

**PERUSAL SCRIPT**

# **STUPID WIG**

**THE MUSICAL**

by  
**JUNE RACHELSON-OSPA and DANIEL NEIDEN**

Based on the short story "*STUPID WIG*"  
by  
**SHIRLEY SPURGEON**



Newport, Maine

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**STUPID WIG**

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January 8, 2013

## Shirley K. Larkin-Spurgeon's story of Leukemia Survival

I was born on August 20, 1970 in San Fernando, California. My parents divorced when I was five and we moved to the Antelope Valley in 1977 where I was raised by my Hispanic mother and grandparents. In 1979, I was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia. The doctors at Children's Hospital of Los Angeles told my family I had three months left. Obviously, I didn't die but did relapse ten years later in 1989 and again in 1992. Children's transferred me to City of Hope where I survived a bone marrow transplant.

Eventually I graduated from The Master's College with a bachelor's degree in 1994 and teaching credential in 1997. I taught elementary school for several years in conjunction with piano which I had studied since the age of eight. I currently teach piano and am pursuing a career as an author of children's stories.

As a child, my Tata (grandfather) would tell me stories of when he was a boy in Bisbee, Arizona during the Great Depression. His great story telling often cheered me up when I was sick. I always wanted to document his stories and that is what inspired me to write.

*"Stupid Wig"* is about my trials as a child with cancer. It is based on actual events that transpired during my illness. It's main focus is my coming to terms with losing my hair and having to wear a wig. It's educational, humorous and encouraging. The story has been published as part of an anthology titled *"It's Tough Growing Up: Children's Stories of Courage"* compiled by Marilyn Dalrymple and Joan Foor.

New York playwrights, June Rachelson-Ospa and Daniel Neiden have taken this simple story and turned it into a brilliant and entertaining musical. I appreciate them keeping me informed and not deviating from the original story. I especially like how they implemented the 'Star Wars' theme as I am an avid fan. Several of the songs touched my heart as if they knew exactly how I was feeling.

I have every confidence that *"Stupid Wig"* the musical will be a huge success. My hope is that it will reach countless children. Also that it would be published as a picture book for young readers with the proceeds donated to Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times.

## STUPID WIG SONGS AND SCENES

MUSICAL #1 — Prelude

### ***SCENE 1: Shirley's Living Room/Shirley's School***

MUSICAL #2 — SHIRLEY STAY STILL ... Shirley, Mom, Make-up Artist, Costumer, Denise, Tata

