

I Swear I Heard Something

By

Glovertown Junior High

Glovertown

Cast:

Edward.....died at the old mill..... Nick Saunders

Elizabeth.....befriends ghosts..... Tori Hayley

Lilly.....Elizabeth's best friend..... Jillian Vokey

Jessica..... friend..... Samantha Maher

Millie.....friend..... Rebecca Pardy

April....a young girl who drowned... Hannah Rowe

Director:

Mr. Rodney Vokey

Scene 1

An interpretive dance of water where characters perform various dances which simulate the motion of water and ends with one character drowned beneath the waves.

Scene 2

Opens on Edward and April talking near the edge of the river.

April: It sucks to be dead! Everyone ignores me!

Edward: You're telling me. I've been dead for years.

April: Oh yeah. *(As if suddenly remembering this fact)*

Elizabeth and her friends walk in to the shoreline with their swim clothes on.

Lilly: The water is so warm. *(Putting her hand in it)*

Jessica: I know, it's great. But remember, don't swim out to far! *(Sounding a bit sarcastic.)*

Millie: Oh Jessica, just like you to be so dramatic!

Elizabeth: Well, you know what happened to that young girl.

Jessica: Oh, what was her name again?

Millie: I don't know.

April: It's April! I would know! Hello *(Waving her arms to show them where she is.)*
I'm right here!

Edward: Get used to it! These are the kinds of things that happen when you're dead.
Nobody can hear or see you. *(Checks watch.)*

Elizabeth: *(Thinks she hears someone else talking nearby.)* Do you guys hear that? What was that?

Lilly: What was what?

Jessica: She's losing it!

Millie: Just get in already! We only have a half hour! *(Edward checks watch.)*

Elizabeth: I swear I heard something! Maybe we should go...

Jessica: What? No I'm not leaving. It's too warm to leave! You can go, but we're staying!

April: Can she hear us? *(Spoken in an aside to Edward.)*

Edward: I don't know. I think so?

Elizabeth: Don't you guys hear that?

Jessica: What?

Elizabeth: Those voices.

Lilly: You're losing it Elizabeth. Just get in.

Elizabeth: Okay but I swear I heard something.

April: *(To Edward)* I really do think she heard us.

Edward: I'm beginning to think so too. *(When the others begin to leave, Elizabeth stays behind.)*

Jessica: You coming Lizzie?

Elizabeth: Nah, you guys go on. I'll be right behind.

Millie: *(Spoken sarcastically.)* Okay if you want, but if those scary voices in your head come and get ya, don't come cryin' to me!

Elizabeth: Buzz off Milly, I swear they were real!

Lilly: All right leave her alone. Call me tonight Lizzie?

Elizabeth: Sure thing.

Everyone but Elizabeth leave. Elizabeth looks down at the water. When she sees the reflection of a man, Edward, behind her, she turns around suddenly, but can't see anyone. She shivers, turns around and he leans away.

Elizabeth: Who's there?? *(Elizabeth looks back at the water, but can't see anyone. Talking aloud to herself. Suddenly spooked.)* What was that? *(No response)* I'd better get going. *(Elizabeth leaves the stage.)*

Scene 3

Edward: I think she saw me!

April: But we're not even supposed to be here. Aren't we supposed to be in heaven when we're dead?

Edward: Well, we're here now, so clearly not!

April: I barely remember how I got here! So how did you die?

Edward: Well it's been a long time, but I know I was inspecting the work on the mill when something fell and landed on my head! I'm pretty sure I died as soon as it hit me. *(Pause.)* So how did you die?

April: Well I was new here and I didn't know all the dangers of swimming in the Terra Nova River. I went swimming out too far and the current took me. I know I drowned. *(Shivering.)* I don't like remembering the feeling.

Edward: Oh I think I remember something about that. You never really had time to learn about the river. How long were you here before you died?

April: Well I'm pretty sure it was about a week. I didn't even have time to unpack.

Edward: Well I've been here longer than I was alive. I'm still here now. *(Checks his watch again.)*

April: Why do you keep checking your watch?

Edward: Force of habit, I guess.

April: Yeah but time has stopped. It's been 1:46 forever. Time hasn't changed. *(Appearing regretful.)* I lost my watch.

