

# The Fourth Wall

Jonathan Smith

a one act teen adventure comedy (set behind the fourth wall)

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# The Fourth Wall

Script by: Jonathan Smith

## Cast (In order of appearance)

Jack- Adventurous, daring, fearless, strong willed, has slight affection for Sarah.

Sarah- Tag along, likes Jason, deep down the toughest character out of her group.

Jason- Cocky, but doesn't like to get in trouble. In a perfect world it's never his fault. Likes to trash talk.  
Mr. "High and mighty"

Soldier 1- The best a soldier can be, though the show remains a hardcore "follow orders" soldier.

Soldier 2- Tries to be the really cool epic guy and takes every opportunity to be epic.

Soldier 3- Just a soldier

Soldier 4- Just a soldier

Soldier 5- Just a soldier

Narrator- Distinct voice, comical character, Generally a Narrator.

The Lead Female- The original lead of the show. Very "full of it". In her world, she deserves to be treated like a queen. Clashes with The Lead Male over their importance to the show.

The Lead Male- Cockier than generally anyone else in the entire show besides The Lead Female. Clashes with The Lead Female over their importance to the show.

The Stage Manager- Generally hates everyone. It's his/her job to make sure the show goes well and when things don't he/she gets quite frustrated.

Upstage Right Homie #1- Male; must be as overly "Thug" as humanly possible.

Upstage Right Homie #2- Female; must be as overly "Thug" as humanly possible.

## Optional Doubling

The Lead Male/Upstage Homie #1/Soldier 3/Person

The Lead Female/Upstage Homie #2/Soldier 4

The Stage Manager/Soldier 5

## Summary

Three curious kids decide to venture onto the stage right before a show is about to be performed by breaking the fourth wall. When the performers discover the kids, they call off their show in the beginning scene and attempt to catch them and take them to the stage manager. When one of the three kids get caught by the performers, the other two kids left must equip themselves with prop weapons and team up with theatre thugs to fight their way through egotistical lead roles, a stunned narrator, epic soldiers, chaotic scene changes and a short tempered stage manager to get their friend back.

Recommendation: Whenever someone in the show says the word “Connections”, have them look both ways first, as if it is a secret, and then say “connections”.

## **Scene One:**

*(Blank stage, There is dim light.) (From outside the auditorium, you can hear loud conversation, and then three teenagers enter in loud conversation/improv)*

*(SARAH, JASON, and JACK enter) (They all break into laughter)*

**Sarah:** OK Jack, why did you bring us here?

**Jason:** Yea, what's up?

**Jack:** C'mon Sarah, I want to show you something

*(JACK begins to pull SARAH up the stairs to the stage)*

**Jason:** Wait! You can't do that! Aren't they about to perform a show?

**Jack:** Chill out Jason. You're going to love this

*(JACK tries to step on the stage but runs into an invisible wall)*

**Sarah:** *(fascinated)* Whoa

**Jason:** What just happened?

*(SARAH places her hand on the invisible wall)*

**Sarah:** It's a wall... And it's Invisible.

**Jason:** *(Outraged)* I don't believe it!

*(JASON tries to walk onto the stage and crashes directly into the wall)*

OW!! Holy Moister oils dipped in gravy with moose feathers!! What is that?

**Jack:** I discovered this a few months ago but wanted to wait to actually prove it. Whenever there is going to be a performance on the stage, the day of the performance, this wall appears and makes it impossible to enter the stage.

**Jason:** Well, it's logical

**Sarah:** Amazing

**Jack:** I did some research on it. It's called the Fourth Wall, and today,

*(JACK pulls a hammer out of his pocket)*

We break it.

**Jason:** Are you crazy?! Haven't you ever seen a stage performance in your life?! You're not supposed to break the Fourth Wall.

