

Perspective Script

Chronicles of Love: Moments in Time

October 30th, 2023

Summary

In "Chronicles of Love: Moments in Time," the play takes place in two different settings: a quaint modern-day attic and a park where passages from a diary are read. Three friends, Sarah, Alexa, and Jeanie, discover the diary in the attic and begin reading it. The diary recounts the story of a girl who meets a mysterious stranger at a carnival and has a magical connection with him. As they continue reading, they uncover more about the girl's encounters with the stranger, including their sporadic meetings over the years. Eventually, they discover that the diary is actually a published novel written by an author named Willow Summers, who dedicated the book to her time traveler and the diary that inspired her. The friends speculate about the connection between the diary, the novel, and Sarah's family, suggesting that someone in her family may have written the diary. They decide to delve further into the story by reading the novel.

CHARACTERS

GIRL

FRIEND OF GIRL

TIME TRAVELER,

THREE FRIENDS - SARAH, ALEXA AND JEANIE

DIARY - READ BY THE THREE FRIENDS

SETTING

The play takes place in two different settings across different decades, but it begins in a quaint modern day attic and the passages read from the diary take place outside in a park. Each scene transition is accompanied by the sound of a ticking clock to signify the passage of time.

ATTIC

A dusty and cluttered attic belonging to the grandparents of one of the three friends. Boxes and books are stacked on the floor and there is a clock on the wall. The room has the feel of cozy memories, a place where generations of memorabilia has been laid to rest.

Props Needed

Boxes- 6-8 varying sizes

Ticking Clock

Blanket x2

Cotton Candy

Stack of books

Scene I: THE DISCOVERY- Present Day

[Alternate for External Directions]

SARAH, ALEXA AND JEANIE cautiously enter the attic and survey the stacks of dusty boxes that litter the space.

SARAH

Wow, this place looks like one large time capsule. I wonder what's in all these boxes.

ALEXA

I think your family are hoarders. This is a lot of stuff.

SARAH

Yeah, I don't think anything was ever thrown out or given away. There are probably some realllllyyyy....interesting fashion choices in some of these boxes.

[ALL THREE START GOING THROUGH BOXES AND HAULING OUT RANDOM ITEMS]

JEANIE [TAKING BOOKS FROM A BOX AND STACKING THEM ON THE FLOOR]

I can't believe we haven't gone through these boxes before. Look at all these great books!

SARAH [PICKING UP THE BOX PLACED THERE BY THE TIME TRAVELER]

Hey, check this out! This one doesn't look like it has been here as long as the rest. It's not even dusty. [OPENS THE BOX AND TAKES OUT THE DIARY AND EXAMINES IT. SEES DUST AND BLOWS IT OFF] Or maybe it is... Look at this. I think it's a diary or journal or something.

JEANIE

Whose is it?

(SARAH flips through the diary looking for a name)

SARAH

No idea it's just signed "from an old friend"

[ALL THREE GATHER CLOSE TO LOOK AT IT]

ALEXA

(hesitating) Maybe we shouldn't read it. It feels like an invasion of someone's privacy.

SARAH

(persuading) Come on, Alexa. No one's been up here for years. Whoever it belonged to probably forgot about it by now.

JEANIE

(enthusiastic) Plus, it could be a fascinating glimpse into the past.

[SARAH flips through the pages, and they start reading passages from the diary.]

Scene II: Secrets of the Attic - Flashback to 1950

(The girls sit in the attic as SARAH begins to read a passage from the DIARY.

On the left the scene of the park becomes visible and GIRL is seen sitting on a blanket looking up at the sky)

SARAH **(READING)**

Listen to this! "Dear Diary, today I saw the most amazing shooting star. It made me wish for something I've been longing for, but I can't tell anyone...I wish I could see him again..."

JEANNIE

Wait. What. Who?

ALEXA - PLAYFULLY SMACKS JEANNIE

Shush keep reading.

[SARAH continues to read from the diary.]

GIRL

Oh Darla Darla! Come here I'm over here. **[Girl waves as Darla approaches from the side]** I almost thought I lost you. There was such a crowd leaving the carnival. Did you have a fun night? **[Darla nods]**. I have to tell you about the most amazing time I had. I met a boy! Over by the cotton candy machine. I know this sounds absolutely ridiculous but he just appeared out of nowhere. I had just paid for my cotton candy and then turned around and almost smacked him right in the face. It

was so embarrassing but he was very sweet about it. and then we just started walking and talking. It felt like we have known each other for ages. I've never felt so instantly comfortable with someone before. and then as quickly as he came he left again. It was the strangest encounter and yet it felt like the most familiar thing and I'm just very excited to meet him again. I just had to tell someone about it. I know I know don't give me that look. I know I'm sounding overly romantic and dramatic but it just felt so wonderful. He promised to meet me again but he never really told me when or where. Just said he'd find me. Now that I say this all out loud it doesn't quite add up and I feel so silly. He dropped his book. It's blank inside but I'll hold onto it. Just in case...

