

# Pride



**Written by: The Taylor Made Players**

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**Synopsis**

Jordan is an average teenager trying to get by in high school - with one exception; he is struggling with his sexuality. With the Boy's Choice Dance coming up quickly, he finds himself overwhelmed as his best friend/crush Matthew tries to find him a date, but he doesn't know that Jordan would rather be with him. The play, "Pride", explains how being who you are can be really tough, but it is more important that what society thinks of you.

### **Characters**

- Jordan – Jaiden Keefe
- Matthew – Victoria Keefe
- Claire – Kaitlyn Keefe
- Damon – Chloe Keefe
- Emily – Erin Keefe
- Principle – Nolan Dyson
- Justin – Nolan Dyson

### **Props**

- Backpacks
- Table
- Four chairs
- Phones
- Dance decorations
- Fancy clothes
- Pride banner

### **Sound Effects**

- Lunch Bell
- Lunch room chatter
- Snickering
- Whispering
- Dance music

### **Music**

- Scene 1 – "Same Love" by Macklemore
- Scene 2 – "What Do You Got" by Bon Jovi
- Scene 3 – "Man in The Mirror" by Michael Jackson
- Scene 4 – (beginning) "It Ain't Me" by Kygo
- Scene 4 – (middle) "You Got A Friend In Me" by Randy Newman
- Scene 4 – (end) "Drama" by AJR

## Scene One

(Matthew and Jordan walk on stage with backpacks on their backs, swaggering around and punching one another in good nature. Laughing, they stop and walk in place.)

Matthew: Ugh, I didn't think Bio would ever end! (He rolls his eyes and sighs tiredly)

Jordan (smiling): I know right. I mean, if Mr. Skeeves gets any more dreary and monotone, I swear I'll literally fall asleep in those uncomfortable chairs.

Matthew: And don't forget his awful attempts at humor. Seriously, "I saw my friends sucking helium and I was like He, He, He". Terrible.

(Both boys stop dead in their tracks and blows a raspberry.)

Jordan and Matthew: Shots fired!

(They continue to walk, smiling. Jordan stares at Matthew's face intently.)

Jordan (to the side): *He's so cute when he smiles.*

Matthew: What was that?

Jordan (embarrassed and stuttering): N-nothing!

Matthew: Speaking of dreary, what are you doing for the Boy's Choice Dance this weekend?

(Jordan shies away from his friend and fiddles with his fingers, suddenly uncomfortable.)

Jordan (nervously): Awe, uhm, I don't know why. I think I should just stay home and play some Halo online.

(Matthew looks surprised, stops and looks directly at Jordan. Before he can speak, Claire runs on stage and grabs Matthew's arm.)

Claire: Well we are DEF-IN-ITELY not doing THAT are we, honey?!

(Claire and Matthew hug amorously and Jordan moves even further away from them. He tries to walk away when Matthew stops him, Claire still on his arm.)

Matthew: Hey, Jay! Don't think you're getting off that easily, bro. I mean, I'm not a fan of this fancy dance-y crap either. But if I have to go, you do to, so stop sulking. Claire and I will fix you up with a maid.

(Jordan pretends to be grateful.)

Jordan (stammering): Awe, th-thanks guys, but I just really want to stay-

(Claire cuts him off with her finger.)

Claire (wiggling her finger in front of Jordan's face): Shush!! I already have it planned out in my head now. Oh gawd, you two will be so cute and will get along so well, you will get married, have five kids, and two dogs...!

(Claire talks to herself for a second, then squeals loudly. Both boys stare at each other. Jordan sighs.)

Jordan: Oh boy...

(The lights dim for a scene break)

(Scene starts with a lunch bell ringing. Matthew, Jordan, Claire, and Emily come on stage. Matthew and Jordan are sitting and pantomiming a conversation when the girls walk up.)

Claire (cheerful): Good day to you laddies! I have here my darling gal, Emily! (Strike a pose, pointing at Emily.) (Looks at Jordan and whispers) One day your future wife and mother of your beautiful children!