Edward: That's too bad. Well you see, I have a train to catch. It comes at 2:30; otherwise I'd stay and help you find it.

April: *(Laughing at this.)* Ha ha time is stopped! The train isn't going to come and if it was... it's already gone!

Edward: I guess you're right but I have a funny feeling the train's gonna come!

Lights fade.

Scene 4

Opens on the girls walking in, laughing and talking.

Lilly: *(Notices something on the shoreline and picks it up.)* B'ys look what I just found!

Millie: *(Taking it from Lilly.)* What is it?

Jessica: It looks like a watch!

Elizabeth: *(Taking it from Millie.)* Look at the back! There's a name on it.

Millie: *(Taking it back, she rubs off the back.)* A-P-R-I-L April!

April: Hey that's mine!

Jessica: April, April where have I heard that name before?

Lilly: I heard that name somewhere too.

Elizabeth: *(Suddenly remembering.)* She's the girl who died.

Millie: How do you know that?

Elizabeth: Umm I don't know. I think I remember hearing it on the news.

Lilly: Let's just throw it back out.

April: *(As if pleading with Elizabeth.)* Keep it please!

Elizabeth: Can I have it?

Lilly: Ummm sure if you want it!

Elizabeth: Thanks. *(Taking the watch.)*

Millie: *(In an aside to Lilly.)* Why do you think she wants that?

Elizabeth: I just do okay.

Millie: Okay just wondering.

Jessica: So are we all gonna hang out tomorrow?

Millie: Same time? Fine with me.

Lilly: Yeah me too...Elizabeth?

Elizabeth: *(Looking at the watch.)* Uumm... oh, what?

Lilly: Are you gonna come back again tomorrow with us?

Elizabeth: Oh yeah, sure. *(looks at the watch and lights fade.)*

Scene 5

The girl's walk in again. Elizabeth falls behind.

Jessica: Catch up Lizzie. We don't have all day.

Elizabeth: I'll be there just give me a sec.

All the other girls go put their feet in the water.

Edward: *(To April reflectively.)* I just wish I could re-live the days when I was like them.

April: What do you mean?

Edward: I mean when I was young. What's there to do when you're dead?

April: Well I was one of them a couple months ago and it's not that exciting. At least now you can walk in front of someone and they won't even notice. *(She walks in front of Millie and waves her hand.)* See! Nothing.

Edward: Ha ha that looks like fun. *(He walks in front of Elizabeth and waves his hand.)* Ha ha.

Elizabeth: Is there someone there?

Edward: Umm she heard us. I know she did.

Elizabeth: Hello, who's there???

April: She does too.

Millie: Lizzie there's no one there. Just get in!

Elizabeth: I'm not getting in today, I'm fine thanks.

Jessica: Come on, you gotta get in.

Elizabeth: You guys, I'm not getting in today. I'm just not in the mood. I'll get in tomorrow.

Lilly: Alright.

The girls walk out and Elizabeth stays behind again. Elizabeth walks around in circles just thinking.

Edward: Do you think I should ask her?

April: Ask her what?

Edward: Ask her if she heard us?

April: I guess, if you want?

Edward gets up and walks over to her.

Edward: What's your name?

Elizabeth: Huh, who's there?

Edward: My name is Edward. Can you hear me?

Elizabeth: Yes I hear you. Now where are you?

Edward: It's alright. I'm not gonna hurt you. By the way, I'm standing right in front of you.

Elizabeth: But I don't see anyone.

April: Oh my gosh! She can hear us!!!! If you can hear me, that's my watch!

Elizabeth: What... there's another one? But how can I give it to you?

April: I don't know. Just keep it for now.

Lilly comes back because she forgot something. Edward and April back away and go off stage.

Lilly: What are you doing Lizzie?

Elizabeth: Nothing.

Lilly: Well are you coming?

Elizabeth: Ummm sure. *(Whispering.)* Bye.

Lilly: What?

Elizabeth: Oh nothing, nothing. Let's just go.

Lilly: Okay, come on. The others are waiting for us.

The girls walk out and the lights fade.

Scene 6

Opens on Elizabeth on one side of the stage and Lilly on the other. A spotlight on each girl talking on the phone.

Elizabeth: But you got to believe me!

