ELIZA) To the Tower!

ALL The Tower!

They all row towards the Thames and downriver.

FRANK oh look! The Globe theatre!

ELIZA *(at last)* There's the Tower!

LILY Pull in here, Rosa

FRANK Steady, you need about a 40degree angle on your approach. That's it

ROSA Got it

Lily helps Princess Elizabeth carefully out of the boat

ELIZA I'm not touching the water

LILY Good girl –

ELIZA Good PRINCESS!

ROSA *(rowing off)* We've got the map and secret code!

FRANK See you later!

ROSA Byeee!

FRANK Good luck!

As Frank and Rosa row the boat away, Lily and Princess Elizabeth are left standing at the foot of the Tower, looking up.

LILY So this is the Tower of London in 1605... A formidable place.

ELIZABETH Truly terrifying. I'm glad you're with me to go in first –

GUARD Halt!

They freeze in shock. To Be Continued....