(Jordan's face reddens and he coughs, Emily giggles.)

Emily: Oh Claire, you're too funny! (She flicks her hair and smiles.)

(Claire agrees, and she forces Emily to sit next to Jordan, who slides away.)

Emily: So Jordan, I heard you liked hockey. That's pretty cool! Are you on the school team? I'm on the volleyball team myself.

(Jordan attempts to speak, sputters, but Claire speaks instead.)

Claire: Likes?! Haha, honey, he adores hockey! You are looking at the Fire Hawks waterboy of 3 years!

(Claire bumps him with her elbow, he mock woots, and Emily laughs.)

Emily: Haha, you are TOO cute! Here, come get a selfie with me!

(Jordan disagrees and tries to push her away. Damon walks in and sees Emily with Jordan and gets mad at the pair of them.)

Damon (fuming): Em! What are you doing with that sissy? (He gives Jordan a shove and it nearly knocks him over)

Jordan: But I wasn't doing anything Damon.

Damon: Yeah right, sissy. You always had eyes for my girl. Come on, babe, let's go see how many sit ups I can do.

(Emily shrugs and waves her fingers at Jordan as she and Damon walks away. Claire bends toward Jordan.)

Claire: Ooooooh, she is soooooo into you! (Makes smooch-y sounds.)

(Lights dim for a scene break)

(Jordan is sitting alone in an abandoned classroom, scrolling through his phone. He looks at pictures of him, Matthew, and Claire on Instagram, which appears on the screen.)

Jordan (sighing): What am I going to do now? Matthew and Claire are working hard to try and get me to enjoy myself, but-

(He stops and sniffs, turning off his phone. The pictures behind him disappear.)

Jordan: How can I enjoy myself when all I want is to bump Claire in the side and be the one spending time with Matthew? (Sniff) All I want is him...

(Lights go out)  
("Same Love" by Macklemore plays)

## Scene Two

(School bell rings and Jordan, Matthew, and Claire walk on stage. Claire and Matthew are still talking about how Jordan doesn't have a date yet and all of his options to bring.)

Claire (writing in the air with her finger): Ok, so we can definitely scratch Em off the list because she and Damon are too cute together. But we can keep Sarah and Ann, they seem like nerds. No offence Jordan.

Matthew: Yeah, I think my brother's friends may have some sisters Jordan's age. What do you think about that, Jay?

Claire: I didn't think of that. Now that you mention it, my friend, Susy, has a sister. Now, she is seventeen, and Jordan is only sixteen. Do you mind an older girl, man? At this rate, I bet he wouldn't mind an older girl, Ha-ha.

(Matthew nods his head in agreement, and Jordan sighs uncomfortably. Matthew and Claire hold hands as they walk and Jordan looks on sadly. Finally, Jordan is fed up.)

Jordan (tapping Matthew's shoulder and embarrassed): Look Matt! Uh, uhm... can I talk to you... you know... a-alone?

(Matthew shrugs, pulling his hand away from Claire's.)

Matthew: Sure, I guess. See you later, Claire, I'll be over tonight.

(They hug and Claire leaves the stage.)

Matthew: So, what's up?

Jordan (stumbling on his words): well, uhm... you see... (Sigh) Okay, I'm just going to come out and say it. Matt, w-we have been friends for a very long time-

Matthew (butting in): Yeah, man, we were always as close as brothers. I mean, every Halloween we wore matching outfits! Like the peanut-butter and jelly sandwiches when we were eleven. Remember?

(They both laugh. Jordan continues.)

Jordan: Yeah, anyways, I always thought the best of you, you were always there for me through thick and thin. Whenever I needed you, you were there for me. I can't thank you enough for that.

Matthew: I got your back, man. B-but, where are you going with this?

Jordan (stuttering): What-what I'm trying to say is... I like you... a lot. Like, more than a friend, the way you like Claire.

(Matthew's jaw drops and stares blankly at a red-faced Jordan.)