MUSICAL #2a — SHIRLEY STAY STILL (reprise) ... Shirley, Williams, Kids

### ***SCENE 2: The Emergency Room/Shirley's Alien Fantasy***

MUSICAL #3 — TESTED ... Shirley, Aliens

### ***SCENE 3: Shirley's Hospital Room***

MUSICAL #4 — FINE CHINA ... Dr. Armstrong, Shirley, Mom

### ***SCENE 3a: Outside Shirley's Hospital Room***

MUSICAL #5 — SHOCK (I'M NOT DOING THIS AGAIN)...Mom

### ***SCENE 3b: Shirley's Hospital Room***

MUSICAL #6 — STUPID WIG" ... Shirley, Tata and Nurses

### ***SCENE 4: Shirley's Home Valentine's Day—The Kitchen/The Living Room***

MUSICAL #7 — DEAR PRINCESS LEIA ... Chanin, Mary, Rhonda, Shirley, Geeky Kid

### ***SCENE 5: Shirley's Living Room***

MUSICAL #8 — STUPID WIG REPRISE ... Shirley

MUSICAL #9 — GREEN ... Shirley, Troopers, Mom, Tata

MUSICAL #9a — Scene Change

### ***SCENE 6: The Park***

MUSICAL #10 — THIS WIG IS WIGGIN' ME OUT" ... Shirley, Tata and Kids

### ***SCENE 7: The Car***

### ***SCENE 7b: Springtime / Street outside Dr's office***

MUSICAL #11a — Underscore

MUSICAL #11b — MIJA ... Tata

### ***SCENE 8: Doctor's Office***

### ***SCENE 9: School Playground***

MUSICAL #12 —MONKEY SEE, MONKEY DOO ... Shirley and Kids

### ***SCENE 10: Shirley's Kitchen/The Fantasy Classroom***

MUSICAL #13 —LICE PATROL ... Shirley, Nurse, and Kids

### ***SCENE 11: The Classroom***

MUSICAL #13a — Underscore

### ***SCENE 12: Shirley's Living Room / Schoolyard***

MUSICAL #14a — SHIRLEY STAY STILL (reprise) ... Mom

MUSICAL #14b — STUPID WIG (reprise) ... Shirley

MUSICAL #14c — MONKEY SEE, MONKEY DOO (reprise) ... Shirley and Friends

MUSICAL #15 — FACE THE DAY (FINALE) ... Company

MUSICAL #16 — Curtain Call ... Company

**CAST OF CHARACTERS — (3f 1m 4either)**

**SHIRLEY** .....Age ten

**DENISE**.....Shirley's Older Sister

**GENNY**.....Shirley's mom

**TATA**.....Shirley's Grandfather

**ONE PLAYER PLAYS THE FOLLOWING:**

DR. ARMSTRONG

ANNOUNCER AT COSTUME BALL

LICE NURSE

**THREE PLAYERS PLAY THE FOLLOWING:**

**KIDS**

BEST FRIEND RHONDA

MARY, another friend

CHANIN, another friend

ANDROID EVE

ADAM

KIDS IN SCHOOL YARD

KIDS IN PARK

MRS. WILLIAMS, The Teacher

**ALIEN NURSE CHORUS**

NURSE JANE

NURSE NICOLE

NURSE WANDA

**MOM'S FRIENDS**

MRS. JONES

MRS. MASON

MRS. VASQUEZ

**STUPID WIG** by June Rachelson-Ospa and Daniel Neiden, based on the true-to-life short story "Stupid Wig" by Shirley K. Larkin-Spurgeon. **What happens when STAR WARS helps a 4th Grader fight her WAR against Leukemia?** 3f 1m 4e either. Several simple settings. Contemporary costumes. Our heroic ten year old starfighter, Shirley, battles against monsters more terrifying than Darth Vader: Leukemia! Fear! Alienation! And a very scaary, eeevil, STUPID WIG. Responding "as Princess Leia would," Shirley is armed only with her out-of-this-galaxy imagination, and her boundless love for her grandfather. "My Han Solo. My Tata." A true love story for any galaxy. *"The hard subject of Leukemia made beautiful and accessible for the whole family."* — **Peter Filichia, Broadway Radio. ORDER #3347**

**June Rachelson-Ospa** and **Daniel Neiden** have collaborated on musical theater projects which include BOLLYWOOD AND VINE; IMAGINARY BOY, GONE TO TEXAS; TRIANGLE; RAPUNZARELLA WHITE; STUPID WIG; SWAK!; THE HOTEL BELLECLAIRE; THE TEMPEST; TRIXIE SHMOOP; TRUE COLORS OF WEEDLE; and WELCOME TO TOURETTAVILLE. They won the VSArts Award and have had their work performed at The Kennedy Center; Bergen County Players; The Midtown Children's Musical Theater Festival; Bryant Park, and The Public Theater. Their individual songwriting experiences date back to work sessions with Doc Pomus, and The FUGS Steven Taylor. Their work has been recorded by Grammy legend Dr. John; Peppy Castro; Luther Kent; Jennifer Lewis; Shannon McNally and, most recently, VOICELESS, recorded for animal charities by Broadway stars Ann Crumb, Olga Merediz, and Judy McLane ([www.Broadwayvoiceless.com](http://www.Broadwayvoiceless.com)). June was a "POG" for GODSPELL at CIRCLE IN THE SQUARE. Investor for the A CHRISTMAS STORY, THE MUSICAL (at the LUNT FONTAINE) Madison Square Garden.

# STUPID WIG

## MUSICAL #1—PRELUDE

**SCENE 1: SHIRLEY'S LIVING ROOM** — Halloween night and SHIRLEY is seated in front of a big mirror while her MOTHER wraps her hair into "PRINCESS LEIA" buns.

**SHIRLEY:** Mom you almost done? I'm so tired of sitting down here.

**MOM:** Be done much faster if you just stay still. Pop, Make sure to take the cupcakes with to school with you!

*(DENISE enters wearing Hippie Costume, dressed like a flower child of the 70's covered in peace signs and flowers.)*

**DENISE:** Shirl, you're takin' so long. Hi, Tata! Trick or treat! I gotta get to LeAnn's.

**TATA:** Denise, come have a cupcakes

*(They exit to kitchen, SHIRLEY laughs at his pronunciation)*

**SHIRLEY:** Mom's almost done with my costume. Don't worry, Tata's gonna drive us.

**MOM:** *(yelling)* Pop, the girls will be ready in a few minutes. And please drive slowly!

*(TATA re-enters with a flower in his hair that DENISE placed there. DENISE follows.)*

**TATA:** Sure. Sure. And you don't have to yell.

**MOM:** *(Looking at TATA)* Pop, you look...

*(sighs)*

.. .look... Never mind.

*(TATA makes a peace sign at Mom and she rolls her eyes)*

And Pop, don't bring the girls back too late.

*(To girls)*

You've got school tomorrow. Ok? Pop?

*(SHE sighs again)*

**TATA:** Don't worry so much. Before the moon is full, I'll have them home. Come Denise, lets go eat these in the car.

*(to Mom)*

It's all gonna be ok.

**DENISE:** *(over shoulder; throws glitter in the air)* Why does Shirley get to take so long? It's not fair!

**SHIRLEY:** See ya in the car.

*(SHIRLEY plays with her Princess Leia doll that her MOM used as a model)*

**SHIRLEY:** Wonder how long it took to do Leia's hair for the movie.

**MOM:** Not as long as yours, I would imagine.

**SHIRLEY:** You think I'll have the best third grade costume?

**MOM:** Absolutely. You'll have the best costume in the whole school.

*(SHIRLEY reaches for cupcake.)*

But not if you don't sit still.

