

RORY

Wow! I can see this great big planet with rings round it!

SID

Yeah that's your anus mate.

He laughs at his own joke. Samantha TITTERS.

CAT

Shut up Sid.

BEN

It's pronounced your-innous. And that is Saturn actually. So I guess that means you're talking out of your anus, ignoramus.

Everyone CHUCKLES except Samantha. Sid frowns and clenches his fists.

CAT

You're spoiling everything Sid. It's amazing up there.

SID

Well let me have a look then!

He grabs the telescope from Rory roughly.

RORY

No! Wait your turn!

A tussle ensues. Abby ignores them and continues wandering about in the background chatting into her phone while the kids SHOUT and QUARREL.

SID

You've had a go. It's my turn now!

Rory swipes for the telescope again. Sid moves it out of the way.

RORY

C'mon! Give it...

SID

No. You're hogging it. Lemme have a go.

Ben lunges for the telescope; Sid taunts Ben, holding it aloft.

BEN

Careful Sid! You seem to be forgetting that's my telescope. It's valuable.

CAT

Give it back Sid!

SID

Not unless you let me look through it!

BEN

You'll break it! I spent six months building that thing! If you break it I'll...

SID

You'll what?

BEN

Just give it back...

SID

No. Come on. What? What will you do!? Report me to the intergalactic star police? Oooh! I'm so scared!

He shoves Ben back.

CAT

Stop acting like a child Sid! Give it here!

SID

Got your girlfriend doing your dirty work for you eh?

BEN

She is not my girlfriend.

Sid darts off. Ben and Cat give chase. They exit. Abby wanders downstage still talking into the phone.

ABBY

Yeah...I know... I'll call you when - (pause) Hello?

Abby looks at her phone and TAPS the screen irritably.

ABBY

I don't believe it! Signal's gone!

She rolls her eyes, gazes towards the back of the auditorium and freezes in horror.

ABBY

It's – It's that thing from earlier!

She starts backing away. A STRANGE DEEP HUMMING Noise STARTS UP, getting louder. She breaks into a run towards the group.

ABBY

Everyone inside the house. Quick!

JACK

What? Why?

She points off stage with a shaking finger. The kids follow her gaze. The HUMMING becomes louder. Swirling green search beams swoop around. The kids SCREAM and run around like headless chickens. Abby herds them off stage.

ABBY

Come on! Indoors! Now! Hurry!

She slams the door shut. Cat, Ben and Sid run onstage, dither, and double back on themselves away from the main group. Lights down.

SCENE THREE - KITCHEN

Lights up on Samantha, Rory, Holly and Jack tumbling into the kitchen, CRYING and WAILING. Samantha collapses onto the floor, WHIMPERING with fright. Abby rushes in.

ABBY

I've locked the front door!

JACK

I'll do the back door!

He runs towards the kitchen door. Rory runs to stop him.

RORY

No!

JACK

Why not?

Abby approaches.

ABBY

What is it?

She looks around, a sense of dread creeping up on her.

ABBY

Oh no. Cat!

Rory wells up.

RORY

And Ben! And Sid! Sid grabbed the telescope - and they ran off - and-

ABBY

They're still out there!

The group freezes.