**Jack:** That's the fun part.

*(JACK raises the hammer)*

**Jason:** No!

*(JACK performs three enormous hits onto the wall but still the wall does not react)*

**Sarah:** Is it going to break?

**Jack:** *(baffled)* I don't understand. All my research said that the simplest of things could break the Fourth Wall.

**Sarah:** *(Coming to realization)* Of course!! I remember now! You can't physically break the Fourth Wall.

**Jason/Jack:** What?!

*(As SARAH explains, JACK leans on the Fourth Wall)*

**Sarah:** When I was in sixth grade, I was in a play. I remember waving to my mom in the audience. They said I broke the Fourth Wall?

**Jason:** *(Slowly turning his head towards the audience)* Wait a second... I think I know what you mean. Guys, we're being watched.

*(ALL Three of them now realize the audience)(SARAH walks very closely to the front row and examines the audience members)*

**Sarah:** They're just staring at us...

*(JACK still leaning on the wall now falls straight to the ground)*

**Jason:** You're on the stage!!

*(They ALL rush onto the center of the stage)*

**Jack:** We broke it! We broke the Fourth Wall

*(Suddenly an alarm sounds)(Offstage yelling)*

**Jack:** Come on! There's no turning back now!

*(JACK and SARAH rush off stage right)(JASON hesitates but runs after them)*

*(Immediately after they exit SOLDIER 1 and SOLDIER 2 run on stage left)*

**Soldier 1:** Oh no! This is Terrible!

**Soldier 2:** You're very correct... Go tell the Stage Manager... *(Epicly looking into the distance)*

The Fourth Wall... has been penetrated! *(Both SOLDIERS exit opposite directions)(Blackout)*

## **Scene Two:**

*(The curtain closes)(PERSON enters the stage through the curtain)*

**Person:** Hello everyone! Welcome! Thank you all for coming out to our show! We ask that you silence all electronic devices, pagers, flip phones, babies, boyfriends who try to make funny comments, loud friends, water bottles, popcorn that might possibly crunch, laughter, hairline jokes, the sound of crusty lips crackling, those three friends who decide to come see the show together and talk very loudly, and squeaky shoes. Even though we already know that you are going to use flash photography, please no flash photography! Also please refrain from taking videos, Snap Chats, recordings, and people's innocence. We ask that you respect the actors, and for the love of all that's holy... Please don't laugh, this a drama. Thank you.

*(Curtains open to reveal SOLDIER 3, SOLDIER 4, and SOLDIER 5 on stage with the Narrator Standing in the corner)(The scene is set with grass and trees)*

**Narrator:** The year is 1944. These soldiers are the last of their company and are struggling to survive in- *(NARRATOR is cut off by SOLDIER 1 running in and delivering his/her line)*

**Soldier 1:** Cut everything!! Stop!!

*(Everyone breaks character)*

*(Overlapping :)*

**Soldier 3:** Again!?

**Soldier 4:** I thought this was the real performance?

**Soldier 5:** C'mon man, I was feeling it!!

**Narrator:** You're not the stage manager! You can't tell me what to do!!

**Soldier 1:** This is VERY important!! The Fourth Wall has been penetrated!

*(SOLDIER 1 looks off to someone backstage) Get rid of the Trees!!*

*(Trees are taken off stage)*

Alright men, Lets move. Everyone meet up Center stage in the next scene. We need to find the stage manager!!

*(EVERYONE scatters offstage)(Moments later JASON, JACK, and SARAH very cautiously enter the stage)*

**Jack:** I think we're good.

**Sarah:** What, have we done?

**Jason:** I didn't do anything. I just came along to make sure you guys didn't get hurt.

**Sarah:** Weren't you the one who was too scared to attempt doing this?

**Jason:** *(Trying to cover up his cowardice)* Whatchu Mean?? *(Looks out to the audience)* I was building suspense.

**Sarah:** Jack, what do we do now?

**Jason:** Yeah! This was your Idea. So what's the plan?

**Jack:** Well, we find the cast. Then we expose them? Tell them how stupid they look in front of all these people

**Jason:** You don't look any better. Might I add for the record that I have never seen that brand since 2003?

*(SARAH burst into laughter)*

**Jack:** Will you shut up? If I'm the one with the ideas, then don't shoot them down.

**Jason:** Shoot down those jeans... Because you're flooding!!!!

*(SARAH and JASON laugh hilariously at JACK as he tries to fix his jeans)*

**Jack:** Look! I'm trying to think! *(Pauses for a moment)* I got it!! So you know this is some type of WWII drama? Well that's old stuff. *(Addressing the audience)* Who wants to see a drama these days unless their kid is in it? Not Me! So we make it a Comedy.