## **MUSICAL #2 — SHIRLEY STAY STILL**

**MOM:**

SHIRLEY STAY STILL

WE GOTTA FIX YOUR BELT

SHIRLEY STAY STILL

**SHIRLEY:**

THESE LIGHTS COULD MAKE YOU MELT

**MOM:**

GOTTA FIX YOUR LIPS

GOTTA FIX YOUR EYES

NOW TAKE A BIG DEEP BREATH

TO MAKE SURE THIS BELT ...

*(Music continues as light changes and SHIRLEY ENTERS HER FANTASY WORLD. Two KIDS enter. One pretends to be the "COSTUME PERSON" and the other the "MAKE-UP ARTIST.") The COSTUME PERSON dresses SHIRLEY into her Princess Leia get-up, a long white sheet her MOM made with a silver belt. MAKE-UP ARTIST helps MOM fix SHIRLEY'S hair in big brown buns that match her dolls. DENISE and TATA enter the fantasy too.)*

**MAKE-UP ARTIST, COSTUMER, MOM:**

SHIRLEY STAY STILL

**DENISE:**

YA GOTTA TIE YOUR SHOES

**MOM, DENISE, COSTUMER, MAKE-UP ARTIST:**

SHIRLEY STAY STILL



**TATA:**

YOU GONNA MAKE THE NEWS

**MOM AND COSTUMER, MAKE-UP, ARTIST:**

GONNA MAKE 'EM SMILE

**DENISE:**

SHIRL YOU'RE GONNA SEE

**ALL:**

YOU'RE GONNA BE THE BEST PRINCESS IN THE GALAXY

**MOM AND TATA:**

YOU LOOK JUST LIKE LEIA AND NOW YOU CAN PLAY HER TOO

**DENISE:**

IT'S TRUE

**TATA:**

OH, HAN SOLO WILL LOVE ONLY YOU

**MAKE-UP AND WARDROBE:**

SO TRUE

**SHIRLEY:**

ME AND SKYWALKER CAN CAPTURE THE DEATH STAR CREW

**TATA:**

FROM YOU KNOW WHO

*(TATA covers his mouth and imitates DARTH VADER and SHIRLEY laughs.)*

**MOM:**

SHIRLEY YOU'RE LATE

**TATA:**

IT'S TIME TO BE A STAR

**MOM:**

SHIRLEY YOU'RE LATE

*(To TATA)*

YOU GO AND GET THE CAR!

*(TATA exits and the fantasy people vanish.)*

WON'T FILL YOUR HEAD WITH LIES

IF YOU DON'T GET TO SCHOOL

YOU'LL NEVER TAKE FIRST PLACE.....

*(MUSIC continues under. Car honks loudly and SHIRLEY exits.)*

**SHIRLEY:** Coming!!!

*LIGHTS FADE and we are transported to **THE SCHOOL COSTUME PARTY CONTEST** — SHIRLEY whirls around and the stage is transformed into her School Auditorium surrounded by her friends and teacher, MRS. WILLIAMS. MUSIC fades.*

**ANNOUNCER VOICE OVER:** Tumbleweed elementary welcome your Halloween costumed contestants. Aren't they out of this world!!!

**MRS. WILLIAMS:** *(leads the Children)* OK, children. Go! Go! Go!

*(The STUDENTS march in a circle to show off their costumes. MARY, CHANIN, RHONDA and SHIRLEY huddle together.)*

**MARY:** Leia, you're beautiful!

**SHIRLEY:** Thanks, Mary. I like your witch costume too. Spooooky!!

**CHANIN:** *(whispers)* Your Leia buns are perfect.

*(They ALL giggle)*

**SHIRLEY:** My Mom did it. Took forevvvvver.

**CHANIN:** Did you see "Android Eve." You gotta see this! She's dressed like R2D2. Her braces and glasses match the metal.

**SHIRLEY:** Shhhhhush. We'll get in trouble.

**MARY:** Yeah. I wish Adam Levesque would look at me like he does at "Android Eve." Like, what does he see in her?

**CHANIN:** She's really, really smart. And she helps Adam with his homework.

**ALL:** Ohhhhh...

**SHIRLEY:** Maybe they---

**ALL:** Ewwwww.

**MRS. WILLIAMS:** Girls, join the dance, now.

*(The KIDS and SHIRLEY begin a crazy dance.)*

**MUSICAL #2a — SHIRLEY STAY STILL (reprise)**

**MRS.WILLIAMS:**

LET'S ALL QUIET DOWN

**ANNOUNCER VOICE OVER:**

NOW IT'S TIME TO VOTE

**SHIRLEY:**

I HOPE, I HOPE , HOPE I WIN AND----.

