

Remember, Remember!

A Healthcare Science play to perform at home

By Nicola Baldwin with Dr Elaine Cloutman-Green

Chapter 3: The Tower

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 3: THE TOWER

*At that very moment, The Tower's chief **Guard** appears*

GUARD Halt! Who goes here?

LILY Hello.... Sir. This is Princess Elizabeth, daughter of King James -
(Princess is hiding half out of sight) And I'm Lily. A Healthcare Scientist

GUARD An Elf Care whatt?

LILY - scientist

GUARD Tis whatt agin?

LILY Science –

ELIZA Put a spell on him, Lily!

LILY Elizabeth? I can't do that!

ELIZA Turn him into a Frog –

GUARD A Frog is it?!

ELIZA Make him fall asleep for a thousand years!

GUARD I am a bit tired, as it goes. *(to Lily)* Are you a witch? Cos if so,
 you b'long in 'ere. All locked up

LILY I know you're only doing your job. And can I say, you're doing it very well.
 Good for you. And I'm sure you're capable of being very helpful –

GUARD Nope

LILY We'd like to see the Prisoner. The mystery man from the Undercroft?

GUARD What you know about 'im?

LILY not enough. That's why I'd like to ask him a few questions –

GUARD Interrogation, is it? Cruel and brutal interrogation?

LILY A few scientific tests...

GUARD *(brightening)* Aha torture! Horrible torture and loud interrogation? Why didn't
 you say so? Come in. *(opens door)* Welcome to my 'umble abode.

LILY What's all this on the floor?

GUARD Clean straw....

LILY It's a long time since that straw was clean; it's very smelly

GUARD It's my special floorcovering invention. Every time yon floor gets mucky, put more straw on thy floor. Drop ye sandwich, spill ye drink; ye old dog poo-eth – do not ye worry, put more straw on't. Nice clean straw

LILY *(to Elizabeth)* Elizabeth –

But Elizabeth understands. She holds her hands up

ELIZA Don't touch -

LILY Good Princess.

GUARD This here's his cell (**Guy Fawkes** stands with his back to us)
Well, well Mister-I'm-Not-Talking Man of Mystery, your jig is up. Your goose is cooked. His Majersty The King, has sent two Science-witches to make you squark –

Guy Fawkes turns slowly to consider them, he glances at Elizabeth, then Lily

LILY We'd like to ask you a few questions

GUARD He don't say nothing, not to nobody

FAWKES Why Knave, you are mistook! I do not stoop to speak with thee, yet unto fair damsel such as she, forsooth, whose words are like unto the sweetest bell, her beauty like the fragrance of a rose inside this... cesspit –

GUARD She's here to torture you.

Fawkes recoils

LILY No, really, I'm a scientist

Guard and Scientist both recoil

FAWKES Tis what?

LILY A Healthcare Scientist. Do any of you know what that is? I diagnose people –

They gasp as if it is the most horrible thing in the world

GUARD Boils and plagues!

FAWKES What sorcery is this! I shut my mouth and speaketh not
(*he watches them from the corner of his eyes*)

LILY (*to Guard*) What do we know about the Prisoner?

GUARD They caught 'im lurking under the House of Parliament, by a pile of wood

LILY A bonfire?

FAWKES Bonfire says you?! Zounds, nay! There was indeed all manner of
crated goods and barrells thereabouts, perhaps of mead or oil or wine; I know not, for said
wood was all trampled, perchance by the King's own men, or elephants. Who knoweth? Yet
verily it was broke all into sticks before I ever came thence.

LILY So, you're saying... you didn't build the bonfire?

FAWKES My Lady doth hear me like my truest friend.

ELIZA THAT'S NOT TRUE! Zap him, Lily –

LILY (*patiently*) And what other evidence have we got?

GUARD he had about him sticks and spills and flint for lighting fire

LILY Matches? Do you have them?