**Sarah:** Aren't there copyright laws or something like that?

**Jason:** Mmm, she's right.

**Jack:** Crap! Well then- *(JACK is cut off)*

**Soldier 1:** *(Offstage)* C'mon men!!

*(JACK, JASON, and SARAH panic)(JACK pulls out his hammer out of his pocket and prepares for battle)*

*(SOLDIER 1 runs onstage with his gun aimed)*

**Soldier 1:** Freeze Trespassers!!

*(SOLDIER 2 comes on stage from the opposite side of the stage now surrounding them)*

**Soldier 2:** We've got you surrounded! Give up!

*(JACK and SARAH Jump off the stage onto floor)(The SOLDIERS are stunned)(JASON tries to follow them but the SOLDIERS capture him)(Seeing JASON get captured, SARAH and JACK run out of the auditorium)*

**Soldier 1:** Where did they go?

**Soldier 2:** I don't know sir. They jumped that way, and just... *(Epicly)* Disappeared

**Jason:** Let go of me

**Soldier 1:** Alright let's get him out of here. The Stage Manager will want to see him

*(As the lines continue, the lights fade and the soldiers exit with JASON)*

**Jason:** Stage manager? Where are you taking me? NOOOOoooooooo!!!!

### **Scene Three:**

*(Stage Managers Office)(Scene is set with a desk center stage facing upstage and THE STAGE MANAGER sitting in a chair behind that desk also facing upstage)*

*(Suddenly THE LEAD FEMALE and NARRATOR enter the stage swiftly heading to THE STAGE MANAGER)*

**The Lead Female:** Umm, Stage Manager? What's going on? I was just putting on my

Glamorous showgirl dress for the show when I was told to come from my dressing room to your office because there is apparently something more important that needs to be dealt with... Now what could be more important than my first entrance!?

**Narrator:** Besides THAT, I was in the midst of starting the beginning of the show, when Soldier 1 runs on stage and called it off? This is going to kill our reviews; we'll never be in another show again! Now I can't risk that. I have a whole acting career ahead of me.

*(THE LEAD MALE comes on stage frustrated and goes straight to THE STAGE MANAGER who is still upstaged to the audience)*

**The Lead Male:** OK, so I'm back stage, right? Just minding my own business; running through my lines. It was getting to my cue line... Then before I know it, people are running all over the



place telling me to meet center stage in scene 3. *(Very frustrated)* Well its scene three, and here I am. Now I don't want to sound cocky or anything, but I'm the Lead! This is MY show! Then I didn't even get on stage before it was over!!

**The Lead Female:** Oh it's actually MY show.

**The Lead Male:** Oh!! My apologies for offending your ego!

**The Stage Manager:** *(Loudly)* Then a HUSH... *(Softly)* Fell over the crowd.

**The Lead Male/ The Lead Female/ Narrator:** *(directed towards each other)* SHHHhhhh

*(THE STAGE MANAGER turns around slowly, epically revealing His/her face)*

**The Stage Manager:** The director, the producers, and I myself have worked too hard to put this show together for something like this to happen during the performance. I personally will keep calm, because that's what Stage Managers do. Now, this situation must be dealt with so I suggest that we all-*(The Stage Manager is cut off)*

**Jason:** *(from offstage :)* No! No! Let me go!!

*(SOLDIER 1 and SOLDIER 2 drag Jason on stage and throw him on the floor violently)*

Ok, chill... It's just a play.