Lilly: I don't know what to believe Lizzie. I mean I never heard anything. Who knows? You could just be imagining it all.

Elizabeth: I know I wasn't just imagining it. He said his name was Edward and that watch you found...well, yeah it belongs to the other ghost. Her name is April.

Lilly: I'm not finding this easy to believe Lizzie. Maybe you just need some time alone.

Elizabeth: I'm sure they were there. They were talking to me.

Lilly: Well what did they look like?

Elizabeth: Well I never saw them exactly but the other day I saw a reflection in the water and I'm pretty sure it was Edward.

Lilly: I know I'm your best friend and all but I just can't believe you right now. This is all too crazy. Maybe we should check it out tomorrow.

Elizabeth: Okay I'll show you tomorrow. I'll get them to talk and maybe you'll hear them too. If that's what you want.

Lilly: Ok and I can't believe I'm saying this but you are definitely losing it Elizabeth!

Elizabeth: You can say what you want but I know what I heard.

Lilly: Okay I gotta go. I'll see you tomorrow.

Elizabeth: Okay bye.

Lilly: Bye.

Lights fade.

Scene 7

Opens on the girls near the water. Elizabeth is sitting in the background.

Millie: You said you were gonna get in today.

Jessica: Yea. Get in please.

Elizabeth: Fine, I'll get in but I'm only putting my feet in.

Lilly: Well it's better than nothing. *(In an aside to Elizabeth.)* So when were you gonna show me?

Millie: Show you what?

Lilly: Nothing really, Elizabeth thought she heard something yesterday.

Millie: It happens every time we're here. She says she heard something but we don't hear it.

Jessica: *(To Lilly.)* So what was she gonna show you?

Lilly: She was going to prove what she heard yesterday.

Elizabeth: Can we please not make a big deal of this?

Millie: What are they saying now?

Elizabeth: I can't hear anything now. Maybe you're right. I probably was imagining it.

Lilly: Well you can try to hear them again.

Jessica: Yea I wanna hear them too.

Millie: *(In a taunting voice.)* And I wanna come and hear those evil voices.

Elizabeth: Sure you guys can come but you can't make a sound!

Jessica: No problem for us! We won't say a word.

The girls step back and then wait for Elizabeth to talk.

Elizabeth: Edward. Are you there?? April...Are you guys here?

Lilly: Are they speaking to you?

Elizabeth: No not yet, but they will I swear! Maybe they just don't want to talk to all of us here.

Jessica: Well maybe. But what if we hide over there!

Millie: We can try it. Come on girls.

All the girls but Elizabeth go hide offstage]

Elizabeth: Edward? Edward!!!! Where are you? April! Come on you guys where are you?

Millie runs back all out of breath.

Millie: We got to go Elizabeth. We lost track of time. We have to make it back by supper! Come on hurry!

Elizabeth: I'm coming. I'm coming!

Millie: Well hurry. Lilly ran ahead. She's waiting for us by the bus stop!

Elizabeth: What about Jessica?

Millie: She had to go too. I don't know why.

Elizabeth: Okay well let's go.

Elizabeth and Millie go offstage and lights fade.

Scene 8

The girls are just sitting on stage laughing.

Jessica: Why does the water have to be so high on such a warm day?

Millie: It's only high because it rained last night. I still don't get why we can't go swimming now.

Lilly: When the water's high, there's a faster current and here on the Terra Nova River, the current can kill ya.

Elizabeth: It's true. That's why you shouldn't swim out too far. The current can take you. Everybody knows that.

Lilly: So that's how that girl, April, died.

Jessica: I guess so. I'm not sure.

April and Edward enter talking.

April: Thanks for the tour. I really had a lot of fun.

Edward: We still have plenty of time. My train doesn't come for another (*check's watch*) half hour.

Elizabeth: (*In an aside to Lilly.*) I hear the voices again.

Lilly: What are they saying?

Elizabeth: I don't know. I can't pick it out. They're just talking.

Millie: We should go. I mean there's nothing to do here.

Jessica: Millie's right, we should go.

Elizabeth: Well I'll stay here and chat with the voices in my head.

Lilly: Okay if you guys want. *(In an aside to Elizabeth.)* But you're telling me what you heard tonight, right?

Elizabeth: Sure.