*(SHIRLEY suddenly trips on her own robe and falls down.)*

Ouch!!!!

*(MRS. WILLIAMS and some of the children rush over to SHIRLEY.)*

**MRS. WILLIAMS, RHONDA, KIDS, TEACHERS:** *(Singing softly)*

SHIRLEY STAY STILL

YOU GONNA BE OK

SHIRLEY STAY STILL

YOU WERE BEST TODAY

PLEASE DON'T BE AFRAID

WE'LL KEEP YOU FROM HARM

SO TAKE A DEEP BREATH

**SHIRLEY:** *(spoken)* I think I broke my arm.

*(BLACKOUT)*

**SCENE 2: THE EMERGENCY ROOM** — *Lights up. SHIRLEY is being examined by DR. ARMSTRONG. He's an older man with white hair with wire-rim glasses on the tip of his narrow nose. He holds SHIRLEY'S file. MOM sits with SHIRLEY. TATA stands nearby.*

**DR. ARMSTRONG:** It seems you've been visiting us quite a bit young lady. A sprained ankle in July, a bruised bone in August, two sprained wrists in September.

**SHIRLEY:** I know. I get hurt almost every time I play with my friends. And they don't. What's wrong with me?

**MOM:** We just have no idea why this is happening Doctor.

*(Lights fade on SHIRLEY, as a NURSE wraps her arm in a splint. DR ARMSTRONG confers with MOM.)*

**DR ARMSTRONG:** We'd like to run some tests today. Before sending Shirley home. Be on the safe side.

**MOM:** Oh Doctor. She's going to be so upset.

**DR. ARMSTRONG:** I have some things I'd like to check on. Things I'd like to rule out, so I think it's best.

*(LIGHTS up on SHIRLEY)*

Your Mom and I talked it over and we are going to keep you here for a little longer today. Run a few tests to help you.

**SHIRLEY:** I don't need help. I'm not sick. My arm is all better now. Really. I'm ready to go back to the party, now.

**DR. ARMSTRONG:** Now, Shirley, you've been getting hurt a lot and we have to find out why.

**MOM:** Honey, don't you worry. Everything will be fine. I promise.

*(Instantly SHIRLEY's out of the ER and back in her FANTASY WORLD and is pushed on a moving bed which acts like a conveyor belt on a sci-fi Disney Ride. Actors dressed as ALIENS hold huge hypodermics, X-ray gadgets, thermometers, and push SHIRLEY on the bed through super-elaborate zany tests. LIGHTS keep flashing as the "assembly line" moves forward. DR. ARMSTRONG ready to receive his "victim"/patient at the end of the "ride.")*

### **MUSICAL #3 — TESTED**

**SHIRLEY:**

THIS ISN'T MY PLANET

I DIDN'T PLAN IT

THIS ATMOSPHERIC CHANGE

THESE ALIENS ARE CHASIN' ME

THIS GALAXY IS STRANGE

WHERE DID HAN SOLO AND CHEWBACCA GO

I FEEL SO ALL ALONE

WHAT SHOULD I DO

I CAN'T DO THIS ON MY OWN

I'M BEIN' TESTED

MY EMPIRE'S STRIKIN' BACK

I'M BEIN' TESTED

HELP ME I'M UNDER AN ATTACK  
I BEIN' TESTED  
I KNOW I CAN'T GIVE IN  
I'M BEIN' TESTED  
AND MY WHOLE WORLD'S IN A SPIN  
GOTTA HOLD STEADY

**ALIEN NURSES:**

SHIRLEY GET READY

**SHIRLEY:**

HERE'S COMES AN ASTEROID  
I'M RUNNIN' OUT OF FIGHTER FUEL  
I'M STUCK INSIDE A DROID  
HERE'S COMES VADER FOR THIS CRUSADER  
I'VE GOTTA STAY ON COURSE

**ALIEN NURSES:**

LET'S FIND HER VEIN

**SHIRLEY:**

WHY CAN'T I FEEL THE FORCE  
I'M BEIN' TESTED

**ALIEN NURSES:**

SHIRLEY PLEASE STAY STILL

**SHIRLEY:**

I'M BEIN' TESTED

**ALIEN NURSES:**

SHIRLEY TAKE THIS PILL

**SHIRLEY:**

I BEIN' TESTED

**ALIEN NURSES:**

WE BETTER HOLD HER DOWN

**SHIRLEY:**

I'M BEIN TESTED

YODA'S WHERE'S MY CROWN?

IT'S WAY TOO ROCKY

CAN'T SOMEBODY RESCUE ME?

TATA AND MOM, YOU KNOW

YOU BETTER COME AND SET ME FREE

FIND THE EQUATION

TO STOP THE INVASION

I'M LOST IN SPACE

GOTTA BLOW THIS PLACE

ESCAPE RIGHT NOW

GOTTA GET TO THE EARTH SOMEHOW

ESCAPE RIGHT NOW

GOTTA GET BACK SOMEHOW!