Matthew: wait... what did you just say?

Jordan (sighing): I know it's sudden but I have felt this way for a long time and it was killing me. I couldn't sleep and I was starting to feel depressed that I'll never be able to tell you. I couldn't keep it in anymore-

Matthew (butting in angrily): Dude, you don't just say stuff like that?! I-I mean, Damon already calls you a sissy and hates your freaking guts! Do you want everybody to think you're gay?!

Jordan (faltering): But M-Matt... That's what I am, what's wrong with me liking you?

Matthew: Man, you can't just go around saying that stuff, do you know what people will do to you? They will harass you, you will be bait to the popular kids. I-I can't believe this...

Jordan (tearing up): But I don't care about them. I don't care about what they think of me.



Matthew (yelling): You would when they start beating on you!

Matthew (drawing back when Jordan flinches): Look... I'm sorry but I don't feel that way. And I don't think it'll be good for me to keep hanging around with you either...

Jordan: Matt...

(Jordan puts his hand on his shoulder, but he shrugs it off roughly, and Jordan looks hurt and confused.)

Matthew: See ya around.

(Matthew leaves in a hurry, making sure no one was watching.)

Jordan: What.... What have I done...?

(Lights dim for a scene break)

(Opens with Jordan walking in school, head down and hands in his pockets. People snicker at him and whisper. Damon comes on stage with Emily on his arm.)

Damon: Hey sissy! Where's the pink skirt? But I suppose, that wouldn't match your 'lovely' shoes would they?

Emily (giggling): Careful Damon, if you compliment him too much, he might come on to you too.

(Both laugh. Jordan pulls his hood down.)

Damon: Oh, don't cry sissy, you might ruin your mascara!

Emily: Mind if I borrow it Jordan? I don't want you to take all the good boys for yourself!

(Damon tells her "hey" but Emily shrugs it off, saying it was a good joke. In the midst of the bullying, principle walks in.)

Principle: And what is GOING on in here? No bullying I hope.

Damon: Oh no sir, no bullying here. Just joking around with my good ole buddy sis- I mean Jordan.

(Emily nods and principle turns up his nose.)

Principle: Well, alright. Looks like everything's in order in here. But quiet down, and get to your classes, all your yelling is disrupting students *already* in class.

Damon and Emily: Yes, sir!

(Principle walks off and the two resume their pestering.)

Damon: Hear that, he told you to get lost, freak! Nobody likes you, not even your precious *boyfriend* Matthew. No one wants to be your friend...

(Damon and Emily heads to class laughing.)

(Jordan rushes off the stage, crying.)

(Lights go down)

("What Do You Got" by Bon Jovi plays)

### Scene Three

(Stage is dark except for lights on Jordan. He is crying and sniffing, when Claire wanders on stage quietly. She walks toward Jordan, awkwardly and embarrassed.)

Claire: Hey... Jordan.

(No response. She tries again.)

Claire: Why are you sitting all alone out here? Did something happen?

(No response. She sits down.)

Claire: Uh, I heard what happened - with you and Matthew. I mean - I just want you to know that I'm not upset or anything. I mean, Matthew is so cute and great so it makes sense that you like him, ha-ha.

(With red eyes, he looks at her dryly.)

Claire (stops laughing): Look... I understand...

Jordan (cutting her off): How could you possibly understand what I'm going through? To love somebody and have them be so disgusted in you that they don't even care anymore. Not only do my feelings go against what I was taught growing up, and I'm harassed relentlessly and I lost my best friend! Just, j-just shut up and get the hell away from me! Go bother your *boyfriend*.

(Claire stiffens and everything is silent. Claire sighs and quietly hugs Jordan tightly. Jordan sits and shakes in silent tears. She lets go and starts talking.)