The girls leave and Lizzie stays. She tries to talk to Edward.

Elizabeth: Edward? Are you here?

Edward: Yeah I'm right here.

Elizabeth: Where were you yesterday?

April: He was kind enough to give me a sightseeing tour.

Elizabeth: Oh. Why?

Edward: She wasn't here long enough to know the place before she died. So I gave her the Glovertown tour. I was showing her all the places we ghosts like to hang out. I even showed her the old mill. It hasn't changed since it was built in 1921.

Elizabeth: Oh yeah. I heard about that before. People around here say that on any given night ghostly voices and bright red eyes haunt the old mill and frighten the teenagers who hang out there.

Edward: Rumours are often overrated. We are not that bad. Most teenagers come around here to party and we just give them a reason to come back. The mill was never used for what it was intended for.

Elizabeth: It is so sad that it was never ever finished. The Glovertown area would certainly be much different today if it had.

Edward: You know, I've often wondered why it was never completed.

Elizabeth: I learned from my grandfather, William Saunders helped to build the mill, the company went bankrupt and all the milling equipment was removed and sent to the pulp and paper mill in Grand Falls. And now even that mill is shut down. That too is so sad. This whole story is sad.

Edward: Well you know, I don't normally hang out here on the shoreline. If you want to learn more, we can go up to the mill around sun set, that's where I usually hang out.

Elizabeth: Well I'll think about it. *(Suddenly remembering that her friends are waiting for her.)* I better get going before my friends send a search party for me.

Edward: So, I'll see you later?

Elizabeth: Maybe. *(She leaves.)*

April: So now you are giving her a tour?

Edward: Not really. I'm sure she already knows the area. She just seems so interested in hearing more about the Old Mill and I'd like to learn more about modern history.

April seems a bit jealous of Elizabeth. Lights fade.

Scene 9

Girls on stage when lights come up; everyone but Millie.

Jessica: Where do you think Millie's to today?

Lilly: I think she had a doctor's appointment or something. I don't know; she never said.

Elizabeth: Maybe her dad came back today.

Jessica: Came back from where?

Elizabeth: The military. I know he comes home every six months and he's been gone a while, so maybe he came home.

Lilly: Good point... I think I remember something about that.

Jessica: You mean Millie's dad is in the army?

Lilly: Yea, you didn't know that?

Jessica: Nope, but I'm glad I finally found out.

Elizabeth: You'd think she would have told us though.

Lilly: That's what I was thinking! Maybe something's wrong.

Jessica: I don't think so. I mean if anything was wrong I'd be the first person she'd tell.

Elizabeth: That's true. Who knows. I'm not too worried, it's just...she doesn't believe a word I say.

Lilly: Well, I mean, I don't believe a word you say, at least not about those stupid ghosts.

Edward: Did she just call us stupid?

April: Yes I believe she did.

Elizabeth: Sorry guys. My friends didn't mean anything by it. Really.

Jessica: Who are you talking to?

Elizabeth: Edward and April. They're not very impressed with you calling ghosts stupid.

Lilly: *(Upset.)* Well I'm not going to talk to you about your imaginary friends Lizzie.

April: *(Annoyed.)* I am not imaginary!

Edward: *(Also annoyed.)* Who does she think she is! I am totally not imaginary.

Elizabeth: She didn't mean it literally!

Jessica: Holy crud Lizzie who are you talking to?

Elizabeth: I'm talking to Edward and April. I'm not kidding they're really here!

Lilly: Just give it up Lizz! I'm tired with this act!

Jessica: I'm tired of this too!

Elizabeth: Well if that's how you feel, then I'm leaving.

Jessica: Wanna leave? Be my guest! We're leaving too. Come on Lil. *(Lilly and Jessica leave.)*

Elizabeth: *(To Edward.)* Will I still meet you at sunset?

Edward: Actually why don't we meet at the station. My train will be here soon *(checks watch)* and I'll be on my way.

Lizzie leaves.

Edward: Women!

April: Excuse me? *(Giving Edward a dirty look and slapping him.)*

Scene 10

Scene opens with Elizabeth running to meet Edward at the station.

Edward: What took you so long? *(Laughing.)*

Elizabeth: How did you get here so quickly?

Edward: I took the short cut, but it wouldn't be any good for you because you'd have to walk through bushes.