Scene III: THE PROMISE

(The girls still sit in the attic after reading the first passage in the DIARY)

SARAH (READING)

This is weird. Are we sure this is a diary and not a fictional novel? Should we keep reading?

ALEXA AND JEANNIE (TOGETHER)

YES!

JEANNIE

We can't stop now. I have too many questions. Besides, this is the most interesting thing in this attic.

SARAH

Okay, but I want to read the passages that mention this stranger.

[SARAH flips through the Dairy looking for another mention of the stranger]

it's been a year. The carnival is back in town. I think my odds might be good in meeting my mysterious stranger again. Oh I feel so foolish doing this but I'm going to give it a go. I'm going to go to the cotton candy machine again because if it worked once it should work again right? This seems logical. Diary, does this seem ridiculous? This is ridiculous. I went to the carnival. I went back to the cotton candy machine. I got my cotton candy but there is no stranger. What am I doing wrong? Where can I meet this person again?

Diary I know I was a little confused earlier. I was trying to meet a stranger but retracing your steps is probably not the best idea. But I met him again. And it was just as magical as the first time.

TIME TRAVELER

It's been a while since we've last seen each other. I am so glad to bump into you here tonight. I really hoped I would. Would you like to take a walk?

SARAH

[Girlish squeal].. he came back!

GIRL

I would love to take a walk. I hoped to see you tonight. My friends told me I probably made you up. I was beginning to believe them. It's a small town and no one knew who you were. Oh your diary! You dropped your diary. I couldn't resist. I started writing it in. I hope you don't mind.

TIME TRAVELER

I don't mind. I wondered what happened to it. I can't imagine a better place for it to end up. Did you write about me?

ALEXA

Does anyone else find it strange that he showed up exactly one year later in the same spot? Or is it just me? **[Sarah and Jeannie look at Alexa]** Okay, just me. Maybe I just read to much fantasy.

GIRL

Just a little. I have to admit I am curious about why I don't see you around town.

TIME TRAVELER

I am in town, but not always at the same time.

GIRL

What do you mean?

TIME TRAVELER

It's complicated. I want to be here but it's always not possible for me to be here at the same time you are here.

GIRL

Are you here tomorrow?

TIME TRAVELER

Yes

GIRL

Can we meet again?

TIME TRAVELER

I can't make any promises.

SARAH

That's it. There's no mention of the stranger after that. I'll keep looking through this diary but he doesn't seem to be anywhere. This is so strange. Where did he go?

Scene IV: TIME [10 Years Later]

GIRL

Dear Diary, The stranger seems so long ago. Years have passed and I've moved on. At least I thought I did. But there I was on the street and I thought I saw him. He looked right at me. He stopped. I'm sure he did. Made a move towards me. But it couldn't have been him. He looked the same like no time has passed. My eyes must have played tricks on me. But I needed to tell someone. So I came to you dear diary. Who I know would keep my secret. Am I losing my mind? Could it have been him. Maybe just a trick of the light....Where could he have been all this time. I wish I didn't miss him.

Scene IV: TIME [5 Years Later]

GIRL

Dear diary, today's the day my first novel is finally released. I get to do an author reading at my favorite store. I never thought that would happen. I bought so many books there over the years now mine is there on the shelf. I never thought my life story could be turned into fiction.

Dear diary the reading was amazing everything I never hoped it could be to see so many people excited to read my book want to talk to me it was the best day there was even a guy who came up told me he met a man on the street and the man pointed to my book said definitely you need to go in here today listen to this story it's magical I couldn't believe it I looked up looked past him and they're at the window of the bookstore was the man he nodded smiled waved and walked away.

THE MAN

Hi. It was recommended to me that I come in here to see your book. It was also highly suggested that I asked you out for cotton candy. I hear the carnival is in town this week.

Scene V: TIME [Present]

SARAH

Well that's a turn of events I wasn't expecting. so this diary is actually a novel. or is a novel actually this diary. I'm so confused.

JEANNIE

This really sounds familiar. I think I remember reading it on the back of a book that we hauled out of these boxes. Let me go check.

[searches through a pile of books. Finds the one and brings it to the group]

JEANNIE

Here it is! **[Holding up the book]** I thought it sounded familiar, this book even has a picture of a carnival on front. The author. Let me check out the author. Willow Summers. That has to be a pen name. There's no picture on the back. What about the dedication? Books are always dedicated to someone. It says "to my time traveler for being my inspiration and to my diary for crossing my path at the right time."

SARAH

Time traveler. I can't believe they thought he was a time traveler. Have they never seen Keanu Reeves? Sometimes people just don't age and that doesn't make them a time traveler.

ALEXA

Sarah, we found both the diary and this novel in your attic. Does any of this sound familiar to you? Do you think it was someone in your family who wrote this diary? it all seems a little too coincidental.

JEANNIE

Maybe we shouldn't think about this too much. Can I borrow the book? Maybe there's more to this story than a diary let on.

SARAH

I mean, diaries are meant for keeping secrets.