*(SHIRLEY sees TATA by the door. She screams.)*

IT'S YODA!!! I'M SAVED!!

**SHIRLEY:**

I WONT BE TESTED

MY EMPIRE IS STRIKIN' BACK

**ALIEN NURSES:**

SHE'S BEIN' TESTED

**SHIRLEY:**

THIS DOCTOR IS A QUACK  
I WON'T BE TESTED

**ALIEN #1:**

WE NEED TO DO A SCAN

**SHIRLEY:**

I WON'T BE TESTED  
IT'S NOT PART OF MY PLAN!

*(MUSIC ends abruptly and the ALIEN DOCTORS vanish as DR. ARMSTRONG is face to face with SHIRLEY at the end of the examination table. **BLACKOUT**)*

**SCENE 3: BARE HOSPITAL ROOM** — *SHIRLEY has just “moved in.” The next time we see the hospital room, it will be decorated with cards, plants and toys. SHIRLEY is in gown, and her Leia buns and costume are gone.*

**DR. ARMSTRONG:** Took a bit longer than I thought, but, the results are in.

*(MOM enters with TATA and who stands by.)*

**MOM:** Should we talk some place, first, Dr. Armstrong?

**DR. ARMSTRONG:** I believe it would better if I tell you all together. Shirley will need your support.

**MUSICAL #4 — FINE CHINA**

**DR. ARMSTRONG:**

YOU'VE BEEN GETTING HURT  
CAUSE YOU HAVE A DISEASE  
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO SAY IT

**MOM:**

DOCTOR TELL US PLEASE

**DR ARMSTRONG:** *(spoken)* Shirley, you have acute lymphoblastic leukemia, a type of blood cancer.

**TATA:** No...Mija

**DR ARMSTRONG:**

YOUR BONES ARE FRAGILE LIKE FINE CHINA  
ONE TOUCH SHIRLEY THEY CAN BRUISE  
YOUR BONES ARE FRAGILE LIKE FINE CHINA  
AND YOU DON'T GET TO CHOOSE

**SHIRLEY:**

YOU SAID MY BONES ARE LIKE FINE CHINA  
THAT'S AN AWFUL THING TO SAY  
I DON'T BELIEVE IT, I'LL BE LEAVING

**DR. ARMSTRONG:**

YOU STILL HAVE TO STAY

**MOM:** *(Numbly)*

YOUR BONES CAN BREAK  
AND WE MUST GET YOU BETTER  
KNOW ALL THE REASONS THAT YOU FELL  
WE MUST FOLLOW TO THE LETTER,  
AND GET YOU WELL

*(TATA motions a hint to MOM to soften a little. She does)*

**TATA:**

THIS BREAKS OUR HEART MIJA  
AND I PROMISE WE WON'T LEAVE YOU  
MAKE YOU STRONG IN EACH AND EVERY WAY

**MOM:**

TAKE MY HAND AND WE'LL GO THROUGH THIS TOGETHER  
DAY BY DAY

*(TATA nods approval of MOM trying harder to be warm.)*

**DR. ARMSTRONG & MOM:**



YOUR BONES ARE FRAGILE LIKE FINE CHINA

**DR. ARMSTRONG:**

THEY'RE GOING TO TAKE SOME TIME TO HEAL

YOUR BONES ARE FRAGILE LIKE FINE CHINA

**MOM:**

I KNOW HOW BAD YOU FEEL

**SHIRLEY:**

MY BONES ARE FINE AND THEY'RE NOT FRAGILE

SO WHY CAN'T I GO BACK TO SCHOOL

DON'T MAKE ME STAY HERE

**MOM:** (*Deeply torn*)

I'M SO SORRY

**SHIRLEY:** (*withdrawing from MOM, she motions TATA over. To Mom.*)

HOW CAN YOU BE SO CRUEL?

(*Grabs TATA'S hand, not MOM'S. LIGHTS fade.*)

**SCENE 3A: OUTSIDE OF SHIRLEY'S ROOM.** Mom, Denise and Tata are standing there deciding what's next.

**DENISE:** I'm gonna go to Rhonda's tonight. I'll go home and get my PJs.

**MOM:** No.

**TATA:** (*steps forward*) I can---

**MOM:** (*cuts him off*) No. NO.

**TATA:** But—

**MOM:** Don't. You go back to Shirley. She needs you and I don't.

(*TATA exits*)

**DENISE:** I just thought I'd be better if I go---

**MOM:** (*cuts her off*) Don't. Denise, this how this is all gonna work..

**MUSICAL #5 — SHOCK (I'M NOT DOIN' THIS AGAIN)**

**MOM:**

I'LL TAKE CARE OF SHIRLEY  
I WILL CALL HER SCHOOL  
HANDLE EVERY DOCTOR  
I'LL MAKE EVERY RULE

I'LL PICK UP THE PJ'S  
REPORT TO EVERY FRIEND  
I'VE GOT EVERY DETAIL  
CUZ I KNOW HOW THIS WILL END

(I'M NOT DOIN' THIS AGAIN)  
LOOK AT ME I'M DOIN FINE  
WHAT'S TEN MORE MONTHS OF BEDSIDE  
WHO AM I TO DRAW THE LINE?