**The Stage Manager:** Play? What're you talking about? We don't play here.

**Jason:** *(sitting up)* Oh you have GOT to be kidding me...

*(SOLDIER 1 hits JASON back to the ground with the back of his gun)*

OW!!!

**Soldier 1:** Quiet!

**Jason:** Ok! That's enough! I'm leaving.

*(JASON gets up and attempts to leave but SOLDIER 1 and SOLDIER 2 block his way and pushes him back wards)*

Oh! Ok!

*(JASON looks out to the audience and rolls up his sleeves)(JASON swings at SOLDIER 2 but SOLDIER 2 catches his punch and turns JASON and stage punches him, sending JASON hurling to the ground)*

**Jason:** That was no stage punch

**The Stage Manager:** Had enough?

Jason: Calm down, I was just testing their reflexes.

The Stage Manager: (*Addressing SOLDIER 1*) Why is he here? Who is he?

(*SOLDIER 2 steps forward stealing the Stage*)

Soldier 2: He is one, of three... (*Looking epically into the distance*) Who broke, the Fourth Wall.

(*THE LEAD FEMALE and THE LEAD MALE now begin to close in on JASON*)

The Lead Female: So YOU'RE the one who broke in here and ruined my glorious entrance?

The Lead Male: I bet you thought it would be really funny to come in here and try to steal MY show!?

The Lead Female: (*Gagging into painful cough*) (*to THE LEAD FEMALE :*) Excuse me?! It's CLEARLY my show.

The Lead Male: (*Fake laughs*) Sorry, but it's my show. I CLEARLY have more lines than you.

The Lead Female: My show!

The Lead Male: MY show!

Narrator: If lines are what make you a lead, then I'm the star. #Narrator.

Jason: (*To himself :*) Oh my gosh, you have got to be kidding me.

The Stage Manager: (*To JASON :*) You! Boy, Do you-

Jason: Jason!

The Stage Manager: What?

Jason: My Name is Jason.

The Stage Manager: Ok, Jason. Do you know what you're dealing with?

Jason: Confused circus performers?

The Stage Manager: Do you know WHO you are dealing with?

Jason: Knowing the scripts these days I'd say "Man in desk". Why do you ask?

The Stage Manager: I don't really know, I was just asking a question.

Jason: Well thank you for asking, I appreciate it... Say uh who are you exactly?

Narrator: (*Narrating everything that happens in the scene as it happens*) She/he stands up epically, stepping towards, (*stops because of forgetting JASON'S name*) (*addressing JASON :*) What's your name?

**Jason:** Jason.

**Narrator:** Thanks! (*Into character* :) Stepping towards Jason and striking an overwhelming fear in Jason's soul forcing him to drop to the ground. Then she/he mutters those terrifying words into his ears...

**The Stage Manager:** I'm the stage manager.

*(The SOLDIERS pick up JASON violently and start to carry him away)*

**Jason:** Well that's creative.

**The Stage Manager:** Throw him in the dressing room!

**Narrator:** (*Narrating again* :) They fiercely drag him offstage to the horror, of the dressing room.

**The Stage Manager:** Soldier 1!

*(SOLDIER 1 returns onstage)*

**The Stage Manager:** You said he was one of three who broke The Fourth Wall. Where are the others?

**Soldier 1:** They disappeared, sir.

**The Stage Manager:** When they return, bring them to me.

*(SOLDIER 1 exits)*

**The Lead Female:** How do you know they will return?

**The Stage Manager:** They always return. Now go find these fourth wall breakers and bring them to me... They must take responsibility for their actions.

*(NARRATOR, THE LEAD FEMALE, and THE LEAD MALE all exit)*

Hey main character

*(Both THE LEAD FEMALE and THE LEAD MALE reenter the stage swiftly)*

**The Stage Manager:** Go get me a candy bar.

**The Lead Female:** (*sassy* :) That's not MY job.

**The Stage Manager:** Just do it!

*(ALL exit the stage as the following line is delivered)*

**The Lead Male:** You heard him; he's not himself when he's hungry.

*(End of Scene)*