Elizabeth: Yea, I'm not walking through bushes anytime soon. *(Laughing.)*

Edward: You know it's great to have a friend.

Elizabeth: What do you mean?

Edward: Well I never had much to do when you weren't around.

Elizabeth: What about April?

Edward: Before she came, I never had much to do, but I had time to relax. And now all I'm doing is killing time talking to her and there's no rest. But when I'm talking with you, time seems to fly.

Elizabeth: But I can't even see you, what fun's in that?

Edward: But I can see you. And with you now I'm having the time of my life, or after life. *(Chuckles at his own joke.)*

Elizabeth: I'm so confused! I have everything yet nothing!

Edward: What?

Elizabeth: What I mean is, well I really like talking to you, but all my friends think I'm crazy and now I don't know if they're my friends or not.

Edward: Well I don't know really what to do to help you there. You have to figure this one out on your own.

Elizabeth: You're right. Umm I gotta go! My mother's gonna kill me if I'm not home by curfew! Night!

Edward: Night.

Elizabeth runs off stage and April comes in.

Edward: *(Puffs or sighs.)*

April: What's wrong now?

Edward: I think I made a friend.

April: So what's wrong with that?

Edward: I just wish she could see me, that's all. *(Checks watch.)* Oh My Gosh!

April: What??

Edward: You know where it was 1:46 when I checked a couple of days ago!

April: Yeah...so?

Edward: It's 2:01 now!

April: What...that's not possible! (*Looks at Edward's watch.*) Oh my...how could that be?

Edward: I have no idea!

Lights fade.

Scene 11

Spotlight on Millie on one side of the stage. Spotlight on Elizabeth on the other, talking on the phone.

Elizabeth: So why weren't you at the river with us today?

Millie: Do we have to talk about it?

Elizabeth: Talk about what?

Millie: I'm...well.... see... (*Visibly upset and sort of crying.*)

Elizabeth: What's wrong?

Millie: You think everything's so perfect don't you! Doing everything you like, like talking to those stupid voices, that aren't even real! Why don't you just put your feet in my shoes for one day and then you'd know what's real!

Elizabeth: What? What's wrong Millie?

Millie: My father isn't coming home Lizzie! He died in Afghanistan!

Elizabeth: What? I'm so sorry Millie! I didn't know anything about it!

Millie: I know you didn't but unless your stupid ghosts can see my dad, I'll never forgive you!

Elizabeth: But what did I do?

Millie: You and your stupid ghosts! Just leave me alone!

Hangs up the phone and walks offstage. The spotlight turns off on Millie but stays on Elizabeth.

Elizabeth: But, but! *(Spotlight fades.)*

Scene 12

All girls are sitting down on the shoreline, everyone but Elizabeth.

Lilly: I wonder why Elizabeth didn't want to come today?

Millie: I know.

Jessica: It doesn't matter to me.

Lilly: Come on you guys, she might be a little weird but she doesn't need this. We're her friends...well we're supposed to be.

Millie: But not anymore.

Jessica: I don't think it's right what she said to Millie last night!

Lilly: Well what did she say? Cause I'm sure she never did anything but be nice to you. It's not her fault your dad got killed. They said it was an I.E.D., didn't they?

Millie: Uumm. *(Starting to cry.)*

Lilly: Oh I'm so sorry Millie! I didn't mean it. Are you okay?

Millie: No it's not okay. *(Begins to walk offstage.)* If you'll excuse me for just a moment.

Jessica: I'll come with you.

Millie: No, that's fine. I'd like to be alone.

Jessica: Umm okay Mill.

Lilly: I feel bad but Lizzie isn't that bad, she didn't do anything! I'm only sticking up for her.

Jessica: I know. We should go.

Lilly: Alright, I'll talk to Lizzie tonight.

Jessica: Do what you want, but I'm not talking to her.

Lilly: Wow, I'll talk to you tomorrow, okay?

Jessica: Alright bye.

Lilly: Yeah okay. Bye.

Scene 13

Sunset at the mill with Edward and Elizabeth. They're laughing as the lights rise.

Elizabeth: I never went to the river today.

Edward: Why not?