(AND I'M NOT DOIN' THIS AGAIN)  
NOT GONNA MAKE A SCENE  
I DID THAT WHEN MY MOTHER DIED  
AND I KNOW THE WHOLE ROUTINE

*(DENISE tries to say something and MOM motions her keep silent.)*

THIS TIME YOU BETTER LISTEN  
DON'T YOU DARE MAKE WAVES  
DON'T YOU GO AGAINST ME  
THAT'S HOW A GIRL BEHAVES

I WON'T ANSWER QUESTIONS  
DO ALL THE THINGS I SAY  
DON'T YOU EVER CROSS ME  
THIS IS HOW IT'S GONNA STAY

AND I'M NOT DOIN' THIS AGAIN  
IT'S WHERE I DRAW THE LINE  
I'VE BEEN THROUGH THIS STEP BY STEP  
LOOK AT ME I'M DOIN' FINE

*(DENISE throws up her arms and walks back into Shirley's room.)*

AND I'M NOT DOIN THIS AGAIN  
THINGS ARE A-OKAY  
I WON'T LET THIS TOUCH US  
THIS WILL ALL GO DOWN MY WAY

**(BLACKOUT.)**

**SCENE 3B: SHIRLEY'S HOSPITAL ROOM** — *Jammed packed with Christmas decor, cards, Star Wars toys, etc. Her Leia doll is next to her. She is clearly exhausted from treatments and still attempts to get out of bed. TATA had been napping in chair at SHIRLEY'S bedside. Three unusually dressed NURSES enter, carrying assorted wigs and hats. TATA wakes up.*

**SHIRLEY:** What are those for?

**NURSE WANDA:** I'm sorry to have to tell you this but, as you know, the treatments you are taking to make you better may also make your hair fall out.

**SHIRLEY:** That's a lie. No it won't. Not my hair. I am Princess Leia.

**TATA:** And I am Yoda.

*(To Shirley)*

Right?

**NURSE JANE:** Now never you mind, honey. I'm sure it won't be as bad as you think... You could make it real fun, if you'd like. You...

*(She points to TATA.)*

...help us out here. Model for Shirley.

## **MUSICAL #6 — STUPID WIG**

*(The NURSES dance to the music and take wigs, hats etc and start putting them on TATA'S head.)*

*Each NURSE has a hat on as well)*

**NURSE JANE:** *(Cowboy Hat)*

HERE YA GO, PARDNER  
PRETEND WE'RE WAY OUT WEST  
PUT ON THIS SEVEN HUNDRED GALLON HAT  
YOU'LL BE SURE TO PASS THE TEST

**NURSE NICOLE:** *(French)*

THIS CHAPEAU  
C'EST MAGNIFIQUE

**NURSE WANDA:** *(India)*

THIS TURBAN'S SO CHIC

**SHIRLEY:**

I AIN'T LOOKIN' LIKE A FREAK

**NURSE WANDA:**

CALM DOWN MY DEAR  
YOU'RE GONNA LOOK UNIQUE

**WANDA:** *(Brit)*

HERE YA GO LOVEY  
THIS DERBY'S GOT SOME STYLE

**JANE:** *(American)*

TRY THIS VINTAGE YANKEE BASEBALL CAP

**NICOLE:**

ALL YOUR FANS ARE GONNA SMILE

**WANDA:**

YOU CAN TRY ANY ONE  
SHIRL IT'S WORTH A SHOT

**ALL:** (*pointing to their heads*)

ANYONE ONE YOU PICK'LL COVER UP THE SPOT

(*MUSIC stops. TATA tries to get up they push him down. MUSIC up again.*)

**SHIRLEY:**

I DON'T WANT YOUR STINKIN' HAT  
DON'T WANT YOUR STUPID WIG  
KEEP THAT EYESORE OFFA MY HEAD  
OR THERE'LL BE TROUBLE AND IT'S GONNA BE BIG  
BY THE HAIR OF MY CHINNY CHIN CHIN I SAID  
LET ME BE, LET ME BE  
I WANNA STAY IN BED  
DID YA HEAR ME NOW  
I DON'T WANT NO STUPID WIG

(*NURSES ignore SHIRLEY and start to put wigs on TATA again.*)

**NURSE JANE:** (*Rock n' Roll*)

WE'VE GOT SO MANY COLORS  
THERE'S BLOND OR BLACK OR RED  
EVEN GOT THIS AWESOME ROCKSTAR DOO  
WITH A PSYCHEDELIC THREAD

**NURSE WANDA:** (*Jamaican*)

DE ISLAND DREDS WITH BEADS GALORE

**NURSE NICOLE:** (*French*)

FRENCH KNOT

**NURSE JANE:**

SHAG

**SHIRLEY:**

YOU DON'T KNOW THE SCORE

**NURSE JANE:**

SO MANY CHOICES, REALLY QUITE A SPREAD!

