WAFFLEHOUSE
(If a character’s name isn’t followed by a line of
dialogue, this means that the character’s dialogue is
actually silence.)

The parking lot of a Waffle House in Druid Hills,
Georgia. ALENE and MAGGIE are onstage,
dancing and rolling on the ground. RUTH and
HENRY enter.

RUTH
Thanks for showing me around.

HENRY
Of course I’m glad you picked me and not one of those scary girls like Heather who sells her
mom’s adderall which is like we all do adderall but not our mom’s adderall.

RUTH
I don’t do adderall -

HENRY
Anyway this is the rest of the gang that I told you about they can’t come inside Waffle House
because of the wormhole.

RUTH
What wormhole?

HENRY
The one in the bathroom, that’s why I told you to go at home.

RUTH
Oh.

HENRY
Anyway this is Maggie and Alene and they’re my best friends; Maggie is a third Waffle House
because she eats a lot of Waffle House and Alene is high.

ALENE
I’m actually not high right now.

HENRY
Alene, you’re never not high.

MAGGIE
Where’d you move from?

RUTH
Savannah.

MAGGIE
There are ghosts in Savannah.

HENRY
There are ghosts everywhere, Maggie, not just in Savannah.

MAGGIE
Yeah but ghost presence is, like, especially strong in Savannah.

RUTH
I actually lived right outside of Savannah -

HENRY

There are ghosts in the suburbs, too. They don't discriminate.

ALENE

Do you smoke?

ALENE

RUTH

Not really.

ALENE

RUTH

That's so cool.

RUTH

Hm?

ALENE

Did you show her the wormhole?

HENRY

No I didn't show her the wormhole. I wouldn't do that to her - she's new but I told her about it.

ALENE

My dog disappeared in that wormhole.

RUTH

Why was your dog in a Waffle House?

ALENE

Because he wanted a waffle?

HENRY

That's a weird question, like, why else would her dog be in Waffle House?

RUTH

I didn't know dogs were allowed-

HENRY

So why'd you move?

RUTH

What?

HENRY

Why'd you move? In the middle of the year. From the suburbs of Savannah.

RUTH

My mom had a nervous breakdown.

MAGGIE

Cool.

ALENE

Does she do crack? Cause my mom did crack and she also had a nervous breakdown and that's why we lived in Key West for a month.

HENRY

Oh I remember when you lived in Key West for a month.

RUTH

My mom doesn't do crack.

MAGGIE
So then what was her reason?

RUTH: I don’t really think she had one.

ALENE: Abstract.

RUTH: What?


RUTH: Oh.

MAGGIE: She must have had a reason.

HENRY: There’s not always a reason for something, Maggie.

MAGGIE: There are reasons for nervous breakdowns.

ALENE: Maybe she doesn’t feel like talking about it.

MAGGIE: You literally told her that your mom does crack I feel like we’ve established a safe space.

ALENE: Just because I overshared doesn’t mean she has to.

HENRY: I’m so bored with this conversation.

RUTH: She turned 50 and flipped out she shaved her head and threw herself a 15th birthday party and did some stuff with this kid in my class so we moved.

HENRY: Retweet.

ALENE: What?

RUTH: What’s your Twitter?

HENRY: I don’t have one.

MAGGIE: Good. Privacy is an illusion.

ALENE: Only if you have things to hide.

HENRY: Do you have anything to hide, Ruth?
RUTH
No...?
MAGGIE
Good.
ALENE
How do you want to die?
RUTH
Pardon?
HENRY
I love this question.
MAGGIE
Can I go?
HENRY
No, me first.
ALENE
I asked the question.
RUTH
I don’t want to die.
HENRY
Lame.
MAGGIE
I would want to get sucked down the wormhole.
ALENE
What if it’s closed?
MAGGIE
It’s never closed.
HENRY
I would want spontaneous human combustion.
MAGGIE
Ow.
ALENE
I want to, like, choke on a bag of Flamin’ Hot Cheetos.
HENRY
What about you Ruth?
RUTH
I told you, I don’t want to die.
MAGGIE
No one wants to die, but if you had to...
ALENE
Just say it we all said ours.
RUTH
I would want to be murdered. Home alone. He sneaks through the back door and murders me in my bed. I can hear myself scream before it goes dark.
HENRY

...  