Claire: You may not think I understand, but I do. I had a cousin, Hannah, who used to visit every summer and stayed with my family. We were really close; we did everything together. Then one day, she came out as transgender. She was constantly being picked on and suffered from hate from family and friends. She used to tell me, "Those who mind don't matter, and those that

matter don't mind." The way she seen it, if they truly cared about her, they would love her as she was. So, that's okay Jordan. You are amazing as you are, and you don't need to change. If it helps, I'm still your friend, and I will always be your friend. Gay or straight.

Jordan: (sob) Thanks. Than-ank you Claire. This means so much to me. But wouldn't it be awkward for you to talk to me while you and M-Matthew are still... still a thing?

Claire: Like I said, if he is truly your friend, he will let this blow over. It's just a surprise to him, that's all. It's a lot to take in, but don't let it bother you too much, things will turn out right in the end.

Jordan: I'll try. Thanks again Claire, you are an amazing friend.

Claire: I know.

(They laugh and hug. Gets up.)

Claire: Now let's stop being mopey. Come help me with music for the dance. And if anyone says anything to you, they will have to deal with an angry me.

(Jordan smiles and they walk off stage, arm in arm.)

(Lights go down)

("Man in the Mirror" by Michael Jackson plays)

### Scene Four

(Scene begins with dance music. Jordan, Matthew, Claire, Emily, Damon, and a boy named Justin are on stage. Everyone is wearing nice clothes. Jordan looks especially nice. Matthew and Claire are dancing.)

Claire (waving Jordan over): Hey Jay! Get over here, this is our jam!

(“It Ain’t Me” by Kygo plays quietly in the background.)

(Jordan stands next to Matthew awkwardly while they both watch Claire dance for a second. She notices that they are not dancing along and she stops.)

Claire: Dudes, don’t leave me hanging. Justin!

(Justin walks over.)

Justin: Whadda yah want Claire, I’m busy with the lighting.

Claire: Dance with me!

Justin (sighs): Oh, okay. I suppose I can leave them for a second.

(Justin joins in for second and walks off stage. Damon and Emily walks over toward them.)

Damon: (whistles) Lookie here, sissy! You clean up nice. Where did you get those shoes? Your sister?

(Emily laughs)

Emily: What are you doing here freak? You can’t be here with someone, so you must be alone. Ha! How pathetic.

(Emily and Damon smile snidely.)

Jordan: Yeah, I am here alone. Pretty happy with that too. Don't gotta worry about getting snacks and drinks for them. Or hurting their feelings when I tell them that their makeup looks like a clown put it on them in the dark. (Thinks for a second about his insult.) Y-yeah! (Whispers to Damon) Which you shouldn't tell them no matter how true it is. Bet you understand how that feels Damon, after all, you never told Emily yet.

Emily (gasps and sputters): Excuse me! Damon! Tell him I look perfectly fine!

(Damon is confused.)

Damon: Uh... I just-I gotta... wait! My phone is going off! (Yelling then becoming quiet) YOU CAN'T hear it, it's on vibrate, be right back...

(Damon sprints away, with Emily close on his heels.)

(Claire and Matthew dance over to Jordan. Matthew stops dancing and looks down with his hands in his pockets.)

Claire: Hey Jordan! The dance looks nice huh? Though I think the color scheme should have been more-

Matthew: For the last time Claire, the colors are perfect, everything's perfect. Relax okay.

Claire: (sighs) Fine. You look great by the way, I'm glad you came.

Jordan: Yeah, uhm... I thought it would be fun... nah, who am I kidding. Mom made me go. That, and I know avoiding stuff like this won't make anything better.

(Stops momentarily.)

Jordan: Look Matthew, I'm so sorry.

Matthew: I-its okay, man. I-

(They both stop talking, and stare at the floor when Emily walks back on stage.)

Emily: Oh my god! How sweet is this! Freak and his crush standing side by side. Waiting for the perfect slow song, huh? Claire's gonna have to find a new-

(Claire steps in to pick up for Jordan, but he stops her with his arm.)

Jordan: No Claire, I got this. I'm sick of the constant harassment, the whispering, and the drama. I'm going to do what I should have done from the beginning.

