

## **"NEVER ALONE"**

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CHARACTERS (WEAR SOUND-PROOF PADDING ON FEET)

David Debole, 21: A weak young man whose psychological well-being has fallen apart, and is suffering from severe hedgehog's dilemma and an inferiority complex. He is at times both different and simultaneously: melancholy, frustrated, and upset.

Gestalt, 21: The foil and conscience of David (does not look at any other cast member other than David)

Little David, 6: Innocent, loving

Mother, 32: Hope depleted, self-rationalizing, denial

Father, 32: Irritated, worried, anxious

Teen David, 16: shy kid trying to be nice to his crush.

Crush, 16: typical popular high school snob

Friend of crush(female), 16: amicable and altruistic.  
Crush's best friend. Has a crush on Teen David.

Jock, 17: Romantic interest of crush

(ex)Girlfriend, 20: David's girlfriend

YA David, 21: isolationist

Sister, 15: David's sister

SETTING

An empty room with two couches and a table between them. There is a door that leads out into an unviewable part of a house that that room is assumedly a part of. There is a light switch next to the door (both used only by Sister).

STAGE

Proscenium with characters in profile view with back-wall as medium for projector to screen on. The two couches are in a v-formation facing each other with a table between them. The door is on the right. The room is trapezoidal, large end open toward audience. Lighting is a very dull, soft, and disbursed.

SCENE: SITTING IN AN EMPTY LOUNGE ROOM

Gestalt is sitting [stage right] straight up with a leg crossed over and an arm back on the top of the couch. David

[sitting stage left] is hunched with his elbows on his knees and his fingers laced together.

FADE IN:

GESTALT

So, your world has ended.

[looks softly/empathetically  
at David]

DAVID

And I hate it.

GESTALT

Why has it all come to this?

DAVID

Everyone.

GESTALT

What?

DAVID

Because of everyone. I've tried so hard.  
I've never given anyone a reason to hate  
me. And yet they do.

GESTALT

Tell me why.

DAVID

No.

GESTALT

Look.

DAVID

[shifts eyes away with no  
response]

GESTALT

David, What's the point of saying that if  
you're not going to tell me?

DAVID

[puts head down with tensed,  
un-eased face]

GESTALT

David, look.

DAVID

[doesn't raise head,  
stubbornly keeps looking  
down.]

GESTALT

[elongated, angry response]

LOOOOOK!

[points to the wall]

LIGHTS OFF

David and Gestalt are still sitting in their seats. Little David enters, playing with a toy truck happily. Lights on. David's mother and father walk on having a depressing argument [stage right], while a little David reacts [stage left].

LIGHTS ON:

David, Gestalt and Little David

DAVID

I used to be so happy. That soon changed.

GESTALT

What happened?

[looks straight into David's eyes]

DAVID

[looks in the direction that  
the couple will walk out from]

ENTER: MOTHER AND FATHER

MOTHER

What are we going to do?

FATHER

I don't know.

MOTHER

[nervously]

We could sell the cars.

FATHER

Even then, we still wouldn't have enough  
money.

MOTHER

We could ask your family.

FATHER

Really? You really think after all the  
disownment they'd really help us out now?

MOTHER

There has to be--

FATHER

There isn't a way! Okay?

LITTLE DAVID

[ceases playing with truck,  
having heard the shout of  
Father, and looks in their  
direction.]

FATHER

Maybe, if he wasn't here, we would have  
been able to save up enough money to treat  
your leukemia. But you wanted to keep him!  
And now look!

MOTHER

[begins sobbing]

FATHER

We don't have enough! And we have a baby  
on the way.[pause] Besides, we're beyond  
the point that you'll survive the next 6  
months anyway. You've been stage four for  
a while now.

MOTHER

[walks in direction of Little  
David to get away from talking  
to Father]

LITTLE DAVID

[runs over to Mother and hug  
her]

Mommy, why are you crying?

FATHER

[catches up to Mother; stops  
and looks down at David]

Because of you.

LIGHTS OFF

EXIT: FATHER, MOTHER, LITTLE DAVID

GESTALT

And this is why you are the way you are  
now.

DAVID

No, not exactly.

Friend 1, Friend 2 and Crush will enter position stage right  
before lights on. Jock is making Crush laugh, while Friend  
third-wheels.

The lot will perform gesture-acting based on profile  
descriptions. Jock will interact with both girls; both girls  
will gesture and interact with Jock. Jock will be physical  
with Crush.

ENTER: FRIEND, JOCK, CRUSH

LIGHTS ON

GESTALT

Why do you resent them?

DAVID

I'd rather not dredge up the past.

GESTALT

Our pasts either drive us forward or keep  
us behind. Where are you?

DAVID

Why should that matter?

CRUSH

[walks toward Teen David]

TEEN DAVID

[gestures to say hi right as she's passing]

CRUSH

[responds; body language reluctant, but tone shallowly friendly]

Hi, David.

TEEN DAVID

You're always so beautiful every time I see you.

CRUSH

Oh, thanks...[begins to walk away]

TEEN DAVID

Ummm, I was thinking...

CRUSH

[turns away from David, rolls eyes, turns back to David.]

Yes?

TEEN DAVID

Would you mind if we exchange numbers?

CRUSH

[apparent reluctance]

Sure!

[writes on a piece of paper:  
"In your dreams"; hands to  
Teen David]

The number will be displayed on the back wall via the projector as Teen David opens up the piece of paper.

EXIT: CRUSH, JOCK