ALENE

...

MAGGIE

...

HENRY

You know who I saw the other day?

ALENE

Who?

HENRY

Mrs. Mox.

MAGGIE

No way.

ALENE

I thought she moved to Bermuda?

MAGGIE

No it was Bethesda.

HENRY

Well she’s back.

RUTH

Who’s Mrs. Mox?

ALENE

Oh, my God I love when we get to tell this story to people.

MAGGIE

That’s kinda fucked up.

HENRY

Tell it. No let me tell it. Mary Mox was this girl who used to be in our grade at school until like tenth grade and we all called her Moxie.

RUTH

I thought you called her Mrs. Mox.

HENRY

No that’s Moxie’s mother.

RUTH

Oh.

MAGGIE

In tenth grade Moxie was going out with this guy named Ben who was on the lacrosse team which is a really good team and Moxie took the lacrosse team’s yearbook photo and they totally fell in love which was cute because Moxie was always sort of quiet and artistic and then Ben who was this, like, jock totally loved her.

ALENE

Tell her the next part.

MAGGIE
I’m getting to it.

HENRY

I want to tell it.

At the end of tenth grade apparently things were sort of weird and, like, Moxie’s mom is super religious and Moxie was kind of, like, sexually inexperienced and she didn’t want to do it with Ben yet and then one night he tried to, you know, rape her and she killed him.

RUTH

... MAGGIE

... ALENE

... RUTH

Wait, what?

MAGGIE

It was really awful, the whole thing.

RUTH

She killed him?

ALENE

I say he deserved it.

HENRY

He didn’t deserve to die.

ALENE

He raped her.

HENRY

He tried to.

ALENE

Fuck you.

MAGGIE

The whole thing’s really sad.

RUTH

Where is she now?

HENRY

... MAGGIE

... ALENE

... HENRY

Prison. Well, like, kid prison until she turns 18, then it’s Big Boy Prison.

RUTH

For not wanting to be raped.

HENRY
… Yeah.

That’s one of the worst stories ever. RUTH

It sucks. MAGGIE

Where’s the prison. RUTH

Like, not that far away. Outside of Athens, maybe. MAGGIE

Were you guys friends with her? RUTH

Maggie was. Maggie was really good friends with her. Maggie was a character witness in the trial. We were all there but Maggie was a character witness. HENRY

Way to bring down the mood. ALENE

I so didn’t bring down the mood. HENRY

Yes you did you were the one that brought it up. ALENE

I brought up Mrs. Mox. HENRY

Which brought up Moxie. ALENE

It’s not my fault the conversation naturally flowed in that direction. HENRY

RUTH climbs on top of the car.

I don’t like talking about her. ALENE

Why is she on the roof of the car? MAGGIE

Why are you on the roof of the car? HENRY

MOXIE! RUTH

What are you doing?? HENRY

MOXIE WE LOVE YOU. MAGGIE joins her.

Oh no this is crazy and insane and bad. RUTH & MAGGIE
MOXIE IT’S OKAY.
ALENE joins.

HENRY
You’re all insane and are going to get in trouble.

RUTH & MAGGIE & ALENE
MOXIE WE LOVE YOU. THANK YOU. IT’S OKAY.

HENRY
Seriously.

HENRY joins, too.

RUTH & HENRY & MAGGIE & ALENE
MOXIE. MOXIEEEE. MOXIE CAN YOU HEAR US WE LOVE YOU MOXIEEEE.

They stare towards the prison, as if waiting for
a reply. Maybe they get one.

End of play.