GUARD Over yonce –

Lily picks them up and puts them into a plastic bag. Others stare at the bag in wonder.

LILY I'll analyse these later. What is your name?

FAWKES ... it's..... John

ELIZA John what?

FAWKES John.... (*searches his imagination*) Johnson... A simple, honest name
for an honest simple, honest man. Lately arrived in London, I met a Fellow, who offered me
a job... to guard his pile of wood. I know not why

LILY And the matches?

FAWKES The place I was to guard, being underground, was dark. He gave me matches. Said he would bring me a lantern by and by. But he did not. I know not why.....

LILY Anything else?

FAWKES I asked yon Fellow if I might have a seat to sit, lest my feet ache from standing guard. He shewed me barrels...full of Gunpowder they were. I know not why.....

LILY That's it. I've heard enough.

Lily pulls out a small needle

FAWKES (*alarmed*) What means you with that blade, dear lady?

LILY To find out the truth

GUARD Aha, torture!

LILY Nonsense, this won't hurt him at all; a slight scratch, nothing more -

Fawkes falls to his knees and turns to Elizabeth

FAWKES Pleeeease I beg you! Princess! Don't let the Psy-antist wound me.

ELIZA It won't hurt if she says it won't, but Lily knows powerful magic. She can weave a spell upon your blood, so it will whisper all your secrets....AND THAT'S TRUE!

LILY That's really not how a DNA test works, but YES IT'S A BIT LIKE THAT!

Guy Fawkes breaks down. His accent may change. He may or may not be from Yorkshire

FAWKES Alright, alright! I am not John Johnson, I am Guido Fawkes, Plotter, and admit my crime. But you won't catch the others! Villains they are, determined to succeed and (*quickly and a bit shifty*) I know not where they're hid....

LILY Listen Guido. I'm glad you're thinking about telling the truth. But your blood in this sample can tell us everything. When I analyse this, I'll know who you are; by the antibodies in your blood against plague, how recently you came to London; and who you've been in contact with -

FAWKES You'll never stop them!

LILY (*to Guard*) Do you have a boat we can borrow to get to the Houses of Parliament?

GUARD(*showing them*) Me old water taxi here. Just let me... get my salted fish supper from the bottom of the boat -

LILY Wash that before you eat it, and your hands -

(Guard about to stick hands in the river)

ELIZA Not in the river!

LILY there are all kinds of bacteria – tiny living organisms - in rivers. Some of them can give you an upset stomach or worse. So always wash your hands in clean water, by boiling it. And at least get rid of this filthy straw!

GUARD Wash... but not water... boils and filthy straw?

LILY Let me write out some hygiene rules for you -

GUARD I can't read!

ELIZA I'm 9 and I can read in three languages.

GUARD I'm 29, and I'm not royalty. When I need to remember, I make a rhyme....

LILY Ok, let's try and think of a rhyme for you, then the Princess and I must hurry

Lily and the Guard go off, working on rhymes

LILY Hand hygiene is important because –

GUARD If you eat with hands that smell, you'll make yourself unwell –

LILY Ok, that's a good start

GUARD I work in the nick, and I often get sick -

They move off, leaving Princess Eliza alone by the boat.

ELIZA I like rhymes. You hear people all day long outside the Palace – like 'Fred the Baker, and Cake Maker', or shouting the news. The rhyme they're all saying about the Plot... *Remember, remember the fifth of November / Gunpowder, treason and plot.*

We see no reason / Why gunpowder treason / Should ever be forgot.....

It's a bit scary, really. Lily is brave and she makes me feel safe... She says it will turn out fine. What Lily did with Guy Fawkes, how she made him talk with her 'test' WAS SO CLEVER! But what about Rosa and Frank? How can they get a pile of wood to tell them anything? And if wood can't talk, how will the other Plotters be found?

It's after midnight but I'm not tired. I hope we catch them in time.

(She sings / hums 'Ring a ring o' roses' to herself, then goes.)

To Be Continued....