**SHIRLEY:**

I DON'T WANT YOUR STINKIN' HAT  
DON'T WANT YOUR STUPID WIG  
KEEP THAT EYESORE OFFA MY HEAD  
OR THERE'LL BE TROUBLE AND IT'S GONNA BE BIG  
BY THE HAIR OF MY CHINNY CHIN CHIN I SAID  
LET ME BE, LET ME BE  
I WANNA STAY IN BED  
DID YA HEAR ME NOW  
I DON'T WANT NO STUPID WIG  
BETTER FEAR ME NOW  
I DON'T WANT NO STUPID WIG!

*(Suddenly MOM enters the room and everyone freezes. She glares at TATA and motions to have him remove all the wigs which are layered on his head like an overloaded clothing rack. He stands and she points to him to leave room. He gets up slowly and obediently walks out. SHIRLEY yells out.)*

**SHIRLEY:** Tata, wait!

*(SHIRLEY gets out of her bed and picks up the rockstar wig and puts it on her head, and makes her Princess Leia doll wave at him. TATA stalls at the door and blows SHIRLEY a kiss. **BLACKOUT.**)*

**SCENE 4: VALENTINE'S DAY — SHIRLEY'S HOME — THE KITCHEN — SHIRLEY** is sitting at the kitchen table with her teacher, **MRS. WILLIAMS**.

**MRS. WILLIAMS:** Shirley, I have your lessons for you for the week. You're missing a lot, but I know you can keep up. If you have any questions, I'm just a phone call away.

**SHIRLEY:** Thank you, Mrs. Williams.

*(MRS. WILLIAMS gets ready to leave. She stops.)*

**MRS. WILLIAMS:** Oh, wait. We did our valentine's project, and I have these for you.

*(She hands SHIRLEY a stack of cards.)*

They're from all your classmates. The assignment is to express oneself fully, in just four lines. Oh, and this one is from me.

*(She places a card from herself on top of the stack. MRS. WILLIAMS then crosses dining room to chat with SHIRLEY'S MOM. As SHIRLEY, puts the teacher's card aside, and begins to read the students' cards, her fantasy world comes alive. STUDENTS enter, wearing giant Valentine/Get Well cards with cut-outs for their faces.)*

## **MUSICAL #7 — DEAR PRINCESS LEIA**

**CHANIN:**

DEAR PRINCESS LEIA  
WE MISS YOU SO MUCH  
YOU'RE THE VERY BEST PRINCESS  
WRITE BACK, STAY IN TOUCH

**MARY:**

DEAR PRINCESS LEIA  
I WISH YOU WERE HERE  
HOPE THIS NOTE FINDS YOU BETTER  
AND BRINGS YOU SOME CHEER

**RHONDA:**

ROSES ARE REDDISH  
AND VIOLETS ARE BLUE

SHIRLEY, I'VE GOT A STORY .....

*(A note falls out. Two actors playing ANDROID EVE and ADAM creating the scene and MRS. WILLIAMS will jump in to help over-dramatize the following lyric.)*

*(GOSSIP SUNG)*

ANDROID EVE

GOT A GREAT BIG KISS

IT WAS IN THE GYM

AND IT WAS DURING RECESS

CAN YOU GUESS SHIRL

CAN YOU GUESS THE REST?

YOU'D BE RIGHT

IF YOU GUESSED ADAM LEVESQUE

AND WHEN THEY GOT CAUGHT

*(MRS. WILLIAMS leaves MOM and runs into scene to grab ADAM by the neck.)*

BY MISSUS WILLIAMS

SHE SPLIT THEM UP,

NOW EVE SITS AT YOUR DESK!

*(SHIRLEY starts laughing hard and as the fantasy scene fades MRS. WILLIAMS and MOM stop chatting, look at SHIRLEY. Then, continue talking and RHONDA reappears.)*

ROSES ARE SADDER

AND VIOLETS FEEL BLUE

YOU ARE MISSING SUCH GREAT THINGS

...AND I'M MISSING YOU

**GEEKY KID:** *(has a crush on Shirley)*

DEAR SHIRLEY LEIA

IT'S ME SHELDON CHASE

R-2-D-2 IS SITTING

RIGHT HERE IN YOUR SPACE?

**SHIRLEY:**

MISS YOU ALL, OH!

LONELY AS CAN BE

CAN'T WAIT TO COME BACK



DON'T FORGET ABOUT ME

**ALL:**

DEAR PRINCESS LEIA

GET WELL AND GET REST

DEAR PRINCESS LEIA

WE LOVE YOU THE BEST

WE LOVE YOU THE BEST

*(LIGHTS fade.)*

**SCENE 5: LIGHTS** up on SHIRLEY seated in her living room. Her MOM lets three of her own friends in. Each is carrying a wig. And each has some kind of hat attached.