(Jordan walks over to the principle and pantomimes talking. Grabs the microphone, and walks to the middle of stage.)

Jordan: Alright, listen!

(Music stops)

Jordan: My name is Jordan Baldwin. I'm sure you have heard a lot about me lately. Most of which aren't true. But, it is all based off the one theory: I am gay. Yes, that is correct. I am gay. But so what? Do people just go around saying, "I am straight", "I like reading", or "I like spaghetti", out of blue? Do it really matter that I like boys instead of girls? Why would it even concern anyone, it's not like I have some deadly disease. Seriously, I swear am not contagious or anything. I am still me. I am Jordan, a 16-year-old high schooler who loves hockey and The Walking Dead. Glenn's my favorite too, screw you Rick fans! And I hate Bio, my favorite food is pizza, and my middle name is James. These are all facts! Just like my sexuality. So, if they don't matter to you, why would me being gay affect you?

(Silence, people murmur)

Jordan: And for your information, just because I'm gay doesn't mean I am girly. I don't have to dress up, go get my hair done and hang out with the girls to be gay. I just like guys, period. You don't know how much that hurts when you assume things. I am saying this for more than just

myself, but for anyone who may feel like me. I want you to know that you are all amazing people. No matter what anyone says you are perfect the way you are. Whether you choose to come out or not-which you don't have to, it can be hard for anybody- but if you do, you always got a friend in me... thanks for listening.

(Principles walks up to stage.)

Principle: That was an amazing speech. I was unaware that this was going on. (He glares at the crowd and people look away.) I am glad that you are doing well, and if you need anything, don't be afraid to ask for help.

(Jordan thanks the principle and music comes back on. Jordan walks toward Claire, Matthew, Emily and Damon, wiping his eyes.)

Claire: That was awesome Jordan, I'm so proud of you!

(She jumps and hugs him, and he smiles.)

Jordan: T-thanks Claire, I couldn't have done any of that without you talking to me the other day.

Emily: Bleck! Barfaroni with cheese! This whole scene is so cheesy, I think I will become lactose intolerant. Hey, Matthew, why don't we ditch these losers and go to Tim's with Damon?

Matthew: Nah, Barbie doll. I think I'm going to have a dance with Jay instead.

(Emily looks horrified and storms off. Jordan is surprised and Claire squeals.)

Jordan: What? S-seriously, dude?

Matthew: Yeah, man. I've had some time to think about what you said. Honestly, I feel really bad for how I reacted. I guess I was just shocked when... you know. I never knew you felt that way and I know it must have been really hard for you to talk about. What I'm trying to say is,



I'm sorry. I never meant to hurt your feelings, and even though I don't feel the same way, I still want to be your friend. That is, if you accept my apology.

Jordan (jokingly): Well, I don't know. Claire makes a much better Call of Duty player than you.

(Matthew smacks Jordan in the arm jokingly.)

Jordan: Sure man, we're cool.

(Boys hug quickly, patting each other on the back. Claire gives off another squeal.)

Claire: Aww, I'm so happy that my boys are friends again. Come on, let's enjoy the dance.

(Music plays again, and everyone starts dancing. Matthew grabs Claire by one hand, Jordan in the other hand, and they dance together.)

(While everyone dances, one person at a time walks to the center of the stage, takes out a phone and posts an Instagram photo, which pops up on the back screen.)

("You Got a Friend in me" by Randy Newman plays quietly in the background)

(Instagram Post Order: Emily, Damon, Matthew, Claire, Principle, Jordan.)

(When the last person finishes their post, the lights dim and the characters says their final lines as a picture of the group of them appears on the back screen.

Emily: We are all a little weird, and

Damon: Life's a little weird

Principle/Justin: And when we find someone whose

Claire: Weirdness is compatible with ours,

Matthew: We join up with them and fall in

Jordan: Mutual weirdness and call it love. Dr. Seuss

All together: Be proud, be unique, BE YOU!!!

(Lights go off)

("Drama" by AJR plays throughout bows)

The End