Elizabeth: Well after I left you the last time, I phoned Millie and found out that her father had passed away. Now she's upset with me and I don't know why. It seems like the only friend I have in this world to talk to is you.

Edward: And soon this will all be over.

Elizabeth: What? What are you talking about?

Edward: Well, I have a pocket watch you see, and on it time had stopped on 1:46 for as long as I've been dead. But yesterday I checked it after you left and it was 2:01.

Elizabeth: That's weird. So what time is it now?

Edward: *(Checking his watch.)* It says 2:13.

Elizabeth: Well how can this be happening?

Edward: I don't know, but I have a train to catch at 2:30 and if time keeps up I might actually catch my train!

Elizabeth: Well that's good news. Isn't it?

Edward: Sure. I'd better get ready then. Well I'll talk to you later, perhaps, at the station?

Elizabeth: Sure.

Edward: Talk to you later Elizabeth.

Elizabeth: Sure.... *(Sounding sad.)* Talk to you later.

Scene 14

Edward and April are at the station.

Edward: *(Checking his watch.)* Oh my it's 2:27.

April: It's almost time. I wonder are we going to be sitting together?

Edward: *(Stuttering.)* Um well... how can I say this... I guess I'll just have to come out with it then.... you're not coming!

April: Oh, *(sorta disappointed)* why ?

Edward: You're not ready. I've done my time; I've been here for nearly 90 years.

April: But what about Millie's dad?

Edward: Well he's punched his time too, serving his country.

Elizabeth enters.

Elizabeth: Edward, are you here?

Edward: For now. My train will be here in a couple of minutes.

Elizabeth: Oh do you really have to go?

Edward: I have been waiting for this train for 90 years...

Elizabeth: I am really going to miss you when you leave..... *(She pauses and Edward hugs Elizabeth.)* I would hug you right now but I can't see you.

Edward: I'm already hugging you.

Elizabeth: *(Excitedly.)* Oh my gosh... I felt that.

Edward: What? *(He steps back.)*

Elizabeth: Oh my goodness I can see you!

Edward: Huh, it can't be.

Millie walks in.

Millie: Lizzie, I heard you were here.

Elizabeth: Millie? I thought you were mad at me?

Millie: Look, I'm sorry. I know it's not really your fault.

Elizabeth: It's alright. I am a little wacky.

Millie: *(Looking at Edward.)* Who's that?

Elizabeth: Who's who?

Millie: I think I see a guy right there!

Elizabeth: What? You see Edward too!

Millie: Yeah, you're not as weird as I thought you were. *(Suddenly seeing April.)* Who's the girl?

Elizabeth: Oh you can see April too?

Millie: That's April? I thought you were just kidding.

Elizabeth: Edward's train is arriving now; I think I hear it coming.

Millie: Oh my gosh, I can hear it too. The train's getting close.

Edward: Your dad is going on this train too.

The sound of a train pulling into the station can be heard.

Millie: Really? *(Looking in the direction of the train.)* I see him. *(She waves.)*

Elizabeth: I guess this is good-bye then.

Edward: I'm gonna miss you!

Elizabeth: I'll miss you too. Are you going too April?

April: No, apparently not. But now that you can see me, can I have my watch back?

Elizabeth gives the watch back and April takes it.

Millie: *(Waving towards the train.)* GOODBYE!

Elizabeth: Who are you talking to?

Millie smirks. Lights fade on Millie and then lights fade on Jessica and Lilly.

Scene 15

Lilly and Jessica are sitting near the shoreline with their feet in the water.

Lilly: I thought we were supposed to meet at the old mill. Where is everyone?

Jessica: I told you we're supposed to meet at the station.

Lilly: Fine here's your twenty bucks. This is crazy.

Millie and Elizabeth walk in. Millie is carrying a flute in her hand.

Lilly: *(To Millie and Elizabeth.)* Where were you? *(To Jessica.)* See I told you; now give me my money back!

Jessica: *(Handing over the money.)* Here.

Millie: *(To Elizabeth.)* I really want to thank you for being understanding. I was such a toadstool the other day.

Elizabeth: It's okay. *(Millie and Elizabeth hug.)* I really miss Edward, ... and April.

Millie: And ... I really miss my dad.

After a group hug, Edward and April reappear. Millie begins to play the flute and they sing a song. Lights fade.