**MRS. JONES:** Shirley, you little darling!.

**SHIRLEY:** Hi, Mrs. Jones.

**MRS. JONES:** Try this one on. It's quite fetching.

**SHIRLEY:** Not again. Oh hi, Mrs. Mason.

**MRS. MASON:** What about this? Latest style. Saw this one in JC Penny's catalogue.

**MRS. VASQUEZ:** And this one...

**SHIRLEY:** Hello Mrs. Vasquez

**MRS. VASQUEZ:** Isn't it just divine?

**THE THREE FRIENDS:** Mmmmmmmmm!

**SHIRLEY:** *(yelling)* My hair is not going to fall out!

*(ALL freeze except SHIRLEY.)*

**MUSICAL #8 — STUPID WIG (reprise)**

**SHIRLEY:**

I DON'T WANT YOUR STINKIN' HATS

CAN'T TAKE THIS ANYMORE

MY HAIR'LL STAY PUT RIGHT ON MY HEAD  
TELL ME WHAT THIS FUSS IS FOR  
BY THE HAIR OF MY CHINNY CHIN CHIN I SAID  
LET ME BE, LET ME BE  
I WANNA STAY IN BED  
DID YA HEAR ME NOW----

*(MUSIC ends abruptly as... SHIRLEY storms off. A slight pause—then from off-stage she screams like Banshee. SHIRLEY re-enters, holding something in her hands. MOM'S friends look on.)*

**MOM:** What's wrong, Mija—What is it?!

*(SHIRLEY holds up the brown hair and cries. MOM and SHIRLEY hug. LIGHTS CROSS-FADE to MOM, placing a wig on SHIRLEY'S head. SHIRLEY is sitting in front of the same mirror where her MOM was making her up as Princess Leia. TATA standing by in background. The wig being placed on SHIRLEY'S head is a GREEN FRIGHT WIG. It's what SHIRLEY imagines herself to look like. Everyone treats her as normal because they are seeing a normal wig.)*

**MOM:** This looks just like your real hair. No one will know the difference.

**SHIRLEY:** I do...and I look so ugly.

**TATA:** No! It's good, Mija. Just like every day.

**MOM:** Don't you worry so much. You look fine. Now, go.

*(LIGHTS fade. SPOT up on SHIRLEY.)*

## MUSICAL #9 — GREEN

-

**SHIRLEY:**

WHAT ARE THEY BLIND  
OUT OF THEIR MIND  
WHY CAN'T ANYONE SEE  
THAT THIS WIG IS A FRIGHT  
I'LL NEVER LOOK RIGHT  
WHY'D THIS HAPPEN TO ME  
WHAT HAVE I DONE  
THIS ISN'T FUN

PRINCESS LEIA WOULD SAVE ME  
AND WE WOULD TAKE FLIGHT  
GET LOST IN THE NIGHT  
HOW I WANNA BE FREE

OH, IT LOOKS GREEN, SO OBSCENE  
I'M A FREAK, IT'S SO UNFAIR  
I WANT MY HAIR  
THIS WIG'S SO GREEN

**TROOPERS:**

IT LOOKS GREEN  
BRIGHT STRING BEAN  
VEGGIE CHIC, SHE NEEDS SOME AIR  
WE DON'T CARE  
IT'S JUST SO GREEN

**SHIRLEY:**

I'M NOT PREPARED  
WANNA BE SPARED  
GET THIS OFFA MY HEAD  
OR I'LL SCREAM  
IT'S SURREAL  
GREEN WASN'T THE DEAL  
AND I'M SEEIN RED  
MISSION CONTROL  
STEALIN' MY SOUL  
CAST AS THE CAST AWAY  
OH HOW I WISH I COULD HIDE  
MY EXIT'S DENIED  
MAYBE UNDER THE BED

**MOM:** Tata, take Shirley to play.

**TATA:** Ok.

**SHIRLEY:**

IT LOOKS GREEN, SO OBSCENE  
I'M A FREAK, I 'M IN DESPAIR  
LIFE IS BLEAK  
WHY DON'T THEY CARE

**TROOPERS:**

IT'S LOOKS GREEN, SO OBSCENE  
SHE'S A FREAK, SHE'S IN DESPAIR  
NO HAN SOLO  
OUT OF AIR

**SHIRLEY:** *(with high anxiety)* Nooooo! I don't want...

**MOM:**

I DON'T WANT TO HEAR THIS NOW  
YOU LISTEN TO WHAT I SAY  
TATA YOU TAKE SHIRLEY OUT  
OR THERE'LL BE A PRICE TO PAY

**SHIRLEY:**

TATA PLEASE DON'T MAKE ME GO  
DON'T WANNA PLAY  
I WANNA STAY HERE ON MY OWN  
THE KIDS WILL LAUGH ....

**TATA:** *(protective)*

NO!!!

YOU WON'T BE ALONE

*(He looks heaven-ward, angry.)*

**17 MORE PAGES OF SCRIPT TO THE END**